

warp and weft

Vol. XXIV, No. 9

November, 1971

warp and weft

Published monthly (except July and August) by Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128

Subscription: \$4.50 per year.

Back Issues: 45c each plus 6c postage.

Editor: Russell E. Groff,

Assistant Editor: Robin Groff

Vol. XXIV, No. 9

November, 1971

A Word from the Editor:

I have never seen time fly so fast, as it does for me now. It seems like it was just yesterday that I was typing the copy for the October issue, and I'm sure, that before I realize, the December issue will be staring me in the face.

And yet, we are busy, and happy, so what more could one ask for.

In this past month, we've had several shipments finally come through, after the dock strike was temporarily halted. However, we still haven't been able to locate three other shipments, and don't know what the status of these are. I guess that time will tell.

We have had word that our shipment of large loop variegated mohair from England has been shipped to us, and also, another company notified us that to date, they have shipped 41 large cartons of wool yarn that I ordered. So soon, we will be inundated with a flood of yarns coming in, and if we are busy now, think what it will be like then.

Progress is also being made on our books that we are publishing and distributing, as a result of the trip to England this past summer. Three of the books have been shipped to us, and they are

1. AN EYE FOR COLOR, Bernat Klein
2. A COMPLETE GUIDE TO HANDMADE BOBBIN LACE, by Maidment
3. THE ROMANCE OF THE LACE PILLOW by Thomas Wright.

Our fourth book, LICHENS FOR VEGETABLE DYEING, we have signed a contract for, and we find that we will probably not have these until March or April of 1972. However, it is in progress, and we do know that we will have it eventually.

Page 2

And this past month, several small packages or orders have come in that I ordered this past summer. One exciting package was the arrival of 100 of the Czechoslovakian Corn Dolls, which are so unusual. I really do not think that these will last long, they are so unusual. One package that came in had some very attractive ceramic pins with a spinning wheel pictured on these pins. They are made on an island off the coast of England, and came on two shades of soft greens and two shades of tan and beiges and sell for \$3.95 each.

And, the exciting natural black Welsh wool, and the two other shades of natural came in, and these have almost been sold out already, and so we will soon order more. I saw a skirt length of these woven by one of our customers yesterday, and was it ever scrumptuous, in shades of natural black and brown.

A shipment of Swiss bag handles and hangers for macrame and woven wall hangings was another package that arrived this past month. You know, it is still one and a half months to Christmas, but it is Christmas for us every day that a new shipment comes in to us from England, Wales, Scotland or Switzerland. I wouldn't trade this job of mine for any other. The only problem is that the day is not long enough for one to accomplish as much as they want to.

With the advent of the wet, cold and wintry weather, it just seems natural that it is time for one to turn to the loom and produce a new and exciting and warm and practical fabric, so I wonder if many of you feel about this as I do. I honestly feel that more of our business comes from the areas where we have harder winters, and have noticed this continually. For instance, I can remember that when the shop was in Santa Barbara, not much wool was sold, but since moving to the Pacific Northwest, I've found that wool is much more popular.

And being in the business, I do not think that the man-made fibers will ever replace the natural fibers in the heart of the hand-weaver. The natural fibers seem so much more durable, so warm, and so pleasing than do some of the man-made fibers.

Well, enough of the activities here, and back to the sample for this month.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Book Review:

This month, we want to tell you about a new book entitled "THE JOY OF SPINNING," by Marilyn Kluger.

Just released from the publishers, this is a delightful book, chock full of all the necessary details that the spinner needs to know, and that the beginner needs to know to start spinning.

The drawings and sketches in this book are as outstanding as is the content. I like the sketches particularly, as they say a picture is worth a 1000 words, and each of the sketches seems to explain to you exactly what the author is trying to say about that particular subject.

All of the parts of the spinning wheel are named and explained, and suggestions for buying a spinning wheel, and finding one to fit your needs, are all given.

Also, directions for using a hand spindle, for plying yarn and skeining it, and related details are given.

There is a section on dyeing your handspun yarns with vegetable dyes, and then there is a section telling where to purchase spinning wheels, hand spindles and wool cards is also given. The text is in a language that is easy to understand and read, and you would enjoy this book, if you are a beginning or intermediate spinner. Another interesting section in this book is a glossary of spinning terms.

You should enjoy this author's approach to spinning.

TITLE: THE JOY OF SPINNING

AUTHOR: Marilyn Kluger

PUBLISHER: Simon and Schuster,
NEW YORK

PRICE: \$6.95 plus pp. and ins.

AVAILABLE: From the publishers or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

This Month's Cover Photograph:

I've looked at this photograph a good many times and enjoyed it more each time. This is a close-up detail of a wall hanging which was displayed at the Pacific Northwest Weaving Conference in Portland, this year.

But what impresses me most is the multitude of suggestions this detailed picture gives

to the person who might be interested in doing a wall hanging.

This could easily be done on the regular four harness loom, having two contrasting colors in the warp, and you alternate the light and dark throughout the warp. You can weave, so the surface of the fabric is light, or you can weave so that the surface of the fabric is dark. You can tie the white or dark threads in groups as is done in this photograph. You can do any of the many finger techniques such as flossa, rya, soumak or others in a light and have them set off by a dark background, or vice versa. You can weave with bamboo slats, or other items from nature. Yes, the details here do tell a story, and it is one that is easy to read and understand.

Source of Idea For This Sample:

This sample, threading and treadling idea is from the Oelsner and Dale book, A HANDBOOK OF WEAVES, which sells for \$6.00. However, I must tell you that I did not see it, but attended a workshop at the studio of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Cunningham in Newport this past summer, and they had designed a fabric like this of synthetic materials for a national company, and it was produced on a national scale. This was at a workshop which was sponsored by the South Coast Weavers Guild, and I was delighted with the variety of projects offered by Mrs. Cunningham. Their sample was much larger, and was of striking colors, so perhaps you might like to try this sample yourself.

Gift Certificates For Christmas:

If you would like us to send a Christmas gift certificate to a special person, you can write and tell us how much or how large a certificate you do want, and then we can either send it on to you, or send it directly to the friend you purchase it for. These gift certificates are available in increments of \$5.00 each, starting with \$10.00 and going up to \$100.00. These gift certificates are redeemable at any time in yarns, books, or weaving accessories. Let them choose the book, or yarn, or other item that they might like for their handweaving.

A MINIATURE PATCHWORK QUILT

This type of pattern is so popular with the younger generation, that I decided to feature it in Warp and Weft. However, I wanted to do it in a larger version, but as you know the size of our sample is limited, so here is our version of patchwork.

THREADING DRAFT:

	B			A		
4	B	B	B	X	X	X
3	A A A			O O O		
2	B		B		X	X
1	A		A		O	O

Repeat B Unit 3 times

Repeat A Unit 3 times

KEY TO COLORS IN THE WARP:

X — No. 25, Olive Green 2/18's worsted
 O — No. 26, Light Yellow 2/18's worsted
 A — No. 17, Sunkiss Orange 2/18's worsted
 B — No. 16, Dark Brown 2/18's worsted

WARP:

Our warp is the 2/18's worsted from England in four different colors. There are two colors in each unit, the A unit and the B unit.

X — No. 25, Olive Green 2/18's worsted
 O — No. 26, Light Yellow 2/18's worsted
 A — No. 17, Sunkiss Orange 2/18's worsted
 B — No. 16, Dark Brown 2/18's worsted

WEFT:

In the weft, we use the same four colors of 2/18's worsted, that are used in the warp.

REED USED:

A 12 dent reed was used, with a special sleying of the reed. The threads are alternately sleyed two ends per dent, and three ends per dent. You will note that the threads on harnesses one and two are sleyed two per dent, and the threads on harnesses three or four are sleyed three ends per dent.

THREADS PER INCH:

As this is sleyed two and three alternately, in the 12 dent reed, it means that we really do have 30 threads per inch, even though a 12 dent reed is used.

Page 4

TIE-UP DRAFT:

4	X	X	O	O	X	O
3	X	O	O	X	O	X
2	O	O	X	X	X	O
1	O	X	X	O	O	X
	1	2	3	4	5	6
					A	B

X — tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.
 O — tie-up for Jack-type looms.

SAMPLE:



TREADLING SEQUENCE:

Note that just the two tabby treadles are used in the treadling in this sample.

1. Treadle #5, 3 times, #17, sunkiss orange
 2. Treadle #6, 1 time, #16, dark brown
 3. Treadle #5, 1 time, #17, sunkiss orange
 4. Treadle #6, 3 times, #16, dark brown
 5. Treadle #5, 1 time, #17, sunkiss orange
 6. Treadle #6, 1 time, #16, dark brown
- Repeat this unit 2 times, for a total of 20 threads, then proceed on to the next unit.
1. Treadle #5, 3 times, #26, lt. yellow
 2. Treadle #6, 1 time, #25, olive green
 3. Treadle #5, 1 time, #26, lt. yellow
 4. Treadle #6, 3 times, #25, olive green
 5. Treadle #5, 1 time, #26, lt. yellow

6. Treadle #6, 1 time, #25, olive green
Repeat this unit 2 times, for a total of 20 threads, then proceed on to the A unit.

WHEN YOU HAVE 40 THREADS WOVEN, YOU THEN HAVE ONE COMPLETE PATTERN REPEAT.

MORE ABOUT TREADLING:

Using the tabby treadles only, I experimented in several different sequences of shots of colors of thread, and came up with some interesting treadling effects, such as having 2, 3, 4, or more shots all on the same treadle.

Now in this sample, one thing you must realize is that in the treadling that I have given you, that there are three shots on the same treadle, and you have to go over one or two outside selvage threads and put the shuttle back in the shed, so that when you throw the second shot, the thread does not come out again.

One person figured out that if he would put a tabby on harnesses 5 and 6, that he would not have to go around these outside selvage threads.

Another person tied a tight heavier thread to the back beam, brought it through the harnesses without going through a heddle, came through the reed about four dents wider than the width it was set up on the loom, and tied this cord to the warp beam. Then, every time he threw a shuttle, he brought his weft thread around this tight thread, and being systematic about it and doing it every shot, he found it much faster to weave.

This really was not hard to weave, but you must use an even beat and rhythm and you will find that this enhances the fabric very much. Develop the rhythm you find best for your own needs.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

One thing that I should mention is, that we have washed this fabric in the washing machine, extracted the water with the extractor, allowed it to drip dry, and have then steam pressed it. The one thing that happened in this processing was the great amount of take-up that we experienced in the washing process.

We had nine yards of finished fabric when it was off the loom, and when it was washed and pressed, it must have taken up a yard and

a half. I do not know exactly, but we normally have about eight yards of fabric to cut up for samples, and when it was all cut up, we were about 150 samples short of having enough for all the issues of Warp and Weft, so we are having to weave about another yard of this fabric.

As there are three repeats of each unit in the warp, I in turn wondered if I should not have beaten it tighter and had three repeats of each unit in the weft, instead of two as we had. If I had done this, I'm positive there would have been less shrinkage in the washing of the fabric.

This type of pattern is your chance to have the wildest and most unusual color combinations that we have featured in the past several years. It lends itself to different color combinations, and also, you are not limited to having just four colors as you find in our sample. For instance, you could have a 36" warp, and say have nine different color combinations of 4" each, in one set-up of the loom, and this would then actually give you 81 different patchwork squares on a 36" square piece of fabric.

Something like this is what the children would love to have to wear to school, as they are looking for the unusual and the different combinations in wearing apparel these days.

Another nice thing about a pattern such as this is that you could use all of your odds and ends up, and still have a pleasing and decorative fabric, if you use a little taste in your choice of colors. Really, this is one of the few patterns I have seen where the odds and ends can be used satisfactorily.

The wilder and more exciting that you make these, the better the teenage generation will like them. And while our samples are just in 1" squares for the sake of showing you the pattern, my choice of size of repeats of each unit would be 3" or 4" squares.

And you could even make a plaid of this type of pattern using pattern repeats in varying sizes, and then also by wefting the fabric in the same size pattern repeats.

This is a versatile pattern, and I hope that perhaps you might try it, and see what you do come up with.

ONE COMPLETE PATTERN REPEAT

Please note that there are 60 threads in one complete pattern repeat: The A unit has 10 threads in each repeat, and you repeat it three times consecutively. Then the B unit has 10 threads in each repeat and you repeat it three times consecutively.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

The 2/18's worsted, come in 39 colors, and are on approximately 1/2 lb. cones. It has 4800 yards per lb., and is \$6.80 per lb.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

We had a 10 yard warp, 40" wide, and it took 9 oz. each of Olive Green and Light Yellow and 9 oz. each of the Sunkist Orange and Dark Brown in the 10-yard warp. Thus it took 2 lbs. 4 oz. of yarn for our warp of 10 yards or the total cost was \$15.30, or the cost per yard was \$1.53 per yard.

We had nine yards of finished fabric, when it came off the loom, and it took 5 1/2 oz. of each of the four colors. However, I figure that this came down to 7 1/2 yards after it was washed and pressed, so the cost of the weft for 7 1/2 yards was \$10.20 or the cost per yard was \$1.36.

WARP COST PER YARD	\$1.53
WEFT COST PER YARD	\$1.36
	\$2.89
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$2.89

**MAILING WARP AND WEFT
STARTING JANUARY, 1972**

Because of the tremendous increase in postage, the past two years, we are going to arrange all of the Warp and Weft subscriptions by numerical sequence in your zip code, and then use a bulk mailing rate to mail each monthly issue. Our mailing costs in the past four years have more than doubled, and it now costs well over \$100.00 each month to mail the issues. If we go to this new system, and use bulk mailing, we should be able to cut this cost down to about 50% of our current mailing cost.

SO, PLEASE CHECK YOUR ZIP CODE NUMBER, and if not right on your current issue of Warp and Weft, please notify us of any changes that might have to be made, so we can have this ready by the January issue.

GIVE A BOOK FOR CHRISTMAS. All of these titles below are in stock and can be shipped immediately.

1. MACRAME, By Dona Z. Meilach. This paper back edition has been the most popular macrame book lately. It is \$3.95, and is jammed full of ideas and photographs.

2. NEW KEY TO WEAVING, by Mary Black. If anyone has a question in weaving, most of the answers will be found in this book by Mary Black. One of the most thorough books on hand-weaving on the market. Price is \$12.00.

3. QUILTS AND COVERLETS, A CONTEMPORARY APPROACH, by Jean Ray Laury. Miss Laury's books seem to be very, very well written and quite popular. This one is \$9.95.

4. NATURAL DYES AND HOME DYEING, by Rita J. Adrosko. This book has over 150 recipes, and is popularly priced at \$2.00.

5. STEP BY STEP KNITTING, by Mary Walker Phillips is another very popular book by the Golden Press. It is very profusely illustrated, most in color, and is \$2.50.

6. TELL ME CAT, a delightful picture book of cats, with all of the pages covered with different ideas in Stitchery. A delightful book in that both children and adults will like it. Price is \$1.00.

7. CARD WEAVING OR TABLET WEAVING, by Russell E. Groff. Contains 53 different patterns and a photograph of each. Also has step by step directions in setting up cards for card-weaving. Price is \$3.50.

8. THE TECHNIQUE OF WOVEN TAPESTRY, by Tadek Beutlich. One of England's foremost tapestry weavers, you will enjoy the complete instructions that Mr. Beutlich gives in his book. Out of print in the United States, we did manage to purchase about 50 copies, and have 25 still available. Price is \$10.95.

POSTAGE and INSURANCE EXTRA ON ALL BOOKS.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$5.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

COTTON SEATING CORD FOR MACRAME — ENGLISH

Imported from England on 1 lb. balls, this seating cord is widely used in Macrame. It comes in black, red, yellow, brown, dark green, tan colors on 1 lb. balls. \$3.20 per ball, plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

SWEDISH BOBBIN LACE PILLOWS

We have the smaller one in stock now, and a larger one on order. Price for the small one is \$17.50 plus shipping. It is nicely made, foam padded cushion with roller and wedge. Also, bobbin lace bobbins, lace linen, and related materials for bobbin lace all in stock. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

3 PLY SISAL AND 4 PLY JUTE

On 5 lb. balls. This seems to be popular for use in Macrame. Price is reasonable too, at \$4.00 per 5 lb. ball, plus shipping. Also, have 10 lb. tubes of jute in two sizes on hand, and many other Macrame threads. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

WANTED

New or used copy of Gertrude Greer's "ADVENTURES IN WEAVING." Write Mrs. L. R. Led-Better, 3720 Parkview, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39180.

METALLIC BOUCLE, CALLED LUMINEX

It is imported from England and is on 500 yard tubes, and is a beautiful boucle yarn. Available in silver, gold, red, rose-red, royal blue, purple, deep turquoise, white with colored tints, and deep orange. \$1.50 per tube, and postage is extra. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

COLORLED JUTE, 2 PLY

Heavy and fine. The heavy 2 ply has 75 yards per tube, and the fine has 300 yards per tube. The heavy is in stock on 4 oz. tubes in 15 different colors. The fine 2 ply has 300 yards per tube, in orange, bright green, red, and royal blue. It is \$1.00 per tube. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

6 Shades of NATURAL ICELANDIC WOOL

Plus 10 others in color. Comes in 3.6 oz. skeins, is \$1.90 per skein, and is excellent in ponchos, blankets, and other related items. Shipping is extra. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

THE JOY OF SPINNING

A new and excellent book on spinning just released by the publishers. Has good information about spinning and also how to use natural dyes. \$6.95 plus 18¢ postage and ins. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 87128.

DOUBLEQUICK COTTON

Excellent for use in Card Weaving and Macrame. It comes in skeins of 115 yards per skein. And the price is right also, at 45¢ per skein. Also used in borders and accents in weaving. 18 colors available. Postage extra on all orders. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

SWISS WOODEN BELT BUCKLES

These beautiful Swiss wooden buckles will not last long. I purchased the entire stock of the manufacturers in Switzerland this summer, as they were discontinuing them. Assorted sizes, and they sell for 75¢ to \$1.25 each. Made of the beautiful woods the Swiss import from all over the world. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

WOOL CARDS IN FIVE DIFFERENT KINDS

In stock now are 5 different kinds of wool cards. Canadian, with quite open wire, \$9.35; Finnish, with curved back, set in leather, flexible wires, \$9.35; Swedish in fine wire, close sett of wire, \$9.35; American, extra strong, metal frames in 3 different sizes, \$15.00, \$17.50, and \$20.00; and small sample cards about 1/2 regular size, \$6.00 per pair. Postage extra on all orders. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

GRADED LESSONS IN MACRAME KNOTTING AND NETTING

By Louisa Walker. This Macrame book was originally published in London in 1896, and seems to be a very good publication for Macrame. \$2.00 per copy, plus 21¢ postage. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

CORN DOLLS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

These beautifully made corn dolls are made of corn husks, with linen for hair, and are outstanding design. I imported 9 dozen from England. Four double dolls, mother and daughter, \$3.95 plus 30¢ postage. Five single dolls, \$3.50 plus 30¢ postage. You'll fall in love with these, and they make excellent Christmas Tree decorations, or gifts. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

THE TECHNIQUE OF RUG WEAVING

by Peter Collingwood. This book has proved to be so popular and outstanding that I understand it is being reprinted. We have a large stock on hand. \$17.50 plus 45¢ postage and insurance. All types and kinds of rug techniques are explained in detail. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

CARDED WOOL TOPS IN FIFTEEN COLORS

Ready for hand-spinning, or for weaving unspun wool rugs, bags, and coats, you'll like the beautiful quality of this wool from Switzerland. In approximately 1 lb. bags, it is \$3.95 per lb. Beautiful golds, blues, 2 shades of reds, grey, natural, beiges, etc. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

The Weaver's Marketplace

w a r p a n d w e f t

533 NORTH ADAMS STREET
MCMINNVILLE, OREGON 97128

NEW!!!

Functional Overshot by Grace D. Blum

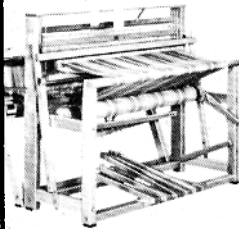
A basic source for modern designs. Contains concise directions for weaving almost any overshot threading, in 24 different methods and 32 woven swatches.

\$16.50 per copy. Mailed prepaid when check accompanies order.

Hand Weavers' Work Basket

440 Crestview Road
Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387

"LECLERC LOOMS"



Ask for our free pamphlet

Leclerc 

2, MONTCALM AVENUE
PLATTSBURG, N.Y., 12901

Corp.

**HANDWEAVING
YARNS and SUPPLIES**

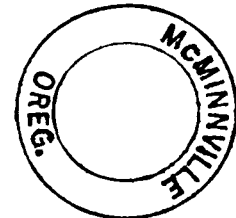
A wide variety of distinctive yarns, developed especially for handweaving is available for prompt shipment in quantities to suit your needs.

Write today for FREE CATALOG and PRICE LIST

The Handweaver's Headquarters

Lily Mills Company

Dept. HWWW Shelby, N. C.



Compact
Folding

**NORWOOD
LOOMS**

Five Widths
16" — 22" — 30" — 40" — 50"
Made of Cherry

**The Norwood Loom Co.
P. O. Box 272
Baldwin, Michigan**

