

Jacksonville Weavers' Guild

www.JaxWeaversGuild.org

November 2015 Issue

Judi Leatherberry, Editor



President's Message -- Salad Towels

Christmas is less than two months away, so like every other year I have been busy making lists, starting some projects, and searching for new ideas. Everyone seems to like and need tea towels so I spent several hours perusing my files looking at drafts and pictures of the finished projects. But nothing said, "Yes, let's do it!"

Gourmet experts say presentation is everything and maybe they are correct. Because at dinner neither the parmesan crusted salmon nor the asparagus 'spoke' to me, but the salad yelled loud and clear. That dark green red leaf lettuce, the grape tomatoes, and Kalamata olives, topped with feta cheese was perfect. The salad towels were born - dark green, a hint of red purple, creamy white, red, and black/brown. Sure looked great in the bowl, now we will see how they look in a tea towel!

Happy weaving!
Judy



Sale! Sale! Sale! Our November meeting will be devoted to the sale of yarn and equipment donated to the Guild by former Guild member Betty Francis. Check out the Sales Flyer for an idea of what is on offer - shuttles, kumihimo stand, rope maker, swords, yarn, etc. There will be a "free" table and a few door prizes.

Bring your checkbook or cash (sorry, credit cards not accepted) and shopping bag(s).

For those of you who can't make it to the Nov. meeting: Equipment: Leftovers will stay in the Fort Caroline Community Center available for sale until after the March meeting. Items remaining after March will be added to the JWG inventory for loan/rent. Fiber: Leftovers will be left indefinitely available for purchase in the library area during guild meetings.

In addition, cord twisters will be available for anyone who wants to make cords for name tag holders.

--Susan Wallace

Note: The Sales Flyer is a separate attachment sent with the Newsletter.--Judi L



From The Internet....from Susan Wallace

Video showing how clothing from USA and other countries is recycled in India and casts a very interesting perspective on Americans as perceived in India's recycling industry. <http://tinyurl.com/mmn8mqj>

How textiles influenced textile and world history. This article posits that "the story of technology is the story of textiles." <http://tinyurl.com/nvpqqbg>

Watch artisans craft a razai (a traditional Indian bed quilt), using meticulously carved woodblock designs carefully printed on fabric which is then hand quilted using hand fluffed cotton. <http://tinyurl.com/nll3evo>



Suggestions for all Weavers....from Judy Jull

1. Remember to tag your left over bobbin yarns with size, fiber content, and color. This eliminates the guessing game later.
2. Keep good notes! Not only the draft, EPI, yarns used for warp and weft,, but info such as washing instructions, finishing techniques, what needed to be changed to improve the project, etc. Keep a SAMPLE - visuals are great.



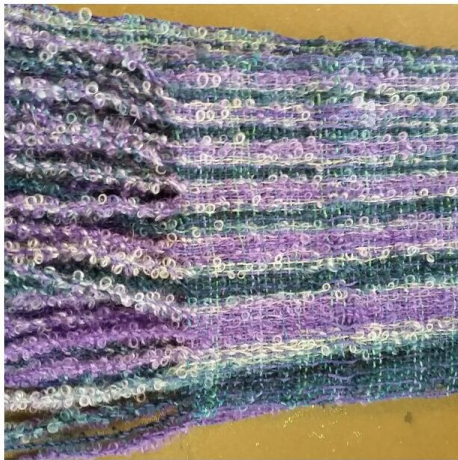
Kate Muniz submitted a fantastic list of suggestions for weavers for your enjoyment. It is attached as a separate item along with the Sale Flyer mentioned earlier in our Newsletter.



The Times-Union, Sunday, November 1, 2015. Pg F-2. Arts Notes by Charlie Patton
Headline: 3 area folk artists selected to be masters

Three Northeast Florida folk artists are among five in the state selected by the Florida Department of State to serve as master artists in the 2015-16 Florida Folklife Apprenticeship Program. The honored artists are Jacksonville hip-hop performer Jamal Jones; Ku Mu Paw, a backstrap weaver from the Burmese Karen community in Jacksonville; Romeo Ragbir, a Trinidadian Tassa drummer from Plantation; George Robinson, a craftsman of balsa wood surfboards from Melbourne; and Michael Usina, a Minorcan cast net maker and cultural advocate from St. Augustine. --Submitted by Kate Muniz

Show and Tell from the October Meeting



Such a wonderful bunch of talented weavers!

A blurb about a couple of our recent members, Nancy and Bill Warren!

Spinster weaves history to life



GREEN COVE SPRINGS - Sharlene Lane was born in North Jacksonville to a farm family that taught her to weave at the age of four. Now, many decades later, having volunteered since 1997, she has been woven into the Clay County Agricultural Fair's "Early Florida Village" exhibit.

Lane considers herself the official "spinster" of the village exhibit, and volunteers in full costume while weaving at the exhibit every day of the fair.

She'll be using a new addition to the village, a 19th Century Reed Loom, a relic of old weaving traditions, which is no longer manufactured. To grow interest in the art of weaving, Lane will be demonstrating her talents to onlookers. She hopes someone will pick up the hobby as a result.

"If you don't learn something new every day it's a waste of a day," Lane said. "That's what my grandparents used to say. I always learn something new every day."

To demonstrate this value, Lane will be showing the extraordinary capabilities of the loom by weaving rags out of plastic grocery bags.

"The nice thing is to clean them, you just have to hose it down," Lane said.

However, Lane believes traditional weaving is a hallmark skill that most people should consider learning.

"Back then we didn't have Sears or Walmart, so you had to make your own fabrics," Lane said. "That's where the term spinster came from, most spinsters were single women and most people would take their cotton or wool to where the spinster was to have her weave it into fabric. Back in the day it was a craft, but now it's more of a hobby."

Whether a craft, a hobby, or an art, Lane takes her weaving seriously, and is so skilled at it she can complete weaving a rag within two hours. To Lane, there is nothing better than to spin your free time away.

"With the time you spend on it, you can keep it for a lifetime," Lane said. "You always have something to show for your time."

Lane hopes to show with the new loom, which was donated to the fairgrounds, how interesting the Early Florida Village can truly be.

"Last year I hear somebody say that there was nothing to do out here," Lane said. "But there are plenty of things to do out here. You could make bookmarks, potholders, learn to crochet, basket weave or make pottery. Anybody that wants to try it can try it. We're always trying to get people interested in it."

-Weston Williams

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Rudell Kopp has been very busy weaving with her Blazing Shuttles warps!



Hi fellow weavers!

Have you ever been interested in this much work? - bring your cotton gin, cards and spinning equipment and you might find a "lifetime" of weaving in this 160 acre field if the owners of this harvest would be willing to share.

This is about a quarter of a mile from my home.

Rob (r1mein54@windstream.net)

