



The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • June 2023 • Vol. 71, No. 6

June Guild Meeting

What: Visit to Pear Tree Llamas Farm and Potluck Lunch

When: Saturday, June 3, 2023, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: 105 East 850 South, Midway, UT



Our June Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, June 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will meet at 10:00 at the Pear Tree Llamas Farm. First, there will be a tour of the barn, where the llamas and some of the products will be on display, and then we will go to the house for the potluck lunch and show and tell. (This gorgeous llama lives on the farm!)

The address is 105 East 850 South, Midway UT. The farm is about 45 minutes from Salt Lake Valley and about 35 minutes from Utah Valley. Carpooling is highly recommended, as parking is limited.

The Google map directions work well but will take you past the entrance to the farm, so once you are on 850 South, go past three houses, and then look for a red sandstone sign on your left containing the name of the farm. (See site map of the farm on the next page.) If you get lost, please call Susan Hainsworth (801-860-6483).

Please plan to bring a **potluck item** for lunch, a **chair**, and any **show and tell items**. Here is link to the farm website: peartreellamas.com/



Here is a site map of the Pear Tree Llamas Farm. Look for this rock sign at the entrance to the farm.



Upcoming Guild Events

Saturday, June 3, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visit to Pear Tree Llama Farm in Midway and Potluck Lunch

July 27-30

Intermountain Weaver's Conference in Logan, Utah

September 7-October 18

Guild Show: The Threads That Bind Us (Utah Cultural Celebration Center)

September 7, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Guild Show Opening (this will be the September Guild meeting)

September 7-9

Three-day workshop by Rebecca Winter – Shadow Weave: A Multifaceted Structure

President's Message

I want to thank everyone for a great two years as the president of MMAWG. Everyone has been very supportive and willing to help in so many ways. I especially want to express my appreciation for the thoughts and kindness while I dealt with the surgery for cancer and your understanding of my limits during this time. I think I am getting stronger, but it will take time.

I hope you enjoy the June meeting. I will be out of town for the meeting, but will be thinking of you. I look forward to seeing you in the fall and seeing a great show. *Beth Myrer*

2023–2024 Guild Board

The following elected members were voted in at our May Guild meeting. The appointed board members are also planning to serve during the next Guild year. Many thanks to the wonderful Guild members who have served us in the 2022–23 year.

Elected Board Members

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Co-Presidents | Mimi Rodes and Jeanette Tregeagle |
| Vice President | Sunny Cate |
| Membership Secretary: | Barbara Allen |
| Recording Secretary | Beth Myrer |
| Treasurer | Margaret Hopkin |

Appointed Board Members

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Hospitality | Karen Gregory |
| Newsletter | Susan Hainsworth, Maureen Wilson (Shuttle-Craft articles), Leslie Sieburth (book articles), Nicole Lohman (biographies) |
| Webmaster | Nancy Crowley |
| Guild Outreach Coordinator | Julie Guiney |
| Study Group Coordinator | Maureen Wilson |
| Library and Equipment | Susan Hainsworth |
| Guild Show Committee | Phyllis Mandel, Drew Quinn, Susan Hainsworth |
| Guild Sale Coordinator | Catherine Marchant |
| IWC Representative | Nancy Crowley |
| Grants Officer | Mimi Rodes |

Intermountain Weaver's Conference (IWC)



INTERMOUNTAIN WEAVERS
CONFERENCE



The

Great Conference Shirts for Sale

Intermountain Weavers Conference (IWC) has very special conference shirts for sale. There are three styles of shirts, three colors in each style, and each shirt has the conference logo on it.

To order shirts, log onto the website. Then, go to the Register page. At the bottom of the page, there are three options for purchasing each of the three styles of shirts. If you want more than one shirt, you will need to make more than one order. The shirts will be available for pickup at the Registration desk at the conference.

To see the logo, shirt styles and colors, go to the main page of the IWC website: intermountainweavers.org. In the section on the IWC shirts, there is a link to a PDF document with styles, sizes, and colors.

Workshop Registration

Intermountain Weaver's Conference is a wonderful way to learn from other weavers, take workshops from nationally known weavers, and see impressive textile exhibits. This time the conference is being held in Logan, Utah, so it is very easy for us to attend!

IWC has published a newsletter with everything you need to know to attend the 2023 conference. You can access the newsletter at this link:

<https://www.intermountainweavers.org/resources/Documents/202301IWCNewsletter.pdf>

IWC will be held July 27-30, 2023, at Utah State University in Logan.

Volunteers Needed

The IWC board is looking for volunteers to help us during the day on Wednesday, July 26, and Thursday, July 27. We will need help setting up the classrooms and getting the registration packets ready for everyone. If you can help on one or both days, even for a few hours, please contact Nancy at registration@intermountainweavers.org. We would really appreciate your help – we want to make this a great conference!

IWC Bookmarks

Join the Southwest Branch of our Guild in weaving bookmarks to give out at IWC! You can use inkle looms, card looms, regular looms, kumihimo – whatever! Contact Nancy Crowley (LudmillaLilly@outlook.com) with any questions. *Nancy Crowley*

The Threads That Bind Us: A Celebration of Textile Arts

Our Guild show will be held from **September 7** through **October 18, 2023**. The drop-off date for artwork will be **September 2**, and the pickup date will be **October 19**.

We are so fortunate to be able to hold our Guild shows at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center every other year. The gallery there is so beautiful, and the textiles, which come from textile artists all over Utah, are hung beautifully. Please start preparing now for the show! The Call for Entries is now available on the Guild website.

Shadow Weave Workshop Update

As announced in April, the Guild will sponsor a Shadow Weave workshop on September 7-9, 2023. This will be taught by Rebecca Winter and is being taught in connection with our Guild show, "The Threads That Bind Us." There are just a few open spots remaining! We are thrilled by the enthusiastic response for this workshop! Way to go!! The workshop registration information is on the Guild website. *Mimi Rodes*

Member Profile: Nicole Lohman



This month I'd like to take the time to introduce myself! I've been a member of the Guild for about a year now, but I still have so many of you to meet.

I am the Assistant State Archaeologist for BLM—Utah. I'd like to think that my interest in past ways of doing things led me to spinning and weaving, but I also come from a line of sewers, quilters, and crocheters, so I'm sure that my background also influenced my decision to venture into the fiber arts.

I started my foray into weaving by way of spinning about six years ago. Once I figured out how spinning

worked, moved from drop spindle to a wheel, and processed a fleece, I had a lot of yarn that I needed something to do with. I learned that the Pioneer Craft House offered classes in weaving and signed up for the introductory class. Our fellow Guild member, Deanna Baugh, taught me the ins and outs of warping, dressing a table loom, how to read a draft, and a number of weave structures. If you are one of the lucky members currently taking her class, you are in for a real treat!

Shortly thereafter I purchased a rigid heddle loom and also took classes from the lovely folks at the Needlepoint Joint in Ogden and at Heindselman's in Provo. One thing led to another and now I also have a four-shaft table loom, a floor loom, and even recently acquired an eight-shaft table loom. I'm really looking forward to learning more about weaving eight-shaft patterns.

So far I've woven a number of towels of various styles, some yardage, and a few scarves. My next project that I'm getting ready to put on my floor loom is a wool rug for my parent's house in Helper.



Pattern weave



Morse code scarf

I'm looking forward to branching out from towels and weaving larger and more complex patterns, but I've had some challenges with errors when threading my warps. I'm looking forward to the upcoming workshop for shadow weave and learning more about how to read profile drafts.

When I'm not weaving, I also enjoy spinning and prefer to process my own fleeces into roving. I also enjoy attending classes to learn more about the fiber arts and diving into the history of spinning and weaving, especially in the prehistoric American southwest. This year I am attempting to grow my own cotton to spin and weave.

Next time we are all together I look forward to meeting more of you and setting up interviews to feature the wide variety of members we have. *Nicole Lohman*

Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Summer Camp Weaves

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins covered in this article are from June 1936 and 1939. These Bulletins are on the Guild website (mmaawg.org) under the Bulletins Tab.

Mary Meigs Atwater designated the June issue of the Shuttle Craft Bulletin as the “Summer Camp” issue, discussing weaves that go well with vacations or life in the open, which she enjoyed in Basin, Montana.

In the June 1936 issue, she wrote about weaving done without elaborate equipment, such as card-weaving or weaving with a slot-and-hole heddle, also known as a Swedish heddle, a colonial garter-loom, or an Indian Belt loom. There are some beautiful examples of these heddles, which are hand-carved by Kerstin Neumuller, who was recently interviewed by Longthread Media. Give a listen on the March 25, 2023, podcast (available online at longthreadmedia.com/podcast).



Kerstin also recently published *Simple Weave: Weave without a Large Loom* (English version). It is available on her website: kerstinneumuller.com/store/p/lappat-och-lagat-book-dls4x-dykjs-wsj7a, as well as on Amazon. It shows one of her beautiful heddles on the cover and just might be the book for your Summer Camp weaves.

Mary also mentioned braiding, weaving on a small frame loom – pocket weaving as she called it – or using a small, narrow, portable loom, such as a zoom loom. Another option for portable weaving she mentioned was getting into hand-manipulated weaves, such as Finnweave or Leno, on small looms.

In June 1939, Mary again addressed summer weaving as that which can be done on simple equipment such as inkle or card weaving, or “with no equipment at all except the fingers and thumbs supplied by nature.” Mary was not a fan of makeshift looms, such as using a box, and thought that they were not worth the time.

She devoted most of the 1939 issue to plaiting, or braiding. She included double and quadruple plaiting, which is used in making shopping bags, slings, and hammocks. It was described in six different techniques and is accomplished using a stretcher as illustrated in the



Bulletin, like a backstrap loom set up. Mary suggests starting with a “warp” of 48 ends, arranged in bands of 12 ends per color.

The techniques covered were:

1. 1-1 plaiting – begin by picking up a tabby shed below the tie-on, insert a small flat stick, push the stick up to the heading, then cross each top thread over the bottom one to the left, pick up the bottom thread, forming another tabby shed. Insert a stick and push it up. Cross the top thread to the right and pick up the bottom thread, insert a stick. Continue until you have 4 sticks inserted. Take the top stick out and insert it in the 5th shed. Keep the threads under tension and in order.
2. 1-1 mesh – this is a similar technique, plaiting or braiding 2 or 3 times to the right and then 2 or 3 times to the left. This makes a larger mesh plait.
3. Mexican technique 2-2 plaiting – similar to the above, only the top thread is taken over 2 threads instead of 1.
4. 2-2 mesh – plaited constantly in the same direction. This gives a close mesh for a firm fabric.
5. Guiana sling plaiting – the warp is picked up in pairs and in the 2nd shed, the top 2 threads are taken between the 2 threads of the lower pair. Alternate crosses to the left and right.
6. Peruvian mesh – a more intricate braid, pick up the shed as above, but insert what Mary called a “cat’s cradle cross” between threads, like a macrame’ technique here. The illustration in the Bulletin may help direct this one.

Some of these techniques are known as oblique twill braiding. Many use frames or stands a like a Japanese takadai or marudai to secure the threads and keep them in order (see braidershand.com/equipment/takadai/). There is a kumihimo foam disk option that may be packed in a small project bag to take along.

If you’d like to delve deeper, there is an online Braid Society that offers exhibits, meetings, a quarterly newsletter, and an annual Journal, found at thebraidsociety.wildapricot.org/About. Techniques supported include kumihimo, Peruvian braiding, ply-split braiding, inkle weaving (narrow band weaving), cord making, loop braiding and other finger-manipulated work, lucet, braiding with tablet weaving, and sprang.

Take this Summer vacation time to slow down and try some of these weaving techniques.

Maureen Wilson

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group



The remainder of the 2022–2023 Guild year meeting schedule for the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin study group is presented below. The next meeting will be held June 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Phyllis Mandel’s home. The topic of discussion will be Coverlets from the February 1930 and January 1931 Bulletins. Please RSVP Phyllis if you are planning to attend.

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin study group meets to discuss Mary Atwater’s work from the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. This is an informal group – if you have not participated, try a meeting. The meetings often begin with a reading from Mary Meigs Atwater’s biography.

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Bulletins</i> | <i>Meeting Date</i> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Coverlets | February 1930 January 1931 | June 8, 2023 |
| Pile and Velvet Weaving | March 1930 April 1930 | Aug 2023 |

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Newsletter editor: Susan Hainsworth,
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published 10 times a year.

To join the Guild send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to
receive the newsletter by mail) to Barbara
Allen, 524 North 100 East, Centerville, UT 84014,
or go to the Guild website, where you can pay
using Paypal.

To join the Guild e-mail list, contact Susan
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Guild website: mmawg.org

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Guild Calendar 2022–2023

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and Potluck Lunch

September 7–October 18

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September Guild meeting)

September 7–9

Three-Day Workshop by Rebecca Winter
Shadow Weave: A Multifaceted Structure
South Valley Unitarian Church