



January  
2014

The Newsletter of the Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild

PO Box 50, Harvard MA 01451

## January Program

### Donnalisa Johnson – MacroEmbroidery

**Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>** at the Fiber Loft. Refreshments and a selection of guild library holdings 7 pm, program starts at 7:30.

Donnalisa describes her work: For about 40 years I have been developing a needlework style I call "Macroembroidery". This approach uses embroidery techniques including satin, fishbone, kensington, coral, outline and bokhara stitches plus french knots. The stitches, however, are magnified from the norm. The approach also uses techniques from needleweaving: dovetailed joining, meandering and eccentric wefts, wrapping; and from rug-making: rya knotting, latch and embroidery hook work.

Using a multitude of colorful yarns and fibers from around the world, I have been creating 3-dimensional pieces based on my explorations into the fascinating world of photoelectron micrography. I will be sharing my newest work on images of amino acids and brain structures, re-imagined with needles and yarns.

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### NVWG Meetings

NVWG meetings are held at The Fiber Loft, 9 Massachusetts Ave. (Rt. 111) in Harvard MA. Refreshments, shopping at The Fiber Loft and access to a selection of the guild library begin at 7 pm.

New members are always welcome.



## Upcoming Programs

### February 25 - An Exploration of Deflected Doubleweave – Kristin Kelley

Deflected doubleweave, cell weave, integrated cell weave, mystery weave - this weave structure goes by many different names, but, once the weaver understands the basic concept behind it, you can create bold, large-scale graphic patterns and play with texture and differential shrinkage concepts as well. We'll explore the basics of the structure, talk about the design possibilities, and I'll bring in some samples and finished pieces that I've made using the structure, both on my own and during Elisabeth Hill's excellent NEWS workshop on the topic this past summer. I'll also bring a table loom along to demonstrate the one tricky part of weaving this structure - how to keep your selvages neat.

### March 25 - Spindles of the Whorl – Penny Lecroix

Turkish, Russian, support, top whorl, bottom whorl, bead, Jenkins, Bosworth, Golding. What's the difference? We'll look at several different spindle styles and discuss the pros and cons of each. Spindles will be available for people to try out. People are welcome to bring their own spindles to show.

### April 22 - Button Holes – Dorothy Solbrig

Many of us, even those who nerve themselves to sew their handwovens, are still afraid to puncture them to make buttonholes. We will examine what is involved in making the usual kind of buttonholes, but also check out many alternatives. You can make “supplementary holes” just for the button in many ways, such as by adding loops, frogs, bands, etc. We will look at many examples.

### May 27, 1 pm \*\*\*\* Daytime Meeting\*\*\*\*

#### The Tale of the Little Grey Sheep, Chapter Two - Margaret B. Russell

In 2001 there was a devastating outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease in England and the loss was overwhelming. It is one of the most infectious diseases known to “animal kind”. Particularly affected was a little grey sheep known as the Herdwick. As this breed was (and still is) highly concentrated in one area of England, the Lake District, concern over the possible demise of the entire breed was legitimate. Unfortunately too many sheep lost their lives but fortunately not enough to terminate the breed. However, the overall loss delivered the numbing reality that the Herdwick was (and still is) too geographically isolated for the promise of a secure future.

Three women breeders, one in the UK and two in the USA, are working together to bring the Herdwick to the United States. If successful, this will provide a reserve population in the event the breed is involved in another calamity. Margaret will share the fascinating story about the sheep that has been described as having fleece similar to - a brillo pad. Once you have been introduced to this captivating little grey sheep, she is certain you will want to put the finishing touches on a piece woven from its wool.

### June 24 – Annual Meeting, Guild Challenge and Potluck Supper

## 2013-2014 Guild Theme and Challenge

Our theme this year is "Finish It!" To that end, our challenge to our members is to finish one or several hand woven projects. You may interpret the word "finish" in any way you like, but only woven projects can be included. Perhaps you wove fabric and never did anything with it. We challenge you to dig it out and turn it into something useful. Or maybe you've had a project in your head for a long time. Now's your chance to get it done! Got a project that has you stuck? Bring it to a meeting and let other members help you brainstorm. Planning to take our March workshop on clothing construction? Those garments count, provided they are finished in time! Bring your Challenge item or items to our annual potluck meeting in June to show them off.

### Used Looms and Equipment

Pat McAlpine has the following items for sale:

Contact her by email [pmacalpine@comcast.net](mailto:pmacalpine@comcast.net) or phone 978-369-1615. Photos are available.

- Janome Mylock 634D serger. Differential feed, 2,3, or 4 thread overlock stitching. Self-threading lower looper, retractable upper knife, snap on presser feet, 2 needles. Comes with carrying case and cones of thread. Price is \$250.00.
- Flexible combination fluorescent/incandescent lamp. Black metal swing arm attaches to table or loom with an adjustable metal clamp. \$45
- Fast Sam warp sampling board, \$5.00
- Metal umbrella swift with plastic arms to prevent yarn snag, can be clamped to table at any angle. \$25
- New wool carders, \$30

Laura Swanson an older model Leclerc, 4 harness, floor treadle loom available for sale. Please contact her at 508-816-4887 for details. Comes with instructions, books on weaving, spinning etc.

Eugenie Smith, [eugeniesmith@charter.net](mailto:eugeniesmith@charter.net) has a loom for sale:

Harrisville 36" 4H with bench (purchased 2001), Warping mill, Tensioning device, 4 cone stand, Bobbin Winder, Shuttles, Variety of yarn, Extra heddles added. Loom is in great condition.

## Convergence

Every other year, the Handweavers' Guild of America sponsors an international conference for fiber artists called Convergence. This year, Convergence will be held in our back yard--Providence, RI! The conference will be held July 14-19, 2014, and registration is already open. Check out the HGA's website, [www.weavespindye.org](http://www.weavespindye.org), for all the details and registration forms.

### NVWG Officers

At Large	Reba Maisel
Historian	Dorothy Solbrig
Hospitality	Carol Vales
Librarian	Kathy Tappan
NEWS Rep	Susan Targove
Treasurer	Laura Busky
Webmaster	Penny Lacroix
Co-Chair	Penny Lacroix
At Large	Lisa White
Co-Chair	Laura Busky
NEWS Rep	Kathy Tappan
Newsletter	Krista Hampsch
Program Director	
Publicist	Arlette Stawasz
Secretary	Judith Shangold

### Guild Library

A listing of the books and magazines owned by the guild is located at:

<http://www.nvwg.org/library.html>



### Snow Cancellation Policy

If the weather outside is frightful how do you know if a meeting is cancelled? If the schools are closed in Harvard, MA then the meeting is cancelled. In addition the board will send out an email announcement by noon of the meeting day if the meeting will be cancelled. Finally, you can always call the Fiber Loft at (978) 456-8669 and inquire – if they are closed there will be no meeting.

## NEWS Traveling Library – From the NEWS Newsletter

The Traveling Library consists of notebooks of handwoven swatches and drafts. Most of the books contain only one weave structure, and some are further divided by number of harnesses. Some are records of fashion shows, gallery shows and study groups. All are fascinating.

The Traveling Library notebooks are available for checkout by any NEWS member guild, or any individual member of such a guild. You **MUST** be a member in good standing of a member guild in order to borrow the notebooks. Please check with your membership chair of your guild to verify your membership status.

Check out is simple: call Ro Spinelli at 508-238-0185 or email her at [reilspin@comcast.net](mailto:reilspin@comcast.net). Please, when emailing, put "NEWS Traveling Library" in the subject line. Ro will mail the notebook to you. The borrower pays postage both ways and may keep the notebook for up to 3 months (except that all books must be returned prior to the biennial NEWS seminar).

All members of NEWS guilds are encouraged to submit a sample of their work to the traveling library! Just one will do, or submit as many times as you like. You may use the NEWS library draft sheet or any draft sheet you are familiar with. Please include the threading and treadling draft, warp and weft yarns descriptions or samples, sett used, reed used, and the woven sample of at least 4"x4". Please attach the swatch of actual fabric to the draft. These samples are then filed in the appropriate notebooks, so that new examples, new yarns, and new colors appear within each weave structure category.

The Library is in need of examples of more than 4 harnesses, in many of the weave structure category notebooks. Please think of the Traveling Library whenever you weave! One 4" woven sample with draft sheet and information is a great way to share your work and have it as part of this inspirational library!

Guilds and study groups are also encouraged to make an extra whole notebook for the library of any studies group, friendship weavings projects, or guild projects they may do as a group. The Traveling Library exists so that a permanent record of your work will be available to other guilds for study purposes and for inspiration!

To submit a draft and handwoven swatch to this Special Library/Traveling Library, mail it to: NEWS Traveling Library c/o Rosemonde Spinelli

79 Kilsyth Road

South Easton, MA 02375.

All sample notebooks are available to borrow for up to 3 months, **EXCEPT** the Notebooks of the entries for the NEWS exhibits. These Seminar Exhibition Books are available to view at the NEWS seminar, or by special arrangement with Ro. Ro has traveled the library to two guilds this past year for their guild programs. You can also view the entire library at The Felos Art Center, in Stoughton, where Ro Spinelli has her studio, by arranging date and time with Ro. If you would like a Traveling Library listing and rules for borrowing, please email Ro and please put NEWS Traveling Library in the subject line.

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# Notebook Name

1 A German Weaver's Pattern Book Vol. 1

2 A German Weaver's Pattern Book Vol. 2

- 3 A German Weaver's Pattern Book Vol. 3
- 4 A German Weaver's Pattern Book Vol. 4
- 5 A German Weaver's Pattern Book Vol. 5
- 6 4 Harness Broken Twills
- 7 Shadow Weave 4 Harness and More
- 8 Plain Weave
- 9 Multi-Harness Huck Lace
- 10 Surface Weaves and Supplemental Warp & Weft
- 11 4 Harness Huck
- 12 Summer and Winter
- 13 Narrow Bands, Inkle, Card and Cardboard looms
- 14 4 Harness Point Twills
- 15 Multi Harness Point Twills
- 16 Lace Bronson- 4 Harness and More
- 17 Spot Bronson- 3 Harness and More
- 18 4 Harness Straight Twills
- 19 Monks Belt
- 20 Multi Harness Straight Twills
- 21 Rosepath
- 22 Basket and Rib Weaves
- 23 Crackle - 4 Harness and More
- 24 Double Weave and Stitched Double Cloth
- 25 Warp Rep and Bound Weave
- 26 Satin Damask, Mock Satin, and Mock Damask
- 27 Honeycomb and Spetsvar
- 28 Canvas Weave - 3 harness and More
- 29 Swedish Lace
- 30 Overshot from Published Patterns
- 31 Complex Weaves
- 32 4 Harness Twill Variations
- 33 M's and O's 4 Harness and More
- 34 Overshot: Original Name Drafts, More than 4
- 35 Color and Weave on Twill
- 36 Twelve Treadlers Volume 1
- 37 Twelve Treadlers Volume 2
- NEWSLetter Fall/Winter 2013-2014 14
- 38 Spinning, Dying and Felting
- 39 Misc. Twills and Twill derivatives
- 40 Finger Laces, Bead Leno & Embroidery Weaves
- 41 Surface Interest
- 42 Friendship Treading CCW 2001
- 43 Huck Study Group CCW 2002
- 44 Friendship Treading Moonlight Weavers 2003 45 Stripes, Checks and Plain Weave, NEWS Class given by M. Thompson 2005
- 46 Historic Textiles, class at 2005 EWS
- 47 Miscellaneous notebook
- G1 NEWS 2001 Gallery Show Notebook
- G2 NEWS 2003 Gallery Show Notebook
- G3 NEWS 2005 Gallery Show Notebook
- G4 NEWS 2007 Gallery Show Notebook

G5 NEWS 2009 Gallery Show Notebook  
F1 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1977  
F2 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1979  
F3A NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1983 Vol. 1  
F3B NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1983 Vol. 2  
F4A NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1987 Vol.1  
F4B NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1987 Vol.2  
F5 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1989  
F6 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1991  
F7 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1993  
F8A NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 1999  
F8B NEWS Fashion Show- Slide Carousel 1999  
F9 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 2001  
F10 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 2003  
F11 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 2005  
F12 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 2007  
F13 NEWS Fashion Show- Notebook 2009