

NoBo Minutes - May 2016

Contributors: Margaret, Deb, Diane

Agenda / Contents

1. Presentation by Diane
2. Current Business
3. New Business
4. Show and Share
5. NoBo Calendar

Guests

- Craig Evans
- Florence Feldman-Wood

Presentation

ed. Diane's slide set included several pictures. This is a precis of the presentation.

Diane's presentation was on her participation in the **Traditional Arts Apprenticeship in Northern New England Domestic Hand Weaving 1780 to 1820**. Diane was apprenticed to Craig Evans for 80 hours of apprenticeship. This became an **unintentional study of Linsey Woolsey**

Citation Wikipedia: *Linsey-woolsey (less often, woolsey-linsey or in Scottish English, wincey) is a coarse twill or plain-woven fabric woven with a linen warp and a woollen weft. Similar fabrics woven with a cotton warp and woollen weft in Colonial America were also called linsey-woolsey or wincey. The name derives from a combination of **lin** (an archaic word for flax, whence "linen") and wool. This textile has been known since ancient times; known as Shatnez in Hebrew, the Torah and hence Jewish law explicitly forbid wearing it.*

Craig is an accomplished **Traditional Heritage Weaver**, he trained with **Norman Kennedy** at the **Marshfield School of Weaving** in Vermont in the 1970's. Diane has known Craig since 1999 and persuaded him to accept Diane as an apprentice and, beginning in June 2014, they started working on the application for a grant from the NH State Council on the Arts which was approved for the period from November 2014 to September 30, 2015.

Craig and Diane chose to use the NH Farm Museum in Milton, NH for the project. On the days the museum was open Craig and Diane demonstrated to the public satisfying the **show** requirement of the grant.

Diane chose three projects

1. A Whole Cloth Coverlet in plain weave the pattern and style for which Diane researched at antique shops and shows.
2. A Linsey Woolsey Petticoat in twill, this was a popular clothing fabric for the working class in the 18th Century.
3. A M's and O's Linen Towel, part of Diane's inspiration was an example that Diane obtained from the NoBo sale table.

Next was to try and obtain the threads for the projects. The coverlet needed fine worsted for the top and fine singles for the bottom. The petticoat required fine linen singles for the warp and fine wool singles for the weft. Eventually yarns from Craig's stash was used.

Having obtained the yarn the next step was to dye the skeins. Black walnuts were used for the tan and dark brown of the petticoat, Indigo and Quercitron (black oak bark) were used for the coverlet and cochineal for the pink.

Looms were disassembled, moved and reassembled at the farm. Diane also needed to disassemble the museum's loom to make space for their two looms. Diane's loom needed a lot of restoration work before it could be put to use including hand tying the heddles. Next, Diane had problems with the shed which was traced to the steeper than normal angle of the threads, this was resolved by using a pull down rod to make the warp more horizontal passing through the heddles and the beater.

Diane described other problems including broken threads and the set up using a 3 harness counter balance set up.

Craig and Diane worked once per week, the original apprenticeship was supposed to be 80 hours, finally finishing in November for the first 2 projects.

Diane concluded with some learnings,

- Winding a warp with multiple threads
- Picking the cross
- Raddle Cross
- Tying on
- Fast threading
- **Norman's Knot**
- Moving a barn frame loom that is already warped
- Starching of linen singles.
- Proper adjustment of all cords and ties on a barn frame loom
- Proper use and moving of the temple

a summary:

- 4988 miles (129 hours) driven by Diane
- 344.4 hours worked (does NOT include any sewing or tape weaving)
- 465 visitors that we presented to
- 36 hours of quilting time
- plus hours of petticoat sewing time

and plans for the future:

- Part of the apprenticeship is for me to carry on the tradition
- Diane will be a volunteer weaving demonstrator this year again at the NH Farm Museum with Craig..... **2 projects in the works!**
- The James House in Hampton, NH
- Canterbury Shaker Village in Canterbury, NH
- Diane have applied to be included on the NH State Roster of Traditional Artists

Throughout the presentation Diane handed out samples of thread, concluding with the finished coverlet and petticoat.

Florence donated The Spinning Wheel Sleuth with Diane's article included to the library. Diane's article is on Page 6.

Current Business

Sarah Fortin Workshop

9 people signed up
Waiting for a list of materials
Sarah will have the list of emails of attendees

Library News

Terry brought a sample of books on weaving fabric and also a book from her personal library. The title of the book is ***Handwoven, Tailormade*** by **Sharon Alderman** and **Kathryn Wertemberger**.

Workshop Survey

Topics Of Interest	Interest	Notes
Working on different weave structures	5	
Inkle weaving with pick up techniques	2	Terry, Vicki, and Melissa will give a workshop on this -
Bow weaving	2	probably in October
Double weave	2	Fran will do a demo on this
Color	2	
Shaker weaving		
Weaving with recycled material		
Advanced Kumihimo		Maybe you could give us a program on this?
History connected to sheep and weaving		
How to incorporate card		

weaving into regular weaving
Sustainable fibers, what is true
sustainability
Clothing
Tapestry weaving
Special techniques weavers
found that made their creation
so special and perfect

Workshop Interest

Specific weave structure
Working with specific fiber
Band weaving

Interest Notes

2 Summer and Winter, Overshot, Huck Lace
2 Tencel, chenille

I have no idea what this word is
*ed. The closest is Passementerie which refers to tassles,
tassle necklace and fringes attrib Google search*

Passementerie
Native American weaving
Tapestry weaving
Loom basket weaving

Treasurers Report

Any dues please *pay up*.

Web and Images

The gallery has been re-activated. There are a number of old and out of date images on the gallery including items for sale from a few years ago. Ted will clean up the gallery.

The *Illuminator* has started to post pictures to the gallery instead of in line in the postings, this will provide a better location. If any members would like a folder for their own pictures please let ted know.

Events listings have been ad-hoc, the *Sales* menu item was set up for the Haverhill mobile shop in 2012 and has not been used since. This menu item will be removed and a new entry made for events to provide a more permanent and controlled location for events listings.

New Business

New Members

Betsy received a membership cheque from a Ted English does anyone know this person?
Don't forget to send new member emails to Terry

Guild Projects

Recycled material
Discuss at the June meeting

Charitable Projects

Discussions deferred until June
Florence donated yarn for a charitable purpose

July Meeting

Informal meeting at Paneras in Newburyport

Dye Day

Terry is willing to co-ordinate but need a location

Court Positions

Kathy Corcoran has started the weaving for the Path of Enlightenment programme. The court position remains open, volunteer please!

Events

Mass Sheep and Wool
Maine Fibre Frolic

AOB

The Library has asked for a show, this will be discussed in September

Show and Share

- **Fran**
 - Tapestry
- **Leah** provided many items including
 - Pot Holders with one as a doll travel kit made on apocket loom
 - Chain ply rayon from *Spin a braid every week*, chain
 - Octopus *made of three knitted components*
 - Knitted socks in different styles every 2 weeks a pattern drops. Contest based on fastest to knit the sock. Made up of teams.
 - Soft yarn woven sample
- **Sandra**
 - Tencel shadow weave scarf
- **Mary**

- 8 yards cloth Jagerspun in cobalt and periwinkle, *this cloth is for the Sarah Fortin workshop*
- **Margaret**
 - 4 yards herringbone cloth with different colours in warp and weft, woven at Marshfield School of Weaving, VT using Scottish wool (Scottish Blackface and Cheviot breeds)
 - 3 plus yards hopsack cloth, Scottish wool (Scottish Blackface and Cheviot)
- **Pat Beamish**
 - Gave an overview on her trip to Israel where she met a weaver in the Northern section near the border with Lebanon.

Closing Song by the Court Jester

Threads



NOBO CALENDAR

January - Super Show and Share

*February - Movie Night

March- Double Weave (Fran)

*April - Annual Party

May - Craig Evans: 18th & 19th century tradition weaving using original equipment (need to check on price and see if guild willing to pay for program)

June - Working on this at present

July - Panera

August- ?Dye Day

September - working on this (? Weaving structures)

October - Bow Weaving (Terry, Vicki, and Melissa)

*November/December - Holiday Party and Fashion show with woven clothing and accessories

Leah will also present a program on advanced Kumihimo (date to be determined- maybe January or April?)