



Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weavers Guild of Utah

December 2002

The Two-Warp Rug Technique

The weave that in my opinion is the most practical and that offers the widest range of pattern possibilities for hand-woven rugs is what we know as the 'two-warp' technique.

The advantages of the weave lie in the facts that rugs may be woven as heavy as one wishes, with the extra weight and thickness in relatively inexpensive material, that both sides of the piece are 'right' sides—equally handsome—showing the same pattern though with colors reversed as in double weaving, that the surfaces of the rug are smooth and firm, and that the pattern possibilities are practically unlimited.

Any pattern for the summer-and-winter weave may be used for the two-warp rug weave—any two-block pattern on four harnesses, any four-block pattern on six harnesses, any six-block pattern on eight harnesses, and so on. The 'unit' of the threading is similar, differing only in the fact that more threads are threaded on the pattern harnesses than in the summer-and-winter weave.

The 'weaving warp' is carried on the two front harnesses and the 'stuffer warp' is threaded on the pattern harnesses. It is the stuffer warp that gives the fabric weight and thickness and may be anything one chooses. The threading as given is for ordinary carpet warp which, in this arrangement, gives very satisfactory results when set at 24epi for the stuffer warp and 6epi for the weaving warp. Sley a 12-dent reed with one thread of weaving warp in the first dent, four threads of stuffer warp in the second dent, and so on. It will be found a convenience to make the two warps of different colors. As the stuffer warp does not appear on the surface of the rug anywhere it may as well be in 'natural' as this is the least expensive, with the weaving warp in tan or ecru or a shade to blend with the colors to be used in the rugs.

— MMA in *Shuttle-Craft Book*

Annual Pot Luck Christmas Party

Thursday — December 12th — 7:00 pm

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 6876 South Highland Drive, (20th E)

The guild will furnish the turkey — you bring pot luck items for the rest of the dinner. We also have a gift exchange. The rules are pretty simple — bring something you would like to receive. It does not have to be hand made and we don't have a dollar amount as a limit.

President's Message —

I hope that is newsletter doesn't find you frantic at this busy season. I am working to keep it as simple as possible and concentrate on my family and the people I enjoy spending time with. Our meeting last month was great and made me want to try beads in my weaving. I just started my second pair of socks knitted with beads in the cuff, so beads in weaving is the next step.

For our Christmas meeting, we have the traditional dinner and gift exchange. Bring a side dish or dessert to add to the meal and a gift, often hand-made, for exchange. The meeting is about in the middle of the month and is a nice relaxing time to enjoy friends and catch our breath during this holiday season. I look forward to seeing all of you that are able to make it and for all others I would like to wish you a happy holiday season. Deanna

January 9th Guild Meeting.

Needle Felting taught by Beth Myrer. It will be a hands on class. Although you are welcome to come and observe. Order needles by December 12th at guild meeting (or contact Beth). Single needle, \$1; single needle mounted in handle, \$2.50; 3 needles mounted in a handle, \$5. Also bring some roving if you have some, some colored roving also. There will be a display at the December guild meeting for ideas. Contact Beth at 801-373-3840 or betsyboo100@hotmail.com.

Books and Equipment

Guild Library. Susan Hainsworth's home. 801-292-1169, shainsworth@networld.com Susan is willing to bring books to guild meeting. List on web page.

Guild Looms and equipment. Please contact Connie Denton if you would like to rent a guild loom or other equipment. 801-943-4717, cdenton222@aol.com



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Woven by Deanna Baugh. Deanna says, "I was interested in weaving this rug because of the waste yarn used in the center of the weave. The wool used for the weft shows on the outside and the waste yarn gives the rug body.

The other great thing about this rug is the amount of wool used for the weft. In a regular weft face flat rug, you use 1/3 to 1/2 pound of weft per square foot. With this technique you use less than 5 ounces per square foot. The rug still has the body needed to lay flat on the floor because of the waste or 'stuffer' warp. I tried weaving a three color pattern, but found the rug curled too much for me.

I used left over carpet warp for the waste yarn, but I wonder what knitting acrylic would do. Would that give a thicker rug? Less stiff? It's an interesting question that is worth exploration." See color scan of sample on web page

Connie Denton, Julie Caldwell, and Beth Myrer



Connie Denton has been weaving off and on for ten years and has been a member of MMA (she's a former president) for about eight years. She has a 52" Norwood, a Baby Wolf, a 36" Schacht and her newest loom---an antique rug loom that she just purchased from another guild member Dan Maker. Connie likes to weave household items (kitchen items) Connie says that weaving is something that makes her feel good when she's doing it, when everything fits together and you establish a rhythm (like when you're skiing really well). Connie has been weaving baskets for ten

years (most recently pine needles baskets) and she has just started beading. She also enjoys dyeing, spinning and knitting. She has dabbled in surface design - different kinds of dyeing. Connie likes to ski, camp with her family, take trips with her family and sleep in as much as possible. She is an avid reader and leads a book group at the Black Sheep Wool Company. Her most recent favorite book is *Mercy Among the Children* by David Adams Richards. Connie works as a ski instructor at Brighton and is learning to snowboard. She loves to cook and is making chili verde today.

Julie Caldwell has been weaving a year and two months and joined the guild to learn more than Deborah Chandler's book and video could tell her. She also spins and will crochet and needlepoint if forced into it. She really loves the texture of the yarns when she spins and weaves and finds them fascinating. Julie weaves on a Structo-Art Craft loom that she is in the process of turning into a floor loom, a Le Clerc Medico and she just recently acquired a 34" Dix, 4 shaft loom (from Cleveland Ohio). She is looking for information on the Dix if anyone knows of the company. She has also made two triangle looms a 7 foot and a 20 inch. After Christmas, she plans to make a 3 1/2 foot triangle loom. Julie also enjoys silversmithing and would like to learn stained glass someday although she worries about doing that with her three cats, Medea 8, Pandora 6 1/2 and Pyewacket 5 years old (named from the movie *The Bell, Book and Candle*

starring Jimmy Stewart and Kim Novak). Julie loves to watch movies - the most recent being Harry Potter (her favorite) and Santa Claus. Julie loves to read and has been reading lots of books on weaving and spinning .

Julie works as a radiographer in Varian medical systems.

Beth Myrer is another fairly new weaver. About 4-5 years ago, she took a class from Judie Eatough at BYU. Beth has a 36" counter balance loom and likes to weave blankets, scarves, fabric for clothing, and rugs. She also likes to do needlework - lots of embroidery and will be teaching a class on needle felting to the guild in January. Beth also enjoys knitting, crocheting and reading. She enjoys reading mysteries and loves her part time job at the BYU bookstore. Beth grew up in Montana and has lived in Canada - Ontario , New Brunswick and Calgary, Alberta. She and her husband moved to Provo for her husband's teaching position at BYU and they have five children (three still at home) and a grandson and a granddaughter who live nearby in Provo.

2002 – 2003 Board

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Utah HGA Rep: Charlene Lind 375-7532

Complex Weavers Rep: Charlene Lind

Guild Webpage

www.MaryMeigsAtwaterWeaversGuild.org

CW web page: www.complex-weavers.org

Wasatch Woolpack Handspinners:

<http://members.tripod.com/woolpack/index.html>

HGA web page: www.weavespindye.org

Guild Calendar: Dates and Plans

12 December 7pm Unitarian Church

Poltluck Dinner and Gift Exchange

9 January 7pm Unitarian Church

Beth Myrer; Needle Felting

13 February 7pm Unitarian Church

Teri Jo Mauch; Double Weave

13 March 7pm Unitarian Church

Rug Finishing Techniques taught by Julie

10 April 7pm Unitarian Church

Guild Show –Start Weaving for this now.

8 May 7pm Unitarian Church

May Election of Officers for the coming year

June (date to be determined later) Saturday in Kathy

Wright's Meadow in Park City. we will be learning

braiding, cord making, rope making. Our goal is to

make necklaces for our name tags.

10-13 July 2003 Intermountain Weavers Conference,

Prescott, Arizona <http://www.sdc.org/iwc1999/>

27 June-4 July 2004 Convergence 2004 Denver

www.weavespindye.org

I am throwing a
few good
snowballs your
way.

