

WeGO
Rogue Valley Handweavers Guild Report
April 20, 2024

Nov 2023

Side note: on October 30, we held a 4-hour Inkle weaving workshop with Linda Hartshorn.

In November, our Program was to create our own twined garlic baskets. The technique we used came from the Jane Stafford program on the same topic. Pat, Lisa and Leanne were the instructors, and Susie was our assistant. We arrived early, got the reeds soaking, covered the tables with plastic, and laid out the other materials needed. Amazingly, nearly everyone got their baskets woven all the way to just before the final finishing weaves at the top of their baskets. We still had time for the business meeting while people were weaving, and then a show and share, too! It was a lot of fun.

Dec 2023

Our December meetings are always a Potluck and Stash sale, along with a voluntary Gift exchange. We had a short business meeting and then a presentation by Barb about her incredible tour of Harris Tweed weavers in Scotland. She had an hour-long photo presentation.

January 2024

We had a lot of business to attend to; organizing a one-day Fiberworks workshop, a Denise Kovnat workshop (One Warp, Many Structures parallel threading) in May, and other Outreach events. This month's program was on Color – interactions with light presented by Barb. She had many samples of weaving – various structures and many colors of yarn, to illustrate how combining colors can create iridescence or Mud!

We passed around a sign-up sheet for a possible workshop next fall by Natalie Drummond on deflected double weave using hand dyed warps.

February 2024

Our program was on Double Weave with Kamie. She brought a table loom warped and ready for each of us to take a turn weaving a striped double weave sampler. She did an excellent job of explaining how double weave works and a lot of examples of pouches, slits, pockets, double cloth, and separate and connected pieces were brought in by many members to show others how it works and looks. We have had quite a few beginning weavers join the guild over the past few months, so we want to give them opportunities to see what they can look forward to as they gain skills.

March 2024

The Program for March was all about Tapestry weaving. Several members of RVHG are quite involved in that technique and three of them put together a very interesting introduction to the history, styles, and techniques of tapestry weaving. They brought in tapestry looms, tools, and many examples from their own collections and projects.

We had sign-ups for volunteering at the May children's Heritage Days (2 weeks long this year!) at the historic Hanley farm. There was more discussion about the feasibility of the Natalie Drummond workshop next fall – it may be a year from now instead. We voted to hold another Ice dyeing workshop, and we are encouraging members to participate in the Certificate of Weaving Accomplishment program. We have had one member pass all three levels! Several others are now working on the third level.

Beginning Weaving class is filled and there are mentors assigned to each class participant, with one extra mentor to act as a “go-pher” or to fill in if a mentor is absent one of the days.

April 2024

April's program was on Filled Cordage, with Karen and Marolyn. On April 16th, we held the Fiberworks workshop taught by Susannah Day from ETC.

The Beginning Weaving class began and goes for three days – we have 5 new members for our guild. The classes are a great way to welcome and train new weavers, and have them join our guild. Many of them stick with it over time and become active guild members.