



ESTABLISHED 1951

Fall 2007 Newsletter

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Nancy Evans, Volunteer/Supporter

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A hidden gem in our Guild is Nancy Evans. She is a teacher, giver, community oriented, generous with her time, willing to contribute quietly, dependably, and creatively. We have all enjoyed the beautifully hosted meetings at her home with the silverware, china, and cloth napkins. She also generously opens her home to us for meetings and NEWS projects. When she first joined the Guild, she joined as an active and participating member: attending meetings, contributing where possible and taking on the role of Assistant Librarian.

Teacher: Nancy single-handedly teaches weaving at New Leaf in East

Longmeadow. This involves setting up the looms, maintaining the looms, developing selling avenues, inventory management, and a 'boat load of patience'. These tasks are quietly completed without any 'horn tooting' by Nancy.

Supporter: We need a warp wound for event "x." The first person who volunteers is Nancy. This is only an example of the behind the scenes support that Nancy offers the Guild. Did you know that Nancy sits with a longtime close friend weekly and additionally as needed to provide some free time to the primary care giver?

Community: She has been a sustaining member of the Forest Park Sewing Group for 25 years and tirelessly works to maintain the character and beauty of the Forest Park community through her membership and many efforts with the Forest Park Civic Association. Nancy can be seen weekly at the Farmer's Market with her basket loaded with fresh produce. All of the vendors know her by name.

Creative: Meticulous and well-thought out are the key words for the key words for Nancy's efforts in weaving, wall paper hanging, and other artistic projects. For those of you with a 55th Anniversary Calendar, you have an example of Nancy's work.



July 19, 2008
9:00 am-5:00 pm
Look Park,
Northampton, MA

The Guild again supported the Glasgow Lands Scottish with over 11 members helping with weaving and spinning demonstrations, and helping youngsters on 7 table looms. We had over 100 people trying their hand at weaving on the Structos. We also had 1 floor loom and 3 spinners. Photos will be available at the September meeting. The towel for this year was designed by Reva Greenspan. Jo Ann has agreed to design a new towel for next year.

Loris wove yardage for cards that were donated for sale at this year's festival.



2007-2008 GUILD PROGRAM

- September 8, 2007 Morning: *Summer wrap-up*
 Afternoon: *Learning from Japanese Textiles*-Laurie Autio
 The limited range of Japanese clothing styles, compared to Western dress, seems to have lead to far greater creativity in the fabric itself. Garments that on first glance appear to be printed may turn out to be woven in amazing detail, finely stenciled, or hand-painted. A "plain" fabric is often a finely detailed damask. Dappled dots of shibori coalesce to form large graphic designs. Warp and weft resist dyeing combine in intricately detailed pictures. An underlying damask pattern is dyed in a gradation, and a supplemental metallic weft pattern, perhaps highlighted with embroidery or gold leafing highlights and complements the whole. Great thought is given to how the patterns are placed on the flat garments and how they fall on the body. Common themes have endless variations and a subtle symbolic language. This trunk show style talk will look at specific examples of Japanese textiles to examine techniques, styles, and lessons for the inspired western handweaver.
- October 13, 2007 Morning: *Shadow Weave I*-Pam Engberg
 The first session of the Shadow weave study group will cover the Atwater threading system. We will learn how to convert any twill threading (and several other threading types) to a shadow weave threading. Study group participants will be expected to design a shadow weave pattern from a favorite twill, and weave a sample to show at the next Shadow Weave meeting (11/3)
 Afternoon: *Rag Rugs*-Ute Bargmann and Loris Epps
 Slide presentation of different types of rag rugs and actual examples woven by Loris Epps and others who are willing to bring their work.
- November 3, 2007 Morning – *Shadow Weave II*-Pam Engberg
 This session will discuss the Powell threading system for Shadow Weave. Participants may use the same pattern that they converted to the Atwater threading, and see how it would be done in the Powell system. A sample done in Powell will be expected for the third meeting, 2/2.
 It has been said that the Atwater system is easier to design, but the Powell system is easier to thread. See which one you prefer.
 Afternoon: *Weaving Books in the Guild Library*-
- December 1, 2007 *Holiday Party and Surprise Project*
- January 5, 2008 Morning: *Deflected Doubleweave*-Eunice Smith
 Deflected Double Weave will give you a chance to weave circles and curves. Eight shafts will have four different two shaft warps to work with. Six shafts will have three. These separate warps will weave warp floats, weft floats or tabby. By changing the tie-up many different versions can be woven on one warp.
 Wet Finishing does magical things to this weave. What once were straight lines become graceful curves. Deflected Double Weave is included in the three dimensional weaves that are so popular now.

2007-2008 GUILD PROGRAM (cont'd)

Afternoon: *Kente Cloth*-Loris Epps

Travel to the continent of Africa and learn about many of the textiles woven and used on the West Coast. This lecture offers a glimpse of strip weaving, embroidered cloth, dyed fabric and plant material, signs and symbols, and other aspects of items used for clothing the body in West Africa. A replica of a loom will be available as well as an extensive handout and bibliography.

February 2, 2008

Morning: *Shadow Weave III*-Pam Engberg

This session will discuss the technical aspects of shadow weave: how the tie-up relates to the shadow weave blocks. We also will look at variations which can be created by varying color combinations, thread types and weights, and sett. The relationship of shadow weave to rep weave will be discussed and an intermediate structure called "shadow rep" introduced.

Afternoon: *Ergonomics for Weavers*-Laura Freeman and Reva Greenspan

Is weaving a pain in the neck or a pain in the back? Laura & Reva will present Weaving Ergonomics. To help us prepare information most helpful to everyone, please let Laura know which anatomical areas affect you most when performing any tasks related to weaving (e.g., warping, winding, threading, etc.). For example, my neck and shoulders bother me when I am threading the loom.

March 1, 2008

Morning: *Rep Weave*-Pam Engberg

Pam discovered that shadow weave threading result in patterned rep.

This session will discuss several aspects of rep weave, including classic rep threading vs. warp-faced weaving, sett variations, and the impact of loom type on weaving rep.

Afternoon: *Transparency Lecture*-Ute Bargmann

Slide lecture on transparencies in preparation for the April workshop with instructions on how to prepare for the workshop.

April 5, 2008

All Day - *Transparency Workshop*-Ute Bargmann

Weave your own transparency – handout with different techniques will be supplied..

Agawam Public Library 10 A.M.– 4:00 P.M.

May 10, 2008

Annual Meeting (place to be announced)

Officers 2007-2008

President	Jane Devlin
Program Chair	Ute Bargmann
Events Coordinator	Loris Epps
Secretary	Betsy McKee
Treasurer	Jo Ann Miner
Librarian	Eunice Smith
Library Assistants	Nancy Evans
	Sylvia Deliso
NEWS Representatives	Karen Wittshirk
	Pam Engberg

Program Ideas for 2008-2009

Felting	Crackle
Making a pillow	Warping wheel
Towel exchange	Rug weaving
Warp Faced Weaves	Beaded fringe
Name drafts	Collapse Weave
Diaper and Dimity	Tapestry
Round Robin with several weave structures	



Guild News

Barbara Gordon attended a week long resident linen weaving program at Becky's Vav Studga in Shelburne Falls this summer. This intensive hands-on program covered lined from planting through a finished woven item:

- Planting •Harvesting
- Processing •Spinning
- Weaving •Mangling

Let us hope that Barbara will bring her finished products to the September meeting.

Ute Bargmann, Susan Wright, and Loris Epps attended the Handweaving Museum and Arts Center, Clayton, NY for the Early Weaving and Manuscript Conference. Loris and Ute taught a one-day workshop prior to the conference on how to analyze fabric without destroying the original fabric. It was very popular as it was over subscribed on the opening day of registration. Ute also presented a lecture on the Zilu weaving techniques and looms of Iran. A very fascinating lecture resulting from an extensive research effort of Ute's. Her only regret is that

she did not have a actual working smaller version of the loom available for participate to see the actual weaving process. The Zilu loom produces a flatweave carpet made from cotton.

Zirel has been a bit under the weather this summer and also has had to deal with a few farming setbacks-the death of a goat and having to renew her well. In true Zirel form shi is hanging in there; so send her and email or a note of encouragement.

Sheri is planning a trip to Germany in October for medical treatment related to her back. Please wish her well.

Laurie Autio has started an Advanced Weaving Program Classes will be held on Tuesdays from 9:30-12:30. If you are interested, please contact Laurie at lkautio@comcast.net

Ruth won "Best of Show" and several other prize on her doublewoven scarf at the NEWS Gallery Show. The exhibit is up until August 16th at Smith College library.

Holiday Gift Exchange



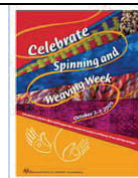
We will again have our Annual Holiday Gift Exchange at the December meeting. Members are asked to bring an handmade item (it does not have to handmade), wrapped and without the member's name attached. The minimum value of the gift should be \$10.

We will also make gift baskets for our members who can not attend the monthly meetings. More details about the type of items for the gift basket will be available at the October meeting

It is not too early to find that special gift!

Spinning and Weaving Week

October 1-7, 2007



...Honoring craftspeople, past and present...This is a time for guilds and individuals to honor teachers who have introduced new generations to spinning, weaving, dyeing and basketweaving. Exhibit the work of those you are honoring; recognize their contributions to the crafts. If you are in a guild that does not have a collection of biographies of members, start one so future generations will come to know their legacy; if you have no guild, pass on to those around you your craft history. Teach our children that these are noble

ITEMS OWNED by the GUILD

- Incredible rope machine: Nancy Evans
- 4-shaft Harrisville Loom: Sylvia Deliso
- 4-shaft Harrisville Loom: Ute Bargmann
- 8-shaft home made loom with 4 shafts operated with levers: Sheri Keshishian
- Carder: Loris Epps
- 4-shaft metal 8" Structo Loom: Betsy McKee
- 4-shaft 14" wooden Structo: Lynette Douville
- 4-shaft 18" wooden Structo: Ute Bargmann
- Rug warp-various colors, approximately 40 pounds: Jo Ann Miner
- 2-shaft wooden table loom: Jane Devlin
- Reeds, banner, Guild box: Jane Devlin
- Fringe Twister: Nancy Evans

Library Update

Sample notebooks are being stored at the home of Sylvia Deliso. A list of the sample notebooks can be found online.

The Guild Library is an ongoing project and we will be working on the sample notebooks at the afternoon meeting in November. We will all make decisions about which samples to keep, categorizing the samples so that they are useful and serve as a technical, visual, resource and finalizing a uniform storage option.

The following items have been added to the Guild Library:

- Handwoven Design Collection 17-Jackets and Pullovers
- Handwoven Design Collection 18-A Treasury of Towels
- Handwoven Design Collection 19-Scarves and Shawls for all Seasons
- Handwoven Design Collection 20-Weekend Weaving Projects
- Best of Weavers-Fabrics that go Bump
- Katherine Larson-Woven Coverlets of Norway
- Thorpe and Larson-Elements of Weaving
- SS& D—#'s 150, 151
- Complex Weavers #83
- Handowven #135



NEWS (New England Weavers Seminar)

NEWS 2007 was held at Smith College, July 19-22, 2007

We were responsible for hanging the Gallery Show. The following members helped to hang the exhibit: Sheri, Reva, Jane, Ute, Barbara G., Nancy E., Sylvia, Jo Ann, Ruth, Pat, Monica, and Loris. The Extended Gallery Show (a new feature at this NEWS) was up

until August 16, 2007 and presented some special security issues. A special thanks to Pat and Monica for securing senior tags and installing same in all items not stored in a locked display cabinet.

The exhibit during NEWS contained 78 items and an additional 28 items were added from the Fashion Show.

Karen served as site coordinator and Sheri was our other Guild Rep. Pam has taken over this role from Sheri. Thanks to Sheri for her years of service.

Please give any suggestions for the next NEWS to Karen or Pam. The next meeting is the 1st Saturday in October.



GUILD MEETING HOSTESS

September:	Laura Freeman
October:	Susan Wright
November:	Barbara Gordon
December:	Holiday potluck
January:	Jo Ann Miner
February:	Ruth Buchman
March:	Ute Bargmann
April:	Eunice Smith
May:	Annual Meeting-Pot Luck

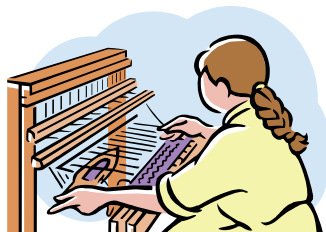


Yarn Sale-Members

Guild members can bring items for sale at the December meeting. All items will be on display for viewing until noon time and then the *buying* can begin until 12:30.

All items should be clearly marked with a price and ownership.

Members can also donate items to the Guild for sale with the profit going into the book fund.



Creative Crafts-The Big E (formerly *Craft Adventure*)

The following members entered items in Craft Adventure this year: Jo Ann Miner, Betsy McKee, Eunice Smith, Loris Epps, Barbara Gordon, Sylvia Deliso and Weavers Guild of Springfield.

Please consider entering items in 2008. The categories are about the same from year to year. Why not plan your next

weaving project and include an extra item to enter. The current entry fee is \$5 per item; the form has to be sent in by mid-August; with late submission until the end of the month but with a small fee attached. The item should be delivered on the Sunday or Monday prior to the Big E. Forms are available online at www.thebige.com

The Weavers Guild of Springfield wants to keep weaving and spinning as active categories.

Remember we offer a prize for *First Time Entrant* or *Junior Weaver*.



Nancy Evans, Volunteer/Supporter (cont'd)

Brief history of her weaving development

- Started with an inkle loom in 1979
- Took two courses from WEBS, Sumner Avenue in Springfield in 1983, and rug weaving with Connie Kindhal in 1985
- Completed several projects: wool pillows and cottolin coasters.
- Then took a hiatus for

twenty years

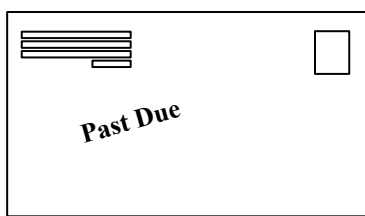
- November of 2003 Nancy took a workshop from the Fiber Arts Center in Amherst, *Empowerment for Women in the Arts*.

Next weaving project was towels for Christmas presents for her siblings, nieces, and nephews. Her next project was the fabric

for the WGS 55th Anniversary Calendar.

Nancy has been a member of the WGS since October of 2004.

DUES



DUES!!!

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID DUES your name on the envelope is highlighted in yellow. Please send your dues to Jo Ann Miner.

Dues are \$20.00 annually, due at the May meeting.

HAPPENINGS

Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival, September 8 and 9, 2007, www.vermontsheep.org/festival.html

24th Annual Monadnock Wool Arts Tour, October 6 and 7, 2007

NY Sheep and Wool Festival, October 20 and 21, 2007, www.sheepandwool.com

Franklin County Fiber Twist, October 27 and 28, 2007, www.fibertwist.com

Weavers from Bhutan

In mid-July, an exhibit of Bhutanese textiles opened at the C.X Silver Gallery in Brattleboro. By happenstance, they came in contact with two Bhutanese weavers who were visiting at the time in Arizona. The director of the gallery invited them to come to Vermont to celebrate and illustrate the exhibit going on there. Leki and Rinzin Wangmo, the mother-and-daughter team were actually featured in the spring issue of SS&D. With lots of sawing and discussing, the equipment was set up and Leki, who is a famous and very skilled weaver in her country started setting up. The yarns were not really up to her snuff – judging from the items that she brought, it is mostly three-ply, as it needs to be very strong and very fine. The warp is set extremely close, so close, that you cannot see the pattern wefts interlacing from the back. It was very interesting to watch yet another way to start a

project on a backstrap loom. Some of the elements are much like the backstraps of the Western Hemisphere, but others are very different. It would take too long to explain it here, but, perhaps a guild program could be undertaken, if enough people are interested. The textiles they brought for sale are exquisite. All the patterns seem to be done with the flying fingers of one hand, as the other holds on to the pick-up stick. The beating is extremely hard due to the close sett. It seems that if you do that kind of weaving, you would never have to worry about roundness of the body.



Study Group—Shadow Weave

The Study Group topic for this program year is starting point for this discussion group. Pam has volunteered to serve as the discussion leader at the October morning meeting. The Study Group Coordinator for this project is an open position at this time.

Shadow weave is a block weave. The pattern effect is vertical stripes vs horizontal stripes. Pam will lead us on an in-depth study of this block weave, different systems to obtain this effect, and different classification systems.

The study group will be in 4 parts, running from October

and November with the last lesson in March.

A special treat will be the February when Pam will teach us how rep relates to shadow weave.

Members are expected to weave a sample for exchanges in November and February.



**Sample! Sample!
Sample!**

Weavers Guild of Springfield

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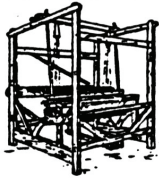
UPCOMING EVENTS

Hatfield Historic, September 16, 1-5pm—Ute, Susan, Nancy E., Carole, Karen, Jan

Conway Festival of the Hills, September 30,
10am-4 pm—Ute

Suffield Commons, September 8 and 9, 2007—Betsy

WEAVERS GUILD OF SPRINGFIELD



ESTABLISHED 1951

GUILD HISTORY

In the spring of 1951, two friends, Carolyn Stannis and Madeleine Aldrich, interested in handweaving wanted to meet others with the same interest, and perhaps start a weavers' guild. Several meetings were held at the YWCA. Summer came and it was decided if people were still interested they could get in touch with either person after Labor Day. Nothing happened until about November, when three stated a desire to proceed. All were notified and a meeting was held on the evening of November 30, 1951, at the home of Miss Madeleine Aldrich. Ten attended and voted to organize the Weavers Guild of Springfield (Mass.) and elected officers.

We continue to grow, demonstrate weaving and spinning, and foster the art of weaving.

BLOGS and PODCASTS

Wikipedia describes a **blog** as (a portmanteau of **web log**) a website where entries are written in chronological order and commonly displayed in reverse chronological order. Blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject such as food, politics, or local news; some function as more personal online diaries. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability for readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs.

A **webcast** is a live media file distributed over the Internet using streaming media technology. Essentially, webcasting is broadcasting over the Internet.

jasmineweaver.blogspot.com:

Weaving - including warp painting and dyeing, teaching, designing and production.

Groups.yahoo.com/groups/weaving
The purpose of this group is to talk about weaving. New members have to be approved prior to posting.

www.weavecast.com
A podcast for weavers.

www.ringsurf.com/netring?ring=WeaveRing;action=list
A ring devoted to weavers and weaving. Contains many blogs created by weavers.

www.websyarnstore.blogspot.com
The official blog of WEBS - America's Yarn Store. Follow owners Kathy & Steve through their adventures in yarn and life.
<http://yarn.com/s/podcast.html>

If you have others, please share at the September meeting.