

ESTABLISHED 1951

FALL, SEPTEMBER 2014 WEAVERS GUILD OF SPRINGFIELD

CONVERGENCE WRAP-UP - JANE DEVLIN



Handweavers Guild of America Convergence, the national weaving conference held every two years, was held this year in Providence, Rhode Island from July 11th through the 19th. Providence was a wonderful venue for this event, being an easy drive from Western Massachusetts. It is a marvelous city, boasting great architecture, museums, parks, and restaurants; the city Fire and Water event was even during the conference.

way along. It was tough on the hands. We did have a fun break on Monday, when some of us helped Walt bring up his pieces he would have in his vendor booth. He had beautiful rockers, stools, benches, all with handwoven seats. We all got to try them out and they were so comfortable. Then we got back to work, and we all finished our benches, had a group photo, and we all did the "happy dance"!

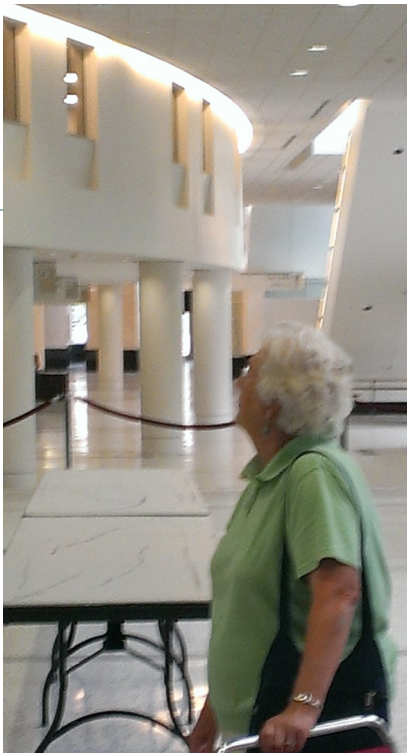


Convergence had a variety of classes, ranging from 3 hours to 4 days long. All the classes were held at the Rhode Island Convention Center located in downtown Providence, and easily accessible to several hotels. Gallery Exhibits and Vendors, in the Convention Center, were open July 16th through the 19th. Some other exhibits were located in other buildings close to the convention center.

It was a wonderful experience and I now have a beautiful and very comfortable bench suited for me and 2 of my looms. I did end up with carpal tunnel in my right wrist because of the pulling and clamping, and it took about a week to recover. But it was well worth it! Would I do this again? The bench is beautiful, and now that Walt has some different clamps that don't stress the wrist, I think I might. Then again, we only had beige colors of cord to work with, and if you check out Walt's on-line site, (<https://www.facebook.com/WTBSC>) you will see when he makes a bench, he has other beautiful colors like purple and turquoise. So maybe if I ever wanted another, I would just get one that Walt made. Although with our lack of space (translate-accumulation of things), I think one may be enough!

I signed up for Walt Turpening's "Weaving a Bench" class, which was 3 days. There were 8 of us in the class, which was an excellent size, since we had many questions as we went along. Walt had made everyone's bench based on the information we all sent him, so each was sized to the individual person, and for the loom with which they would use it. We were weaving the seat in the class. I think this was more of an undertaking than any of us thought. Walt provided the cord, which he twined himself. We worked hard all three days; we had fun and conversation, but we had to warp the bench, then weave, all with the cord, and pulling tightly and clamping all the

After my three days, I went home with my bench, but I returned to Convergence for a day, to see the exhibits and the vendors, and to take a three hour afternoon class, "European Paper Stars". This was a nice, fun class, cutting and folding paper. It was stress free, lots of laughter, and within three hours, we each had five beautiful stars!





Weavers' Guild of Springfield 2014-2015 Programs

- September 6, AM **Summer Wrap up & year forecast**
- September 6, PM **Study Group: Log Cabin, A Color & Weave Effect.**
We will go over the basics of the weave, distribute study group materials and look at some examples of log cabin. Participants will be assigned a sample (with draft) to weave for the October meeting. The samples will be very small and do-able between September and October. Susan has recommended a good book to use as a resource. Information about purchasing this book will be available.
- My Favorite Weave Structure: Guild members** will decide how we wish to present this program.
- October 11, AM **Log Cabin - Presented by Susan Wright**
We will review the samples that everyone has woven and then each person will choose a draft to make a larger project, which will be finished and shown at the April Meeting. We will look at other samples of log cabin - pictures and a bibliography of books and magazines with some log cabin examples. We will talk about some of the ways that log cabin can be varied to achieve different effects.
- October 11, PM **My Favorite Weave - Presented by: All Guild Members**
Program "rules" will be determined at the September meeting. This is not a project, but a fun multi-guild member show and tell!
- November 1, AM **Look for the Name in the Selvage - Presented by: Penni Martorell**
From 1874 until 1960 the Skinner Mill manufactured silk threads and fabrics in Holyoke, MA. Come hear Penni Martorell, Holyoke City Historian and Curator at Wistariahurst Museum speak about the history of Wm. Skinner and Sons Manufacturing. Learn of the business beginnings and growth into an internationally acclaimed manufacturer of the finest silk and satin cloth. In addition, learn some stabilization techniques for textile preservation.
- November 1, PM **History of Harrisville, NH - Presented by: Chick Colony**
The story behind Harrisville and Harrisville Designs.
- December 6, All Day **Holiday Party & Craft**
- January 10, AM **Pick Up - Presented by: Ute Bargmann**
Ute will discuss pick up using plain weave and will help us create our own pick up patterns. Bring graph paper (8-10/in), pencil, eraser. Ute will bring a threaded Structo. Handouts will be provided.
- January 10, PM **Hems & Finishes - Presented by: Loris Epps, JoAnn Miner, Jane Devlin** We will cover the basics of simple hemstitching and other techniques such as: double hemstitching, ladder, and zigzag. This will be a hands-on afternoon. Hemstitching can also be decorative and we will show you how to accomplish this. When to hand hem and how to will also be covered. Many examples will be available for inspiration.
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February 7, AM

Drafting Color & Weave - Presented by: Carol Birtwistle

Color-and-weave is a pattern effect produced by combining a structural pattern with a color sequence of dark and light threads in both warp and weft. Often giving unexpected results, the interlacing of the threads determines the pattern produced by these combinations and frequently the appearance of the cloth does not resemble either the original weave structure or the order of coloring. Participants will learn color-and-weave drafting, exploring both plain weave and twills as basic weaves in 4-shaft and 8-shaft color effects. This is a hands on workshop. Bring graph paper @ 6-8 squares/inch, 5 different colored pencils, eraser, ruler, note taking materials.

February 7, PM

Spinning for Weavers - Presented by: Carole Adams

Carole will demonstrate how to ply our own yarns, and talk about different aspects of spinning. She will also discuss various breeds of sheep and how they affect the spinning outcome, some dyeing techniques. If there was a stove available she will demonstrate a one pot dye that would work for fleece and or yarns. Carole will provide a recipe for copper dye and bring in some for people to try. Bring spinning wheels, drop spindles, yarn to ply, plastic bag for dyed yarn. No fee unless you wish to purchase some of her rovings.

March 7, AM

Weaving Tartans - Presented by Susan Targove

Susan Targove will lead a presentation on weaving tartans.

March 7, PM

Making a Gathering Basket - Presented by: Dennis Picard

Dennis Picard, director of Storrowton, will reveal his techniques for Making A Gathering Basket. Before plastic bags and modern packaging, baskets were used around the farm and household to gather and carry a multitude of things. Baskets are surprisingly easy to weave, using standard construction techniques.

April 11, AM

Rep Warp 101 - Presented by: Lucienne Coifman

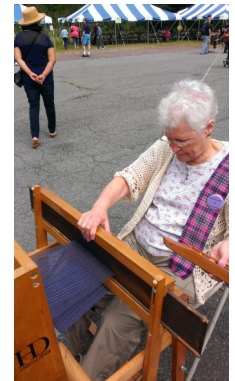
An introduction to rep weave some drafting to help understanding the process. Lucienne will bring handouts and lots of examples to explain this weave structure. \$1.50 material fee. Bring notebook, pen, rep pieces that you own, a camera to take photos of examples.

April 11, PM

Study group wrap up

May 9, All Day

Pot luck & year wrap up



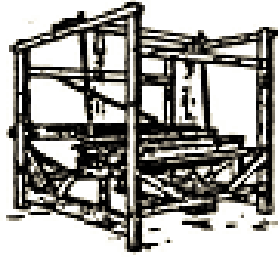
Hostess for 2014-2015

September	Sheri
October	Jo Ann
November	Pat
January	Barbara Eves
February	Leslie
March	Jane
April	open



OFFICERS

President	Jane Devlin
Program Chair	Laura Freeman
Secretary	Betsy McKee
Treasurer	Jo Ann Miner
Librarian	Barbara Eves
Assistant Librarian	Sylvia Deliso
Event Coordinator	Loris Epps



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Holiday Gift Exchange

The holiday gift exchange will occur at the December meeting. Members are asked to bring a wrapped items that is hand-made (it does not have to be handwoven) for the exchange. The value of the item should be at least \$10.

Each member will receive a gift in exchange!

FIBER FESTIVALS, EVENTS, SEMINARS – 2014

September 12 - 28 - Creative Arts at the Big E

www.thebige.com/fair/agriculture/documents/11caHandWeaving.pdf

September 12 - 28 - The Wool Nook at the Big E

September 20 and 21 - The Finger Lakes Fiber Festival, Hemlock, NY www.gvhg.org/fiber-fest/

October 4 and 5 - Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival, Tunbridge, VT www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org

October 6 through 12 - Spinning and Weaving Week

www.weavespindye.org/spinning-weaving-week

October 11 and 12 - NH Wool Arts Tour

www.woolartstournh.com

October 10 - 31 - Heddles & Treadles, Easthampton, MA

www.weaversofwesternmass.org

October 18 and 19 - NYS Sheep and Wool Festival, Rhinebeck, NY www.sheepandwool.com

November 1 and 2 - The Fiber Festival of New England, West Springfield, MA

Log Cabin Study Group

This year's study group topic will be **LOG CABIN**. We will discuss the ground rules in September but Susan will give us a thorough background structure at the October meeting. We are expecting that all members will participate. Our efforts will culminate with members displaying their treasures at the April meeting.



Weavers Guild of Springfield

PO Box 2605

Springfield, Massachusetts 01101-2605

The Weavers Guild of Springfield is made up of men and women living in the greater Springfield area who are interested in the design and weaving of textile materials. The present membership is approximately 35 persons.

The guild was first organized in November 1951, and has been concerned with promoting interest in weaving since that time. Meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month from September to May inclusive.

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in this field of activity. At the present time the list of members includes those who are just starting to take lessons and others who have spent many years weaving and studying textile design and production.

Guild Inventory

4-Shaft Harrisville Floor Loom	Guild Library
4-Shaft Harrisville Floor Loom	Nancy Morin
4-Shaft Structo Table Loom	Betsy Mckee
4-Shaft Structo Table Loom	Jane Devlin
4-Shaft Structo Table Loom (Monica)	Guild Library
4-Shaft Structo Table Loom	Loris Epps
4-Shaft Wooden Structo	Ute Bargmann
4-Shaft Wooden Structo	Ute Bargmann
Carder	Loris Epps
Blank Cards	Loris Epps
Sun Catchers	Loris Epps
Fringe Twister	Guild Library
Rope Machine	Guild Library



Webs 40th Anniversary Weaving Contest

All the entries of the winners and finalists in the 40th Anniversary Weaving Contest will be on exhibit at Webs on Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday, October 16-18.

Opening reception October 16 from 6-7:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.