

Saturday Handweavers Guild

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The Saturday Handweavers Guild meets monthly from September through June at either Medford Library or Jacksonville Library. In addition, we have periodic study groups on topics of interest, and maintain a library of books and periodicals available to all members.

Each meeting features "Show and Share" where members bring items they have woven.

A three-level "Certificate of Accomplishment" program is offered to all members.

April

This month's program was "My Journey of Making Clothing from Handwoven Cloth" by one of our members, Lucy deFranco, who brought clothing she has created over her many years of weaving for her children and herself. Lucy shared patterns and instructions for construction.

May

There was so much to talk about this month that we had to postpone our planned program, which was a presentation by Laurie Elliott about making paper. This will be at a future date.

June

Some of our members participated in a class with Janis Thompson, "A Spinnable Feast" on June 3, which was great fun.

Our challenge this year was "Weave Something New" by trying a new weave structure or exploring an old favorite in a new way. Our members rose to the challenge with some wonderful results.

July/August

No guild meeting, although our board met during the summer break, and some minor additions to our By-Laws and Policies and Procedures Manual turned into a major revision and re-write. Also during our summer break a committee created a "New Member Packet" containing useful information for new guild members.

September

We very much enjoyed a talk by a local weaver, Nikos Mikalis. He was a foot surgeon until he decided to retire and start a new career as a weaver, enjoying great success with couture handwoven clothing. Many years after his second retirement he decided to start weaving again, and has been weaving knotted pile rugs, and brought in a couple of them to show us.

We welcomed our new officers, and thanked the outgoing officers for their service. This month's program was "What I Wove This Summer" with many lovely items shared! Also this month, Dorothy McKinley collected donated handwoven items for a silent auction at the "Puss in Boots Ball" in October to benefit the Friends of the Animal Shelter. Our guild supports this every year, and our items are always well received.

Our Vice President Kathy Walker, has set up a new Facebook page for our guild.

Some of our members are participating in an “Innovative Weaving” study group

Several of our members took part in the “Rogue Valley Mini Maker Faire” at the ScienceWorks museum in Ashland on September 22 and 23. This was a wonderful opportunity to share our interests with the community. Friday Sept 22 was a “preview day” and about 800 schoolchildren came through and enjoyed trying spinning and weaving.

October

Our meeting this month will be on October 15, and the program will be “Spinning Cotton.”