



The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • April 2020 • Vol. 67, No. 4

President's Message

Hi Weavers!

How is everyone holding up to the social distancing? At first I hated it. The isolation felt like a weight on me. But then I decided to get busy with my online learning and get past those unhappy feelings. So, I've been weaving tapestries with Rebecca Mezoff's online classes. One class is to learn color gradation techniques, and the other class is a design class. It gave me comfort to weave with colors and think about design principles.

I got inspired to reach out to the MMAWG by emails, and I wanted to establish a sense of community with our members. I asked folks to send pictures and stories to Susan, our newsletter editor, so that we could connect in the newsletter even if we can't come into actual contact with each other for the foreseeable future. So . . . , my submission to the April newsletter:



(Left) A tapestry of irregular hatching and color blending. It was an exercise for the color gradation class, where we were to start out hatching two different colors, then progress to three or more colors, and then a gradient.

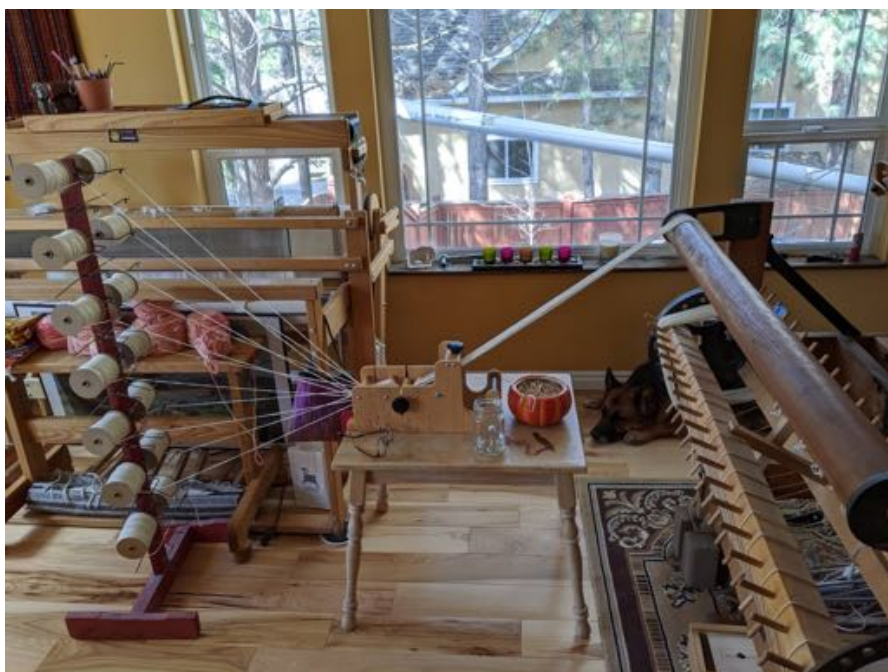
(Below) A name tapestry (not done yet!). I'm working on making the shapes on a 24-end warp first, and then minimizing the warp to just 8 ends and replicating the design from the previous warp. Try!! I haven't got there... yet!





At the left is an alpaca corespun rug on the Newcomb Weaver's Delight loom. Below is my Weaver's Delight loom getting a sectional warp on. I am going to weave another Rio Grande styled rug for my son's wedding next October. I am reading any book on Southwestern rug design that I can find! Looking for ideas!

I think we are so lucky as weavers to have creative work to focus on. Happy Weaving! Sonya Campana



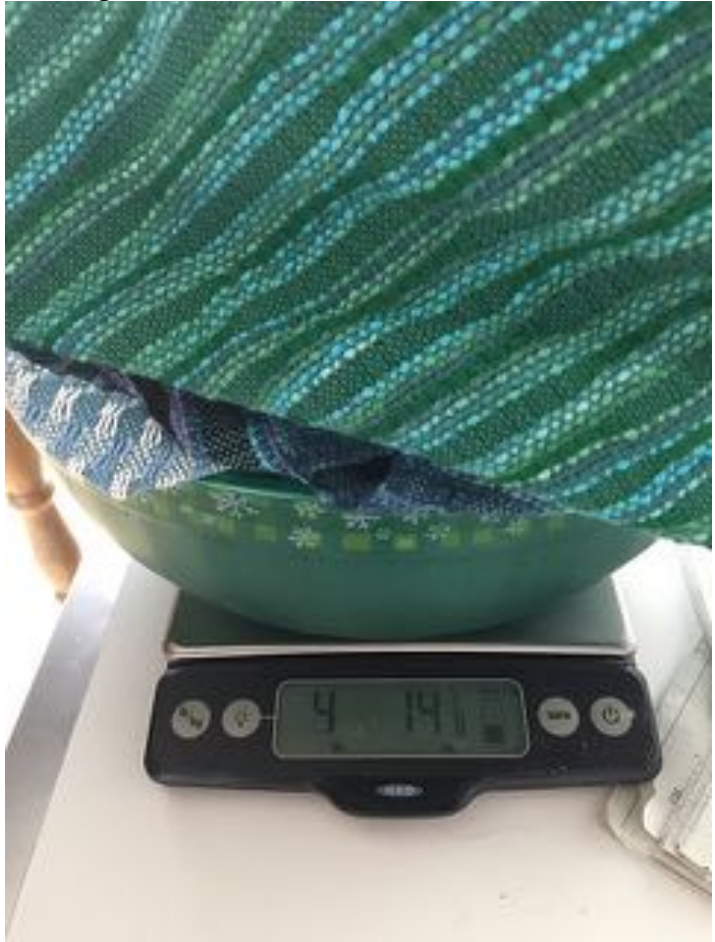
And Now It's the Inspiring Work of the Guild!



Teri Wojcik has been raiding her stash for warp threads to weave her "funky" homespun into. She has been practicing clasped weft and twill skills. Her latest wall-hanging has been done three on one warp. FUN!!! She just discovered something called "hempathy" – hemp+cotton+bamboo and will see how it weaves. She is also doing Liz Gibson's Weaving 101 and her weave-alongs. There is so much to explore!!!



Leslie Sieburth produced six bath towels on a recent warp, including matching loops. This is M's and O's, but with wide blocks that were woven shallowly. The picture below shows five pounds of bath towels waiting to be finished!

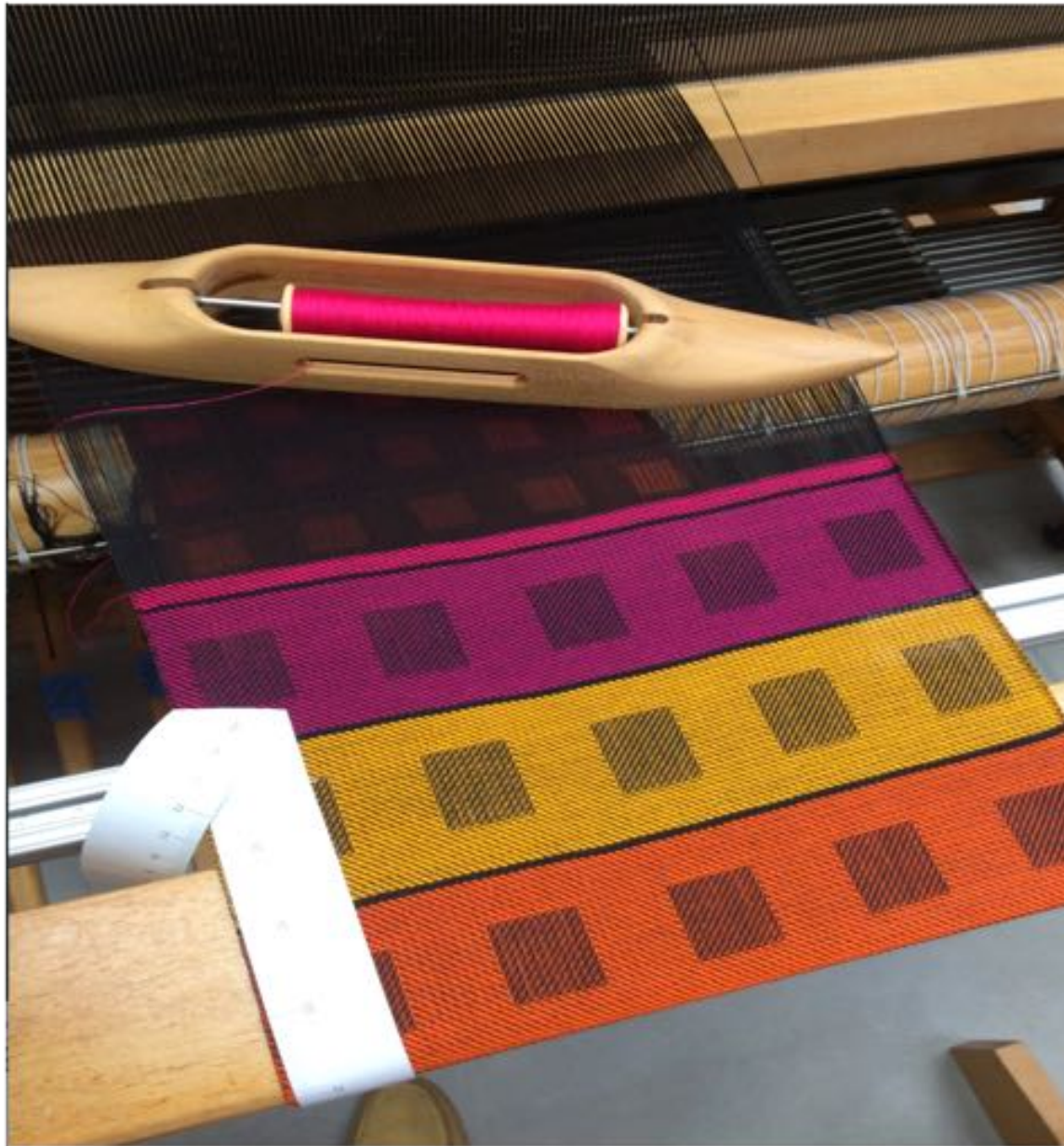


(Above) Michelle Latham finished these towels and put on a waffle weave warp for the next project.

(Right) Cynthia Gray got her doubleweave runner off the loom.



Catherine Marchant's beautiful work!





(Left) Deanna Baugh finally got to her big loom and found these towels!



(Above right) Sue Maturlo was to have taken Rep weave from Rosalie Nielson at CNCH (Conference of Northern California Handweavers) last week and was preparing the warp diligently before the class. She was kind to send three workbooks and directions and patterns to us. Finally finished yesterday. It was like a meditation during these difficult times. I got a runner and 8(!) placemat. I'm glad I put on so much warp.



This is what Ann McKane has been doing on her staycation!





(Left) Teri Wojcik spun, then dyed this wool with natural dye from the Native American Trading Post. Then she wove it with a cotton-hemp-bamboo warp. She likes hemp and bamboo, and this seemed like a good available compromise. She is now working on another to see if she can replicate anything. She thinks that “creative” and “artistic” are good words for always changing something!!!

(Below) Lorraine Sanders said: Yarn and cookies—two reasons I’ll gain a hundred pounds before this is over 😊. The cookies are springerle I made from wooden molds, typically made at Christmas but I had time on my hands.





Sherry Marsh, a member of our Guild who now lives in the East but loves to follow what we are doing, says: For the last month there has been a great need for protective gear for essential personnel. Therefore, I have been involved in helping my community sew masks for healthcare workers, friends, and neighbors.



Jo Stolhand says: One day while hiking in northern England two years ago, my cousin and I found ourselves in Wensleydale, home of the Wensleydale sheep, known for the "finest and most valuable lustre longwool." I bought one skein each of several colors with thoughts of knitting hats for the women with whom I hike and cross-country ski. Back in the USA, I began to have doubts about having enough yardage for hats and decided to make headbands.

Sara Bixler's recent workshop using supplemental warp gave me an idea. I would use the wool as background in plain weave and some sort of flashy, metallic yarn to weave snowflakes onto the band. I had some really long floats on the backside of the band, but I had already determined that I would line the headbands because none of my friends would want wool next to their ears.

The picture above shows one of the woven bands with metallic yarn that Charlene Lind donated to the Guild from her sister Kathy's stash. The headband is more of an olive green than it appears in the photograph. When the social-distancing is over, I will be off to the fabric store to buy fleece or some such fabric to finish my headbands.



Juliette Lanvers said of this beautiful piece: The warp is cashmere cotton from Colourmart, and the weft is one strand of recycled cashmere from Ann McKane. It is woven in a large herringbone.



Juliette Lanvers created this stashbuster fabric using 8/2 cotton.





Susan Hainsworth loves linen and wove this linen apron fabric from a 100% linen warp and a cottolin weft. The draft is an 8-shaft star pattern she got from Maureen Wilson.



Maureen Wilson has been raising natural dye plants and has gotten really good at dyeing yarns with these natural dyes!



During this time of staying home more, Maureen has been plying some of the singles she's spun over the years.



Maureen has also been trying weaving doubleweave scarves.



Here is a doubleweave scarf made with some of Maureen's handspun yarns.

2019–2020 Guild Challenge: A Design Journey Inspired by the Cards You Were Dealt!

For this year's Guild Challenge, drawing your hand is just the starting point. Four different sets of cards were prepared. Yellow cards specify a weave structure; blue cards specify types of fiber; orange cards specify color; and finally, green cards specify design. Each of us will use our four cards as our guides as we find inspiration and design and weave . . . something! The final woven product can be anything you would like, but please keep track of your inspirations, how you faced your challenge, what was tricky, and what was easy. The final woven pieces will be displayed at the next Guild meeting we are able to have. Keep weaving!

If you want to participate in the Guild Challenge and haven't drawn your cards, please contact Leslie Sieburth or Juliette Lanvers.

Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Weaving during Coronavirus

Since our March Guild meeting, the coronavirus has affected so many lives and livelihoods. It has been compared to a nationwide 9/11 or Pearl Harbor. In the January 1942 Shuttle-Craft Bulletin, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and declarations of war, Mary Meigs Atwater wrote:

"I feel that weaving will prove a resource to us in these troubled times, and that now more than ever we should value and preserve what we have of beauty in our daily lives. Our great great grandmothers plied their shuttles through the war of the Revolution and through the exceeding bitter days of our Civil War. We, I believe, have as much courage and good sense as they, and can do likewise."

She wrote that she would keep the Bulletin going unless she could not get print paper and as long as weaving yarns could still be had. So, keep weaving, if you can. As the *Craftsmanship Quarterly Magazine* is currently exploring through a community survey, Making Matters, More than Ever.



Source: *Craftsman Quarterly Magazine*, <https://craftsmanship.net/>

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group



The remainder of the 2019–2020 Guild year meeting schedule for the Shuttle–Craft Bulletin Study group is presented below. The next meeting will be announced. The topics of discussion will be bags from handwoven fabric and the Pine Bloom pattern, from the February 1927 and December 1928 issues. If you are interested in joining the discussion, let Maureen Wilson know (maureenmwilson@yahoo.com).

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins study group meets to discuss Mary Atwater’s work from the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. This is a very informal group – if you have not participated, try a meeting and see if you want to join. The meetings usually start with a reading from Mary Meigs Atwater’s biography.

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Bulletins</i>	<i>Meeting Date</i>
Bags and Pine bloom pattern	February 1927, December 1928	TBD
Neckties and scarves, Double bow knot and Double chariot wheel patterns	June 1927, November 1927	June 2020
Lace weaves, blanket and shawls	May 1927, February 1932	August 2020

Mary Meigs Atwater
Weaver's Guild of Utah

March 2020 • Vol. 67 No 4

Newsletter editor: Susan Hainsworth,
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published 10 times a year.

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Guild Calendar 2019–2020

May 14, 2020

Swedish Lace,
By Charlene Lind

June 13, 2020

Studio Tour and Guild Challenge Reveal
Potluck Lunch