



WARPED

October 2011

The Newsletter of the Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild - P.O. Box 50 – Harvard, MA - 01451

Guild Meetings - The Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month during the school year with a combined meeting for November/December. The 2011-2012 program listing appears later in this Newsletter. Meetings are held at The Fiber Loft at 9 Massachusetts Avenue (Route 111), Harvard, MA. Refreshments, shopping and the access to the guild library start at 7 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30.

October 25th Program – NEWS and Workshop Review

Since about 1/3 of the guild membership attended NEWS at Smith College in July, we thought this would be a great evening to share new ideas, new skills, new thoughts, notes, samples, and journals with the whole membership. This is a great time of year to for exploration as longer evenings encourage more weaving time. Come and be inspired! Members who attended the Latvian Weaving Workshop in September are also encouraged to bring their samples from the workshop. The meeting will be held at The Fiber Loft in Harvard, MA. Refreshments, shopping and the access to the guild library start at 7 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30.

Guild Challenge

Did you know that the Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild is 25 years old? Our guild challenge this year will be to use the 25th anniversary in a hand woven article. Perhaps something related to the number 25 (like 25 warp ends, 25 colors, 25 stripes, or the numbers 2 and 5 somehow incorporated) and/or the use the color silver for our silver anniversary. Use your imagination!

Membership Renewal

The board has planned a set of great meetings under the theme of “Around the World”. If you have not already renewed your membership, we hope that you will choose to renew your membership and join us in the weaving/spinning fun. Unfortunately, if you do not renew by the October meeting we will have to take you off of the membership list.

To renew, bring cash or your \$25 check made out to Nashoba Valley Weavers’ Guild, to the October meeting, or mail your check along with your name, address, phone number and email address to P. O. Box 50, Harvard, MA 01451.

Latvian Inkle Weaving Workshop

The Nashoba Valley Weavers’ Guild hosted a workshop and lecture on Latvian Inkle weaving presented by Connie Gray. The lecture and workshop took place at the Westford Museum and Historical Society in September. Connie enthusiastically spoke about her apprenticeship in the New Hampshire Traditional Arts program with mentor Zaiga Upitis. Together they explored traditional Latvian weaving methods and patterns and wove skirts and belts used in traditional Latvian costumes. In the photo below Connie is wearing the skirt and belt she wove. The belt was woven on an Inkle loom.

Workshop participants learned about design symbolism and the significance of colors in Latvian weaving and used pick-up and push-down methods to weave traditional patterns on the Inkle loom. If you participated in the workshop, please bring your work to share at the October meeting.



Connie Gray in her traditional Latvian costume.

Samples of Latvian and Inkle Bands.



Library Additions

Several new books have recently been donated to the guild library or purchased by the guild. Thank you to our members who have donated books.

Books donated by Judith Shangold: "A handweaver's workbook" (1956) by Heather G. Thorpe "The weaver's workbook" (1988) by Hilary Chetwynd and "Designing for weaving: a study guide for drafting, design, and color", (1981) by Carol S. Kurtz"

Books donated by Dorothy Solbrig: Peter Collingwood special edition of the journal for weavers, spinner, and dyers (summer 2009 issue) and "Handwoven textiles of early New England: the legacy of a rural people 1640 – 1880", (1975) by Nancy Dick Bogdonoff

Video donated by Diane McNamara: "Warping the loom from back to front" (2002) by Peggy Osterkamp

Videos donated by Adalberto Rivera-Vega: "Spinning cotton, silk & flax" (1992) by Patsy Zawistoski "Tapestry weaving level I" (1985) by Nancy Harvey

(all videos in the Guild library have been converted to DVD)

Guild purchases: Latvian "Jostas:" notes from the workshop with Connie Gray; "Linen: from flax seed to woven cloth" (2010) by Linda Heinrich; and "Shaker towels for the 21st century" (2005) by Mary Elva Congleton Erf

The Nashoba Valley Weavers' guild has a number of books and magazines available for members to borrow. For a list of available items and information on how to borrow them go to: <http://www.nvwg.org/library.html>

June 2011 Potluck and Guild Challenge

Thank you to Carolyn Gordon for hosting our annual potluck at her home. The guild challenge called for the use of hand dyeing of fibers used in hand weaving or hand dyeing of hand woven fabric. Here are some of the entries:



Shibori Vest by Dorothy Solbrig



Sunset Shawl by Judith Shangold



Bird Nest by Diane McNamara



Linen Tape by Penny Lacroix



Aurora Borealis Shawl by Laura Busky



Sandals by Carol Vales

Volunteer Opportunity

Harvard Sheep to Shawl, October 22, 9am-noon

The NVWG has been asked to participate in a Sheep to Shawl event that will take place on Saturday, October 22nd, on the grounds of the Hildreth School in Harvard. We will have a tapestry loom for people to try and are looking for members to help by demonstrating weaving or any fiber art you choose. Members who demonstrate will be allowed to sell items at this event. If you'd like to help out or would like further information, please contact Reba at the Fiber Loft, or Laura at laura@northbrookalpacas.com.

Events

October 22-23 – Merrimack Valley Artisans Annual Art Show and Sale, 10am – 5 pm (Formerly known as the Dunstable Artisans.) Elks Lodge, 300 Littleton Rd (Rt. 110), Chelmsford, MA. Over two dozen artists and craftspeople will be selling works including Baskets, Ceramics, Fiber, Fine Arts, Glass, Lamps, Jewelry, and Photography. Admission donation \$2 – proceeds support MVA student scholarship program. For more information: www.MerrimackValleyArtisans.org

Saturday November 5 – Sunday November 6 – Fiber Festival of New England

Presented by Eastern States Exposition and New England Sheep & Wool Growers Association. Located in the Mallary Complex, Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA. For information: http://www.thebig.com/ese/ESEEvents/Fiber_Festival.asp

Thursday November 3 – Sunday November 6 – Weavers' Guild of Boston Exhibit and Sale at the Josiah Smith Barn, 358 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA 02493. The Weavers Guild of Boston is having their annual sale and show the first weekend of November. Details are at <http://www.weaversguildofboston.org/ExhibitSale.htm>

Saturday November 5 – Loom with a View – A fundraiser for the Bedford Center for the Arts – 10 am Champagne brunch. The 2011 Open Studios Holiday Sale weekend kicks off with a talk about color, weave structure, design and wearable art by master weaver Randall Darwall and designer Brian Murphy. Tickets are \$40/\$35 for Boston Area Artist Guild Members. For more information info@bedfordarts.org

Programs 2010-2011

Dec 6th 2011(combined Nov/Dec meetings) Surface Embellishments

Janice Boutotte will lead a hands on workshop that will explore a variety of surface embellishments whose origins may remain a mystery. We will make samples on linen bookmarks suitable for holiday giving.

January 24, 2012 Scotland by the Yard – Weaving Tartan

Susan Targove will talk about her inspiration for creating and weaving new tartan patterns. You will be surprised by who impelled Susan to pursue this weaving path. Susan will talk about the process of weaving the setts of tartan and will also bring tartan samples from her recent trip to Scotland. In addition, Susan will demonstrate the AVL warping wheel.

February 28, 2012 – Surprise Guests

TBA

March 27 , 2012- Exploring Shibori with Kristin Kelley

Kristin will explain, through hands-on projects and samples, how to use woven shibori to create uniquely dyed cloth. She'll also explain the shibori crimping and pleating techniques she learned at the John C. Campbell Folk School in January 2011. This technique is a wonderful way to try your hand at dyeing for the first time as well.

April 24, 2012 – Japanese Sandals to Weave

Carol Vales will demonstrate a Japanese weaving style to make chic sandals just in time for summer. She will bring some sandal samples to get your own creative juices flowing. She usually wears cotton sox when weaving these sandals, so feel free to follow suit. This evening will surely be a fun time! Maybe we can wear them at the Potluck?

May 22, 2012 –Weaving Journeys

Judith Shangold will present Weaving Journeys – a slide show of the Vav Weaving conference in Sweden, as well as, other travels that provided inspiration for her weaving style and accomplishments. You will be surprised what Judith has created on the rigid heddle loom, too! Samples of her work will also be on display.

June 26, 2012 – 25th Anniversary Pot Luck and Guild Challenge

Details coming soon!

