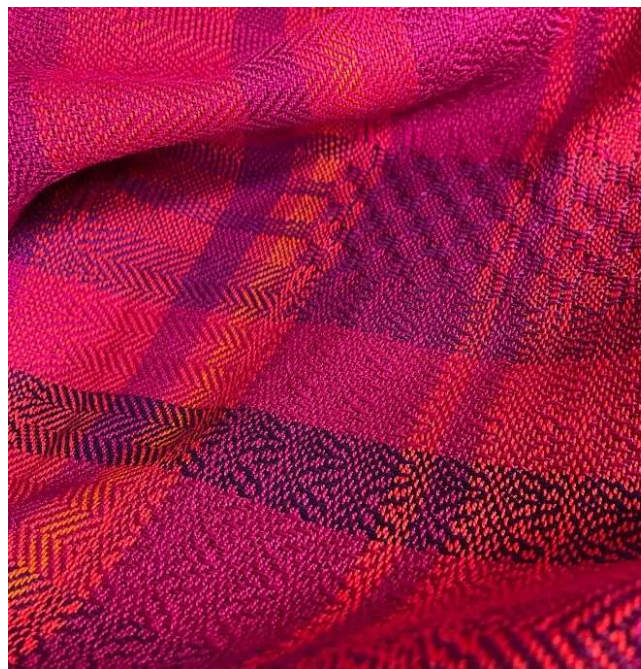




## Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

P.O. Box 2086  
Williamsburg, VA 23187  
<http://williamsburgspinweave.org>

July 2021 Newsletter  
Next Meeting Monday  
August 16, 2021  
Social Time 9:50-10:00  
ZOOM Meeting 10:00-12:00



## WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS & WEAVERS GUILD

### JULY 19, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held 7/19/21, at 10:00 AM on ZOOM video call. Special Thanks to MAFA for making the ZOOM program available to its member guilds. Meeting brought to order by President (and ZOOM guru) Dave Banks. **\*\*NOTE\*\* NEW ZOOM Meeting ID: 893 5418 6955**

**Passcode: 997997**

**Attendees:** Dave, Cindy, Kathy, Liz V, Sandi, Linda C, Ingrid, Claudia, Marsha, Debbie, Dee, Izabela, Rosemary, Janet, Janie

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**MINUTES:** Accepted.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** We have \$4,170.57 in the treasury, and 45 Paid Members!

**PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS:** In August, Liz will discuss Yarn Finishing: different techniques for washing, setting and preparing your handspun yarns to suit your yarn and project. Linda will show us Card Weaving Concepts in September, and Indigo dying in October. The current list of the rest of the programs is at the end of the minutes. If you have any ideas for future programs or workshops for our guild, please let Cindy know. Cindy has a preliminary list of topics for the start of 2022. Also, please think about becoming Program Director next year! Cindy has done a fabulous job for the last two years, (we even gave her a special extension from the 1-year limitation!), and has a list of ideas for next year, but maybe it is time to pass the torch!

**STUDY GROUP:** We set up a Study Group on Josephine Estes Overshot Miniatures Patterns, based on the free downloadable patterns available at Weavers Marketplace.

[Patterns and an entire page of cool things are at:

[https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/wtopic\\_overshot.html](https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/wtopic_overshot.html) - The patterns are in 2 parts in the Monograph section. Cindy also sent out files via email, so you can print them yourselves from her files, or from the webpage.] Cindy and Rosemary have done a few samples, and found it exciting! There are over 40 patterns available. It won't be right away, so think about if you would like to participate. All you need is a 4-shaft (or more) loom. Narrow looms are fine for miniatures! Let Sandi or Cindy know if you want to participate. There are some beautiful patterns out there! Pick one of the patterns that Cindy emailed for your own sample! Check out your emails to see who signed up for what pattern, or email Cindy to see if someone picked a pattern you want to pick.

**Workshops:** Our treasury is flush enough to pay for workshops on a myriad of topics. If you learn of any teachers, topics or ideas that would be interesting, please let Cindy know, or bring them up during the next meetings. Also, Kris Wessler has volunteered to help Cindy research Workshop ideas. Maybe we can schedule some on weekends or weeknights so those who work 9-5 can enjoy them, too. We are hoping to schedule workshops on all our fiber arts, including knitting, crocheting, spinning, felting, dying, weaving, basket weaving ... there are so many possibilities!

### **WEBSITE**

**CAN YOU HELP?** If you can, when you send your Show and Tell pictures to Janet for the newsletter, please CC (carbon-copy) Dave so he can add color and interest to our website. We think your art is beautiful!!!!

**MAFA:** MAFA is opening nominations for officers soon.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**MEETINGS:** We discussed the future of our meetings. Our In-person meetings would be good for some of the programs that would be nice to do interactively, hands-on. None of our

usual haunts are open yet, but we are researching to find out when they will be available. \*\*  
NOTE: We forgot to discuss the results of our survey! Thanks to everyone who responded!  
Here is a summary:

**1? Do you feel comfy meeting in person?** \*\*\*This was an overwhelming yes, but we do still have some caretakers or with medical issues who cannot yet meet in person without all being vaccinated or all wearing masks. One refused to attend if masks were required. A few can't attend in person due to distance or other commitments. **When do you think you might feel good about it?** \*\*\* Of those few with issues, the majority request was to continue the zoom meetings. They feel personally safe, but it is possibly still too easy to unknowingly transmit Delta variant to immune-compromised and others who cannot get vaccinated (children under 12, ill, undergoing cancer treatments).

**2? If we have combined Live + Zoom meetings, would you attend in person or via Zoom, or would it depend on: (the program, the weather, your health, your location, or your availability of pants that fit after Covid)?** \*\*\*Most (10) said Live, 6 said Live, but would like Zoom options for rare occasions, 6 said Zoom, and 2 said it depends.

**3? If a small group of us met in someone's house, would you want assurance that the other visitors have had their Covid shots?** \*\*\* Results were mixed. 10 voted no, 8 voted yes, the rest didn't have an opinion. We can attempt to socially distance in large meeting rooms, but if we meet in a home, even a small group would be close together. We were trying to come up with ideas for those who can't Zoom, until we can get together in person in a spacious conference room.

**4? Should our guild buy our own copy of Zoom (~\$150 per year), or continue to use the free MAFA Zoom? We have two members who would let us use their own copies of Zoom in a pinch.** \*\*\* This was easier! 13 voted to stay with MAFA, the rest said whatever everyone else wanted, or didn't vote! We have such agreeable folks!

**5? Should we continue the Zoom Sip & Chats and Spinning Chats?** \*\*\*The vote was almost unanimously Yes! It has been so nice to get together and just chat and socialize with each other in smaller groups. (How's your mom? Does my warp look right? Your Kitty is so cute! How do I fix this mistake? ... Good Times!) We clearly miss that part of our meetings. We even have one a month in the evening for those who work during the day! Check the schedule at the end of the minutes (or check your emails from Cindy or Dee) to join in! We appreciate your responses! We did hear from some much-missed members who cannot Zoom, so Thanks so much!

Our New-To-Us Lendrum Spinning Wheel that was donated to our Guild for our Lending Library has already been loaned out, and we are excited that someone is getting good use of it!

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**OFFICER NOMINATIONS:** Please start considering nominations for 2022 officers. Who would you nominate? What position would you be willing to accept? Our bylaws require 1-year terms (to avoid burnout), but we have voted some exceptions (Thanks, Cindy, for doing one of the hardest jobs for two years!)

**DEMONSTRATIONS/OUTREACH:** We are looking forward to getting back into the swing of giving demonstrations and classes at Festivals and for other groups. For instance, Peace Hill Fall Fiber & Craft Festival may be back in November, but might require a fee. The Hickory Neck Church may be held in November, combined with their Fall Festival, and they usually let us have part of their indoor space. They will probably have a much larger attendance. Oh no, both of these events are held on November 6, 2021. "Local" Festivals to attend as participants are opening up, too. SAFF in North Carolina will be held Oct. 22, 23, & 24, (nominal attendance fee \$5-10) with classes starting Thursday. Montpelier Fiber Festival

will be Oct. 2-3, with demos tent, displays, and competitions. Vendor info will be determined later.

### **SHOW AND TELL**

Please remember to send pictures to Janet G before or just after each meeting, so she can post it in the next newsletter, so we can all enjoy the fruits of your labors! As she says, the pictures are my favorite part! Also, please copy Dave on the pictures, so he can have some of our beautiful artwork to post on our webpage!

Also, my apologies if I got some details wrong this month. I had unexpected guests since the meeting, and my notes aren't making much sense to me now!!! Poor Janet has been champing at the bit to get the newsletter out – the delay is Liz's fault!!

**Sandi** did two beautiful weavings, Red Poppies and Yellow Sunflowers, both as "Transparency Weavings," or as Sandi said, the World's Slowest way to Weave! The background loose gauzy see-through fabric was woven with 16/1 linen warp & weft, with cotton for the color inlay technique (using cartoons underneath) to make the beautiful pictures. They are part of sets she is making for her daughter. You do need a nice "toothy" linen to hold the gauzy effect and keep the inlays in place. No washer or dryer for these!

**Izabela** appreciated our emailed advice on using flannel fabric to make rugs – thanks, all! She ultimately chose a pretty flowered fabric that will go nicely with pastel orange & rose warps. Can't wait to see the finished product!

**Marsha** had a panic: the loom she had cleaned and then oiled with Danish oil turned tacky! She had to take it apart and sand it down, but all is well now. On a happier note, she successfully experimented with the Handweaving.net Color Editor to do color sampling on her computer. She loaded a weaving draft, then uploaded a picture that she took of some of her own yarns to that draft. Then she could play around with the colors from her personal yarns in different sections of the draft, and get a good idea of how those colors would work in that pattern. So useful!!!! (Do I see a program for a future meeting? Hmmmm...)

**Ingrid's** Saga of the Towels is finally finished. These are the towels she was making with OLD tow linen yarn she found in a stash. The yarns looked sturdy, and linen doesn't go bad, does it? But it frayed and broke like crazy, was a lot lumpier and thicker than it initially looked, and when she finally finished it and washed it, all the black yarns completely disintegrated, spreading black shreds all over the rest of the towels. AUUGH! @#\$ Turns out old black dyes are pretty corrosive and weakened the yarns. Big hug out to Ingrid! Luckily, she had other more successful projects, like using tablets(cards) to weave a lovely band with her name on it. She had to use two separate card sets at the same time, one for the blue name color, and the other for the white background color. She said it was even slower than Transparency Weaving!!

**Janie**, a new member, is a drop spindler who has borrowed our newly donated Lendrum with outstanding success. Ingrid shared some gorgeous wool with her, and Janie has already spun five large skeins of yarn in Chocolate, Black, White, Mahogany, and Grey. She is looking forward to making a sweater from these great yarns. These colors would make a lovely patterned yoke in a Norwegian sweater, eh? Congratulations on starting your spinning wheel adventure, Janie! You morphed from spindle to wheel very well.

**Cindy** has been doing some fine stash busting, too. She finished weaving a Sett Fiesta M's and O's twill in glorious reds (from 2014?), and even put beads on the fringe. She also finished knitting two lacey shawls (a red and a black) from a Melissa Dunning pattern, but she rewrote the directions to mirror the increases and decreases to ensure the slants of the holes mirrored each other instead of all leaning in one direction. She started another shawl in a pretty blue, too, with her new, improved pattern!

**Rosemary** was so productive that we hardly saw her! She was busy jumping up and down during the meeting to prepare to rethread her loom for a Turtle Scarf. Stay tuned for coming attractions!

### **PROGRAM: MAFA CONFERENCE REPORTS!**

Everyone who had attended the Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association 2021 Virtual Conference had glowing reports of their classes and events. Most even reported enjoying the vendors, who gave individual demonstrations or descriptions throughout the weekend that were pretty interesting and informative. They mostly reported buying more than they should have, but probably less than they would have in person. That's the way to do it: get the latest new stuff, without being seduced by the touchy-feely squishy stuff or pressured by the vendor standing in front of you. Win-Win! (But I still love to "Squeeze the Yarning." However, like Squeeze the Charmin, they disapprove if you squeeze too much.)

The classes were mostly short, 2-4 hours long instead of their previous 2 days long. This enabled students to take several classes and 'browse' topics. But most had detailed preparation instructions sent well in advance, so they didn't have to spend time prepping during class. Advance Communication by the teacher seemed to be key to a successful class, and very few glitches were reported.

Some highlights of the class reports:

**Cindy** must not have slept: she took at least six classes. She took a class in Split Shed Weaving (Janet would LOVE this!), and was so excited, she bought the book! She also took a class in Japanese Temari (wrapping balls with many colors of thread in distinct patterns), such pretty results! And "Counterpanes and Drafts in Carroll County and Rockingham County" – they were using Fine, Fine 20/2 threads to accommodate the hot climate. And "19<sup>th</sup> Century Manuscripts" with John Landis where they learned to read the drafts, and convert them for modern use, i.e., from 22 shafts down to 7 shafts. Wow. She could watch this over and over (and she can, since the videos of all classes are available to students until July 30!) Squeeze in "Designing at the Loom with Multiple Warp Chains" (a whole new level of front to back warping), finish up with "Color Inspirations" with Darryl Lancaster. (We MUST get some virtual workshops with her!) And, I think I missed one or two of her classes. Whew, I'm exhausted just writing this down.

**Sandi** took a T-Shirt Dye class, where you wet the shirt, twist & scrunch it, and dye, adding soda ash to the dye for great effects. She also took a "Spinning Flax" class with **Ingrid**, and a "Sprang" class. Sandi really enjoyed the various free vendor demonstrations and learned a lot from them as a bonus!

**Janet** had a good time at her two classes: "Loom Controlled Tapestry-Like Effects Incorporating Background with Shapes and Borders" with Anna Raschi, and "10 Steps to Design a Tapestry" using a 4-harness loom. Just the bits Janet showed us was fascinating; like finding a beautiful picture, then blow up a small portion of it for an abstract focus on the beautiful colors and shapes. (I vote for "10 Steps" as a virtual workshop for a guild program. That could help us for many of our various art designing.)

**Dave** took "Natural Dyeing" and "Ice Dyeing" with Paula Hester, great fun. He also took (repeated? [grin]) "Beginning Weaving." He said it was very well done, and he might succeed in remembering it all this time! He gave us all very valuable advice: repeat the class projects one or more times, NOW! Or SOON! Before you forget it all! (I am guilty of thinking I will remember it all, then months later, go back to it and I have forgotten it all.) If you, do it a time or three before you forget, even just small projects, then the basics will stick much better.

**Kathy** had so much fun learning about "Garment Closures Without the Pesky and Invasive Buttonholes" with Robin Spade. Her pictures of some of the class slides of Findings, Knots, Button and Loops, and unique garment designs to facilitate these closures were

inspiring. She also took a class to “Design Inlay Rag Rugs” with Dianne Totton. This is about a method of cutting and piecing together different slices of different fabrics (or even shaped cutouts) into continuous wefts to create designs with the pieced weft. Then just weave! Requires a LOT of advance planning, measuring, and piecing, but some stunning effects are possible.

**Claudia** took a class on “Non-Plain Weave on a Rigid Heddle Loom” by Angela Tong. This seems a great introduction to the many techniques available to make complex designs on such a simple loom. Many techniques to put into your “personal tool bag” when designing new projects on your Rigid Heddle!

**Dee** took a class on Backstrap Weaving. I would have loved to hear more about this class, but we just ran out of time. Next meeting, Dee!

We had so much fun in the MAFA descriptions that we ran out of time. We didn’t get to talk about the Fashion Show or Art Show. We even got into an animated discussion of the Zen of Warping/Weaving/Spinning. We had more attendees at MAFA that we missed, and I wanted to hear from everyone. We got lots of ideas for future programs or workshops. If we missed you this time, please be sure to bring it up next meeting during Show and Tell! Thanks to all for sharing with those of us who couldn’t attend this fun learning experience.

### **WSWG CALENDAR:**

**MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Every Month on the third Monday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Programs are subject to change. We are so thankful to have so many volunteers to teach us new and inspiring ideas! \*\*\*\* NEW

**ZOOM Meeting ID: 893 5418 6955 Passcode: 997997**

AUGUST 16 Program: Finishing Yarns: Liz will discuss and demonstrate Whacking and Snapping and Sizing (Oh My!), and other ways of washing & finishing your handspun yarns to match your project.

SEPTEMBER 20 Demonstration: Beginning Card Weaving! Linda will show us how Everyone can weave beautiful sturdy tapes (ribbons) with an inexpensive deck of Weaving Cards.

OCTOBER 18 Program: Indigo Dye Pot with Tina. Hopefully we’ll all have our shots by then to be able to work with Tina’s Magic Indigo Dye Pot, and see effects on different fibers.

NOVEMBER 15 Program: Cookie Cutter Needle Felting: Goodie with show us how to use everyday cookie cutters to felt various shapes, and to embellish them to make beautiful decorations, ornaments or gifts. Perfect Timing for Christmas!

DECEMBER 20 Program: Holiday Party and Challenge Projects: Our Challenge this year is “Disasters and Resurrections in the Pandemic.” What have you made that demonstrates how the Pandemic has affected your Artwork? (Have you made more things? Fewer things? Gloomier? Cheerier? Any project disasters that epitomize how you feel? ...?)

2022: We are excited about upcoming topics, like Indian Pebble Weave, Color and Weave with other Fabric structures, Spinning for Knitting (or knitting with handspun!), More on Card Weaving, Supplemental Warps, Shadow Weaves, so many possibilities! Please contact Cindy if you have any ideas that you would like to see in our Programs. She would love more Knitting, Crocheting, Spinning, Felting and non-weaving ideas for those of us who don’t weave (Yet! Bwa-ha-ha!).

**EVENING SIP AND CHATS:** Every Month on the last Wednesday, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting ID: 850 3868 2137 Passcode: 029615

2021: Aug 25; Sep 29; Oct 27; Nov 24; Dec 29

**AFTERNOON SIP AND CHATS:** Every Month on the second Tuesday, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
ZOOM Meeting ID: 810 0687 1327, Passcode: 180174  
2021: Aug 10; Sep 14; Oct 12; Nov 9; Dec 14

**SPIN-IN ZOOM:** Every Month on the second Wednesday, 1:00 PM,  
ZOOM Meeting ID: 834 369 9744, Passcode: 1Tujh6, look for emails from Dee S for direct link.  
2021: Aug 11; Sep 8; Oct 13; Nov 10; Dec 8.

### **UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS:**

Due to the pandemic, many upcoming festivals and demos are still in planning. But, if there is a distant festival that you have always wanted to attend, look them up now! So many groups are holding their festivals online or virtually. For instance, the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival in Rhinebeck is on for October 16 & 17, 2021, with a mixture of in-person and online classes and sales. The same for New Hampshire, Vermont, Wisconsin, etc. I'd never be able to attend in person, but there could be many cool classes I could take online. Now's the time to try them out!

"Local" Festivals to attend as participants are opening up, too. SAFF (Southeast Fiber Forum Festival) in North Carolina will be held Oct. 22, 23, & 24, (nominal attendance fee \$5-10) with classes starting Thursday. Montpelier Fiber Festival will be Oct. 2-3, with demos tent, displays, and competitions. Vendor info to be determined soon.

**HGA TEXTILES & TEA**, every Tuesday, 4:00 PM EST to 5:00 PM EST. "The Handweavers Guild of America Inc. is excited to announce our new program, Textiles & Tea. Each week HGA will host a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. In our 45-minute discussion we will focus on their artwork and their creative journey. We will allow 15 minutes at the end of our conversation for questions from the audience. Textiles & Tea will take place every Tuesday at 4:00 PM (EST) beginning in January 2021 and will be broadcast via Zoom. These broadcasts will be free to view and open to all. Google "HGA Textiles & Tea" or go to <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/> to register. Registrants who are not able to login to Zoom at the time of the event may also watch the program live on HGA's Facebook page. A link will be provided in the registration confirmation email."

**HGA 2022 Convergence**, July 15-21: The Handweavers Guild Association will be holding its 2022 Convergence at the Knoxville Convention Center, Tennessee in the lovely Smoky Mountains. Check out latest information at [weavespindye.org](http://weavespindye.org).

### **ONLINE WORKSHOPS:**

Central Virginia Fiber Arts Guild invites us to share this class info with our guild members! Sign-ups for several online ZOOM workshops are available. Cindy sent an email on Feb 18 with clickable links to sign up for these classes, or go to the CVFG website, [cvfg.org](http://cvfg.org) for latest details and newest classes. Email [programs@cvfg.org](mailto:programs@cvfg.org) for more information.

(Break for the Summer)

9/11/21: Weaving Doup Leno with Daryl Lancaster

10/9/21: Double-faced Weaves Lecture with Robyn Spady

10/23/21: Pattern Draft Your Own Lounge Pants with Cal Patch



Two photos are from the Sett Fiesta shawl. It is combined M's and O's. Cindy reports you can still find a kit from Lunatic Fringe. Looks so refined Cindy! Below is her "knitting extravaganza"; ..." like once in a decade sort of thing", she said.







a 12" tapestry after an exciting MAFA class.



Janet finished

### **Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild Membership:**

If you would like to join the Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild, please check our website for a membership form, ([www.williamsburgspinweave.org](http://www.williamsburgspinweave.org)) and print and mail it with your dues to:

Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild, PO BOX 2086, Williamsburg, VA 23187-2086

Sorry, we have no PayPal, online or credit card options at this time. We welcome all Fiber Artists, beginners to experienced, in person or online! One good thing about the challenges of 2020 & 2021 is the creation of ways to allow online members to become new friends!