



# Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers Guild

Since 1975

Members of the Handweavers Guild of America

Volume 53 Issue 1

[www.wrspinweave.org](http://www.wrspinweave.org)

Feb 2024

## President's Letter February 2024

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

**Monthly Meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of each Month (unless noted)**

**6:00 PM Casual social time  
6:30 PM Show and Tell  
7:00 PM Business Meeting and Program to follow.**

**Visit our website  
[www.wrspinweave.org](http://www.wrspinweave.org)  
for update & schedule information**

Winter greetings to my Guild friends!

This is my first letter to you as guild president, following the terrific job performed by Flora Daniels as guild president these last two years. It's customary to say what a tough act to follow this will be, but it's quite true. Thank you, Flora!

I am writing this on one of our exceptionally cold winter days, but at least the sun is shining at the moment. I hope that you have all stayed safe and warm and are using the opportunity to indulge in the fiber arts. It's not too late to finish up your submission for Flora's President's challenge, a project which reflects time that you have carved out for yourself. Check out Flora's President's letter from December 2023 for a more complete explanation. (Does finally hemming towels count??)

As we get rolling in the new year, I want to thank all of the standing committee members as well as the diligent work of our ad hoc committees. We still urgently need replacements for a number of crucial positions (see the list to follow). I especially encourage our newer members to get involved with the organization - this is a great opportunity to mold the Guild into an organization that fills your needs in whatever fiber passion you have.

We have an exciting year coming up for meeting speakers. The list will include many fiber artists of national reputation via Zoom - list below. But please don't shy away from in person attendance at the meetings! Our fiber community is so much enriched and enhanced by our physical gatherings, from Show and Tell to the business meetings and all of the informal connections we make when there.

Looking forward to seeing you in February - Onward, fiber friends!

Karen Gerken

# Help Wanted

Our organization has a core of essential standing committees and officers that work behind the scenes to help our community to function. Check out the Guild website for a refresher.

The list includes new faces: Sally and Yvonne co-chair the Vice Presidency, Terra has taken up the Membership position, and Suzanne will be training as the treasurer - many thanks! Also a shout out to Bob Breitzmann, who has taken up the job of workshop coordinator as well as his many other responsibilities. Bravo! However, we do have a few more urgent requests for help. Don't be afraid of being thrown into the deep end by volunteering - all will help with the transitions! Please consider.

Newsletter Editor - We need someone to pull this publication together.

Web Support - Please see Nora for specifics (Nora.eason@gmail.com)

Publicity - JoEllen Salkin can give the specifics and help to transition, but ongoing duties include sending meeting notices and monitoring Facebook pages. (joellensalkin@gmail.com)

AV/ZOOM - Bob is looking for a back up to help with getting our meetings on line via Zoom. His email is ([robert.breitzmann@gmail.com](mailto:robert.breitzmann@gmail.com))

## Upcoming Meetings:

Here's what is on board for the year - mark your calendars. All meetings, except as noted, will be at Lake FarmPark's Auditorium and via Zoom on the fourth Tuesday of the month:

**March 26** - Zoom, Christine Miller on Weaving with Wire  
<https://christinekmillercourses.com/>

**April 23** - Zoom, Candy Marang, head of the conservation committee devoted to maintaining the textiles at Stan Hywet Hall, "Textile Conservation and Recreation at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens".  
" I have been doing needlework since I was 9, mostly cross stitch at that point. I moved on to needlepoint and crewel as the years went by. I joined the EGA (Embroiderer's Guild of America) in 1990, and the Stan Hywet Needlework Guild in 2009. I was recruited to work on the Cromwell Bed Linens the day I joined. After that project was completed in 2013 I was contacted by the Curator to form a team. We received training from ICA in Cleveland and we became the Textile Conservation Team. We have worked on 95 projects in the last ten years, from chair upholstery to tapestries to curtains."  
<https://stanhywet.org/>

**April 27-28** - Live workday, Lamb Jam at Lake FarmPark. Spinners especially needed! (No Zoom)

**May** - No meeting

**June 25** - Live, Ginger Mangie

Title: The History of Women and the Handbags They Carried, Late 1800s to Present  
<https://www.wildsidestitching.com/>

**July 23** - Live, Picnic at The West Woods, Geauga County Parks (No Zoom)

**August 27** - Zoom, Dr. Carol Ventura, topic to follow

<https://www.carolventura.com/>

**September 24** - Zoom, Tommye McClure Scanlin, tapestry artist

Title: Why Tapestry?

Description: Ms Scanlin will show examples of early work in other weaving and fabric means to create images and discuss why she finally turned to tapestry in the late 1980s. And hasn't looked back.

<https://www.scanlintapestry.com/>

**October 22** - Zoom, Rebecca Mezoff, Tapestry artist, Spinning and Weaving in Iceland

<https://rebeccamezoff.com/>

**November 26** - Live, SIG presentations

**December 7** (provisional) - Holiday luncheon, The Welshfield Inn (No Zoom)

## RAAM Committee Update

Congratulations from the RAAM Committee

Ellen Morrison, Nora Eason, Jennifer Luscher, and Susan Conover

The RAAM Committee would like to wish Happy WRSW anniversary to:

30 years: Jan Gibson 1989

10 years: Sheri Gittinger 2014

5 years: Sharon Baird 2019

Yvonne Harrold 2019

Suzanne Paquin 2014

Karen Gerken 2019

JoEllen Salkin 2014

Suzanne Paquin 2014

The WRSW Guild and the RAAM Committee are pleased to list the members who are currently able to utilize a reimbursement award as of the end of 2023:

Jean Breitzmann

Bob Breitzmann

Linda Christopher

Susan Conover

Flora Daniels

Lisa Davis

Mo Doerner

Nora Eason

Sue Ingrassia

Cindy Kolacz

Laramie McEnaney

Ellen Morrison

JoEllen Salkin

Bobbie Shafer

# Library News

Librarian: Joyce Fath 440-834-8511 [fath.joyce14@gmail.com](mailto:fath.joyce14@gmail.com)

Our guild library has so many wonderful books available for check out. Go to our guild website and click on “Library – WRSW Members” in the Members Content section to see the complete list of books that are here for you to borrow. If you need any assistance, please don’t hesitate to contact me. The library is always open for those wanting to stop over and look in person.

The guild library has a Rigid Heddle Loom that can be loaned out to guild members. This is a wonderful way to try your hands on using one before making an investment to purchase one. I am also looking for members to write book reviews (preferably one from our library, but not exclusively). Contact me if you are interested in submitting a review.

# ROC Day

Guild members were invited by the Medina Guild for ROC Day on January 6. These pictures are from the Roc Day event coordinated by our Spinning SIG. It is an event celebrated from early medieval times and this was the 2nd year in a row to enjoy the fun with the Medina Guild. The event includes lots of food, fun and laughs.



# SIG Updates

## From the Spinning SIG

The Spinning SIG enjoyed a great workshop with Kathy Arnold this past month and learned some Art Yarn spinning techniques. It was a great day and we all thoroughly enjoyed the event even with the yucky weather outside. We now have lots of fresh ideas to spin away with on our wheels.



## Small Loom SIG

Greetings Small Loom SIG members!

Sharon and I will be co-facilitating the Small Looms SIG again this year and we have put together some dates and topics for our 2024 gatherings. We talked about adding some different skills that could be used to further enhance or advance projects and we used that to guide the planning for this year. We hope we have selected topics that are new or of interest to you. Any projects, topics, ideas, or weaving challenges that others may want to share, show, or introduce are always welcome too! The schedule of dates, all on Saturdays, and topics for the 2024 Small Loom SIG meetings is:

February 17	11:30 - 3:00	Tapestry Loom Weaving
April 27	11:30 - 3:00	Ropes, Bands and Braids – Lucet and Kumihimo Braiding, Backstrap weaves
July 27	11:30 - 3:00	Double Heddle with pick-up sticks – Twills
September 7	11:30 - 3:00	Pin Looms and Dorset Buttons
November 2	11:30 - 3:00	Yearend project reviews and wrap up

We hope you can come on the dates listed to join the group to weave, listen, share, or just join in for fun, food, and time with friends! Location and hosting members will be announced closer to the planned gathering dates.

Please call or email Sharon ([SMbar559@yahoo.com](mailto:SMbar559@yahoo.com)) or Yvonne ([yharrold123@gmail.com](mailto:yharrold123@gmail.com)) with any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you!

Happy weaving,  
Sharon and Yvonne

## Weaving SIG

This year we are hoping that all of the SIG members will participate in a way that is comfortable to them. For the first meeting, we have each selected a draft from the most popular 4 shaft weaving books and will share those with you. We would also like the SIG members to sign up for specific dates where they will be responsible for sharing something of interest. This could be an article, book, draft, event, technique etc. This “sharing” event can be very short (10-15 mins) or longer as the subject warrants.

Our first SIG meeting will be February 11 at the Geauga West Library from 2:00 - 4:00. The meeting will be both in person and via zoom. During the meeting we also plan to discuss locations for the next meetings. Dates for 2024 meetings right now are: 2/11, 4/14, 9/8 and 11/10. We plan to add additional meetings if the sig members are interested.

All guild members are welcome to join us. We know that many of you have recently added floor looms to your ever growing loom inventory and we would like you to check us out.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you soon

Happy weaving  
Joan and Rachel

## Felting SIG

We made needle felted mushrooms during the January Felt SIG meeting. (Photos below)



## Dyeing SIG

In addition to the Dye Pot day planned for August, this year the dyeing SIG is focusing on Woven Shibori. This is a process where you weave extra “pull threads” into the warp or weft. After the fabric is off the loom the pull threads are used to tie folds into cloth that resist the penetration of the dye.

This is an example of woven shibori from the Complex Weavers web page where there is a document on the process.

The plan is to have a joint meeting with the Weaving SIG where this will be explained in more detail. Then you will weave your sample and bring it to the Dye Pot day.



