



To teach & promote the arts of spinning, weaving, dyeing & related fiber arts.

# Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers Since 1975

Member of the Handweavers Guild of America  
& Midwest Weavers Association

## 2017 SIG Special Edition



### 2017 Meetings and Programs

**January 7**—ROC Day —11am -2pm.at the Willoughby Hills Community Center

**February 28**—Presentation of the President’s Challenge!

**March 28**—Panel Discussion on clothing made from handwoven fabric. Presenters: Bobbie Shafer, Darlene Smith, Jamie Fish, Uarda Taylor, and Nancy Curtiss.

**April 25**—What’s on the Bookshelf? . . Best books on weaving, spinning, felting & dyeing, as well as inspirational books.

**May 23**—Field Trip to Lake County Historical Society: A Viewing of Textile Collection

**June 27**—The Art of Bobbin Lace  
Presenter: Sue Ingrassia. Members will have a hands-on experience with bobbin lace.

**July 25**— Potluck Picnic & Stash Relocation event. Place & time TBA

**August 22**—History of WRSW Guild presented by Guild Founder, Nancy Hart.

**September 23-24**— Wool Jamboree at Farmpark (no regular meeting)

**October 24**— Understanding Color  
Presenter: Deborah Steytler

**November 28**— DVD: “*Color Interaction for Hand Weavers*”

**December 2**—Holiday Party

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Meetings take place on the 4th Tuesday of each month (except January) at:

**Lake Metroparks Farmpark**  
**8800 Chardon Road,**  
**Kirtland, OH 44094**

Join us from 6-7 p.m. before the meeting with your current project for some casual work time! Meeting and program take place from 7-9 p.m.

The date, time and/or location may occasionally be changed. If this occurs, notice is given to members by newsletter, phone, email or via our web site. (www.wrspinweave.org)

**Focus on Felt SIG :** The creation of felt can use different techniques – wet felting, needle felting... and it may take on different forms – clothing, accessories, items for the home or as gifts. One thing that ties them all together is a love of fiber, color, and textures that turn simple materials into things of beauty and function. The Focus on Felt SIG explores all of this and more at our monthly meetings.



**Meeting time:** First Tuesday of the month at 11:00AM  
Day and time subject to change

**Location:** determined by membership

**Contact person:** Jan Gibson 440.255.0045

**Spinning SIG:** Handspinning is a journey that encompasses many paths. It can take the spinner through the discovery of raw source materials – wool and alpaca fleece, flax and cotton, silk cocoons. It can travel through the techniques needed to create the product needed for the project. It can leap beyond the boundaries of function into a veritable art form all by itself. The WRSW Spinning Special Interest Group has been created to nourish the artistic traveler that resides in the heart of each spinner to reach out and try new things. Some paths may only become stamps in a passport, while others may become a place in which to live, grow and flourish. Come join us for the adventure!



This SIG is open to WRSW members who already have a basic knowledge of spinning and are able to spin a continuous thread. For those interested in learning how to spin, we can suggest both formal and informal opportunities in the community.

- Saturday, March 4** Alpaca: Fleece to Yarn: Presenter, Cheryl Laufer  
Location: home of Cheryl Laufer
- Saturday, June 10** Working with Combs: Presenter, Sally Vourlojanis  
Worsted Draw: Presenter, Susan Conover  
Location: home of Susan Conover
- Saturday, August 5** Spinning Cotton with the Supported Long Draw  
Presenter, Nancy Curtiss  
Location: home of Norma O'Connor
- Saturday, October 14** Spinning Wool with the Long Draw: Presenter, Lisa Davis  
Location: home of Nancy Curtiss

**Meeting time & location:** 10:00 am-12 noon (locations as noted on above schedule)

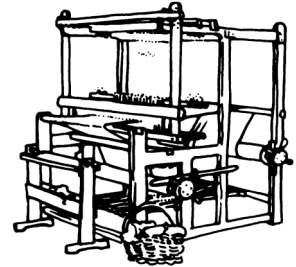
**Contact person:** Nancy Curtiss, 330.995.3811 or [nancy@truthforlife.org](mailto:nancy@truthforlife.org)

**Membership:** Open to WRSW guild members only.

## Weaving SIG:

The WRSW Weaving SIG is for all skill levels of weavers. Members are encouraged to study under different weaving instructors, as the SIG cannot supersede this invaluable learning experience.

- Sunday, Feb. 12th Weaving with Wool: Moderator, Nancy Curtiss
- Saturday, Feb. 25th **9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** Refresher Day: Bring your portable loom & we'll beam it, get you started with threading, etc. Bring a sack lunch & beverage. Enrollment is limited to 8 participants Susan's home studio in Parkman
- Sunday, April 9th Weaving with Tencel: Moderator, Jean Breitzman
- Sunday, Sept. 17th Weaving with Silk: Moderator, Nora Eason
- Sunday, Nov. 5th Weaving with Rayon Chenille: Moderator, Susan Conover



**Meeting time & location:** Sundays, 2:00-4:00 pm at Susan Conover's

**Facilitator:** Susan Conover 440.346.5702 or [szc@conoverworkshops.com](mailto:szc@conoverworkshops.com)

**Membership:** Open to WRSW guild members only.

## Coming Soon — Rigid Heddle SIG

Rigid Heddle looms are a friendly Introduction to weaving. They can also be used to create more complex weave structures with finger manipulation or by adding a second heddle.



Facilitators: JoEllen Salkin and Linda Christopher

If you are interested in joining the Rigid Heddle SIG, please contact Linda Christopher at 440.781.2046 or [linda102@twc.com](mailto:linda102@twc.com)



### Upcoming Workshops

**Beginning Tapestry with Bobbie Shafer**—Saturday, March 25, 2017

Kirtland Library Community Room

Bobbie will instruct participants in the basics of tapestry techniques. A simple frame loom will be used. Start gathering your yarn remnants in various sizes and textures now!

**Jumpstart Vest (2-day workshop) with Daryl Lancaster**

October 21-22, 2017

Metroparks Lake Farmpark

Dust off your sewing machine and jump start your skills. This simple lined vest is custom fit, guaranteed to look great, feel good, and teach you the basics of garment construction. Great for handweavers, felters and surface designers. This vest looks great in all fabrics. Open to all skill levels.



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) GUIDELINES

**Purpose:** Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide supplementary areas of specialized, focused studies for Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers (WRSW) guild members. SIGs are not a replacement of the guild general meetings.

### Why Join a SIG?

- A SIG enables a WRSW guild member to focus on an area of study with other members who are like-minded.
- A SIG is an excellent venue in which to encourage cross-pollination of ideas and challenges the participant to actually put the work into the learning of the skills needed to enhance their expression.
- A SIG provides the opportunity for a motivated member to nurture others and provides a way to encourage those with teaching abilities to teach/facilitate in a small group setting.
- A SIG can become the initial testing ground for exploration in the fiber art of choice by providing new perspectives and techniques.
- A SIG challenges the member to hone their craft outside of formal meetings with projects and goals.



### What the SIGs provide to WRSW:

- Having SIGs as a “members only” organization means that guild membership is required to participate. More guild members equals more people, which means that we have the membership and dues support to have better programs.
- The SIGs enrich artistic growth and development when they follow the Purpose of the SIGs.
- The SIGs are an avenue to foster teaching talent. By engaging SIG members to take part in leading a class or a project singly or in teams, SIG facilitators can gauge the abilities of certain members to become teachers or facilitators of their craft. This also broadens the scope of WRSW to fulfill an aspect of our mission, by providing educational opportunities to the general public, whether by demonstrations, creating hands-on programs, and other forms of community outreach.
- If a SIG desires to sponsor a workshop, the Program Chairperson must be contacted at least twelve months.

### What WRSW provides to the SIGs:

- WRSW provides access to the members’ database and the ability to communicate to a developed list of individuals and families with a predisposition to take part in fiber art projects, events, and workshops.
- WRSW provides publicity of all SIG events through use of its website, through Social Media, and via its general mailing lists prior to any arrangements being made.
- WRSW provides general sessions (meetings) as a platform for each SIG to share their accomplishments with the membership at large.
- WRSW supports SIGs by offering opportunities for teachers/facilitators to expand their teaching abilities in regular programs and activities
- WRSW supports SIGs by creating opportunities for showcasing talents through shows, displays, and by the development of other areas of community outreach

## SIG GUIDELINES (CONTINUED)

### Guidelines for SIG Facilitators:

- Designated SIGs will follow the mission of WRSW and will focus on their titled topic of interest.
- SIG participation is a benefit of being a member in good standing who embraces the mission statement of WRSW.
- SIGs must be rigorous in maintaining a “members-only” policy for SIG meetings. Anything deemed as an “outreach event” should be funneled through WRSW via Programs and Workshops/Publicity as per other general guild workshops and programs in order to fulfill the obligation to support the guild.
- SIG participation (whether as a teacher or as a member) is totally voluntary and is a benefit of being a member of WRSW. There are no dues paid or teacher fees presented in this venue. Any events requiring remuneration should go through the general guild processes already in place for guild programs and workshops.



- All SIGs will have a study plan with dates presented to the SIG Chairperson by October 1st of the current calendar year for the upcoming year’s meetings and activities.
- All SIGs will have at least one facilitator who will be responsible to attend all SIG facilitator meetings as requested by the SIG chairperson. Facilitators will also be required to present a report, as needed, at general guild meetings and to provide updates, as requested, for the guild newsletter.

- Overview of SIG Facilitator duties as per WRSW Jobs and Responsibilities Description:

- \* Oversee the meeting times, dates and locations of SIG meetings
- \* Provide regular communication with all SIG participants
- \* Confirm guild membership prior to the start of each new calendar year
- \* As needed, prepare SIG projects, assign teaching duties, etc.
- \* Provide an oral update of SIG activities at each meeting
- \* Attend regularly scheduled WRSW guild meetings

### **Guidelines for SIG Chairperson:**

- One of the SIG facilitators will be appointed chairperson by the consensus of the other SIG facilitators and represent the SIGs at the Executive Committee meeting
- Overview of SIG Chairperson duties as per WRSW Jobs and Responsibilities Description:
  - \* Attend all Executive Committee meetings as called by the President
  - \* Provide a list of members, as requested
  - \* Provide input, as requested by the President
- The SIG Chairperson must submit the upcoming year’s schedule in their entirety to the Public Relations Chairperson no later than October 7 of the current calendar year so that the information may be printed into an annual SIG Program Newsletter for the upcoming year.



**Western Reserve  
Spinners and Weavers  
Guild**



We now have a social media presence! **Join us on Facebook.** It's a fun place to post photos of your latest work, something funny or interesting you came across, or share upcoming events. Just do a search for Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers Guild and LIKE us.

We also have a **Yahoo Group** for Guild members only. Membership  
Contact person: Nancy Curtiss 330.995.3811 or nancy@truthforlife.org



**To become a member of the Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers Guild, please send the form below with your check to:**

**Nora Eason, 11483 Robin Wood Lane, Auburn Twp., Ohio, 44023**

**Individual Membership~ \$20.00**

**Family ~ \$25.00**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

