



The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • September 2017 • Vol. 63 No. 7

September Guild Meeting

What: Gradient Dyeing and Potluck Lunch, with Catherine Marchant

When: Saturday, September 9, start time 10:00 a.m.

Where: Catherine Marchant's home, 554 Lakeview Drive, Alpine, Utah



Catherine Marchant has graciously invited us to her beautiful home in Alpine (directions to follow) and will teach us how to do gradient dyeing. Catherine taught a gradient dye workshop at Great Basin Fiber Festival again this year. Maureen and I took her class last year and had so much fun!!

About Catherine Marchant: Catherine is a talented spinner, weaver, and dyer. She earned a Certificate of Spinning from Ontario Handspinners and Weavers. She has taught at the Newark Museum, Newark, NJ, regional conferences, and many Guild retreats and workshops. Catherine is past president of the Handweaver's Guild of America and also served on the Board of Directors for

eight years. As those of you know who attended the June meeting in 2016, she and her husband have a wonderful collection of Navajo weavings that they are happy to share with us!

You will need to sign up: The gradient dyeing activity is limited to 24 participants (no limit to potluckers and observers). Catherine will provide pre-measured yarns, so we will need to ask participants to sign up in advance so Catherine will know how many yarn packs to wind and how many dye pots and hot plates we will need. Please sign up by or before September 1st. (See sign up information below.)

No materials fee for Guild members: There will be a \$30 materials fee, which covers 8 ounces of yarn, dye, ziploc freezer bags, and printed instructions. This fee will be waived for members who have already paid their 2017/2018 membership – or who pay it at the meeting!.

What to bring:

- Heavy rubber gloves, a cover-up or old clothes, a stir stick (a chop stick works well)
- If possible, a large dye pot (canner size) and a hot plate or Coleman stove. We will need one dye pot and heat source for each two people.
- A dish to share for the potluck lunch (the Guild will provide eating utensils and drinks)

How to sign up: Please e-mail Mimi Rodes

at mimirodes@comcast.net and let me

- know:
- If you want to participate in the Gradient Dye workshop
 - If you can bring a dye pot and/or hot plate or Coleman stove



Questions: The week before the event, I will send out a list of who should bring dye pots or hot plates and any other information that comes up. Please contact me if you have any questions!

mimirodes@comcast.net, 385-347-9976

Directions to Catherine's house: 554 Lakeview Dr., Alpine, UT 84004, 908-803-9667

- Take the UT-92/Timpanogos Highway exit, Exit 284.
- Merge onto UT-92/Timpanogos Hwy via the ramp on the left toward Highland/Alpine/Cedar Hills. Then travel 0.39 miles.
- Keep right at the fork to go on UT-92. Go 3.41 miles.
- Turn left onto N Highland Blvd. go 1.13 miles. (N Highland Blvd is 0.4 miles past N 1200 E. If you are on W Timpanogos Hwy and reach N Tamarack Dr, you've gone about 0.2 miles too far.)
- Turn right onto W 11800 N. Go 0.97 miles. (W 11800 N is 0.1 miles past W Woods Hollow Ln.)
- W 11800 N becomes W Westfield Rd. Go 0.94 miles.
- Turn left onto N 400 W. Go 0.41 miles. (N 400 W is 0.4 miles past Sunrise Dr. If you are on W 200 N and reach N Deerfield Dr, you've gone about 0.1 miles too far.)
- N 400 W becomes Eagle View Dr. Go 0.28 miles.
- Turn left onto Lakeview Dr. Go 0.09 miles. Catherine's home is on the right. (If you reach Treeline Dr, you've gone a little too far.)

Guild Dues: The Best Deal in Town!

Guild dues are the best deal in town! You get way more than your money's worth out of a year of Guild activities and resources. If you are at the September meeting, please plan to pay your dues (then there will be no materials fee at the meeting). If you are not able to come, please mail your dues, along with your name, phone number, and email to Catherine Marchant, 554 Lakeview Drive, Alpine UT 84004.

Dues are \$30 per year (checks made out to MMAWG) or \$35 if you want to get the newsletter by mail.

President's Message: Gifts from the Guild

Many, many thanks to Mimi and all the members of the 2016/2017 board. Mimi and the other board members could not possibly have served the Guild better, and I am so grateful for all that they did. It was often hard work—done quietly and without fanfare for the great benefit of all of us. I know I speak for everyone in the Guild when I express our heartfelt thanks. In this little message, I would like to share several of the gifts that I feel the Guild has given me.

Me, an artist? When I joined the Guild, I was a knitter, a seamstress, a very new weaver, and someone who generally loved textiles. But I generally followed patterns and considered myself an ordinary knitter and seamstress. Joining the Guild brought me into association with talented artists and with textile ideas far beyond anything I knew existed. And do you know what happened? It wasn't very long until I started to think of myself as an artist! I am still a quite ordinary textile lover, but I have a different attitude and approach to this beautiful art we share. What a wonderful gift from the Guild!

Inspiring friends. As I think about the people who mean so much in my life, it is quite remarkable how many of them I have met through the Guild. The people drawn toward weaving are wonderful, don't you agree? The friends and associates I have met have brought inspiration, laughter, beauty, understanding of our shared passion, and joy into my life, and I am so profoundly grateful for each one. I am so grateful for the organization that has brought us together.

A wonderful year ahead. The dedicated members of the Guild board have put together a remarkable year of opportunities and learning. I am so grateful we can share all of these adventures together! See you in September. *Susan*

The Guild Challenge: Lace!



The Guild Challenge last year, focused on Crackle weaving and organized by Sonya Campana, was very inspiring for everyone—those who participated and those who attended the meetings focused on Crackle and saw the beautiful weaving that resulted.

Our Guild Challenge this year will be focused on Lace weaving and will be organized by Michelle Pahl (learn more about Michelle in the "Getting to Know You" section of this newsletter). More information will be presented at the September meeting. The Challenge will include lots of information and examples of Lace weaves to expand your Lace weaving horizons:

- Our November Guild meeting will be focused on types of Lace weaving, with lots of examples of the beautiful weavings that can be made using Lace structures.
- Each participant will choose a Lace structure and make a weaving of her choice using that structure. It would be great if each person could do something with Lace she hasn't tried before.
- The completed weavings will be displayed and discussed at the April Guild meeting.
- Each participant will be encouraged to put on enough warp to create a sample of the Lace structure for the Guild library so that we will have a Lace swatch collection for later use.

Stay tuned for more information!

Intermountain Weavers Conference Was Wonderful



For those of us who attended Intermountain Weavers Conference, the experience was remarkably inspiring. The setting was the high mountains of Durango, Colorado, and inspiration was everywhere! Many of our Guild members attended, learning from the three-day workshops, the shows, the fashions, the weavers all around, and the vendors hall! Our Guild was very well represented in the shows.

Mimi Rodes's tapestry received the IWC non-functional award. Deanna Baugh's pillows received the functional award. These are both important recognitions of the wonderful work being done by our Guild members.



Members of our Guild contributed items toward a basket of fiber goodies that was raffled off at the Intermountain Weavers Conference. The basket was beautiful, and we received the following note from the very appreciative basket winner, Susie Opdahl, from Prescott, Arizona:

"Dear Members of the Mary Meigs Atwater Weavers Guild:

"Thank you so much for putting together such a wonderful raffle basket that I was so lucky to win! I'm absolutely thrilled with all the goodies it contained. I especially loved the fleece!

"Thank you, too, to Connie Denton for constructing such a lovely basket – it will be used in my studio forever! Your Guild did such an amazing job with your raffle baskets! Thank you, Susie Opdahl

The Guild Library Rocks!

Hi, Weavers! Have I got news for you! At Intermountain Weavers Conference (IWC) last month, I bought some awesome textile resources for our library.

These are amazing books, which you need to see to believe. We will have these at upcoming Guild meetings for you to drool over.

VAV Magazine

Two-years subscription and numerous back issues from 2010 up to 2016

Norwegian Pick-up Bandweaving

Heather Torgenrud

Traditional Weavers of Guatemala

Deborah Chandler

Old Swedish Weavings from North to South

Doris Wiklund

Handwoven Baby Blankets

Tom Knisely

Handwoven Table Linens

Tom Knisely

Weaving Shaker Rugs

Mary Elva Congleton Erf

Designing Woven Fabrics

Janet Philips

An Exaltation of Blocks

Rosalie Nelson

I will not be at the September meeting, but I plan to bring any books you Guild members want to the monthly meetings, now that the library is in my basement.

The first 10 days of September I will be in Japan! So anytime up to that point and afterwards, please feel free to call me to check out items from the library.

Contact me also if you want to arrange to rent a table loom, triangle loom, and stand or tapestry loom.

Sonya Campana, librarian

Reader's Corner: Swatches!

Our Guild library holds many amazing treasures, and my goal in writing this new column is to highlight selections from the collection. Initially I wanted to do this because our closeted library seemed difficult to penetrate, but with the library collection moving to Sonya's house, it feels more important than ever to help members connect with our Guild's resources.

Weaving books come in many different flavors. There are project books, books that focus on a specific weaving structure, basic books describing a diversity of weave structures (e.g., Black or Davison), books on historic weavings, ethnic weaving, and related topics such as spinning, dyeing, and converting your woven fabric into something. But for this first column, I have chosen to focus on three of our library's holding that not only have words and drafts to stimulate the mind, but they also have actual fabric samples for your tactile pleasure!

Sharon Alderman's Swatch Collection, by Sharon Alderman
Magic in the Water: Wet Finishing Handwovens, by Laura Fry
Swatch Book, by Virginia West

These are a bit daunting—some are large, and all are bulky. But the treasures inside are amazing.

Swatch Collection, by Sharon Alderman

This is an elegant box filled with cardstock squares with mounted swatches. The notes printed with the swatch provide the details: draft, yarns, and sett. Although there were only a few that I thought I might some day weave myself, to be able to see the draft and fabric together, and read Sharon's thoughts about fiber and fabric use, was an inspiration.

Magic in the Water: Wet Finishing Handwovens, by Laura Fry

In this book, there are also drafts with fabric samples, but the emphasis is on wet finishing. The book starts with a consideration of each fiber type, and a description of how the woven fabric should be finished. Then the major part of the book shows a finished product (e.g., garment, tablecloth), the draft, and samples from before and after wet finishing. This book helped me greatly to understand fulling of wool, and it had fabrics with interesting combinations of yarns (e.g., tencel warp with chenille weft). My only disappointment is that many of the yarns are now obsolete, and it would be useful to have a guide that compared the older yarns to ones available today.

Swatch Book, by Virginia West

This also has samples of some amazing fabrics. Each swatch includes a written commentary, the draft, and the yarns. To me, the Virginia West swatches seemed a bit more unusual, and not unexpectedly, many also required more than eight shafts.

True Treasures!

The ability to see and touch fabric, look at its draft, and read about its yarn is an extraordinary learning opportunity for new weavers, and a great source of inspiration for weavers of all skill levels. OK, what are you waiting for? These are true treasures! Just call, text or e-mail Sonya—your library adventure awaits! *Leslie Sieburth*

Getting to Know You—Michelle Pahl

Michelle will be leading our Guild Challenge this year! We are grateful that she has taken the time to help us get acquainted with her.



I wish I could remember when that first spark of interest in weaving hit me. It's like the onset of a cold – it starts with a sniffle or a tickle in the throat, something you hardly notice, and then bam! you can barely get out of bed for a week. I'd been happily crocheting and sometimes knitting for years, and then came a moment in 2013 or so – the tickle in the back of the brain whispering “weave.”

I was living in a little town in southwest New Mexico, and a friend I had met at the dog park there was the former chair of the Anthropology Department at the University of Arizona and the author and editor of several books on weaving. I ran into her at the dog park shortly after the tickle started and told her I thought I needed to learn how to weave. She graciously lent me a spare jack loom, which we carted across town on her truck. I took a two-day basic weaving course from another local weaver (Hosana Ailert, Wild West Weaving – check out her little shop if you're ever in Silver City, NM!), and I was hooked.

After six months with my borrowed loom, I decided to take the leap and purchase my Glimakra 49-inch horizontal countermarche loom. Someone locally needed to sell hers to make room in her house, and the loom needed a good home. I wasn't looking for something quite so big.

After that first basic course, I've learned mostly from plunging in and making lots of mistakes. Also YouTube. So far I've made kitchen towels, blankets, rugs, and scarves. I've made weft-faced rugs, rag rugs, worked in tabby, twill, and deflected doubleweave. I think my favorite has been the twill towels.

They are easy and great to have around for gifts. I love warping probably more than I should. One of my favorite activities is to have a cup of tea, listen to a good audiobook, and thread heddles.



I support my weaving habit by working as an urgent care doctor for Intermountain. I moved to Utah in December of 2015 and since then have been enjoying the beauty that Utah has to offer – hiking with my two whippets, mountain biking, and canyoneering, I'm so happy to be part of the MMAWG, and I'm looking forward to future weaverly activities.

Michelle

Upcoming Deflected Double Weave Workshop

The Guild is offering a Deflected Double Weave workshop, to be taught by Deanna Baugh, on October 20-21 at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. In Deflected Double Weave, the warp and weft threads deflect out of their vertical and horizontal positions during finishing to form waves and circles. In this workshop you will learn about designing and weaving this structure while you weave a scarf for yourself or a gift. Both four-shaft and eight-shaft drafts will be provided to accommodate the loom you will be using.

You may choose to purchase yarn from Deanna, in which case you will have a choice of a couple of different colorways. The cost of this workshop will be approximately \$55 to \$75 (dependent on registration). The registration form is included with this newsletter. If you have questions, please call Beth Myrer (801-602-8612).



Registration Form **Deflected Double Weave Workshop**

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Both four-shaft and eight-shaft drafts will be provided to accommodate the loom you will be using. You may choose to purchase yarn from Deanna, in which case you will have a choice of a couple of different colorways.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

of shafts _____

The total cost of the workshop will be between \$55 and \$75, depending on how many people register. Please send a check for the \$25 deposit (made out to MMAWG) with this form to Beth Myrer, 1407 West 1100 North, Provo, Utah 84604. Or bring the form and your check to a Guild meeting.

Please contact Beth Myrer with any questions (801-602-8612).

Shuttle-Craft Bulletin: Tie-up and Pickup

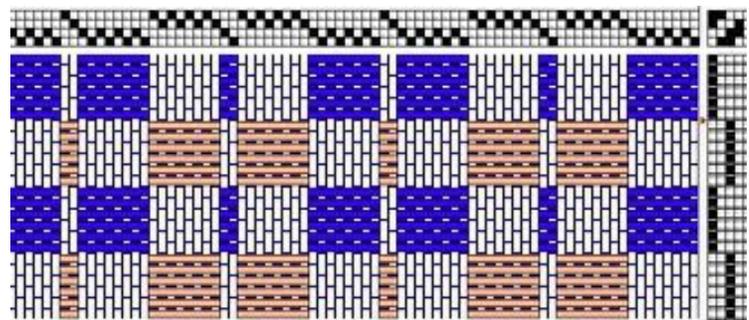
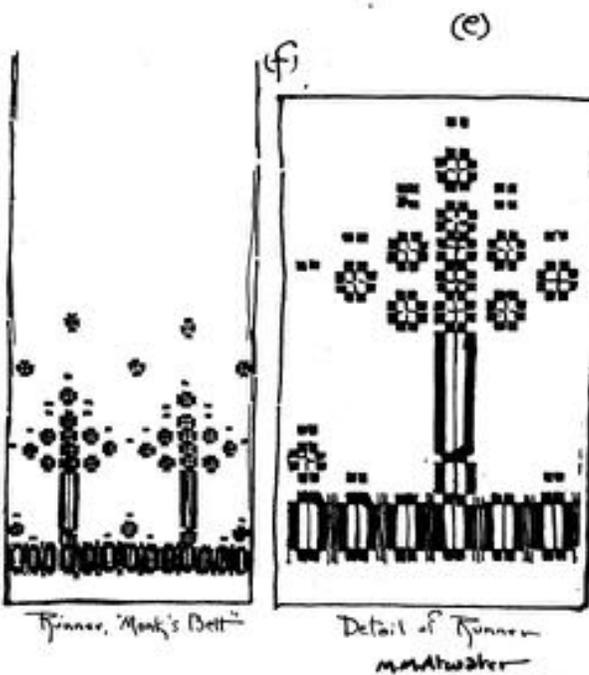
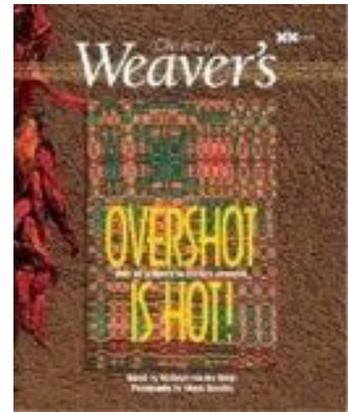
It is now 1930, the Shuttlecraft Guild is in its sixth year, and the country is at the beginning of the Great Depression. The 1930 Shuttlecraft Bulletins in this article are August and September, covering various topics briefly, but mainly loom tie-ups and Monk's Belt pickup.

In August, Mary Meigs Atwater reports that the Shuttlecraft Guild traveling exhibit is in circulation among the weavers who submitted completed woven works or samples. This exhibit is so popular that Mary recommends that another one be compiled. For her, it is worth the time and work it takes to coordinate this. I think that we see this in the interest in the show and tell portion of our Guild meetings. We all like to see what other weavers are making.

On loom tie-up, Mary reports that she has seen many weavers struggling with their weaving because their looms are not properly set. She is referring mainly to the tie-up for counter balance looms, which in my limited experience, can be difficult and take some amount of tweaking. She advises to start from the top and work your way down from the cables, going over the rollers to the shafts, lamms, and treadles. These adjustments are worth the time to her. The point Mary makes is that before a weaver tries to weave something beautiful, it is necessary to make sure the equipment is functioning properly.

In the September Bulletin, Mary calls the use of the Monk's Belt in isolated motifs a pickup, while I am more likely to think of the technique as inlay, as in the article on overshot in the *Best of Weavers, Overshot Is Hot!* By David Xenakis (see p. 36). No matter what you may call it, it is attractive and of use in many applications. Mary notes the Monk's Belt

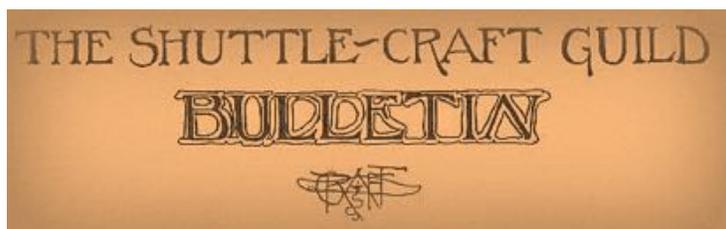
threading in Bulletin figure c (see the drawdown), with the standard tie-up, may be used in a table runner as shown.



She advises to repeat the treadling and pattern design as desired – weaver's choice – and recommends marking the placement of the pattern threads with charcoal or chalk, while David X. recommends sleying black sewing threads with the warp to mark the placement of the motif. Monk's Belt pattern is typically woven from selvedge to selvedge,

but if the pattern weft is inlaid within a defined area of the warp, the isolated motif is produced. Both authors describe their technique and do use a pickup stick in the process. Mary illustrates the use of this technique as a border on a table square, and on curtains. Both of these examples would take 3 shuttles, 2 for the patterns on each border and one for the tabby, woven across the entire warp. It is probably easier to do than describe, but if you want to use this technique, it is worth investigating from either or both sources and the result would be beautiful. *Maureen Wilson*

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group



The next meeting of the Shuttle -Craft Study group is scheduled for **October, 2017**. The topic of discussion will be Jackets and Coats, from the January and June 1926 issues. If you are interested in joining the discussion, let Maureen Wilson (maureenmwilson@yahoo.com) know. The meeting location and directions will be announced in the newsletter and on the Yahoo list.

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 our homes, to discuss the topic, share samples and experiences. This is a very informal group, if you have not participated, attend a meeting and see if you want to join. The meetings start with a reading from Mary Meigs Atwater's biography.



The topics, Bulletins, and tentative schedule for the Guild year are listed below:

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Bulletins</i>	<i>Meeting Dates</i>
Jackets and Coats	Jan 1926, June 1926	October 2017
Linen weaves	Feb 1926, May 1926	February, 2018
Rugs	Mar 1926, Nov 1939	April 2018
Curtains	April 1926, Mar 1937	June 2018
Clothing/Coat Fabric	June 1926, Aug 2917	August 2018

**Mary Meigs Atwater
Weaver's Guild of Utah**

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Newsletter editors:

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

The newsletter is published 10 times a year.

To join the Guild send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to receive the newsletter by mail) to Catherine Marchant, 554 Lakeview Dr., Alpine, UT 84004

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)

2016–2017 MMAWG Board

President: Susan Hainsworth, 801-860-6483, susanhainsworth@gmail.com

Vice Presidents: Mimi Rodes, 801-619-6888, mimirodes@comcast.net; Juliette Lanvers, 801-860-5481, juliettelanvers@icloud.com

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Treasurer: Sara Lee Neill, 801-829-3703, sjneill@xmission.com

Hospitality: Ping Chang, 801-545-0512, wanping801@gmail.com; Alicia Suazo, 801-414-5151, falconssss@aol.com

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IWC representative: Nancy Crowley

Guild Calendar 2017–2018

September 9, 2017

Gradient Dyeing, Catherine Marchant
Catherine's home, Alpine, Utah

October 12, 2017

IWC Reports

October 20–21, 2017

Deflected Double Weave Workshop
Deanna Baugh

November 9, 2017

Introduction of Guild Challenge – Lace!

December 14, 2017

Christmas Party, Mimi Rodes's home

January 11, 2018

Guatemalan Huipils, by Gladys Webb

February 8, 2018

Sewing Clothing from Handwovens
Ann Edington Adams

March 14, 2018

Field Trip, Natural History Museum
Native American Rug Collection

April 12, 2018

Guild Challenge Results – Lace!

May 2–4, 2018

Workshop with Tom Knisely
(details to come)

May 4–5, 2018

Fiber Festival

June 2018 (Date TBA)

Basket Weaving, by Connie Denton