THE WEAVER'S BAG

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild

NOVEMBER • 2025

November Guild Meeting—Weaving Twills

Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m., South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 6876 Highland Drive

Our November Guild meeting will help us get excited about this year's Guild Challenge—"Discover a New Twill." Deanna Baugh and Catherine Marchant will discuss the basic structures of various twills, including threadings, tie-ups, and treadlings. They will have samples of many different kinds of twills for us to see. This will help all of us prepare to weave some fun new twills.

The meeting is on Thursday, November 13, and we will start with Show and Tell at 6:30, so please bring your beautiful pieces to share.

—Jill Dahle and Mimi Rodes, Co-Vice Presidents

American Snowflake Scarf, by Jan Josifek, *Handwoven* magazine, May/June 2014

What's Happening

NOVEMBER 13: Weaving Twills, by Deanna Baugh and Catherine Marchant

NOVEMBER 22: Guild Library Open House, Susan Hainsworth's home

DECEMBER 11: Guild Christmas Party

JANUARY 15: Zoom meeting: Japanese Folk Textiles, by Beth Ross Johnson

FEBRUARY 12: Rigid Heddle Weaving and Faux Ikat, by Connie Denton

MARCH 12: Weaving Tips and Tricks: Sharing Things We Have Learned

APRIL 9: Catching Fire: Flammé Ikat Textiles from France and Spain, by Beth Ross Johnson

MAY 14: Guild Challenge Reveal

JUNE: Indigo Dye Day, date TBD

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

President's Message

Three-Year Planning

Over the past year, Sunny Cate and the board have done a lot of work to plan Spring and Fall workshops for the next several years. It's important to plan two or three years out because the best, most creative instructors are booked that far out. Ideally, we would begin work on workshops for fall 2027 and 2028 very soon.

So, what's coming up??

April 9–11, 2026

Beth Ross Johnson will be here, teaching her Sashiko-Ori workshop. This is a loom-controlled weave that mimics the Sashiko mending and embroidery from Japan. Typically, a white supplementary warp is interwoven with an indigo ground cloth. Students will need looms having at least 6 harnesses for this workshop. Learn more about Beth and this technique at her website: www.bethrossjohnson.com/experiential

October 8–10, 2026

Rebecca Smith will visit and provide instruction on Transparency Weaving. Transparencies are woven with a very lightweight background cloth in which heavier threads are laid, tapestry-like, to create images. Photos of Rebecca's work are available at: www.rebeccasmithtapestry.com/transparent-weavings.html

April 8–10, 2027

We hope to have Kelly Marshall teach a Rep weave class. In 2012, Rebecca wrote and published *Custom Woven Interiors: Bringing Color and Design Home with Rep Weave.* This is a stunning book of textiles used for interior furnishings. We have a copy in our library. Here is a link to more photos of Kelly's work: www.kellymarshall.com/gallery

Please share suggestions for instructors you would like to learn from, and we will work to engage them for Fall 2027 and beyond.

—Sarah Marsden, President

Summary of the October Guild Meeting

Mary Atwater Weaver's Guild Meeting, held October 9, 2025, at South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society.

Guild Business

Dues are due. Please submit dues via US mail or credit card using the Paypal link on the MMAWG website. Please go to the MMAWG website for the entry form and complete the form to send in with your check by US mail. Dues are $30 for the year or $35 if you want to receive the newsletter by mail.

Our Bi-Annual Show and Exhibit—"Slow Cloth: A Celebration of One Thread at a Time"—has been a success with 80 spectacular entries.

The Annual Weaving Sale is coming up on October 17–18, 2025, at the Millcreek Commons. Volunteers are needed. Contact Ann McKane or Catherine Marchant.

Treasurer Report: Up to the date of the board meeting on October 4, 2025, we had received $353.00 income from membership dues, although in recent days, the flow of dues coming in has increased. Our membership has expanded this year. Some people have paid twice and if you want to check to see if you have paid, email Phyllis Mandel, our treasurer.

The Board has approved $500.00 to support the expenses of the Inkle Band Weaving Workshop. It has been decided by the board that our funds can be used to support education opportunities for our membership. Then we do not have to charge high fees for the workshops.

Our Challenge this year is "Discover a New Twill." Tally Ho!

Guild Meeting Presentation

Jill Dahle presented information about this year's Guild Challenge—"Discover a New Twill." Then Guild members who had attended the Intermountain Weaver's Conference in Albuquerque shared what they had learned, including Deanna Baugh, Ann McKane, Charrisse Fuhriman, Jill Dahle, Maureen Wilson, Jane Ann Peters, and Susan Hainsworth.

—Submitted respectfully by Susan George-Rydberg, Recording Secretary

Guild Challenge—Discover a New Twill

Next to plain and satin weaves, twills are the oldest and most common weave structures. Twills create diagonal patterns in the fabric. There are straight twills, point twills, extended twills, broken twills, fancy twills, irregular twills, advancing twills and network twills, plaited twills, parallel twills, double diagonal twills, and manifold or corkscrew twills (interlocking two or more twills). Twills can also be used in block weaves. They can be woven on three or more harnesses—Krokbragd is considered a 3-harness twill. Twill fabrics can have a greater drape than plain weave fabrics and can be shaped more easily; thus they are good for clothing.

Twills are found everywhere—rugs (such as Navajo or Krokbragd), scarves, table runners, tablecloths, towels, jeans, tapestries (found in ancient Central China as well as modern tapestries), and fabric for clothing. Just about every *Handwoven* magazine has a pattern for weaving a twill.

Even if you have woven a twill, challenge yourself to try something new. There is so much to choose from!

Pieces should be ready for our May meeting.

Mary Atwater often wrote about twills in her Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. These bulletins are all found under the "Atwater" tab on the Guild website, mmawg.org. Maureen Wilson is gradually compiling a complete index to the bulletins, which is a great service. The link to the index is at the top of the list of bulletins. Go to the entry "Twill" in the index to find interesting discussions.

Twill fabric woven by Mary Atwater

Guild Library Open House

On Saturday, November 22, 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.

A Successful Guild Holiday Sale

Many thanks to Ann McKane and Catherine Marchant for organizing a very successful Guild sale. The sale was held on October 17 and 18 at the Millcreek Commons Marketplace, which was a wonderful new place for the sale. Many weavers participated, and there were so many beautiful items for sale. Thanks to all who helped to make the sale a great success!

New Study Group

Anyone who is interested in a Beginning Weaving Study Group is invited to one of the following Zoom meetings: Thursday, November 6, 7:00 p.m., or Saturday, November 15, 10:00 a.m. At these meetings, each person will share what she or he is interested in learning from a study group. If you have not already told Susan Hainsworth that you are interested, please email her at susanhainsworth@gmail.com..

Background Photo

Twill apron fabric woven by Susan Hainsworth.

Member Profile: Shahar Boyayan

This month our featured weaver is Shahar Boyayan. Shahar has been with our Guild for quite some time, joining around 2005, and is also a member of the Wasatch Woolpack Handspinner's Guild. She's very into non-traditional weaving styles and has enjoyed learning from others in our Guild, with a particular focus on tapestry weaving.

Shahar is originally from Brazil, where she worked with a talent agency. While she lived in South America, she was also a dedicated artist and was involved with artists' guilds. It became too dangerous to stay in Brazil, so for the safety of herself and her young daughter, they migrated to Utah "with only two bags and a teddy bear." Using her background as a public speaker and experience with consulting, she founded Curious Mondo, an online portal for artists to teach their skills though paid online classes. The platform did well and she hosted a physical recording studio in Salt Lake City for many years. Eventually she downsized and moved to Puerto Rico and only just recently relocated to Houston, Texas, for its lower cost of living. The COVID-19 pandemic changed how people want to learn and consume content, so Shahar is reconsidering how to adapt the Curious Mondo platform to these changes.

While still living in Brazil, Shahar tried to learn how to weave but didn't really develop an interest. She joined our Guild for networking after moving to Utah and gained a deeper interest, particularly once learning more about tapestry weaving, as she found she didn't care for the math and constraints of traditional weaving patterns and drafts. Shahar took classes from Deanna Baugh at the Pioneer Craft House, which she describes as amazing, and she considers Deanna a good friend. However, the flexibility and more creative nature of tapestry weaving was her true calling. She particularly recalls learning tapestry skills from Mimi Rodes with great fondness. From her experiments with tapestry weaving, she has ventured into three-dimensional woven art pieces depicting objects such as a whale and fish.

Currently Shahar is continuing to work on these three-dimensional wire tapestry pieces depicting fish, where she creates a warp of wire that she fills in with a weft of fiber. Being the artist that she is, she also is working on beading projects, including bracelets, and she spends a lot of her time using Mirrix looms of various sizes. Being the non-traditional weaver that she is, you will likely not find her weaving a complex pattern on a multi-shaft loom, but if you have an interest in trying your hand at making a woven sculpture, Shahar is your lady to ask. Or you can check out Curious Mundo for a variety of other classes that you may be interested in!

Since Shahar is no longer living in Utah, something she would like to see from the Guild is a better way for our members to connect like a Facebook or Instagram page, where folks can share more photos of their work for inspiration or connect easier than the group email list. In the meantime, feel free to reach out to her.

—Nicole Lohman

2025–2026 MMAWG Board

President: Sarah Marsden (president@mmawg.org)

Vice President: Jill Dahle (801-541-3986, vicepresident@mmawg.org; Mimi Rodes (801-619-6888; vicepresident@mmawg.org)

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

Recording Secretary: Susan George-Rydberg (818-347-9976, secretary@mmawg.org)

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

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

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

IWC Representatives: Ellen Klomps (435-213-6100, stringweaver@gmail.com); Pamela Done (801-809-9101, p.biz@donefamily.org)

Shuttle-Craft Guild Study Group Coordinator: Maureen Wilson (801-485-5241, SCstudygroup@mmawg.org)

Guild Sale Coordinator: Ann McKane (206-371-5814, membership@mmawg.org); Catherine Marchant (801-216-4722, fibern beads@gmail.com)

Guild Exhibit Coordinator: Jeanette Tregeagle

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

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, November 2025
Vol. 73 No. 9

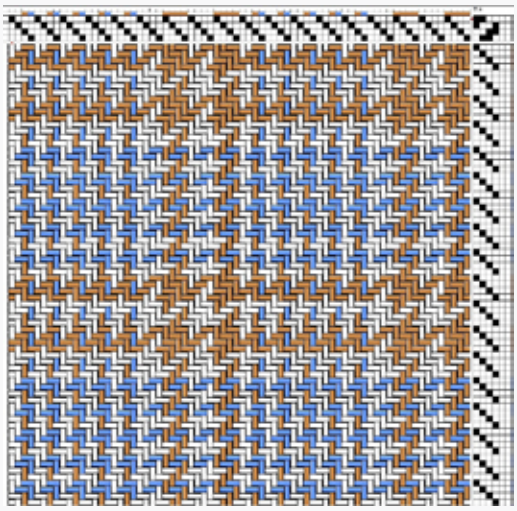
Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Twills

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins covered in this article are from April 1941 and November 1944. These Bulletins are on the Guild website (mmawg.org) under the Bulletins Tab..

The Guild challenge for this year is to discover a new twill. Mary Meigs Atwater wrote about twills throughout the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin history. The two issues under review here are from April 1941 and November 1944.

In 1941 Mary wrote about a case history of a weaving project that had gone wrong. I think that we can all relate. A Guild member wrote in about a project she hoped to weave—fabric for a suit. Mary reviewed the components of the project, calling it her "clinical example," and determined that several things were wrong with the picture. She wrote that the weft choice, a soft untwisted yarn, was not the same as the warp material—as it should have been if the weaver was going for a twill. Mary maintained that suiting should be of a firm wool yarn woven in twill, with the warp and weft of the same material.

Mary continued the issue with a discussion of the meaning of tweed (fabric intended for hard wear), twill (weave structure, such as a 2/2 twill), and hopsacking (woven in plain weave). She reviewed the appropriate setts for wool materials and the best way to put on a wool warp for twill fabric. Mary thought that sectional weaving was best and that putting on a long warp (e.g., 25 yards) was the most economical use of the weaver's time. The case study weaver wrote that she had trouble pulling the warp through the heddles, leading Mary to determine that the loom was dressed front to back, not a good choice in her eyes.



April 1941 draft C, sporty plaid. Drawdown by M. Wilson

Three twill drafts were included in the Bulletin: two Dornik patterns and a sporty plaid effect from a Harris tweed. These were from samples sent in by Mr. Roger Millen, who wrote the book *Weave Your Own Tweeds,* published by Marguerite Davison in 1955. Copies still can be found on Ebay and other sources. Here is the drawdown of the Harris tweed.

Mary continued with the case history by correcting the finishing, which was planned for just a steam and press, by detailing the recommended wet finishing technique, referring to Mr. Millen's publication. She warned that if a weaver wants to weave a tweed with different warp and weft materials, sampling is strongly advised.

In the November 1944 issue, Mary wrote that the most useful threading is a twill and that a large book could be written on the weave. Sharon Alderman, in her book *Mastering Weave Structures,* wrote in the twill chapter that twills "could provide several lifetimes of study."

Mary included as many twill patterns, both 4 and 8 shaft, as she could fit into the issue. She provided tie-ups for the 4 shaft, but not the 8 shaft, as these were too numerous. She recommended that the 8-shaft patterns be woven on a table loom, as it would be more convenient to not be limited by the number of treadles.

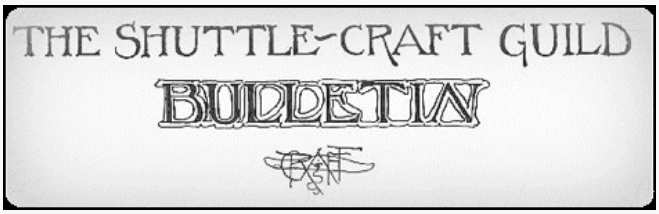
She recommended that a twill sampler be woven of the many variations, with each pattern done in 2 to 2.5-inch sections with tabby between. She noted that as texture is twill's woven effect, a woven sampler would be more useful for reference, as a drawing does not show texture well. Here is a goose eye twill from the Guild's Mary Atwater sample collection.

Goose eye twill from the Guild's MM Atwater collection. Photo by M. Wilson

For more information and over 100 samples, the latest issue of *Heddlecraft* magazine is "Totally Twill—Back to Basics." You can order it here: https://heddlecraft.com/index.html

—Maureen Wilson, Shuttle-Craft Bulletins Study Group Coordinator

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group



The 2025–2026 Guild year schedule for the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group is presented below. The next meeting will be held on December 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Ann McKane's home. The topic of discussion will be crackle patterns and block drafts from the November 1931 and May 1933 issues. Contact Maureen Wilson for directions.

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).

Meeting Date	Topic	Bulletins
December 8, 2025	Crackle, Pine Tree pattern, and block drafts	November 1931, May 1933
February 2026	Coverlet weaving, Italian fashion	January 1932; January 1934
April 2026	Weaving linen, Bronson lace	April 1932; April 1934
June 2026	Drapes and curtains	May 1932; May 1933
August 2026	Christmas weaving, long warps, and Crackle drafts	October 1930; October 1931