

President's MESSAGE

SUE BALASCIO

Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a very nice holiday season. Bill and I have been enjoying a week off in that quiet peaceful place between Christmas and New Year's. Gathering with friends and family for lots of fun, food and games; and just taking some time to rest and rejuvenate! As I reflect back on 2017, I'm reminded of the many things I've been blessed with – good health, a warm home, plenty of food and a wonderful family. I truly am thankful for all of it!

I'm also thankful for all of you! Many of you have given so much to the guild this year. You've worked hard so that we could enjoy informative and exciting monthly programs, amazing workshops, a beautiful biennial show and so much more. Your time, energy and expertise are so appreciated!

I'm very excited about January's meeting. It will be completely SHOW AND TELL! I'm looking forward to seeing all the beautiful, creative things you've been working so hard on. It's always inspiring to see the many different techniques, patterns, fibers, etc. in each project. That's what I love about weaving, there are so many variations, one can never get bored!

See you in January!

Sue

REFRESHMENTS

Thanks to Sandy Buckworth and Karen Mason for providing refreshments for the January meeting.



January PROGRAM

JANUARY 11, 2018 – SHOW AND TELL
ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH
345 BEAR-CHRISTIANA RD (RT. 7) BEAR, DE



The full time will be devoted to our members to share what they have been working on. This is a good opportunity to bring what you wove at MAFA to share with our members.

For SALE

24-INCH KROMSKI RIGID HEDDLE LOOM



Like new condition, 24" Kromski Harp loom, Kromski floor stand, Kromski carrying case, various length shuttles, warping sticks, 4 heddles (sizes 8, 10, 12, 16) and a few other weaving tools. Asking \$575. All are in excellent condition. In addition, I have the original heavy duty carrying case (green) manufactured by Kromski (never used except to bring home the loom when originally purchased). There are various length shuttles, warping sticks, etc. The loom is available in Northern Delaware.



HARMONY WEAVERS GUILD OFFICER AND COMMITTEES

President—Sue Balascio

Vice President—Pat Field

Secretary—Mary Robertson

Treasurer—Lesley Campana

Membership—Linda Shinn

Internet Services—Toni Ammons

Hagley—Sandy Buckworth and Wendy Shipman

Hospitality—Sonnie Sperati

MAFA—Carol Ireland

Newsletter—Gail Pietrzyk

Programs and Workshops—Karen Mason, Karen Evans, Gail Caron

Outreach—filled when needed

Publicity—filled when needed

Nominating—needs to be filled by the January meeting yearly

Biennial—committee to be formed

REMINDER/UPDATE: SPECIAL WINTERTHUR/GREENBANK MILL PROGRAM

CAROL IRELAND

Many of you have signed up for the Wednesday, March 7 program at Winterthur. If you haven't but you're interested, please let me know. In early December we will open up the program to other guilds.

We are applying for a MAFA grant to cover some of the costs for this program as well as the Guild program and Marjie Thompson workshop. If this is approved, the cost for the Winterthur program could drop from \$40-\$45 down to \$20-\$25.

As a reminder, the day-long Winterthur visit to the museum will include:

- Three 30-minute "workshops" that will include the library,** the Marguerite Porter Davison collection and some textiles in the house (including needlework study & curtain storage)
- A lecture by Marjie Thompson: **Woven at Home—Debunking the Myths Begun by The Colonial Revival Movement***
- Time to explore the grounds and museum and take an introductory tour in the afternoon.

If there is sufficient interest, we will add a visit to Greenbank Mill at the end of the day. This will include an overview of the site, a walking tour (weather permitting), and a visit to the Madison Factory and its spinning and weaving equipment, including a demonstration of a spinning jenny.

Upcoming PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

February 8, 2018—Finishing tips—Four Members will be sharing different ways to finish hand woven items.

March 8, 2018—Margie Thompson 18th and 19th Century Weaving—This meeting will be at Winterthur in the Brown Center (no Show and Tell)

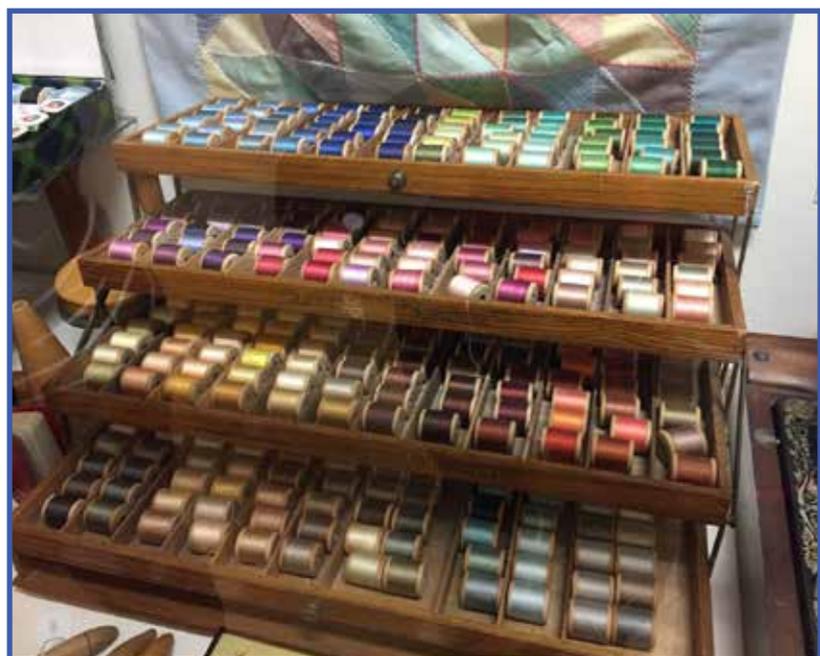
April 2018—Gail Caron—Make a baskets for your shuttles. She will have two differnt styles to pick from. One will be to hang on the side of your loom the other will be to put sit on top.

May 2018—continue making a basket with the finishing process

May 2018—Continue making a basket with the finishing process

June 2018—Picnic

I don't think I ever gave any thought to where sewing thread came from until I went to Scotland and visited the town of Paisley. There it hit me that sewing thread is a spun cotton fiber, just like the 20/2 mercerized cottons and 8/2 unmercerized cottons, and all the other cotton yarns I use for weaving. I have a box full of spools of sewing thread, and from the visit to Paisley I now have an appreciation for where sewing thread came from.



On our tour we visited a small museum of archives from J. P. Coats, a thread company based in Paisley. The Clark Thread Company was also based in Paisley, first established in the 1750's.

Motivated by the demand for cheaper threads to reproduce Kashmir style shawls coupled with other historical events in Europe, the Clark company in 1812 invented a method of plying cotton yarns to create a thread similar to the silk used in Kashmir shawls (later called Paisley shawls).

J. P. Coats, the more aggressive of the two companies, took over the Clark company in the 1890's. By then, thread production at Clark had expanded to the U.S. (New Jersey and Rhode Island, among other locations). In the early 1900's, J. P. Coats continued that trend and became a global company with mills all over the world.

The company was quite progressive in its treatment of employees. Mill employees had many options for clubs — pipe band, bowling, literary society, cars, etc. Workers were given £1 for getting a small pox vaccination. J. P. Coats was one of the first companies to give women pensions.



I encourage you to search for the BBC show "The Town That Thread Built" (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08tl9nr>). I viewed it a couple of months ago but can no longer find a link that works. The BBC link does have some clips from the video.



It's an interesting review of the history of Paisley and sewing thread. I couldn't help but think of our own local history. The DuPont Company and the DuPont family really built Delaware, starting in 1802. Well into the 1990's, DuPont and Wilmington, if not Delaware were synonymous. But as with J & P Coats, globalization and other factors led to significant shrinkage of the company and its influence locally. In the Paisley video employees say they expected to spend their entire careers at Coats. That was also the case at DuPont —but that's all changed now.

Here are two other links about the history of the Clark Thread Company and J. P. Coats, respectively:

<https://trc-leiden.nl/trc-needles/organisations-and-movements/companies/clark-thread-company>
<http://www.coats.com/index.asp?pageid=20&time=year1800s>

DECONSTRUCTING DISASTROUS DEFLECTED DOUBLEWEAVE

DEBORAH LEWIS-IDEMA

This year's "project" for the Downstate Group is called "Go where you have never been before". In other words, try something outside your normal comfort zone. I decided to do deflected doubleweave, with radically different threads. A pattern in *Handwoven* (Nov-Dec 2016) using Zephyr for one layer and 60/2 silk for the second particularly intrigued me. I warped the loom and wove a sample. When washed, the sample looked good so I merrily proceeded to weave off the entire scarf and washed it.

Disaster! Instead of staying in nice little rows (like in the *Handwoven* picture) the threads of the 60/2 silk floated all over – and the entire scarf looked sloppy and unkempt. (My "before" photo shows what it looked like.) Wet finishing a second time only made the problem worse, as the silk shrunk so much less than the Zephyr. But the Zephyr felt wonderful and I didn't want to lose it.

So, while watching *Hinterland* on Netflix, I spent 4 evenings carefully pulled out every piece of the 60/2 silk – and the "after" photo shows the result. Where the silk was, there are now perfect little spaces throughout the scarf, spaces which are much neater than I would get if I had simply skipped dents while warping. The scarf feels luxuriously soft, understatedly elegant and would be a great scarf for a man. All's well that ends well.



BEFORE



AFTER

GYNNIE MOODY

Our well-received exhibition has been hanging in the Outlook Gallery at the Delaware Art Museum since the end of September, and will end Sunday, January 14. It has been seen by many. If you have not seen "The Fabric of Life," try to go in the next couple of weeks. We have one more outreach event on January 7, Roc Day, with the emphasis on spinning.

Harriet and Gynnie will pick up the pieces on January 19. You may arrange for pick up at the museum on the 19th, or later at the Moody's home. Any items that have not been picked up will be delivered to the February meeting.

It has taken a team effort to make this event a success. A thank you to all those who submitted their work, to those who demonstrated and guided, and to the staff at the Delaware Art Museum who displayed our work at its best.



Vulcan's Rest FIBERS

2728 Augustine Herman Highway
Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Open Everyday

10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, OPEN 10:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

KNIT NIGHT: WEDNESDAY EVENING TO 9 PM (ALL ADULTS WELCOME)

THURSDAY MORNING GROUP: STARTS AT 10 AM (ADULTS)

410 885.2890

info@vulcansrest.com

www.vulcansrest.com

MINI SPIRAL URN BASKET CLASS

Monday, January 15, 2018

10 AM TO 4 PM

This is a lovely little basket which uses two colors, gradually going from one to the other. Small doesn't mean easy, as this basket involves some delicate weaving and shaping. These challenges will make the day more interesting. Cost of class is \$40, includes all supplies needed. Teacher: Margaret Trussell



KNITTING FIRST AID

Every Tuesday and Thursday

FROM 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

Knitting help will be offered on a brief, drop-in basis at the shop. Beth Gillis will be your in-house expert to handle your questions or problems about knitting. Just bring the troubling item in, and Beth will advise you on solutions for your difficult knitting hurdles. Beth can advise you about classes while you are here, if you need more than brief help..



POTAWATOMI PONCHO

Saturday, January 6, 2018

9 AM TO 12 PM

Potawatomi features a unique construction, where there are no immense WS rows in purl—and the fringe is added automatically as you go—quite innovative indeed. We'll go through the pattern, begin together, and talk about revising size and shape to fit your body type. We'll look at the various ways to work the cable pattern—and how to read the cable chart, then you'll have all the skills needed to finish this amazing project.

At a later date, we'll circle back and talk finishing and picking up stitches for the cowl neck.

Materials required: 1200 yds worsted weight yarn such as Shalimar Yarns Paulie Worsted, Fyberspates Vivacious DK, or Classic Elite Liberty Wool, size 8 US needles, cable needle, pattern, and your notions bag. Instructor: Michael Del Vecchio

Fee: \$40

© Sunday Knits

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LIN LIN SHAWL

Saturday, January 6, 2018

1 PM TO 5PM

The Lin Lin Shawl is all about learning something new. Knitters will cast on at the edge and work short rows throughout the rib section, before moving onto a simple cross hatch lace and finally a mock-cabled lace edge.

In this class, we'll review each of the stitch patterns separately—practicing the lace skills needed to successfully navigate the cross hatch and "little bird" border. From there, we'll go on to cast on, talk short rows, and you'll be on your merry way to finishing an outstanding shawl in no time. *Note, we still love garter stitch shawls.

If you're too intimidated by Lin Lin,

but love the look and wouldn't mind practicing some lace, check out the Pettigrew Shawl (in the shop) in Classic Elite Escape—it features some similar shaping and texture. If you'd prefer to undertake this one, we'll go through the saw-tooth applied border on Pettigrew.

Materials Required: 656 yds worsted weight yarn such as Classic Elite Adelaide, Shalimar Yarns Paulie Worsted, or Classic Elite Escape, US 8 (5 mm) needles, your notions bag, and pattern.

Instructor: Michael Del Vecchio

Fee: \$50



© Yoko Johnston

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/lin-lin-shawl>

Weaving Classes - Three Sessions Each

BEGINNING WEAVING ON A RIGID HEDDLE LOOM

Wednesdays, January 10, 17, & 24, 2018

10 AM TO 4 PM EACH SESSION

Are you one of the many people who have always wanted to just try weaving? This is a good opportunity to try out weaving to see if you will like it. If all goes well, you will have the opportunity to make three separate projects to help you learn this ancient and inspiring craft.



Cost of the class is \$150, payable all at once or week-by-week. Cost of the yarns you choose for your projects would be extra. Looms may be borrowed to use in class and for homework. Class instructor is Margaret Trussell

BEGINNING WEAVING ON A FOUR-HARNESS LOOM

Fridays, January 19, 26 & February 2, 2018

10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM EACH DAY

Come in a learn the ancient art of weaving on a loom. Men and women over all history have produced the cloth from which our clothing and household linens are made. In more recent times, weaving has become a pleasant past-time rather than a necessity of daily living. You may find this to be your perfect new passion.

Cost of the class is \$180, payable all at once or weekly Cost of yarn you choose for your projects would be extra

Instructor: Margaret Trussell

Looms may be borrowed for the class and to take home for your homework. If you own your own portable loom, please bring that.

ABOUT OUR GUILD

The Harmony Weavers Guild meets from 9:30 am–12 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Membership includes a monthly Newsletter available through the web site: groups.yahoo.com/group/harmonyweaversguild, or by e-mail attachment or by post if you prefer. Contact Linda Shinn at info@harmonyweaversguild.org to request access to this website where you will also be able to see previous newsletters and photos of recent activities.

WEATHER ALERT

In bad weather, please check your e-mail and the HWG Yahoo Groups website for messages to see if the meeting has been cancelled or rescheduled: groups.yahoo.com/group/harmonyweaversguild or telephone Maureen Kamerick on info@harmonyweaversguild.org for information.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Interested in joining the Guild? Please contact Linda Shinn by e-mail info@harmonyweaversguild.org Membership renewal for each year is due by the June meeting in order to be included in the membership directory. Please complete the membership form and return with your check, payable to Harmony Weavers Guild, to:

Linda Shinn

Follow the church driveway around the right of the church building to the rear parking lot. Use the Formation Center Entrance.

FROM THE NORTH

I-95 to Exit 4A–Christiana Mall Road – this puts you on Rt. 1 South. Follow Rt. 1 to Exit 162 (Rt. 273). At bottom of exit ramp, take a right, get into left hand lane immediately. Take left at light (Rt. 7), church is approximately ½ mile on the left.

**DIRECTIONS TO ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH
345 BEAR-CHRISTIANA RD (RT. 7) BEAR, DE 19701**

FROM THE SOUTH

Rt. 1 to Exit 162 (Rt. 273), take a left onto Rt. 273, and get into left hand lane. Take left at light (Rt. 7), church is approximately ½ mile on the left.

FROM THE EASTERN SHORE

Take 301N to Rte. 1 and then follow the above directions coming from the South.

From Maryland Rt. 40 East (Pulaski Highway) to Bear, DE. Left onto Rt. 7 (next traffic light past Governor’s Plaza Entrance). Church is approximately 1.3 miles on the right.

FROM NJ

Take Delaware Memorial Bridge. Take exit towards US-13S/New Castle Airport/US-40W/Wilmington /Dover. Drive for 0.3 miles. Keep slight left at fork towards ramp towards US-13S. Drive for 0.1 miles. Go straight to get on N. Dupont Highway heading southwest. Drive for 2.7 miles.

Turn right onto Rte. 273/Christiana Road (at the Burger King). Drive for 2.7 miles. Take left at light onto Rte. 7S (Bear Christiana Road). Church is approximately 1/2 mile on the left.

MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2017-2018

All Members: Categories for Membership: Active \$25 Non-active (receive the newsletter only): \$10 Full-Time Student: \$10

New Members: Joining between January 1 and March 31: \$15 Joining April 1 through June: \$30 (includes next season’s dues)

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ABOVE–Checks payable to Harmony Weavers Guild
PLEASE CHECK ONE

Please print your name and address as you wish them to appear in the membership directory.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____ E-Mail _____

Fiber Interests: Weaver _____ Spinner _____ Dyer _____ Felter _____ Other _____ Year Joined _____