



Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

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

December 2021 Newsletter
Next Meeting
January 17, Monday, 2022
Social Time 9:30-10:00
In-person Meeting
ZOOM Meeting 10:00-12:00



**WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS & WEAVERS GUILD
DECEMBER 20, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting held 12/20/21, at 10:00 AM on ZOOM video call AND at James City County Recreation Center. 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.

JANUARY: We will be meeting both in person at the James City County Rec Center, AND over ZOOM.
2022 NEW YEAR ZOOM Meeting ID: 844 9640 0274 Passcode: 318420 TIME: 9:50 AM TO 12:00 PM

James City County Recreation Center TIME: 9:30 AM TO 12:00 PM
5301 Longhill Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23188, Phone: (757) 259-4200

Attendees: JCC Rec Center: Dave, Goodie, Janet, Dee, Tina, Claudia, Barbara, Rosemary & Bill, Ingrid, Kathy, Ginger, Sandi, Diane
Zoom: Cindy, Liz, Marsha

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MINUTES: Accepted.

TREASURERS REPORT: We have lots of \$\$\$ in the treasury, \$3,829.18, but there is an outstanding check that will be cashed soon! Welcome to New Guest, *Diane Cunningham!* Hope to see more of you!

Remember to bring your **2022 Annual Dues, due in December, still \$20.** If you attend via Zoom or forgot to pay at the December meeting, you can bring them to the January meeting, or mail the dues in to the usual address:
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, so check or cash only, please.

HGA: Handweavers Guild of America is requesting that we send a list of our future events. Also, they are requesting that we submit individual skeins of handspun yarns, check their website for details (weavespindye.org).

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS: In January, we will have a program on Overshot, to start off our Overshot Study Group. Looks like we have about 19-20 members signed up for the Study Group! Cindy will be bringing her loom to the Rec Center to show us some tips and tricks, and to enable us to weave a bit to see what it is like! Please bring any overshot you have woven as inspiration!

Each participant in the study group will need to make at least 20 small samples, to be able to give one to each other participant. We'll distribute our samples to each other and discuss at the June Meeting. Others can feel free to bring any Overshot items to the January or June meeting to show other variations and patterns.

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 - Cindy emailed out a list of patterns and sign-ups to check out (on 9/28/21), and see what is available if you want to sign up. Hurry, though, so everyone has time to make enough samples for all the participants!

OLD BUSINESS:

MEETINGS: We have reserved the James City County Recreation Center (Home!) for the next few months. We will also plan to continue to use Zoom during all these meetings for those who cannot attend in person.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was so exciting to meet in person again! Great to see and touch so many beautiful projects and artwork. We had a wonderful party with lots of good friends and good food, and a fun selection of HGA Holiday Surprise presents by Lottery!

One of our members talked to Selma Moore, a longtime weaver & knitter member, and she is not doing well. She has been dealing with pneumonia and cancer.

Kathy has been trying to call Linda Coppinger for months, but Linda emailed Cindy, and she is doing physical therapy, so that is hopefully good news!

SHOW AND TELL AND CHALLENGE PROJECT

Challenge Projects: our Challenge this year has been “Disasters and Resurrections in the Pandemic.” What have you made that demonstrates how the Pandemic has affected your fiber Artwork? (Have you made more things? Fewer things? Gloomier? Cheerier? Any project disasters that epitomize how you feel? ...?). We presented our Challenge Projects during our Show and Tell.

TINA wore a gorgeous hand-dyed and hand-felted blue silk & wool Fairy Dress. I expected wings to sprout when she spun around! She even knit and dyed a matching warm hat.

She also started knitting a lovely multi-color knitted poncho, but her cast-on wasn't ideal, so it evolved into a capelet, and then she morphed it into a truly lovely skirt! The epitome of our challenge!

She also finished a beautiful long knitted jacket, in hand-dyed multi-shades of blue, with yarn that was mostly spun by Tina! The accents of knitted lace on the ends of the sleeves, and the swing and drape was lovely.

GOODIE showed the finished cute needle-felted dog bone ornament that she had started as demonstration during the Cookie Cutter Demo she did for us, and she finished it for a special doggy friend, Cayden, with a cute picture dangling from it, to help a friend remember a great pal.

She also showed an amazing needle-felted sculpture she will be entering into a MAFA Covid Projects Contest. It was a lovely young lady, reading a book (with flapping felted pages!!!), while laying on a grassy, flowered field. Jaw Drop. Wow.

Oh, per a friend's request, she made some lovely ornaments of ~6" tall mice carrying Christmas trees! I could just imagine them on the tree, looking like they are taking tiny trees home to their families! Sweet!

JANET had a commission to make a super soft/silky woven shawl of super wash wool and a little bit of white fuzzy kid mohair stripes, and it turned out great.

She also outdid herself for the Challenge, with an emotional, evocative, wet-felted wool painting in blues and reds. I imagined the reds were large blood vessels, with furious blood cells battling cancer cells & Covid viruses. She said the painting changed over the year from her initial concept. The energy was palpable. Really made my heart thump with so many emotions.

Barbara showed one completed sock! (More than me!) She had been working on a complex crocheted fiber doll, but had to deliver it to someone else to complete the face – she didn't feel like she excelled at faces, so we didn't get to see it. Hopefully she will be able to show us the completed sculpture soon, or send us a picture.

Ingrid made many beautiful towels with different fibers, yarns, colors, and patterns – so productive! She was using up old hemp and dyed yarns, some of which disintegrated upon washing! Augh! Typical of this Covid year! Her Friendship towels turned out great – thick and thirsty! She also wove a shadow weave scarf with yarn from her trip to Kansas, nice keepsake. She also got another cool “new” old book for our Guild

Library: another issue of “Loom Music” by Sandin & Henderson with lots of cool patterns, great newsletters, drafts and diagrams, such an interesting sample of handweaving that was being done in Canada in 1943-1960’s!

Kathy learned a lesson about buying a weaving kit on the Internet, as so many of us discovered while ordering stuff online during Covid times: She bought a “Tiny Weaving kit,” with two tiny looms with a truly tiny book! It had: Two miniature looms (2.75 x 2.75 in), Miniature comb, Needle, Assorted thread and yarn, and a 32-page miniature book with weaving instructions. Emphasis on the **miniature** Book!! It looked complete, but all of it would fit well in a large doll-house!!

Kathy really took off making Cookie Cutter needle felting items. She has made one shadow box with felted ‘mermaid’ letters “Samantha,” for her newest granddaughter, and is working on the names of her other grandsons. Oh, and a few bunnies for fun! And, **lots** of Tri-Loom Magic: a multi-blue stash-buster shawl, and a brown & white log cabin shawl, and a spin on the log cabin pattern with blues & blacks, but it turned out plaid instead of log-cabin. All were beautiful!

Ginger made such an interesting Christmas tree, with layered, round stacked fabrics. So pretty and unique. Her Challenge Project was truly a challenge: her friend wanted a red chenille scarf, so she made a red Tencel chenille warped fabric, with a loosely looped mohair weft, but when the scarf was washed, it went a little crazy. Some sections got loose and floppy in the warp, others sections bunched up, other sections were fine. It will be a wall hanging, now! She did a second try, with two colors of red Tencel chenille warp, but some yarns were old, and broke a lot, so she pulled the darker old warp yarns out, and then it wove great, the friend loves it! Great Rescue!!!

Sandi made an amazing garment bag, with pretty woven yarn top and zipper section, but mostly made with woven videotape!!!! She also made a beautiful thigh-length hand-woven multi-color vest from a collection of little balls of hand-dyed yarns from a dyer friend, Sally. She also had time to improve her spinning over this last year or so, and spun 4 miles of merino/silk/alpaca (fiber from Judy!), and wove it into an amazing (and soft) white shawl. Her Challenges were a fascinating ruana from a rectangle, but with an interesting curved scooped lower back of the garment. So chic, but her shrinkage estimates were off, so she cut it up to make a lovely pink hand-woven top with a crisscross bodice, but it doesn’t fit – maybe she can sell it and turn it back into a success (size 10ish)! (She ultimately made a second ruana that worked great, for her daughter!) We love Sandi’s fashionable, wearable art!

Claudia was busy. She made a lovely large white towel with Red & Black Windowpane but it turned into a net, see-through fabric, even after thorough washing. Aww...maybe use as a curtain? She also made a small black and white weaving on her new Pioneer loom, but worked on it in fits and starts, with uneven and inconsistent beating and selvages, like many of us during Covid times. But she finished up with a beautiful Cookie Cutter Needle Felted Gingerbread Man! Very handsome – looks ready to run, run, run, as fast as he can!!! We can’t catch him, he’s the Gingerbread Man!

Liz had a few items, finally! Her Covid disaster was her never-ending Williamsburg Buildings scarf, just haven’t worked on it for almost two years, just didn’t feel creative. But she recently knit three warm chemo hats for a friend, and crocheted a bunch of Ice Skate ornaments, using large colored paper clips as the metal skate. Fun!

Marsha also felt like her Covid challenge was getting her creativity back. She set up her loom for Fibonacci after a Color Grading class, but just pats it every few weeks. I get it! Also, she has dug out her Cardboard looming while watching streaming shows on tv, so has made a close pin bag (took only 3 months!!!) and a little Beach tote bag. But, to get started again, she had to delve into a black hole of past notes on Cardboard looming, & make a binder to organize them. Then she needed a handle, so had to

delve into another black hole of past notes on inkle looming, make another binder, and finally made a strap bigger than the bag!

She also took a class on Japanese Visible Mending, or Sashiko, a way of using dense embroidered running stitch designs on patches to enhance and reinforce the patches on rips or tears. She did some beautiful pattern examples on Cookie Cutter felt shapes that will make lovely Christmas tree ornaments. She wore a Christmassy Deflected Double weave red & white scarf that she made a couple of years ago, to celebrate the season!

Cindy has been taking numerous online classes & workshops to help fuel her creativity and keep up her 8-hours days of weaving during these challenging days. Like her class with Jennifer Moore class at the Tavern on Double weave variations pickup, double weave overshot, Wandering Vines). That is making lemonade out of lemons: it would cost a fortune to attend these classes in person, including travel, but so many teachers have made online classes accessible, like Janet Dawson & Diane Hutton. Basic Overshot, Echo style, Italian style, so many styles and techniques, 18 dishtowels – check out the pictures – so inspiring!!! Glad she got pics before giving her Christmas presents away. (She ALSO set up several binders, like Marsha!)

**PROGRAM: CHALLENGE PROJECT!
& HOLIDAY PARTY!!**

We shared our Challenge Projects during our Show and Tell. What fun to share our disasters and successes. I was surprised to find that many of us also lost our creativity (like me) during this difficult year. But it was inspiring to see how so many of us climbed out of “the pit” and pushed through it and created beauty, or corrected some dismal projects to make them beautiful. My boss always says, “Practice makes Progress” – Perfection isn’t the goal; learning, practicing, and improving and just Making are the goals. Errors and unexpected results from experiments teach us more than reading or classes. Some unexpected results can be pretty great, too!

HGA Surprise Box!! We don’t know why, but the Handweavers Guild of America sent a fun box of surprise treats. So, Kathy took our 2021 Guild Roster, and assigned numbers to each name, and drew numbers to see who won each item, from books to baubles. So much fun!

Then, **PARTY AND SNACKS!!!!**

SEASON’S GREETINGS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS, AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!!

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! **We will be meeting both in person at the James City County Rec Center, AND over ZOOM.**

2022 NEW INFO: ZOOM Meeting ID: **844 9640 0274** Passcode: **318420** TIME: 9:50 AM TO 12:00 PM

James City County Recreation Center

Social Time: 9:30 to 10:00 AM, Meeting Time: 9:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

5301 Longhill Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23188, Phone: (757) 259-4200

JANUARY 17 Program: Overshot Weaving. This will be a great Jump-Off to our Overshot Miniatures Study Group, starting in January.

2022: Feb 21, Mar 21, Apr 18, May 16, Jun 20, Jul 18, Aug 15, Sep 19, Oct 17, Nov 21, Dec 19

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

2021: Dec 29 ZOOM Meeting ID: 850 3868 2137 Passcode: 029615

2022 NEW INFO: ZOOM Meeting ID: **835 4617 9735** Passcode: **984086**

2022: Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 30, Apr 27, May 25, Jun 29, Jul 27, Aug 31, Sep 28, Oct 26, Nov 30, Dec 28

AFTERNOON SIP AND CHATS: Every Month on the second Tuesday, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
2022 NEW INFO ZOOM Meeting ID: **832 4236 3608**, Passcode: **940409**
Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10, Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9, Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13

SPIN-IN ZOOM: Every Month on the second Wednesday, 1:00 PM,
ZOOM Meeting ID: 834 369 9744, Passcode: 1Tujh6, **2022 INFO SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**
Look for emails from Dee S (fuz####@cox.net) for updates or direct link.
Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11, Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 10, Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14

UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS:

MARYLAND SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL 01/29-30/2022: Online Winter Fest is here! Warm up for the Spring Festival with Winterfest! Two days of virtual spinning, knitting, felting, and crochet. Go to sheepandwool.org for details. Registration is now open!

CAROLINA FIBER FEST: Scheduled for March 2022, check out carolinafiberfest.org for updates and details.

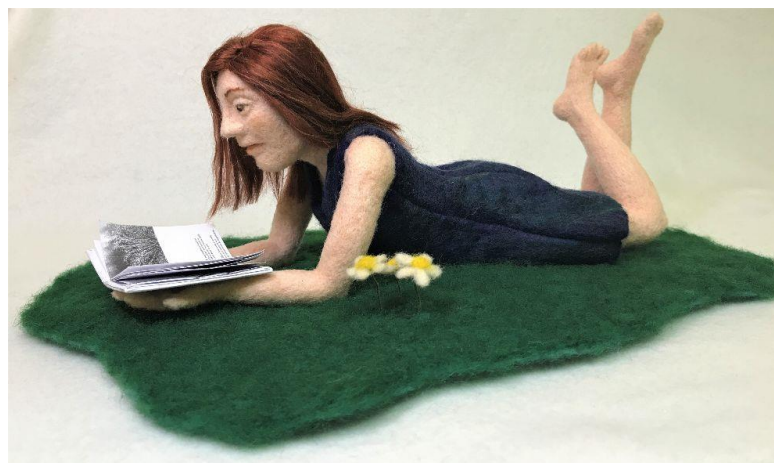
HGA TEXTILES & TEA, every Tuesday, 4:00 PM EST to 5:00 PM EST:

"The Handweavers Guild of America Inc. is excited to announce their new program, Textiles & Tea. Google "HGA Textiles & Tea" or go to <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/> to browse & register.

HGA 2022 Convergence, July 15-21: 2022 Convergence at the Knoxville Convention Center, Tennessee in the lovely Smoky Mountains. (weavespindye.org).

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) and print and mail it with your dues to:
Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild, PO BOX 2086, Williamsburg, VA 23187-2086



More than Fabulous Show and Tell:

Goodie shared her needle-felted sculpture showing her love of nature and books.



Liz worked tirelessly on her clasped warped scarf! Did you smile at her adorable skates on our front page? She also knitted sweet hats for friends.



Tina's skirt started out a cape! Unanimously our guild voted for the former. I am most sad not to have snapped a shot of her purple silk and felted wool dress! Maybe next newsletter.



Kathy liked the needle-felted ornaments so much! (She has a new granddaughter).

Janet worked on a wet felted abstract and then played on a Merino wool shawl.



Debbie has been diligent designing awesome color and weave pot holders! Ginger claimed it was a failure, however, we loved the attractive wall hanging! Claudia and Goodie brought a little holiday cheer!



Now you all have known this for a while; Cindy prolifically produces wonderful work!! Let me know if you would like her descriptive explanations.



