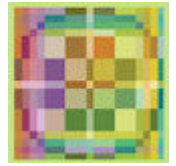


Portland Handweavers Guild Report

[Portland Handweavers Guild – Promoting excellence in the fiber arts.](#)

WeGO Report for the period October 2025 to April 2026



Mission: The Portland Handweavers' Guild is dedicated to promoting the artistry and culture of handweaving and related fiber arts. We support and inspire members of all levels through educational opportunities, resources, and creative sharing, and engage with the broader community through outreach and events.

Meetings: Membership meetings are held the second Thursday of the month. There is a day and evening meeting for those members who work and those that don't drive to evening meetings. The presentation is sometimes the same and sometimes a two-part where both are recorded.

Library: The guild maintains a lending library for members. It is available during membership meetings. The guild also rents looms and small equipment.

Guild Activities

General Membership Meetings

November – Why We Weave with Rosalie Neilson. This presentation documents Rosalie's work from the earliest overshot pieces woven on a rented floor loom to her current studies in Kumihimo, Block Design, and Rep Weave. Teaching others has become one of the biggest rewards for her as to Why We Weave

December – Holiday Mini-Workshops. Our annual December meeting tradition – the mini workshops. Join us and make something fun for the holidays!

January – Rebecca Smith – Transparent Tapestry. Rebecca talked about her transparent weavings featuring a loosely woven background cloth that she creates with very fine linen, inlaying heavier threads during the weaving process to add designs and imagery. These weavings feel lighter than air.

February – Karen Selk spoke on Wild Silk. The morning program was titled "In search of Wild Silk: Muga and Eri". Karen shared photos and stories captured from weavers, spinners, and silkworm farmers over thirty years of field research, and took us to their homes and villages to witness the love and dedication involved in each part of the process from soil to cloth.

The evening program was on **Tasar and Lifecycle of Silk.** Raising wild silkworms, reeling cocoons, spinning fiber, and weaving silk cloth provides sustainable work and a regular income, while protecting the environment, lifting the status of women, and maintaining a traditional lifestyle.

March – Multiheddle weaving on a RH Loom with Carly Jayne. This presentation is related to her workshop mentioned below.

April – The Legacy of Indigenous Oregon Basketweaving with Elizabeth Kallenback Elizabeth spoke on Indigenous Oregon Basketweaving, including artistic traditions, native plants, and contemporary work.

Elizabeth's academic interests include the relationship between textile traditions, ethnobotanical practices and cultural identity in western North America. Recent research includes analysis of prehistoric textile technology in the Northern Great Basin. Elizabeth works in the museum field and as an archaeologist and currently serves as the Anthropological Collections Manager at the UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

Study Groups

Sewing with Handwovens Study Group - The Sewing with Handwovens Study Group is led by Linda Edquist. Their primary focus is constructing garments with handwoven fabric.

Band Weaving - Weaving narrow wares. The Band Weaving Study Group is led by Lynne Fitzsimmons and meets monthly. Their primary focus is inkle and tablet weaving, using all sorts of techniques and equipment from standard inkle looms to back strap setups to large band weaving looms.

Small Looms – Specializing in portable solutions. Rigid heddle, single and double heddles. The Small Looms Study Group is led by David Norris and meets monthly. Their primary focus is rigid heddle weaving, using all sorts of techniques and equipment.

HGA Certificate of Excellence – Even though the HGA program is on hiatus, the group is using the handbook to further their weaving skills and weaving structure knowledge. They pick a section each month to study, and members present their findings at the next meeting.

Linen Study Group - The Linen Study Group is led by Sue Walsh, and meets monthly. Their primary focus is weaving with linen and linen blends.

Workshops

November: Color and Design in Huck Lace Towels with Rosalie Neilson. The structure of Huck Lace provides a treasure trove of design for weavers. It is a shaft-efficient weave structure where an 8-shaft loom can produce six blocks of pattern; and a 4-shaft loom can produce a myriad of different ways to combine 16 different textures of warp/weft floats with plain weave. Through Powerpoint Presentations, weavers learned how “blocks” or units of huck lace are threaded on four and eight shafts, and how they can be combined to expand design possibilities. Discussions and Design Sessions focused on converting a profile draft into a threading and treadling plan, and how literally thousands of designs can be created within a single threading by changing the tie-up.

February: Zero to Sulawesi with Stacy Schlutsmeier. In this class the focus was on several related techniques that all have a single pattern thread in each card. Participants explored the basic principles of tablet weaving and worked through a series of exercises that will take us from simple diagonal lines, then to the geometric 4x4, and its cousin, Coptic diamonds. Finally, we will tackle Sulawesi, which offers the potential for elaborate and elegant designs.

March: Double Trouble and Triple Treats – Mastering Multiheddle Weaving on a Rigid Heddle Loom. This workshop covered both 2 and 3 heddle weaving. Threading drafts and profile drafts and discussing

how they can be used on a loom with at least 3 shafts was covered. This was an excellent class for shaft loom weavers who are structure nerds because they created multiple structures (Summer and Winter, False Damask, Tabby, Taquete... etc) by manipulating slot threads while the heddles act as shafts one and two.

Other Events

New Weaver Forum - There is a monthly meeting for new weavers to get their questions answered It is held on zoom. There is a morning and an evening meeting schedule.

WeftOver sale - Every fall the guild holds a WeftOver Sale. The sale is our annual clean-out -the-closet event! It is where we pull all the fiber donations out of the PHG closet, and you can clear out some old unwanted stash, too. It is also a wonderful time to pick up items for a deal. We always have a wide variety of fiber and weaving materials, books, and equipment.

Fall sale – Every fall there is a holiday sale for members to sell their handwovens.