



PHILADELPHIA GUILD of HANDWEAVERS

a center for fiber arts

Gazette

January 2024



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As we embark on a new year together, we're so proud of our Guild and all that we've accomplished. Our community is strong, thanks to all our wonderful members, the SIGs and SIG leaders, classes and teachers, and of course, our dedicated and committed board. The Guild continues to grow at a steady pace, with new members joining all the time.

The start of the new year is a perfect time for us to reach out and ask you what you'd like to see happen at the Guild in the year to come. The Guild is about providing a safe, nurturing space for all of our members to grow creatively in a supportive community. Any opportunity we have to share our comradery is an added bonus!

Perhaps you have some ideas for events or activities you would like to see come to fruition--e.g., a potluck, a meet & greet, a retreat, a challenge. Let us know about it by emailing at our addresses below, especially if you are willing to take the lead or help coordinate them.

It takes all of us working together to make the Guild the exciting, inspiring and meaningful organization we want it to be.

Myra Wood
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Support for PGHW provided in part
by The Philadelphia Cultural Fund

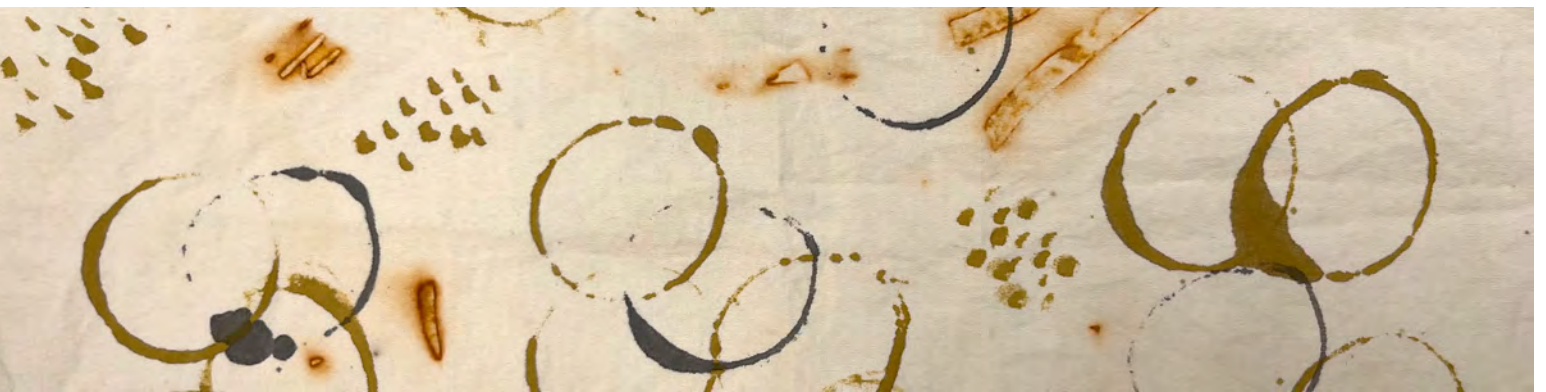
Surface Design

Lian Sawire and Valerie Clark Bolton, SIG Leaders

In the last surface design SIG of the year, we learned how to create monoprints and multi-layered prints using a gelli plate, guided by new member Karen Payton. Rolled-out Play-Doh allowed us to emboss interesting-shaped objects into the Play-Doh surface and then press the Play-Doh onto an inked gelli plate, creating fabulous and complex prints.

Next time we will be extending that into pulling photos from magazines and printing them onto paper or cloth, using the gelli plate. We also brought in samples completed at home of rust dyeing experiments begun in a prior SIG.





Knitting, Crochet and Finger Weaving SIG

Joanne Zimmerman, SIG Leader

Progress is being made with all the SIG members projects, even if it is just winding a hank into a ball. Pay no attention to the member with the furry ears. Please join us for the Jan. 21st. meeting.



Joanne Z. winding one of the gorgeous, luxurious yarns she'll be knitting with in her next project.



Madelyn L's circular blanket knit with vibrant natural-dyed yarn.



Valerie C.'s mosaic crochet lapghan is almost finished.



Another set of wonderful Christmas trees by Elizabeth D.



Ilyana S. checking out her multicolored, knitted lace shrug.





Charlotte C. begins work on the second leg warmer.



Sheryl K.'s yarn is ready to become a Hitchhiker Shawl.



Fingerless mitts by Valerie C. and Elizabeth D.



Myra W. in the process of binding off #@*&! stitches of the potato chip scarf she is knitting for her niece.



Our new Assistant Member Ambassador, Rory, made a special star appearance and brought Margie G. with him.

Exploring Floor and Table Loom Weaving SIG

Melissa Terrels, SIG Leader



We are learning alternative ways to warp looms for adding color and designing at the reed or front of the loom. All levels welcome!



Evenings at the Guild

Elizabeth Robinson, SIG Leader

It's always a good time on Wednesday nights! In addition to our regular crafty soirées, we had a holiday gathering to celebrate the year, each other, and all of our accomplishments. Happy Holidays to all from the Evening SIG!



Laurel Hill Mansion Holiday Tour- Sunday Dec. 10



Ali V. shows visitors how to spin yarn on a drop spindle at the Laurel Hill Mansion Holiday Tour. Folks were fascinated by all the different kinds of fiber and spindles Ali brought and had a great time playing. The organizers were grateful we came out and are looking forward to collaborating again.





PHILADELPHIA GUILD OF
HANDWEAVERS

Member Gallery

Announcing a new Guild benefit coming on January 8: The PGHW Member Gallery, where original work by members can be hung and displayed. Many of you saw and commented on the temporary displays for the Meet & Greet event last spring and for the SIG Showcase in the Fall. Now the newly painted gallery wall will allow the Guild to highlight the creative diversity of our membership on an ongoing basis. What a great way to start the new year!

All members, from experienced to novice, are encouraged to loan the Guild one or two pieces of your recent work to adorn the Member Gallery wall for a period of a month or so. As new pieces arrive, they will replace earlier ones, so that we will have an exhibit that changes over time and allows for the greatest amount of member participation.

The process is not very complicated and begins online ([as of January 8](#)):

- Go to the front page of the PGHW website and click on the Submission Form button.
- Complete the submission form and submit it.
- Along with the submission form, you have the option of downloading a tag which you can fill out with any information you wish to communicate: e.g., your name, medium, contact information.

Once they receive your submission form, someone from the Gallery Committee will get in touch with you to arrange for a time when you can drop off your work. When it is time to pick up your work, you will be contacted to arrange a time for that.

All work must be:

- created by a member
- in a finished form
- prepared for hanging on the wall

This will be an unjuried display that will rotate throughout the year, and all members are invited to participate. We hope you'll be willing to share your work with the Guild.

[Member Gallery Committee](#)

Valerie Ciliberti
Christine Wilkinson
Myra Wood

For more info on Classes & Workshops:
<https://pghw.org/education-2>
or click links below

January 27



“Magical” Microwave Felted Purses with Judy Donovan

January 27, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Experience the fun of watching magic happen when you mix wool roving and other fibery bits like sparkly angelina and novelty yarns with some hot soapy water, a bit of agitation and a few zaps in the microwave to keep the fibers nice and warm.

Students will be learning how to WET-felt fibers around a template to create a one-of-a-kind felted purse. There are NO needles involved as in needle felting, just a bit of massage and agitation to turn fiber into true felt.

More info and sign up here:
[magical-microwave-felted-purses](#)

February 10



-Special Event-
Paper Weaving with Myra Wood
February 10 @ Noon to 3:00 pm

Join Myra for this special event and recycle your old catalogs into functional items and accessories. Learn how to create interlocking links to make strips that can be joined into a larger, paper-woven fabric.

This sustainable craft is open to all, members & non-members, and no experience is necessary.

All materials will be provided but feel free to bring any catalogs you've collected and want to transform.

A \$10 fee will hold your spot if you are a member and \$25 if you are a non member. Everyone is welcome!

100% of the fees are a donation to PGHW.

More info and sign up here: [Paper Weaving at the Guild](#)

starting February 12

Weaving 102 – using an 8 shaft Baby Wolf

February 12, 2024 @ 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Melissa Terrels will guide you as you create a weaving sampler of various weave structures from start to finish. Under her guidance as an experienced instructor, you will learn how to warp an 8 harness, 10 treadle floor loom with color and weave a sampler.

Class dates are weekly (3 weeks, 2 times/week):

February 12, 15, 19, 22, 26 & 29 3:30 – 5:30 pm. The class is long enough that students who miss a session will have ample time to make any lessons up.

More info and sign up here: [Weaving 102](#)



starting February 12

Learn to Weave on a 4 shaft loom – Winter, Evening class

February 12, 2024 @ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Melissa Terrels will guide you as you create a weaving sampler of various weave structures from start to finish under her guidance as an experienced instructor on a 4 harness, 6 treadle floor loom. Beginners will make a sampler using cotton yarn belonging to the guild.

Class dates are weekly (3 weeks, 2 times/week):

February 12, 15, 19, 22, 26 & 29 6:30 – 9:00 pm. The class is long enough that students who miss a session will have ample time to make any lessons up.

More info and sign up here: [Weaving 101](#)



February 17

Weave a Wine Tote or Utensil Holder with Sara Robbins

February 17, 2024 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Would you love to carry your favorite wine in your own handmade wine tote or give it as the perfect gift for a special friend? Then this class is for you! No experience is necessary. Students will learn to include a handle in the weave, square the bottom of the basket, twine, upstake, stop and start weaving while shaping the sides, and lashing on the rim. You can even add color to your basket if you choose. What is better than wine? Wine in a basket you made! This class is the perfect way to start, or continue, your weaving journey.

Sorry this class is full. If you would like to be on the waitlist contact robbinssk@gmail.com



Two current textile exhibits at the American Swedish Historical Museum

<https://www.americanswedish.org/exhibitions>



Weaving a New Chapter: The Material Lives of Swedish Immigrants

Tells the story of Swedish immigration to America through the objects they brought with them in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The museum's new exhibition will display the skills and techniques developed to craft these treasured items and highlight their cultural relationship to textiles, clothing, and other objects through the lens of Swedish immigration.



Karin Larsson: Let the Hand Be Seen

Until February 18th at the American Swedish Historical Museum

Karin Larsson's work in the textile arts, furniture construction, and interior design reflects her artistic training, curiosity, innovation, and openness to the emerging trends facing life in the late 1800s. Karin's contributions to the prevailing art movements like Art Nouveau, the Arts and Crafts style, and regional folk techniques, are distinguished by her boldness, simplicity, and taste for abstraction. Karin embraced new methods while embroidering, weaving, knitting, crocheting, making lace, sewing clothes, and producing tapestries for the home she shared with her children and husband, the celebrated painter Carl Larsson.

More info here: [Karin Larsson Exhibit](#)

Tuesday – Friday, 10am to 4pm; Saturday - Sunday, 12pm to 4pm
1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia, PA (in FDR Park)

Unspun: Stories of Silk

Unspun: Stories of Silk tells the fascinating story of silk in the Lehigh Valley. Starting with the attic cocooneries of Moravian Bethlehem, the exhibition details the region's rise in the industry and looks at silk's impact on fashion and the global marketplace.

The exhibition is open through January 28, 2024. It is presented at the Moravian Museum of Bethlehem, the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts, and the National Museum of Industrial History (NMIH).

More info here: [Historic Bethlehem](#)



Laura Fattal
Lee Giovannoli
Maureen Burke Iannacone
Rebekah Palmer

Dorian Roye
Madeline Ragsdale
Denise Pulgino Stout
Nancy Saladik

Maebh Aguilar
Zoe Rooney
Emily Hoecker

Amanda Trautmann
Jasper Lai
Lida Pos

Call for Entry- *Phantastic Fibers Show* Cherry St Pier, Delaware Waterfront Corporation July 5-28, 2024

We are curating a multimedia fibers show called Phantastic Phibers in July at Cherry Street Pier in Philadelphia. The deadline is March 31, notification by April 30, and we will install the first week of July. Artists are responsible for transporting their work to and from the pier.

For more info go to: [Phantastic Phibers Show on Facebook](#)
Please share with other local fiber artists or artists experimenting in multimedia fibers.

Brought to you by Bonnie MacAllister @bonniemacart , Studio 16 at Cherry Street Pier
Questions? Stop by the studio or email: phantasticphibers@gmail.com

Langhorne Carpet Co. Going-Out-of-Business Sale



Langhorne Carpet Co. in Pennel, PA has been in business since 1930 and is the last US carpet company; it recently was sold. As a result, it is offering rug wool yarn @ \$.50 per lb. This is a fantastic price. They have thousands of pounds of wool yarn to sell. There are many colors on cones and in skeins. Most are available in industrial sizes of 3 to 5 pounds.

To arrange an appointment to select yarn, contact the mill at 215 757 5155. Appointment times are limited, and they do require a 100lb minimum purchase, so carpooling or bringing a weaving friend or two is recommended. All of the equipment – Jacquard looms, creels, pirn winders, etc. – is still in place and can be seen while walking to the yarn area. An added bonus.

Langhorne Carpet Company is located in Bucks County. The address is: 201 W Lincoln Hwy, Pennel, PA 19047. More information can be found on their website www.langhornecarpets.com

While the factory building and contents have been purchased by the new owner, the end-use is not yet established. Anyone interested in acquiring a bit of recent history or possibly saving the machines from going to scrap metal may want to investigate further.



Distaff Day & Plow Monday



On January 7 and 8, 2024, we fiber people may want to take note of two old and mostly forgotten holidays-- Distaff Day and Plough Monday. From the 13th to 17th centuries, in England and other European countries, the twelve days from Christmas to Epiphany were considered a time of rest from the duties of spinning.

On the following day, January 7, women resumed their spinning. The day became known as Distaff Day. Men's work resumed on the first Monday after Epiphany, which became known as Plough Monday. We can still give a nod to these holidays, even though today few of us need to plough fields to put food on the table or spin thread to clothe our families. And today many men spin and many women work fields and gardens. But during the medieval period, spinning was very much women's work and the distaff (also called a rock or roc from the German), the tool used to hold flax or wool to be spun into thread, became a symbol of women's work. The term "distaff" began to be used to refer to "women" and today "distaff side" still refers to the female members of a family.

Although both these holidays marked the resumption of work, they seem to have been characterized by lightheartedness and ceremony. On Plough Day, a ploughshare was brought to church to be blessed, and processions of ploughs, musicians and dancers moved from house to house. On Distaff Day, especially when the two holidays fell on the same date, men were said to have played pranks on the women, for instance by trying to set their bundles of flax on fire. The women, in turn, doused both the flax and the men with water, and great mirth was said to ensue.

The poet, Robert Herrick, wrote in 1647:

*Partly work and partly play
You must on St. Distaffs Day:
From the plough soon free your team;
Then come home and fother them:
If the maids a-spinning go,
Burn the flax and fire the tow.
Bring in pails of water then,
Let the maids bewash the men.
Give St. Distaff all the right;
Then bid Christmas sport good night,
And next morrow every one
To his own vocation.*

We don't need special days to celebrate the fiber arts--every day with fiber in our hands is special--but we can find pleasure and meaning in reflecting on the importance of our work throughout human history

SIGs - Special Interest Groups

Check the [online calendar](#) at pghw.org/events for changes and updates

Weekly Meetings

West Philly Portable Fibers Meet-up

Group Leader: Kate Dorsch

Every Monday @ 5:30 pm- 7:30 pm

This Portable Fibers Group will meet at the Free Library at 40th and Walnut every Monday, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, in their main meeting room.

Portable Fibers Zoom

Group Leader: Kate O'Hara

Join us January 2nd to discuss our December 2023 fiber adventures and our plans for 2024.

Every Tuesday @ 10:00 am - 11:30 am on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84914149084>

Center City Knitting Group

Group Leader: Linsey Will

Every Tuesday @ 1:00 pm- 2:30 pm, Schuylkill River Park Rec Center, 500 S 27th St., Phila.

Portable Fibers Live

Group Leader: Myra Wood

Come join the fun every Wednesday @ 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm at the Guild House. Bring whatever you're working on.

Evenings at the Guild

Group Leader: Lee Robinson

Every Wednesday @ 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm at the Guild House

Monthly Meetings

Tapestry

Group Leaders: Lori Falbo and Carlyn Nelson

Saturday, January 6 @ 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm

Rigid Heddle Weaving

Group Leader: Christine Wilkinson

Sunday, January 7 @ 10:00 am- 12:00 pm

Spinning

Group Leader: Bridget Flynn

Sunday, January 7 @ 12:00 pm- 2:00 pm

Sewing

Group Leader: Mary Glenn

Sunday, January 7 @ 2:30 pm

Outreach

Group Leader: Sara Robbins

Check the Calendar to see upcoming events or email: outreach@pghw.org to volunteer

SIGs - Special Interest Groups

"We learn by doing and grow by sharing"

Sustainability SIG

Group Leader: Ali Valin

Thursday, January 11 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89896636609>

Natural Dyeing

Group Leaders: Dottie Yacek-Matus and Charlotte Chatfield

Saturday, January 13 @ noon - 2:00, Synthetic dyes 2:00-4pm

Surface Design

Group Leaders: Valerie Clark Bolton and Lian Sawires

Sunday, January 14 @ 10:00 am- 12:00 pm

Multi-shaft Weaving

Leader: Charlene Marietti

Sunday, January 14 from 12:30 pm- 2:30 pm via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85488602869>

Book Arts SIG

Group Leader: Christine Wilkinson

Sunday, January 14 @ 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Exploring Floor & Table Loom Weaving

Group Leader:Melissa Terrels

Saturday, January 20 @ 11:00 am- 1:00 am

Hand Stitchers

Group Leader: Sheryl Kessler

Sunday, January 21 @ 10:00 am- 12:00 pm

Knitting, Crochet, & Finger Weaving

Group Leader: Joanne Zimmerman

Sunday, January 21 @ 12:00 pm- 2:00 pm

Felting

Group Leader: Marcie Ziskind

Thursday, January 25, 9:30 am-11:30 am

Dye Garden

Group Leaders: Beth Uzwiak and Veronica Hanssens

402 Corridor

Group Leader: Andrea Tollison

Media to West Chester and Beyond!

Group Leader: Myra Reichel

Phila./NY Movie Night - Reiko Sudo

Click here to enter: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7183659164>

Reiko Sudo is one of Japan's most influential contemporary textile designers, renowned for creating innovative textiles, championing new sustainable manufacturing methods and working to highlight Japanese textile heritage.

She is the Design Director of leading textile design firm Nuno, which was founded in 1984. Known for pushing the boundaries of textile production, Sudo and her team integrate Japanese dyeing and weaving traditions with cutting edge technology and experimental finishing methods, whilst combining diverse materials such as cotton, silk, metal and paper.

The results are original and distinctive textiles which can be functional life-style items produced on an industrial scale or individual works of art in their own right. Japan House London

Sudo Reiko: Making NUNO Textiles 16:24

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1RF8I5Bu2Q>

Sudo Reiko: Making NUNO textiles (Zolima CityMag) 2:06

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAfH4g1UBRc&t=29s>

MAKING NUNO Japanese Textile Innovation from Sudo Reiko - 6:58

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67W5s3XBRzE>

NUNO exhibit teaches the language of textiles 3:06

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BkIH3GuxKho>

Reiko Sudo on Origami Textiles 2:51

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdrvMolW8kA>

Nuno concept 1:32

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0xtAYXzFr0>

Slide Presentation

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1YYGOyXPUHJ1qng-9fvl-J6NVg50cDjp25N8uoBLRpMQk/edit?usp=sharing>

For individual viewing:

Rouse Visiting Artist Lecture: Reiko Sudo -
Harvard Graduate School of Design

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--GdfKwuEas&t=2746s>

1:15:23





MAFA Movie Night - Anni Albers

Click here to enter: <https://zoom.us/j/96800027165?pwd=dzhv-QUhYZzN1a0ZlMEtNTU9PV2kxZz09>

You are invited to join us to experience Anni Albers, an icon in the weaving world, and to be inspired by her words and work. Please invite family and friends for this special evening.

Known for her pioneering graphic wall hangings, weavings, and designs, Anni Albers (née Annelise Fleischmann; 1899-1994) is considered one of the most important abstract artists of the twentieth century, as well as an influential designer, printmaker, and educator.

Across the breadth of her career, she combined a deep and intuitive understanding of materials and process with her inventive and visually engaging exploration of form and color. David Zwirner

Anni Albers: Experiments 35:00

New Britain Museum of American Art, May 28, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQpycjaqU7I>

Textile TV - Anni Albers's Warp Families 35:40

New York Textile Month, September 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YY3AdeUIGYA>

Anni Albers 10:10

Research presentation - Hamish Anderson, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJwSa2P5BfA>

Exhibition Review: Anni Albers at Tate Modern 2:52

Visiting London guide, 2019

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TT_C-cGBY0

Slide Presentation

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1oqopLO2nX1hKIE3L-4gumY3gqQPf3rOGDkLVuSfxwYsA/edit?usp=sharing>

As you may know, the Handweavers Guild of America (HGA) sponsors interviews on Textiles and Tea every Tuesday from 4-5 p.m. ET on Zoom. Registration is required.

For more information on each program, go to <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/>

Here is the January schedule:

January 2, 2024: Marcelyn Bennett-Carpenter

Marcelyn Bennett-Carpenter is an interdisciplinary fiber artist and educator.

January 9, 2024: Giovanna Imperia

Giovanna Imperia is the author of Kumihimo Wire Jewelry and has written many articles on braiding and weaving.

January 16, 2024: Janney Simpson

Janney Simpson strives to create one-of-a-kind pieces using a variety of yarns and weave structures on many types of looms.

January 23, 2024: Bryana Bibbs

Bryana Bibbs is a Chicago-based artist who works at the intersection of textiles, painting, and community-based practices.

January 30, 2024: Becky Ashenden

Becky Ashenden owns Vävstuga Weaving School in Shelburne, Massachusetts where, since 1991, she has taught Swedish Weaving, using traditional equipment and techniques.

PGHW SWAG - Now Available!



T-shirts, Mugs, Aprons, Bags, and more!

Check out our shop here:

<https://www.cafepress.com/pghw>

All proceeds from the sales of items from CafePress directly benefit the Philadelphia Guild of Hand Weavers.



There's No Place like Home (and the Guild) for the Holidays

I had just spent two weeks at home nursing a non-Covid cold, and feeling down as the holidays approached. Then I got an email from Carlyn and Lori asking me to join them on a road trip to Sylvia Hayden's son's house to view some of her work and see how she captured the motion we discussed during our last Tapestry SIG. Bea and I were surprised when Vickie and Fannie from the New York guild joined us there.

We learned that Lori invited them after they met at a workshop. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that culminated with lunch, where we wowed our NY friends by telling them about the Philly SIGs that give like-minded people a place to gather and explore their interests.

When I hadn't felt well enough to go to the Rigid Heddle SIG the week before, Christine let me know she missed me and said she hoped I could make it to Surface Design. So I dragged my big heavy bag of art supplies into the guild house--only to discover it didn't contain any of the things listed in the email for gel printing with Play-Doh. I said I would just watch, but Lian said, "I think between us all we can find what you need to participate." This isn't the first time friends at the guild have had my back.

Someone mentioned wishing they knew more about hand stitching and I told her that I had been so impressed by the work being done at the Hand Stitchers SIG that I had to join it. Val pointed out that I love every SIG. I had to admit even though I may not have the skills that some members of a SIG have, I've always felt embraced and encouraged to learn from them.

Tuesday Portable Fibers Zoom meetings for December were cancelled, but Wednesday afternoon I dropped by Portable Fibers Live to find a table full of food and a unanimous, "We missed you!" I caught up on Myra's trip to the dog show and other things I missed when I was gone.

At this writing, I'm looking forward to the Exploring Floor and Table Loom Weaving SIG on Saturday and seeing what the Hand Stitchers are up to on Sunday. I'm disappointed that the new Book Arts SIG meets at the same time as the virtual Multi-Shaft SIG. But maybe that's a good thing--I have to focus on carving out time to finish the Too Precious to Cut project, the Sewing SIG blouse and my activities at Journey's Way (center for active adults 55+).

All between walks with my dog Rory and his morning and evening dates with his girlfriend, Gracie.

Guild On!

Margie Gale

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halcyonyarn.com

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