

The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • November 2015 • Vol. 61 No. 11

November Guild Meeting

What: "Ripped about Rep," by Rosalie Neilson

When: Thursday, November 5, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Where: South Valley Unitarian Church, 6876 South Highland Drive



Rosalie Neilson, nationally known weaver who has specialized in warp-faced rep weaving – will speak at our November Guild meeting in addition to teaching a three-day workshop on rep weaving. Rosalie said this about her evening presentation:

"Imagine seeing a profile draft from an airplane window while flying at the 35,000 foot level! That's what happened to this weaver who's been studying warp-faced rep for 25 years. On the ground was a shining river, which became the source for four wall hangings called "Kaleidoscopic Views." See how other designs have evolved from nature's curves. The lecture explores one weaver's approach to warp-faced rep weaving from four shafts to sixteen."



Sample woven by Maureen Wilson in a Rosalie Neilson workshop this summer.

Here is a little about Rosalie Neilson. She has been weaving for forty years. Her interests revolve around two areas of interlacement – warp-faced rep weaving and kumihimo braiding. Her wall hangings done in rep weave have been exhibited nationally and internationally, including in three exhibitions in Kyoto, Japan. Her weavings hang in corporate offices and private residences. She has written articles for *Shuttle, Spindle and Dyepot*, *Handwoven*, and *Weavers'* magazines, and the Braid Society's journal *Strands*. Rosalie is also featured in the video *Weaving Rep*, published by Interweave Press. For an introduction to this video and a chance to see Rosalie describe what she does, go to

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xywe3WpJ4U0>. ☀ Susan Hainsworth

President's Message

Dear All! Many, many thanks to all who shared their IWC learnings and creations at our October meeting! What a talented and adventuresome group of weavers – and such a great reminder of how many possibilities and opportunities our craft offers!

I am so looking forward to the Rosalie Nielson Rep Weave workshop in November! After I saw how wondrous and beautiful the colors were in Maureen's and Carol's productions from Rosalie's workshop at

IWC, I wished so much that I hadn't wound my workshop warp with only two colors. (But then I told myself "What is done is done" and you don't have time for anything else!!!!) Then, this weekend I watched Rosalie Nielson's Interweave DVD Rep Weave program and I so wished I had watched it BEFORE I wound my warp for the workshop! There are so many great tips and tricks in the DVD!



Yarns dyed by Oaxacan weavers

But I had to get my warp wound and on the loom in early October because my husband has scheduled other things – and I am leaving on Saturday for Oaxaca, Mexico (my play time), with Karen Elrod and Loomdancer as my guide to the wonderful crafts of Oaxaca and a four-day workshop on weaving and dyeing Oaxaca style – plus an adventure into the Oaxacan style celebration of “El Dia de Los Muertos” or in English – the Day of the Dead – A BIG celebration in Mexico when families attend to their family graves and celebrate their

ancestors. I have seen many of Mexico's Ballet Folclorico dances associated with the Day of the Dead but look forward to seeing it in the village we will be weaving and staying in.

Luckily I get back the night before the Rosalie Nielson workshop, so I am greatly looking forward to seeing you all and Rosalie at the workshop and our next meeting!

Remember that our November meeting will be November 5th – a week earlier than normal – so that we can all enjoy and learn from Rosalie Nielson! See you there!

Cheers and happy weaving to all! Think about those Christmas ornaments and our Guild Challenge!

☀️ *Mimi Rodes*

December Christmas Party



Our December/Christmas meeting will be again held at the home of Mimi Rodes. She has a beautiful home, is a great hostess for our meeting, and has again agreed to let us have our meeting there. We will be having a Christmas dinner and gift exchange. The Guild will provide the turkey, and each person is asked to bring her favorite side dish to go with it. After the dinner we will have a “fiber-y” gift exchange. You do not have to participate, but it is great fun seeing all the gifts. We usually bring a handmade or fiber related gift to exchange. This can be anything that you think a fiber artist would enjoy.

Please mark this meeting on your calendars for a great evening of sharing and enjoying with our weaving “tribe.” ☀️ *Deanna Baugh*

Summary of October Guild Meeting

Show and tell included the following weavings:

Margareth Lauer: blue and white cotton towel

Beth Myrer: lined blue tunic with decorative stitching and a shoulder bag woven in a continuous strip

Eileen Barry: rug in blues and golds

Catharine Marchant: calendars containing fine woven swatches issued by Westfield Weavers Guild

1. Mimi opened the meeting with a reminder about dues payment for the year and the November workshop with Rosalie Neilson. She announced an upcoming workshop to be taught by Anita Meyer.

2. Sonya explained the new library and equipment rental policies, in particular the new requirement for a deposit upon loom rental. She spoke about Robyn Spady's role in the Fiber Fair to be held next April.

3. Susan pointed out that Rosalie Neilson's is featured in the latest edition of *Handwoven* magazine. She announced that the November workshop with Rosalie was full, and that Rosalie would be speaking at the Guild meeting on November 5.

4. Mimi congratulated Beth Myrer on her management of the raffle and silent auction at IWC, reading a thank-you note received by the Guild for the basket donated. Deanna mentioned a thank-you note received from the basket winner.

5. Deanna shared photos taken of various pieces exhibited at IWC. Deanna, Sonya, Mimi, Ping, Susan, Eileen, Maureen, and Carol all described the workshops each took at IWC, showing samples of techniques learned there. ☀ *Jane Roos*

Fiber Fair 2016

Our Guild's Fiber Fair is coming up in April 2016! For those not familiar with the Fiber Fair, it is a two-day event. On Friday night, Robyn Spady will give an inspirational and no-doubt entertaining speech! This talk will be accompanied by a catered dinner. Saturday will be a full day of morning and afternoon workshops. There will be one main workshop in the morning taught by Robyn and a catered lunch, followed by several small group seminars. Other teachers in addition to Robyn will be announced in the near future.

Save the dates: The Fiber Fair will be held on Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2, at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center! We are very excited to have our fair there. It is a lovely place.

I am going to do something a little different this year. For dues-paying Guild members, the rate for the Fiber Fair and Workshop will be reduced for a short time at the beginning of 2016. Afterward, the Fair and Workshop will return to the asking rate for tuition for all or individual events, with a preference for filling the workshop with dues-paying members first, and then opening it up to the public. Again, check back in the near future newsletters for more information!!



Robyn Spady will also be teaching a three-day workshop (see the registration materials in this newsletter. To get to know her, check out her website and her blog. Both are very much worth reading, and Robyn is funny as well as a wonderful weaver!

<http://spadystudios.com/>

<https://spadystudios.wordpress.com/> ☀ *Sonya Campana, Fiber Festival Chair*

Sample of Robyn's weaving from her website.

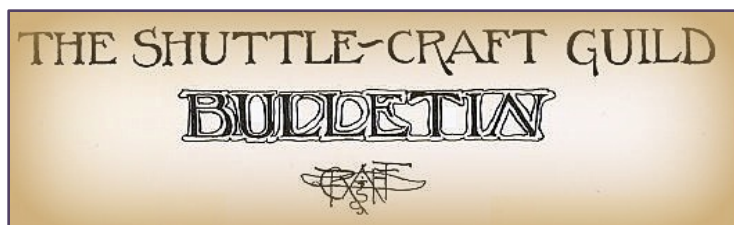
2015–2016 Weaving Exchange: Christmas Ornaments



Do you like weaving exchanges? This year the Weaver's Guild is proposing a weaving exchange of Christmas ornaments. The exchange will be during the last meeting of the year—in June—so we will have Christmas in June!. If you make five ornaments, you can exchange for five. If you make three ornaments, then you will get three back. The goal is to see how creative you can be and how much fun we can have. Please start thinking now about any type of fun fiber-y Christmas

ornament you can make. It can be made with weaving, knitting, basketry, etc. ☼ *Jeanette Tregeagle*

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins Study Group



The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins study group meets to discuss Mary Atwater's work as described in the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. We meet every other month at one of the study group member's homes, discuss the topic, and share samples and experiences. The meetings start with a section from Mary Meigs Atwater's biography. The

topics, Bulletins, and meeting dates for the next year are as follows:

Topic	Bulletins	Meeting Date
Baby Blankets	March 1925, May 1949	January 2015
Bronson Weave	April and May 1925	March 2016
Twill	June 1925, April 1929	May 2016
Philippine Bag	July 1925, September 1936	July 2016
Dress Fabric	August 1925, June 1944	September 2016

If you see something in the list that interests you, please join us. If you desire more information, please contact Maureen. ☼ *Maureen Wilson*

Shuttlecraft Bulletins: Converting Doubleweave to Summer and Winter

This month's column is on converting doubleweave to summer and winter weave structures. The bulletins that contain this topic are: Numbers 31 (April 1927), 41 (February 1928) and 43 (April 1928). I am not that familiar with this topic, but I can see that it may take my



weaving into a new and interesting direction. First, let me cover some background. By "doubleweave" I think that Mary Meigs Atwater is referring to patterned doubleweave, not a plain doubleweave, where one may weave a tube or a double-width fabric to open up for a blanket or table-cloth. Instead, think doubleweave coverlet, which I have neither seen nor considered. I've always thought of coverlets as being woven in overshot, or summer and winter weave structures.

Well, not so. Patterned doubleweave, sometimes called "Colonial" doubleweave, has more recently been published by Jennifer Moore in her book, *Doubleweave as a runner* (see the project "sun, moon, and stars runner" for a patterned runner with solid light areas on one side and dark on the other-photo taken from *Traveling Stitches* blog) and by Judie Eatough in *Weavers Magazine*, issue 40 with a draft for mug rugs. This structure is very attractive and produces a firm fabric. It would make quite a substantial blanket. Webs offers a colonial doubleweave draft for a baby blanket, based on the blooming leaf overshot pattern. The photo here was taken from their website catalog.



Webs describes this structure as one that allows one to weave a reversible doubleweave colonial overshot pattern without the weft floats of overshot. The threading starts with a basic overshot pattern, in which the threading is paralleled and warped and woven in two contrasting colors. This produces much more pattern without doing pick-up in a 4-shaft double weave fabric.

The draft given in Bulletin 31 is provided as a block or profile draft, which is the key to weaving in either structure from the same draft. Mary calls this the "short draft" and is explained as each square of the draft representing 4 warp threads threaded according to the weave selected. When trying to translate a profile draft for warping, I've found that it can be helpful to write out a thread-by-thread draft for at least a portion of the draft.

The number of harnesses needed for each weave from a block draft varies, as may the number of treadles. The draft given for an old unnamed pattern from a 1927 Craftsman at Work exhibition in Boston, requires 6 shafts for summer & winter and 12 for doubleweave.

Bulletin No. 41 provides a preview of 7 profile drafts from the "Book", presumably the *Shuttlecraft Book of American Hand-weaving* that was yet to be published. These are the drafts

described as Patterns of the Lisbon Star Type-on 5 or more blocks, requiring 7 shafts in summer & winter, and all are found on p. 234 of the 1973 printing of the Shuttlecraft book, with illustrations for 3 of them.

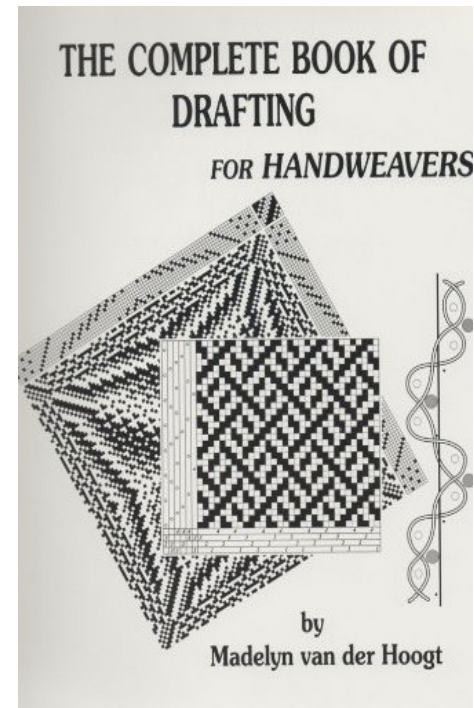
The draft in Bulleting No. 43 is from a 1730 German pattern book. In summer & winter weave, it requires 10 shafts, but with a few changes, Mary converted it to be woven on 8. She reduces the number of treadles needed as well, dedicating 2 treadles to the tie downs that she designates "X and Y", and using 2 feet to treadle the weave. This technique is better described in the Shuttlecraft Course, lesson 6.

The take-away message for me at least, is the versatility of the profile or block draft. *Handwoven* magazine featured 2 articles in the Nov/Dec issue, 2011 on Using block weaves: *Block Weave Basics: Using a Profile Draft* by Tien Chiu and *Unit Weaves, Profile Drafts, and the Weave-Along* by Madelyn van der Hoogt. Both articles better explain the use of profile or block drafts, how versatile they are, and have wonderful illustrations. Also recommended is Madelyn van der Hoogt's book, *The Complete Book of Drafting for Handweavers*, see Chapter 5: From Blocks to Units. Also see the Key to Block Weaves summary, on p. 26 of the book, where threading keys for several weaves, both non-unit and unit are listed.

Online, see the presentation by the Indiana Weaving Group: *Designing with blocks*, on how to use one draft design to weave another: <http://www.weavingindiana.org/PDFs/DesigningWithBlocks.pdf>

Robyn Spady on her blog discusses the use of blocks (<https://spadystudios.wordpress.com/2012/03/>) with many, many more references.

And see Amanda Cutler's blog entry on profile drafts here: <http://weave-away.blogspot.com/2011/07/profile-drafting.html>. ☀Maureen Wilson



Mary Meigs Atwater
Weaver's Guild of Utah

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Newsletter editors:

Susan Hainsworth, sushainsworth@gmail.com; Maureen Wilson, maureenmwilson@yahoo.com

The newsletter is published 10 times a year. Any articles or information should be to the editor by the 5th of the month.

To join the Guild send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to receive the newsletter by mail) to Jo Stolhand, 264 Williams Avenue, SLC, UT 84111

To join the Guild e-mail list:
MMAWG-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Guild website: www.mmawg.org

Guild meetings are generally held the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Unitarian Church 6876 South Highland Drive (2000 East)

2015–2016 MMAWG Board

President: Mimi Rodes, 801-619-6888, mimirodes@comcast.net

Vice Presidents: Deanna Baugh, 801-966-3642, num1weaver@gmail.com. Margarethe Lauer, 1-772-321-1105, nordicsnow@hotmail.com

Secretary: Jane Roos, 801-572-9997, gracey1849@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Jo Stolhand, 801-521-0069, jstolhand@q.com

Hospitality: Ping Chang, 801-545-0512, wanping801@gmail.com

Librarian and Equipment Contact: Sonya Campana, 801-733-5888, sonyacampana@gmail.com

Grants Officers: Mimi Rodes, mimirodes@comcast.net; Jeanette Tregeagle, knitweave@yahoo.com, 801-568-9645

Newsletter: Susan Hainsworth, 801-292-1169, sushainsworth@gmail.com; Maureen Wilson, 801-485-5241, maureenmwilson@yahoo.com

Website: Judie Eatough, 801-375-5535, judie@eatough.net

HGA representative: Jill Dahle, 801-446-5581, pjdahle@msn.com

Guild Calendar

2015–2016

November 5, 2015

“Ripped about Rep,” by Rosalie Nielson

November 5–7, 2015

Three-day workshop on rep weaving
Rosalie Nielson, Unitarian Church

December 17, 2015

Christmas party at Mimi Rodes's home

January 14, 2016

Classification of weaves
(explanation of weave structures)

February 11, 2016

Band weaving
Pickup on inkle weaving and card weaving

March 10, 2016

Designing rag rugs
by ReNee Page and Susan Hainsworth

March 29–April 1, 2016

Three-day workshop with Robyn Spady

April 1–2, 2016

Guild Fiber Festival, with Robyn Spady

May 12, 2016

June 2016