

Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers Guild

Since 1975

Member of the Handweavers Guild of America

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www.wrspinweave.org

February/March 2021

Our mission is to teach and promote the arts of spinning, weaving, dyeing and related fiber arts.

President's Letter

The "good news" is that Lake Farmpark is starting to open again. The "not as good news" is that for now they are only open on the weekends. We will continue holding our monthly general meeting on Zoom for April, May, and June (details below). The July meeting is the potluck picnic at the Westwood Park. We now hope that by August we will be meeting at the Farmpark again. Many people have suggested that we continue sharing the monthly general meetings on Zoom after we resume meeting in person, and will be working to try to make this happen.

Tuesday April 27

Show and Tell 6:45 to 7:00 PM

Program at 7:00, Amy Manko from The Ross Farm, a Pennsylvania Century Farm, will tell how she is, "Preserving rare breads, one skein at a time".

Tuesday May 25

Show and Tell 6:45 to 7:00 PM

Program at 7:00, Jan Friedman as a guest speaker, presenting "My Life as a Weaver". Jan Friedman has been weaving since 1974. Jan received her M.A. in Textile Design at the University of Iowa in 1980. She has conducted workshops in weaving, color, and dyeing across the United States. Her tapestries and framed collage pieces have been featured in numerous invitational and juried exhibits and have been commissioned for both private homes and corporate collections.

Tuesday June 22

Show and Tell 6:45 to 7:00 PM

Program at 7:00, Acadian Brown Cotton, A Cajun Love Story. A documentary film by Sharon Donna and Suzanne Breaux. The history tradition and artistry of hand spun and hand woven Acadian brown cotton blankets, and the Cajun women who made them.

Tuesday July 27

Potluck Picnic at the West Woods.

Stash exchange, spinning, and dyeing extravaganza. (More information to be announced)

Bob Breitzmann, President

**Monthly Meetings
4th Tuesday of
each month
(unless noted)
6:00 PM Casual
work & social time
6:45 Show & Tell
7:00 Business
Meeting
Program to follow**

**Visit our website
www.wrspinweave.org
For updates &
schedule
information**

UPCOMING EVENTS

The world seems to be opening up a bit, and many of are looking forward to in-person events again

[Fashioning Identity: Mola Textiles of Panama](#), Cleveland Museum of Art, now through October 3, 2021

[Great Lakes Fiber Show](#), May 29th & 30th, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, OH

[Pittsburgh Creative Arts Festival](#), August 12-14, 2021 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Green Tree, PA

[Patty Lyons virtual knitting classes](#) April 10, 11, 17, & 18, 2021 hosted by the Northcoast Knitting Guild

GUILD LIBRARY IS OPEN

We have a great selection of books in the library and I am looking for members to do book reviews. This would be the perfect opportunity to sit down and curl up with a good book, pick up some new pointers and add to your RAAM points. Please contact me for book loans and if you would like to do a review. It would be nice to have a review from some books we have readily available to loan out.

There is plenty of room for social distancing if someone want to browse the books too.

I would also like the SIG facilitators to please let me know if there is a book, or DVD that may be useful to have in our library.

Joyce Fath, Librarian Fath.joyce14@gmail.com 440-834-8511

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

Tara Kelloway Jennifer Martin Tammy Meyer

WRSW Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The Western Reserve Spinners & Weaver's Guild has five Special Interest Groups exclusively for members at no extra charge.

DYEING

Co-Facilitators: Bob Breitzmann robert.breitzmann@gmail.com 440-338-3651 & Mo Doerner madknits669@gmail.com 216-561-2578

The Dyeing SIG met via Zoom on Saturday, February 13th. The topic was snow/ice dyeing and due to the abundance of snow, everyone who shared their projects used snow.

Linda Christopher dyed 3 cuts of fabric. One was silk and the other two were cotton batiste. She used pure and complex dyes and let it sit in her garage for 24 hours so the snow would melt slowly. She plans to make woven summer tops.

JoEllen dyed 3 skeins of 8/2 tencel. She also put it in the garage to melt the snow. The snow was a bit icy. It snowed more the next day and she dyed a cut of fabric with a white background and a blue design on it. The snow was powdery and melted quickly.



Bob dyed 12/2 linen in a natural color. Bob washed the linen and used soda ash then froze the yarn. He let it thaw and while the yarn was damp proceeded with snow dyeing.

Mo dyed 4 onesies and 2 toddler tee shirts using Rit powder dye. After the snow melted, the garments were heated in a solution of water and Rit Color Fixative for 20 minutes and then rinsed. These will be gifts.



Bob showed his gradient dyed threads to make a Rosepath network twill. The colors ranged from grays to aquis. He used Fiberworks weaving design software for designing his project.

Bob also showed us a hat from fabric he had woven some time ago. It turned out great and looked good on him.

Our next meeting will be on March 27th to discuss workshops and an invitation to demonstrate natural dyeing at the 2nd Annual Honey Bee Festival on September 18, 2021.

The April 10th meeting at Praxis was canceled.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

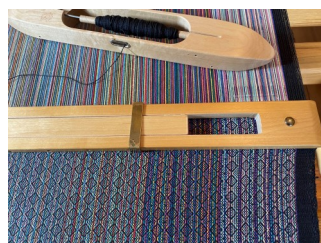
WEAVING

Co-Facilitators; Susan Conover (szc@conoverworkshops.com) and Nancy Curtiss (nacurtiss@gmail.com)

Over the past two months we've enjoyed two more sessions of Weaving Essentials. We learned about "Burn Test for Fibers" and "Fiber Properties", and were re-introduced to the classic weaving book, *The Key to Weaving* by Mary E. Black. The photos that you see are some of the projects that our weavers have either made or are in the process of weaving.



Joan Horwich



Mary Beebee



Gail Pilgrim



Bob Breitzmann

We've also completed our first quarter of our lunchtime sessions called Weaver to Weaver, which is an opportunity for everyone to both ask questions and to provide tips or suggestions for general discussion and troubleshooting. The co-facilitators have polled the members regarding a continuation of this lunchtime session, and future dates will be posted on the calendar on the guild website.

Here's our schedule for April/May:

Apr. 18 (Sun) 2-4pm Conover ZOOM

Susan will present "Determining Yardage" to include the Count system, the Tex system, the Denier system, and the Yarn Balance. Nancy will review Helene Bress' *The Weaving Book: Patterns and Ideas*

May-August is "summer break" to dedicate more time for weaving projects. J

Our sessions will resume on September 19th. More information on this event is in the calendar.

As always, it's never too late to join in the fun. The Weaving SIG is open to any WRSW member in good standing (paid up with current dues) who has an interest in weaving on traditional floor or table weaving looms. Please contact co-facilitators Susan Conover and Nancy Curtiss.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

SMALL LOOMS

Facilitators: Linda Christopher linda102@twc.com & JoEllen Salkin joellenks@sbcglobal.net We welcome Small Loom weavers of all levels and always have time to offer personal assistance at each meeting. Contact Linda or JoEllen if you are interested in joining.

The Small Loom SIG will be meeting on April 11th. To discuss what we have all done to challenge ourselves. Stay tuned for photos in the next newsletter.

In the meantime, Denise is sharing some photos of a table runner and a bread cloth from our most recent discussion of weaving with two heddles.



FELTING

Facilitator: Cheryl Laufer cherylaufer@gmail.com Meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 11-2 at a member's home.

Facilitators: Flora Daniels (daniels.flora@gmail.com) & Mardi Gauer (mardikf@yahoo.com)

Cheryl, I'm sure you want to add something here

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

SPINNING

Facilitators: Flora Daniels (daniels.flora@gmail.com) & Mardi Gauer (mardikf@yahoo.com)

SPIN SIG – monthly report – March 2021

For our March meeting we talked about spinning top and Color. Member Mardi Gauer gave a presentation from the book “A New Spin on Color” by Alanna Wilcox.

The book focuses on different ways to manipulate dyed top to achieve various colored yarns. Some of the topics covered were:

- The influence of color spacing
- Different ways to spin 2-ply, 3-ply and 4-ply yarns
- Spinning a Fractal yarn
- Spinning colored top with a solid color
- Various Marled yarns
- Various Cabled yarns



Member Flora Daniels shared a recent Fractal spin that she had completed, showing the steps she used throughout the spin.

Members shared their latest projects.

Our next meeting is April 10 with a discussion to be led by member Terra Rowland on the book – “The Golden Thread, How Fabric Changed History” by Kassia St Clair.

FACEBOOK GROUP

Not all photos that are submitted for the newsletter make it into each issue. However, you can show off your latest creations on the Guild’s **private, member’s only**, [Facebook Group](#).

The Facebook page is also a wonderful place to share ideas, works in progress and completed masterpieces, as well as ask questions, and comment on photos and posts of guild members.

Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers Guild

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To become a member of the
Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers Guild
please send the form below with your check (to WRSW) to:

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

Individual Membership~ \$25.00 \$10.00 each additional family member

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
E-mail address _____
Phone number _____

*The newsletter is available on the Guild website and will be emailed.
Please let us know if you are not able to receive it in this format.*

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