

# Weavers West News

## Sun City West, Arizona

### Co-Presidents' Corner:

### Bonnie's Blog



Hello fellow weavers and spinners. I hope all of you traveling back to home and family in other parts of the country have safe travels. Summer seems to roll around really fast. Those of us back here miss you already.

Summer Programs started off with a very nice salad potluck lunch, and the programs offered sound really interesting and fun. I hope lots of you who brave the summer heat here will take part often. Even if you aren't particularly interested in the program, come and visit with those of us who are taking part. The weaving studios are much cooler than most of our homes in the summer. It's a good time to get on a loom and weave.

I have jury duty on May 13, and my husband and I will travel back to Wisconsin for a short visit for our grandson's high school graduation party on June 1. Otherwise, we will be here in Sun City West. So please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you need help in the weaving studio. I plan on weaving as much as I can.

Terri Reeves and I will meet soon with the project manager for our weaving studio remodel. Lots of changes and lots to think about. But a good time to reorganize and update the studios as we can. Hopefully, there won't be too much of a disruption to room use.

Happy weaving and spinning! Hope to see those of you hanging out here this summer in the weaving studios often.

Bonnie Benson

## Co-Presidents' Corner: Terri's Talk



There are some great things going on in the Studio this summer and I hope everyone here in town will stop in and participate as often as you can. Those of you on the road or visiting cooler spots for the Summer, keep in touch and let us know what fun things you are doing as well.

One of the greatest things I have observed at the Studio so far is a whole lot of “helping” going on! I have recently observed veteran weavers coming in specifically to help newer weavers plan projects and then help them get started. There is a group of really new Rigid Heddle weavers working together on some beautiful shawl projects recently. It seems like once one weaver learns something they all get together and pass that knowledge on to the new members. These are people who have been at WW for less than a year! A big shout out to Kathleen who has become a great mentor to Mary, Carol, and Sharon. Then you see an experienced weaver like Gail working with Sue B. to start her on a project on the Dobby loom, Patti helping Karol dress a floor loom and Gloria including Kathleen in her next krogbrad project so she can learn something new! The list goes on and on. That’s one of the finest things about our Guild. Weavers helping weavers. It makes me proud to see everyone working together.

Another great thing going on are the plans for the “proposed construction projects” in the community. On May 8th, RCSCW employees Karl and Riley met with members of the Space Study Committee for the first time. We were happy to have the opportunity to share our proposed floor plan and wish list with them. They were impressed with our thoughtfulness for the project. They felt we were very reasonable and conservative in our approach and were most encouraging that we would be successful in achieving our goals for the proposed new studio design. Keep in mind, the project is still in the pre-approval stages. Nothing is set in stone yet! Stay tuned for much more to come on all this. The committee of Gail Smith, Nancy Grunwaldt, Paula Dean, Mike Krause, Sandy Hughes, Sue Fitzsimons, and Bonnie and me have really put a lot of thought into this project and appreciate all the input we received from members. If you can think of anything else let us know as there is still time for fine-tuning.

Happy weaving and ya’ll have a great Summer!

Terri

## Weavers West Education Committee News

by Carol Byrne

The first Triangle Loom class was taught by Marilyn Haas-Haseman on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Marilyn, for introducing Weavers West to this creative technology. For those adventuresome members who missed this class, we do have a library book and DVD which will walk you through the process. Please give it a try, and Marilyn, we hope you will offer the class again when your time permits.

A big thank-you to all who have taken the recent Education Survey, your Education Committee is listening. "Survey says..." many of you want classes in advanced Rigid Heddle techniques, double weaving, Saori type weaving, triangle weaving, tapestry, and rugs. There is moderate interest in summer/winter and advanced weaving techniques such as rep, deflected double weave, supplemental warps, card weaving, weaving a transparency, shaft switching, wedge weaving and use of a wavy shuttle. If anyone has experience in any of these advanced weaving techniques, please share your knowledge with us.

The majority are interested in focus/study groups at no cost to students, many are willing to pay \$50.00-\$75.00 for a class and some will pay \$100.00 + to learn specialized techniques. As would be expected the most popular months for classes are January, February, March and November, followed closely by April, May, October and December.

Looking to the future, Saori weaving instructed by Laura Lundy will be repeated in January for all of those who missed her class in November of 2018 and for those who enjoyed the class so much that they want to take it again. This will be followed up in February with a garment draping and construction techniques workshop also taught by Laura. This class will show how Saori yardage can be transformed into wearable art. A Double Weave study group using an online class is being formed. In March, our own Phyl Cipolla will instruct a round robin class on Rep weaving techniques. The committee has been in touch with instructors in advanced Rigid Heddle techniques, tapestry weaving and other weaving techniques that were mentioned in the survey. We welcome any additional suggestions that you might have.

Also planned for the fall are "Bee in the Know" sessions, formerly known as Fix-it-Friday. Equipment Review will be offered in two sessions by Char Heins. These sessions will cover all of the WW accessory tools such as the yarn reel and ball winder, twistors, bobbin winders and many more. Ruth Michael will demonstrate Sectional Warping. These sessions originally planned for spring 2019, were postponed due to illness of the instructors.

## Summer Weaving by Jean Sinchak and Gloria Jacobs

Jean and Gloria organized a luncheon to kick off the summer/early fall programs. Participants brought yummy ingredients to share in making our own salad, plus beverages, breads and desserts. As you can see from the photos below, there was quite a large turn out. Here is the **schedule** of events:

May 20<sup>th</sup> - Weaving Fabric Baskets-Diane Conery 9:00 AM; clothesline can be purchased at Bobs or Walmart. You may choose to use thick yarn or fabric strips. There is material in the Rag Cabinet if you would like to use fabric.

10<sup>th</sup> – Bead Leno Technique demonstration as to how to place your beads on your warp and sley the reed. Looms have been reserved for this project if you wish to make a scarf. It is best if you dress the loom from the back as the warp does not go through the reed until the beads are put on the warp. When you sign up please ask Jean for the directions. Lise will be our person in charge. 9:00 AM

June 24<sup>th</sup> – Dream Catchers 9:00 AM- sign up by 6/17 in order for materials to be ordered and ready for you.

July 8<sup>th</sup> – Hoop Weaving 9:00 AM; hula hoops can be purchased at the dollar stores

July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Spinning using Veggies Barbara Schaffer - 10 A.M.

August – 6<sup>th</sup> – Inkle Loom workshop Gloria will demonstrate how to put words in your weaving. If you are new to weaving come and learn how to dress an Inkle loom.

August 19<sup>th</sup> – Scarf dying – Diane Conery 9:00 AM. Scarves must be ordered by 6/15

August 28<sup>th</sup> – Ice Cream Social 1:30 PM

September 4<sup>th</sup> – Macrame (small wall hanging) Terri Reeves 10 - 12

September 10<sup>th</sup> – Box Weaving-Jean Sinchak 9:30 AM

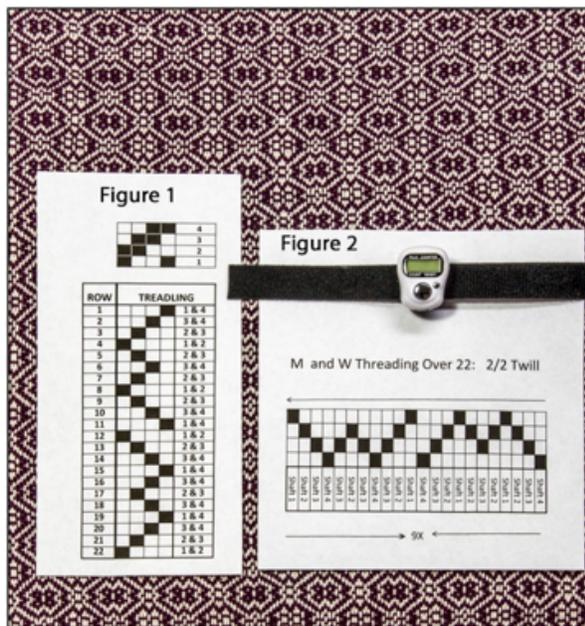
Do not choose a huge box. Free ones are available at the Post Office. Yarn of your choice.

Come and have fun. If you would like to come and observe please do so. It is nice to get out of the house and socialize. More information to come. As the summer progresses more information will be provided. The Sign Up Notebook is bright green and on the front counter. Gloria : [vamvams@live.com](mailto:vamvams@live.com) Jean: [jmsinchak@cox.net](mailto:jmsinchak@cox.net)



## A Weaving Tip

by Carol Price



I really liked the pattern (below) and, even though I didn't realize what I was getting into, I jumped in with eagerness. While weaving the pattern, I kept losing what row I was on.

I soon found that, if I daydreamed (none of you do that), I lost track of which row I should be on and I could not figure exactly what row I should be on. So there were a number of rip outs until I decided there had to be a better way. I love working with MS EXCEL so I set up both the Weaving sequence (Fig. 1) and the Threading sequence (Fig 2). Well..I thought I had it whipped but that was still not keeping me out of trouble.. What do I do????

I went to JoAnn's and found a digital counter (in the knitting accessories) that I could Velcro to my front bar. (Michael's might have these, too). It's small but works great. Now..My pattern (Fig 1) is setup with Row #'s and treadle #'s so, each time I complete a row I push the button on the counter. When 22 rows were completed, I just pushed the tiny clear button and I'm ready to start over. This is especially good for complex treading, such as the **M and W** pattern featured here. If anyone would like a pattern setup and are not familiar with Excel, I would gladly do it for you. I would need the Threading and Treading information [ca-price@cox.net](mailto:ca-price@cox.net)

## Editor's News and Notes

by Diane Stern

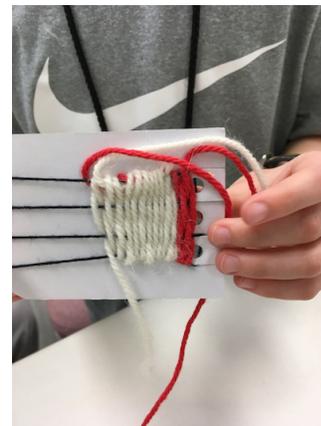
By the time you read this, Mother's Day will be a recent memory. I hope each of you had a special day, celebrating in your own individual ways with family and friends. For me, it meant a trip to California to see my parents and stay with my "baby" sister's family.

Now, let us flash back to a few memories made this past quarter.



Weavers West hosted a group of 8 children on March 20th. It was fun to meet the "Happy Campers," some who live nearby and attend school locally; two traveled from Hawaii to visit with grandparents! Pam Chumbley led the group through the basics of weaving.

Each child was given a cardboard loom, a plastic needle and yarn. Kathleen B, Gloria and myself assisted. Once the children felt secure in what they were doing, they were given a smaller cardboard frame, designed to become a necklace. The children left with a goody bags filled with yarn and beads to complete their projects at home or while visiting their grandparents. Participating in Happy Camp was a rewarding experience for me. Many thanks to Pam and Kathleen who organized this year's event, and to Gloria as well.



Marilyn Tschetter led **Show and Tell** on April 17th. Bonnie and Terri enjoyed modeling their latest “weave to wear” clothing.



Terri also showed us a bag she made with strips cut from commemorative breast cancer scarves.



Angela and Mary sported their silky scarves.

Marilyn showed us recently spun and dyed fiber, still damp from finishing.



Sandy made a blanket for the Linus Project. She told us how she was inspired by a large group of women who spent their leisure time on a cruise making blankets for the Linus Project.

A shy weaver's towels-her first time on the floor loom>



Carol's towel, a 22 step pattern (see page 5)

My "tell": I had received an e-mail from a friend from New York the morning of Show and Tell. It was an update and thank you note from her daughter. Many years ago, I had made this young woman a quilt to support her while she battled breast cancer. I read aloud the inspirational quotes that had been worked into the quilt. Healthy now, my friend's daughter wanted me to know that she passed the quilt on to a friend of hers who is now fighting cancer. It was so meaningful to me to get this feedback.

Marcia and Karen were proud to show off their blanket and pillow cover (not shown)



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING PILLOW COVERS, CHECK THIS OUT:

<https://youtu.be/yYi38BU8hQo>

The above will link you to a video which features Hannah, an articulate teacher. First she shows a direct warping method on the Kromski Rigid Heddle Loom, which is a very clear step by step review. At approximately time marker 20, she demonstrates a slightly different surgeon knot on the front apron rod, which may interest everyone to try. The second half of the video, she weaves a plain weave pillow case. You may be interested in the end of the video; she finishes off the pillowcase by hand with a tapestry needle and modified mattress stitching. This technique may be applied to any finishing.



if you would like an update on the [Mourning Project](#), total of baby booties and what the art installation looks like, copy and paste into your browser:

<http://maryvanecke.com/2019/04/10/little-elegies-the-first-exhibition-of-the-mourning-project-and-a-bootie-haboob/>

*Char Heins dressed a loom for launching a community blanket for the Linus Project. Gloria and Carol were among the weavers who took turns weaving on it. Here they are, with a freshly picked project off the loom. This one shown was woven with solid green and space dyed white, green and blue chenille yarns, which were donated by Mary Dehlinger's family.*

The most recent Rigid Heddle class was held May 13, 14 and 15. It was Kathleen B's debut as a teacher and she did a wonderful job. Here is the class, hard at work, setting up their looms with the direct warping method.



In case you missed it the announcement: Bisbee Fiber Arts Guild will be having a retreat June 21 thru June 23. Please see click on the link below for more information:

<https://www.bisbeefiberarts.com/fiber-arts-retreat>

A note from Jane Flannery: While you are on the road this summer, if you have a chance to accumulate small toiletries from your hotels where you might be stopping at, **MacCroKnit** would appreciate anything you can donate.

They create bags, then fill them with essentials, which are brought to the Battered Women's Shelter on a quarterly basis. Some examples of useful items are: toothpaste, toothbrushes, nail files, shampoo, cream rinse, body wash, soap, razors, hair ties, mouth wash.

Items can be dropped off at MacCroKnit on Thursdays from 8 - 11 AM or hold on to them until mid September when I return. Also, you can put them into the big container on the back shelf and I will take care of them. Thanks so much. Every little bit will help those in need.

On a personal note, thank you for your well wishes after my shoulder surgery. It is good to be back in the studio to visit and help with the rigid heddle class. I am not physically ready to weave yet, but certainly appreciate the loom and shuttles on loan from friends. I can experiment all summer and see how much I can do (in between my travels). Also, I hope to see some of you in the studio for summer programs when I am in town. I want to wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. Enjoy every precious minute!

