

THE Shuttle

The Guild Ideal: "that each rug shall be better than the customer expects"

Published for Members of the Maysville Guild of Home Weavers by January & Wood Co., Maysville, Ky. Makers of Maysville Warp and Maysville Filler.

● Mr. Louis Penhollow is a charter member of the Maysville Guild of Home Weavers in the great State of Wisconsin. He has been in business as a weaver for thirty-eight consecutive years. Readers of the SHUTTLE will get an idea of the volume of his sales from the fact that he uses two thousand spools of Maysville Warp every year.

Penhollow of Wisconsin



fall issue 1947



the editor's mailbox

Every morning when Jimmy, the office boy, dumps the contents of the mail sack onto the desk of the editor, he examines the postmarks on the envelopes. He says that the postmarks and the handwriting satisfy him that there are real, live people in Idaho and Massachusetts and Kansas and Indiana—not only potatoes and machinery and wheat and corn as indicated by the maps in his school books.

Jimmy is right about it. The Editor's Mail Box is a very human sort of Geography of the United States. In it the best people of New England rub elbows with the best people of the Pacific Coast. Factory workers from the Great Lakes states talk in neighborly way with the gentle-voiced folks of the cotton country. These are the members of the Maysville Guild, the greatest organization of hand weavers in the world.

The letters and articles that follow were all written by Guild members. They are quoted "word for word" from the original contributions to the Editor's Mail Box.

we all learned to love one another

By Mrs. Cheritree Hubbell of Michigan

Weaving has meant so much to me, particularly during the last five years in which we have not had the easiest time in the world. My husband, a veteran of the first world war, died in January, 1944. Two years before his death he was obliged to give up his business because of illness. Our income practically stopped.

We had two children in school and, with a little help, they kept the house, garden and small farm going and I WOVE and WOVE and WOVE. My weaving was the financial salvation of the family.

The principal industries of the neighboring city are the manufacture of shirts and dresses. These shops turned over to the suburban unit of the American Red Cross their remnants of materials. The women of the rural churches, the Home Bureau and the Granges pieced quilts and sold them for the benefit of the Red Cross.

But even yet there were perfectly beautiful new goods being swept up and turned over to the ragman. I suggested that some women be shown how to prepare these scraps for weaving and we soon discovered that they did not even know how to sew carpet rags. But we started and they sewed and sewed, in their homes, in their churches, at Red Cross meetings—everywhere. Then they brought their rags to me and I made the first twenty rugs and sent them to the Red Cross.

Yard and a half rugs they were, with fringed ends that I tied, twenty inches wide. I received 90 cents each for weaving, and selling for \$2.00 each, they disappeared like snow in the sun. We could hardly make them fast enough. Most of them, because of the small sizes of the scraps, had to be hit-and-miss. Before the supply of Maysville warp was frozen we had made and sold between 350 and 400 of those rugs, netting the Red Cross \$1.10 each.

Some of the most lovely of our rugs were made from the outing flannels used for layettes, dainty, delicate colors, pinks and blues or white striped with pink or blue. I had been doubtful when they brought me the first lot of scraps, but they were adorable when woven with Maysville warp. Serviceable! They washed like cambric handkerchiefs.

But that was not the only good accomplished. Women who had boys in the armed services sat and sewed together; neighbors who had not visited for years took bags of carpet rags and sewed together; the city women marveled at what the country women could do and joined their unit to learn of them and we country women learned from the city women, too, and we all learned to love one another.

eight yardsticks for rug fringe

By C. Lee Smith—Indiana

Insert eight yardsticks into the warp threads between rugs on your loom. This is no trouble and it answers the purpose quite as well as coarse rags. Cut the warp threads in the middle and the yardsticks will fall out. This allows fringe for both ends of the rugs. There you have it.

I have used Maysville Warp and Filler for many years. In fact the best partner in the rug business is Maysville. In the past two years I have made 600 rugs and almost every week we earn \$15 to \$20 for our spare time as well as our hobby. Our business is growing. I enjoy the SHUTTLE. Keep it coming.





Mrs. Claribel Grimshaw—Michigan



Mrs. Harriet Wise—Colorado

my bull terrier likes to pose By Mrs. Claribel Grimshaw—Michigan

My bull terrier is in this picture with a couple of rugs I wove. The pattern rug is black Maysville Warp with green rags for weft. The other one is plain woven rag rug with several colors of Maysville Warp because it is stronger, has less knots and has such beautiful colors and lustre. I enjoy the SHUTTLE very much.

my dog wants to be in the picture too

By Mrs. Harriet Wise—Colorado

I am a member of the Maysville Guild and have been weaving for several years, using Maysville Warp and Filler. This rug was made out of men's boot socks. I expect to weave 100 rugs in the next few months and already I have the rags and warp in my nice light loom room (12x15 feet) built right onto the house. My dog, Lady, 20 years old, wants to be in the picture too.

still in the business

By Mrs. Blanche Crandall—Indiana

I am a home weaver and a member of the Maysville Guild. As I have never written to you before I thought I would write and let you know that I am still in the business. I enjoy weaving very much and find it profitable. With the money I earned from my rugs I have bought many nice things for my home and also helped to pay my hospital bill. I read every issue of the SHUTTLE from cover to cover, so please keep it coming.



two looms and a helper

By Mrs. J. H. Baker, Jr.—Illinois

I have been weaving for years and have made and sold many Maysville Filler Rugs though most of my people prefer to furnish their own rags. I have two looms and a helper, and I do only custom weaving. I use only Maysville Warp and have all the work I can do. I enjoy the SHUTTLE and read every issue. I like to read the letters from other Guild weavers. So don't fail to send me every issue.



more than 700 maysville guild rugs

By Mrs. G. A. Neis—Idaho

I want to tell you how much I enjoy the SHUTTLE magazine and the letters and pictures from people who do so much weaving. I have had a loom for 26 years and enjoy weaving *so much*. I always use Maysville Warp—there is none better. I send you a snapshot of myself with some of my rugs and pillow covers. The rugs are pink, blue and mulberry color. I have a good neighbor who sews my rags for me and I weave her rugs for her, so we help each other and get some lovely rugs that way. I have made over 700 Maysville Guild Rugs. Good luck to all Guild Members.

ten rugs a week in spare time

By Mrs. Lille E. Wiedower—Kansas

I am sending a picture of myself and a Maysville Filler Rug. My customers are beginning to use more filler rugs although I weave lots of rugs from rags, but I use Maysville Warp for all my weaving. So glad we can get both Maysville Warp and Filler. I am very busy and

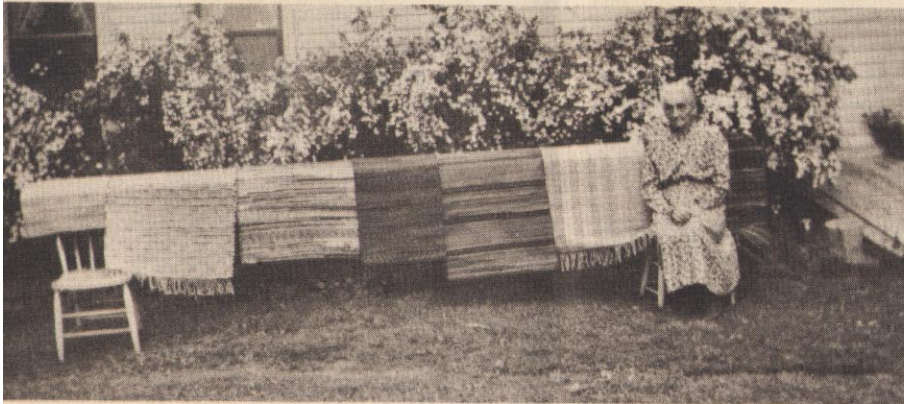
Mrs. G. A. Neis—Idaho

Mrs. Lille E. Wiedower—Kansas



I make about ten rugs a week in my spare time. I like to read the SHUTTLE and see what other weavers are doing in the good old U.S.A. Please send me 50 labels.

Mrs. Rickey's Rugs Speak for Themselves



85 years young and still weaving By Mrs. Ollie Walter—Indiana

Enclosed is a picture that I have been intending to send you for some time. I have been weaving for the past 40 years and have always used Maysville Warp. I am proud to belong to the Maysville Guild and to receive the little paper called the SHUTTLE. I commenced to weave in 1903 and for about 20 years I averaged 300 yards of carpet every year. But in the last 20 years it has been mostly rugs. I am 85 years old and have woven 8 rugs in the last 3 days and I have more on order. Shall I see my picture in the SHUTTLE?

50 years' satisfaction with maysville

By Mrs. Maude Roudabush—Ohio

For the past 50 years I have been weaving carpets and rugs with Maysville Warp, filler and rags. I still use the hand loom that was used by my grandmother during the days of the early settlers in Central Indiana. This loom must be at least 100 years old. For some time I have intended to write and send you this picture showing the product I make. I have been reading and enjoying the SHUTTLE for a good many years. It enables me to keep up with the happenings in the industry.



Mrs. Ollie Walter—Indiana

Mrs. Maude Roudabush—Ohio

the golden stairs

By Elmer J. Layton of West Virginia

I am an active member of the Maysville Guild and I have read every issue of the SHUTTLE with pleasure and have found it very helpful in many ways. I expect to use the three designs, *Arrow*, *Log Cabin* and *Madison* in the very near future. Now in return for the benefits I have enjoyed from my membership I am giving to my fellow members of the Maysville Guild the instructions for making my favorite rug which I have called the Golden Stairs. I use the 18 dent thread on my loom and it gives good results.

to thread your loom wrap the loom with Maysville Warp 18 threads to the inch. Start threading as follows: 1 light color in back harness; 1 dark color in front harness for 1 inch. Now thread 9 threads of the dark color warp. Then 9 threads of the light color warp, making two ½-inch solid color stripes.

Now put in 18 threads of warp in the same order as the first 18 given above. This is the center of the border stripe. Follow with 9 threads of the light color. Next 9 threads dark colors, all *single sleyed*.

Now warp the center sections (19) of the one inch sections warped and threaded same as the first 18 threads given above. Then repeat the same border design as given before. This will give you a width of 27 inches.

You must change the colors of the warp in the harness frames every inch of 18 threads as follows: for the 1 inch light color warp in the back harness and dark color in the front harness, and every 18 threads you reverse this color arrangement in the frames; one as given and the next, in reverse. Then reverse to where you were at the start. Repeat this order of reversing after each 18 threads until the full 19 one inch sections are in. All this warping is to be *single sleyed*.

to weave the golden stairs design start by weaving 1 inch of warp as a binder. Then weave plain filler 5 inches. Change color of filler to the color you

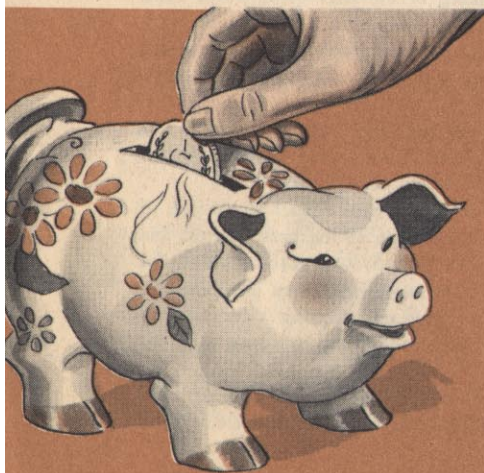
golden
stairs
design



want for the border and put in 1 pick filler, 1 pick warp and 1 pick filler repeating this order until 5 throws are in. Change shed and place 1 pick filler and 1 pick warp until another 5 throws are in. Keep this up until 5 changes are made for a 5 inch border (or 6 changes for a 6 inch border). This will form the Checkered Border Design.

Now weave plain for the desired length of the rug body and repeat the border as before. To get the desired length of rug, simply deduct the widths of the two ends from the start of weave and the width of the border. Add the two ends and subtract this figure from the length of the rug. This will give you the number of inches required for the body of the rug.

In my own weaving I don't count the binders on the ends. These allow for shrinkage of the rug when removed from the loom. I count only that part that has the filler in from start of filler to end of border. To finish the rug I add 1 inch of binder and tie the ends in the usual way. I always use one light and one dark color warp and one light and one dark color filler in making this rug design. Try it. I believe you will want to adopt it as a good number to add to your list.



more truth than poetry

By an Anonymous Weaver

How fast the happy minutes fly
Whilst I my busy shuttle ply
And beat the time with rhythmic pedals
In unison with dancing heddles,

In idleness there is no bliss
That ever can compete with this
Which weaves into a cloth of gold
All warp and weft my loom can hold,

Each working moment earns its penny
But wasted spare time don't earn any,
My piggy bank is always filled
Since I have joined the Maysville Guild.