

THE WEAVER'S BAG



Mary Meigs Atwater
Weaver's Guild

APRIL • 2025

What's Happening

APRIL 3: Lost in Translation—Why Color Theories Don't Guarantee Good Cloth, by Ruby Leslie

APRIL 3–5: There Must be 50 Ways to Weave Your Color Workshop, by Ruby Leslie

APRIL 19: Guild Library Open House, Susan Hainsworth's home

MAY 8: Fashion Evening and Guild Challenge Reveal

JUNE 17–21: Intermountain Weavers Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico

JUNE 28: Bundle Dyeing and Potluck (10:00 to 2:00, pavilion near Mimi Rodes's home)

SEPTEMBER 5–OCTOBER 22: Guild Show—"Slow Cloth: A Celebration of One Thread at a Time"

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

April Guild Meeting—Lost in Translation: Why Color Theories Don't Guarantee Good Cloth, by Ruby Leslie

Thursday, April 3, 6:30 p.m., South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 6876 Highland Drive

We are so excited to have Ruby Leslie presenting at our April Guild meeting. She is in town for a three-day workshop, and we are very glad she will take the time to share her knowledge with the entire Guild. Here is a summary of Ruby's presentation:

Lost in Translation: Why Color Theories Don't Guarantee Good Cloth

Weavers seduced by gorgeous colored yarns often fail to use them successfully. The usual approach to this problem is to learn color theory, which is a huge and daunting undertaking. Learning terminology is NOT the equivalent of learning to use color well. What is needed is a method to translate color theory, terminology, and yarn wrappings into actual weaving. You don't need to master color theory to use color masterfully.

Ruby will share her extensive collection of samples for a production line of scarves, which document her evolving approach to color design. This progression led to the development of a practical approach to color theory as applied to weaving and a process for designing swatches for *Handwoven* magazine's "Color Forecast" series, which is applicable to all fiber artists.

Show and Tell will begin at 6:30.

Please bring whatever you have been working on.

Also, remember that at our May 8 Guild meeting, we will share the clothing we have made for the Guild Challenge, and we are asking all members to think about wearing something handmade for our Fashion Evening. This is also the evening when the Kitchen Tea Towel Exchange will take place, so please bring the towels you have made for this.

—Sunny Cate, Vice President



Weaving by Ruby Leslie, part of the Circles & Feathers (advancing twill) series, called "Winter Berries", used by permission

President's Message

I found my tribe. I love weaving. You take a piece of thread, cross it with the second piece of thread again and again to create cloth. The cloth tells you what it wants to become. A blanket, a scarf, a dish towel—the possibilities are endless.

The joy of the Weaver's Guild is that everyone understands this love of weaving. Many people tell me they don't have the time, the patience, or the understanding to learn to weave. It feels like a magic power that only the lucky few learn. I have heard that weaving is a waste of time, it's a dying art. My tribe understands that weaving is a life. My tribe understands my love of fibers. They get that the execution of a new project is a thing of joy. The Guild gives us a chance to share our finished projects, to ask questions and learn.

Every two years the Guild has a fiber arts show, and the show is six months away. As we plan our entries for this show, which is juried for awards, it is not a question of how much we create, or how big our entry has become—it is a chance to show the world our talent. Creativity shares a piece of our soul—something only the artists have touched and given energy. It is a testament to our talent.

Thank you for being my tribe.

—Jeanette Tregagle, Co-President



Overshot piece by Ann Adams from the 2023 Guild show



Doubleweave scarf by Catherine Marchant from the 2023 Guild show

Guild Challenge—Weaving for Clothing

The reveal for this year's Guild Challenge—"Weaving for Clothing"—is coming up in May! At the May 8 Guild meeting, those who have participated in the Challenge will bring or wear their handwoven garments and talk to the Guild about their experience. We also ask any Guild members who have handwoven clothing to bring or wear it, so we can have an evening of handwoven fashion!

This is the Challenge: Those who are interested in participating will weave cloth that can be used for clothing. Weavers can also explore the use of color in cloth as they do this. This clothing can be simple scarves or shawls or yardage, or it can be clothing that is constructed in some way. We hope that this challenge will allow all of us to learn more about weaving for clothing.

Please contact Susan Hainsworth (susanhainsworth@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Kitchen Tea Towel Exchange

On May 8, those who have participated in the Guild Kitchen Tea Towel Exchange should bring their towels to our Guild meeting to exchange.

To participate, weave one to four towels. Please contact Sunny Cate with any questions. Here are the suggested guidelines:

1. Cotton, linen, hemp, or any combination of these fibers make great towels.
2. Finished size is to be approximately 18" x 25". Please plan ahead to address shrinkage and draw-in.
3. Finish the towels with a hem, either hand-sewn or machine-sewn.
4. Weave one to four towels. They can all be the same or can be different. You will exchange as many as you bring—if you bring one towel, you will go home with one towel. If you bring three, you will go home with three.

If you are not going to be able to come to the exchange, we can work something out to have your towels exchanged. Just talk to Sunny.

—Sunny Cate, Vice-President



Tracy Kaestner's Happy Towels from March/
April 2011 Handwoven

Meetings of the Southern Utah Branch

The Southern Utah Branch of our Guild now has a monthly newsletter, which is posted on our Guild website at this link: <https://mmawg.org/newsletters/202502SUWNewsletter.pdf>

April Meeting: Our guild meeting is Saturday, April 12th 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Washington City Library. Bring your portable looms or other working projects to enjoy a social time with other fiber enthusiasts. We welcome newcomers who want to explore weaving, spinning and other fiber crafts. Please bring your completed projects or photos for Show and Tell.

May Meeting: Mark your calendars for our last Guild meeting in 2025: May 10

Rigid Heddle—Little Looms: April 9 (2nd Wednesday) 1pm to 3 p.m. at Washington City Library. Bring your looms, share your work, or come to watch and learn. Dona Fisher, fisherdonann@gmail.com

Spinners of Southwest Utah: The focus is on fiber, spinning, and dyeing and we work on projects while we share our learning. Anyone is welcome to observe and learn more. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and our next meeting is April 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Washington City Library, Community Room. Contact donipack@gmail.com

Kayenta Art Show: Eye Candy: 2D & 3D Art. Desert Spirit Art Committee Group Exhibition March 20–April 30, 2025. Doni has items in the show. First Friday Opening on April 4, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Washington City Arts Council Spring Social: Saturday, April 5, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the newly remodeled Heritage Hall (Corner of Main & Telegraph) behind the Museum.

—Nancy Crowley

Guild Library Open House

On Saturday, April 19, from 2:00 to 4:00, come and visit our wonderful Guild library and visit with weaving friends. The library is at Susan Hainsworth's home, 91 East 400 North, Centerville.

Summary of March Guild Meeting

We had a good meeting in March. We had Zoom meetings for January and February because the weather is uncertain, but this year the weather was fine. Then for the first in-person meeting we got snow. The best laid plans!

Deanna Baugh gave us some great information about how to calculate the weight of fabric for different clothing. Then Sarah Marsden talked about how she learned to use her handwoven fabric for sewing clothes and showed some of the pieces she has made. It was very informative and it was good seeing everyone after the long break.

—Beth Myrer, Recording Secretary

Salt Lake Weaving Studio Classes

There is lots of fun planned for April at the Salt Lake Weaving Studio. Starting on April 9, we have a Crammed/Skipped Dent Scarf class. The Make A . . . class on April 12 is an old-fashioned pot holder. April 17 through May 1 brings a Pick-Up Inkle class. On Saturday, April 19, Deanna will demystify Overshot in a lecture-demo class, followed by a project class, Weave an Overshot Runner, starting April 29. And if all this doesn't do it for you, the Technique Series class on the April 26 will be Improve Your Weaving.

For more information, email SLWeaveStudio@gmail.com.

Background photo

This month's background photo is from Ruby Leslie who will be presenting the April Guild meeting—*Lost in Translation: Why Color Theories Don't Guarantee Good Cloth* and also teaching a three day workshop (see page 1 of this newsletter). The weaving is called "Winter Berries" and is part of her Circles & Feathers (advancing twill) series.



Guild Board 2025–2026

We are so grateful for everyone who is willing to participate in making our Guild work! Our Guild Board for 2024–2025 has been fabulous, and we very much appreciate all they have done. They will serve through June. According to our Guild Bylaws, it is time to elect new officers for the next Guild board. Some officers have served for only one year and so will continue. Others have served for two years and so will step down and we will elect new officers.

We particularly want to thank those who have served so well for two years and will be leaving the board: Mimi Rodes and Jeanette Tregeagle as Co-Presidents and Beth Myrer as Recording Secretary. We greatly appreciate their work. We also want to thank Karen Gregory, who has served as our Hospitality Coordinator, and Nancy Crowley, who has served for eight years on the IWC board. Many thanks!!

Here are the five 2025–2026 Guild Board members we will vote on during our May 8 Guild meeting:

President: Sarah Marsden

Co-Vice Presidents: Jill Dahle and Mimi Rodes

Membership Secretary: Ann McKane

Recording Secretary: Susan George-Rydberg

Treasurer: Phyllis Mandel

Our Guild board also includes a number of appointed officers, and we are so grateful for their work. Here is the list of appointed officers for 2025–2026:

Hospitality: Joni Moerman

Workshop Coordinator: Sunny Cate

Grants Officer: Mimi Rodes

Newsletter: Susan Hainsworth, Jane Ann Peters, Maureen Wilson, Nicole Lohman

Webmaster: Nancy Crowley

IWC Representative: Sonya Campana

Shuttle-Craft Guild Study Group Coordinator: Maureen Wilson

Guild Sale Coordinators: Catherine Marchant and Ann McKane

Outreach Coordinator: Julie Guiney

Librarian and Equipment Coordinator: Susan Hainsworth

2024–2025 MMAWG Board

President: Mimi Rodes (801-619-6888, president@mmawg.org); Jeanette Tregeagle (801-568-9645, copresident@mmawg.org)

Vice President: Sunny Cate (801-589-3393, vicepresident@mmawg.org)

Membership Secretary: Ann McKane (206-371-5814, membership@mmawg.org)

Recording Secretary: Beth Myrer (801-602-8612, secretary@mmawg.org)

Treasurer: Phyllis Mandel (914-806-3478, treasurer@mmawg.org)

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

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

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

Newsletter: Susan Hainsworth (801-860-6483, susanhainsworth@gmail.com); Maureen Wilson (801-485-5241, SCstudygroup@mmawg.org); Nicole Lohman (715-491-1893, nicolelohman@gmail.com)

Webmaster: Nancy Crowley (505-480-8079, webmaster@mmawg.org)

IWC Representative: Nancy Crowley (505-480-8079, webmaster@mmawg.org)

Shuttle-Craft Guild Study Group

Coordinator: Maureen Wilson (SCstudygroup@mmawg.org)

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

Outreach Coordinator: Julie Guiney (435-640-2965, outreach@mmawg.org)

Registration for IWC Is Open

Registration for the 2025 Intermountain Weaver's Conference is open. The conference will be held from June 17–21 in Albuquerque.

For information about the wonderful classes that are offered, see this web page:

<https://www.intermountainweavers.org/workshops.html>

The classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. All signups are done online at intermountainweavers.org on the Register web page. You must be logged into the website to register for a class.

Anyone can sign up for meals and purchase the IWC 2025 shirts—no membership needed. Lunches are offered each day, and there is a dinner on Thursday night. There are a variety of shirt styles and colors to choose from. Go to the Register web page to purchase meals and shirts.

To get more information about what Albuquerque has to offer, go to the Albuquerque web page on the IWC website.

Please support your regional weaving conference while learning and having fun!

—Nancy Crowley



Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah

To join the Guild: send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to receive the newsletter by mail) to Phyllis Mandel, 3721 East Blue Jay Lane, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121, or go to the Guild website, where you can join using Paypal. Checks should be made out to MMAWG.

To join the Guild e-mail list: contact Susan Hainsworth, susanhainsworth@gmail.com.

Guild website: mmawg.org

The Weaver's Bag, April 2025
Vol. 73 No. 4

Member Profile—Susan George-Rydberg

This month our featured weaver is Susan George-Rydberg. Susan is a retired nurse who lives in the Saratoga Springs area. Weaving was a hobby that piqued Susan's interest since it has strong ties to the past. As a result, Susan started weaving around 1999, after her sister came into the possession of a Cranbrook loom. Susan's friends ran a weaving school in California called the Weaver's Cottage, where she was able to rent space and was taught to weave. She wove at this location until around 2008, but then took a break for 5 to 8 years to obtain her Master's Degree. She retired from nursing in 2023 and subsequently moved to Utah.



While at the Weaver's Cottage, Susan worked on a 48" countermarch loom, and met a woman who had a 48" AVL loom, which piqued her interest. Recently she acquired a 60" production 'A' AVL loom with a fly shuttle, which she is learning how to use. If there are any other AVL loom users out there, she would love to chat with you! Susan just finished her first project on this new loom, using a spacing and cramming draft, learning a lot about herself and the loom in the process.

As Susan is a fairly recent transplant to Utah, she's one of our newer members. Susan knows the value of a Guild for both its knowledge sharing and the relationships that are formed with other like-minded individuals. She appreciates having friends to draw upon that have a common ground, as well as the access to learning, workshops, and social events. One of the other perks she appreciates is our Guild's participation in the Halcyon Yarn Guild Rewards program. If you order from Halcyon, remember to put our Guild's name in the comments box, as the Guild gets 5% from all identified Guild sales at the end of the year.

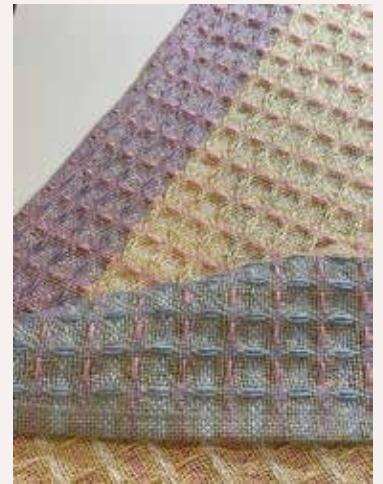
Recently Susan has been working on two overshot projects and a set of towels in pinks and greys. She also has been attempting Echo and Iris on her 24-shaft AVL loom. She's been watching videos from Rebecca Robins to help her learn how to use the loom better, but again would appreciate any insight from members of our Guild, particularly those with AVL looms. One of her favorite things to weave are baby blankets, something she would like to eventually sell as part of a business.

Susan loves playing with color, and is looking to try tapestry on her Cranbrook loom soon. She's tried a few things she found were not for her, such as weaving rugs and overshot patterns. Susan is not particularly fond of the more modern drafts that others may enjoy.

Something Susan would like to learn more about is dyes and dyeing yarn. She would love to set up her own dye studio, due to her great love for color. Susan is currently looking for the name of a supplier of wholesale yarns made of different and novel fiber types. She recalls the company being based in China and would love any leads others may have on this supplier.

Susan has a large house that can accommodate up to 12 members and would be more than happy to host a meeting! She'd love to chat with any of our members, particularly if you are able to help with her questions about her loom and yarn suppliers.

—Nicole Lohman



One of Susan's baby blankets in 3/2 cotton

CLASSES
MARKETPLACE
DEMOS
CRAFTER LOUNGE
FRIDAY NIGHT AFTER-PARTY
AND MORE

Great Basin
Fiber Arts
Fair

GBFAF.org

APRIL 25 & 26, 2025
WESTERN SPORTS PARK - FARMINGTON, UTAH

GreatBasinFiberArtsFair GreatBasinFiberArts

Weaving Classes at Great Basin

There are two weaving classes taught by Dawn Ahlert on the schedule for the Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair, held on April 25 and 26, 2025. More details can be found at www.gbfaf.org, click on the 2025 Classes tab.

Friday, April 25: Taniko—2 and 3-Color Weft Twining, based on the Maori, New Zealand, craft. On a frame or tapestry loom, \$100

Saturday, April 26: Supplemental Weft Inlay. On a rigid heddle or 2- or 4-harness table/floor loom, \$90

Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Spanish Lace and Leno

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins covered in this article are from March 1940 and July 1943. These Bulletins are on the Guild website (mmawg.org) under the Bulletins Tab.

This month the topic of the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins is lace weaving, specifically Spanish Lace in 1940 and Leno in 1943. Mary wrote in 1940 that the Spanish open-work weave was introduced to American weavers by a Shuttle-Craft Guild member, Gertrude Whitman Howells, who found it in Spain when she lived there in 1926. She later published about it in weaving publications. You can find her article "The Spanish Stitch" in the *Weaver Magazine*, March 1936, available on Handweaving.net. Here is a photo of the linen piece she purchased where she first saw the weave.

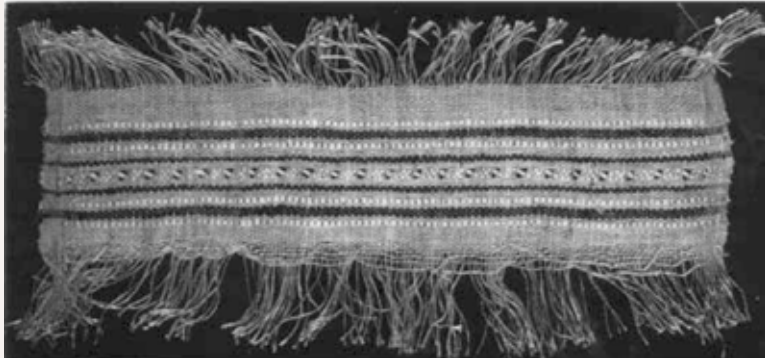


Figure 1: Linen fragment from Spain, *Weaver Magazine* March 1936, article by G. Howells, The Spanish Stitch.

Mary wrote that this was a weave for linen, but not fine linen. She thought it was handsome for substantial pieces such as table runners and towels. The weave may be woven as figures, likened to eyelet embroidery. These figures could be woven in an open work or solid tabby background. Mary recommended that the warp thread be finer than the weft and set more open than for plain weave. She preferred using a smooth, round linen for warp and using linen floss (by Lily Company) for weft. She wrote that the fabric should be firmly woven. The weave requires only 2 harnesses, but if you have more, Mary recommended that the weave be threaded for twill or huck so the cloth between the

Spanish lace work could be woven in that pattern, which she thought enriched the effect.

Mary wrote up the pick-by-pick method of weaving Spanish lace on page 2 of the Bulletin, with a recommendation on how to enhance the holes of the weave to make them more pronounced. The holes may be stacked on top of each other or staggered, depending on the desired effect. A tabby shot may be woven between rows of lace or omitted, weaver's choice. She provided several diagrams for weaving and discussed the option for introducing color, though she preferred all one color for the "happiest" results. Her chief points for weaving Spanish lace were: use only linen; work a simple, compact figure; use the back and forth shots at the selvages and between holes set far apart; and beat firmly.

In the 1943 issue, Mary wrote about preparing exhibition pieces and the sense of color. She repeated her well-known story about asking her art teacher Louis Millet, of Chicago School of Architecture fame, about color combinations. His response was, in effect, "If it looks good, it is good." The exhibition section is worth a read if you are thinking about entering your work in the Guild show this fall.



Figure 2: Small wool bag, plate 7, Art Ornamental LES Tissus Indiens du Vieux Perou par R. et M. d'Harcourt. 1924

Mary also wrote about leno, another lace weave. In this case it was a Peruvian weave, shown in an ancient book on textiles from Peru. It is done with leno doupes. Mary provided a draft that could be woven on a 6 or 8 shaft loom, producing a small diamond figure in warp-faced weave, as seen in the photo. Mary diagrammed the use of doupes in the Feb 1941 issue.

She also wrote about weaving leno on an inkle loom to make belts, using two plain weave sheds and two picked-up cross sheds. Here is her sketch:

More lace options or weaving patterns can be found in *The Handweaver's Pattern Directory*, by Ann Dixon.

If you are interested in leno inkle weaving, the latest issue of *Little Looms* magazine (Spring 2025) has an article on weaving lace on an inkle loom.

—Maureen Wilson, Shuttle-Craft Bulletins Study Group Coordinator

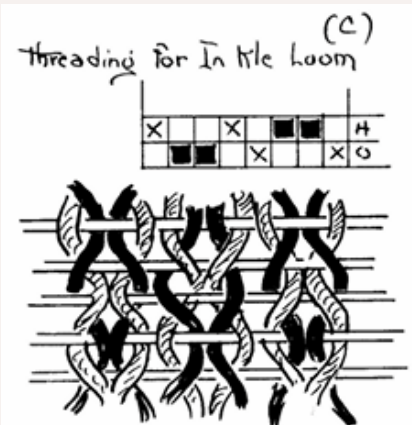


Figure 3 Diagram C. Threading for inkle loom. Shuttle-Craft Bulletin, July 1943.

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group

The schedule for the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study group is presented below. The next meeting will be held on April 14 at Maureen Wilson's home at 7:00 p.m. The topic of discussion will be the Broken Twill Crackle pattern and Dornick Twills from the June 1931 and April 1941 issues.

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).

Date	Topic	Bulletins
April 2025	Broken Twill Crackle and Dornick Twills	June 1931; April 1941
June 2025	Handbags	July 1931; December 1931
August 2025	Speck Book and Landes Book Patterns	August 1931; January 1934

