

Jacksonville Weavers' Guild, Inc.

Jacksonville, Florida

November 2007

http://www.JaxWeaversGuild.org

Next Meeting Saturday, November 10 at Tree Hill 10 a.m. See below for materials to prepare and bring for plaited basket.

Letter from the President

Hello fellow fiber enthusiasts,

Weaving, one of the ancient arts, is in the process of partnering with the johnny-comelately technology of computers in the form of "e-textiles." Electronic textiles (etextiles) are fabrics that have electronics and interconnections woven into them. Components and interconnections are intrinsic to the fabric and thus are less visible and not susceptible to becoming tangled together or snagged by their surroundings. An e-textile can be worn in everyday situations where currently available wearable computers would hinder the user.

Researchers at Virginia Tech are weaving cloth that may one day be made into shirts that could both defibrillate a heart and play MP3s. One graduate student is already trying out an "e-textile Hokie suit" whose sensors and wires collect data about his gait. Sensors and wires woven into the clothing could measure blood pressure, heart rate, body temperature or movements and relay the data to a computer, cell phone or other device that could signal for help if the wearer experiences a health problem. The fabric has undergone some initial testing but hasn't yet been thrown into the wash, although insulation around the wires is supposedly detergent-resistant. Some other

kinks still to be worked out: how the fabric should respond if, for example, a wearer rolls up his sleeves, and how to allow consumers to purchase e-clothing preprogrammed for their particular needs. Retail sales are probably years off.

On a here-and-now note, fabric finishing has a new twist. Evidently, wet finishing is not always sufficient. Med-A-Likra is a process of expanding the fibers in thread after it has been woven or knitted into fabric form. By applying an electrical surge to the fabric, while it is under compression, the individual fibers compactly spun into each thread are 'shocked' apart from one another, creating catacombs throughout the threads. These catacombs, along with the disfigurement of the individual threads, reduce the size of the spacing between each thread and also provide pockets to trap the user's natural body heat longer than the same fabric can without the Med-a-Likra process. Support gloves are being manufactured from a fourway stretch fabris with the Med-A-Likra process applied. The gloves are advertised as providing heat, massage, and support, the three main pain relievers for the repetitive stress injuries (RSIs) that computer users, quilters, embroiderers and knitters may be prone to.

Is everyone familiar with Syne Mitchell's WeaveCasts? I've been meaning to check these out for some time. So recently, when I sat down to weave, conveniently in the same room with my computer, I listened to her first two episodes. I thoroughly enjoyed her relaxed, homespun approach and her easy to listen to voice. On most episodes she interviews a well-known weaver, features "weaving" music, describes (and provides a .wif file for) a fabric swatch, and shares stories from her own weaving life. If you have a computer in the proximity of your loom, I encourage you to check it out. No special equipment (beyond a computer with speakers) or additional software is required. The episodes (currently a total of 20) are listed at <u>www.weavecast.com</u> along with links to related articles, drafts, and additional information. I suggest you listen to Episode 0 first and then pick and choose from the various topics available. I will definitely be sharing more loom time with Syne.

Susan

Materials for Plaited Paper Basket

Four or five brown paper grocery bags Clips – clothespins, alligator clips or mini spring clamps

Carefully cut out the bottom of each bag. With the bag folded, cut rings 3-1/2" wide across the width of the bag. Cut each ring apart at the seam. You will need an even number of strips for each direction. Sixteen strips will form a basket about 7 inches in diameter.

Fold each strip in half lengthwise to mark the center line. Unfold the strips, then fold the outer edges to the center line. Fold again along the center line, creasing tightly for each fold. The strips will be four layers thick. Using an iron makes the process easier.

Other papers can be used, such as drywall tape folded in half, cardstock or other heavy papers cut into strips. Whether or not you use the paper as a single, double or quadruple layer depends upon how heavy the paper is and how sturdy you want your basket to be. Packages of 1/8" strips can be found in the scrapbooking sections of craft stores such as JoAnn's, Michael's, Hobby Lobby, etc., to make miniature baskets.

	Programs	
November	baskets woven from strips (of paper bags, craft paper, drywall tape, fused silk, etc.) (see "Time to Weave")	Linda
December	lunch/handmade gifts	Lee
January	deflected double weave follow-up individual project plans and questions	Linda and Lynette

February	"little" weaving w/ cardboard looms and/or weavettes	Betty
March	surface design (possible on results from Sept. or Nov. pgms	Barbara
April	silk fusion	Barbara
Мау	show & tell results of guild project and plan programs for coming year	

Officers:

President: Susan Wallace Vice President: Lynette Holmes Secretary: Linda Schultz Treasurer: Esmé Lee

Committees:

Newsletter - Betty Francis Hospitality - Lee Kessler Membership - Esme Lee Library - Linda Schultz & Jane Gaskin

Volunteers for refreshments at meetings

November 10 Snacks: Connie Geller Drinks: Betty Francis December Luncheon: Lee Kessler January 12 Snacks: Sheila Drinks: Esme Lee February 9 Snacks: Lynette Holmes Drinks: Kathy Bowles March 8 Snacks: Barbara Wroten Drinks: Linda Shultz April 12 Snacks: Linda Shultz Drinks: (open) May 10 Snacks: Beth Angelo Drinks: (open)

Looms for sale:

60", 4 shaft Norwood loom - contact Sue Kenaston

45", 12 shaft LeClerc loom - contact Betty Francis

42", 8 shaft Schacht loom, yardage counter, spool rack - contact Lynette Holmes

Minutes of the Jacksonville Weavers' Guild October 13, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 10:11 a.m. by Vice President Lynette Holmes. Present: Linda Schultz, Connie Geller, Beth Angelo, Ann Stodola, Lee Kessler, Ethelia Perry, Betty Francis, Esmé Lee, Kathleen Bowles, Sheila Platt, and Lynette Holmes. Lynette welcomed a new weaver, Sheila Platt, and members introduced themselves.

Minutes from the meetings of September 8 and May 12, 2007 were distributed. Motion to approve minutes from May 12, 2007 as read was made by Beth. Seconded Kathy. Carried. Motion to approve minutes from September

8, 2007 as read was made by Connie. Seconded Kathy. Carried.

Treasurer's report: \$1053.75 plus \$4.00 cash from sale of donated yarn.

Spin-Off magazine was received for the library.

The hospitality sheet was passed to fill in open slots.

The program for April, "Projects from Time to Weave" has been switched with the November program, "Surface Design". The following people indicated they are planning on attending Convergence 2008 in Tampa Bay: Lee, Ann, Kathy, Betty, Linda, Lynette and Barbara.

The following announcements were made: Ethelia Perry has two looms for sale

- 45" 4-shaft Leclerc Nilus plus accessories including reeds and weighted beater bar
- 2) 8-shaft Baby Wolf

She is looking to buy a 45" 8-shaft loom with rear-hinged treadles and second back beam.

A student of Lynette Holmes is selling a 36" 4-shaft Harrisville loom with accessories for about \$600.

Betty Lamb Wofford (former JWG member) is selling a 36" Leclerc loom. Contact 928-8880 or <u>Becky.Parry@azchem.com</u>.

Dr. Kathy Hughes is looking for floor loom classes. She took an FCCJ class 10-15 years ago. Contact Susan Wallace for details. Lynette met a weaver/fiber artist who teaches in Macon, Georgia and would accept donations of yarn.

Bead show this weekend at the Ramada Inn.

A possible field trip to the Jekyll Island Weaving Center was discussed.

Articles on weaving-related topics were passed around.

Show and Tell:

- Esmé wool blanket for wedding present
 - top from warp-painted fabric
 - beaded bead necklace

Ethelia - glasses case in Theo Moorman technique

- deflected double weave placemats Lynette- dyed silk hankies

- knitted scarf

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Program: Guild challenge; Deflected Double Weave, Linda Schultz and Lynette Holmes

Respectfully submitted, Linda Schultz, Secretary

Membership (May – April)

Pay \$20 membership dues to Esmé Lee, 1129 Sunnymeade Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32211. Dues cover the cost of our meeting space and library at Tree Hill.

Contribute to the Guild Newsletter:

Do you have a favorite website you could tell us about? Or a fiber book that you would be willing to review? A weaving story to share? Notice of a fiber show in the area? Please send contributions to our newsletter editor, Betty Francis at <u>betty@culturalcouncil.org</u>.