

Connecting Threads

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley
November, 2007

November Program

The November program, "Raising Pygora Goats and Working With Their Fiber," will be presented by Louise Douglas. It will be a presentation about the pygora goat as a breed, taking care of pygora goats, and the different uses of pygora fiber.

Background Information

The Pygora goat is a cross between an Angora goat and a Pygmy goat. The fiber of Pygora goats reflects the best qualities of both the Angora goat and the Pygmy goat. From the Angora goat comes long, silky-smooth, lustrous ringlets. The Pygmy goat contributes its' very fine down. This combination of qualities results in fiber with an excellent range of characteristics that maintain fineness as the animal ages. Because of the range of pygora characteristics, there are many ways to use pygora fiber including spinning, knitting, weaving, felting, and pelts.

Pygora goats are similar to other goats in that they are of a hardy nature and as these things go, relatively easy keepers. They are friendly and curious creatures and make lovely pets, especially if handled often.



Calendar of Events

- November 3, 2007 - Guild Meeting
Adelmann House
11:30 am - Business Meeting
12 noon - Social time
- Library browsing
1:00 p.m. Program
Pygora Goats
by Louise Douglas
- November 8, 2007 - Spinning Study Group
Maralyn Larson's Clubhouse
6:30-8:30 p.m.
- December 1, 2007 - Guild Meeting
Location TBA
Christmas Luncheon
- January 5, 2007 - Guild Meeting
Adelmann House
Something Wonderful
from Julie Gerrard
- January 19, 20, & 21 - Color-and-Weave -
Weaving Intensive



December Holiday Luncheon

December is approaching fast. Each year the Guild has a Potluck Luncheon as part of the December meeting. It is nice to hold this event in a

location other than the Adlemann House. If you would like to host the luncheon, please contact Mary Berent or Vila Cox.

Once again the "entertainment" for our Holiday Luncheon will be a handmade Ornament Exchange. You may use any material or technique you wish, to create your ornament. Last year we had a wonderful selection that were stitched, felted, beaded, clay, woven, knitted, and lace, just to name a few. If you would like to participate, please make a Christmas Ornament, wrap it in festive paper, and bring it to the meeting. We will draw numbers to select the order participants will either choose a package to unwrap, or pick one of the beautiful creations that have already been opened. So start planning what you will make to bring to the Ornament Exchange this year. We will have an afternoon full of fun and sharing.



Museum Comes to Life Challenge Show: A Great Success

Once again the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley demonstrated weaving and spinning to the public at Museum Comes to Life. Weavers taught about weaving at the museum's rag rug loom and there were many amazed learners. Several spinners, sitting inside because of the cool weather, shared their craft with avid onlookers. There was also a showing of some of the wonderful things Guild members have created the past year.

The entries for the Challenge were impressive, and the display was very artistic. There was a great turnout of people coming through the Adlemann house, and we ran out of the 400 ballots around 4 p.m.. A "thank-you" goes out to all of the volunteers who made the event a success!

And special thanks goes to Julie Gerrard and Penny Schraufnagel, for being there all day and helping clean up.

The results of the voting for the Challenge this year are:

Handwoven:

1 - W5 - Blue and green overshot blanket - Vila Cox

2 - W1 - Green Table Runner - Ivy DeHart

3 - W3 - Snowball Coverlet - Janet Holland

Spinning:

1 - S3 - 4 ply Orange, Pink, Blue - Penny Schraufnagel

2 - S10 - Lime Green 4 ply - Penny Schraufnagel

3 - S8 - Purple Green Wool - Penny Schraufnagel

Made from Handspun:

1 - M1 - Bunny with felted vest - Mary Berent

Fiber Arts:

1 - F1 - Round Purse - Julie Gerrard

The Prizes were \$50 for first place, \$35 for second place and \$15 for third place.

We hope you all keep your calendar open for Museum Comes to Life next year. It is usually held the last Saturday of September. This is one of the most important events in which the Guild participates. It educates the public about weaving, and is one of the ways potential members find our Guild. With lots of members helping, the event is easy for all and, so many people benefit.

Study Group News

Spinning Study Group

Spinning Study group will meet Nov 8, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Maralyn's clubhouse in Meridian. Contact Lynn Ruggles for info or directions, 375-9172.

Fuzz will be having a Spin-In Day on Nov 10 from 10-2. Drop in, bring a spindle or wheel and sit and spin a while.

Weaving Study Group

At this time there are no plans for a weaving study group. If you would like to become involved and study some aspect of weaving, contact Julie Gerrard (342-8562).

Certificate of Excellence (COE) Study Group

The COE (Certificate of Excellence) Study group is scheduled to meet December 1, before the regular guild meeting. Contact Vila or Mary for more information.



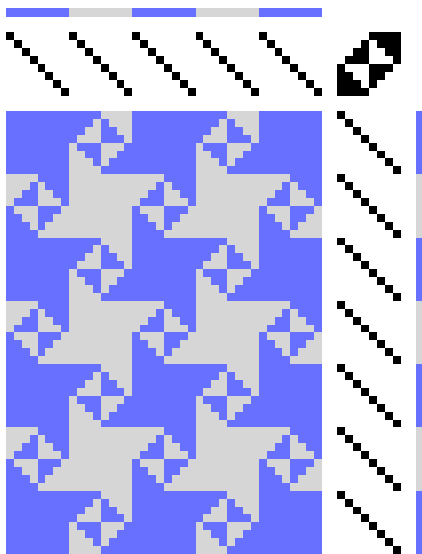
Intensive 2008 -- Color-and-Weave January 19,20 & 21

In exploring my meager library, I have found some thoughtful lines to share about color-and-weave. From Bonnie Inouye's Exploring Multishaft Design come these quotes:

"color-and-weave effects may be explored using any weave structure"

"...the effects do not depend on color but instead on value. It refers to patterns made when two or more different values (that is, light, dark, and medium value) are used in a repeating sequence in the warp or the weft or both."

I hope that this will start the creative juices flowing for both the 'color' and 'structure' sides of your brain. Plan to attend the Intensive to share with and learn from each other. Al Hayden (See flyer, also in this Newsletter.)



Ramblings from the President

Those of you who didn't take Linda Kubik's workshop on sewing with handwovens missed out on a great educational opportunity. What a humbling experience it was to plan, weave and sew the fabric for a garment. Linda's garments were so beautiful, we were inspired.

It sounded so simple to just weave fabric, but it proved much more difficult. What fiber to use? What sett? When is it fulled enough without felting? All fabrics were gorgeous, however some liked to unravel with glee and others stiffened with a mind of their own.

I personally chose a lovely boucle metallic thread to add occasional sparkle to the wool I chose. Wrong choice! The boucles clung tenaciously to the reed and some even refused to pass through the reed and stretched or snapped apart. I managed to finish with just a day to spare.



We met with Linda and made the final pattern choice. Some of us changed patterns as the material had shrunk too much. Some of us changed as the hand or pattern was not as we had envisioned. We ultimately all made our first cuts and started with what felt like antiquated sewing skills.



Linda was very patient and demonstrated modern short cuts in sewing, and we didn't even have blown fuses with all the irons and machines plugged in! By the end of the second day, we all had garments that could easily be finished at home.

We plan on bringing those garments to the guild meeting in November, so come to the meeting and see the fashion parade!

Marlene

Deciphering the Color Code



At the October guild meeting we had some lovely examples of spinning and weaving with red and blue that created violets – red violet or blue violet. Most were bright, but there were a few with much lighter value that were more muted and lavender-ish. As always it was exciting to see the differences. Thanks to all who brought items to share.

Next month the color challenge is another study in complementary colors – yellow and violet! Find whatever you can using yellow and violet in combination. Because they are complementary colors, weaving them alone can be quite eye-jarring; do you have any examples of using these two colors with a few others to come up with a more eye pleasing effect? If so, please bring them so we can learn from your success!

Guild Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Marlene Bean. Introductions were made. Present were Marlene Bean, Julie Gerard, Al Hayden, Mary Ireland, Janet Holland, Penny Schraufnagel, Irene Chandler, Marita Turner, Cece Stricklin, Cynthia Newman, Jean Zaske, Kathryn Evenson and Pat Ann.

Mary Berent gave the vice presidents' report. She mentioned that the upcoming program list was published in the latest newsletter. She also reminded those taking the Linda Kubic workshop that it is coming up in two weeks. There was discussion about logistics and supplies for this workshop. She then talked about the Karen Selk workshop coming up on March 15, 16 & 17, 2008. There are twenty on the list to take the class, 16 who are currently signed up and four others that are on a waiting list. The price for this workshop is \$230.00.

Last month's guild minutes were approved as printed in the current newsletter. As our treasurer is out of town this meeting, the treasurer's report will wait until next month.

Julie Gerrard talked about the just completed "Museum Comes to Life" which was held on September 29th. There was a great turnout of people

coming through despite the weather and she stated that they actually ran out of ballots. There were great displays and as Vila is out of town this meeting, the winners will be officially announced next month. Julie commented that even though there were a number of guild members in attendance throughout the day, we still need a bit more help with the take down at the end of the day.

Marlene asked for volunteers to chair the Museum Comes to Life committee for next year. Julie said that she would serve on the committee but did not want to chair it. Marlene will also help with the planning, but a chairperson is still needed.

Reports were asked for from each of the Study groups. No one was in attendance from the Spin Study group. Mary Berent said that the COE group met before the meeting and two were in attendance (Mary & Cynthia Newman from Baker, Oregon.) The COE study group meets every other month before the regular guild meeting usually at a members' home. The next COE meeting will be December 1.



(Meeting Minutes continued)

There was no report given for the Beginning Weaving study group this month.

Al then reported on the upcoming Intensive Workshop. This year's study will be about Color-and-Weave. As stated in "A Weaver's Book of 8-Shaft Patterns, edited by Carol Strickler, this is the "apparent pattern formed by the interaction of color sequences and interlacement." During an

intensive workshop there is no outside teacher, making it a very low cost workshop. It is a great learning time with a Round Robin style of presentation. Al will have handouts available for any interested in attending this workshop. It will be held on January 19, 20, and 21st over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend.

Marlene asked about any new business. It was brought up that there used to be a person who handled getting volunteers for doing samples for the newsletter each month. There was some discussion about how to do that now that we have a "e" newsletter. This is something to think about. Some thought that even just a draft or a draft with a picture of the woven "sample" would work for the newsletter as it is now. Mary Berent volunteered to work on it next year. Al volunteered to come up with a sample for next month's newsletter.

Jean then gave this month's "Color Code Study". This month members were invited to bring reds and blues making purple. Several members brought great samples and they were all discussed. Next month the colors will be Yellow and Purple. Let's see what wonderful colors come in.

Ivy DeHart sent the "Gold Bag" with Mary and Al was the winner, receiving a nice Navy blue wool yarn along with a ribbon yarn.

Show & Tell

Al - "Tell" only. He has his Linda Kubic fabric on the loom. He dyed his yarn, planning on rusts but what came out was a Garnet and Teal. We will all look forward to seeing his fabric.

Julie showed her Challenge pieces, a lovely four harness overshot table runner and her pretty huck lace purse. She also showed Ivy's table runner and Kathy McGowen's tapestry piece along with her Leno scarf.

Mary Berent showed her Rabbit entry from the challenge, made out of handspun wearing a felted vest, with circles in it. She also brought her yardage for the Linda Kubic workshop. It was approximately 4 1/2 yds. of a lovely all wool.

Program

After show and Tell the meeting was adjourned and a short lunch break was held. Then Cece Stricklin gave us a great talk and demonstration of her Cold Mangle and how it works with linen handwovens. There was much discussion about mangles in general and the Cold Mangle as opposed to the old "IronRite" type of hot mangles. Then she talked about the Peyote stitch in Beading and showed many samples of jewelry

and the different ways you can use the stitch in making things. She had many great books that she passed around and gave a wonderful hands-on instruction of actually doing the Peyote stitch. Everyone participated and had a good time.



Guild Officers and Chairs

President: Marlene Bean 337-3631
Vice-Presidents: Mary Berent 939-8906
Vila Cox 323-7736
Secretary: Mary Ireland
Treasurer: Cindy Schafer 375-6736
Librarian: Cindy Schafer 375-6736
Newsletter Editor: Rebecca Winter 895-0975
Weaving Study Group: Julie Gerrard 342-8562
Spinning Study Group: Lynn Ruggles 375-9172
COE Study Group: Mary Berent 939-8906
Vila Cox 323-7736

Websites

<http://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org>
<http://my.calendars.net/handweavers/>



Welcome to the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley, Inc. The guild has been sharing its craft with the community for 35 years. Our stated purpose is to "carry on, study and foster the arts and crafts of handweaving, spinning and fiber arts." The Guild meets from September through June on the first Saturday of the month. Generally, meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. at the Adelman House at the Idaho Historical Museum in Boise. Look frequently for details in this newsletter, or please contact any member for inspiration, or for answers to your questions.



2008 Weaving Intensive Study Group

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley

Color-and-Weave

A Weaving Retreat, with Weaving Presented by Each Participant

Saturday, Sunday and Monday January 19, 20, and 21

9 AM to 5 PM Location to be announced

Fee - \$30.00

What is Color-and-Weave?:

As stated in A Weaver's Book of 8-Shaft Patterns, edited by Carol Strickler, this is the "apparent pattern formed by the interaction of color sequences and interlacement."

What is an Intensive Study Group?

This is a "teacherless" workshop. We each have the opportunity to be the expert in our chosen area of study. There are mentors available if you need some help or direction. Please ask. For this workshop each participant will warp their loom using the Color-and-Weave draft chosen. This will then be a round robin type of workshop, in which each person may move from loom to loom weaving samples as they wish.

What material is needed?

The weaver may choose any yarn that would be appropriate to the weave draft. The weaver will also provide all materials need to weave samples on their loom. Calculate your warp length by the number of possible samples needed. Generally, if you are planning 4 to 6 inch samples, 4 to 5 yards would suffice. Warp width would also be best at about 4 to 6 inches, or a width needed to show your design.

What then?

At the beginning of the workshop, the weaver will present their draft to the group, and give instructions for weaving. Plan the presentations to be approximately 8 to 10 minutes. Include an explanation of the weave structure, the reason for your choice of yarn, tips and techniques, why you chose this particular draft, and any quirks or preferences for your loom. Also, plan to weave your own sample ahead of time so you can teach us from experience how this sample works. Another possibility would be to cut your sample from the loom and retie. This would give the opportunity to show finishing methods applicable to this sample.

What to expect?

We recognize, and also value, the camaraderie and social aspect of a workshop. And, we envision this to have great potential for experimentation and learning. It is an opportunity to explore and research a Color-and-Weave design that you have been wanting to explore. Just think of the opportunity for three days of discussion and exploration with others of like mind.

When are drafts needed?

Printable draft sheets will be turned in by January 5, 2008, so that copies can be made and notebooks prepared. Each participant will receive one of these notebooks containing all the drafts submitted.

Welcome to the Handweaver's Guild of Boise Valley Weaving Intensive for 2008
January 19, 20 and 21, 2008

Some necessary workshop information:

- Each participant will bring a previously warped loom to the workshop, and participants will have the opportunity to weave samples on one another's looms. Each loom will be warped using a Color-and-Weave draft of the weaver's choice.
- Participants will provide their own warp and weft materials to be used on their loom.
- Mentors are available. Please ask, if you would like to discuss your ideas.
- Send your draft in printable form or email a .WIF file to AI by January 5, 2008.
- The workshop is limited to 20 participants.
- The workshop is open to members of the guild. If a non-member wishes to take the workshop, we invite them to first join the guild.
- The Study Group Leader will accept cancellations with a full refund through January 5, 2008. After that date cancellations will be considered on an individual basis.
- Keep this information available, as it is the only pre-workshop information you will receive.

Return the following form with you fee to:

AI Hayden, 3901 Catalpa Dr., Boise ID 83703.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I have read the information provided here _____

Loom you are planning to use – please list brand and number of harnesses:

Do you have other looms available? Please list, if you are willing to loan them:

Fee amount included \$ _____

Connecting Threads
PO Box 6258
Boise ID 83707

The monthly newsletter from the



handweavers guild of boise valley, inc.

Newsletter Highlights and Please Remembers:

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November Color Code: Yellow and Violet, page 4
Challenge Winners, page 2
Dues are \$25.00. Come join us!!