

THRUMS

President's Message

Dear Weavers,

We just completed our December tablet weaving program which originated as a spark of an idea from the planning committee, was open to participation by all guild members, facilitated by a passionate study group, led by a respected mentor, and supported by everyone weaving alongside each other at the table. I come away from these collaborative days of fellowship refreshed, with renewed inspiration from our circle of weaving. From the well-seasoned to the fresh-picked, our body of weavers offers a network of support to any who join in. I don't think that feeling is unique to me. When surveyed about what members value most in our guild, the predominant responses revolved around topics of fellowship: mentoring, learning, show and tell, and community outreach. So please keep joining in to give and get the most from our guild. The opportunities are endless when we dream them up together!

Happy Weaving!

Donna C.



Nancy Smothergill's beautiful Rep weave sample and placemats from a recent Kelly Marshall workshop.

Guild Officers 2024-2026

President

Donna Connery

1st Vice President

Eileen Kloss

2nd Vice President

Elaine DuBois

Secretary

Valerie Kaiser

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.

SWG Study Groups | Elaine DuBois

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 Elaine.

Tapestry (Donna Movsoovich)

The Tapestry Study Group meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm via Zoom. This year we have an open format. We gather together and share ideas and our tapestries. We ask questions and help each other resolve issues. We also share resources and workshops. Anyone is welcome to join us! We send out a zoom invitation every month.

Small Bands (Nancy Smothergill)

The Small Bands group meets monthly following our business meetings. New members are welcome. We are looking forward to a few more members who were intrigued by tablet weaving at the December meeting.

Clear Path for Veterans (Elaine DuBois)

The purpose of this group is to create a weaving program for veterans and families at Clear Path for Veterans. The first program, weaving an inkle band key fob, will be held on February 22, 2025.

Shoddy Book Club (Nancy Smothergill)

The next book for The Shoddy Book club is *What This Awl Means: Feminist Archaeology at a Wahpeton Dakota Village* by Janet D. Spencer. We are waiting for members to acquire and read the book. Date for the next Zoom meeting is to be determined. You can always join in by contacting Nancy Smothergill.

Handweaving Museum Helping Hands (Donna Connery)

This group is currently on hiatus.

Playing w/ Profiles (Nancy Smothergill, Joyce Lock)

The fourth meeting of this study group was on December 9th when we looked at unit and other weave structures to plug into profile drafts. Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 27. Stay tuned.



Donna Connery shows us one of the best uses for old family textiles with her "Generations of Genes Jeans" twill rag rug.

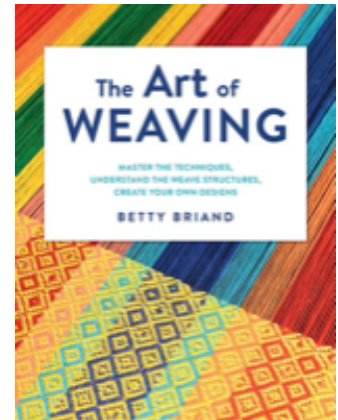
Book Review | Donna Johnson Brown

The Art of Weaving by Betty Briand

This book is a comprehensive look at weaving that has something for everyone from beginning to accomplished weaver. It is easy to read with many diagrams, photos, calculations and clearly written text.

Briand divides the book into three sections: Master the Techniques, Understand the Weave Structures and Create Your Own Designs. You can tell that she loves the entire process and delights in sharing it with others.

For a more detailed review of the book, see *Handwoven*, Fall 2024 pages 8-9, or check it out from the SWG library. You may want a copy of your own!



November Meeting Recap | Laureen Whitney Field Trip: Alling Coverlet Museum, Palmyra

On November 9th we were privileged to have a wonderful and very knowledgeable hostess / curator / guide for our tour of the Alling Coverlet Museum in Palmyra, N.Y. The early overshoot and double weaves are beautiful and the jacquards are stunning. The progression of developing the jacquard process is fascinating using punch cards to maneuver multiple extra warp ends. While the centers are often the same due to sharing punch cards, the borders are different and individualized. I was fascinated with the borders so here are a couple of border pictures to enjoy.



December Meeting Recap | Linda Miller

Hocus Pocus, Cards are the Focus

For me, this Hocus Pocus Cards are the Focus program that was held on December 7th during our regular meeting date, was very educational and informative. After trying to card weave myself a year ago, I ended up in a knotted mess. Nancy S, Eileen, and Donna C were able to untangle all my problems. The pre-assembled kits were great and many thanks for all the work.

We were provided with great handouts and were given many helpful tips. The best tip was keeping the cards together with knitting stitch holders or pipe cleaners when not weaving. The other best tip is tension on the threads.

The step by step set up and visual aids provided on threading were very helpful. There also was individual help that was very helpful. This was a great program, and I went home from this program with not just a better understanding, but ready to plan and make a project.



Weaving of Norway | Karen Smith

Please see the attachment to enjoy Karen's photos from her travels to Norway where she visited the Lofotr Vikingmuseum.

Syracuse Weavers Making Waves

Donna C will have 10 prayer flags hanging in an outdoors labyrinth at the Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix, AZ in January-May 2025. The exhibit is part of *Toward 2050*, a community art project to raise awareness of issues related to climate change. <https://www.toward2050az.com/>



Upcoming Fiber Events

January 11, 2025 Saturday 10am-4pm	<u>Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Roc Day</u>	Parish Hall All Saints Catholic Church 347 Ridge Road Lansing, NY 14882
February 16, 2025 Sunday 10am-4pm	<u>Tina Turner Knits - Fiber Arts Festival</u>	RIT Inn and Conference Center 5257 W Henrietta Rd Henrietta, NY 14467

Library | Donna Connery

We added *The Art of Weaving* by Betty Briand to our library collections this month. It is featured in Thrums with a book review this month. Other additions include *New Dyer* by Sally Vinroot, *Weaves and Pattern Drafting* by John Tovey, *Ikat Technique* by Jackie Battenfield, *Designing for Weaving* by Carole Kurtz, and *Tapestry Weaving* by Kristen Glasbrook.

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog/syracuseweaversguild>

Syracuse Weavers Guild 2023-2024 Programs | Eileen Kloss

1/4

Fancy Weaving: A figured coverlet, a Jacquard Machine, and the process of recovering knowledge.

Join the jacquard conversation with Justin Squizzero, as he joins our in-person meeting via Zoom from Vermont. He will share his handweaving journey, detail the history of his Jacquard equipment, how the loom works, and the entire process of recreating a coverlet woven in 1830.

Presenter: Justin Squizzero,
Director Marshfield School
<https://www.marshfieldschoolofweaving.org/>
and Burrough's Garrett blogger

Facilitator: Donna Connery

2/1

Design Using the Fibonacci Sequence

The Fibonacci sequence is a set of steadily increasing numbers that can be found in nature and is appealing to the human eye. It is found in flower petal patterns, whorls of a pinecone, and leaves on stems. We'll explore these numbers and ratios to create design patterns to use in weaving and other fiber arts. No need to worry about complicated math.

Bring colored pencils and graph paper if you have them; we'll have extra if you don't. If you prefer instead to do the exercises with yarn wraps, bring firm cardboard (2" x 6-8" strips), tape, scissors and yarn.

Presenter: Joyce Lock

3/1

Rigid Heddle Loom/Weft-Float Lace

This program will cover an overview of the rigid heddle loom including direct warping, use of two heddles, pick-up sticks, and the types of projects that can be created using a rigid heddle loom. We'll dive a little deeper into structure and technique by discussing how to utilize weft-floats to generate various lace patterns on the rigid heddle loom (drafts will be provided for floor/table looms as well), including 3/1, 5/1, and 7/1 laces in addition to other variations.

Presenter: Valerie Kaiser

4/5

Guild Challenge Big Reveal

Join in the excitement as we conclude the annual challenge by revealing what each weaver designed, wove, considered, and learned along the way. Even if you didn't finish what you set out to do, be sure to bring your enthusiasm for learning and any questions you may have about blocks and profile drafts to this always amazing show and tell!

Presenters: SWG Weavers

Facilitator: Donna Connery

5/3

Annual Luncheon and Towel Exchange

Shall we kick it up a notch and add a twist to the towel exchange? When you bring your handwoven towel to pass along to another member, include a recipe that either inspired it or reminds you of your towel in some way. The connection between the towel and recipe is yours to decide. But can't you see pairing your favorite honey cake recipe with a honeycomb towel? This year we can keep it simple and just exchange them with each other. But maybe next year we go wild and create a cookbook!

All Programs will be in the Community Room at the church with the exception of the November field trip, December hands-on program, and the May luncheon.



Chris Haefner's impressive tiny knitting samples.



Paulette Quinn amazes us again with creative uses for her mother's woven placemats

Web Sites and Social Media

SWG Website - Joyce Lock - <https://www.syracuseweaversguild.org>

Visit the website to see the guild calendar, newsletters, a description of the annual guild challenge, activities such as study groups, the FAQs webpage, and a list of resources for weavers.

Instagram - Valerie Kaiser - [syracuse_weavers_guild](#)

Use Instagram to promote the guild and show off our accomplishments. Valerie shows how to post our photos and announcements in a quick 12-minute talk: <https://youtu.be/zCUWrwG6eBk>

SWG Library catalog - Donna Connery - <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/syracuseweaversguild>

SWG has a library available for members to borrow weaving books, magazines, and DVDs. All you need to do is:

- Access our catalog on LibraryThing using the URL above
- Search our catalog (not all of LibraryThing) on keyword to see what we have
- Let Donna know by the Friday before meetings what you'd like

Ravelry group - Donna Connery - <https://www.ravelry.com/groups/syracuse-weavers-guild>

Post questions, challenge discussion topics, and photos of your projects.

Halcyon Yarn - Joyce Lock - <https://halcyonyarn.com/guild/>

When placing an order with Halcyon Yarn, note that you are a member of SWG (by phone, or in the Comments box for web orders), to net SWG 5% of the sale.

SWG Video Archive - Nancy Gaus - Link to playlist is available by request.

Recorded videos of our past monthly programs are available for self study or for study groups. Available to members only.

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	Available	Joyce Lock	
Kyra 22" 4S table loom	Travelling Loom	Elaine DuBois	Krokbragd
Peacock 12" 2S loom #1	Available	Joyce Lock	http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2S loom #2	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2S loom #3	Available	Nancy Smothergill	http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Inkle loom	Available	Joyce Lock	
Purrrington Norris 14" 12S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	http://www.purrringtonlooms.com/tablelooms.htm
LeClerc Dorothy Green Model 12" 8S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	https://www.camillavalleyfarm.com/weave/leclerchistory.htm Scroll down to find table looms.
LeClerc Dorothy 15" 8S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	http://www.camillavalleyfarm.com/pics/leclerc/ldor007.jpg
LeClerc Jano 22" 4S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	https://www.camillavalleyfarm.com/weave/leclerchistory.htm Scroll down to find table looms.
Schacht 25" rigid heddle loom	Available	Joyce Lock	https://schachtspindle.com/products/flip-rigid-heddle-looms

Refreshments | Sally Meyers

The Refreshments volunteers provide a snack or dessert. Members should bring their own lunch, utensils, mug, etc. Please bring any questions or concerns to [Sally Meyers](#).

Duties:

- Know your day. Sally will email a reminder about a week before the meeting.
- Arrange for someone to take your place if you cannot make it and notify Sally.
- Communicate with your partner.
- Provide dessert.
- Arrive early to prepare the table and hot water.
- Clean up the food area.

Volunteers:

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

Jan: Roberta Mou, Meg Welch

Feb: Eileen Kloss, Valerie Kaiser

Mar: Linda Miller, Nancy Gaus

Apr: Sally Meyers, Susan Szczotka

THANK YOU all for volunteering!!

Membership | Andie Scamehorn

Our membership year runs from May to May, but we welcome new members any time! You can join by sending me the form below with your dues or via Paypal.

Dues: Regular: \$30. Senior (over 62): \$25. Joining after January: \$15.

To pay online, sign into your PayPal account and send the dues to membershipSWG@gmail.com. *Select "send money to a friend" so the Guild does not pay the transfer fee.* Please include all your contact information in this field.

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

Andie Scamehorn
8374 Salt Springs Road
Manlius, NY 13104

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

(For new members) What skill level do you consider yourself? _____

(For new members) How did you hear about the SWG? _____

Committees

Booklets

Nancy Smothergill

Meeting Tech Support

Nancy Gaus

Sample Book Curator

Eileen Kloss

Communications

Meg Welch

Membership

Andie Scamehorn

Social Media

Valerie Kaiser

Equipment Coordinator

Joyce Lock

Newsletter

Susan Mehringer

Special Projects

Elaine DuBois

Library

Donna Connery

Program

Eileen Kloss

Website Administrator

Joyce Lock

Refreshments

Sally Meyers

Images from Lofotr Vikingmuseum, Lofoten Islands, Norway

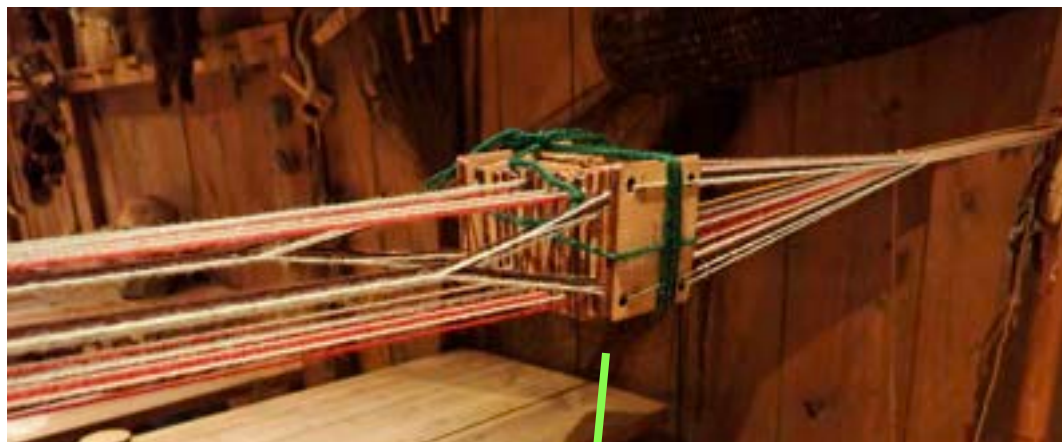
From Karen



This past August my husband and I had the opportunity to travel to Norway where we visited Lofotr Vikingmuseum. And I thought you might enjoy some of the weaving related images. Above right is pictured a reconstruction of a large longhouse, one meant for a leader. This is where many of the exhibits are housed.



Card Weaving - Viking Style!



The museum takes visitors back about 1000 years. Various crafts are demonstrated there and visitors often get a chance to try them out as well. I was delighted to find examples of card weaving.

Horizontal loom for weaving fabric

Many of the basics of weaving are the same.



Note the warp threads at the back of the loom as well as the holders that the pole rests upon. The back warp threads were fastened to the pole. When the pole was pulled forward, it was placed in the curve at the end of those same holders creating a shed for the shuttle to pass through.

The writing on the small piece of wood resting on the pole is not a weaving tool. It reads "Please do not touch!"



“Shuttle” stored in a hole in the loom frame.



The warp threads at the back of the loom were tied to a pole so that they could be moved forward to create a shed and then released to create a shed with the opposite warp threads.



The pole holders could be adjusted by placing them in different holes as the weaving progressed down the loom.



“Swords” were placed into the shed and used to beat the weft threads together.



Rocks with holes were used to keep the warp in tension at the bottom of the loom.