

# The Roving

**April 2013**



## The Vice Pres Sez:

I did an impulsive thing in late February. I had all this beautiful fabric that I had just taken off the loom. I was looking at the last issue of Handwoven, and noticed that entries for the Handwoven Garment Challenge were due on March 17th. I thought: Why not? Two weeks of obsessive cutting and sewing later, with photographic help from Michael and Susan (Thank you sooo much, my friends!) and encouragement from my Husband, I submitted my entry. I will bring my "Southwestern Cape Coat" to guild meeting in April. I should know by March 28th whether my coat has earned a place among the semi-finalists. Please wish me luck.

It looks like Jan Finfrock may be able to join us at April's Guild meeting. I look forward to seeing her and wishing her well in her move to Washington.

Planning for the upcoming workshop on color and weave effects with Sharon Alderman (April 27th and 28th) is almost complete. I am so excited about going. A recent conversation with Susan Jackson indicates that we have Angels signed up to provide lunches and keep everything running smoothly, but that we will not be able to bring and set up looms on Friday as the building (the Courthouse Gallery in Exeter) will be in use that evening. We will need everyone to bring in their looms on Saturday morning. See you there!

~ Sandy Willey ~

## April Meeting

**Cotton & Cellulose Fiber Dying  
with DeeDee King**

**Date: April 13**

**Location: Veterans Mem. Bldg.,  
Exeter**

**Time: 9:30 goodies and chatting  
10:00 meeting**

**Last names A- F, it's your turn to  
bring the goodies!**

**Please carpool.**

We need some help for the Sharon Alderman Workshop, April 27-28. We need someone to make coffee, tea and other beverages both days, and organize the "treats" brought in. That person will get to observe the class for both days. It is a great opportunity to learn from Ms. Alderman, without having to warp a loom, and without paying a class fee. Please consider volunteering for this chance extraordinaire and call Judy Trimble to sign up.

From Jan Finfrock - Hi everyone, I am hoping to get to April's guild meeting, to say good bye to everyone. I am doing much better and can drive now, but my hands still are quite weak so I can't even help to pack. I will be taking two looms with me to WA, and all the rest must go to good homes. I have an 8H Gilmore, 44-45 wide, it is nice and sturdy and in great shape. I also have some books and basketry stuff; lots of rug making supplies for warp or rep weave (cottons, linen, and rug warps). If Clada or the guild can use the loom, I will donate it as my goodbye gift. Maybe you could sell raffle tickets to earn some money for guild and someone who wants it will get it for cheap! I have to be thankful and grateful to remember that only two months ago I could not even be left alone, nor brush my own teeth or feed myself. So ladies, life is good and I am thankful to

be alive! I have gotten very emotional after my accident, and it is hard for me to even tell you all how much I have loved you and learned from you and so much enjoyed your friendship over these years!



Guess what fellow guild members? The Easter Bunny had some extra egg dye this year, and decided to share with the Weaver's guild! Isn't that extra special of her? At the April Guild meeting we will be dyeing cellulose fibers. That includes cotton, linen, ramie, rayon, and tencel. Anything that is grown as a plant. If you want to bring a cotton t-shirt to tie-dye you can, but be sure you wash it first. Cellulose dyeing is very easy – all you need is the fiber, some soda ash fixer, and dyes. The guild will provide the dyes, soda ash pre-soak, gloves, bags, and plastic wrap. You bring the fiber to dye. I would suggest that you wind some warps and pre-soak them in water, wring them out well, and bring them in plastic bags. Cotton and cellulose fiber can be stubborn about accepting water. The neat thing about dyeing cellulose is that it is pretty fast to do. No heat required, and after you soda ash soak your fiber, you squirt it with dye and wrap it up in plastic wrap and let it sit for 12 to 24 hours. After that, rinse and dry. Or, if you want solid colored results, we can do some vat dyeing. Couldn't be easier! **Warning:** for this dye workshop, it is advisable to wear old clothes (including shoes), and have an apron on. This dye will stain your clothes. So get hopping and wind some warps or skeins to dye. This is really fun!



Be sure to check out our Facebook page. If you have pictures you would like to add, send them to Judy Trimble. She's our Facebook Administrator.

**Squeekie Wheels** – the spinning group of Guild members meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month in Porterville at Sierra Hills Retirement Community located at 2500 W. Henderson Ave from 10am-3pm, bring your lunch or get it there (\$7). They also meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in Exeter at the at Capella's Coffee House, 10-3ish.

**Kawaeah Konnection** meets on the second Wednesday in Three Rivers at the Presbyterian Church.

**Conference of Northern California Handweavers** will be held May 31-June 2, 2013 in Olympic Valley, CA ([www.cnch.org](http://www.cnch.org)). Mark your calendars now sounds like some California fun!

Check out the **Weaving Today** website, they've got some great sounding weaving worldwide classes lined up for 2013. There's FiberME2013 (as in Maine's premiere Fiber Arts Tour) in August; Loom Dancers trips to Scotland, Peru, Africa, Morocco, Navajo Nation, Ravenstail Weaving in BC, Canada; and Harrisville Designs has a lot of classes for the summer.



Guild Meetings – April DeeDee King Dying Cotton and cellulose – all leafy things

May – No Meeting

June – DVD weaving presentation

July – DeeDee King's Spin In at Camp Nelson

August – To be determined

Sept – Wool Day sale

October – Show and Sale October

Nov – Protein Dye Day – all the hairy things

Dec – Christmas Party

Upcoming Guild Workshops – Jason Collingwood rugweaver extraordinaire Nov 15, 16, 17

Upcoming Guild Projects – Friendship Coverlet – Sign up at April's meeting.

## **FRIENDSHIP COVERLET** (group project)

Each participant threads her loom 15 inches wide with an overshot pattern of her choice.

All use the same warp and tabby. Suggest an 8/2 unmercerized cotton sett at 24 ends per inch. The length of the warp is determined by the number of participants - about half a yard for each.

Each chooses her weft. Enough of the weft to weave a square is given to every other person in the group, who will use that weft to weave a square in her pattern on her loom. (The squares are separated by an inch of tabby.)

After the weaving is completed (there will be a time limit), the squares are cut apart and each is given back to the person that provided the weft. They can then be assembled for a coverlet.

One extra square will be done for the Guild. The weft will be spun (hopefully) by the spinners, and the resulting squares will be assembled for a coverlet to be used for next year's raffle.

This really is a fun project and the end result is quite delightful.

**Sharon Alderman Participants** will need:

- 5 or 6 sheets of graph paper (4-10 squares per inch),
- a soft lead pencil,
- an eraser,
- 1-2 colored pencils,
- a 6" or 12" ruler and a notebook.

We need access to a pencil sharpener and a bottle of White Out may be handy.

Each person **must come with a warped loom**. This is not a round robin workshop. Dress the loom with 21/2 yards of warp at least 9" wide in the reed (Wider is OK). The warps consist of 2 colors of the same size, fiber and style of thread: one light, L, and one dark, D. Bring the same yarns to use for the weft.

Each participant needs 2 shuttles (plus bobbins or pins for both), scissors, a tapestry needle the right size for you yarn, a few straight pins, a sley hook. We will need bobbin winders, one for each 5 participants.

Choose your yarn from the following possibilities (only 1 per loom): 8/4 carpet warp (sett: 12 epi), pearl cotton (10/2 sett: 24 epi; 5/2 set: 18epi), 8/2 cotton (sett: 20 epi), 2/8 worsted (sett:12 epi). Avoid yarns that are brushed, hairy, thick and thin or that have any special features(loops, dangling elements). Save your handspun yarns for something else.

Color choices are left to the weaver but please use just two, one light and one dark. Thread 3" D, L (x6), D (x 6). Thread the second 3" D, D, L, L. Thread the third 3" D, D, D, L, L. If your loom is wide enough, thread the fourth 3" L, D, L, D, L, L, D, D. Clearly, the exact number of threads will vary with the yarn chosen.

Items for the newsletter need to be received by Karen Dennis by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. E-mail is [knjdenni@att.net](mailto:knjdenni@att.net) or phone 559-561-4705 (please leave message or call back number).