

# THE WEAVER'S BAG



Mary Meigs Atwater  
Weaver's Guild

October • 2023

## The Upcoming Guild Year

**OCTOBER 12:** Playing with Color!  
Presentation of Guild Challenge

**OCTOBER 19:** Pick up Guild show  
items, Utah Cultural Celebration  
Center Gallery, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**OCTOBER 21:** Guild Library Open  
House, Susan Hainsworth's home,  
2:00–4:00 p.m.

**NOVEMBER 9:** Sewing with Rectangles  
and Handwovens, by Carolyn Chen

**NOVEMBER 17–18:** Guild Holiday sale

**DECEMBER 14:** Holiday Potluck and  
Gift Exchange, Mimi Rodes's home

**January 13:** Color in Weaving, by  
Deb Essen (Zoom meeting, 9:00 a.m.  
to noon)

**FEBRUARY 8:** James Koehler, Tapestry  
Weaver, by Rebecca Mezzoff (Zoom  
meeting, 6:30 p.m.)

**MARCH 7:** TBA

**APRIL 11:** The Power of Craft: A  
Weaver's Perspective, by Denise  
Kovnat

**MAY 9:** Dye Day Preparation and Guild  
Challenge Reveal

**JUNE:** Saturday Dye Day and Potluck  
(date TBA)

*All regular Guild meetings begin at  
6:30 p.m. at the South Valley Unitarian  
Church, 6876 Highland Drive, unless  
otherwise indicated.*

## President's Message

Welcome to Fall, my Weaving Friends. The days get shorter, the nights are longer, there is a brisk chill in the morning air, and the looms are calling us back from our outdoor summer activities.

This is my favorite time of the year. Fall brings out my creative juices. I love spending time in the studio relaxing to the rhythmic sounds of the loom. Who says you can't spend eight hours weaving?

First off, I would like to say a Big Thank You to everyone who helped at the Guild show. This year's show was a great success, with a lot of talented artists displaying their works. The worry is always, will we have enough entries, but this year we filled the gallery. The Guild show makes me grateful for the talent and creativity of our community. We are lucky that we can stop by the Utah Cultural Celebration Center and visit the show until October 18. As much as I love opening day, I also love walking around alone to absorb the energy of the pieces and spend time wishing I had made that piece or wondering how someone did that. I frequently take a picture and tell myself that someday I will make that piece or learn to make bobbin lace.

I also love Fall because it is when our Guild starts getting together after the summer break. There is so much laughter and happiness, filled with learning. I am excited for our new year.

Remember to bring your Show and Tell items to start our October program. No project is too big or too small. We all loved Beth Myrer's buttons and wish they were ours.

This year's Guild Challenge will be presented at our October Guild meeting. I am excited to see everyone's vision for this challenge.

*Jeanette Tregeagle, Guild Co-President*

## October Guild Meeting— Playing with Color!

**Thursday, October 12, 2023, 6:30 p.m.  
at the South Valley Unitarian Church,  
6876 Highland Drive, basement**

Our October meeting will be full of Fun! We will start with Show and Tell at 6:30, so please bring all those projects you have been working on since we last were together—it's been a little while, hasn't it? It will be so nice to see all of you!

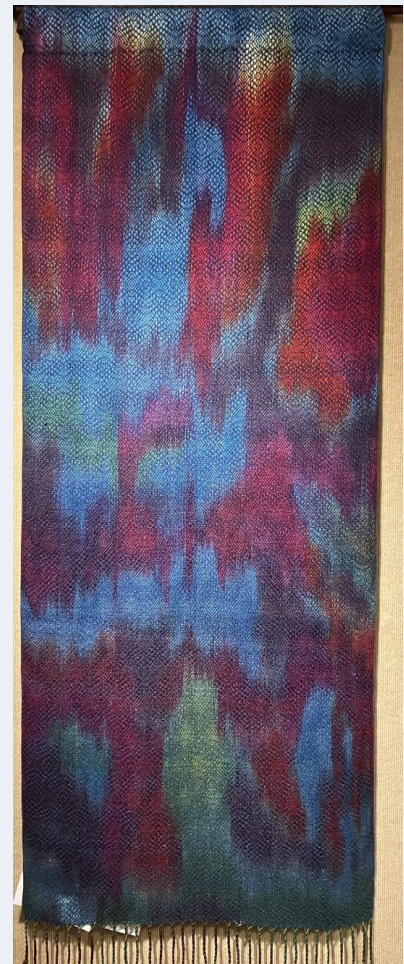
For our meeting, we will have a discussion about Color Theory, and then we will get to play with color on warp wrappings! We are also going to announce this year's Guild Challenge, which will be related to using color in our work and will help to inspire everyone to create something fun. We hope to see you then!

*Sunny Cate, Vice President*

## Pick Up Your Guild Show Items on October 19

Remember to pick up your Guild show items on Thursday, October 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The items will be in the gallery at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. If you would like someone else to pick up your items, please send written permission with the person.

*Ivy DeHart's wonderful use of color, from our Guild show  
"Shades of Night," Ivy DeHart*



## The Threads That Bind Us

The textile show sponsored by our Guild—"The Threads That Bind Us"—is spectacular. The show has 130 textiles, which is a record number, and the gallery at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center is truly beautiful. The show will hang until October 18.

The opening reception for the show was our September Guild meeting. We hope you were able to attend and that you plan on going back so you can study the entries in depth. We have wonderful textile artists in Utah, and they create beautiful items. Thank you to all who are willing to share their talent.

We extend many thanks to Michael Christensen and other staff members from the Utah Cultural Celebration Center for the care they took to display the textiles. And we heartily thank all Guild members who worked so hard to make the show a success.



The opening reception included the presentation of awards by Guild Co-President Mimi Rodes and an inspiring presentation by Rebecca Winter, who judged the show and presented a three-day workshop on Shadow Weave.

Here is the list of awards, as well as a link to a glowing review of the show.

**Functional 1st Place:** Jeanette Tregagle (Noel Shawl)

**Functional 2nd Place:** Gale Grover (Tibetan Coat)

**Functional 3rd Place:** Catherine Marchant (Wedding Shawl)

**Nonfunctional 1st Place:** Elizabeth Peterson (Bedfordshire Rose)

**Nonfunctional 2nd Place:** Leslie Sieburth (Entangled Robots)

**Nonfunctional 3rd Place:** Sheryl Gillilan

**Lorna Taylor Award:** Ivy DeHart

**Judges Choice:** Elizabeth Peterson (Bedfordshire Rose)

**Craftsmanship Award:** Nickie Allen (Swedish Wedding Blanket)

**Handweaver's Guild of America Award:** Gale Grover (Crackle Shawl)

**Complex Weaver's Award:** Sunny Cate (Emerging I, II, III)

**Surface Design Association Award:** Gale Grover (Tibetan Coat)

**American Tapestry Alliance Award:** Pamela Done (Dawn and Mist)

See the show review at: <https://artistsofutah.org/15Bytes/index.php/the-threads-that-bind-us-showcases-the-complex-achievements-of-fiber-arts-in-utah/>

## Guild Dues Are Due!

Welcome back for another year of great Guild meetings! There is always so much to learn and share with each other. We will be collecting dues for the upcoming 2023/24 season so we can provide interesting and inspiring meetings and presenters (as always). Dues are a mere \$30 for the year, payable by cash, check made out to MMAWG, or through the Paypal link on the Guild website—*Barbara Allen, Membership Secretary*

## Library Open House, Saturday, October 21

There will be a library open house on Saturday, October 21, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Susan Hainsworth's home, 91 East 400 North, Centerville. This is a chance to spend time with our remarkable Guild library and take home some inspiring books. There will be refreshments, and you are welcome to bring your fiber projects and enjoy spending time with other fiber folk.

## Guild Holiday Sale, November 17–18

The Guild Holiday Sale will be held on November 17 and 18 (Friday evening and Saturday) at the South Valley Unitarian Church, where regular Guild meetings are held.

Now is the time to start working (if you haven't already started) on handmade items to sell. Holiday items, apparel, household goods—anything that you make (except food) can be sold.

More information will be coming out soon. This sale is attended by more and more people each year, and a great many handmade items are sold to appreciative buyers. Make plans now to enter some items in the sale..

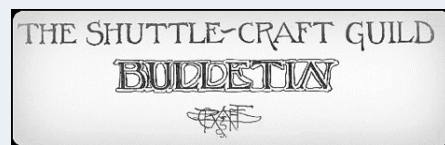
—*Catherine Marchant, Guild Sale Coordinator*

## The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group

The 2023–2024 meeting schedule for the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study group is below. The next meeting will be held on October 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Mimi Rodes's home. The topic of discussion will be Pile and Velvet Weaving, from the March and April 1930 Bulletins.

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

Date	Topic	Bulletins
October 2023	Pile and Velvet Weaving	March 1930; April 1930
December 2023	Fabrics for Clothing	July 1930; August 1939
February 2024	Crackle Weave Patterns; Knots for Tie-ups	August 1930; October 1930
April 2024	Pick-up; Monks Belt and Sugarloaf Patterns	September 1930; November 1938
June 2024	Krokbragd	November 1930; November 1937
August 2024	Linen Weaving	December 1930; March 1932





## Member Profile

This month our featured weaver is one of our wonderful Guild Co-Presidents, Jeanette Tregeagle. Jeanette has been with our Guild for almost 20 years, joining shortly after she started weaving in 2004. Therefore, she has a wealth of knowledge that she is more than willing to share with our members.



When she is not weaving or engaged in other fiber arts, Jeanette is a neonatal intensive care nurse. Before moving to the neonatal unit, she worked in the emergency room and intensive care units. She has been working in the medical field for at least the past 36 years.

Jeanette started her journey in the fiber arts at the young age of seven with crochet, as a result of regular visits to her grandmother. This interest blossomed and led to kitting at the age of ten and continued to grow. In 2003 Jeanette started weaving. She remembers first meeting Deanna Baugh at the Salt Lake Weaver's Store in 1989 and being completely intimidated! (New weavers, don't be intimidated! Our membership is lovely.)

While she was intimidated by coming into a group with such a depth and breadth of knowledge, Jeanette discovered what we all come to discover with this group—everyone's kindness and willingness to share knowledge. We continue to demonstrate those values, as those who attend the meetings, workshops, and events know.

Jeanette's favorite thing to weave is projects with very fine threadings. She doesn't have a particular type of project she favors, but she enjoys scarves, towels, fabrics, and coverlets. She believes a naked loom is a sad loom, so she always strives to have a warp on both of her two looms. Currently she is working on a silk shawl.

While we all have things we love to weave, we also have those weave structures we find less than enjoyable. Try as she may, Jeanette does not enjoy Summer and Winter. Every two years she sets up a warp in an attempt to try to love it again, but she quickly realizes all the reasons why she doesn't. This year was one of those years. After weaving a few inches she decided the warp will be rethreaded for huck lace.

Jeanette enjoys weaving for its versatility. She finds it a good way to keep your head out of your head by focusing on the drafts and threadings, and it is a very meditative craft as well. She hopes to work with our other Guild Co-President, Mimi Rodes, to find more ways to make the Guild more inclusive and attractive to younger members.



## 2023–2024 MMAWG Board

**President:** Mimi Rodes (801-619-6888, mimiodes@comcast.net); Jeanette Tregeagle (801-568-9645, knitweave@yahoo.com)

**Vice President:** Sunny Cate (801-589-3393, sunny.cate@aquacate.com)

**Membership Secretary:** Barbara Allen (801-618-7397, barbaraallenster@gmail.com)

**Recording Secretary:** Beth Myrer (801-602-8612, betsyboo100@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Margaret Hopkin, (801-624-8060, gmasfgel@msn.com)

**Librarian and Equipment Coordinator:** Susan Hainsworth (801-860-6483, susanhainsworth@gmail.com)

**Hospitality:** Karen Gregory (801-916-9849, klgregory12@gmail.com)

**Grants Officer:** Mimi Rodes (801-619-6888, grants@mawg.org)

**Newsletter:** Susan Hainsworth (801-860-6483, susanhainsworth@gmail.com); Maureen Wilson (801-485-5241, maureenmwilson@yahoo.com); Nicole Lohman (715-491-1893, nicolelohman@gmail.com)

**Webmaster:** Nancy Crowley (505-480-8079, ludmillalilly@outlook.com)

**IWC Representative:** Nancy Crowley (505-480-8079, ludmillalilly@outlook.com)

**Guild Sale Coordinator:** Catherine Marchant (801-216-4722, fibereads@gmail.com)

**Outreach Coordinator:** Julie Guiney (435-640-2965, jamg57@msn.com)

## Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah

**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 join using PayPal.

**To join the Guild e-mail list,** contact Susan Hainsworth, susanhainsworth@gmail.com.

**Guild website:** mmawg.org

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## Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Miniature Overshot

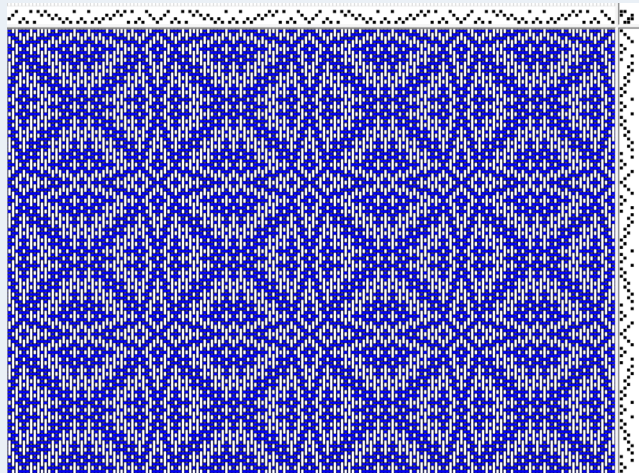
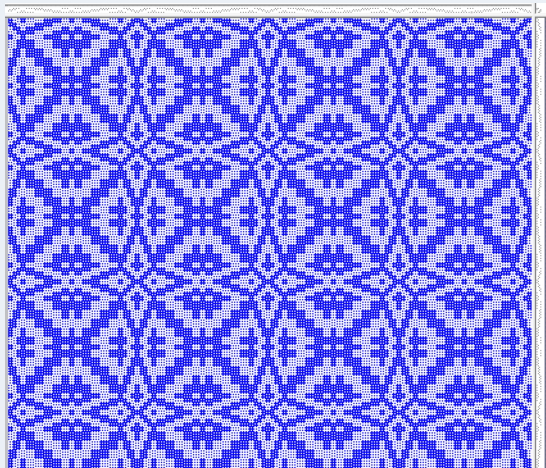
The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins covered in this article are from August 1937 and June 1943.

These Bulletins are on the Guild website ([mmawg.org](http://mmawg.org)) under the Bulletins tab.

Mary Meigs Atwater wrote in 1937 about an “unmistakable” trend away from the ancient overshot coverlets. This was based on requests for miniature overshot patterns and the directions for developing the drafts. Weavers at the time were looking for overshot drafts that could be applied to nontraditional uses, such as rugs, drapes or upholstery fabric.

Mary defined a miniature pattern as one that is written as small as possible. It may not work for all overshot patterns, but for a suitable one, she wrote, the reduced form may be attractive but should be worked out on paper (or on weaving software these days) before trying it out on the loom.

She demonstrated how she reduced a traditional overshot draft using draft 97 from her *Shuttle-Craft Book*—The Daggett House Coverlet. The original draft on the left has a 102-thread repeat, while the miniature version on the right has a 42-thread repeat.



While it appears that there is not much difference between the two, the miniature version does have shorter weft floats and may be more appropriate for uses other than coverlets. Mary explained how best to reduce the warp threads in the blocks to retain the design of the weave as much as possible. She marked the threads that she deleted from the original draft in the Bulletin and listed examples of those drafts that would lend themselves to reduction. She also discussed the types of yarns that would work for the weave, coarse or fine, depending on the fabric purpose.

In the 1943 issue, Mary repeated that she again received requests for miniature patterns and defined them as an overshot weave reduced in size, with float lengths of four threads or less. She wrote that she did not know why weavers wanted the reduced patterns. She found it impossible to preserve the quality of the original figure in the proportion of large to small blocks and in the sequence of blocks. She thought that the quality of the overshot was lost in its reduction. Frankly, she did not like the practice of what she called “writing down” the old patterns, finding them unattractive, but she allowed for taste differences.

Contrary to what Mary wrote in 1937, she recommended that only extremely fine yarns be used for miniature patterns in 1943. Again, she advised trying the reduced pattern on paper before warping.

Mary provided six miniature drafts in the 1937 issue and three more in 1943. She wrote that she would not recommend the drafts for anything other than doll bed coverlets, pin cushions, or other “miniature weaving” done in fine materials. She thought that there were too many other options for upholstery or drapery, like the Summer and Winter structure, to bother with reducing overshot drafts.

For weavers who would like to explore the miniature drafts, check out the book *Weaving Designs by Bertha Gray Hayes: Miniature Overshot Patterns*, by Bertha Gray Hayes, by Norma Smayda and others. Bertha Hayes was a charter subscriber to the Shuttle-Craft Guild course. She designed and wove miniature overshot patterns, compiling them in a collection. There are over 90 drafts in this book. (This book is in our Guild library.)

I found the Southern Appalachian Digital Collection that contained this miniature overshot draft.

The pattern yarn, Afghan, is a fine wool, produced by Bernat Yarn Company, at 950 yards to a 2-ounce skein (7,600 yards per pound). Mary recommended this yarn often for lightweight fabrics.

For more browsing of the collection, here is the link:  
<https://southernappalachiandigitalcollections.org/browse/search/universal-school-weaving-draft-miniature-overshot>

Maureen Wilson

