
CUYAHOGA WEAVERS GUILD

President's Letter

Dear members of Cuyahoga Weavers Guild,

In these trying times, I have found that our Zoom meetings are the highlight of my day. It is so great to see your smiling faces and to hear your voices. I must admit that I am not doing that well at other times. When the members show their beautiful show and tell items I cringe because I have done nothing. NADA!!! My loom is sitting next to me currently holding a pile of mail and a box of tissues. I should be weaving as I watch TV you say. Yes! But I am addicted to Kdramas. That is Korean soap operas on Netflix. So I cannot weave and read subtitles at the same time. Yes. My life has become that complicated. Anyway, I am taking this opportunity to wish you all the happiest holiday season. Take care of yourselves! That is of the utmost importance!

Your rather strange president,

Bobbie Shafer

p.s.

Should any of you be interested, go to Netflix-Korean Dramas. For your first one I recommend "Crash Landing on You".

2020 - 2021

CUYAHOGA WEAVERS GUILD PROGRAMS-subject to change

Patty Hridel Program Notes for Cuyahoga Weavers 2021

The coming year is going to be a bit of a surprise year for all of us. You may never know what will be on the agenda for a Weavers Meeting via Zoom. What we do know is we will cope and hope! And for those of you who are having a difficult time, let it be known that we still consider you a part of our very special pack. Here are some thoughts for you and we look forward to seeing you.

At this writing, the meetings will be via Zoom.

December 17, 2020

Program wise, we will view a fairly short video about Saori weaving. Aside from learning the principle of Saori design, I saw a dynamic method for clasped weft weaving! I'm ready to give it a try—after the Holiday gifts get finished and the loom is free.

January 21, 2021

This should be a Good Luck Day for us-it is 1.21.2021. Has a certain ring to it.

February 18, 2021**March 17-18, 2021**

We look forward to seeing everyone with Irish good humor and smiles. On line workshop with Susan Conover instructing us in Shadow Weave. We need 6 participants to offer this at \$150 each. It will be 4 or 8 shafts and you will have a runner when finished. **Please contact Patty to sign up.**

April 15, 2021

We will not be "Taxing" our brains with our program this day!
We agreed to have a show at the Beachwood Branch of the Library but this will have to be confirmed with the Library as we get closer to the date.

May 20.2021**June 17, 2021**

This just might be an opportunity to gather as we could be outside. Our program would be an opportunity to share, to show and tell and plan for next year.

We are going to make sure we have a good connection for videos in December before promising further program videos to everyone.

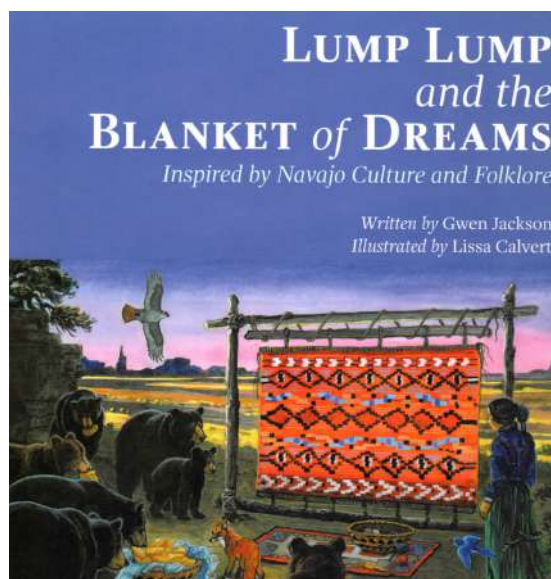
Patty's Book Review

Patty Hridel

I don't purchase books much anymore. I am a two library system card carrying devotee. And when I want or need library like information about weaving, I call Victoria, and absolutely always come away with a book resolving my weaving question. I did, however, purchase two books lately, the only two books I have purchased lately, and they are about weaving--not surprised are you?

The first book is the children's book, **Lump Lump and the Blanket of Dreams**, *Inspired by Navajo Culture and Folklore* by Gwen Jackson. I had been anticipating the publishing of this book for a few years since I took a Navajo weaving workshop in Tucson, AZ. This is a story of Spider Woman weaving a blanket as in Navajo folklore and features a blanket woven by one of my teachers, Barbara Teller Ornelas. Barbara and her work are referenced in this little book many times and every time I read it to my 3 & 5 year olds, I recall that remarkable workshop with the Navajo women.

The second book, **How to Weave a Navajo Rug and Other Lessons from Spider Woman**, is written by Barbara and her sister Lynda Teller Pete. This wonderful point by point instructional manual continues my workshop experience weaving in the Navajo way. I'm not very good yet but I have a leftover warp on my loom that I want to make into a small rug/blanket that will tactilely be able to illustrate the children's book. Along with Lump Lump, a wonderful stuffed black bear, his friends a hawk, robin, fox and blue bird we have a way to interact with the Navajo legend.



AND THIS

Perhaps November 11th passed by you with little fanfare. Perhaps you remember "Armistice Day" or "Remembrance Day" as a child. Perhaps for you Veterans Day has great significance. Perhaps I have forgotten other "holidays" named to be celebrated on this day. This year, I heard that November 11, 1620, was THE day the Mayflower landed in North America with 102 people and 2 dogs to establish a new home for freedom to worship. And this fact, a 400th Anniversary, led me to reading the book Mayflower by Nathaniel Philbrick.

Mr Philbrick references several textile pieces of history that I did not expect to find in this tale of hardships and wars. He mentions the Pilgrims eleven years in Holland, "As foreigners in Holland, many of them had been forced to work menial, backbreaking jobs in the cloth industry, and their health had suffered. " He also says, "They were weavers, wool carders, tailors, shoemakers and printers with almost no relevant

experience when it came to carving a settlement out of the American wilderness..." included was "a thirty-three-year old corduroy worker named William Bradford,



..."

These devout people withstood dreadful difficulties, were reduced to almost half their original number over the first winter and attempted to build a life anyway. They, did not, however, bring with them any sheep! As a matter of fact, it wasn't until 170 years later in Massachusetts that the first mill towns were established in the United States. So it took a few generations, some growth and trials before New England became quite the textile center.

As we know, flax for homespun, hemp and alas, cotton became the fibers of American Textile History. I won't attempt a lesson of all that---but today, I am amazed again at how our humble looms have woven together peoples, nations and a world.

Debbie Silver current gallery and events

See the photos of 2 scarves and the tote bag I've just completed. Photos and info on each piece follows.

1) Pink and grey scarf: This is a 2:1 ratio double weave using a split shed on 4 shafts. The pink is cotton and the grey is a wool singles yarn. When wet-finished, the wool shrinks a lot causing the pink layer to ripple.

2) Autumn Wind scarf: Split-shed double weave in orange linen and blue merino/camel blend wool. The differential shrinkage causes the leaves to ripple.

3) Reversible "Four Elements" tote bag. This split-shed pattern has different structures on each face. One is a 4-tie twill, the other is a paired-weft Summer & Winter. I wanted to use both faces, so I planned a reversible bag with two-layered (store-bought) sides and bottom to hide the seams.

Announcements:

"What If Einstein Had Been a Passenger on the MS St. Louis?" received the Honorable Mention with Distinction award in the "Memory and Resistance" exhibition.

This social justice art advocacy show is one of the many events scheduled this year celebrating the 40 Anniversary of the InterReligious Task Force on Central America and Colombia.

- October and November - Virtual Exhibition Memory and Resistance digital exhibition <https://scalar.case.edu/memory-and-resistance/index>

- December and January – Actual Exhibition, Article Gallery 15316 Waterloo Cleve. 44110

- To see the Exhibition and make an appointment, email – dianetheresep@hotmail.com

I also currently have weavings in juried exhibitions at the Valley Art Center, Ursuline College, and the Ohio Art Council Riffe Gallery.

Thank you,
Deborah Silver





A blank page here b/c the editor can't figure out how to delete it. Frown.

1,700-Year-Old Sock Spins Yarn About Ancient Egyptian Fashion

This stripy toe sock appears to have warmed the foot of a tot in the late antiquity period

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smartnews-history-archaeology/1700-year-old-sock-spins-yarn-about-ancient-egyptian-fashion-180970501/>

Credit: Smithsonian Magazine web page



The Secret Language of Istanbul's Dream Weavers

Maybe you have a mind to travel? Visit this site.

<https://www.afar.com/magazine/the-secret-language-of-istanbuls-dream-weavers>

"Threads of beauty, history, and memory make a Turkish carpet much more than a souvenir."

Credit: [afar.com](https://www.afar.com) website



MASKS

Victoria Johnson-Parratt

When such behavior was still encouraged, I hung out with fiber folk; a touchy feely, tactile people who shared food, air and encouragement. For now we are best to stay far apart and fully covered in case we accidentally get close.

Masks are currently mandatory, and I never go out without wearing at least one. I have started layering a light blue scratchy tri fold paper one over my soft white washable three layer cloth one for a double triple layer of protection whenever I must expose myself to the world.

While we've been hunkering down, many of my friends have been making their own personal protection in the form of washable face masks. They have made many for themselves, the ones they love, and complete strangers.

Research has been done. Alternate structural designs have been tried, tested and debated to achieve all day comfort and to fight the dreaded glass fog.

I've seen plain fabric, simple small print calicos and colorful tie-dyes for the everyday; holiday and other seasonal themes for special occasions. Everybody already seemed to have a good collection of cloth on hand to start.

They found a softer, rounder elastic that can be dyed to match the fabric. Some add seam binding or special piping. One friend found special toggles to allow for adjustment on those days when you have to need to wear it for a long while.



WEAVE A REAL PEACE

The guild maintains a membership in this organization. You can access it using Jean J's email address and the PW: Cuyahogaweaversguild2018. The "C" is capital.



Debbie Swan's Gallery

I have been very busy doing nothing. But I have been weaving and learning. I've been doing a double weave double wide throws. Using Shetland virgin wool. Never used wool before and learned a lot. Shrinkage was almost 20" in width. Not sure why but I think it was because my tension was way too tight. I had a lot of little floats. Especially on middle and bottom layers. The bottom blue throw was hand washed in sink, agitating a long time. Maybe too long. The second one I didn't agitate as long.

The next 2 pictures was log cabin. I never did it but totally enjoying it, that's why i did 3 projects.

Have a few more projects I am trying, who knows what is next?





Joan Horwich scarf

Amoretti XXIII: Penelope for her Uliesses sake

BY EDMUND SPENSER 1552 -1599

Penelope for her Uliesses sake,
 Deviz'd a Web her wooers to deceave:
 In which the worke that she all day did make
 The same at night she did again unreave:
 Such subtile craft my Damzell doth conceive,
 Th' importune suit of my desire to shnone:
 For all that I in many dayes doo weave,
 In one short houre I find by her undonne.
 So when I thinke to end that I begonne,
 I must begin and never bring to end:
 For with one looke she spils that long I sponne,
 And with one word my whole years work doth rend.

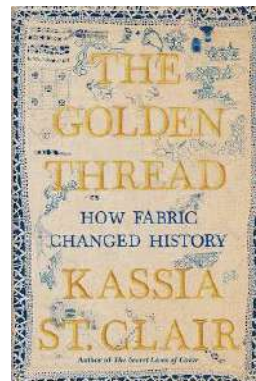
All About Fiber, Thread, and Cloth

The Golden Thread: How Fabric Changed History

In thirteen episodes, the advancements of thread and textiles are offered with such chapters titled: *Fibers in the Case, Cities that Silk Built, Surf Dragons, Solomon's Coats, Layering in Extremis, Under Pressure, and The Golden Cape*. And these chapter quotes to spur on curiosity.

"I give you the end of a golden string;
 Only wind it into a ball:
 It will lead you in at Heaven's gate."
 William Blake, *Jerusalem*, 1815

"Brother, when you have brought me the woven flax,
 Who will dye it for me, who will dye for me?
 That flax, who's will dye it for me?"
 Sumerian love song, 1750c



"Flax grows from the earth, which is deathless, and yields an edible fruit,
 proving clothing which is at once cheap and clean: suitable for every season. And is the material, so
 they say, least likely to breed lice."
 Plutarch (c. AD 45 - 120), Isis and Osiris

"How are we to imagine a loom, which even in simple form is a rather complicated instrument, among people who don't even know metal?"

Jakob Messikommer 1913

"In the silkworm month we strip the mulberry branches of their leaves,
We take those axes and hatchets,
Luxuriant are those young mulberry trees."

The Book of Odes, 11th - 7th century BC

"Men plough; women weave."

Chinese proverb

'Out of the way! We are in the throes of an exceptional emergency! This is no occasion for sport —there is lace at stake!'

Elizabeth Gaskell, Miss Pole in *Cranford*, 1851

"Wild trees bear fleeces for their fruit surpassing those of the sheep in beauty and excellence, and the natives (of India) clothe themselves in cloths made therefrom."

Herodotus, 445 BC

Joan Horwich gallery



Officers and Committee Chairs

2020 - 2021

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Bobbie Shafer

Secretary
Joan Horwich

Treasurer:
Jean Jackson

Newsletter:
Nancy Allman

Membership:
Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Librarian:
Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Card Correspondent:
Ele Richardson

Web Mistress:
Victoria

Hospitality:
Sarah Berg
Debbie Swan

Publicity:

A great place to volunteer!

Study Group Facilitator:
Patty Hridel—on hiatus

Programs 2020 - 2021
Patty Hridel
Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Exhibition Committee—on hiatus

Bobbie Shafer
Jean Jackson
Nancy Allman
Victoria Johnson-Parratt
Ele Richardson
Patty Hridel

Nominating Committee
A great place to volunteer
Weaver emeritus
Rose Rubin
Elly Rose

Contributors

Fall and Winter 2020
Issue 132 -133

Nancy Allman
Joan Horwich
Patty Hridel
Victoria Johnson-Parratt
Bobbie Shafer
Debbie Silver
Debbie Swan

DEADLINE FOR FALL NEWSLETTER IS

March 1, 2021

Submit to:
newsletter@cuyahogaweaveguild.com

ABOUT CWG

The Cuyahoga Weavers Guild of Cleveland, Ohio is an organization open to all weavers, spinners and any others interested in textiles and fibers.

The Guild's calendar year is September through June. Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month via ZOOM currently. Please refer to the Program calendar and descriptions.

****NOTE:** Dues are currently suspended for the 2020-2021 year.

Dues are \$25.00 per year, payable at the September meeting or by mail to the Treasurer, Jean Jackson, 2980 Washington Blvd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. If you are unable to attend meetings or workshops but would like to receive the newsletters, you may subscribe for \$12.50 per year.

For more information about the Guild, please contact Bobbie Shafer at 440-954-2866 or shaferbobbie66@gmail.com

Look for us online at <http://cuyahogaweaversguild.com>. The newsletter is published three times a year in the fall, winter and spring.

Please send newsletter content to newsletter@cuyahogaweaversguild.com. Deadline for the CWG Spring edition is **March 1, 2021**.