



THRUMS

Newsletter of the Syracuse Weavers Guild

President's Message

Heuristic, adj. - encouraging a person to learn, discover, understand, or solve problems on his or her own, as by experimenting, evaluating possible answers or solutions, or by trial and error (from dictionary.com)

That sounds like our challenge, doesn't it? More than simply weaving a product to share at our March meeting, the goal of the challenge is that we learn, discover, understand and solve problems (although not always on our own, as we network and share fellowship to hear how others have dealt with or approach similar problems). We experiment, we evaluate possible answers and solutions. Through trial and error, through methodical research and through "aha" moments, we put what we know about weaving to work to solve the challenge, this year the challenge of using one color in a weaving.

I look forward to the March meeting where we will hear the heuristic path each of us took toward the piece of cloth woven. See you then!

Cynthia

January Basket Program | Szczotka, Meyers

Thanks to Sue Szczotka for leading this program and to Sally Meyers for sharing the photos!



Guild Officers

President

Cynthia Pendergrast

1st Vice President

Sue Szczotka

2nd Vice President

Judy Fox

Secretary

Darlene Endy

Treasurer

Donna
Johnson-Brown

Mission

The mission of the Syracuse Weavers Guild is to stimulate an interest in the art and craft of weaving, achieve a high standard of excellence and help encourage all persons interested in weaving.

Book Review | Elaine DuBois

Handwoven Laces by Donna Muller (1991)

I was on a quest to better understand the classification and structures of weaves so I borrowed *Handwoven Laces* by Donna Muller from the guild library. It was exactly what I needed! The book is 152 pages divided into 8 chapters. The introduction explains the various kinds of lace and how to identify them. The chapters progress from simpler to more complex weaves and include basketweave, canvas weave, 4 shaft huck, multishaft huck, spot Bronson, lace Bronson, and Swedish lace. The final chapter is a catch- all of tips and tricks. There are lots of diagrams that nicely support the text and 11 pages of color photos. The book also includes an appendix of useful charts and a list of references for further study.

I found the arrangement of chapters - from simpler to more complex - very logical, making it easy to understand how one structure builds on the previous. I thought her writing was very clear and easy to understand.

I really can't say enough good things about this book. One of the best weaving books I have read. And as I do more research it seems to be the "go to" resource of many. If you have an interest in understanding lace weaves or a desire to design your own drafts using any of the lace weaves you really need to check out this book. And I finally returned it so now you can!

Reviewed 02/02/2020 By Elaine DuBois

New Members | Jan and Jeff Peneston

We are excited to be new to weaving and to the SWG! Thank you all for the warm welcome. Jeff gave Jan the gift of weaving lessons with Clara Rose last Christmas and now we are both collecting looms and setting up a weaving room in our home. We live in Oswego County and have been the directors of Camp Talooli for over 30 years. Jan is the Executive Director of the non-profit agency that operates this outdoor education center and children's summer camp and Jeff is a retired high school science teacher. Each year we work with thousands of children and dozens of schools through our summer camp and school field trip programs. As a couple, we love to spend time with our grown children and granddaughter and each year we invest in at least one travel adventure.



Syracuse Weavers' Guild 2019-2020 Programs

March 7th Guild Challenge "Just a Slice of the Color Wheel" Presentations Facilitator: Joyce Lock

Bring the piece(s) you wove for the guild challenge along with your story of why you chose the color, your process, challenges, successes and lessons learned.

April 4th Field Trip - Exploring Treasures from the American Textile Museum

Presenter: Marcie Farwell, Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill

We will be making a field trip to the Kheel Center of the Catherwood Library at Cornell University in Ithaca. When the American Textile Museum in Lowell, MA closed, Cornell acquired many of the materials from the museum, including many written materials and some samples of woven goods. Marcie Farwell, curator of these archives, will lead us through a viewing of some of the fascinating items from the era of American textile prominence in times gone by.

May 2nd Program: Annual Pot Luck Luncheon and Towel Exchange Location to be announced.

Nominating Committee | Cynthia Pendergast

The nominating committee, made up of Joyce Lock, Judy Fox and Nancy Smothergill, submitted nominees for the offices of first and second vice-president at the February meeting of the Guild. Nominated for first vice-president is Nancy Gaus, for second vice-president Sue Szczotka. Elections, which typically are held at the April meeting, will be held at our March meeting because we will be on the road to Ithaca in April. New officers will assume their offices at the May meeting. Many thanks to Joyce, Judy and Nancy for their work on the nominating committee!

We are moving elections from April to March due to the travel planned for the April meeting.

Museum Update | Donna Connery

There is a new tapestry exhibit at the Barnes in Philadelphia. This is one of my all time favorite art museums, set in the Dr. Barnes recreated "houselike" setting (long controversial story), loaded with art of the times like Renoir, Picasso, and Matisse. The Matisse "The Dance" frieze in the main hall has kept me staring at the ceiling for hours! This tapestry exhibit runs February 23 - May 20, 2020, and looks like it has some treasures. I think you will find that viewing the whole museum is worth the trip for this one exhibit.

<https://www.barnesfoundation.org/whats-on/exhibition/marie-cuttoli>

Classifieds

Clara Rose Thomas has the following for sale. If interested, please contact her directly.

- 22" 6 dent reed, \$20
- 200 inserted eye heddles 10", \$20
- 28-43" temple, \$20

Membership Form | Donna Movsoovich

We always welcome new members!

Regular annual dues: \$30
Senior (over 62) dues: \$25

Make checks payable to: Syracuse Weavers Guild

Memberships in SWG are for one year, May-May

Mail to: Donna Movsoovich
2527 W. Seneca Turnpike
Marcellus, NY 13108

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

New Member

Renewal

Change of Address

Committees

Booklets

Nancy Smothergill

Calling Committee

Carolyn Wolfson
Meg Welch

Membership

Donna Movsoovich

Refreshments Coordinator

Lois Koenig

Program

Sue Szczotka

Webmaster

Joyce Lock

Special Projects

Judy Fox

Library

Donna Connery

Thrums Newsletter

Susan Mehringer

Hostess List | Lois Koenig

March

Sherry Gordon | Meg Welch

April : Travel

Alternate : Joyce Lock

Thanks to Donna Connery, Darlene Endy, Nancy Gaus, Donna Johnson-Brown, Lois Koenig, Joyce Lock, Linda Miller, Donna Movsoovich, Cynthia Pendergrast, Jan Peneston, Clara Rose Thomas, and Lauren Whitney for hostessing this year! Everyone did a super job, and we had lovely variety. Look for the 2020-2021 sign-up sheet at the March meeting.

Hostess Duties:

- Know your day. Lois emails a reminder about a week before the meeting.
- Arrange for someone to take your place if you cannot make it.
- Communicate with your partner hostess.
- Provide dessert.
- Arrive early to prepare the table and hot water.
- Clean up the kitchen.
- If you notice that items are needed in the supply baskets, let Lois know.

Traveling Loom | Judy Fox

Traveling looms are guild looms that have a small project on them so that members can try an unfamiliar technique or just experiment. We welcome suggestions for future projects. There is a small fee to cover the cost of the fiber. With the loom comes instruction, fiber and a list of those who have signed up. When you are ready to transfer the loom, please email those remaining on the list to find the next recipient. Please include my address on all the emails so that I know where the loom is. I appreciate knowing when the loom actually changes hands. We like the loom to be traveling at least monthly.

In order to help keep the traveling looms "traveling" we are making the following suggestions and changes in processes.

- When you sign up for the loom you will pay your \$7 fee.
- Sign ups will help determine how much warp to put on.
- Try to work on the project promptly when you receive the loom.
- As soon as you have completed the sample, please let everyone else who has not had the loom know that it is ready to travel. A list comes with the loom.
- Make arrangements to transfer the loom as soon as possible to the next person.
- If you are not coming to the next meeting, you may be able to drop it off at Lois'. She may be able to get it to the church for you. Give her a call or email.
- You don't have to wait for the next meeting to pass it on.

The **shadow weave loom** is circulating. The signup list is full but if you are interested in being on the sub list please contact Judy.

We always welcome ideas for the traveling looms.
We are actively looking for new projects for the traveling looms.

Questions? Contact Judy Fox

Study Groups | Judy Fox

The small bands group is steady and strong. They meet regularly after the meeting the first Saturday of the month. New participants are always welcome.

The tapestry group meets the second Thursday of the month at the DeWitt Community Library from 10:00AM to noon. Everyone is welcome including non-guild members.

We welcome ideas for study groups. Groups are self-directed and designed to further an understanding of the topic under study along with the associated skills. Study groups are a good way to explore new areas with the support of other guild members and to keep projects moving.

Questions? Contact Judy Fox

March Reveal of Annual Guild Challenge | Sue Szczotka

Syracuse Weavers Guild

In past challenges, there has been a lot of emphasis on color usage so this year we thought we would free you of that constraint by making the challenge about everything BUT color! The idea is to design a project that is made unique through the use of differing fibers, textures, grists, and patterns but using only a monochromatic palette. You may use a single color or a color with its related tones or shades. If you are into dyeing, you can create these related colors by either adding white (a tone) or black (a shade) to your original dye base. You could even consider making an ombre' project if you really want to go wild! Many of us will probably not want THAT much of a challenge, but for the more dye-oriented adventurous weavers, go for it! I myself have always been very attracted to white on white, so will probably end up at that end of the spectrum. If you have any questions about the challenge, contact Sue Szczotka.

Upcoming Conferences, Festivals, Exhibits

What better way to share our interests in all things weaving than to get out and do it! A full list of upcoming events can be found on the guild website; go to www.syracuseweaversguild.org, select Calendar, then All Events. The list below covers the next few months.

Date	Time	Event
Sat. 3/7	10:00 AM	Presentation of the Guild Challenge "Just a Slice of the Color Wheel" Presentation of the Guild Challenge "Just a Slice of the Color Wheel" Facilitator: Joyce Lock Bring the piece(s) you wove for the guild challenge along with your story of why you choose the color, your process, challenges, and successes.
Thu. 3/12	10:00 AM	Tapestry Study Group All are welcome to attend the Tapestry Study Group that meets at the Dewitt Community Library.
Sat. 4/4	10:00 AM	Field Trip : Exploring Treasures from the American Textile Museum Field Trip - Exploring Treasures from the American Textile Museum Presenter: Marcie Farwell Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill We will be making a field trip to the Kheel Center of the Catherwood Library at Cornell University in Ithaca.
Thu. 4/9	10:00 AM	Tapestry Study Group All are welcome to attend the Tapestry Study Group that meets at the Dewitt Community Library.
Sat. 4/18 - Sun. 4/19	10:00 AM	CNY Fiber Frolic Sponsored by the Golden Fleece Spinners' Society www.goldenfleecespinnerssociety.org/fiber-frolic

Towel Exchange | Sue Szczotka

Once again at our May meeting we will be having our annual pot luck luncheon and towel exchange. For new members or those that have never attended, everyone brings a dish of their choice to share, and many bring one or two towels for the exchange. You weave a towel, pick a name out of a hat, and get that person's towel in exchange. If you bring two, you get two! The more people who participate, the more fun it is! Please consider participating to make it more interesting and educational for all.

Syracuse Weavers Guild Looms For Rent | Joyce Lock

Rental fee is \$2 per week. If interested in borrowing one of these looms and it is available, please contact the person listed in the table.

Description	Current Use	Contact	Notes
Kyra 22" 4-H table loom	Joyce Lock	Joyce Lock	Available
Kyra 22" 4-H table loom	Traveling Loom (Shadow Weave)	Judy Fox	
Peacock 12" 2-H loom #1	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2-H loom #2	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2-H loom #3	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Inkle loom	Available	Joyce Lock	
Harrisville 22" 4-H floor loom	Available	Joyce Lock	https://harrisville.com/products/22-floor-loom-4-harness-6-treadle Picture shows 6 treadles, this one has 4 direct tie treadles. Not easily transported
Nilus LeClerc 12" 8-H table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	Looks like Structo
LeClerc Dorothy 15" 8-H table loom	Travelling Loom (Color Gamp)	Judy Fox	http://www.camillavalleyfarm.com/pics/leclerc/ldor007.jpg Picture shows levers all on right hand side of loom. This loom has second set of shafts (5-8) located on left hand side.
Purrington Norris 12-H table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	

Guild Meetings:

Held on Saturday,
starting at 10:00 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7248 Highbridge Road
Fayetteville, NY 13066

Website: www.syracuseweaversguild.org

Mail List: syracuseweaversguild@googlegroups.com

Library Catalog:

<https://www.librarything.com/catalog/syracuseweaversguild>



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