



THRUMS

Newsletter of the Syracuse Weavers Guild

President's Message

As I look out my window this afternoon I see red/pink/magenta in the sedum and cosmos. The shape of the petals and the deepening of the color within the blossoms provide interest. There is a variety of greens in the grass and plants. However, the interest comes not from the different greens but from the shape and texture of the leaves.

The side of the shed is one color. The stripes provided by the board lines break up the monotony. The trunk of the maple tree is brown; the lines of the bark provide depth even from this distance.

Without a lot of variety in the colors, the textures provide interest. How can that go into a weaving for our challenge?

What do you see when you look out your window? Where do you find color inspiration?

Cynthia

Shadow Weave | Joyce Robards



In October our guild enjoyed Joyce Robards' presentation "Shining Light on Shadow Weave." Shadow Weave is an important member of the family of color and weave effects--those fabrics in which dark and light threads in both warp and weft interlace so that you see patterns and shapes that are very different from the actual structure of the fabric. Basically a plain weave structure and closely related to two-shaft Log Cabin, Shadow Weave gives us an enormous variety of patterns to be woven with just four shafts and only two colors! Use more shafts and more colors and the options seem infinite. Patterns range from neat rectangular and geometric designs all the way to sensuous curves. Uses of Shadow Weave fabrics are limited only by choice of fiber and the size of the threads and of the pattern repeat. We enjoyed seeing the varied collection of samples Joyce showed as she discussed basics and a few tricks on how to make the warp and weave this fascinating and versatile cloth. She gave a wonderful presentation and shared many sample pieces. Thanks to Nancy Smothergill for facilitating this program.

<p>Guild Officers</p>	<p>Black Hole Project Donna Connery</p>
<p>President Cynthia Pendergrast</p> <p>1st Vice President Sue Szczotka</p> <p>2nd Vice President Judy Fox</p> <p>Secretary Darlene Endy</p> <p>Treasurer Donna Johnson-Brown</p>	<p>In April 2019, the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) captured the <u>first picture of a black hole</u> and shared it with the world. The clarity with which the photo was taken is said to be akin to seeing the date on a quarter located in LA from your loft in NYC. Pretty awesome accomplishment. In fact, it was such an important event to me that I designed and wove this commemorative echo weave. Fast forward to September when I was contacted by an astronomer at MIT Haystack Observatory who saw this photo of my weaving posted on Ravelry. MIT is one of the member groups in the EHT Consortium. She contacted me for permission to use it in their public presentations about the black hole, with a purpose of showing what the science inspired in art. How cool is that? It is such an unexpected honor and privilege to be associated with this momentous occasion in space history.</p>
<p>Mission</p>	
<p>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.</p>	

Website: www.syracuseweaversguild.org

Mail List: syracuseweaversguild@googlegroups.com

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

Ravelry Group: <https://www.ravelry.com/groups/syracuse-weavers-guild>

Member Welcome | Lucia Tremont

Hi. My name is Lucia Tremont and am a new member of SWG.



By day I work with Special Education students at a local high school but I'm also an enamel artist. "Handmade" has always interested me and although I have no real knowledge of weaving I'm hoping to learn. Everyone has been so kind and patient. Thank you for the warm welcome.

Dangerous Coats | Sharon Owens

Someone clever once said
Women were not allowed pockets
In case they carried leaflets
To spread sedition
Which means unrest
To you & me
A grandiose word
For commonsense
Fairness
Kindness
Equality
So ladies, start sewing
Dangerous coats
Made of pockets & sedition

Submitted by Susan Szczotka

Question of the Month

What about weaving made you happiest over the past year, e.g. a successful project, learning a new technique, getting your stash just right?

The weaving "thing" that I have been most pleased with lately was the purchase of storage drawers, each with three drawers that fit a full-sized cone upright. Each drawer fits 12 !!! cones with three drawers in each unit. I bought seven(!!!) and now my stash is neat and beautiful and I only have to open a drawer and I can see all of the colors inside. And the best part....they were on clearance! – Susan Szczotka

Somewhere I saw a picture of the color loom with the point twill threading. Whoever had been weaving on it had used some joy-filled colors. It made me happy to see someone experimenting with the cyan, magenta and yellow color scheme. – Karen Smith

One weaving thing that gave me pleasure this past year was getting back to using my 45" Herald floor loom, my very first loom. I don't use it often, tending to put things on the Baby Wolf. But last winter I decided I'd better use the Herald or sell it. Mind you, I do not have a weaving studio, putting looms wherever there is space. So each of the two spare bedrooms, where kids used to live, has a floor loom that gets folded up or shoved aside when family comes to visit. I put on a warp to weave placemats and was delighted once again at how well that loom works and what a nice machine it is. I used the Katie Reeder Meek system of weighting the back beam with a weight lifting rod and various numbers of weights. That made advancing the warp and keeping an even tension a breeze. Sadly, the loom is empty now and calling to me. – Nancy Smothergill

NYS Fair Winners



Congratulations to Donna Johnson-Brown, Joyce Lock, Rosey Oaks-Lee, Cynthia Pendergast, and Nancy Smothergill who are all NYS Fair Winners!

The Syracuse Weavers

Guild swept the Table Linens & Runners category, and there were four blue ribbons among the nine winning entries. Great job!

Note: pictures on the back cover are also in this winners group.



Syracuse Weavers' Guild 2019-2020 Programs

November 2nd Surprisingly Simple Summer & Winter Presenter: Sarah Saulson, Facilitator: Sue Szczotka

Summer & Winter is a simple to understand weave structure that yields beautiful, graphic, geometric patterns in the cloth. During the program we will focus on the simplicity and logic of its structure so you can easily go on to design and weave your own beautiful Summer & Winter projects. Summer & Winter can be woven on four shafts or as many shafts as you have on your loom, so no matter what level you are, if you like weaving pattern and playing with color, Summer & Winter is for you. During the program we'll see lots of examples of Sarah's weavings.

*As a special note - Sarah has been a member of the Syracuse Weavers' Guild for nearly 30 years. This will most likely be her last program for the guild (although we hope to lure her back in the future) because she and her husband are retiring this year and moving to Providence, Rhode Island. Sarah is grateful to the guild for decades of friendship and our shared love of weaving.

December 7th Textile Travels in Italy: Weaving Connections Along a Fiber Trail

Presenter: Gretchen Wheelock, Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill

After a recent textile tour in Tuscany and Umbria, Gretchen renewed her appreciation of Italy's long and rich history of hand-woven textiles, especially the pre-eminence of Florence in the production of fine silks. Among various hands-on experiences while there, Gretchen and three other members from the Weavers' Guild of Rochester had the privilege of participating in a five day workshop at the Lisio Foundation, where traditional methods of hand-weaving and design are preserved and taught using 19th century Jacquard looms. Apart from an immersion in the true meaning of "slow cloth," this experience helped her to see connections among various historical traditions as well as current day efforts to preserve them. As armchair tourists, we will travel along a fiber trail from Milan to Perugia, tracing connections between past and present tradition and fashion in the history of fine textiles.

January 4th Making a Small Basket Caddy for Your Loom

Presenters: Patricia Lightbody, Facilitator: Sue Szczotka

Join us for a hands-on program making a small reed basket just perfect for hanging on your loom to hold scissors, sleying hook and a few bobbins. The guild will be subsidizing part of the cost of the class, so the cost per person will be only \$15. We will be asking participants to commit and pay for the class by the November meeting. The size of the class is limited to 20 people. A list of necessary supplies to bring will be sent out in December.

February 1st Super Show and Tell & Favorite Tips, Tricks and Tools Facilitator: Joyce Lock

Bring a weaving that was a real challenge for you - successful or not. Plan on explaining why you took on this challenge (or maybe you didn't expect it to be a challenge), the issues you encountered and how you solved them. Also plan to share your favorite tips, tricks and tools with the group.

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.

Syracuse Weavers Guild

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.

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7248 Highbridge Road
Fayetteville, NY 13066

Membership Form | Donna Movsovich

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 Movsovich
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 Movsovich

Refreshments Coordinator

Lois Koenig

Program

Sue Szczotka

Webmaster

Joyce Lock

Special Projects

Judy Fox

Library

Donna Connery

Thrums Newsletter

Susan Mehringer

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.

Color study loom is circulating. We do have more room for signups. This is any opportunity to play with color and structure and the interface of both.

Shadow weave loom is gearing up. We are putting together plans for a traveling loom on shadow weave. We thought it would be a good follow up to Joyce Robards' talk on the topic. To help keep the looms moving and to know how much warp to prepare *look for the signup for the shadow weave loom in the coming weeks.* Note that the fee covering the cost of the fiber will be due at sign up.

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

Questions? Contact Judy Fox

Hostess List | Lois Koenig

November

Donna Movsovich | Laureen Whitney

December

Nancy Gaus | Donna Johnson-Brown

January

Linda Miller | Clara Rose Thomas

February

Darlene Endy | Jan Peneston

March

Sally Meyers | Sue Szczotka

April : Travel

Alternate : Joyce Lock

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.

Thanks to Donna Connery, Lois Koenig , Joyce Lock, and Cynthia Pendergrast for hostessing this year!

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. 11/2	9:00 AM	Fiber Festival of New England https://www.easternstatesexposition.com/p/fiberfestival
Sat. 11/2	10:00 AM	Surprisingly Simple Summer & Winter Presenter: Sarah Saulson, Facilitator: Sue Szcotka Summer & Winter is a simple to understand weave structure that yields beautiful, graphic, geometric patterns in the cloth.
Sat. 11/3	9:00 AM	Fiber Festival of New England https://www.easternstatesexposition.com/p/fiberfestival
Thurs. 11/14	10:00 AM	Tapestry Study Group All are welcome to attend the Tapestry Study Group that meets in the Sargent Room of the Liverpool Library.
Sat. 12/7	10:00 AM	Textile Travels in Italy: Weaving Connections Along a Fiber Trail Presenter: Gretchen Wheelock Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill Based on a recent textile tour in Tuscany and Umbria, Gretchen will lead us as armchair tourists on travel along a fiber trail from Milan to Perugia, tracing connections between past and present tradition and fashion in the history of fine textiles.
Thurs. 12/12	10:00 AM	Tapestry Study Group All are welcome to attend the Tapestry Study Group that meets in the Sargent Room of the Liverpool Library.

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

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	Travelling Loom	Judy Fox	Currently not available to rent
Kyra 22" 4-H table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	
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	Guild Demos	Joyce Lock	Looks like Structo
LeClerc Dorothy 15" 8-H table loom	Travelling Loom	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	Nancy Smothergill	Nancy Smothergill	

This Year's Guild Challenge | Sue Szczotka

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. Don't forget that our reveal date is in March, earlier than usual due to our field trip in April. If you have any questions about the challenge, contact Sue Szczotka.



THRUMS

Susan Mehringer
11 Pheasant Way
Ithaca, NY 14850

