



Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

P.O. Box 2086
Williamsburg, VA 23187
<http://Williamsburgspinweave.org>

April 2009

April Meeting

Monday 4/20/09

10:00 am (9:30 a.m. social time) to 1:00 p.m.
Room C, James City County Recreation Center
5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg

Program

Cary McDougal from Colonial Williamsburg will talk about natural dyeing.

Refreshments

Savory - Bob Hecker
Sweet - Barbara Frey

Bash

Ingrid Kross will host the bash on Monday, April 6, 2009
Contact her at 757-867-7617 or krossland@verizon.net
if you plan to attend.



Minutes March 16, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Rosalie Brown. She introduced a guest, Chris Knowlton. Janice Rowe (a friend of Julie Colby's) was introduced as a new member.

Treasury — Our current bank balance is \$3,440.27. Treasurer Ingrid Kross distributed 2009 membership cards to those who have already paid their dues.

Newsletter — Barbara Frey mentioned that she is always looking for good content to include in the monthly newsletter.

Library report — Shawn Clarke brought a book on thrums and Ingrid Kross brought copies of Weaver's Craft.

Sunshine — Birdie Burton had no report.

Membership — Ingrid distributed printed membership rosters to those who did not receive or could not open the emailed copies. Rosalie is currently chair of the Membership Committee (although she welcomes help or a replacement!).

Program — Judy Mooers reviewed for programs planned for 2009. In April, Cary McDougal from Colonial Williamsburg will talk about natural dyeing. In May, Rosalie Brown will host a natural dyeing workshop at her farm in Mathews. June will feature a program by Jerry Smith and July will offer a program on warping. Elaine Bradley will do our program in August along with a 2.5 day workshop on summer and winter to follow.

Bashes — Ingrid Kross will host the next bash at her home in Newport News on Monday, April 6.

Snacks —

April: Barbara Frey (sweet) and Bob Hecker (savory)

May: Ingrid Kross (sweet) and Marsha Rehkamp (savory)

Old Business

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Show — Ingrid reported that we had lots of participation at our demonstration booth

and that folks were very interested in our weaving with recycled plastic bags. Judy reports mailing out 44 coasters to participants.

New Business

Alice Noyes announced a volunteer opportunity for drop spinners at Colonial Williamsburg. Talk to Alice for more details.

Rosalie reports three new lambs on her farm. Two are black and one is white. We hope to meet them at our visit to the farm in June!

Show and Tell:

Jeff Cleveland -- Native American beading project
Marsha Rehkamp — cotton and Tencel hand towels
Sandi Petty — placemats made from muslin and satin
Donna Von Biela — handknit sweater from silk
Janice Rowe — weaving story
Barbara Frey — bobbin lace scarf underway
Alice Noyes — knit vest and squares for a blanket
Ingrid Kross — catalogue for new line of outdoor clothing made from merino wool
Beth Palmer — sample and yarn wrappings from her liturgical weaving project
Judy Mooers — woven fabric for a jumper and sweater made from handspun yarn

We enjoyed a stash exchange and bag challenge. Projects resulting from the bag challenge are due at our November meeting.

Meeting adjourned and refreshments enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Palmer

Members in Attendance: Virginia Banks, Rosalie Brown, Birdie Burton, Shawn Clarke, Jeff Cleveland, Barbara Frey, Jane Gustafson, Bob Hecker, Jean Huneycutt, Ingrid Kross, Bernadette Marquez, Berit Mesarick, Judy Mooers, Selma Moore, Peggy Nacci, Alice Noyes, Beth Palmer, Sandi Petty, Marsha Rehkamp, Beverly Robinson, Janice Rowe, Donna Von Biela



Peggy Nacci has the following items for sale.

Cotton Fabric Rolls - 1 1/2" - 3" wide - great woven into rag rugs - \$2.50/lb.

Back issues of *Handwoven* - \$2.50 each.

Spinning wheel made in New Zealand - looks like Ashford Traveler - no name printed on it - \$225.00.

If you are interest, please contact Peggy at 804-966-5254

Saterglantan Sample

Eileen Thompson, WSSA

I took my first weaving lesson just over a year ago, and haven't exactly kept my nose to the heddles since, so it was probably rather presumptuous of me to volunteer to make CHT samples. Since I have always found craftspeople to be encouraging of early efforts, I decided it would be a good learning experience to jump in at the deep end, as it were. I certainly learned a lot.

Although I had read Ms. Porter's instructions that the lower space designates the harness nearest the weaver, the first time I warped it my brain didn't make the flip-flop necessary when you warp front to back and thread from the back. But I discovered that reversing the treadling gave me the pattern as in the book. Thus came my first glimmerings of understanding of the relationship between threading and treadling.

One of the hardest things I find in weaving is how to envisage how different-colored threads will weave up together. Different-colored cones standing next to each other look fine, but how will those same colors look, woven into each other?

I really like this Saterglantan pattern. I had been planning placemats in colors to match some napkins I already have, so I decided to use the CHT samples as an opportunity to weave 300 samples of my placemats. I decided to use the Saterglantan pattern again, as my earlier sample of it on a two-color warp looked good.

For the CHT samples I had five colors of perle

cotton. My first idea was to use four colors in blocks in the warp, some of them mixed, and the fifth color in the weft.

To my dismay, I found that the pattern seemed almost to disappear into some of the mixed warps. I went looking around for other weft colors, some of which stood out a little better.

Generally I found that wefts with a high contrast color to the warp showed up best. What surprised me was finding that the pattern showed up well using the same color in both warp and weft. The angle of light on the sample also greatly affects how well you see the pattern.

Some color combinations which I didn't think would work looked quite good, and some I thought would look well together looked insipid. So some of the samples came out OK, and some are duds. My apologies to those who get the duds.

When it came off the loom, the fabric was pressed under a wet cloth, and shrank a little. It had a lovely drape and hand to it. Altogether, the different-colored blocks gave a pleasing effect. It would have made a very nice shawl—another project one day! In contrast, the cut-up samples looked rather small and disappointing.

(Editor's note: Obviously, you don't have to be a twenty-year veteran weaver to produce a lovely pattern. Let's hear it for more early efforts!)

Officers

President	Rosalie Brown
Vice President	Judy Mooers
Treasurer	Ingrid Kross
Secretary	Beth Palmer

