

Weavers' Guild of Boston

P.O. Box 366, Andover MA 01810

Diane Chaisson — Editor
diane@meadowlarks-farm.net

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SUMMER 2019

Dean's Message



Hello Fellow Weavers –

As I complete my first year as Dean of WGB, I am filled with gratitude and admiration for all of you who make our guild a vibrant place to share our love of weaving.

We have had wonderful speakers and workshops this year and our May end of year meeting was a joyous and fun-filled event. Congratulations to all the Award winners and all the participants in the Challenge and the Fashion Show.

Thank you to all who have stepped up to fill committee slots – you are indispensable to our organization.

I hope your summer is filled with sunshine and weaving!

Carol

Education Grants

The 2018- 2019 year is coming to a close and the new fiscal year will begin in July with renewed opportunities for Education Grants. Don't forget that 2019 is a **NEWS** year. Please see the updated form on the WGB website. Thank you!

Grants are not awarded on the basis of financial need, but to encourage new opportunities to extend learning in the field of weaving.

Martha Rossman
Education Grants Chair

Annual Meeting 2019 Awards

Mary Merrill Distinguished Achievement Award, 2019

This award honors a highly skilled member weaver who has made a major contribution at the national level.

To: Sarah Fortin, #3510

Sometimes we have a moment where we realize we have taken far too long to recognize someone. This is such a case. Sarah's meticulous and innovative weaving and superb sewing skills have made her a national figure. She has taught at guilds, NEWS, Harrisville, Complex Weavers Seminars, and other locations and continues to develop new topics. She is also a contributor to Handwoven and Complex Weavers Journal.



Mary Merrill Award

To honor a highly skilled member weaver who has made a major contribution at the national level.

**Sarah Fortin
#3510, 2019**



Sarah's work includes doubleweave color work, surface weaves, shadow weave, woven pleating, sometimes embellished beautifully with precise beading. Her workshops include "Art to Wear" woven clothing, woven pleating, and colored block doubleweave. Sarah has been especially recognized for her innovative weaving of folded doubleweave – a beautiful example is the 2018 Complex Weavers Award Ribbon.

Sarah was honored with a Handweavers Guild of America award for Innovation, Inspiration, and Excellence. She has won many Complex Weavers awards, and won the coveted NEWS Weaver of Distinction in both Gallery and Fashion divisions in 2005.

Sarah's work, and her sharing of techniques, are an inspiration and gift to the larger weaving community.

Annual Meeting 2019 Awards

Constance Gallagher Award, 2019

For excellence in one or more of the following areas: Linen weaving, teaching, research, or meticulous craftsmanship.

To: Norma Smayda, #1512

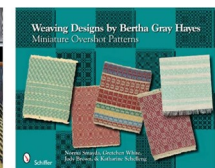
Not everyone fills all the possible criteria for this award. Norma does. She is a master weaver, teacher, and author. She learned to weave in Norway, and Scandinavian design, colors, and weave structures remain an important focus of her work. In 1974 she established and continues to run the Saunderstown Weaving School. She also specializes in 3-shaft weaves, fine linens, and the contributions of William Henry Harrison Rose and Bertha Gray Hayes. Norma is the co-author of *Weaving Designs by Bertha Gray Hayes: Miniature Overshot Patterns*.



Constance Gallagher Award

For excellence in one or more of: linen weaving, teaching, research, or meticulous craftsmanship.

Norma Smayda #1512, 2019



More recently, Norma has immersed herself in weaving with fan reeds, and in designing and exhibiting her ondulé textiles which have been featured in two exhibits, the 2017 New England Weavers Seminar and Hera Gallery in Wakefield, RI. She shares this interest in her recently published book, *Ondulé Textiles: Weaving Contours with a Fan Reed*. Her book includes the history of fan reeds, contemporary weavers of ondulé textiles and her personal journey with fan reeds and ondulé textiles. The latter is a weaver's documentary of an adventure with a new weaving experience making for fascinating reading.

She has received the New England Weavers Seminar Weaver of Distinction Award in both Gallery and Fashion divisions, and is a Past President of HGA, Past President of NEWS, and coordinator of the illustrious Cross Country Weavers. In the past, Norma has received both the Distinguished Achievement Award and Honorary Membership from WGB. She is a major contributor on a national level.

With her teaching, research, and weaving, Norma opens the eyes of all weavers to new weaving frontiers.

Awards



Dorothy Glowacki Award

To a younger or newer member who exhibits steady progress and merits recognition.

Frann Bennett #4725, 2019



Dorothy Glowacki Award, 2019

This award is given to a younger or newer member who exhibits steady progress and merits recognition.

To: Frann Bennett, #4725

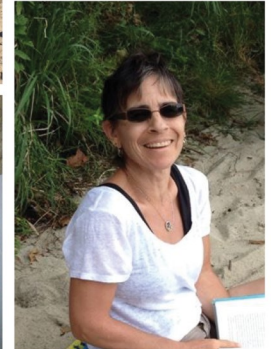
Frann is a new and enthusiastic member of WGB. When Frann retired a few years ago, she was encouraged to start weaving. She began this adventure methodically by taking classes, researching loom types, and looking for ways to use her stash of fine handspun yarns. Attention to detail, willingness to try new things, and a methodical approach make Frann the weaver she is now. She is meticulous and persistent, open to new weaving challenges – even if she thinks they are a little “over her head.” This is a weaver who strives to “get it right,” unweaving or making another piece if needed. She tries out unfamiliar types of weaving and looms and is enthusiastic when she sees successful results. She has been learning weaving by systematically taking workshops and acquiring looms and fixing them to bring them up to working order. She always asks questions and prepares for things with great thoroughness. Above all, Frann loves to share her weaving adventures with others. She refers to herself as a “newbie” – but her current weaving says otherwise! She has embraced weaving with both hands.



Helen Barrett Award

To a member whose service has made them of outstanding value to the guild.

Joanne Germaine #4129, 2019



Helen Barrett Award, 2019

To a member whose service has made them of outstanding value to the guild.

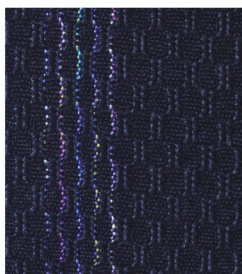
To: Joanne Germaine #4129

For many years Joanne has stepped in to help the guild. For a very long stretch she was the facilities coordinator, the person who kept all the space and equipment needs running smoothly. She set up classrooms, helped with AV, and worked extra time at many meetings. When things needed doing, she quietly stepped in to help, dealing with disasters with calm and patience.

Over the past year, Joanne worked tirelessly to implement the Pouilly-Cross textile cataloging system for the WGB library. This involved looking at EVERY library holding and deciding which textile category it fit into, printing out new spine labels for each book. Then each book had to be re-shelved by that category. Much of the re-shelving took place on hot summer days on the third floor library, with a group of volunteers that she supervised. Joanne had a clear vision of what she wanted to accomplish and she persisted through many months of work. The result is a library that is more functional for our members and one that makes our valuable holdings easily accessible.

Her big smile makes everyone feel welcome

Awards



Helen Barrett Award

To a member whose service has made them of outstanding value to the guild.

Diane Chaisson #4532, 2019

Helen Barrett Award, 2019

To a member whose service has made them of outstanding value to the guild.

To: Diane Chaisson, #4532

Diane has been Associate Dean, Dean, Historian and Sale Treasurer. Currently she writes the Bulletin, is Sale Assistant Treasurer, and serves on the Awards Committee and the 100th Anniversary Exhibit Committee to name a few. If a job needs to be done Diane quietly steps in to do it. Diane is organized, thorough, committed to any job she takes on, and gives 110%. On many occasions she has quietly done others' jobs when they have not fulfilled their tasks. She is tactful and thoughtful. Her input on the board shows she understands all aspects of WGB and how to bring it into the future.

"I first met Diane as Dean of the WGB. I was in awe of her organizational and leadership skills in managing such a large and diverse group of weavers. Her strengths are her ability to listen to each person and to bring all parties together to reach consensus. This is no easy task in working with an artistic group!"

"What amazes me the most about Diane is that she is everywhere at every WGB event. Whatever needs to be done, she quietly picks up the pieces and just does it. She does not look for praise or a pat on the back. She simply makes the work look easy and gets it done to help the guild."

Additionally, Diane has the art, creativity, and talent needed for weaving. She is always looking to expand her weaving knowledge through workshops and practice. She generously shares her knowledge and offers encouragement to others in the workshops.

Diane asks not what the guild can do for her but what she can do for other weavers and the guild. Diane is one of the members that create the fabric of the guild. Without her work and leadership the guild would not be what it is today.

Outreach Opportunities:



Alden House Historic Site Sheep to Shawl Festival: Saturday, September 28, 2019, noon – 4pm, Duxbury, MA. The Alden House (<http://www.alden.org>) is the location of the second home of the Alden family, after they left the Plimoth settlement. The Guild has been invited to demonstrate aspects of weaving from winding a warp to weaving cloth. Alden House does not provide equipment so members would have to bring their own. There is a barn that can be used if it rains. If you are interested in participating contact Jane Moore or Caroline Ronten.

moore.jane@comcast.net

carolineronten@gmail.com

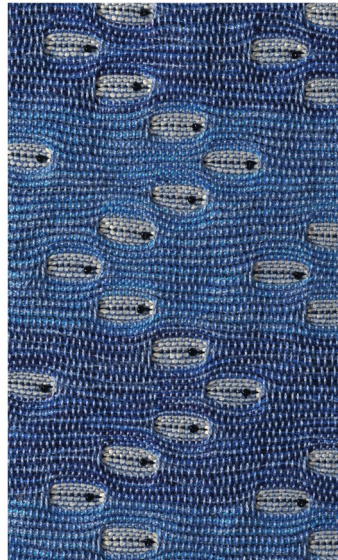
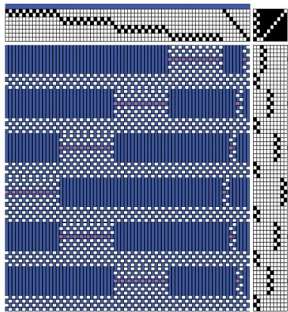
Awards



Celebration of Weaving Life Award

In honor of the WGB members who passed away during the guild year. This year's award is in memory of Rosita Corey.

Rosita (Rosie) Corey #753
 WGB Apprentice rating, 1963
 WGB Journeyman rating, 1964
 WGB Master rating, 1977
 Weaver, teacher, birder, naturalist, writer



Celebration of Weaving Life Award, 2019

This award is given in memory of the weavers who died during the past year. In 2019 we give this award in honor and memory of Rosita Corey, #753.

Rosita (Rosie) Corey

Rosita Corey, 87, a lifelong Concord resident, died peacefully on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at Nashoba Park Assisted Living in Ayer. She was born in Boston on April 25, 1931, the daughter of the late Eben and Dorothy (Peters) Corey. A 1950 graduate of Concord Academy, she went on to receive an undergraduate degree in Physical Education from Boston University. During her career as a teacher, she was employed at Belmont Day School for twelve years. Rosie was thoroughly passionate about nature, especially birds and flowers. Her expertise and journals contributed to a Wall Street Journal article

about climate change. She participated in the annual Christmas bird count in Concord for nearly sixty years. Her travels also fed her love for nature and exotic birds, as she explored several continents and countries during her life including South America, South Africa, Tanzania, and Costa Rica.

She was a master weaver and a longtime member of the Weavers Guild of Boston. She completed her Apprentice rating in 1963, Journeyman in 1964, and Master in 1977. In 2012 she contributed the piece shown to the WGB anniversary book, *Interlaced*. In it, honeycomb ovals became a school of fish, swimming through waves.

Rosie also loved rooting for the Red Sox and other Boston teams, playing tennis with friends, and spending summers in Kittery Point, Maine for over forty years.

Award Recipients

Celebration of Weaving Life

In honor of the WGB members who passed away during the guild year. This year's award is in memory of Rosita Corey.

Nancy Flood #4733, 2019
Susan Pippin #4367, 2019
Helen Sandoz #4622, 2019



To: Nancy Flood, #4733

Nancy has held the Assistant, Co-Chair and now Chair roles for the WGB Annual Sale. She took on this challenge in her usual highly organized approach to a large project. No challenge is ever too large for her to handle, and she has always achieved excellent results. When Nancy saw that the cash-out system for the sale was not working effectively and involved a great deal of time by the sale treasurer, she developed a new more efficient and effective system. When confronted with the possibility that the construction at the church in Wellesley would not be completed by the 2019, she immediately began looking, while still communicating with the church. She spent many hours looking for a new space and followed up on all leads until the committee chose to return to the church. Sharing her expertise with Photoshop Elements and Paintshop Pro to make the postcards, Excel to format for the new printed tags, and readying the sale page for the new website, Nancy has gone above and beyond for the betterment of the guild.

Her ability to oversee the sale as one project with many smaller projects needing to be completed in a timely manner was impressive and made for a smooth process. Nancy's attitude and approach to solving problems is always positive. She is always willing and able to pitch in and help with anything that needs to be done. She does not look for recognition from others in her work for the guild. An accomplished weaver, she prefers to stay in the background to accomplish excellent results.

To: Susan Pippin, #4367

Although Susan has been weaving for about twenty years, she only joined the Guild about five years ago when she retired. Very quickly she became a very active member of the team working to locate a new venue for the annual sale. She did an excellent job on the Nominating Committee, which is always a

difficult task. She was even very gracious when the board kept adding new positions and worked with gusto to recruit more members. She was a godsend in making the reorganization come together in the last few years.

Susan brings an artist's eye to her weaving, creating simple but elegant pieces. She is eager to learn more and improve her skills. Susan likes all forms of lace, especially knitted and woven.

"Susan is the kind of member that we need to encourage as a weaver and recognize for what she has contributed to the Guild."

To: Helen Sandoz, #4622

Helen accepted the daunting task of webmistress after Susan Targove created the new website. She took on this challenge in a highly organized approach. No website challenge has been too large for her to handle, and she has always achieved excellent results. Anytime she sees a need on the website (for example, a simple to use form for anyone to list their used loom and equipment, on-line class sign-ups, or ways to make the website better and more visible), and does it. She has developed procedures for passing on inquiries and purchases, processing refunds, and keeping the information current.

Helen's attitude and approach to solving problems is always positive. Her thoughtful input to any board decision makes her an asset to the board and guild. She is always available to help guild members and is willing and able to help with anything that needs to be done. She does not look for recognition from others in her work for the guild, preferring to stay in the background to accomplish excellent results. Helen is very positive, capable, proactive, and thorough, a member who loves to pitch in with a smile, and gets the job done with efficiency and good results.

2019 Ratings

Lynn Lucas—Journeyman



Wasn't the display of Lynn Lucas's beautiful Journeyman rating work at the Annual Meeting inspiring? Think about doing a rating yourself! Pursuing a rating is a great way to deepen your weaving knowledge.

Deb Watson (previous Ratings Committee Chair) and I will be doing a morning session in September where we'll be answering Apprentice rating questions. See the list of morning workshops when it comes out for more details. Meanwhile, I'm always happy to answer your questions on any of the ratings via email (ruthbuchman@gmail.com).

IMPORTANT CHANGE: Starting in 2021, all ratings will be due in February, not March. This means Candidates must notify the Ratings Committee Chair in writing or by email by February 1 when they have decided to submit a rating that year. The submission itself will be due on the date of the February meeting. This change is being made so that anyone asked to redo an article will have a more reasonable timeframe to do it in. Note that next year's ratings will still be due in March. The February due date will start the following year.

Ruth Buchman, Ratings Committee Chair
(ruthbuchman@gmail.com)

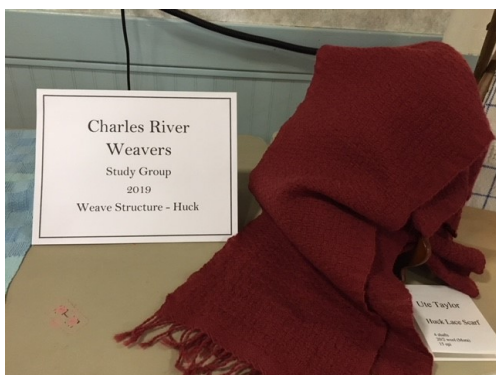


Misc.

Charles River Weavers Huck Lace

This year's project was to weave an item using huck lace as the structure. The group met three times during the year to share their progress and get encouragement on other weaving projects.

Members: Carol McClennen, Linda Snook, Elizabeth Springett, Nancy Flood, Sue Knowles, Ute Taylor, Barbara Provost



Thank you From Mary Underwood Ann Arbor, MI For 2018 Gallagher Award

"A very late 'Thank you' for the Constance Gallagher Award from way back a year ago. When I received that, followed by the two foam flower plants (that are doing very well in the little planting in front of my studio), I could write 10 pages on the feelings all of this evoked. Reduced, it might boil down to incredulous, major surprised, stunned, honored, amazed, and deliriously happy. The furthest from my radar orbit — or any orbit. All of you in the WGB are people I admire, pattern myself after, look to for how to be the best possible weaver. To be recognized and honored in this way means the world to me."



(Mary's introduction to WGB was at NEWS at Merrimac College she was inspired by the Fashion show items.)

"I'd never seen anything so beautiful and so well woven, designed and constructed. And my thoughts at the time were: "Who are these people? How is it they are so skilled? Can I be one too?" And either during or right after that conference I became a long distance WGB member. My intention was always to do the ratings program. That is still on the bucket list.

One of the weavers from Ann Arbor that I enticed to join WGB and start coming to NEWS was Ellen Willson. I guess I pulled a Tom Sawyer — got Ellen interested in joining the guild, dragged her out east as much as I could, and then she is the one who actually did the work towards earning her masters weaver rating. Sadly, fate dropped in, uninvited, and said "No." Please let the guild members know that Ellen has been fighting a glioblastoma centered in the frontal portion of her brain. This was diagnosed last March but signs of problems emerged a couple months before. She underwent chemo and radiation and continued to deteriorate. A change of drugs brought her back to us for 3 too short months so that we could talk and take her to weaving meetings again. But when able again to be active, she continued to follow her passion and attend as many weaving events as she could. At the time the tumor was diagnosed, she'd been working on half Dukagong for her Journeyman rating. Now hospice is overseeing her care — and she is still in her home. "

Full letter and pictures will be available from Carol McClennen or from Historian

2019 Guild Challenge



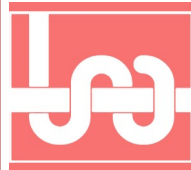
 **The Spinning
Wheel Sleuth**
A Newsletter about Spinning Wheels and Related Tools

**HAND LOOMS,
SUPPLEMENT #21.**

Gallinger Loom Design; Sears Hearthside Looms; Nellie Sargent Johnson: Creator of Sears Hearthside Looms; Inga Asking and Her Two-Legged Loom; Loom in a Wallace Nutting Photograph. WGB member discount price is \$9.

Hand Looms, Supplements #1 to #10, on flash drive. WGB member discount price is \$14.

Make checks payable to and mail to The Spinning Wheel Sleuth, P. O. Box 422, Andover, MA 01810. Or via PayPal at www.spwhsl.com



NEWS 2019

Thursday July 11 - Sunday July 14

Smith College

Hope we will see many of you at NEWS. Look for opportunities to socialize during the weekend—meals and dorm. Be sure to shop the vendors and see all the shows. If you haven't been assigned a volunteer job yet and can fit it in contact Susan Haggerty
SusanBH@alum.wellesley.edu

2019 Hill Masters Exhibit

Friday June 7th, 5:30 - 8:00 PM
Saturday June 8th 9:30 AM - noon

There are two masters finishing:
Brenda Parella and Barbara Gordon.

Hill is located in Florence, MA (a section of Northampton, a few miles from Webs), at 83 Pine St. Parking can be tight, so plan on carpooling if you can.

We need to support our weaving education systems, and especially the people who have put so much effort into completing the six years of work for the master certificate. I'm always inspired by the body of work of each master, as well as the individual pieces. It is rare to be able to see a body of work for most weavers and with two, there is the opportunity to see how different people interpret the same criteria. Students still in class will also exhibit pieces, some from class and some independent.

If you are thinking about doing the WGB ratings, the display may be particularly informative. The four years of class at Hill are mostly different, but the two years of independent work were based on WGB's requirements in the late 1950s and are similar to the current ones.

There are also exhibits of all the other crafts taught at Hill.

Obituary



Eunice R. (Stoddard) Smith passed away Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at Valerie Manor in Torrington, CT. at the age of 98.

Eunice was a passionately creative woman who loved making crafts, weaving, making her own clothes, and she was a voracious reader. She belonged to The Weaver's Guild of Springfield and was a master weaver who taught adult evening classes in weaving and she wrote a seminal book on the subject.

For full obituary:
<https://obits.masslive.com/obituaries/masslive/>

Halcyon Yarns Benefit

WGB received a check for \$66.06 from Halcyon Yarn, 5% of what members spent at Halcyon last year.

They asked us to please remind our membership to mention WGB when they place their order either online or via phone so their order is credited to our account.

Café Press Benefit

Are you looking for items with the Weavers' Guild Logo? From magnets to mugs to sweat-shirts. They can be found at:

<https://www.cafepress.com>

Search - Weavers Guild of Boston then select the department you want

Looking Toward the 100th

Fuller Craft Museum

Rooted, Revived, Reinvented:
Basketry in America
May 18, 2019 - August 11, 2019

fullercraft.org/exhibitions/current/



2019 Fashion Show

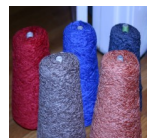


What topics are of interest?

The Education Department is looking for recommendations of topics and speakers that the membership would like to explore.

What topics or interests would you like to share with the Guild? We know you are out there!

Contact: Joan Paul mapaul24@gmail.com or
Linda Snook linda.c.snook@gmail.com



Rosie Corey Yarn and Equipment Sale



Saturday, June 8th 9:00—5:00
Sunday, June 9th 10:00—2:00

More than Rosie's stuff and lots of it. Come and find just the right materials for your next project. Help support the guild with your purchases. Spread the word about this opportunity. Add it to your social media posts. Come yourself AND **bring friends!**

Beth Guertin's Garage
49 Pleasant St Waltham



Weavers' Guild of Boston Sample Summer 2019

Weaver: Karin Borden (#2024)
Date: May 1, 2019
Weave Structure: Plaited Twill

Errata Spring sample

Remove the "colors" line as that was from the winter bulletin. Correct colors were listed in the Warp and Weft lines

Warp yarns: Contessa, beige, no longer available

Weft yarns: Contessa, red

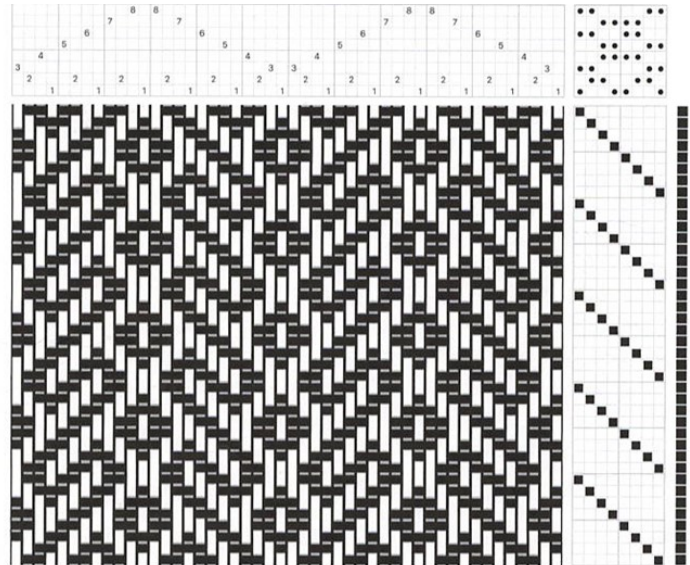
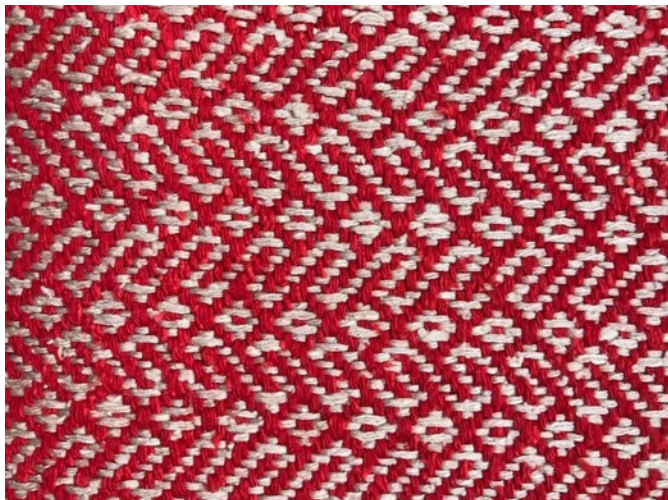
Equipment: 8 Shaft loom

Sett: 16 epi, 16 ppi

Reed: 8 dpi – threaded 1 end /heddle, sleyed 2 threads/dent

Takeup and Shrinkage: 10% to 15

Finishing: hand washed, line dried, steam pressed



About the Draft:

This is a simple pattern but can be made more complex by experimenting with different treadings or by adding zigzag borders. Adding a slightly heavier yarn of a contrasting color on shaft 1 between shaft 8 can look interesting and make the centers of the diamonds pop.

About the Weaver:

Karin Borden has been sewing since she was 14, and weaving since 1978, getting her apprentice rating in 1992. She found weaving and sewing a perfect combination for making handwoven garments for herself and her family. In the last few years, she has concentrated on creating pattern for and making small one of a kind handbags for which she has won several awards, exhibiting them at NEWS.

Note: Samples may be picked up from your folders at the guild meetings, ONLY if you opted for woven samples. If you checked the box, on your renewal, for digital samples only, there will not have a folder, and your sample will come to you only digitally in your emailed Bulletin. Samples not picked up during the year, will be mailed to you, only if you have opted for this and paid the postage, at time of renewal. All left over samples, not picked up from folders, will be donated to the New England Weavers Seminar Beginner classes. Please contact Ro Spinelli at reilspin@comcast.net with questions or to volunteer to weave samples for the bulletins.

Annual Sale & Exhibit

The annual sale is a beautiful assembly of all kinds of handwoven articles. We're hoping that more people will take advantage of this opportunity to show their work and to see first-hand how the public interacts with all our varied creations. Even if you only enter 1 or 2 pieces, it's a fun experience and a way to be part of our weaving community.

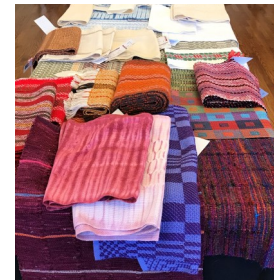
Not sure if your work is "good enough"? It probably is, but bring it to a guild meeting for some feedback. Worried about the process of completing an inventory sheet and tagging your items? Don't! We're here to help – at guild meetings, via phone or email, or whatever way we can. Want to be part of the team that puts on the sale? Let us know. (Sale committee members get to put their work on the annual sale post-card and poster!)



More details will be available over the coming months. Look for info in next Bulletin!

Now is the time to start planning!

--Elizabeth and Nancy and Marnie



Membership Renewal Reminder

You will find membership renewal information on the website by going to www.weaversguildofboston.org. **Click on the membership button where you can also set up a login if you haven't already done so.**

Online renewals will begin on July 1 and must be completed by July 31 to be included in the yearbook.

You can also renew by check mailed to:

Frann Bennett, 6 Partridge Lane, Sudbury, MA 01776

Once payment is received, you will be sent an email to confirm your current information.

For members with no computer access, a membership form will be mailed July 1.

The membership fee is \$45 for 2019/2020.

Check out the reworked website! Thanks Helen and Carol, for your hard work.