



## Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

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

August Newsletter 2022  
Next Meeting  
September 19, 2022  
Social Time 9:30-10:00  
In-person Meeting  
ZOOM Meeting 10:00-12:00



**WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS & WEAVERS GUILD**  
**AUG 15, 2022 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting held 8/15/22, at 10:00 AM on ZOOM video call and at King of Glory Lutheran Church. 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.

**SEPTEMBER:** We will be meeting both in person at the King of Glory Lutheran Church, AND over ZOOM.

2022 ZOOM Meeting ID: **844 9640 0274** Passcode: **318420** TIME: 9:50 AM TO 12:30 PM

King of Glory Lutheran Church TIME: 9:30 AM TO 12:30 PM, 4897 Longhill Road, Williamsburg, VA

Attendees: Meeting: Liz V., Karen C., Catherine B., Kathy K., Tina, Janet G, Selma, Jack, Ginger, Rosemary, Dee, Goodie, Ellen R, Sandi, David P., Cindy F, Dave B.

Zoom Attendees: Marsha, Judy, Debbie R., Kris, Claudia

New Members: Wendy Keener, Janet Matthews WELCOME! We are so glad to meet you and hope to see you often!!!

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**MINUTES:** Accepted.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Total changed at the meeting due to sale of donated loom and payment of bills! Now: \$4,274.42.

**WEBSITE:** Dave said our Website/Facebook is ok, but please check it out, and let him know if there are any updates or fixes that need to be done to keep it friendly and helpful.

**MAFA:** MAFA has decided to hold their next 2023 conference without online classes. It will all be interactive in-person seminars and classes. (So much fun!) HOWEVER (drum roll!), they will start holding monthly online classes! You can peruse their website for offerings, and to sign up for whichever classes you desire! Remember, if you are a member of our guild, you are a member of MAFA!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**November 5:** Peace Hill Farm Fiber Craft Festival. We will be located inside the Dining Room of the main house. Better temperature, but fewer visitors? We purchased a vendors permit, so feel free to bring/send any of your sale items to be sold at the event. We agreed it would be nice if you could donate a small percentage of your sales to the Guild. We didn't decide on a percentage number.

**Textiles & Tea:** Our own Karen Clancy will be presenting a Textiles & Tea presentation, probably in September or November or December. Date TBA. Check out the HGA site for final details, at <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/> to browse & register for FREE Zoom attendance at this or any of the other weekly sessions. More later on when our Pam Howard will present.

**PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS:**

**September:** Pockets! Wall pockets, Loom Pockets, Spinning Wheel Pockets, Project Pockets, etc. How do you organize your most-used tools to be near you as you work on your projects? PLEASE bring in your ideas of various pockets YOU use to help you stay organized while working on your projects.

**October:** Kathy will show us her Triangle Loom! We may have a square/rectangle loom brought in, too! These are versatile standing looms without heddles. Think shawl-sized Pin Looms?!!! Fun!

**November:** Name Drafting! Use your loom and overshot techniques to weave your name!

**December:** Cindy already shared supplies for the “Christmas Fiber Card Swap.” The finished cards will be shared with each other at the Christmas Holiday Party/Meeting.

If you have any ideas for other Programs, or want to share your knowledge about doing new or interesting projects or techniques, or would like to request a Zoom class with a cool instructor, please share with Cindy and Tina.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Tina already sent out a survey to find out who spins, weaves, felts, or other crafts. This will help us plan future programs and workshops to better suit all of our members. (Also, a good opportunity to suggest ideas for future programs, and topics & teachers for possible workshops, so put on your thinking caps!) Please check your email and respond, if you haven't already done so.

Tina will be sending out another email to sign up for a Tapestry class with Rebecca Mezzoff. We'll need 14 paying attendees. minimum to set up a date. About \$40, but price will be adjusted according to how many sign up.

Cindy mentioned that we have 54 complete Cardboard Loom Kits, to use for use at demonstrations or to sell at Peace Hill Event.

Kris visited Peace Hill to check out the size of the Dining Room where we will be set up. It is a largish room, with a single long table. She estimates that we will have room for only 7 demonstrators, if we want to also have room for visitors, and for our demo materials, and our sale goods. We have more than 7 volunteers, so perhaps some of us can go for half-day shifts, if we don't have too much stuff to swap in and out. Kris has the following list of volunteers, and the craft they will be demonstrating, so we can perhaps contact each other to see if we can decide among ourselves who will be where and when, so we can insure we have each craft represented at all times (spinning, weaving, cardboard looms, felting, etc.). The first seven (and their demo craft) to sign up were:

Cindy (Rigid Heddle Loom), Ingrid (Floor Loom), Tina (Spinning wheel), Liz (Drop Spindle, displays, [and Lil'Sheep Shearing!]), Kathy (Cardboard Loom), Goodie (Needle Felting), and Kris (Pin Loom).

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Dave** brought in over a dozen file boxes full of fleeces, yarns (some handspun), knitted sweaters, and fine wool fabrics from someone's mom who passed away. We all picked what we wanted, and gave good homes to almost all of the goodies. Thanks, Dave, for sorting and bringing it all in. I'm sure the mom was happily looking down on us, appreciating us while we were oohing and ahing over her treasures! (She was a fiberfolk: of COURSE she is looking down from above! )

**History Camp:** Liz, Kathy K, Tina and David P demonstrated 18<sup>th</sup> Century fiber, spinning and weaving at the James City County History Camp. They each did a presentation, then set up three stations so each student could spin on a drop spindle, weave on the loom, and then weave a bracelet on our new cardboard bracelet looms. It was very well received, with us getting great comments from coordinators and Parents (!!!) on Facebook and out in town when our demonstrators were recognized!

**Southampton County Fair:** Cindy and Rosemary did weaving demonstrations at the County Fair! We have fans everywhere! Great Job!

**Marketing:** Kathy brought up the idea that perhaps we should be more aggressive in marketing our talents to local schools, like public schools, Montessori or Homeschool groups, local libraries, and Parks & Recreation folks. Dave mentioned that we do need to be careful of liability, (DON'T let the teacher leave you alone in the room!!), especially since we need to potentially touch the students, and we might want to limit the group sizes if we want to do the hands-on stuff. The nine students at History Camp worked out well on our three "stations" but bigger groups would be more difficult, and take a lot more time than the two hours we used.

(Afternote: Liz and Kathy got Covid during the week after the History Camp. Note to self: wear a mask when doing one-to-one hands-on teaching and assistance, if you are concerned. No requirements, but just a thought!)

**Library Displays:** Kathy checked into reinstating our periodic displays at the local libraries. They are booked through the end of 2023. She'll check to see if we can put us on the list for 2024.

**New Loaner Equipment!** Dave now has TWO fully operational Walking Wheels! Please contact him to borrow one – He is running out of room for our loaner equipment!!! (Check our website for a full list of available loaner equipment, books, and magazines!)

Tavern Guild has 2 openings in a 'Summer/Winter Pattern' Weaving Class, \$150, contact Sandi.

**New York Sheep & Wool Festival:** Flying Needles Yarn Shop in Williamsburg is running a bus to Rhinebeck, NY to attend this Festival, 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of October. Traveling Friday thru Monday. We will have at least one Guild member attending (Probably rooming with Dee)!

**DUES:** It has become very difficult to collect dues from the renewing members (NOT new members!). Kathy had to repeatedly send emails and make phone calls to those who wanted to renew, but just didn't get around to it. We discussed, made a motion, seconded, and voted unanimously to start a \$10 per month penalty for those renewing after February 1. We will also start reminding everyone in November to get your dues in early!

## SHOW AND TELL

**Sandi** started us off with a video of "Weaving Harris Tweed on Hattersley Looms" which was absolutely fascinating! The looms on the Harris and Lewis Islands are from 1800s to 1900s, designed for "home use" but they obviously are meant for "cottage industry." Some fascinating techniques, tools and looms that are still being used today. This film is copyrighted, so it will be cut out of the Zoom minute recording. It was amazing to watch!

**Cindy** used her rigid heddle loom to weave a "Hero Cow!" (you can google or get pattern on Ravelry), where you weave the fabric, then cut off the front end, and loop it around to the back end, and weave each line of warp fringe individually into the back end of the warp. She also tested and had fun with Stick Weaving – check out the book "Peg Looms and Weaving Sticks" that she used.

**Sandi** also showed off her strip of samples that she will cut up for her Christmas Cards – so pretty and varied – how exciting!

**Goodie** showed her latest needle-felted pumpkins, so fanciful and expressive, as usual!

**Dee** showed a pretty long scarf she made. Turned out beautiful! Also, she spun 6 beautiful balls of yellow cotton yarn! That will get her cotton spinning practice in!

**Ginger** has lots more chenille yarn to share. Please let her know if you are interested. She also has an older style serger, with a bunch of thread, to sell for \$100. She is selling a machine felter for about \$175. And, she brought a bunch of hostas and orchids from her garden to share! Golly, what a bounty of goodies at this meeting!!!

**Jack** tried out his new 16 shaft table loom (wow!), making a very elegant Tencel green/white “Wall of Troy” pattern scarf at 20epi instead of the specified 25epi. Great Job, and So pretty!

**Janet** has been accepted to be published in the *Spindle, Shuttle and Dyepot* in 2022!! Can’t wait to see it! She showed her lovely wet-felted (plus...) 4-sided orb with lava(?)/flames(?)/wool locks on the top. Rivalled only by her beautiful copy-from-photo (& photo-quality!) wet-felted sunset landscape. She certainly earned the prizes and recognition she was awarded for her achievements.

**Tina** modeled a lovely sea-foam green hand-crocheted long vest/dress she had made – must be seen to be appreciated!

**Kathy** was so busy! She had so much to report of her classes at Convergence (e.g., Painted Warp class, Reas Cannon work, etc.), and she finished her own warp from her Overshot workshop.

She also announced, for those who already own a 15” Cricket rigid heddle loom, you can NOW buy an Add-On 4-Shaft attachment for \$395 (usually about \$450). Sale ends soon, check it out now!

**Karen** also went to Convergence, and couldn’t say enough good things about her classes (e.g., Ben Jones & Fabric Block Printing, Debra Eason & Supplemental Warp). But she also brought in some beautiful skeins of wool, that she naturally dyed with logwood(purple), madder(red-orange), Fustic(yellow), Fustic Indigo (forest green and Gooseturd Green!). And, in All of her extra spare time, she has been weaving many (45+!) towels, and brought in 4 samples of different patterns she had been trying, with gamps and more, using lots of leftovers and many colors! Great segway into our Program!

**PROGRAM: Weaving with your Stash!**  
**Using up Treasured Stashed Yarns**

Cindy gave a wonderful review of warping a rigid heddle loom, especially setting it up to use “Stash Yarns.” She gave out two very helpful handouts on warping a rigid heddle loom, with tip & tricks, and demonstrated and discussed tips on using different kinds of yarn in the same project, to use up those lovely treasured yarn bits.

- If you lose your warping peg, you can use an upside-down clamp!
- Make SURE you use paper or something sturdy to separate your warp. Brown paper from the paint department at Lowe’s/Home Depot, or Brown PAPER Leaf Bags are nice and heavy, and last a long time, and don’t crinkle! Some people like the cardboard strips, but most find paper easier to work with.
- Also, use something strong to cover your knots on the front. (Corrugated cardboard or paper towel tubes). You don’t have to separate the fabric as you weave, but smooth out the knots, or you will have wild tension problems.
- Consider lashing on your warp instead of tying knots. Many people find it easier.
- When lashing on, you might try lashing on, then leave it overnight. It will be lovely and evenly tensioned in the morning!! Even just a few hours might help!

### Some of the tips on using stash or treasure yarns:

- If you are using many treasure yarns for weft, consider tying them together before weaving, as you wind them onto your shuttle!
- If you use combinations of treasure yarns, keep in mind that they may wash up differently. That can be a great thing, if you make warp or weft stripes, and the stripes shrink differently, they may make a seersucker effect. Or, you could make tiny stripes to minimize the shrinkage effect. Or, plan on the seersucker effect: it is pretty cool!
- Try not to have too many fluffy yarns next to each other in the warp. Separate them with smooth yarns individually, or be prepared to have a sticky warp.
- Eyelash yarns, ladder yarn, railroad track yarn, boucle, all make great accent yarns! Never say Never! Boucle or slightly bumpy yarns should be warped in the slots, not holes.
- Single (not-ply) yarns will usually shred in the warp – they might be better in the weft, unless they are felted or you are VERY gentle while beating. Test by rubbing against the edge of a table to see if it will shred.
- Bumpy yarns will probably be better in the weft than the warp, unless you are using a variable dent reed that will accommodate the biggest bumps.
- She starts by picking colors and balls of yarn from her stash, and piling it on a table. Then picks a predominant, strong color. Then a secondary color. Then, she just plays!
- When warping, load your “predominate” color yarn in first, scattered across the whole warp. Then load your secondary color yarn, scattered as desired across the whole warp. Then tie your accent and specialty yarns on. Very random, don’t need to be matchy-matchy, don’t need to count. Or, do big stripe, then accent, then big stripe, then accent... Oh, the possibilities!
- If you have more than an inch gap when tying on the warp, break it, tie off, and tie on at the next spot. Less than an inch, just continue wrapping around the warp stick.
- If you have a sticky warp, you might try putting a pickup stick behind your heddle when you weave. Lower the heddle, and insert the pickup stick in the shed BEHIND the heddle. Then press the pickup stick right up to and on top of the warp beam. Weave as normal, then whenever you advance the warp, slide it back to the warp beam.
- If your warp yarns start to fray, try using a smooth empty shuttle to beat the weft, instead of using the rigid heddle. Some have had luck spraying hair spray on the warp and combing the warp threads to smooth it down. It will wash out.
- Can use a yard or two of special yarn as inlays to make “squiggly” lines in your fabric. Make horizontal inlays by laying it in the shed, then laying in the normal weft, beat. You can carry that inlay vertically up the warp by wrapping it around one or a few warp yarns in between each weft for one or a few weft passes. Then you could lay it horizontally in the shed before the next weft yarn. Over, up, up, over, up, up, up, wiggle, squiggle, wag!

These are just a few of the great tips! So informative, Cindy! You are a treasure trove of tips on using tantalizing treasure yarns and using up our stash of beautiful bits of yarn!

### WSWG CALENDAR:

**MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Every Month on the third Monday, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM 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 King of Glory Lutheran Church, AND over ZOOM.

**2022 INFO:** ZOOM Meeting ID: **844 9640 0274** Passcode: **318420** TIME: 9:50 AM TO 12:30 PM

King of Glory Lutheran Church Social Time: 9:30 to 10:00 AM, Meeting Time: 9:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

4897 Longhill Rd, Williamsburg, VA

Sep 19, Oct 17, Nov 21, Dec 19

**Sign-Up Sheet for Snacks at Monthly Meeting:**

September: Sweet: Kathy K; Savory: Pam  
October: Sweet: Ingrid; Savory: Dave P  
November: Sweet: Goodie; Savory: Ginger  
January: Sweet: Lisa; Savory; Ellen  
February: Sweet: Cindy F.; Savory: ???

**EVENING SIP AND CHATS:** Every Month on the last Wednesday, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
ZOOM Meeting ID: **835 4617 9735** Passcode: **984086** 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  
ZOOM Meeting ID: **832 4236 3608**, Passcode: **940409** 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**  
Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14

### **UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS:**

**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 for FREE Zoom attendance. Check out our own Karen Clancy and/or Pam Howard holding a session soon!

### **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 \$20 dues to:  
Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild, PO BOX 2086, Williamsburg, VA 23187-2086  
Or, bring the form and cash or check to the next meeting!

Oh, how we love our Show and Tell! Dee wove the longest wrap around scarf! Sandi showed off her December challenge woven pieces! Are you working on yours?



Karen completed an amazing set of woven towels; and then wowed us with her natural hand-dyeing!

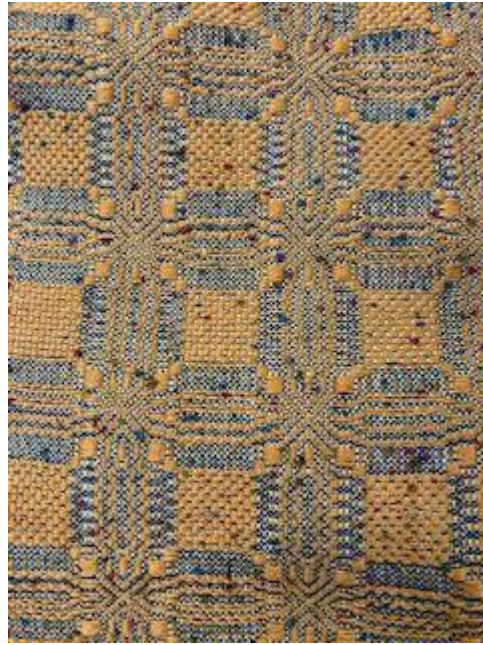
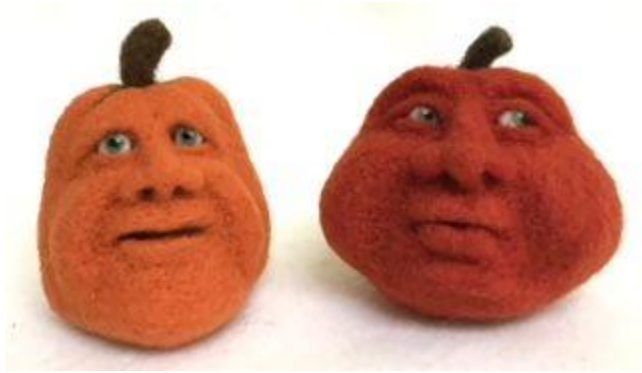


Janet got to share her felt painting for Convergence 2020, as well as her soft sculpture vessel for Convergence 2022!

Next, Goodie delights us with her needle-felted pumpkins, with the MOST expressive faces!

And Kathy's enjoyment of her completed Overshot brought joy to all of us! So much enchantment from All of our talented artists!!





Jack endeavored to work on his 16-shaft loom! Look at that fabulous fabric! He must not sleep either. Cindy continues to learn something new every day! And then shares everything!



Frontispiece: Cindy's set-up on her ridged heddle loom. Another look at her remarkable scarf. Tina Crocheted her very own body vest!



Such a tempting arrangement of hand-spun yarn, crafted by Tina! See you next month. Ok, one more yarn photo! I can't help it. Thanks to Karen.



