

# Weavers West Guild News

Sun City West, AZ



## Co-Presidents' Message

Hello Fellow Weavers and Spinners,

Welcome to 2021, hopefully it will be a much better year for all of us. The Guild has been open since early December 2020 and each day we have approximately a dozen members come in to see the new Studio and some to weave. Sue Fitzsimmons, Carol Byrne and Vickie Regnart were among the first weavers in the new Studio.

If you wish to do so, you are welcome to come to the Studio and sign up for a loom. For those of you who would prefer to weave at home, we are making available a few table looms to rent for a month at a time. Please speak with Mary Wilder or Karen Vincent if you are interested.

In conjunction with the Education Committee, a Weaving II class is being developed that will be primarily virtual but will also have a live instructor/mentor. Cynthia Geyer-Goering and Mary Wilder have been the beta students with Angela Buxton as our mentor. There is additional work that needs to be done but we hope to be able to finalize everything and be able to offer this class in the near future.

Membership dues can still be mailed or dropped off at the Guild. If you prefer to mail in your dues, the form is on the website, [www.weavers.scwclubs.com](http://www.weavers.scwclubs.com) and the mailing address is: PO Box 5114, Sun City West, AZ 85375.

The Board has spent some time editing and revising our Guild Operating Procedures to reflect the changes to our space. A copy of the Weavers West Guild Operating Procedures may be found on the website under Membership.

Thank you to Barbara Schaffer who donated a large wooden Studio is Open sign to the Guild.

Regards,

Karen and Mary

# Education News

## **Weavers West Guild Education Committee News**

*Submitted by Carol Byrne*

All Classes, Workshops and Bee in the Know sessions are on hold until it is determined safe that they be held in the Weavers West Guild Studios, due to the continuing rise in the COVID numbers.

Don't forget to submit "Virtual Bee in the Know" on-line classes, workshops, etc. to Carol Byrne for distribution to the membership.

Pam Chumbley recommended that a virtual class, "Weaving on a Table Loom" by Kelly Casanova be considered as a possible alternative to Weaving II. A new member, Cynthia Geyer-Goering, who has done most of her weaving education through virtual classes, volunteered to compare the virtual class to the syllabus for Weaving II. The results of her research show that the two are closely related in content. We decided to proceed with a pilot study and have 2 volunteers, Cynthia and Mary Wilder who are taking the Kelly Casanova class together in the studio. So far, they are both pleased with their progress.

Simultaneously, Angela Buxton has volunteered to revamp the Weaving II curriculum for the in person class.

Depending on the results of the trial we are optimistic that when it is safe to do so, both virtual and in person classes will be available to members for learning to weave on a table loom.

## ***How do you learn to weave on a rigid heddle loom in the time of COVID?***

*Submitted by Pam Chumbley*

Weavers West education team has come up with a new plan to offer Weaving I with less contact and more social distancing.

## **The NEW Weaving I: Rigid Heddle Virtual learning**

This introductory weaving workshop will get you started weaving on a rigid heddle loom in about 2 hours. We use a quick method to warp and will guide you through weaving a sampler that teaches a variety of weaves.

In the first of two in-person sessions, you will learn to warp the loom and begin weaving.

Online videos produced by one of our own members will lead you through the process of making a sampler that teaches you more techniques beyond basic plain weave. The class will give you access to unlimited virtual sessions that will direct you through all the steps to complete a sampler wall



hanging including the finishing techniques. The class will also give you access to other instructors through Craftsy, if you want to experience other learning styles and more in depth instruction.

In the second in-person session, you will have the opportunity to ask questions that may come up while you watch the videos and trouble shoot problems.

(WIFI access required for virtual portion of the class)

Skills Developed:

- Loom terminology
- Direct warping
- Weaving terminology
- Finishing techniques
- Resources for patterns

Supplies Needed:

- Tape measure
- Scissors
- Paper and pencil/pen
- Weft & warp yarn of your choosing (see fiber requirements in

binder)

- Loom Rental Package OR access to rigid heddle loom with accessories

FEE: \$50 Includes:

- Loom Rental Package\*
- Use of a heddle, sley hook, warping peg, warp
- Access to online learning sites
- One on one in person instruction

**\*Loom Rental Package:**

Use of a Weavers West rigid heddle loom, warping peg, sley hook, 7.5/8/0 reed for 3 weeks. \$100 security deposit required. If you already own or have access to a rigid heddle loom to use for the class and the equipment needed, class fee is \$30

CLASS SIZE: 2 students with 1 instructor. Masks required!

If you know someone who would like to begin learning how to weave have them contact Pam Chumbley or Kathleen Bloechl.


## **Weavers West Member Developed YouTube Weaving Series**

*Submitted by Pam Chumbley*

In an effort to continue to teach Weaving I: Rigid Heddle during quarantine, member Pam Chumbley filmed and produced a YouTube channel. This channel was developed to lead new students through the weaving process, starting on the rigid heddle loom.

It was a learning experience for Pam, who had never done anything like this before. “It is amazing what you can do with a smart phone, a mike boom and a laptop.”

Check out her channel!



ONE: Weaving with Pam on the Rigid ...

ONE: Weaving with Pam on the Rigid Heddle Loom

147 views · 4 months ago

Do you want to learn how to weave on the rigid heddle loom? Then you're in the right place! Through my videos, I will show you that anyone of any age can weave. You will learn by weaving a sampler.

0:09 / 0:33

## **New Students learn by watching YOUTUBE videos**

*Submitted by Pam Chumbley*

In an effort to keep our membership growing in December, 3 new weavers joined the guild after taking the Virtual Weaving I: Rigid Heddle series.

Alienore Conrad, Martha Sargent and Sandy Basse were the first three students to use the YouTube videos teaching opportunity. The December classes started with two in-person sessions at the studio (with two teachers and two students), and an outdoor weaving session for one student. The class taught the basics of weaving and the making of a sampler.

All three new weavers were excited to have something to learn and do during COVID.



Sandy Basse



Martha Sargent



Ali Conrad

## Welcome New Members!

This is a shout out to all new members to the Weavers West Guild.

### Martha Sargent



Hello Weavers! My name is Martha Sargent. I joined the club in December and am new to weaving. Those who know me are as surprised as I am! I am not a crafts-person. Weavers West is the first and only craft club I've joined in my 14 Sun City West years. But, lo and behold, I truly enjoy weaving. Big thanks to Pam Chumbley for showing me the basics, connecting me to her fabulous YouTube videos for weaving a sampler, and loaning me her loom until I bought one of my own. I'm not spending time indoors except at home, but I look forward to brighter days ahead when I can enjoy the clubhouse, take some classes, and meet you. So much to learn! In the meantime, gotta go...my loom is calling.

## Library News

*Submitted by Diane Conery*

A special “thank you” to Peggy Marshall, Nancy Grunwaldt and Mary Wilder for their hard work in packing up, inventorying, unpacking and rearranging the library materials during our room construction process. It looks great and everything is in one place now.

I would like to remind members of a few things pertaining to the library:

- Check outs should be for no longer than 2 weeks
- Overdue reminders will be sent out monthly, if needed
- If you find any materials that need repairs, new check out cards, etc. please call or email me so I can attend to them
- If you have any recommendations for new materials for our library, please let me know

Enjoy finding new projects to explore!

## Linus Project

*Submitted by Janet Jordan*

Fellow Weavers - Project Linus

As many of you know, our club agreed to support Project Linus as a community service several years ago. Its mission is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children seriously ill, traumatized or just in need of a hug through a handmade “blanket” of love. Many beautiful blankets (can be woven blankets, quilts and crochet or knitted afghans) have been made and donated by Weavers West members in the past. But the cabinet looks pretty bare at the moment. The new studio has a new designated location for the donations. It would be appreciated if a member makes a Linus blanket and donates it through the club to continue a club historical running count.

Another easy way to contribute to the Linus organization is through the Fry’s Community Rewards program. If you link a Fry’s V.I.P. Card to Phoenix West Valley Project Linus (#80678), the local chapter will receive quarterly checks from Fry’s. Visit [www.fryscommunityrewards.com](http://www.fryscommunityrewards.com) and follow a few easy enrollment steps.

Questions: Jan Jordan 303-601-7910



## What Have You Been Working On?

**Dagmar Weissenborn**

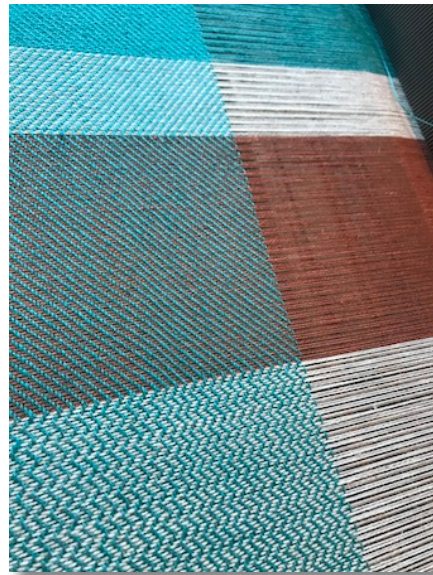


Dagmar has been working on her tapestry weaving during Covid. “Love the freedom a lap picture loom gives while watching tv during the pandemic.”



## Angela Buxton

Angela has been working on dish towels, the weave is various twills. “Warp and weft is Bockens Nialin 60/40 cotton/linen, a new fiber yarn for me. Weaves up as easily as cotton, I will make 4, each in a different color or pattern weft.”



## Nancy Grunwaldt

Nancy has been working on Christmas towels that she didn't get to before Christmas. “There is always next year!!”



## Carol Byrne

Carol Byrne's mock Ruana.

For those of you who were in the Weavers West Studio from mid-December until mid-January, you probably saw my chenille striped mock ruana in progress on loom 6. It was woven with rayon chenille 1450 yds/lb in a variety of aqua blue and bronze shades with bright accent stripes. The construction is tabby weave. The loom width was 21.5" using a 10 dent reed with 210 ends. There are 2 panels, each 84" in length woven from a 7 yard warp. I used a double bobbin shuttle throughout so there are 2 picks in every shed. For the variation in value from side to side, for the first panel, I used a light color and for the second panel a combination of darker shades. When the two panels are sewn together, there is an hombre effect created in the garment.

To construct the ruana, sew the 2 panels together with an overlap seam that is 42" in length. This creates a wide back panel and 2 narrow front panels. Hem all panels with a 1" hem.

The attached photos show that the ruana can be worn with the 2 front panels hanging straight down, or with one panel thrown over the opposite shoulder to create a cowl collar effect or with a belt to give a more shaped effect. For this cooler winter weather it makes a cozy garment that can be worn over anything.



This is a really easy project that can be done on any loom that has a 22" minimum weaving width. Any variation of yarns and end counts can be used to create two 84" finished panels, so it is a good way to use stash. If you would like help in planning your ruana project, I would be happy to help you. Carol Byrne 602-531-9107 or carolbyrneaz@netscape.net.



## Editor's Note

A new year, new updated studio, new members and a new editor to the Weavers West Newsletter. Hi, my name is Cynthia Geyer-Goering and I am new to the Weavers West Guild. My husband, Harold and I recently moved from the St Louis area and immediately fell in love with the Sun City West community.

I have been weaving for about 3 years and am self taught. I have always been craftsy and was going through YouTube when I came across a video on the rigid heddle loom. Of course, I wanted to try, I wanted one! Because I tend to be frugal, before I bought one, I made my husband make one for me. Success! I found and took video class after class (nothing was available in St Louis). I was hooked! As the years went by, I started asking myself "What's next?".

I decided I wanted to advance to a table loom. You can do so much more, right? Could I convince my husband to build me one? As luck would have it, I didn't have to ask. My husband moved me to Sun City West. Now I have a new home, a new guild, a new community, a new life and I couldn't be happier!