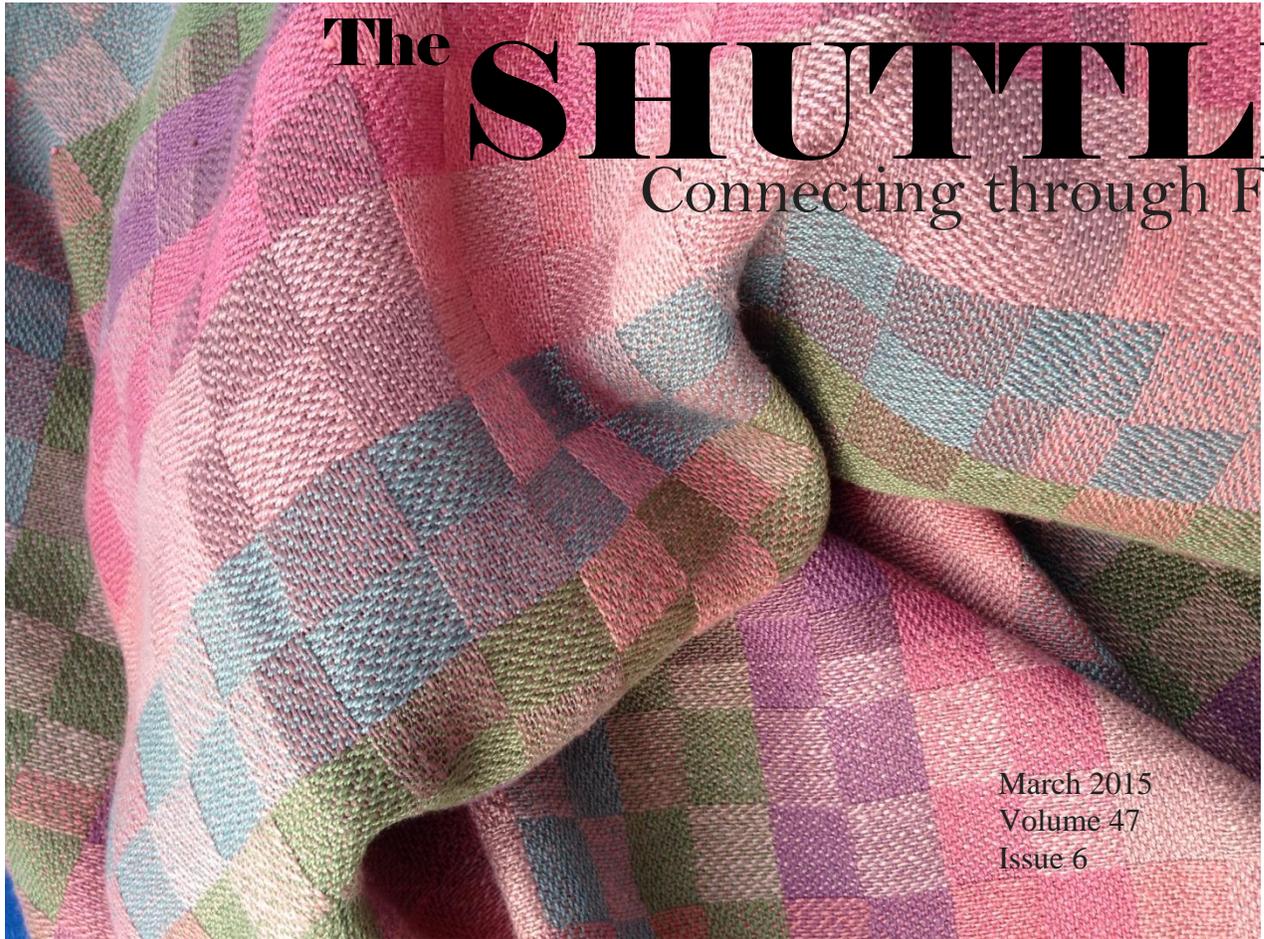




Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo

www.weaversguildofkalamazoo.org



The SHUTTLE

Connecting through Fiber

March 2015
Volume 47
Issue 6

A note from your president.....

Greetings Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc. Members,

A big thank you to Letty Klein for taking charge of the February guild meeting, and running two board meetings during my mini snow bird adventures. It is so nice to know the Board is in good hands with Letty and all the other Board members who do such a nice job at their respective duties. Please know your efforts for the guild work you do are very much appreciated.

We are looking for new members to serve on the Board. The Board meets once a month August through June, and it is a good group of people to work with. It is also fun to be a part of the direction our guild takes each year.

If you are a member of this guild, you should know that there are four elected positions and twenty-five additional jobs posted in our Yearbook. Some of those jobs, like Library storage, and archive storage have been done by the same people for a very long time, and their household has set aside space for our collections. Other jobs have been held by many members, and some of them, like Education Chairperson, Membership Chairperson, Shuttle Editor, Guild Photographer, and Webmaster have been held by the same person in charge of that specific job for quite some time, now.

There are also twelve members of our guild who serve on the Wafa Sale committee, three of whom also sit on the WGK Board. Some of these people have worked in these positions for several years.

Continued Page 4



JOIN ROSALIE FOR DINNER

Monday, February 9 at 5pm

Fieldstone Grill in the Woodbridge Shopping Center
(3970 W. Centre, Portage, 269-321-8480)

Please contact Letty Klein

either via phone or e-mail

One week prior, if you plan on attending

2014-2015 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President – Cathy McCarthy
 Vice President – Letty Klein
 Secretary – Marcia Freridge
 Treasurer – Nancy Krapf
 Education – Judith Jones
 Program Committee Chair – Letty Klein
 Program Coordinator – Letty Klein
 Mentor Program – Terri Smith
 Scholarship Program – Anne Mehring
 Shuttle Editor – Marta G. Williams
 Yearbook Editor – Mindy Tai
 Yearbook Fabric – Gail Ross
 Service Bureau Coordinator – Melissa Powers
 Librarian – Kristi Chapman
 Library Storage – Martha Reeves
 Membership – Marta G. Williams
 Newcomers/Welcoming – Marta G. Williams
 Photographer – Stephanie Kyhn
 Historian/Archivist – Joanne Casey Smith
 Hospitality Chair – Cyndee Mishler
 Equipment Rental – Nancy Frost
 Arts Council Rep – Gretchen Huggett
 MLH Rep – Cathy McCarthy
 WAFA Chair – Nancy Crampton
 WAFA Treasurer – Jill Strobel
 WAFA Secretary – Cory Zann
 Exemption Committee – Anne Mehring,
 Nancy Clark, Karen Kendall



2014-15 PROGRAMS

7 pm

Portage Senior Center

Doors open at 6:30 pm

March 9-Rosalie Neilson “The Power of Block Design” What is a block? A block is a basic unit of design. It can be as simple as a patch of color or as complex as a pattern or texture. For artists in most media, a block is something tangible which can be arranged into specific patterns. For a quilter, a block is a square of fabric; for a mosaic artist, it is a tile; for a surface designer, it may be an application of dye on a cloth. For a weaver, however, a block is more abstract and will have different manifestations in different weave structures. A block design intended for a woven textile must be expressed through a weave structure. Therefore, decoding the blocks in a design requires a weaving plan complete with threading, treadling, and tie-up which corresponds to a specific weave structure. Learn how one weaver used the textures of 4-shaft huck lace to develop the definitive set of two, three and four block motifs which become the building blocks of complex block designs with literally millions of patterns to be discovered by the adventurous weaver/designer.

April 13-Su Butler “Understanding Rayon Chenille” Rayon chenille scares many weavers. Su will help you understand the fiber and the idiosyncrasies of successfully weaving with it. Learn how it is made, how to handle it before, during and after weaving, appropriate weave structures and more! See beautiful samples of rayon chenille weaving! Come armed with questions and be ready to learn all about weaving with sumptuous rayon chenille!

May 11- Annual Business Meeting and Presentations from Study Groups

The 4-Harness Study Group would like to invite members of the WGK

to our meeting when **Gail Ross** will be presenting

“**Introduction to the Classic Swedish Weaves**” based on her recent class at Vavstuga.

March 12, 2015, The Parchment Community Library located at 401 S. Riverview Dr., Parchment MI 49004.

Social time 10:00 am, presentation at 10:30 am.

Please RSVP to Ellen Solaric, edithej@mail.com. by Monday, March 9.

As my **Thank You!**



The 5th and next to last seminar I will be sharing with you is Dimensional Weaving for 4 to 8 Shafts, presented by Stacey Harvey-Brown. Stacey really enjoys creating fabric that is ‘not flat’ utilizing nature as her inspiration. She is a prolific weaver and samples-samples-samples. There were three long tables stacked with her samples. She says her approach is ‘What if?’, so she tries all sorts of things...all of them teaching her something and opening up new possibilities. There are several ways of weaving dimensional fabric, but the three Stacey focused on were shibori, overshot and stitched double cloth. All three techniques produce fabric that ‘pucker’. In most cases, the surface relief is a result of differential shrinkage of yarns during the fulling process, or the use of thermo-plastic yarn, such as polyester, which will retain a shape after heating (such as steaming).

Library News

Your excellent Board has generously loosened the purse strings a little, and given the Library budget a little extra to purchase some new books for you! Come to the Library Corner at the next meeting and see if you can be the first to sign out one of these new gems:

- *Tri-Loom Weaving* (triangle loom)
- *Handspun: New Spins on Traditional Techniques*
- *Woven Scarves*
- 2 "Weaver's Craft" back-issues on warping front to back

-Kristi Chapman, Guild Librarian



STUDY GROUPS

Join a Study Group!

For more information, contact the study group leader.

Four Harness-Marcia Freridge – meets second Thursday at 9:30 am at members' homes.

Moonbeamers-Helen Lemmer – meets fourth Monday at 7 pm at members' homes.

Multi-Harness-Nancy Frost – meets third Wednesday at 9:30 am at members' homes.

Spinners-Terri Smith/Carolyn Snyder – meets third Friday 10 am to 2 pm at Parchment Library.

Swatch Exchange-Gail Ross – a virtual study group.

Triangle Loom....Lenore Snyder

Place and date TBD, interested members please contact Lenore at 517-437-4904 or email lenore@lenorej.com

Keep your Guild Alive - Volunteer!

There are many volunteer opportunities within the Guild. Please contact a Board member to find out what volunteer opportunities are available.

Service Bureau Opportunities

Two new requests for volunteers were received this month.

Our Photographer, Stephanie Kyhn is looking for a couple spinning volunteers. She teaches a Fiber Arts class for a home school co-op that meets once a week in Marcellus, MI. She would like a volunteer, or two, to help her teach hand spinning to a group of 8 girls, ages 11 and up sometime in March or April. They meet on Wednesday mornings 11:15 to 12:45. She's looking for someone to join her for a session or two.

If you would be available to help Stephanie, her contact information is 269.344.4392 or kyhns@yahoo.com

We also received a request for volunteers to demonstrate at The Irish Festival on Friday and/or Saturday, June 26th and 27th, 2015 in downtown Kalamazoo at the Arcadia festival site.

I'll be meeting with Nancy Baker and her team members, in the near future, to gather more information about this event. This would be a great opportunity for both spinners and weavers to help promote our Guild.

Please consider joining us for some of our upcoming events.

Volunteering is a wonderful way to help spread the word about WGK, share our passion for weaving and spinning and a wonderful opportunity to get to know our fellow members.

Looking forward to seeing you all in the upcoming year,

Melissa Powers

Service Bureau Coordinator

MLH Pillow Display

Our Guild display for the June Michigan League of Handweavers exhibit will be a display of pillows in the colors of sunrise and sunset. These pillows will be a wonderful way to highlight the talents of the members of our group. Pillows can be woven, felted, knitted or whatever textile technique you are doing right now.

If you would like to purchase your insert with the group, please let me know the size at the March meeting or email me.

I have volunteered to discuss the topic of pillows in this article. Please recognize that these are my opinions, they are not rules. Your decisions about making a pillow will depend on whether the pillow is for your use or whether you plan to offer it for sale.

Choice of Fabric: The first decision you need to make is the choice of fabric. Usually the pillow gets some wear from use, so you will want to use a fabric that is not extremely fragile. If your fabric has long floats or is a little lightweight, you can stabilize it with iron-on interfacing. I like to use a lightweight knitted one that I get at Field's available in white and black. Be sure to test on a scrap of your fabric, some threads do not hold up to the high temperatures of an iron.

Sewing the Pillow: You should not have raw edges inside the pillow. Just a row of zig zag on the edge of the fabric will be enough. I usually use a half-inch seam on the pillow. I have found that a wider seam makes the pillow not fit the insert very well. The size of your fabric (for example 16 x 16) is the size of pillow form you need. If you take half - inch seams, the size of your fabric will be 15 x 15 and will be a nice snug fit over the insert.

Remember that if you plan to sell a pillow at our sale, all visible sides must be handmade fabric. If you just plan to show your pillow in the Guild MLH display, these rules do not apply.

The Closure: Most people prefer a pillow with an opening so the insert can be removed and the covering can be laundered or dry-cleaned. There are several ways to accommodate this opening: Velcro, zipper, button and buttonhole, snap tape, overlapping fold, and a hand sewn seam.

I do not use Velcro. I have tried it and found that the hook side of Velcro tends to pull at hand woven fabric and makes a mess. It also has a lot of body and makes the one edge really stiff.

I prefer zippers and snap tape. Here is how I sew these: I have a rectangle of fabric. I turn under the edges of the two narrow ends on the right side and pin. This is where I will sew the zipper and tape. I use a piece of tape or zipper that is at least a couple of inches longer than the width of the fabric. I center the zipper and pin the fabric to the zipper and then sew. Then I turn it so the *continued next column*

MLH Pillow Display (continued)

right sides are inside and sew the side seams, then trim the tape or zipper. I don't have to worry about the beginning or end of the zipper because it will be trimmed off. One hint I have for sewing snap tape is to use a zipper foot on your machine. This makes it easier to sew close to the snaps.

If you want to use the fold closure, you will need to add extra length to your pillow fabric. I have found that a good measurement for a fold is one-third of the length of the side of the pillow. For example, if your pillow is 16 x 16, your fabric rectangle needs to be 16 inches wide and 37 ½ inches long (16 plus 16 plus 5 ½ for the fold). You also need to allow for the folded edge that needs to be hemmed or you can encase the raw edge in a strip of fabric you have cut. I would not use commercial bias tape, because ... it has a commercial look.

You will also need to add additional length to the rectangle if you plan to use buttons and buttonholes.

Please call me if you need more information.

Nancy Crampton 344-6799
nancycramptondesigns@yahoo.com

President note, continued

There are 118 members of the guild and if one takes that number and divides it by the number of jobs needed doing, $118 / 37 = 3.2$. This means technically every member in our guild should do a job every 3.2 years. Stop and think, have you done a job recently? If not, how can you become a member of the Guild or Wafa Leadership Team? Please let Letty Klein know if you can help out. The guild needs you!!!!

MLH is running their registration for their early June Conference and Workshops. You need to be a member to attend these events, and you can become a member when you register. Check out www.mlhguild.org for more details.

Looking forward to seeing all the various fiber pillows you will be sharing at the May meeting! Thank you, Nancy Crampton, for heading up the ordering of pillow forms and for encouraging our members to participate. WGK, Inc should have a great showing at the Guild Exhibits at MLH in June! And, remember, these pillows can be for sale at the November Wafa Sale!

Happy Fiberling,

Cathy McCarthy
Your 2014-2015 President

WGK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Triangle Loom - call Lenore for details General Guild Meeting 7 pm	10	11	12 Four Harness 9:30 am	13	15
14	16	17	18 MultiHarness 9:30 am	19 Board Meeting 2 pm	20 Spinners 10 am-2pm	21
22	23 Moonbeamers 7 pm	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



EXHIBITS TO ENTER / ATTEND

Westminster Art Festival, theme *Garden of Hope*, submission Mar 3-14, show Mar 28 - Apr 25. www.wpcportage.org.

SW Michigan Area Show submissions due by March 16, 2015, show reception and awards ceremony Friday, May 8, 5:30 to 7:30. Juror talk May 3, 4 pm in The Light Fine Arts Building, Kalamazoo College. Juror is Hamza Walker, Associate Curator and Director of Education of The Renaissance Society at The University of Chicago. [WMAS page](#) or [Artist Information Page](#) or check out the KIA website: www.kiarts.org

As my **THANK YOU!** *continued*



Dimensional Weaving for 4 to 8 Shafts

Stacey Harvey-Brown

Stacey first discussed the difference between active and passive yarns. Or, as she called them in her British lilt, ‘lively’ and ‘non-lively’ yarns. ‘Lively’ yarns have properties that make them active within weaving. Yarns that fall into this category are overtwisted yarns which tend to coil and twist, elastomeric yarns which have significantly more stretch than most yarns, as well as unbalanced yarns that also tend to twist and coil. Other types of ‘lively’ yarns are those that change during the finishing process, such as the shrinkage of wool upon fulling. Thermo-plastic yarns, such as polyester and orlon are considered ‘lively’ yarns. The finishing technique for thermo-plastic yarns is heat, most frequently steam, which sets the yarn in whatever configuration the yarn is in during the heating process.

Combining ‘lively’ and ‘non-lively’ yarns in weaving creates texture. How the two yarns are combined determines the type of texture you can achieve.

The three methods/weave structures Stacey covered for creating a surface relief in cloth were shibori, overshot and stitched double cloth.

In shibori, a ground weave in thermo-plastic yarn, such as polyester or orlon, is woven with a supplementary gathering thread (in either warp or weft) which is used to pull the fabric together to create texture. The fabric is then steamed to ‘set’ the texture. Once dry, the gathering threads are removed and the texture created remains. Shibori techniques were traditionally used as a method of creating resists for dyeing but are being used more frequently today to introduce texture.

Overshot is similar to shibori in that a supplementary weft is used alongside a plain weave ground. The supplementary weft in overshot is not removed but creates texture due to the use of high twist or singles yarns, elastic yarns, or upon wet finishing due to differential shrinkage of the yarns used in the ground and supplementary weft. Overshot for texture is an interesting way to create ripples and other 3-dimensional effects. Any of the overshot designs can be used for texture. For maximum effect, however, all floats should be on one

Stacey Harvey-Brown

Known for her passion in using weave structure and diverse techniques to create highly textured surface relief and three-dimensional weaving, Stacey has recently taken this a [step](#) further by creating large woven installations of nature-inspired artwork. She uses the underlying principles of geology and natural growth combined with a diverse collection of regular and more unusual yarns both in weaving and finishing to experiment widely (after all, she is a self-confessed [sample](#) queen!) in order to push her work into new avenues of exploration, leading not only to unusual woven artwork, but also to varied teaching areas and approaches.

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/staceyharveybrown>

And www.theloomroom.co.uk



face of the fabric. The longer the float, the more potential for shrinkage.

Stitched double cloth also uses differential shrinkage of yarns used in the top layer and bottom layer of the fabric. The surface texture is created by joining the shrinking and non-shrinking layers at stitching points during weaving. Upon fulling, the shrinking layer pulls together, making the non-shrinking layer ‘pucker between the stitching points. Typically plain weave is used for the non shrinking layer, while plain weaves or basket weaves would be used for the shrinking layer.

Stacey finished the presentation by briefly citing other texture creating weave structures. Seersucker is a weave structure which by definition is a plain weave cloth with stripes woven with differing tension creating ripple stripes. Other common weave structures that introduce texture into fabric are waffle weave and honeycomb.



LEFT: samples of fabric created using overshot structure. The ground is woven in plain weave with a non shrinking yarn while the overshot float patten is woven with wool, which shrinks with fulling.

BELOW: front and back of double cloth fabric. The shrinking layer is white wool which has shrunk and pulled the green non-shrinking into little triangular puffs.



Weavers and Fiber Artists, Inc.
Annual Sale November 20-22, 2014
June 1, 2014 - May 31, 2015

Beginning Balance	\$ 7,014.64
Deposits (Sales, Tax, Starting Cash, Tags)	\$ 28,165.20
Paid to Artists	\$(21,017.00)
Sales Tax Paid	\$ 1,441.38
exempt sales:	\$ 2,313.75
Expenses	\$ (4,128.96)
Supplies	\$ 85.59
Advertising	\$ 382.35
Rent	\$ 1,541.00
Rent 2015	\$ 150.00
Bank Fees	\$ 63.73
Bank/MC Charges 2013	\$ 139.95
Visa/MC Charges 2014	\$ 613.00
Accounting	\$ 250.00
Mich. Dept. Labor	\$ 20.00
Equip Main & Storage	\$ 42.77
Change	\$ 285.00
Postage	\$ 260.35
Linen Rental	\$ 295.22
Donated to Guild (2013 Sale)	\$ (2,000.00)
Ending Balance	\$ 9,475.26

Respectfully submitted, Jill Strobel, WAF A Treasurer



Weavers Guild of
Kalamazoo
POBox 2795
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

2015 SHUTTLE deadlines

For April 2015 – March 27, 2015

Send items for the SHUTTLE to the SHUTTLE Editor at martag1111@yahoo.com

CRAFTERNOONS at the LIBRARY

Do you.....Knit? Stitch? Bead? Fold? Carve? Weave? Crochet?

If you are a hand crafter with a portable passion, join us on
fourth Fridays at 1pm
for a Crafternoon at the Parchment Library!

Bring along your current craft and spend a stimulating hour creating and kibitzing
with fellow crafters.

Winter/Spring 2015 Dates:

January 30th, February 27th, March 27th, April 24th, May 22nd, June 28th

Registration is appreciated but not required.

Light snacks and coffee/tea will be provided.