



Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

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

June Newsletter 2022
Next Meeting
July 18, 2022
Social Time 9:30-10:00
In-person Meeting
ZOOM Meeting 10:00-12:00



WSWG Minutes from June 20,2022.

King of Glory Lutheran Church meeting room 313

Attending: Liz V, Kathy K, Pam H (member - 1st time able to attend), Karen C (new member), Selma M, Janet G, Kris W, Jack M, Sandi P, Jaime P, Becky R (guest from the Tavern Spinners and Weavers Guild) Jan L. (TSWG), Sandy W (new member), Rosemary GT, Claudia M, Dee S, Ellen R, Ingrid K, Brian K (guest-always welcome!) Goodie KB, Ginger F, Cindy F, David P, Dave B, Debbie R, Marsha K, Karen D and Pam P.

Great turnout!! Welcome new members and guests!!

We are happy to share the news from our sister guild - the Tavern Spinners and Weavers - that 2 of their members who are also in our JEMO Study Group have won honors in the Woolery Weave Off. Jan Van Camp Lodge has won Color 2nd Place with her entry. And Kathy Rohacek has won an Honorable Mention in Color with her entry. How exciting!! Yay Jan and Kathy R!!

Treasurer's report: \$4056.62

VP's updates:

JCC History Camp: August 10- Wednesday 9 am, Freedom Park Interpretive Center. Program to be around 45 min - 1 hour. Liz will bring drop spindle and naked zipper sheep. Tina, Kathy and David will be there with spinning and weaving.

Hickory Neck Church Fiber Festival in Toano cancelled for this year. There may be a fall festival at the church, but no announcement as of yet.

Challenge for this year: Fiber card Swap in December. You must sign up to participate and need to make 20 cards to swap. Those participating: Cindy F, Ingrid K, Sandi P, Rosemary GT, Kris W, Goodie KB, Lisa D, Jaime P, Marsha R, Tina CP, Judy M, Ginger F, Dee S, Janet G, Kathy K, David P, Pam P, Debbie R. The guild will provide the cards/envelops to use.

Peace Hill Farms Festival - Saturday Nov 5, Charles City County. We will be in the house dining room. The chicken coop is booked with food vendors only. Demos done by Ingrid on floor loom, Cindy on a rigid heddle loom where folks can try it, Liz and Tina spinning. Sandi P, Goodie, Kathy K, and Ginger bringing something to demo. Plus anyone on a cardboard loom. We will demo and sell cardboard loom kits. Individual guild members are welcome to come and sell items in the guild booth. If you do sell something, consider making a small contribution back to the guild.

The cardboard loom kits will be made by members in the July guild meeting. Cindy will bring cardboard cut to size (4"x6") the supplies from Kathy, the printed handout, and plastic baggies for the kits. We will try to have some wooden needles from the Tavern Guild for the kits, if they have some extra for us to purchase. If not, we have some plastic needles to put in the kits.

If anyone has some yarn to contribute to the kits, it will be appreciated!

Programs:

July-make cardboard loom kits for weaving pouches

August- review warping a rigid heddle loom plus how to use little bits of leftover yarns in a project. This technique will work on the rigid heddle looms, or on a floor loom. Cindy F will present.

September: wall pockets or Loom pockets or wheel pockets. What do you use to wrangle your supplies needed during fiber work? Bring your cool ideas along for the meeting. Members will be sharing.

October- Triangle Loom with Kathy K.

November Name drafting by hand with Ingrid - plus Cindy will show the button in Fiberworks that will magically make name drafts. Ingrid and Cindy presenting.

December - challenge: Holiday card swap. Potluck lunch.

MAFA - June 26 2023 for conference in Millersville PA.

Convergence - in Knoxville TN this July!!

Online Textile Conference 6/24-26. Weave a real Peace - free.

Show and tell: Sandi P.- overshot pattern from leftover warp from the Allover pattern (page 19 from Josephine Estes book 1) . Beautiful towels using some with the overshot patterns, and some with twill and other treadlings. She also showed us her gorgeous shirt made from yarn dyed at Tina's (by Tina) Indigo dyepot program. Sandi wove a wheat type design, then paired it with some indigo dyed fabric from Africa. She designed her own shirt pattern. And buttons. As always, beautiful job Sandi!

Jaime P showed us her Origami bag woven from thrums - made out of one strip of fabric. Check Pinterest for the "Origami Bag". There's a basic diagram for this cool bag. Nice job Jaime - your handwoven thrums bag makes a great knitting bag!

Cindy F showed 6 placemats made for her nieces in the old overshot pattern Stars and Roses. She has 12 more to go. Kathy suggested changing up the treadling to make the project more fun for Cindy - who is getting a bit tired of doing the same colors and pattern(all 3 nieces want the same light blue).

Claudia M. Showed us a beautiful dishtowel made by Pam H.'s friend Barbara Miller from the Southern Highlands Handicraft Guild in Asheville NC. It is a pattern from the Berea College archives using Swedish rosepath threading and possibly plain weave treadling. Side note: Barbara Miller has co-authored a couple of books on Southern Highlands weaving patterns, overshot along with some counterpane designs in Dimity and other structures.

Dee S is chillin out stitching a lovely Bargello design.

Goodie KB is playing around with Plarn and cotton bags and pouches made on cardboard looms. She is testing some pattern/design ideas for teaching classes in West Point and Mathews. She's using a long knitting needle in the shed or a dowel, so it doesn't wear the plastic yarn out as much. Some bags have Velcro fastenings, some have handles. All sorts of sizes. Go Goodie!

Janet G showed us her gorgeous Theo Moorman technique - butterfly wing close up. Beautiful job Janet! This is one of the classes Janet teaches at the Bay School in Mathews county.

Ginger F. Towels from the leftover - overshot warp. Somehow the front and back reversed positions. Karen C and Pam H helped do some analysis. We could have spent the entire program hearing Karen and Pam help, they did an amazing job! This helpful analysis would make an excellent program in the future (hint but no pressure).

Kathy K shared that the colors she chose for her overshot samples seemed to change up the way her pattern looked. She brought her yarns so we could see them before weaving them into the samples and compare to the finished samples. Cool!

Marsha shared that she has started going to the Cranberry Weavers semi close to her town. Turns out Josephine Estes was a member of the Boston Weaving Guild for many years, and willed her samples and patterns that we've been studying - to the Boston Guild. 2 members (Marjie Thompson and Peter Mitchell) of the Boston Guild wrote out Josephine's patterns in software and basically the entire Boston weaving guild helped with this huge project of turning it into a book. They self published a book, which we could have definitely used for our project - however it is out of print now and Cindy could not find a reasonably priced copy anywhere!

Upshot is the Cranberry Weavers know all about Josephine Estes. And Bertha Gray Hayes and her miniature overshot patterns as well. They mentioned to Marsha to look up Norma Smayda - so after Marsha shared this, Cindy did and check this out <https://www.saunderstownweavingschool.com>

A weaving school!! Norma wrote (with others) a book of Bertha Gray Hayes patterns which are also overshot.

Program: Josephine Estes Miniature Overshot study group - Sample Swap and Discussion



Wow! There were 27 samples ready to swap at the meeting. So exciting to see these beautiful samples woven by our members - consisting of those in the Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild along with those in the Tavern Spinners and Weavers Guild (does this make us sister guilds?)

We discussed what we learned during the making of these samples and have a bit of a list.

First being said: Everyone learned things doing this.

Some patterns weren't quite as square as they could be (45 degree angle of the twill line in the pattern design or of the tabby ground) due to variables at the loom.

Things that helped:

If the you and the loom couldn't beat the fell line in enough to see the design well there are a few things to try to compress the pattern. Often lightweight looms and table looms have this particular problem. This means the design is too tall, or elongated, or doesn't show well. A few of us with lightweight looms struggled with this!

Here are the things various folks tried.

1. Spread out the sett so the weft picks will beat in closer so the design shows well. Start with a loose sett to begin with - use the loose sett in the Handwoven Master Yarn Chart. There are 3 numbers associated with the setts for the yarns in the chart, wide or loose for lace, medium for plain weave, close for twills. Start with the wide sett recommended for lace. This is a good place to start, but it's possible you may need to adjust more (spread the sett further out) once you see how your yarn choices work. Chart available here: <https://longthreadmedia.nyc3.cdn.digitaloceanspaces.com/handwoven/Master-Yarn-Chart-2014.pdf>
2. Double beat with the beater bar.
3. Weight your beater bar.
4. Press the beater bar in firmly after each pick.
5. Loosen the tension a bit on the loom.
6. Try a different yarn or fiber for the pattern weft (maybe heavier).
7. Try a different yarn for the ground (tabby) weft (smaller)
8. Try switching from a cotton pattern weft to a wool pattern weft - which might bloom more.
9. Or - all of us mentioned to leave it alone as beautiful anyway!!

Some other things learned:

Dee wants to try smaller warp thread for her next one. Although the variegated warp yarn she used looks really cool!

Jack M and Liz V mentioned some of the pitfalls of weaving the samples on a table loom. Jack had to tighten screws on the loom often. Liz had bruises from trying to get a firm enough beat.

A few of us decided we want to do more overshot.

A few of us decided we don't want to do more overshot.

A few of us decided it's easier to do multiple samples across the width of the loom.

A few of us decided that too many samples across the loom changes the sett.

Plus we'd like to thank Rosemary T for buying the vintage books off eBay, and getting this started!



All things considered, Cindy hopes these are good things to learn!

A few folks mentioned and seconded the idea that someone write up an article about what we've done in our study group and possibly present it to Handwoven, HGA and MAFA. Jan Lodge from the Tavern Spinners and Weavers Guild, has graciously offered to help out by writing up our story. Thank you Jan! If anyone has any beautiful photos of the samples, or our meeting, how about forwarding them to Cindy to send to Jan.

And the mailed samples to Marsha made it safely! Yay!!



More Show and Tell!!



Jamie sewed a FUN origami bag with leftover thrums. Cindy is crafting six sets of overshoot placemats for her nieces, who all want blue.
Dee stitches calming Bargello.





Goodie loves her experiments with Plarn “yarn”. Sandi showed over-shot and twill towels; and then WOWED us with her hand made Blouse.



