

The Reed

Next meeting: Sept.10, 2016

at 9:30 a.m.

Marjorie Durko Puryear, Professor Emeritus of Textile
Design/Fiber Arts, University of Massachusetts-
Dartmouth,

North Kingstown Free Library

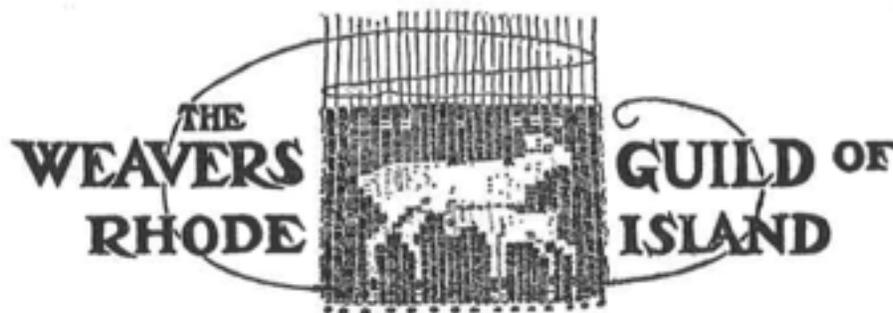
<http://www.nklibrary.org/about/directions>



The Weavers' Guild of Rhode Island was founded in 1947. Our goal is to promote the understanding and practice of the art and craft of weaving both for its members and the public.

We usually meet on the first Saturday of the month at the [North Kingstown Free Library](#). Doors open at 9am for coffee and socializing. The meeting begins at **9:30 am sharp** with *the speaker*. We break for a brown-bag lunch about twelve. *Everyone* is welcome.

History Challenge- Below is the original logo for the Weavers Guild of RI. Anyone care to guess when and why it was changed to our current logo? Be prepared for a lively discussion in September!



Weavers' Guild of Rhode Island
Presidents' message
June 24, 2016

As we welcome the beginning of summer, we say goodbye to the 2015-2016 WGRI program year. We wholeheartedly thank our officers and committee chairs whose dedication to the guild made this past year so successful.

Thank you: President Linda Rhynard; Vice President Beth Fitzpatrick; Secretary P'lette Ferland; Treasurer Sue Seymour; Web site and membership manager Pam Rathmell; Hospitality Jan Tenczar; NEWS representative Sylvia Kilgour; Scholarship leader Manon Pelletier; Newsletter editor, Lisa Geigen; Show-and-Tell (and name-tag) guru Ingrid Buhre. And thank you to those not named here but who helped behind the scenes. You are appreciated.

Looking forward to our upcoming year, we pause for a moment to look back. A few short centuries ago, the introduction of industrialized weaving machines led to the decline of hand weaving, and by the end of the Civil War weaving by hand had just about died out. As weavers and guild members, we may well owe our survival to "a single outstanding figure -- Weaver Rose of Kingston, Rhode Island." Mary Miegs Atwater, in *The Shuttle-Craft Book of American Hand-Weaving*, writes:

"In fact Weaver Rose may be said to have done more than any other one person toward the modern revival of hand-weaving in New England. In 1912, not many years before his death, he invited a number of people who were interested in weaving to meet at his house on Labor Day. Some seven or eight enthusiasts gathered and it was decided to form an organization. ... The proceedings, though informal, resulted in the formation of the "Colonial Weavers' Association." Thank you, Weaver Rose.

Our own guild was founded in 1947 and built on the efforts of the many weavers who preceded us. Our guild's purpose is significant: "...to promote the understanding and practice of the art and craft of weaving both for its members and the public." We fulfill our mission through our meetings, educational speakers and workshops, our newsletter, outreach programs, university and member scholarships, and participation (every two years) in the New England Weavers' Seminar (NEWS). Planning is already underway for NEWS, which will be held at Smith College, Northampton, MA, July 13-16, 2017. We have an amazing collection of talent in our Guild and we hope that our new year is rewarding to all.

Membership fees keep us going and pay for expenses and speaker fees. Our dues are only \$30 per year. Our membership year began in June so please, please, send in your dues today if you haven't already. Thank you. And remember to use our Web site: www.wgri.org.

Have a summer of happy weaving. We'll see you Sept. 3, 2016, at the North Kingstown Free Library. Our speaker will be Marjorie Durko Purysa, who will speak on "Seeking Uniqueness, Weaving Near and Far." The meeting starts promptly at 9:30.

As we end our Presidents' message, it is our pleasure to announce the projected release in 2017 of a new book: *Ondulé Textiles: Weaving Contours with a Fan Reed*, by Norma Smayda, with Gretchen White, photographs by Nat Rea. Congratulations.

Janet Cooper and Ingrid Buhre
co-Presidents



miscellaneous items of interest

HOMEMADE COLOR CATCHERS

By **Margaret Coe** on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 4:35pm

Homemade Color Catchers:

10-12 pieces of white cotton fabric 6" x 12"

1 cup of water

1 tablespoon of soda ash (can be purchased from Pro Chem and not to be confused with washing soda.)

1. Heat the water in a glass bowl big enough to hold fabric (about a minute in the microwave).
2. Fully dissolve soda ash in water.
3. Add fabric and stir until all the pieces are soaked (use wood or other non-reactive device).
4. The fabric should be just moist, not soaked. Add more fabric if necessary to soak up all water.
5. Hang to dry.

Do NOT use washing soda. Washing soda has additives.

These cloths can be washed and re-activated. *shared by Janet Cooper*

Heartfelt thank you.....

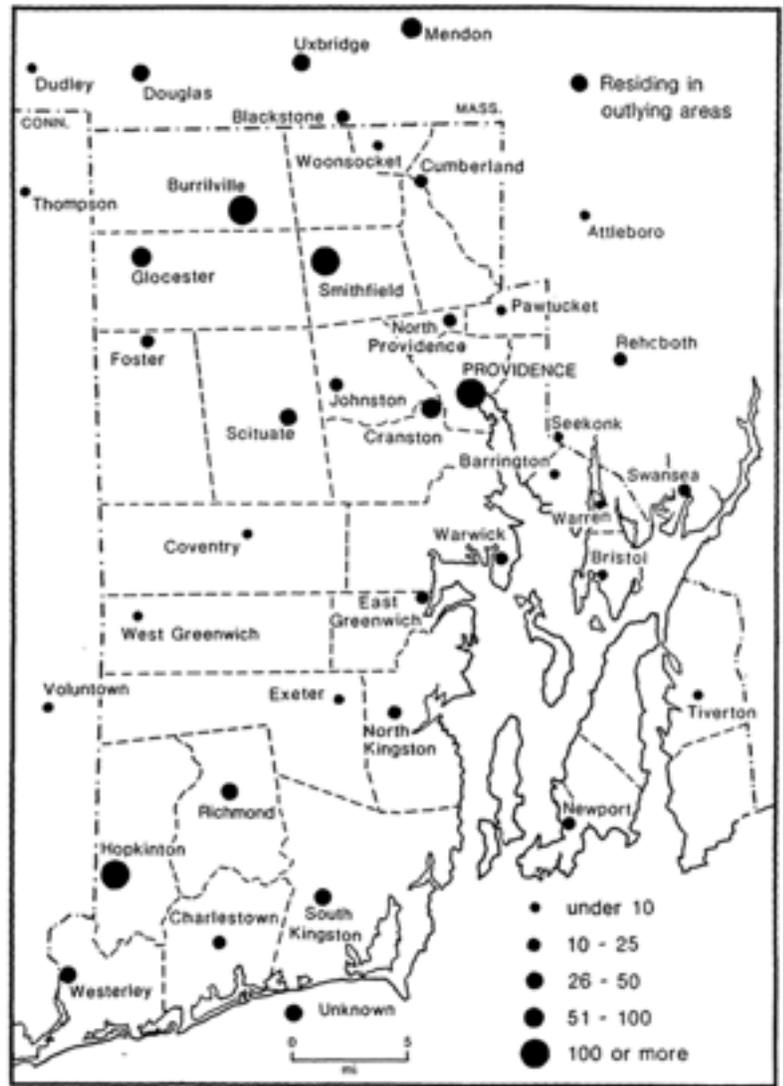
"I would like to express my gratitude to the Guild for conducting the yardage challenge this year. First and foremost - many thanks to the anonymous donor who initiated this endeavor, next to members of the executive committee who organized the entries, and to the judges. It was a great learning experience thanks to the constructive critiques of the judges. I hope this sets the tone for future challenges. Sincerely, Manon Pelletier"

RESIDENCY OF RHODE ISLAND WEAVERS, 1780 - 1840

The article, "Handloom Outwork and Outwork Weaving in Rural Rhode Island 1810-1821" was written by Gail Fowler Mohanty. In the article, Gail included a swatch book sample from Arkwright Corporation located in Coventry, RI.

(submitted by Susan McCarthy.)
<https://journals.ku.edu/index.php/amerstud/article/viewFile/2471/2430>

Well worth reading this historical article....



Residency of Rhode Island Weavers, 1780-1840.

Weaving with pearls??

The YarnSisters had a limited edition of 500 skeins spun of a blend of 50% pearl fiber and 50% Tencel. Pearls were pulverized into a powder, and then incorporated into and spun with the cellulose, Tencel. This laceweight yarn is smooth, luxurious and breathable, velvety to the touch. I think this was in 2012. (submitted by Norma Smayda)

Ondulé Textiles

Weaving Contours With a Fan Reed

by NORMA SMAYDA
with GRETCHEN WHITE
photography by NAT REA

(Projected release for 2017)



Garden Tulip



Work in Progress



Deve



Scarf with Puckers



Prokofiev Runner

The Grant Committee has awarded two grants thus far for 2016:

1. May 2016, \$200 to Barbara Jarzombek towards tuition for "Band Weaving" course at the Vastuga Weaving School in Shelburn Falls, MA, held from June 15 to June 17, 2016
2. June 2016, \$200 to Linda Rhynard towards tuition for a tapestry course titled "Natura Textura" to be held at the Oakville Arts Center in Ontario, Canada from October 9 to October 22, 2016

Loom Repairs

The WGRI gets requests for help for loom repairs. We'd like to compile a list of people who can repair looms. To this end, if you know of anyone, please send the information to Lisa Geigen, our Newsletter Editor, or to Ingrid Buhre and myself (co-presidents). The list will be a great resource to the Guild. Thank you!

The guild awarded the following Yardage Awards:

- i. 1st Mannon Pelletier
- ii. 2nd P'lette Ferland
- iii. 3rd. Clare Wanabo



WGRI Schedule 2016-2017

September 10, 2016 **Marjorie Durko Purvear**, Professor Emeritus of Textile Design/Fiber Arts, UMASS Dartmouth. Earned a BFA/Textiles from the Art Institute of Chicago and MFA/Textiles from Indiana University, Bloomington. Marjorie retired in 2009 after thirty-four years of teaching and many years as head of the textile/fibers artistry program. She now concentrates fully on studio work and exhibitions. See Marjorie's blog at <http://mardurpur.blogspot.com/>



October 3, 2016 **Gail Callahan: The Kangaroo Dyer.**

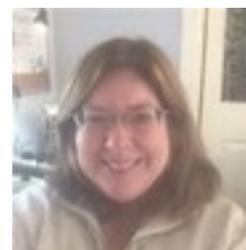
Gail Callahan started her odyssey as The Kangaroo Quilter, designing quilts and bags as an expression of her love of fabric and color. Gail wanted a symbol incorporating her love of her children and the concept that they were always with her. The Kangaroo, like her human counterpart, is one of the few mammals who carries her young with her. Thus was born the Kangaroo Logo. Her journey led her inexorably to weaving where she designed her own line of handwovens as The Kangaroo Weaver producing her unique scarves and fabric.

Color and texture have always been priorities for Gail. As she became more accomplished in these areas, she created her own color way. Thus was born The Kangaroo Dyer. Using her instinct for color, Gail begins with un-dyed skeins of yarn, creatively blending until the final product is both beautiful to look at and sensual to handle. As a by-product, Gail now hand-dyes silk scarves and sashes, creating elegant fashion accessories at a modest price. Gail continues to work and teach at WEBS, Americas Yarn Store (www.yarn.com) in Northampton, MA.



November 5, 2016 **Susan Targove- Handweaver**

Experienced in tartan and Judaica weaving. Active in local guilds, including as Dean of the Weavers' Guild of Boston and Seminar Registrar for the New England Weavers' Seminar



December 3, 2016 **Christmas/Holiday Party**—Possible ornament exchange - pot luck

January 7, 2017 - DVD tbd

February 4, 2017 Maifair Hall Ribbon Weaving

March 4, 2017 Amalia Poole - Shibori

April 1, 2017 Manone Pellettier & Judy Schaefer Morning presentation & afternoon workshop

May 5, 2017 possible field trip

June 3, 2017 - Pot Luck - Possible Weaving exchange