

# THE WEAVER'S BAG



Mary Meigs Atwater  
Weaver's Guild

JUNE • 2024

## What's Happening

**JUNE 15:** (Saturday)—Dye Day, Guild Challenge Reveal, and Potluck, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Sunny Cate's home

**JULY 23–AUGUST 13:** Tuesday mornings—Tapestry Weaving Workshop

**JULY 27:** (extra Zoom meeting)  
John Marshall

All regular Guild meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the South Valley Unitarian Church, 6876 Highland Drive, unless otherwise indicated.



Results of Mimi and Jeanette's dye experiment (see Mimi's president's message at right). This is the background photo for this month's newsletter.

## June Guild Meeting—Dye Day, Guild Challenge Reveal, and Potluck Lunch

Saturday, June 15, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunny Cate's Home (address will be emailed before the meeting)

I am excited to invite you to my home to dye! Please bring your items to dye, and make sure they are measured and washed and pretreated. The instructions for pretreating the fibers are attached to the newsletter email, but if anyone needs help, give me a call and I'll be happy to help. You are welcome to bring really anything you want to dye—just make sure the fiber is plant based. I am planning to mix up a bunch of dyes, and Maureen Wilson has agreed to bring an indigo pot, so come prepared to play!

Wear appropriate clothing, including shoes. Bring long kitchen gloves and a plastic container to transport dyed items back home. If you have a table that we could use, please come a few minutes early and we can set it up. We will also have cotton kitchen towels available to dye—a great first-time project.

Dyeing is not the only thing we will be doing that day! We also have a potluck lunch, so please bring an item to share. I have a few chairs, but if you could bring a camp chair, that would be great! We will also have our Guild Challenge Reveal, so remember to bring what you have been working on for our color challenge! What an exciting day!

Thank you for all you do! It was great having all of you at our Gathering!  
—Sunny Cate, Vice President

## President's Message #1 From Mimi Rodes

Dear Friends: We are so very much looking forward to Dye Day at Sunny's!!! All of our weaving projects take so long to wind the warp, thread the loom, and then weave, but dyeing is magical, and it is pretty much instant excitement and pleasure!

To get us in the mood, Jeanette and I spent an exciting morning together dyeing with the Denise Kovnat method learned in our April Zoom workshop! We needed to dye two warps that will be beamed together—one warp in warm colors, the other in cool colors. It was so much fun and the colors are gorgeous as you can see from our photos!!!

Looking forward to a fun and exciting DYE DAY!!!!  
—Mimi Rodes, Co-President





## President's Message #2 From Jeanette Tregagle

Only one more meeting, and then this year's Guild season is over. It was a lot of fun. I would like to send out a big thanks to Mimi for keeping the Guild on track. We have had great programs this year, plus the Fiber Festival. Thank you, Sunny, for all the planning, arrangements, and work for the monthly meetings.

It was a busy year. The Guild presidency would also like to extend a vote of thanks to the people behind the scenes who make everything possible. Without the help of Barbara Allen, Beth Myer, Margaret Hopkin, Karen Gregory, Susan Hainsworth, Maureen Wilson, Nicole Lehman, Nancy Crowley, Julie Guiney, Phyllis Mandel, Drew Quinn, and Catherine Marchant, the Guild would not happen. These are just a few of the members who have put in time, energy, and talent to keep the Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild going. We would not exist without your support.

This year we tried something new that we called The Gathering. A huge thanks to everyone who joined us for two days of socializing, weaving, knitting, spinning, and learning. Ivy DeHart gave a great presentation about her Color and Dyeing Design techniques. It was amazing and made me want to learn more about the dye process. I loved both her skill and generosity. We have such a wealth of knowledge among our Guild members. It was enjoyable to tap into that knowledge and I am grateful for her being willing to share. The Gathering would not have happened without the vision of Sunny, Maureen, Sonya, and Mimi. They did a great job.

In summary, it was a busy year. From "The Threads That Bind Us," Zoom meetings, in-person meetings, parties, workshops, and ending with our Dye Day in June, we had a wonderful year. See you at Sunny's and remember to bring your fiber that you want to dye and your Guild Challenge project.

Thank you for a great year!

—Jeanette Tregagle, Co-President

## Zoom Presentation by John Marshall

We have scheduled another wonderful "bonus" Zoom program on Saturday, July 27th, at 9:30 am! Our speaker will be John Marshall, an internationally recognized expert, artist, teacher, and author in Japanese textiles, print techniques, and natural dyes, especially indigo.

John became interested in the Japanese language, culture, and textiles as a youth living in Fresno, California, due to the encouragement of Japanese American teachers and friends who nurtured his interest in their language and culture. He apprenticed with Matsuyou Hayashi in Japan for five years. Since then, he has continued his research into ancient cultures and dye techniques. Through his work, he strives to "interpret the sensibilities and aesthetics of the ancient and ethnic world through the Japanese paste-resist process using actual plants and insects employed in making the original dyes." He has specialized in one-of-a-kind works of art and luxurious clothing.

John has taught internationally and in the US at many museums, and his work has been carried by prestigious stores such as Obiko in San Francisco and Bergdorf Goodman in New York. He has been featured in various art and textile related publications and has published a number of books on the subject, including *Singing the Blues—Soulful Dyeing for All Eternity*, and other books on natural dyes and Japanese traditional textiles. (source: John Marshall's website)



The topics and classes offered on his website are fascinating!!! Take a look at <https://www.johnmarshall.to>. Be sure to join us for this wonderful upcoming Zoom meeting!! More to come!!

This presentation is partially supported by generous donations from the families of Linda Asa and Charlene Lind in their memory.

—Mimi Rodes, Co-President

## Tapestry Weaving Workshop, with Deanna Baugh and Mimi Rodes

This workshop will be held on Tuesday mornings from July 23–August 13, 2024. It is open to both beginning weavers and more experienced weavers who want to refresh their knowledge and skills in tapestry weaving. Participants will learn how to dress a loom and basic tapestry techniques such as hatching, soumak, shading, twining, and curves. We will also look at a number of finished tapestries and discuss the different techniques that were used to achieve a variety of effects. See the attached flyer and registration materials for further information about the class and how to register.



## The Salt Lake Weaving Studio

The Salt Lake Weaving Studio is really up and running, thanks to friends Julie Guiney and Sonya Campana! We still have things to work on, but we have had our first class at the Studio. We are planning a party in the fall to celebrate. We hope you all can join us!

### UPCOMING CLASSES:

**Beginning Rigid Heddle:** June 5, 12, 19

**Intro to Weaving—Sampler:** June 15, 22

**Gradient Dyeing:** June 29

**Warping Techniques:** July 23, 30, August 6

**Marbling:** July 27

Questions? Email us at [SLWeaveStudio@gmail.com](mailto:SLWeaveStudio@gmail.com)

Happy Weaving!

—Deanna Baugh and Catherine Marchant

## Updated Membership List

If you would like an email copy of the updated Guild membership list, you can contact me at [barbaraallenster@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraallenster@gmail.com) and I will send one to you. With your support we will be able to have another wonderful year ahead!

—Barbara Allen, Membership Secretary



## Summary of May Guild Meeting

At the business portion of the meeting, the proposed slate of officers for next year's Guild Board was announced as follows:

*Co-Presidents:* Mimi Rodes and Jeanette Tregeagle

*Vice President:* Sunny Cate

*Treasurer:* Phyllis Mandel

*Membership Secretary:* Ann McKane

*Recording Secretary:* Beth Myrer

A vote on this slate of officers will be held at the June meeting. Mimi thanked both outgoing and remaining board members for their service during the past year.

Karen Donde gave the meeting presentation, and she was a delight. She explained her method for organizing items of inspiration into categories of color, shape, and pattern so that they are at the ready when she needs them. She showed us several of her "inspiration boards" that she keeps up in her living space so that ideas can brew as she goes about daily activities. Using these ideas, she then decides how to apply them to her weaving.

—Sunny Cate, Vice-President

## The Weaver's Gathering

On May 10 and 11, at the Southern Unitarian Universalist Society building, weavers joined to share time together to weave, spin, socialize, and learn from each other.

There were 17 signed up; some came for the whole time; others came for a while. Ivy DeHart gave a wonderful presentation Saturday morning on designing, dyeing, and using painted warps for her pieces. She brought equipment to sell that she and her husband Scott have developed to paint warps, and some weavers took advantage.

Spinning lessons, warping tips, weaving software help, color combination consultations, and travelogues were shared. Sonya Campana showed beautiful textile samples from her Japanese textile tour with Sara Bixler of Red Stone Glen. If you are curious about these tours, check out <https://opulentquiltjourneys.com/>. Jeanette Tregeagle and her husband Rich provided a tasty pulled-pork sandwich lunch on Friday.

It was a team of volunteers who pulled together to make the Gathering a success—Jeanette, Mimi, Sunny, Sonya, and Maureen. We had such positive feedback that we expect another one in the future. Check out the article in the latest *Handwoven* on another gathering—"The Sheer Joy of Weaving Together."

—Maureen Wilson



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MIMI RODES

## Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair

Our Guild had a table at the Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair on April 26 and 27 at the Western Sports Park in Farmington. Members of the Guild were at the table throughout the fair, and they brought looms and woven items to use for demonstration.

Many, many people stopped at the Guild table to learn more about weaving. This fair is attended by people who are interested in fiber arts, and many of them have had some exposure to weaving and want to learn more. Guild members shared information about weaving, about our Guild, and about upcoming classes at the newly organized Weaving School.

The Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair has a wonderful market and many interesting classes. If you haven't attended, put it on your calendar for next year!

## 2023–2024 MMAWG Board

**President:** Mimi Rodes (801-619-6888, [president@mmawg.org](mailto:president@mmawg.org)); Jeanette Tregeagle (801-568-9645, [knitweave@yahoo.com](mailto:knitweave@yahoo.com))

**Vice President:** Sunny Cate (801-589-3393, [sunny.cate@aquacate.com](mailto:sunny.cate@aquacate.com))

**Membership Secretary:** Barbara Allen (801-618-7397, [bold ladybug@gmail.com](mailto:bold ladybug@gmail.com))

**Recording Secretary:** Beth Myrer (801-602-8612, [betsyboo100@hotmail.com](mailto:betsyboo100@hotmail.com))

**Acting Treasurer:** Phyllis Mandel (914-806-3478)

**Librarian and Equipment Coordinator:** Susan Hainsworth (801-860-6483, [susanhainsworth@gmail.com](mailto:susanhainsworth@gmail.com))

**Hospitality:** Karen Gregory (801-916-9849, [klgregory12@gmail.com](mailto:klgregory12@gmail.com))

**Grants Officer:** Mimi Rodes (801-619-6888, [grants@mmawg.org](mailto:grants@mmawg.org))

**Newsletter:** Susan Hainsworth (801-860-6483, [susanhainsworth@gmail.com](mailto:susanhainsworth@gmail.com)); Maureen Wilson (801-485-5241, [maureenwilson@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenwilson@yahoo.com)); Nicole Lohman (715-491-1893, [nicolelohman@gmail.com](mailto:nicolelohman@gmail.com))

**Webmaster:** Nancy Crowley (505-480-8079, [ludmillalilly@outlook.com](mailto:ludmillalilly@outlook.com))

**IWC Representative:** Nancy Crowley (505-480-8079, [ludmillalilly@outlook.com](mailto:ludmillalilly@outlook.com))

**Shuttle-Craft Guild Study Group Coordinator:** Maureen Wilson

**Guild Challenge Coordinator:** Beth Myrer

**Guild Sale Coordinator:** Catherine Marchant (801-216-4722, [fibernbeads@gmail.com](mailto:fibernbeads@gmail.com))

**Outreach Coordinator:** Julie Guiney (435-640-2965, [jamg57@msn.com](mailto:jamg57@msn.com))

## Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah

**To join the Guild,** send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to receive the newsletter by mail) to Barbara Allen, 524 North 100 East, Centerville, UT 84014, or go to the Guild website, where you can join using Paypal.

**To join the Guild e-mail list,** contact Susan Hainsworth, [susanhainsworth@gmail.com](mailto:susanhainsworth@gmail.com).

**Guild website:** [mmawg.org](http://mmawg.org)

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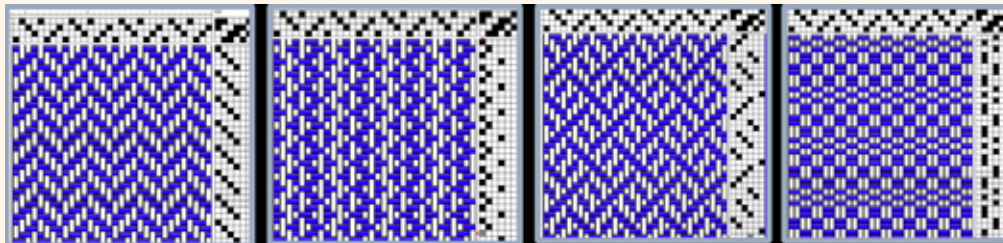


## Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Weaving Small Patterns and Lightweight Fabrics

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins covered in this article are from February and June 1938. These Bulletins are on the Guild website ([mmawg.org](http://mmawg.org)) under the Bulletins Tab.

The February 1938 issue of the *Shuttle-Craft Bulletin* includes drafts that Mary Meigs Atwater had published early in the history of the Shuttle-Craft Guild. The technology of the publication (around 1917) had been lost, and with requests for these drafts, she provided them again. One draft, called Wheat, was in response to a request from a Guild member who asked if Mary could explain the threading because it was held as a “secret.” Mary called secrets in weaving silly, explaining that “what one weaver has woven, another can also weave.” She found the Wheat draft secret even sillier as she explained that she first published it in 1917. The threading was a broken twill that produces a textured pattern suitable for dress fabrics, among other things. It was developed by Mr. Grey, who was Mary’s assistant in setting up the Basin weaving center in 1917. Four treadlings were included for the draft, shown here:

The other drafts that Mary included in the issue were Spider-Web and Twenty-One, two overshot drafts from the Landes collection. While these are not particularly suitable for dress fabric, they both have a small repeat that could be used for bags or small pieces. Another overshot pattern, called German Star, also had short floats that would be good for linens and all wool blankets. None of these are included in Mary’s *Shuttle-Craft Book*, so it is good to have them in the Bulletins.



In June 1938, Mary responded to requests for weaving drafts for lightweight fabrics. She provided several drafts, with an emphasis on cotton as the weaving material. She preferred the soft, fuzzy unmercerized cottons for dress fabrics, noting that a hard twisted or slippery perle cotton produced a less subtle and less “sympathetic” fabric.

Cotton flake yarns were available, defined by Mary as a fine thread, well twisted with untwisted flakes at intervals, easy to use as weft, but considered by Mary as “troublesome” as a warp. She recommended a warp of fine cotton with the same grist as the finest part of the cotton flake. For weft, she recommended either all cotton flake, or cotton flake alternated with a fine cotton, using plain weave for the best effect. This would provide a special texture in the fabric.

Mary thought that plain weave was best for many purposes, as it gives the lightest possible fabric with enough body for cutting and sewing. It provides the closest system of interlacement of warp and weft. Mary wrote that we should not look down on plain weave as beneath our skill, as it is more difficult to weave an even plain weave than any overshot pattern.

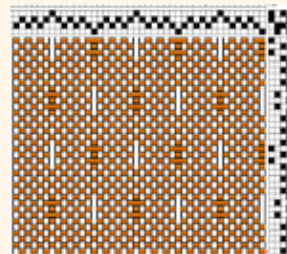
Plain weave can be varied: plaids, checks, and log cabin were given as interesting options. Another option is using a coarser thread of the same or alternate color as the main warp, set at intervals for a texture variation.

Twills, not typically used for cotton at the time, were also recommended, alternating with bands of plain weave in a soft cotton thread. Mary also mentioned Ms and Os and lace weaves, such as leno, as additional options.

The threadings in the Bulletin included:

- Shepherd’s check, alternating 2 threads light and 2 threads dark.
- Log cabin, also done in light and dark threads; up to 4 different colors may be used.
- Plain weave in coarse and fine materials, as seen above.
- Crepe weaves, a small texture weave, recommended for fine threads.
- Plain weave with small “dots” like huck, set at intervals; see the draft drawdown.
- A 3 harness/shaft weave with an interesting texture.
- Swedish “piket” threading, a weave Mary called “granite,” giving a variety of textures, with 2 tie-ups provided.
- Open weave with skipped denting.
- Another granite weave, in 8 shafts.
- And other drafts from the *Recipe Book*, particularly a weave called Drifting Shadows, one Mary called a favorite of her original drafts.

—Maureen Wilson, *Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group Coordinator*



## The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group

The remaining Guild year meetings of the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study group are presented below. The next meeting will be on June 18 at 7:00 at Phyllis Mandel’s home. The topic will be Krokbragd.

The study group meets to discuss Mary Atwater’s work from the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. This is an informal group, and if you have not participated, try a meeting. The meetings often begin with a reading from Mary Meigs Atwater’s biography. If you are interested in attending, email Maureen Wilson ([maureenmwilson@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenmwilson@yahoo.com)).

Date	Topic	Bulletins
June 18, 2024	Krokbragd	November 1930; November 1937
August 2024	Linen Weaving	December 1930; March 1932

