

Umpqua Weavers & Spinners

Patty Huffer "Assorted Faces of Overshot" Workshop Review

To the members of the WeGO Board:

Thank you for making our recent workshop a possibility for our members! We had ten weavers participate. One is quite accomplished, several have lots of experience and but are always willing to learn new things, and the rest are relatively new but adventurous weavers who wanted to jump in and develop new skills. Here are their reports:

From Teresa:

I really appreciated learning overshot from Patty. I worked on improving my weaving because I learned to weave with the intention in one specific project: a coverlet. Because of that workshop I have the confidence to move forward. It's a big investment in time and materials so having this confidence will help me get this over the finish line.

From Doug:

I recently attended an Overshot Weaving Workshop led by Patty Huffer and sponsored by a grant from WeGO. I completed a Summer and Winter workshop from her last year, and it launched me into a whole new level of weaving, giving me the confidence to explore structures beyond plain weave. I entered a shawl into the Douglas County Fair this year inspired by what I learned from her workshop and was awarded first place in that category. This overshot workshop has only expanded my repertoire and am now eager to try even more new things. I'm looking forward to next year's lesson plan.

From Margaret:

I had some prior experience with overshot, but the workshop with Patty Huffer introduced me to many more ways overshot can be used in weaving. It's a fascinating, versatile weaving structure that I am already planning to use in upcoming projects.

From Heather:

This was my first time taking a workshop and it certainly encouraged me to do more. I respected the teacher, Patty Huffer, in her skill on the subject she taught as well as so many other ways she helped students in the group who had various issues. I solved a creative dilemma that I had been working on thanks to this class. It was for all of us in the workshop a very positive and informative experience.

From Penny:

As a new weaver, I really appreciated Patty's clear instruction, historical references, problem solving, and technical oversight. I came away from the workshop with an understanding of the overshot structure and the confidence to explore related drafts and their variations.

From Dory:

I made the classic mistake of thinking I could handle warping the loom on my own and even when I realized I was out of my depth I didn't ask for help in the right way, so I showed up with a measured warp and a naked loom. To her credit, Patty was understanding and patient with me, helped me get the process started and encouraged me throughout the whole thing. Even though I didn't get to weave until the last day of the workshop, I feel like I got a much better understanding of my equipment and I still have the notes and was able to watch how others approached each sample in the class. I will continue to work on this project at home and hopefully I won't need to call for help too often.

From Diane:

There is something about a workshop that sweeps you along in the current and gets you going, knowing there is someone to help you solve any dilemma you might have. Patty is an excellent teacher and a patient problem-solver. I had several "Aha" moments where the light bulb came on and I was off and running! I was only able to attend the first two days, but I used what I learned to complete every pattern in our notebook and have the 7' table runner to prove it!

We had several others take the workshop who have been interrupted from responding because of life-circumstances, but they conveyed their appreciation during the workshop and said to be sure to give you their thanks for making this possible. The grant kept the price down to where some of our younger folks could enjoy learning along with others.

We sincerely appreciate WeGO's contribution toward this workshop. It has inspired several of our newer weavers to accept the challenge of new projects. One has already completely a full table runner with what he learned from the class.

Best regards to all of you,
Diane Barrows
President, Umpqua Weavers & Spinners