

THRUMS

President's Message | Sue Szczotka

Greetings Friends!

I hope you all have been having a fun and productive summer, whether or not weaving was on your agenda!

As we slide into fall, it is always wonderful to resume guild meetings and see old and new friends, all with the same interest in playing with fiber. Where else can you go where people will not look at you crossed-eyed when you mention that you can't decide what sett to use for your warp or lament that you don't have enough shafts for that draft? We are your people and we speak the same language. Whether it is small bands or tapestry or rigid heddle or floor and table looms, we all have this insatiable desire to create with fiber.

Regardless of your skill level or productivity, meetings are a great way to learn about, celebrate, and enjoy the wonderful world of weaving. So, take a look at the exciting line-up of programs that we have planned and mark your calendars! I hope to see you there!

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.

Guild Officers 2026-2028

President

Sue Szczotka

1st Vice President

Valerie Kaiser

2nd Vice President

Paulette Quinn

Secretary

Emily Lennox

Treasurer

Donna Johnson-Brown



Basketweave towel by Nancy Gaus from the May towel exchange. Woven from 8/2 cotton and based on a pattern from The Rogue Weaver.

SWG Study Groups and Special Projects | Paulette Quinn

Study groups are small groups of members that share a common weaving interest. Participants gather either in person or via Zoom at times and intervals that the group decides on outside of regular guild meetings. For more information contact the group leader listed for your particular group of interest. Should there be another topic in which you would like to make a deep dive with other interested parties, let Paulette know and we will see about arranging a new group.

Small Bands

(Nancy Smothergill)

The small bands group will be focusing on the Baltic Pick-Up technique for band weaving to start off the year. For the past couple years we have focused on Tablet Weaving, but are thinking it would be good to explore another way of weaving narrow bands. Anyone is welcome to join us. We meet following the regular guild business meeting, staying in the lounge at the church. If you would like more information about what Baltic pick-up entails, email Nancy Smothergill.

Tapestry

(Donna Movsovich)

This study group meets monthly via Zoom every fourth Tuesday at 2:00-3:00 pm. We discuss the art of weaving tapestry. Everyone is welcome to come, whether it is for one session or as a regular.

Rigid Heddle

(Valerie Kaiser)

The group has been on hiatus through the summer but we are currently seeking a new facilitator. We have traditionally met on the third Monday of the month via zoom at 6:30 but this can be adjusted to the preferences of the group. The group has all experience levels and is a welcoming place to discuss technique.

Ada Dietz

(Chris Haefner)

The Ada Dietz Study Group is going strong! For our third year, we've decided to recreate some of the old Ada Dietz patterns in her Algebraic Expressions

book of projects. At our last meeting we discussed how interpreting 90 year old weaving patterns written in 1940s nomenclature from not always clear copies is not as easy as we thought it might be. So we decided our next meeting is a field trip to the Thousand Island Arts Center to see samples woven by Complex Weavers following design criteria in Algebraic Expressions. To add to the fun, it will give those of us who have not been there a chance to see the new building. We'll let you know how our trip turns out.

TIAC Helping Hands

(Donna Connery)

It's official: the new Thousand Islands Arts Center held its grand opening in June with hundreds of people in attendance. In the lead up to the event, our team was there to select, repair, prep, and hang the weaving exhibit in the new Sonja Wahl gallery which will continuously highlight pieces from the permanent collections of the Handweaving Museum. Below Nancy Gaus and Donna Connery stand beside a deflected double weave skirt and shawl woven by Ruth Holroyd. Nearby hangs a coverlet of handwoven squares created by weavers from 28 states to celebrate America's 250th anniversary. The coverlet is the centerpiece of the opening exhibit, *Weave Across America*. The team will continue its work at the museum this fall by completing the inventory and updating the searchable database. We are also looking forward to the guild's October field trip to Clayton so we can share the new arts center, weaving library, and handwovens collection.



Nancy Gaus and Donna Connery stand beside a deflected double weave skirt and shawl woven by Ruth Holroyd.

Traveling Loom | Paulette Quinn

The traveling loom offers the opportunity to explore a new structure or technique on a pre-warped guild loom. For a nominal fee to cover supplies, you will get complete instructions with the loom that gets passed around to interested guild members. The current selection, a delightful Overshot Cubed Sampler, is

continuing its travels with just a few more weavers to go. The next structure or technique we'll be weaving is yet to be determined. Something new you've been wanting to try? Suggestions welcomed!

Upcoming Fiber Events

September 12	<u>Little Lakes Fiber Fair</u>	Hemlock, NY
September 12-13	<u>Endless Mountain Fiber Festival</u>	New Milford, PA
September 12-13	<u>Garden State Sheep & Fiber Festival</u>	Ringoes, NJ
September 19-20	<u>Adirondack Fiber Festival</u>	Greenwich, NY
September 20	<u>Freeville Fiber Festival</u>	Freeville, NY
September 26	<u>Western New York Fiber Arts Festival</u>	East Aurora, NY
September 26-27	<u>Lehigh Valley Fiber Festival</u>	Allentown, PA
October 3-4	<u>Vermont Sheep & Wool Show</u>	Turnbridge, VT
October 10-11	<u>Little York Fall Fiber Arts Festival</u>	Preble, NY
October 17-18	<u>NYS Sheep and Wool Festival</u>	Rhinebeck, NY

Committees

Booklets

Nancy Smothergill

Communications

Meg Welch

Equipment Coordinator

Joyce Lock

Library

Donna Connery

Meeting Space Liaison

Lois Koenig

Meeting Tech Support

Nancy Gaus

Membership

Roberta Mou

Newsletter

Susan Mehringer

Program

Valerie Kaiser

Refreshments

Sally Meyers

Sample Book Curator

Eileen Kloss

Social Media

Valerie Kaiser

Special Projects

Paulette Quinn

Website Administrator

Joyce Lock

Conference Announcement | Nancy Gaus

Announcing the 2027 EGLFC Conference in beautiful Chautauqua, New York!

We are thrilled to announce the return of EGLFC to the historic grounds of Chautauqua Institution. Newly renovated dining and lodging at the Greene Family Commons will complement the spacious classrooms at the Turner Community Center and provide a welcoming home for next year's conference. Two wet techniques, dyeing and felting, will return to the workshop lineup which includes five other class offerings ranging from multishaft weaving and tapestry to sewing and spinning. Syracuse Weavers Guild is proud to be one of the original founding guilds of EGLFC and we have two guild members on the conference board this year!



Save the date, October 8-11, 2027. For more details, see our newly designed website: <https://eglfc.org/>

Library | Donna Connery

<https://syracuseweaversguild.org/guild-library/>

Welcome back from your summer fun. This is a time when many of us are starting our inventory of fall projects and contemplating holiday gift giving. The resources in our guild library are a good place to start or pursue an existing idea. One place to look for inspiration could be in one of our subscriptions. Weft, Handwoven, and Shuttle, Spindle, & Dyepot (through our HGA membership) all have ready-to-weave projects that can get you started right away. So check the guild book catalog on LibraryThing (link above). Then, get your requests in to me by the Thursday before a meeting and I'll bring your selections with me to the meeting.



2026 CNY Fiber Arts Festival Viv Fulton Memorial Weaving Competition Joyce Lock, Sue Szczotka

Many thanks to the SWG members who participated in the Viv Fulton Memorial Weaving Competition at the June 2026 CNY Fiber Arts Festival. Congratulations to the following winners from the guild:

- Donna Connery for her double gradient dish towel that took 2nd place in the Home Goods category.
- New guild member Jules Heller took 1st for her Baltic Pickup band and 2nd for her colorwork scarf both in the Novice category.
- While not a SWG member, Emily Lennox' mom Rebecca won 1st place for her coat in the Wearables category.

Guild members, please consider entering the 2027 competition so we can highlight your weaving skills next year!



Jules Heller Colorwork Scarf



Donna Connery Linen Gradient Towel

To Contact a Fellow SWG Member:

- Use your Member Booklet
- Email SyracuseWeaversGuild@gmail.com

Summer 2026 Weaving Classes & Conferences | Members

Donna Connery - *Dimity, Diaper, and Damask*

Newbury, VT School of Weaving



72 snitch knots in process.

Under the tutelage of Justin Squizzero, the Director of the Newbury School, I adapted a 19th century draft to weave five yards of damask diaper using 16/1 singles linen sett at 36 epi. The shininess of the damask surface is achieved by alternating blocks of warp floats (Block A) and weft floats (Block B) in a diaper (overall) pattern. At home on my jack loom, easy peasy! But to do this at Newbury, I had to re-rig a 19th century counterbalance barn frame loom to handle the 8 shafts by adding 8 upper lamms, 8

treadles, and 8 pulleys and then tying a total of 72 infinitely adjustable snitch knots to hold the gear together and adjust tension as needed. But it was well worth the effort for gaining the learning experience. Justin is eager to share his encyclopedic knowledge of weaving history and is keen to empower weavers to tackle new and challenging projects. His style is supportive, as needed, but also encourages weavers to problem solve on their own as much as possible. I just love the physicality and history of these old looms.

[Programs | The Newbury School of Weaving](#)



The glam shot of 5 yards of Damask Diaper twill fresh off the loom.

Nancy Gaus - Michigan League of Handweavers 2026 Workshops:

Lake Superior Threads, Where the Water meets the Sky, Marquette, MI



Red Eft Salamander in progress, Frida Hansen transparent tapestry technique

In early June, I made the long journey by car to Northern Michigan University in Marquette, on the banks of beautiful Lake Superior. Michigan's lovely upper peninsula had much to offer a weaver with its rich tradition of Norwegian textiles and its rugged natural surroundings. Three textile guilds from the UP came together to plan this annual 2.5-day conference which has not been hosted in the area for some time. They brought in prominent textile instructors such as Robyn Spady, Rebecca Winter and Liz Spear as well as regional talents Carol Irving, Dawn Edwards and Jennifer Gould. I took a transparent tapestry workshop taught by Robbie LaFleur of Minneapolis fame, who is a national expert on the technique developed by Frida Hansen in the early 1900's. Robbie regaled us with stories from the 20th century, not only the personal history of Frida Hansen, but the mysteries surrounding the search for her most celebrated pieces and Robbie's role in the search. I loved the technique which has an Art Nouveau aesthetic and I wove a good start on my piece during the class. I can't wait to finish it!

Syracuse Weavers Guild 2026-2027 Programs | Valerie Kaiser

Location: All Programs are held at 10:00 AM at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Community Room, 7248 Highbridge Road, Fayetteville, NY 13066 with the exception of the field trip and the May luncheon.

9/12

Twice Woven - Making Chenille and Using It Presenting the Guild Challenge

Twice Woven - Making Chenille and Using It

Presenter: Sue Szczotka

Caterpillars come in all colors and sizes and so does chenille! This program will illustrate techniques in weaving hand-made chenille and then show how this fuzzy weft can be used to weave a final project. Whether colors are planned or random, or bundles are slim or robust, making and using chenille is a new and fun technique to add to your weaving arsenal.

Presenting the Guild Challenge

Presenter: Nancy Gaus

We all know that Nature holds many mysteries. In this year's challenge your mystery comes in a brown paper bag containing an object from nature and a nature photo from Baltimore Woods in Marcellus. Your challenge is to weave a piece in any style, from any fiber, wearable, decorative or otherwise, that is inspired by your mystery bag contents. It need not be a literal interpretation, but could be a mood, feeling or question that your items evoke. Have fun with this and perhaps think outside of the bag!

10/3

Field Trip to the Thousand Islands Arts Center, Clayton, NY

Facilitator: Elaine DuBois

Please join us Saturday October 3rd in beautiful Clayton NY as we visit the Thousand Island Arts Center - Home of the Handweaving Museum. Explore the brand new building that houses a textile collection of more than twenty thousand items and a weaving library of over 2,250 titles. Come learn about this fabulous resource, tour the new building and find out how you can use it for research and inspiration.

View information about [TIAC](#) and the [new building](#).

11/7

Weaving with Linen

Presenter: Rebecca Lennox

Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill

Learn the ins and outs of weaving with linen and see and feel samples of multiple weave structures and thicknesses. You will gain insight and confidence into weaving with this durable and ancient fiber. Hints for ease of dressing your loom and weaving with linen will be discussed. Multiple samples of different linen yarns as well as woven pieces will be available for examination.

12/5

Reaching for the Stars

Presenters: Paulette Quinn and Nancy Smothergill

While spinning straw into gold is pure fiction, that paper can be bent, folded and woven into a three-dimensional star is no fairy tale. Using strips of paper, we'll be creating a constellation of enchanting stars in this hands-on program. Bring scissors and nimble fingers. An assortment of paper strips will be provided.

1/2

Throw in the Towel

Presenter: Gail Pilgrim

Facilitator: Nancy Gaus

What makes a great kitchen towel? Towels are one of the most common and versatile of handwoven projects, great for sampling new ideas and for gifting. Gail Pilgrim will present everything you ever wanted to know about weaving towels -- tips, techniques and inspiration. She'll cover fiber choices, absorbency factors, weave structures, design, finishing and more! Even if you are a pro there is bound to be something new to learn. Find out what takes your towels from ordinary to a work of art. Gail will present over Zoom. Weather permitting, guild members will gather and view this program at the church.

2/6

Textile Travels

Presenters: Donna Connery, Joyce Lock, and Judy Fox

Facilitator: Donna Connery

Have you ever wondered what it's like to travel with a small group of weavers and spinners to countries rich in fiber craftsmanship? Join Joyce, Donna, and Judy as they share their recent experiences with [Loom Dancer Odysseys](#) and [Wild Fibers](#), exploring the contemporary and historic fiber traditions of Iceland, Morocco, and Scotland. No passport required!

3/6

Stash Busting and Wabi Sabi Weaving

Presenters: Nancy Gaus and Valerie Kaiser

Join Nancy Gaus and Valerie Kaiser as they share their exploration of Wabi Sabi weaving techniques guided by The Rogue Weaver. Leave inspired to let go of convention and discover the textures, yarn weights, colors, and fiber content in your stash to create unique cloth, scarves, or wraps. The discussion will involve lessons applied and learned, what to expect, and tips and tricks learned along the way on both multi-shaft and rigid heddle looms. Samples will be shared in the hope you might come away with ideas to both stash-bust and meet this year's challenge.

4/3

Guild Challenge Reveal

Facilitator: Valerie Kaiser

Join us in showcasing your results in interpreting both a photograph and a physical object from nature to create a woven treasure! Explain your thought process and techniques used to weave your piece along with triumphs and pitfalls encountered along the way. Not yet finished? Just bring your in-process piece or send in a photo.

5/1

Annual Luncheon and Towel Exchange

Please join us for our final gathering of the year.

Membership | Roberta Mou

Our Membership runs from May-May, but we welcome new members any time!

Dues:

Regular: \$30.

Senior (over 62): \$25.

Joining after January: \$15.

Join or renew by sending Roberta the form with your dues, via PayPal, or at the May meeting.

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:

Roberta Mou
205 Burlington Drive
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? _____

Refreshments | Sally Meyers

Refreshments volunteers provide a snack or dessert and hot water. Members should bring their own lunch, utensils, mug, etc. Our supplies are in a basket placed in a storage cabinet provided by the church. Please bring any other questions or concerns to Sally Meyers.

Duties:

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

THANK YOU to all volunteers !!

9/12/2026: Emily Lennox

9/12/2026: Donna Connery

11/7/2026: Chris Rudecoff

11/7/2026: Paulette Quinn

12/5/2026: Karen J. Smith

12/5/2026: Valerie Kaiser

1/2/2027: Nancy Gaus

1/2/2027: Joyce Lock

2/6/2027: Elaine DuBois

2/6/2027: Jackie Bosket

3/6/2027: Eileen Kloss

3/6/2027: Meg Welch

4/3/2027: Sue Szczotka

4/3/2027: Sally Meyers

Syracuse Weavers Making Waves



Donna Movsovich's tapestry, "Mountains and Sky," was awarded an official runner-up selection in the 2026 art exhibit: On My Own Time. This CNY arts program celebrates artists from businesses across Central New York. Her weaving was exhibited at the Art in the Atrium gallery, 201 E Washington St in Syracuse, from July 10 through August 2, 2026.



Valerie's 4-shaft huck lace towel from her 2025 MAFA class.

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:

<https://syracuseweaversguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/swg-resources-for-weavers.pdf>

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.

Members Weaving Interests and Looms - Joyce Lock - Link to file is available by request.

Have a question about a weave structure or loom? Take a look at this list of members' weaving interests and the looms they own. Want to be a mentor to others? Add your interest and the looms you own to the list. Available to members only.

SWG Looms and Equipment 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 #1 table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	
Kyra 22" 4S #2 table loom	Not available	Traveling Loom	
Kyra 22" 4S #3 table loom	Not available	Emily Lennox	
Peacock 12" 2S loom #1	Available	Joyce Lock	http://possumjmandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2S loom #2	Available	Joyce Lock	http://possumjmandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Peacock 12" 2S loom #3	Available	Joyce Lock	http://possumjmandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg
Inkle looms	Available	Donna Connery	
Purrington Norris 14"12S table loom	Available	Joyce Lock	http://www.purringtonlooms.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
Schacht 25" rigid heddle loom	Available	Joyce Lock	https://schachtspindle.com/products/flip-rigid-heddle-looms
Wavy Stick (aka Shuttle)	Available	Donna Connery	https://www.ashford.co.nz/product/wavy-shuttles/
Bobbin Winder	Available	Joyce Lock	Hand crank, sturdy metal, Swedish



Valerie's Show-and-Tell for May was a clasped-warp shawl using 8/2 tencel in plain weave.



Donna C. chose tablet weaving for some summer fun making dog leashes.