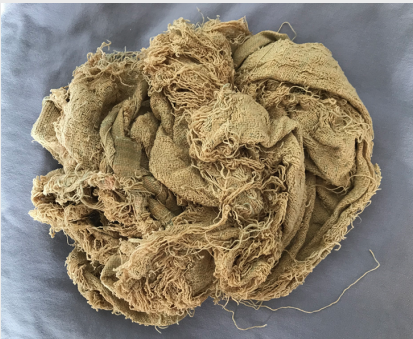


THRUMS

President's Message

The Shoddy Book Group has been having some lively discussions on the textile industry and fabric recycling. Beginning in the 1800s, shoddy (yarn or fabric) was made from shredded woolen rags and used to make new garments, blankets, mattress stuffing, and more. No scrap of fabric was wasted.

When my children were born, long before I started weaving, I gave them each a machine-made cotton blanket. The beloved 'blankies' went everywhere—to parks, to the beach, on trips—for many years. Eventually, they became piles of shredded fibers that looked much like the piles of rags that were recycled into shoddy cloth. Knowing the color and smell of the wash water that came off these blankies gives me new respect for the rag pickers of those earlier times! I have just finished weaving cotton baby blankets for my niece's twin boys. I hope these blankets suffer the same fate!



The remains of a well-loved blankie.

Other things in my home are also worn out from long use. The 20 year-old flannel duvet cover on my bed is now threadbare with numerous holes. Although I won't pick it apart to re-spin into yarn, I will repurpose it as weft for a rug for the guild challenge

Although it can be disheartening to think of all the waste going on around the world, I like to think that maybe I can help a tiny bit in my corner by using my belongings until they end up in the scrap basket and repurposing fabric and thrums to satisfy my weaving habit!

Happy recycling and weaving!
Rachel

Guild Officers 2022-2024

President

Rachel Abbott

1st Vice President

Nancy Gaus

2nd Vice President

Sue Szczotka

Secretary

Donna Connery

Treasurer

Donna Johnson-Brown

Mission

The mission of the Syracuse Weavers Guild is to stimulate an interest in the art and craft of weaving, achieve a high standard of excellence and help encourage all persons interested in weaving.

Looming Questions - Collaborative Advice by SWG Members | Rachel Abbott

Dear Tabby,

2022 has been a great weaving year, especially now that we are able to gather together more freely, take in-person workshops, and share with other weavers. What is everyone looking forward to next year? What are your weaving resolutions for 2023?

–Carpe Annum

Dear Carpe,

Although it has been said that more than half of all resolutions fail, I think we can do better. We have our guild to support, inspire, and encourage us. Based on the responses below, 2023 looks like it will be a very productive and busy year for our weavers!

–Tabby

Nancy G.: I don't travel much, but I want to do more. I also want to be more productive in my weaving. I have made a resolution to get out there and attend all three of the upcoming regional conferences—MAFA, NEWS, and EGFLC. It's kind of a big deal for me. This one decision should check off two of my resolutions, and I'm very excited about that.

Donna C.: In the COVID years, weaving was more or less a safe haven for me. So I'm looking forward to trying new things and being more adventurous in my weaving in 2023. I'm really excited that the guild is pursuing exhibits and sales this year; both are on my list of things to try in 2023.

Sue S.: I am very much looking forward to the in-person conferences at NEWS and MAFA in 2023, especially checking out the new venue for NEWS. My biggest plans involve much rep weaving to prepare for a solo show in the summer. I also want to make some explorations in using wool which I have mostly avoided in the past. I think that is plenty to keep me busy!

Andie: I have gotten side tracked for the last several months by house renovation projects and a big yard clean up, and my weaving area has become cluttered and uninviting, my looms fairly silent. Last week, I cleared what I could out of the space, covered the looms, and started painting the space. I decided that a more inviting space would be most inspirational in the new year, and it would get me excited to get moving on some projects. For 2023, my goal is to achieve at least one completed project a month (measurable and doable) and have both my rug loom and my LeClerc loom warped with a project at all times. Here is to a productive 2023!

Joyce: I'm looking forward to attending an in-person weaving conference—EGLFC in October 2023. I'm hoping some other guild members join me. My weaving resolution is to weave some Tencel scarves to use up some of that stash!

Mauri: After a fairly productive weaving year in 2022 (I held myself to a schedule of finishing a project on each loom for each quarter, joined two online club projects, and finally found a good way to warp my floor loom!), I want to turn most of my attention to rugs (rag and wool). I was inspired by the guild presentation on rugs, and rug-making was what first drew my attention to weaving. I also made two scarves that I sold after someone saw one I made for myself and asked, so I want to try to do more, to make a few dollars, perhaps, but also because I learned a lot by making several scarves one after the other. It was fun! I definitely want to do more Zanshi, because it really inspired me. I was only able to make one small piece before I had to take a break from my crafts, but I hope to do more! In fact, maybe I will end up doing Zanshi rugs and/or scarves!

Susan: In 2023, I plan to focus on improvement. My aim is to better understand structures and how they can be used, as well as practice to improve technique.

Rachel: My first goal of 2023 is to clean and reassemble my new-to-me 8 shaft loom! Having used mostly cotton yarns in my weavings thus far, I want to branch out into other fibers, such as Tencel and wool. My record-keeping resolution is to pay more attention to picks per inch to get more consistent results.

Rosey: To make a strap for my guitar (long-time goal), now that I have identified the core of the design. Also, to use the big bag of chenille that Darlene left with me.

Please send any looming questions for future columns to Tabby.

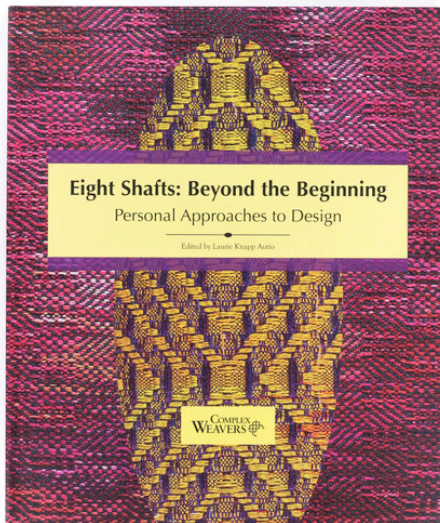
Book Review | Elaine DuBois

Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning, Personal Approaches to Design. Edited by Laurie Knapp Autio.

The title of Complex Weavers' newest book pays homage to Wanda Shelp's book *Eight Shafts: A Place to Begin* to whom this book was dedicated. It has contributions of 72 weavers, from nine countries. The weavers include both professional and hobbyists with weaving experience from three years to more than 60 years. Their educational and professional backgrounds are diverse, representing a broad range of styles.

Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning is a soft cover, 280 page book loaded with color photographs. It is divided into 2 parts. Part I: Designing on Eight Shafts starts with straight lines that include 16 designs of "squares & rectangles", "diamonds & zigzags", and "complex straight designs". It contains eight designs of curved lines which include "circles & ovals" and "flowing & complex". There are six designs classified as "stripes of structure" and finally eight designs of "figures and more".

Part II: Extending to Eight-shaft Components includes eight designs of 8-shaft drafts as profiles, seven designs of 8-shaft blocks or sections, four designs of layers, three designs that are interleaved or networked, three designs that are 8-tie weaves and nine that use graphic designs on shaft looms, draw looms and Jacquard looms.



What I liked about this book is how different it is from any other weaving book I have seen. It encourages the reader to explore weaving design. Each individual approaches the process differently. It takes each project from inspiration, to weaving information, to tips. All the designs are creative, but not all turned out exactly as originally envisioned. There is enough information on each project that you could recreate them but this is not a "recipe" book. It is a magical journey of inspiration that had me thinking of different approaches to design. From beginner weavers to master crafts people, there is something for anyone interested in designing their own weavings.

Syracuse Weavers Guild 2022-2023 Programs | Nancy Gaus

1/7	Selling Your Handwovens
	<p>How many members have considered selling their creative work? You might be surprised at the answer. Many have thought about it, but the process of taking a finished piece and marking it "sold" can be a daunting one to the uninitiated. We will explore many facets of this topic with our resident experts in selling handwoven creations. Whether you just want to dip your toe in the water or dive right in, our presenters will have the answers and encouragement you need.</p> <p>Presenters: Barb Decker, Joyce Lock, Sue Szczotka, Susan Mehringer Facilitator: Andie Scamehorn</p>
2/4	Floatwork/Overshot: How It Works and How To Play With It
	<p>Overshot/Floatwork is a historical, three element, two shuttle, twill-based weave structure known by several names. The program will explore its relation to twill, how patterns have been derived, and various methods of notating the threading and treadling. We will also look at the different ways to use this versatile weave structure.</p> <p>Presenter: Nancy Smothergill</p>
3/4	Krokbragd
	<p>Krokbragd is a thick, 3-shaft weft-faced structure marked by colorful and intricate patterns. This Swedish boundweave is known for its bold pops of color and makes beautiful rugs, cushion covers, table linens, and wall hangings. It's fun to weave on a variety of looms, and spontaneously designed patterns can be both playful and striking. Come and see what all the excitement is about!</p> <p>Presenters: Eileen Kloss and Nancy Gaus</p>
4/1	Presentation of the Guild Challenge
	<p>Bring the pieces you created for the Guild challenge, and tell us what inspired you. What challenges did you face, and what new techniques did you explore?</p> <p>Facilitator: Rachel Abbott</p>
5/6	Annual Potluck Luncheon and Towel Exchange
	<p>The luncheon will be at the home of Nancy Smothergill.</p>

All remaining 2022-2023 programs will be in the gym.

New Member | Tammy Peck

Hello! My name is Tammy Peck. I just joined your guild and am hoping to learn about weaving. I have been sewing since I was seven; my first sewing project was a red gingham apron. I thought it was boring, so I immediately did a simple cross stitch on it. That started 60 years of sewing, knitting, embroidery, quilting, rug hooking, basket weaving, painting and ceramic dolls. I have generally used natural fibers in my projects, so I went to a fiber show at Beaver Lake. I saw a loom and became curious, but it has taken me three years to decide if I should try weaving. This will be my winter project. With the leaves turning beautiful colors, we all know the snow will arrive shortly. I am gathering my supplies and preparing to start. It is a venture I believe will be rewarding. See you soon. Tammy



November Meeting Recap | Sue Szczotka

Make Time for Tassels
November 5, 2022

At our November meeting, we all enjoyed the program "Make Time for Tassels" presented by Donna Connery and Elaine DuBois. This was a fun and lively hands-on program where we had the opportunity to learn to make many types of tassels (who knew there were so many styles?) and other passementerie. In addition to a slide presentation with examples and instructions, multiple workstations were set up with complete printed directions for different tassels plus equipment to help produce them. There were also abundant samples and a loom to try weaving fringe. Everyone had a great time and went home with some beautiful tassels!



December Meeting Recap | Eileen Kloss

Weaving by Design with Kelly Marshall
December 3, 2022

Our December meeting program was the gift of a Zoom Talk by businesswoman and designer Kelly Marshall of Custom Woven Interiors, facilitated by Nancy Smothergill. In her slide presentation, Kelly described her journey into creating her glorious woven designs and building her successful company which started with, and is still maintained by, rep weave. By focusing on the rep weave structure Kelly creates multiple differing products from the same warp. Design and color planning for her custom design projects are inspired by varied sources such as art pieces, architectural detailing, furniture or fabrics. Throughout her presentation, Kelly Marshall's woven designs revealed her love of clean, geometric, Scandinavian designs.

Donna C. followed up with Kelly on a group purchase of her book, *Custom Woven Interiors Bringing Color and Design Home with Rep Weave*. Kelly graciously offered to waive shipping costs for a bulk order; look for an email with details, and let Donna C. know if you are interested in purchasing a copy. This book will be added to the guild library.



SWG Membership Booklet Update | Andie Scamehorn

Please note these listings have been updated:

Nancy Gaus - phone number

Jayshri Prasad: email address

Please note our new Members:

Tammy Peck

Lynne Kvinnesland

Berit Nelson



Sample from "Supplemental Warps" workshop by Deb Essen (Nancy G)

SWG Study Groups | Sue Szczotka

For those of you not familiar with the study groups, they are small groups with a specific weaving interest that they would like to explore in more depth with other like-minded guild members. Participants gather either in person or via Zoom at times and intervals that the group decides on outside of regular guild meetings. If there are any topics in which you would like to make a deep dive with other interested parties, please contact Sue S., and we will see about arranging a new study group.

Handweaving Museum

Helping Hands

Donna Connery

The smiles tell you good things are happening in Clayton. Our first two volunteer efforts were to label/secure boxes (October) and then relocate the boxes within the museum collections to improve organization and accessibility (November). The next effort is to help the curator accession the weaving collections. Planning is underway and we hope to get to work on this in January.



Elaine, Rosey, Nancy G, and Harriett (TIAC) taking a well deserved break in the action of helping the Handweaving Museum reorganize its collections.

Tapestry

Donna Movsoovich

The Tapestry Study Group has monthly meetings on Zoom on the last Tuesday of the month. (2:00 pm). We are reading and studying Rebecca Mezoff's book, *The Art of Tapestry Weaving*. We have good discussions and share advice and ideas. This group is a wonderful resource for those weavers interested in tapestry.

Small Bands

Nancy Smothergill

The Small Bands group continues to meet after the monthly guild programs and business meetings. Presently, we are working on continuous warping of tablets to make a warp for the tablet woven calligraphy project. For those who still want practice at winding a continuous warp, we will focus on that at the January meeting. Otherwise, members are beginning to work on weaving the words they graphed.



Tablet woven dog leash in 5/2 cotton (Rachel)

2023 Weaving Conferences | Joyce Lock

[New England Weavers' Seminar](#) (NEWS) is a biennial four day event that usually takes place during the month of July in odd-numbered years. The 2023 conference will be held July 20-23 at Worcester State University, Worcester, MA. Registration begins Spring 2023.

The [MidAtlantic Fiber Association](#) (MAFA) represents and supports a community of fiber arts guilds in the greater Mid-Atlantic region with the goal of promoting fiber arts education. MAFA is a non-profit, all-volunteer group best known for its biennial conference held mid summer in odd-numbered years. The 2023 conference will be held June 22-25 at Millersville University, Millersville, PA. Registration begins February 4th for MAFA members, February 18th for non-members.

[Eastern Great Lakes Fiber Conference](#) (EGLFC) is a biennial conference organized and put on by fiber art guilds in the greater Eastern Great Lakes area. It is held in odd-numbered years at the Chautauqua Institution in western New York. The 2023 conference is October 6-9, registration begins April 1st. It's not too early to mark your calendar for this inspiring weekend of weaving, sewing handwovens, felting, embellishments, tapestry, and spinning on the gorgeous grounds of the Chautauqua Institution. In addition to workshops, there will be a vendor evening, banquet and fashion show, an exhibit hall, time for colorful walks through the Chautauqua grounds, relaxing by the lake or just plain napping at day's end.

You might also make new fiber friends from other guilds and get to know your own guild members better, as you sip a cup of tea or glass of wine with feet stretched out in a cozy nook in the dorm.

EGLFC Workshops

Eva Comacho Textural Felting
evacamacho.com

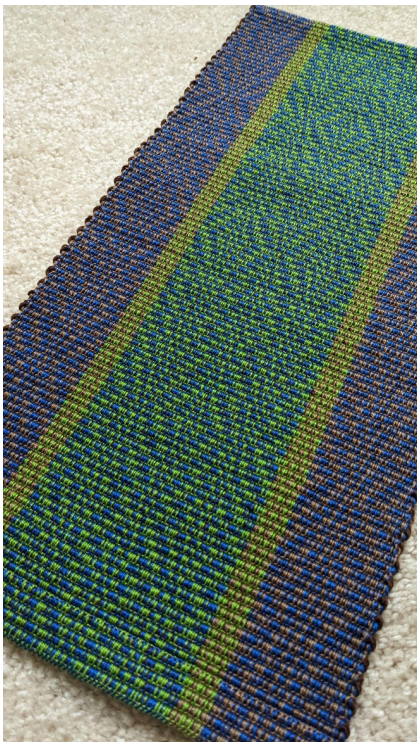
Joan Berner Sewing with Handwovens
joanbernertextiles.com

Sara Bixler Lace and Surface Embellishment
redstoneglen.com/instructors/sara-bixler

Rebecca Smith Free Form Tapestry
rebeccasmithtapestry.com

Amy Tyler Spin Knit Nexus
facebook.com/amy.tyler.125, stonesockfibers.com

Janney Simpson Deflected Double Weave:
Connections, Layers and Pockets
handwovenmagazine.com/idea-gallery-layers-of-design



Sample from "One Warp, Many Structures" workshop by Denise Kovnat (Nancy G)

Refreshments | Lois Koenig

The Refreshments volunteers provide a snack or dessert and hot water. Members should bring their own lunch, utensils, mug, etc. We will not have access to the kitchen, so there will be no access to the refrigerator, utensils, etc.

Please bring any other questions or concerns to Lois Koenig. Duties:

- Know your day. Lois emails a reminder about a week before the meeting.
- Arrange for someone to take your place if you cannot make it and notify Lois.
- Communicate with your partner.
- Provide dessert.

- Arrive early to prepare the table and hot water.

- Clean up the food area.

- If you notice that items are needed in the supply baskets, let Lois know.

Refreshment Volunteers 2023:

1/7: Nancy Gaus
Valerie Kaiser

2/4: Eileen Kloss
Andie Scamehorn

3/4: Rachel Abbott
Linda Miller

4/1: Sue Szczotka
Sally Meyers

Committees

Booklets

Nancy Smothergill

Refreshments

Lois Koenig

Program

Nancy Gaus

Calling Committee

Carolyn Wolfson

Library

Donna Connery

Meg Welch

Website Administrator

Joyce Lock

Membership

Andie Scamehorn

Equipment Coordinator

Joyce Lock

Special Projects

Sue Szczotka

Newsletter

Susan Mehringer



2022 Overshot Christmas towel with its French Twist tassel (Donna C)

Membership | Andie Scamehorn

We welcome new members of any skill level! Our Guild membership runs May-May, but you can join at any time.

Dues: Regular: \$30. Senior (over 62): \$25

Note: Memberships are not prorated.

To pay online, send the dues via PayPal to membershipSWG@gmail.com. Select "send money to a friend" so the Guild does not pay the transfer fee. Renewing members, please include any changes to your contact information in the PayPal "What's this payment for" field. New members, please include all your contact information in this form.

To pay by check, make checks payable to Syracuse Weavers Guild and mail to:

Andie Scamehorn

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____



Baby blankets for twins: twill and basket weave in 5/2 cotton with tablet woven name tags in sewing thread. (Rachel)

Syracuse Weavers Guild Looms For Rent | Joyce Lock

Rental fee is \$2 per week. If interested in borrowing one of these looms and it is available, please contact the person listed in the table

Description	Current Use	Contact	Notes
Kyra 22" 4S table loom	On Loan	Tammy Peck	
Kyra 22" 4S table loom	Travelling Loom	Sue Szczotka	Hand Manipulated Techniques
Peacock 12" 2S loom #1	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjmandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2S loom #2	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjmandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2S loom #3	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjmandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Inkle loom	Available	Joyce Lock	
Harrisville 22" 4S floor loom	Available	Joyce Lock	https://harrisville.com/products/22-floor-loom-4-harness-6-treadle Picture shows 6 treadles, this one has 4 direct tie treadles. Not easily transported
Nilus LeClerc 12" 8S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	Looks like Structo
Purrington Norris 12S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	http://www.purringtonlooms.com/tablelooms.htm
LeClerc Dorothy 15" 8S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	http://www.camillavalleyfarm.com/pics/leclerc/ldor007.jpg Picture shows levers all on right hand side of loom. This loom has second set of shafts (5-8) located on left hand side.



Thank you Joyce for sharing your home with all the guild looms!

SWG Web site: <https://www.syracuseweaversguild.org>
 SWG Library catalog: <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/syracuseweaversguild>
 SWG Ravelry group: <https://www.ravelry.com/groups/syracuse-weavers-guild>