

September Program



From the Cottage to the Factory

The old song and ballads are a living voice of history we rarely have a chance to hear and appreciate for the information they contain. Melissa Weaver Dunning will perform a short concert of 18th & 19th century songs and tales of spinning, weaving and other trades from before and after the Industrial Revolution. These old songs and ballads are a living voice of history, and form resonant poetry of people and their daily lives from times past. Far more than just entertainment or social expression, songs and ballads delivered the news of the day during a time when news traveled at the speed of a horse.

September Workshop Notes by W.W.

There are eighteen drafts, one per person, so we will be busy sampling if you want to get one of everything. The drafts have a sample size, a tea towel size, and a traditional towel size included. It will be up to each person to decide how wide and long a warp they want for the workshop; although, Melissa is assuming everyone will be choosing the sample or tea towel size for the workshop.

Melissa requires everyone in the workshop use a temple for their weaving. If you are warping the sample size you will need a 6- to 8-inch temple, for the tea towel warp you will need an 8- to 12-inch temple, and for the traditional towel you will need a 20- to 24-inch temple.

All the warps will be 20/2 unmercerized natural cotton or 40/2 half-bleach linen. Melissa did not mention the weft requirements specifically, but did say she wants us to bring a bit of colored yarn to experiment with for weft. Several of our workshop participants have graciously offered to bring 20/2 unmercerized colored cotton for wefts.

Some hints from Melissa on warping linen:

- Warp from back to front. The instructions sent will cover this.
- When measuring warp don't pull from the top of the cone or spool since it will put more twist into the yarn. Pull it from a spool rack.
- Don't measure multiple threads at the same time. You don't want to twist them.

Here is a link Jane Rock sent me for some linen tips. <http://halcyonyarn.com/linentips.html>

Everyone should have at least a 6 inch header in order to make sure you threading and treadling are correct. If you have a computer program to double check the drafts it is a good idea.

Everyone is warping on enough for each of us to have an 8-inch sample of every draft.

Don't know about anyone else, but I am getting excited!

November Afternoon Workshop

Robin Wilton will be teaching an afternoon workshop following the November Guild Meeting. Participants will be required to provide their own materials after receiving a material list from Robin. The use of an inkle loom is required for the workshop. Several are available for use on a first come basis if you do not own one and would like to attend the workshop. Come join us for an informative and fun afternoon learning a new weaving technique. We need a minimum of 5 people for the class and the cost will be \$40.