



The Weaving, Spinning & Fiber Arts Guild
of Idaho Falls Studio
482 Constitution Way, Suite B-11
PO Box 1522
Idaho Falls, Id 83403
Newsletter Published monthly and posted at:
www.srfiberarts.org

Rovings, Ravelings and Thrums

The Weaving, Spinning & Fiber Art Guild of Idaho Falls

"Sharing A Love of Fiber Art!"

November 2009

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Newsletter

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745.8952
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Up Coming Events & Classes-

Unless otherwise specified, events are held at The Studio, 482 Constitution Way Suite B-11, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403

Studio Night —Members and *visitors* are welcome every Tuesday evening from 7pm to 9pm at 482 Constitution Way B-11 same building just down the hall. Bring your wheel or a project and join for an evening of fun & Chat. Ring the bell below the front window if the front door is locked.

- **Board Meeting** is first Tues. of each month. Next meeting will be Tues. Nov. 3rd at 6pm. Members welcome.
- **Studio Day Lunch** on Monday, Nov. 16 we will meet at 11:30 am at the Olive Garden for our Studio Day luncheon.
- **Rug hooking** will be on the third Thursday because of Thanksgiving. We will meet from 6 - 9 pm on Thursday, Nov. 19.
- The schedule for December is lunch on Studio Day at Bubba's at 11:30 am on Monday, Dec. 21.
- **Rug hooking** will be on the third Thursday because of Christmas. We will meet on Thursday, Dec. 17 from 6 to 9 pm
- **Market Night**—Every 2nd Tuesday during Studio Night. Bring items to sell and your purse! If you have items to sell, a place will be designated for you. We ask a donation of 5% of sales go to the Guild.
- Guild has renewed it's membership to the Northwest Weaver's Guild. Go to their site at www.northwestweavers.org to be informed of your membership benefits.
- Guild cookbooks for sale and can be purchased on Studio Night for \$14.00 each.
- Got Warp? If you've wondered how it would be to weave, come try your hand at the studio loom. The guild's small floor loom has been warped for a Rayon scarf. It's all ready to go and will have instructions for treadling, starting and stopping, etc. posted nearby. Plus, there will usually be someone with some weaving experience around to give you some help if you need it. When the scarf is woven, it will be donated to a guild fund-raiser. If you enjoy the process, you might want to rent a guild loom and try something for yourself. Kathie at 522-3872, or kathiephoenix@cableone.net.
- Membership fees are due. Please send your check to the above Guild address.
- **WEAVING CLASS Nov. 3rd, 10th & 17th !!!!!**
Contact Mary Ellen@523-7260—SEE PAGE 3 FOR more information!

LOOK —New Guild Officers!!

A Big Warm Welcome to all New & Returning Board Members!

*****SALE*****RENT*****TRADE*****SALE*****RENT*****



Keep the Fleece

Looking for a worthy cause?

Look up www.KeeptheFleece.org

There are many ways to be involved with Keep the Fleece but we want to encourage everyone to participate in creating the longest scarf in the world. Scarf "teams" from around the world will work towards raising 250K to build the world's largest fiber flock in cooperation with Heifer International. The rules are simple. The objective is to have fun. And the ultimate goal will not only benefit the sustainability of the

fiber industry and the lives of those who are in greatest need. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of the United Nations global celebration of natural fibers. To learn how to get started, click on World's Longest Scarf in the main menu on the website.

Off the Net-Weaving in Broken Ends -

Here's a hint. Take a blunt tapestry needle and thread about a foot of 10/2 or finer perle cotton through the eye and tie a knot. Clip the ends. What you now have is a loop of thread that is going through the eye of the needle and won't come out. To use it, position the knot in the eye of the needle. Weave the needle in and out of the area where you want to weave your sticky out end back in. Then pull the needle through so that the perle cotton is woven through the area, but don't pull it all the way. Put the sticky out end of the chenille through the perle cotton loop and pull the needle so the perle cotton loop pulls the chenille through the fabric. I've used this technique on everything from rugs to linen handtowels. It's a lot easier than trying to thread the needle with the end you are trying to weave back in. This may work with your twisted fringe ends that came loose, too. It's worth a try.

Tip Submitted to our [Forum](#) by: Berna.

Membership Fees are due end of September 2009 for 2010.
\$25 for individuals and \$32.50 for families.

Fees may be given to a Board Member Studio night or mailed to:
The Fiber Arts Guild of Idaho Falls, 482 Constitution Way, P.O. Box 1522, Idaho Falls, ID 83403

The Guild appreciates your participation & membership!

Got Warp?

If you've wondered how it would be to weave, come try your hand at the studio loom. The guild's small floor loom has been warped for a Rayon scarf. It's all ready to go and will have instructions for treading, starting and stopping, etc. posted nearby.

Plus, there will usually be someone with some weaving experience around to give you some help if you need it. When the scarf is woven, it will be donated to a guild fundraiser.

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2.50 business card size

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10.00 1/2 page

Link on website: \$25.00/yr

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To add your web-site link to our favorite Links page ---\$25.00 per year.

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Please send your payment to:

**The Weaving, Spinning & Fiber Arts
Guild of Idaho Falls**

482 Constitution Way, Suite B-11

PO Box 1522

Idaho Falls, Id 83403

Contact Shelley Peterson at :

"gbunny.com@hotmail.com" or

Call 208.745-8952 & leave a message.

Weaving Class —please call Mary Ellen at 523-7260

The Guild is once again offering a beginning weaving class. If you are interested in learning to weave or want to refresh your memory on the vocabulary or how to warp, then you are welcome in this class. Classes will begin on Tuesday, November 3rd starting at 7pm. The first class will cover the vocabulary of weaving and an introduction to the loom. Class two will be on the 10th and will introduce different weaves and understanding drafts. Class three, on November 17th will cover warping. The fourth class will get

people started on their first project and will be scheduled along with any additional classes during the third class. This schedule is set up in a way that if you are just wanting to take one or two sessions you can. The cost is \$10 for one or more sessions. An additional \$8 will be charged if this is your first time to take the class, for the notebook with all the information that we will be covering. Remember, you have to be a member of the guild to take any of our classes. So if you haven't paid your dues, it is \$25 for a single

membership or \$37.50 for a family membership. Then if you want to do the class project it will be an additional \$15 for supplies. If you need to rent a loom it is \$5 per week or \$20 per month. (The project can easily be finished within a month, even in a week if you are excited to get it done,) I strongly encourage anyone that takes the class as a refresher to plan on doing some project shortly after attending your chosen session(s) to really set those concepts into your memory. If you want to get a break on shipping when ordering supplies for a project, we will be making an order from Yarn Barn during the class and you are welcome to include your order with the class order. If you have any questions, or to sign up for the class or individual session(s), please call Mary Ellen at 523-7260-



*Weaving Classes
will begin on
Tuesday, Nov. 3rd.
If you missed this
class there will be
another in
January!*

Pine Needle Basket Class

The Guild is also offering a class pine needle basket class on Saturday, November 14th. The cost will be \$35 and will start at 9 am. If you are interested please call Brenda Monson at 521-2055.

Off the Net—Drive Band Replacement

I was having trouble with the drive band jumping off my antique Canadian Production Wheel when I have the wheel really humming. I took a tip from my modern wheel and went to the fabric store and bought some thin elastic cording (like

bungy cord but much thinner). I then replaced the twine drive-band with this cording. I didn't put too much tension on the band—just enough to hold it on and then a little more (not very scientific). Overlap the ends and hand sew them together, wrapping the thread round and

round the overlap to prevent fraying. The wheel now spins like a charm--no more frustrating spinning sessions. The band no longer jumps off and the tension on the wheel does not seem to be affected by the change! I thought others might benefit from this little tip.
Jessie in CT

Tip Submitted to our [Forum](#) by: Jessie

Rovings, Ravelings & Thrums

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If you are a member of Ravelry.com, ANWG Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds. (which you a member of as a Guild member) has formed a group for you to participate in. There is a forum that discusses fiber, weaving, knitting etc. The group name is: "Assoc. Northwest Weavers". If you have trouble logging in, contact Linda Shelhamer at "shara@bresnan.net" or Carolyn Wostenburg at "lwostenb@rtconnect.net".

Always spin a few yards of sample yarn, Ply it, and critically review it. Is it what you had in mind? Is your yarn even and the yarn diameter right for your gauge? Perhaps a knit sample swatch is called for? Take the time to inspect your yarn, and possible revise it. It might save you a lot of time in the long run!

Spider Wranglers Weave One-Of-A-Kind Tapestry

by Christopher Joyce —Listen to the Story at NPR-online



Simon Peers, a textile maker who lives in Madagascar, conceived the project. Weaving spider silk is not traditional there; a French missionary dreamed it up over a century ago but failed at it. The only known spider silk tapestry was shown in Paris in 1900 but then disappeared.

Peers researched previous attempts, then teamed up with fashion expert Nicholas Godley to hire local weavers to try the near-impossible.

"They did think we were insane," Godley says. "It was actually hard to find people who were willing to collect and work with spiders. I think most people are arachnophobes. I mean, I am, and they bite."

The task of silking a spider starts with a small machine — designed centuries ago when the first attempts to silk spiders were begun — that holds the spider down.

"The spiders are harnessed ... held down in a delicate way,"

Godley says, "so you need people to do this who are very tactile so the spiders are not harmed. So there's a chain of about 80 people who go out every morning at four o'clock, collect spiders, we get them in by 10 o'clock. They're in boxes, they're numbered, and then as they get silked, about 20 minutes later, they get released back into nature."

A Difficult Task

Enlarge Chris Joyce/NPR

Simon Peers (left) and Nicholas Godley stand in front of the tapestry at the museum in New York. They say they spent a half-million dollars of their own money to make the tapestry.

Chris Joyce/NPR

Simon Peers (left) and Nicholas Godley stand in front of the tapestry at the museum in New York. They say they spent a half-million dollars of their own money to make the tapestry.

Peers picks up the thread of the story.

"It's called dragline silk," he says. "A spider can produce

up to seven different types of silk. The dragline is what frames the web; it's the thicker silk on the outside. Also, it's extremely strong. The first panel that we wove, we were quite stunned by the fact that it sounded a bit like guitar strings, pinging like metallic guitar strings. I mean, it is a very, very unusual material."

A very careful person simply pulls the thread out of each spider and wraps it on a spindle. It's then put on a hand loom and woven.

The main threads consist of 96 twisted silk lines. The brocaded patterns in the tapestry — stylized birds and flowers — are woven with threads made up of 960 spider silk lines.

Peers says they never broke a single strand, yet the tapestry is as soft as cashmere.

Peers and Godley say they spent a half-million dollars of their own money to make the tapestry, which is on display at the museum for several months.

Thanks to Lindy for suggesting this article—read more and listen to the story on-line at

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=113223398>





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THE WEAVING, SPINNING &
FIBER ARTS GUILD
OF IDAHO FALLS

482 Constitution Way, Suite B-11
PO Box 1522
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403

Email:
contact@srfiberarts.org



Because of the cost of mailing and printing, we regret that we will no longer be mailing the newsletter. It is posted for download online each month at www.srfiberarts.org and can be emailed to you as a pdf. Email us a request to receive an email copy of the newsletter with your name to "gbunny.com@hotmail.com". We often broadcast changes & updates through email. Copies will also be available at the Studio. Emails are not shared. Don't miss out!

COME ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF GUILD MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$25 for individuals and \$32.50 for families. Dues may be mailed to: The Fiber Arts Guild of Idaho Falls, 482 Constitution Way, P.O. Box 1522, Idaho Falls, ID 83403.

Please add your email address so we can send your newsletter via email. www.srfiberarts.org (emails will not be shared for any other use)

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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