



MADISON WEAVERS GUILD

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May 2017

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MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017

7:00 p.m. Oakwood Village, Westmoreland Room.

MARIANNE FAIRBANKS

Weaving Lab: Plain Cloth Productions

For three months this summer, Marianne Fairbanks and a small team of students will be converting the Image Lab into a Weaving Lab called Plain Cloth Productions. This lab will serve as a site of textile production, exploring the creation of simple cloth on domestic floor looms. Five looms warped with simple yarns will become sites for creating experiments around labor, process, production, meditation, math-based structures and garment production.

Points of inquiry:

1. How many yards of plain weave cotton cloth can be woven on a floor loom?
(accumulation, exploration of the loom as machine)
2. How long does it take to weave a yard of simple cloth (for an amateur or

- expert)(time)
3. What meditational value does the act of weaving provide when not tied to production but just as an act of creation? (mind)
 4. How can we explore and invent weave patterns based in math structures? (education)
 5. Can simple garments be woven with selvages, neck holes and button holes that need little sewing and create little waste? (garment production)

Weavers will be present and producing cloth in the lab but also will be available for set times each week to teach visitors how to weave on floor loom #4, the learning loom. Community members can sign up for hour-long sessions to learn to weave on the floor loom, or join us for our public weaving workshops. Visitors will be able to take away small tapestry looms where they can continue producing cloth in their own homes.

History:

In the early 1883, William Goodell Frost, President of Berea College in Madison County, Kentucky created a program called “Fireside Industries.” This initiative was inspired by the Arts and Crafts movement and sought to encourage handweaving and to create a fashionable marketplace for the crafted goods. The program provided women with a place to sell the goods woven on their looms, inspired many other craft programs, and served as a model for other weaving cooperatives in the Appalachian Mountains.

Floor looms were used for years in a cottage production of cloth but after the civil war, many families to put away their looms as more industrially produced woven fabrics became commercially available. Inspired by “Fireside Industries” Weaving Lab: Plain Cloth Productions will be a site of experimental textile fabrication exploring production concerns beyond labor and value into less concrete inquiries into time, process, materiality and meditation.

References:

Alvic, Phillis. *Weavers of the Southern Highlands*, University Press of Kentucky, 2003

<https://www.berea.edu/student-crafts/history/>

Directions:

Oakwood Village is located on Mineral Point Rd. in Madison. Turn south on Island and take the drive to the left. Go past the Resale Shop and park in the visitor parking. The Westmoreland Room is in the Heritage Oaks Building. There

is limited parking in front of the Heritage Oaks building.

Madison Weavers Guild APRIL 2017

Madison Weavers Guild met Monday, April 17, 2017 at Oakwood West. 29 members were present.

Dakota Mace gave the presentation on her weaving for her master's degree. The symbolism in them is important for their culture. It was fascinating and her exhibit is up on campus for the next four days. Go to see it if you can.

Sandy Burns made a motion to accept the slate of officers presented. Nancy Garden seconded it. We now have officers for another year. The one change is Kathy Derene for treasurer. A big thanks to Jane Vea for the 7 years she has served. The program chair would like help, also help for the display chair and the sales chair, especially someone with computer skills.

Angie reminded us that the photos taken are only for the members in a pictorial directory. She also mentioned the Pinney Branch Library exhibit in October and wants you to think of contributing something for it.

A twill gamp workshop will be on Saturday, April 22 from 9:30-4:30.

Sarah Saulson will conduct a two-day workshop in October. She is from the university and has been weaving since 8 years of age. Her website is fascinating.

Michael Jackson may demo tonight his way of band weaving and may lead a workshop in the near future.

Geke is in Peru. The Art Fair on the Square is July 8-9. Emily said there will be an update meeting to be announced. So far, 8-9 have signed up for the booth. Please sign up to help as it is a fun event even if you aren't submitting items for sale. The Olbrich Fine Art Fair will again be held in October.

Emily welcomes articles for the newsletter. A Face Book page has been set up for the MWG. Check it out, like and share it.

Julie welcomes ideas for the website.

Thank you to Pat Hilts for supplying the projector tonight. She has slides of old MWG shows and will present it if there is interest.

Geke's Structo mini loom was made in the 1920s-1940s in Freeport, Illinois.

Show and Tell:

Kate Lieber had four items from Kipp Inglis' class Shibori.

A silk scarf, an ikat scarf and two bandanas

Angie Roberts had a silk scarf from that class as well.

Katherine Ellis weaves shibori strings into her project.

Susan Fortney has done two Tuesday mornings working with kids at Wingra School during their fiber arts unit, 8-13 years of age.

Sheep and Wool Festival is the weekend after Labor Day in Jefferson.

Jinny Olson mentioned the alpaca event next weekend in West Bend at the Washington County Fairgrounds.

Ideas for field trips welcomed.

Tissue paper for sandwiching the seam when sewing with mohair was a tip offered to avoid frustration.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Alanen

WORKSHOP NEWS

Saturday, April 22 eight weavers gathered in the Heritage room at Oakwood for a 1 day twill gamp workshop. Emily Nie, our instructor, had given us 5 patterns to use for our gamps. Most used the 4 harness patterns and one used the 8 harness. We threaded 4 or 5 patterns around 2 inch each for a final width of 10 or so inches. Some weavers had a single-color warp while others had some 2 inch sections with in different warp colors. Once they are off the loom, we will show them at a meeting. Emily gave some background about twills and different weave structures. And of course, we had a wonderful potluck lunch.

Summer and Winter 2 day workshop October 14 & 15, 2017

**Instructor: Sarah Saulson (www.sarahsaulson.com/) Syracuse University
College of Visual and Performing Arts**

When: October 14 & 15, 2017

Cost: \$75 due by 6/1/2017*

Number of participants: 15-20 (15 minimum)

We are inviting Sarah Saulson, a weaver in NY to give this workshop.

“This program is designed for weavers with little or no previous experience designing and weaving this versatile weave structure. It focuses on understanding the simplicity and logic of its structure, so

participants can easily go on to design their own Summer and Winter projects rather than rely on recipes.

This program is designed for beginners who know the basics of drafting and intermediate weavers. In the workshop format the participants bring pre-warped table or floor looms. They will explore the various treadling systems, and explore color use.”

Since we will pay for Sarah’s flight and higher workshop fee, we need to charge more for the workshop and we need a financial commitment from participants by June 1 in order to book flights and schedule. We would like a minimum of 15.

*We will have a waiting list so if one of the initial 15 participants drops out, the workshop fee is only refundable if we have another weaver to take your place.

Please still sign up even if you don’t know the basics of drafting. This will be a great opportunity to work with a well-known national instructor.

Please make your check out to Madison Weavers Guild and either mail it to Kate Lieber, 4903 Buckeye Rd, Madison, WI 53716 or give it to Kate on Monday at the our meeting.

If you have any questions please contact me at 608-843-0377 (weekends) or by Kslieber579@gmail.com weekdays (no email at home).

We are also looking into having a lecture (topic not chosen yet) the Friday evening before the workshop (Oct 13) or perhaps Sunday evening. Please let me know if you have a topic preference (see her website) and/or which day you would be able to attend.

Kate Lieber

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISWEST WEAVERS CONFERENCE

June 12-17. www.midwestweavers.org

ART FAIR ON THE SQUARE

Art Fair on Square 2017 Participants:

Please attend a short organizational meeting at 5:30-6:45 Monday May 15, before our regular meeting. Bring a list of your inventory items. We will discuss what equipment will be available for proper display of all our items. Who will bring what. Schedule working time slots. How our bookkeeping works. Answer any questions you have. We plan for this to be our only pre-art fair meeting. Those Guild members who would like to help out should also attend this meeting. If you have any concerns, please contact Rebecca (219-5919)

Attention all Weavers:

One of the Midwest's most popular and highly regarded outdoor celebrations of the arts will return to the Capitol Square July 8 and 9, 2017 as MMoCA presents the 59th annual Art Fair on the Square. With its mix of music, entertainment, and outdoor dining, as well as nearly 500 artists exhibiting paintings, prints, photographs, sculpture, jewelry, handmade clothing and accessories, and fine craft, the fair draws nearly 200,000 visitors to Madison's Capitol Square.

You are invited to participate by volunteering to assist in the setup and management of the booth. The Madison Weavers' Guild applies for two adjoining booths.

FALL SHOW AT OLBRICH GARDENS Apply by May 22. Geke has information. The show takes place on October 28 and 29.

COMING EVENTS

June 12 – 17, 2017: Midwest Weavers Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana
Registration opens January 8, 2017 www.midwestweavers.org/conference

Area Weaving Stores:

Fiberwood Studio. 2709 N 92nd, Milwaukee. 414-302-1849

Sievers. Birch Court, Washington Island. 920-847-2264

Mielke's Farm. 2550 Co. Rd 11, Rudolph. 715-344-4104

Bahr Creek Llamas and Fiber Shop. N 1021 Sauk Trail Rd, Cedar Grove. 920-668-6417

Studio S. Hwy A and 89, south of Whitewater. 608-883-2123

Susan's Fiber Shop. N250 Hwy A, Columbus. 888-603-4237

CLASSIFIEDS

We will always welcome submissions of articles, reviews of books, shows or exhibits, letters to the editor, classifieds, samples, artwork, etc. to include in future newsletters. If you would like to contribute, please send to Emily Nie, 2500 Bootmaker Dr., Beloit, WI 53511; 608-362-8062; ricordanza@charter.net. Note the deadline for submissions and ads is **the TENTH of the month**.

Schacht Standard Floor Loom---Low Castle. Maple, eight-harness, 46" wide weaving width. Purchased in 1983. Lightly used. Includes matching bench with bench bags, 2 reeds (12 and 15), warping board, 11" boat shuttle, heddle hook, and box of Handwoven magazines. \$1750.

Roberta Fiene
Racine, WI
kahili@tds.net

For Sale, my first and most versatile loom:

Hammett 45" floor model maple loom with loom bench

Counter-balance loom, 4 harnesses, 6 treadles, 4 reeds: 6, 10, 12, 15 dent

Canvas apron warp and cloth beams (needs new aprons, cloth included)

Heavy warp beam (36" circumference), beam crank, ratchet brakes, suitable for rugs

Size: 58" wide x 50" deep x 56" high

Hammett's looms and materials booklet (included) says loom weight = 200 lbs.

Disassembled will fit into the back of a car.

Purchased used in 1968, in very good condition, not used since the 1990's

Loom bench (27" wide x 10" deep x 25" high) with a drawer, no maker's label

2 rug shuttles, 1 flat shuttle, 2 lease sticks (one repaired)

Comes with a bag of miscellaneous yarn on cones.

Price: \$350

Located in my basement, with a door to the back yard.

Barbara Spencer
8645 S. Creek Rd.
Beloit, WI 53511
(608) 365-8056

Madison Weavers Guild ~ Show & Tell Projects 2016-7

Project:	Weaver:
space for photo (taken at meeting)	
Weave Structure:	
Source:	
Yarns – indicate fiber content and size (e.g., 10/2 cotton), and colors	
Warp:	
Weft:	
Equipment: ____ - harness loom ____ - dent reed	
Sett:	
Warp: ____ epi Sleying: _____ (number of threads per dent or pattern)	
Weft: ____ ppi	
Notes:	