

# Jacksonville Weavers' Guild

www.JaxWeaversGuild.org

April 2024 Issue

Judi Leatherberry, Editor



## President's Message

We had a great day at Penny Farms for their Old Farm Day, both the weather and the crowds were wonderful. Thank you to Judy Jull, Beth Casey Hagood, Joanne Altenburg, Jane Jones, and Mallory Crow for making it a fun time sharing our fiber talents and answering questions on multiple fiber related topics. A great selection of food trucks too. I'm looking forward to next year.

The Education Task Force has been working hard on the Summer Sessions and are taking the next step to recruit volunteers and instructors for June, July and August. Please take the time to read their write up in this newsletter and consider giving some of your time and talent towards the success of this major Guild project. There is something for everyone to contribute to the success of our first Weaving and Spinning lessons.

Finally, our annual picnic in May is right around the corner. We thought this year we might try carpooling from several different areas to get as many members in attendance as possible. We have a great catered menu planned, installation of our new Officers for 2024-2025, and a great time to be had by all. Mary Jamerson is offering to drive from the Orange Park area as a start for carpooling and we will pass a list around at this month's meeting to offer other locations. So please think about participating.

Pam



## Annual May Picnic

The Guild's Annual May Picnic is being held at Judy Jull's home in Starke again this year. However, this year it was decided that we will have it catered. Members are asked to pay \$5 in advance for their catered meal. All attendees need to pay Lorie either at the April meeting or online (note May picnic on online payments). Also, if you have concerns about driving to Judy Jull's home, we will be arranging for carpooling from different areas of town. There will be more information about this at the April meeting.

Lorie Harlow, Treasurer

## April Program

The program in April is going to be quite interesting! Susan Wallace will be talking about how she makes small purses or pouches from leftover hand woven cloth.



### Penney Farms Old Fashioned Farm Day.

March 23, 2024 10:00am - 3:00pm

By Joanne Altenburg

On Saturday, our President, Pam, and a few of the guild members set up at the Penney Farms Old Fashioned Farm Day event. The forecast called for some rain, but it ended up being a beautiful day. Lots of people stopped by to talk about what the guild is and what we do, and a few even gave weaving and spinning a try. We had our beautiful anniversary towels on display, which started conversations and garnered amazement at the items we weave. Lots of folks from the Penney Retirement Community came by and we learned they have an active weaving group there! All in all, it was a lovely day and a great opportunity to fulfill our mission to support and promote the handcrafts of hand weaving, spinning, dying, basketry, and related textile arts through community education, and we may have a new member or two!

Here are a few pictures, thanks to Beth!





***JWG 2024 Summer's Second Saturdays: Hands-On Instruction  
Warp On ~ Weave Off ~ Repeat!***

***or***

***Spinning ~ Muscle Memory***

***Sign up now*** for this series of three 4-hour sessions for hands-on instruction on either weaving or spinning. Offered to JWG members only. Gain hands-on experience under the practiced eye of skilled fellow JWG members. Volunteers and helpers can also sign up to assist.

**When:** June 8, July 13, August 10, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM each Saturday, lunch provided.

**Where:** Fort Caroline Community Center

**Cost:** \$180 - Weaving OR Spinning Class

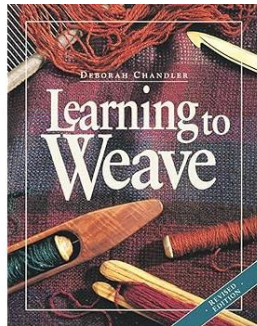
\$50 - Deposit with Balance Due by May 11, 2024 (jwg picnic day!)

To register for either weaving or spinning classes contact Ann Wingate; more details are on the registration page, which is an attachment to the April newsletter email. This is the link to pay online:

<https://www.jaxweaversguild.org/txinstruction2024.html>

**Weaving Textbook: "Learning to Weave"**

by Deborah Chandler

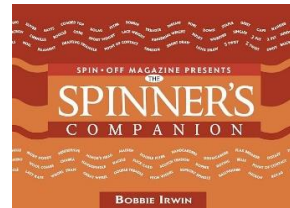


**Also Recommended:** "The Weaver's Companion" spiral bound by Handwoven Magazine



**Spinning Textbook:**

"The Spinner's Companion" spiral bound by Bobbie Irwin



**Note:** Spinning students will need to practice at least 15 minutes a day between sessions to develop muscle memory. This will require taking a rental wheel home or having a wheel of their own.

We are asking members to sign up to help with the Summer Weaving sessions. We all want this to be a success and there is a role for everyone, no matter what your weaving experience! We will have a sign-up sheet at the April 13 meeting as well as at the picnic. You can also sign up by email to [Membership@jaxweaversguild.org](mailto:Membership@jaxweaversguild.org), letting us know the date(s) and role(s) you will be available to assist.

Specifically, we are looking for volunteers for the following dates, from 10:00 - 2:00 (except as noted for set up), for the following tasks: **June 8, July 13, and August 10.** The tasks are:

**Set Up** - arrive **8:30 am**, move looms, warping boards, spinning wheels, supplies to the meeting room from storage, and set up tables & chairs

**Clean Up** - after class, move looms and other equipment into storage, return chairs and tables to original places

**Weaving assistant** - help as needed with advancing the warp, tension, broken warp, etc

**Warping assistant** - help as needed with warping

**Hospitality** - set up/clean up snacks, coffee, lunch, ensure the lunch has been ordered, and coordinate the delivery

## Scarf Bomb Jax

By Stephanie Benson

Recently, Pauline asked me if a group I am part of would accept woven scarves. My response was an absolute, YES. She suggested I submit a write-up about our group for the newsletter, so here goes. I had been hesitant to do so before this, not wanting to distract from the focus on Weaving.

Please allow me to introduce you, my fellow weavers (yes, I weave a little), to a group that I am part of called Scarf Bomb Jax. Scarf Bomb Jax is a grass roots effort to help our neighbors in need, primarily those experiencing homelessness, to be just a bit warmer in the North Florida colder months. We distribute hats and scarves (made or purchased, but primarily made, because that's what we love to do).

Our group was founded by Michelle Chance-Sangthong who, one day about 11 years ago, had to work outside all day on a Florida-cold winter day. At the end of her workday, she just couldn't get warm even though she was able to go inside her home where there was heat, and a hot shower. She got to thinking about those stuck out in the cold, with no warm home or place to go to, and decided then to give out scarves to help them stay just a little warmer. Although Michelle did not sew, or knit, or crochet, or weave, she went and bought as much fleece as she could afford at that time and cut it into scarf size pieces. She then handed out the "scarves" she had made to persons who were stuck out in the cold and needed them. So began an effort to help, and Scarf Bomb Jax.

Soon knitters and crocheters, as we do, joined her in making and distributing hats and scarves, finally finding a place for all of our knit and crocheted things. We distribute directly to persons that need the items when it's safe to do so, but also hang them in public places for the taking or drop off a supply to organizations such as Mission House or Clara White, who then distribute them to the clients they assist. Our efforts continue and, to date, we are privileged to say we have made and distributed more than 11,000 items to those in need.

We continue each year based only on donations of funds ( which pay for a storage unit and allow us to purchase printed tags, our website, and items not as easily made, such as gloves), yarn (yes, we figure out how to use any kind and every inch of it) and the oh so generous time and efforts of our members to make, tag, and distribute items. Our group has two locations where anyone is welcome to join in making or learning (we teach any fiber art we know, at no charge, to anyone who wants to learn and participate) or just hanging out with us. We meet at:

Panera at 13201 Atlantic Blvd. Jacksonville, the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month, at 10am-noon.  
Moderator/Admin, Stephanie.

Panera in Orange Park at 661 Blanding Blvd, Suite 509, on most every Sunday afternoon at 1pm-4pm. Moderator/Admin, Lisa.

These are pretty firm days for meetups but are subject to changes posted on the Volunteer Facebook Group page. We meet and make items year-round as it's impossible to create the number of items needed if we only make them seasonally.

All we have done has been done by roughly 40 "active" members of our Group (although the group actually has about 360 members). Not everyone meets, or makes, or donates, or distributes, but with each of us doing our part we've helped so many people in need.

You can find our Facebook groups at:

The Community Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/ScarfJax>

Or the Volunteer Group:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/1160981077251091/?ref=share>

We were recently honored to have been recognized in a Washington Post article for our compassionate, all volunteer efforts, and are proud of how we've helped our neighbors in need.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2024/02/02/scarf-bomb-winter-homeless-kindness/>

If anyone wants to reach me directly, please feel free. 904-868-5335 or stephaniebenson1@comcast.net



**SCARF BOMB JAX**  
**UPDATE - FEB 19, 2024**  
**Distribution this season 2,127 items:**

- 879 scarves
- 832 hats
- 347 pairs of gloves
- 22 blankets
- 8 jackets
- 25 ear muffs
- 24 socks
- 6 other warm items

**more than 17,653 items in 11 Years!**



# My Experience at the Florida Tropical Weavers Guild Conference

Joanne Altenburg

This year I attended my first Florida Tropical Weavers Guild Conference, and Bonnie and I took Rosalie Neilson's 2.5-day class "It's in the Warp: Color and Design in Warp Faced Rep." Rosalie is a very patient and knowledgeable instructor. Her work is amazing and I have lots of ideas for future projects. This structure works really well for placemats, table runners, and wall hangings. I'm glad I took the class!

The FTWG put a lot of work into this event and it was well done. I understand attendance was down from prior years, which is a shame. It's always great to meet and spend time with other weavers. Tom Kneisly did a nice presentation on Saturday night (who doesn't want to hear Tom speak?!) and the rugs his class produced in his rug weaving class were gorgeous!

I have attached a couple of pictures of the samples I made.

I look forward to next year's conference and hope to see more JWG faces there!



## Notes from the Old Loom Trail

Pauline Bellecci

On a recent visit to Colonial Williamsburg, I (of course) made a point of visiting the Weaving and Spinning cottage. I was able to view the volunteer weaver weaving on a four harness English counterbalance loom dating from 1510. I was particularly interested to see that this loom had the unusual, notched beam on the top that serves as an adjustment for the removable overhead beater--the same adjustment that exists on the colonial loom present in the Weaving Room on the Kingsley Plantation that supposedly dates from 1792-1797.

The Kingsley loom, donated to the National Park Service by the St. Augustine Textile Guild, was previously acquired by the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board and used for demonstrations first at Arrivas House in St. Augustine, and later at San Agustin Antigua (later known as The Spanish Quarter). The exact birthplace of this loom is still being researched. Some reports in the St. Augustine Historical archives state that it was purchased in Spain and brought to St. Augustine in 1968, while others mention it was donated by a weaver in Ohio. At one time, a replica was also built by a cabinetmaker in St. Augustine, based on historical plans. The location of that replica is unknown at this time.

Those Guild Members who participated in the weaving demonstration at Kingsley Heritage Days February 2023 will recall we had many issues with the synthetic (?polyester?) tie up cords slipping and hence needing frequent adjustments. At Colonial Williamsburg, this problem is eliminated by using mop cord for tie-ups--a brilliant solution!



(L) Kingsley Plantation Loom with notched beater adjustment c.1797; (R) Colonial Williamsburg Loom c 1510





(L) Colonial Williamsburg Loom Beater Adjustment; (R) Colonial Williamsburg Mop Cord Tie-up.



## To Buy or Not to Buy? Ai Yi Yi!

Beth Casey Hagood

Before joining the Jax Weaver's Guild, everything I learned about weaving was on the internet. Frequently I scour the "googleverse" to discover yarns, explanations of reed substitution charts, different ways to hemstitch, and whether there are looms for sale which I can afford.

A most unusual-to-me loom came up for sale in Alabama. Intrigued, an e-mail soon left my computer expressing my curiosity about the unusual loom. The replying e-mail told me the loom was 5'9" tall, 3'7" wide, and 2'3" deep. From the sale photograph, I could see two foot pedals and two horizontal harnesses 2/3rds up the front of the loom. The warp came down from the top of the loom, through the harnesses, wrapped around a front beam near the weaver's knees. This loom is loony!

A rapid search of the internet gave few clues about the loom. I told the seller that being a new weaver, unable to understand how the interesting loom would work, that I was going to let someone else enjoy the loom.

However, the next morning I awoke with the loom still on my mind and decided to buy the thing. Calculations began on mileage, routes, gas consumption, nearby hotel/motels, care and feeding of cats and preparing the bird's cage for the journey, where to put it in the house and what to get rid of in order to fit it in. Thankfully, it had a small, though tall, footprint. Another e-mail to the seller, to ask what tools I'd need to disassemble it, and which day I could drive over.

The seller advised against taking the loom apart and sent pictures of the loom, including a shot of the name: Dryad Leicester. Another fevered search of the internet followed, which yielded a YouTube video of what seemed the same loom in use, three blog hits, and the information that Dryad in Leicester, England made several types of looms in the late 1800s to mid-1900s, including an upright rug loom, but nothing useful on how to use the loom.

By mid-afternoon that day, I decided not to buy the loom. It was too big an undertaking, would not fit in the truck. Too heavy for me to handle. Sad, but true, I'd have to let the loom go, and e-mailed the seller again.

Three o'clock the next morning, I awoke thinking of the unusual loom and that I must have it. Another search of the internet ensued in those early morning hours until - AHA! - a link to real information on how to use the loom in a British blog. FINALLY! Eagerly, hungrily, I followed the link to a pamphlet entitled "Dryad Leaflet #85 Rug Weaving".

My coveted loom is a Dryad Foot Powered Rug Loom.

The pamphlet covered information on other Dryad looms, how to use a warping board\*, warping, and weaving on the rug loom. I was definitely buying this loom!

Until I thought about it again, remembering all the reasons why I had decided not to get the loom. Never mind that it was unique, potentially profitable, a grand way to use up the sewing material cloth which I had abandoned after finding a rigid heddle loom and falling in love with weaving. However, it really was a bit too much for me.

Sadly, but with resolution, I emailed the seller to tell her that while I was not going to buy the loom, maybe the attached pamphlet would be useful to whomever did.

Joy and delight exploded from the seller's reply email. Her attempts over the years to find information on the Dryad had failed, but now that she had the pamphlet, she was overjoyed to use it.

Her enthusiasm and excitement gave me the impression that I had made a gift to her of her own loom.

While I do not have the loom, I did help breathe life into a unique loom and, it seemed, brought new horizons to another weaver. This journey was more satisfying than the imagined destination.

\* Bonus: The warping board represented in the Dryad pamphlet is identical to the warping board I bought at the Guild sale a couple months ago, showing the intended use of the warping board, which has pegs on only three sides.

Link to pamphlet:

[https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/monographs/dry\\_85.pdf](https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/monographs/dry_85.pdf)

To find the YouTube of rug loom in use, search YouTube for Way Out West with Sandra and Tim and find in their "Making a Raw Wool Rug on a Handloom" video.

The loom as seen in the seller's ad:



# Weaving in Progress!

## *From the Internet...*

[GetWeaving - Etsy](#) Sarah Howard's Shop-about sewing with hand woven fabric  
[Frustrated with your weaving? Six Strategies to help. - The Handweaving Academy](#)  
[The making of a Gneiss Rug with Keith Barber \(youtube.com\)](#)  
[Sectional Warping Simplified: No Strings Attached \(youtube.com\)](#)  
[Top 10 Uses for an Inkle-Woven Band | Little Looms](#)  
[NAVAJO WEAVER CLARA SHERMAN CARDING AND SPINNING \(youtube.com\)](#)  
[Navajo Rug Weaving ~ Monument Valley \(youtube.com\)](#)  
[Behind the scenes of a Handwoven Magazine Article - The Handweaving Academy](#) (Ice dyeing information)  
[Kate Whitehead: Weaving life into the forgotten - TextileArtist.org](#)  
[Sue Stone: Travel adventures in stitch - TextileArtist.org](#)  
[Which plants can I use for basket making that grow in my area ? \(craftschoolz.com\)](#)  
[How to Prepare Plant Fibre for Weaving \(craftschoolz.com\)](#)  
[On-Line Digital Archive of Documents on Weaving and Related Topics \(arizona.edu\)](#)  
[Do this BEFORE you bring a new fleece into your home. Camaj Fiber Arts \(youtube.com\)](#)  
[See a Tapestry Commissioned to Celebrate the Paris Summer Olympics | Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine](#)  
[When Hollywood Needs a Historically Accurate Outfit That Looks Just Right, It Turns to Rabbit Goody | Arts & Culture | Smithsonian Magazine](#)  
<https://youtu.be/EPJqU6ib1JK?si=d819K9qwwExuFQaJ> Hybrid Warping an Ashford RH Loom  
[Ask Madelyn: Is there a way to make tying up my loom easier? | Handwoven \(handwovenmagazine.com\)](#)  
[LESSONFEST 2024 | Lessonface](#)  
[Unraveling the Mystery: 5/2 vs 8/2 yarn - Shiny Dime Fibers](#)  
[Img 2133 24 - 8/2 Tencel\(tm\) = rayon \(youtube.com\)](#) Janet Dawson short video.  
[Weaving on Mount Vernon's 18th Century Loom \(youtube.com\)](#)  
[ashford handicrafts - One warp one wardrobe](#)  
[anglefells weaving technique peter collingwood at DuckDuckGo](#)  
[Jelly Roll Placemats - Schacht Spindle Company](#)

**Weaving Around  
The World!**

## Show and Tell from March's Meeting

Mary brought her beautiful chenille scarf.



Gail K brought her 3D printed shuttles.



Rob brought his completed Clan Gordon tartan scarf.



# Happy Weavers Share!

Kate showed us her knitted cowl, a pair of socks she knitted, and her purse made from hand woven fabric.



Linda brought her towels woven in crackle.

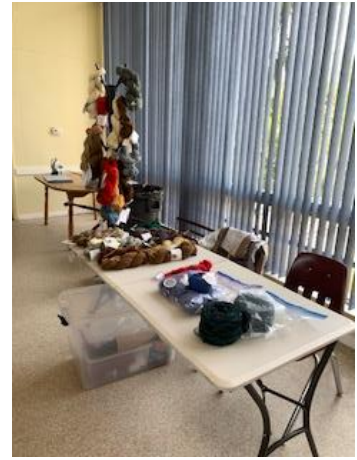


Joanne showed us her car shawl in off-white.



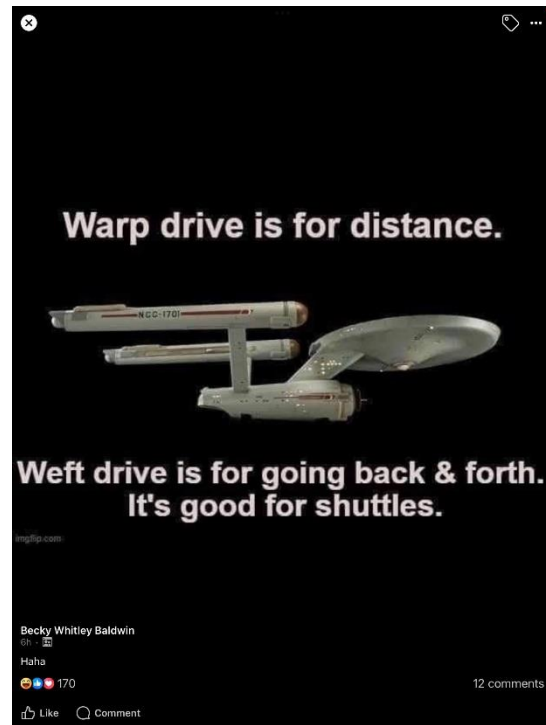
**A Few Pictures From Our Annual Members-Only Sale/Swap**





**A Couple of Humorous Pictures for You!**

relax, you are safe. no one can harm you in the presence of the alpacamallow. let the troubles of a miserable existence drift away as you fall forever in to my softness



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**  
**The next meeting is Saturday, April 13, starting at 10 am.**