



Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

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

May Newsletter 2026
Next Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026
King of Glory Lutheran Church
Williamsburg, VA
Come visit before 10:00!



WSWG Minutes

May 18, 2026

King of Glory Lutheran Church

Attendees: Sara McCourt, Doreen Parkansky, Lexie Hamley, Elizabeth Bunch, Jill Burruss, Cherie Auckland, Carol Rubenstein, Kris Wessler, Cindy French, Kate Swanson, Gina Goosby, Caron Veynar, Tina Christensen-Parman, Sandy Voll, Ginger Flynn, Ann Buran, and Lisa Draper. Via Zoom: Claudia Melgaard, Sandi Petty, and Carol Wittig.

The meeting was called to order shortly after 10:00am by President Sara McCourt. A motion to approve the minutes of the previous month was made by Lisa Draper and seconded by Kate Swanson. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sara delivered the report for Kathy Kuhn who was unable to attend. The guild has \$10,628.16. Payment was made for the tour of the Outlander Exhibit, also for the room fee and the registration fee for Peace Hill.

Programs: The program for June will be Finishing Weaving which was postponed due to weather from March. The program in July is a Knitting Brioche program by Dee Smith. A planning committee meeting will be arranged to cover further programs.

Welcome New Members Cherie Auckland and Carol Rubenstein.

Linda Coppinger has been filling in as the interim MAFA Rep, Sandy Petty is listed as our official Rep. A permanent Rep needs to be determined.

The website now has the 2026 Newsletters on it, but now we are having issues with the sidebar. Gina Goosby volunteered that she has WordPress knowledge and a Zoom meeting will be arranged.

Birthdays: Dee Smith, Ginger Flynn, Judy Mooers, Jill Burruss, Georgina, and Rachel McNamara.

Chippokes: We had a lot of fun making the woven hat and learning from Liz V. how to make the woven bracelets for the Kids Convention. Unfortunately, we did not have enough time for more than a brief wet felting demonstration. Tina has offered to do a full day breakout workshop on a day that we can arrange for a room at the church. An interest list was passed since we need a minimum of five attendees to make it worthwhile.

The idea for a spin in day was also put forth and that list was tacked onto the wet felting list.

On May 9, Guild members participated in a Kids Convention at the Williamsburg Library and had a blast. They saw approximately a 100 kids and parents at three stations: Looms, carding and drop spindle, and bracelet weaving. There were a lot of 5- & 6-year-olds. It was very high energy. If we do this again there will need to be a set up and breakdown team, plus we need to be able to pull up to the building. It was a lot for those that participated.

New Business:

Peace Hill demo will be on November 7th, the first Saturday in November. A sign-up sheet will be passed later. Kris was approached by an attendee who has made a donation of yarn and has a loom they would like to sell for \$700. Please reach out to Kris for more information.

Sara is currently holding a Harrisville 4 shaft that is free to a good home. She is motivated for someone to claim it.

Arts on Main: Kate told us that they still need people to teach classes. There will be a Heritage Art show in July, so if we know anyone with traditional skills they should get in touch with Alisa at gallerymanager@gloucesterarts.org. There will also be a fiber arts show in November.

The business meeting concluded and we moved on to Show and tell, break, and then a Blending Board Basics program with Tina and Liz B.

Show and tell:

WSWG Show and Tell

5/18/2026

Doreen Shared her Prizes and Haul from H&H America:

Cindy F made a recycled apron patterned after the Guild aprons.

- Two dishtowels in cotton on a multishift loom
- A scarf using the same warp with cotton and bamboo
- A wool scarf woven in a Brooks Bouquet pattern.
- Her woven hat
-

Kate S continues exploring Shadow weave techniques in two wraps that are seasonal color palettes.

Tina told us the good news that her daughter Mel has brought home her adoptive daughter Success.

Sandy V. shared a table runner woven on the rigid heddle in a mix of cotton and acrylic.

Claudia showed us her woven hat over Zoom. Yes, that's her hat on the frontispiece!

Sandi P shared a towel made from a MAFA pattern via Zoom.







The No-Sew Hat

THREE-DIMENSIONAL WEAVING ON A RIGID-HEADLE LOOM
ESTHER RODGERS

Have you ever needed a quick gift at the last minute? Or do you have a bunch of little bits of yarn in your stash or a single skein of a fabulous yarn you're just dying to show off? Either way, this is a great project to weave a quick and easy hat on your rigid-headle loom.

This project is very flexible so you can be creative. It can highlight that special skein of yarn or use up scraps of yarn that were just too pretty to throw away. You can use any size-needle hat on your flat loom!

or use a variable-dent heddle to create different spacing in the warp yarns. I used the new Kromki with a variable-dent heddle to create my own warp-spacing pattern. You can use different warp yarns as long as they are smooth. And you can go wild with your warp yarns, using thick or thin, textured yarns such as bouclé, handspun yarns, even thin cotton if you like. Weave it up and wash just a few days and gather, you will have made a three-dimensional hat on your flat loom!

- 1 Measure your head around the middle of your forehead where a hat sits. Cut a piece of scrap yarn this length plus 1".
- 2 Warp your loom using your preferred warping method. Your warp length will be the measurement of your head plus 1". (Yarn amounts and dimensions given here are for a head circumference of 23".)
- 3 Wind one shuttle with a worsted-weight scrap yarn, one with the bamboo-leaf warp yarn, and one or more with your other warp yarns. With the scrap yarn, weave an 8" header. (You will remove this later.) At the piece of scrap yarn you measured in Step 1 to the end of the header, reweave, using the same 10" for the joining and using the rest long too. This will be your measuring string to check the length of your weaving.
- 4 Weave the hat, alternating sections of the bamboo-leaf warp with other yarns of your choice until the woven length from the header matches the length of the measuring string. If you weave more, your hat will be too big. Weave another 8" header with scrap yarn as you did at the beginning.
- 5 Take the cloth off the loom and remove the scrap-yarn headers. At one selvage, start to pull the warp thread at each end, pulling and gathering the fabric evenly toward the middle. Be sure you have both ends of the same warp thread or you could pull it out of the hat. Once you have gathered the fabric all you can, tie the warp thread ends together. Working from that edge, you can pull some other warp ends to shape the top of the hat to your head as you like. As you finish the gathering on each warp thread, tie the ends together.
- 6 When you are finished shaping the hat, lay the edges of the fabric and fringe on top of each other and gather into 2 or 3 bundles. Tie each bundle into an overhand knot, joining the two edges of fabric together. Braid or braid the bundles into 4"-5" lengths, then trim the ends.
- 7 Voila! Enjoy your new hat!

OTHER NOTES I used one flat-wool, the best in North Carolina with her husband. For joining which, multiplying items, and the charity sale.

STRUCTURE
Flat-wool

EQUIPMENT
Rigid-headle loom with 6-dent variable-dent, 3 or more the

YARNS
Warp: Aunt 1 Cotton, size 1 (384 yards), of your choice
Weft: Worsted bamboo yarn (20% silk, 100 300 yards), Full range of color, 1 skein. Worsted scrap yarn, 40

WARP LENGTH
22 ends, 1 1/2 x Cotton 67 for 16" for loom

SETTS
Warp: 8 eps. Weft: Variable on your weft

DIMENSIONS
Width in the woven length under tension 41" (used for circumference finished size 1 hat, about 5" around)

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