



Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weavers Guild of Utah

February 2003



Mary Meigs Atwater
born 28 February 1878

ReNeé Page sent her favorite quote: Since this month is her birthday, here is a little quote from her. "we weavers with our simple hand-loom, by going back to the fine clear beauty of the ancient days, have thrown a bridge over the ugliness of the machine-made age just behind us. It is not a dead art we are reviving but a new and growing art that will flower into who can tell what wonderful new blossoming."
M.M.ATWATER

Study Group - Saturday, March 8, 10am—Noon, B-77, BYU. Bring questions, samples, etc. Topic for March is Series V, Table Pieces, Towelling, (sic) etc. (February's topic is Series IV, Clothing.) Also any questions you have regarding your own weaving draft. Bring a 3.5 disc for wif files. Map on web page. Upcoming dates: Feb 8, Mar 8, and April 12.

Double Weave

Teri Jo Mauch

Thursday — February 13th — 7:00 pm

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

I'll start with a brief explanation of double (or more <G>) weave, and then will summarize what I learned from the two seminars I took at Convergence on double weave and double weave pickup. Each had a slightly different threading and tie up method, and I'll try to explain how to combine the best of each for a particular project. I'll bring some samples of double weave, and my books and articles on the topic. It would be great if others could do the same.

— Teri

March 13th Guild Meeting: Continuous Knots - A way to finish your rugs using Damascus Edge, Philippine Edge and Maori Edge.

Damascus, Philippine and Maori Edges are finishing techniques I learned in the rug weaving workshop I took from Micheal Rhode this last summer at Convergence. They are continuous knots. This will be a hands-on demonstration where you will have a chance to try any or all of these edges. The materials fee will be \$5.00. The fee covers a small woven sample that has the warp ends ready for you to try your hand at these finishes. I've also tried two of the finishes on fabric that I have woven to make a non-cut vest and top. Fees will be collected at the February meeting. If you are not able to attend that please let me know of your interest by e-mail (jdschwartz@aol.com) or phone (435-654-0746). — Julie Schwartz

Contemporary Textiles, a group exhibition by the Utah Surface Design Group, February 5–March5, 2003. The Rio Gallery, 310 South 455 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84101.

Artists Reception, Friday, February 21st, 6-9pm. Come by on Gallery Stroll and meet the artists. Exhibit features textile painting, printing and dyeing • quilting • weaving • embroidery • beading • felting • photo transfer • wearable art • discharging • paper art • stenciling • spinning • silk screen printing • knitting/crocheting • stamping • computer aided textile design • doll making • stitching.
http://arts.utah.gov/visarts/rio_gallery.html

Jill Dahle, ReNeé Page, and Heidi Smith



Jill Dahle began weaving in 1989 when she took a class from Deanna Baugh through the University of Utah. She has been a member of the MMA guild since 1999, when she moved back to Utah. She has an eight shaft 50" Harrisville loom, a LeClerc table loom and several inkle looms. Jill likes to spin and knit and crochet and dye. She presently has naturally colored cotton on her loom that she is weaving in a plaited twill to make fabric for a jacket for herself. She really enjoys twill. Jill is originally from Utah but lived in Houston for 9 years and was happy to move back to Utah to be closer to the mountains and family. She likes to read

novels, mysteries and fiber books. Her most recent favorite novel, *Jessica*, is by an Australian author, Bryce Courtney. His books are hard to find in the USA but Jill discovered his work when she traveled in Australia. She and her husband have just recently started building their new home and are ready to start on the next level in the spring. Jill works in a human genetics research lab at the University of Utah and also teaches beginning spinning classes at the Black Sheep Wool Company. Her drop spindle class is on February 1, 2003, for anyone who is interested in learning to spin.

Reneé Page has been weaving since 1983 and she came to be a weaver in a most unusual way. An older friend of Reneé's, Flossie Goodwin, was a charter member of the MMA Weaving Guild and good friend of Mary Atwater. Reneé was doing a lot of sewing at the time that Flossie asked her to take a weaving class with her. A week after the class, Flossie died and left Reneé all of her weaving equipment (most of which came from Mary Atwater) — many looms and many, many supplies! On her deathbed, Flossie asked ReNeé to join the guild. ReNeé said that although she wasn't interested in weaving at the time, she didn't feel that she could just get rid of all of these looms and equipment. She decided to restore one loom at a time and then study weaving for two years before she got rid of anything.

Instead of getting rid of this inheritance, ReNeé says that she found a world of friends in the guild and considers herself so lucky to have had her life enriched by her weaving family.

ReNeé restored each loom and has done a project on each one except for the rigid heddle looms. ReNeé still can weave with Mary Atwater's threads and she believes that to weave is to be humbled by an appreciation of what every one else is doing and creating. For a while, ReNeé's passion was for rag rugs and everything that could be done with them. While not as productive a weaver as she liked to be, ReNeé is still working to combine her love of weaving and surface design. Her favorite loom is a ten harness Macomber that Mary Atwater carved her name in. ReNeé loves everything that is textile related---sewing, dyeing, and weaving. Before arthritis set in, ReNeé also did a lot of spinning on a Roberta, an electric spinner. ReNeé would like to thank everyone in the guild for being a member and a joy to know.

Heidi Smith has been weaving for about eleven years...since she took a weaving class from Deanna Baugh at the Weavers Store. As a child, Heidi started sewing and then began knitting in her 20's — dabbled in crocheting — and spinning in her 30s. When she needed to do something with her fiber, Heidi learned to weave. She actually comes from a fiber family and remembers going to fiber stores with her mother and brother and sister as a child. Whatever her mother was doing, Heidi learned — knitting, spinning, and weaving. Heidi did teach her mother about the computer and now her mother is really into genealogy although she told Heidi that genealogy is a hobby for your sixties.

Heidi is originally from California-the Bay area. She was married there, lived for a short while in Seattle and moved back to the Central coast, north of Santa Barbara, where her son was born. She and her husband talked about wanting to live in the mountains and when a job opportunity came for her husband to move to SLC, Heidi remembered a beautiful city surrounded by mountains, and they moved. The Smiths had a farm with sheep and at the time, the largest herd of cashmere goats in the state. While a handspun, hand knit cashmere sweater sells for about a thousand dollars there are not a lot of people who will buy those and Heidi eventually went to work outside the farm. She is a project manager for a health software development company.

Heidi, Rita Miller and Anne Carroll began the Back of the Wasatch Fiber Festival. Heidi is also a board member of the Park City Professional Artist Association and she is the president of the Uinta Headwaters RC&D, an organization which works to develop community and economic development for rural Utah. The Uinta Headwaters RC&D is sponsoring heritage tourism, to bring people in from outside who will spend money on things created in Utah. Next year, The Back of the Wasatch Fiber Festival will be a part of the Heritage Festival. Held at Soldier Hollow, Sept 20 and 21, the festival will feature a mountain man rendezvous, the fiber festival, a blue grass festival, stock dog trials, and cowboy poetry and welcomes everyone who represents an element of the mountain spirit heritage area. This will be a showcase for the state to see and show what the mountain spirit is and can be.



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

Newsletter Deadline. 28th February. Send items to editor, Judie Eatough, judie@eatough.net 801-375-5535. Send me your favorite Mary Atwater quotes/which is your favorite *Recipe Book* draft?

Guild Challenge – The Recipe Book The Mary Meigs Atwater *Recipe Book* will be the focus of the guild challenge this year and you are encouraged to weave a project using a draft from the book. Saturday



DUES. To join the Weavers Guild, send \$20 to the Newsletter editor: Judie Eatough, 1252 N Uinta Dr, Provo UT 84604-2905 UT. To receive the newsletter only send \$12.

January Guild meeting photos. Needle felting was a great success. Lots of animals were created along with a scarf that was decorated with needle felt. Thanks to Beth Myrer for sharing the technique. Photos-Julie Schwartz.

Tartans: Among the drafts in the *Recipe Book* are a number of tartan plaids.

Mary suggests weaving scarves in plain weave and dress fabric in plain or a simple 2/2 twill weave. Blankets can be woven in twill. Patterns should not be

reduced in size but can be made twice as large by doubling the number of threads in each row or the sett. Here the word sett is used to describe the color order of the plaid. She describes the Clan Macbeth as a handsome plaid, in which blue is the predominating color. Clan Macinnes is said to be a very gorgeous plaid, with red predominating, and the Campbell of Argyll is a rich, dark plaid, in which green is the predominating color. The mirror blocks are turning points.

Clan Macbeth —

	Mirror																		Mirror
Blue	64			4	4														
Yellow		8																	
Black			8													2			
White				2	2														2
Green																20			
Red																	12	4	

Clan Macinnes —

	Mirror																			Mirror
Lt. Blue	4																			
Black			16	4	4												4	4		
Red				4	4	16	4	4												6
Yellow									4											
Blue																	8			
Green																				12
White																				4



