



warp and weft

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February, 1979

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A Word from the Editor

We've told you that we were building a new house, but have we ever told you the trials and tribulations of building such a house in the winter.

For over a month, it was so cold that concrete could not be poured, as it would not set and dry properly. Finally, after foundations were poured, the rough flooring went in; the walls of the house went up, the roof went on; and it looked as though we were well on our way. But alas, another cold spell of 2 to 3 weeks where it was so cold, we could not get the roof finished, so work could proceed on the interior. A brown brick was ordered for the exterior of the house. These were delayed 2 months because of the cold weather. Finally, they came through, but alas, because the extremely cold weather had affected the roads, the bricks could not be delivered on a county road, because of a new weight embargo on such roads.

As you know, we're building on top of a hill, 12 miles out of town, and the wind surely does whistle over this area. We had ordered 500 pine trees to plant on our 4 1/2 acres. It was so cold, the state forestry department could not deliver these until the middle of February, when normally, they are delivered about January 15th. As a

result, after 2 weeks we are still planting about 30 trees a day.

But then, the cold weather ended, and work began anew on the inside of the house. And a bad rain and wind storm came and blew off quite a few of the shingles on the roof, so everything was again stopped until it stopped raining and the roof could be repaired.

Happy days, the weight embargo was lifted on the county roads, and the bricks finally arrived from the brickworks in Seattle. Rain set-in. Now, the ground is so soft all around that they cannot deliver the bricks to the house to do the exterior.

And all of this happened after the architect we hired had delayed the building of the house for 3 or 4 months because of high bids. Finally, in exasperation because of the delay, we did ask the architect to withdraw, so we could proceed with the house, and then the series of events that were listed above, took place.

But yet, good news. Now, the weather is cooperating more. All of the dry walls are up and finished. The rooms are all finished, the windows put in, and soon the final flooring will start. We're told the brick work will start in 3 weeks.

Suddenly, and magically, the house is seeming to grow in front of our eyes, and Robin and I are besides ourselves with excitement at the progress now being made. We had hoped to move in in January, and then February, and then March. Now, we have our fingers crossed, and we feel that we will be able to move in finally in April.

And Robin and I wish that we could share our excitement over these events with all of you. Every time we go up, we marvel that we are going to have such a nice home, and we wish that you could see

the view. We will have a view in all directions except east. And we can see about 30 miles in 2 directions. And, when we go in the unfinished house and marvel that it is to be ours, and when we look at the view, we know that it was worth every bit of the trials and tribulations involved.

And of course, when we do get in, there will be months and months before we are completely settled. We hope to weave all of the drapes for our own home, and do many other things. If any of you do come this way, we'll be glad to talk about our wonderful new home, and if you'd like to see it, we'll be glad to share it with you.

This is quite a digression from the fact that this is a weaving bulletin, but everyone does ask about the house progress, and we hope that you're not bored too much with our story.

And now, a further report on our trip or tour to England, Scotland, and Switzerland.

After two weeks in England and Scotland, we flew to Switzerland for the last week of the tour. For this week, the sun came out and we had the most beautiful weather of the whole trip. I had some personal friends in Switzerland in a small town along Lake Zurich, and our first day in Switzerland, they did invite all 16 of us to visit their factory where they did the most unusual wood work. It was at this small factory that we purchase the most beautiful wood necklaces that we've sold during these past 10 years. After a tour thru their factory showing us how they make their necklaces, they invited us into their home on the top floor of the apartment house they have converted into their factory. And there we were greeted with an outstanding Swiss dinner. They were so nice to all 18 of us, it was just unbelievable. And you could look out of the windows of

their apartment and look out over Lake Zurich and at the beautiful mountains on all sides of the lake. It was a memorable visit.

And then began a memorable week of most unusual beauty in scenery and in outstanding treatment of our group by the studios and factories we had arranged to visit.

We visited the Ramie Mill, the Woolen Mill, and the Linen Mill. All these were so modern and clean that you could eat off the floor if you wished to do so. And the mountain scenery was just beyond belief. We went to Brienz, the wood carving center of Switzerland, and visited a wood-carving school. We rode across the rolling hills into the mountain area of Appenzell, and I myself feel this is one of the most beautiful areas of Switzerland. Then we went on to Grindelvald, where the American Ski team has trained in the past for the winter Olympics. Here in the little town of Grindelvald, about 5,000 feet high in the Swiss Alps, we took a chair-lift ride which was about 45 minutes to the top of one of the mountains, 10,000 high. It was a bright and sunny day, perfect for sight-seeing, and the top of the mountain was most spectacular.

Then on to Lake Lucerne, and we stayed at Lucerne, Switzerland. Still the beautiful weather was ours to enjoy, and we visited a couple of the Swiss home handicraft centers in the hinterlands of Switzerland. In one of these, at Innerkirchen, the ladies in the weaving studio were wearing their traditional Swiss costumes for us to see, and then they demonstrated their techniques of weaving the bright borders in their traditional costumes. From here, we had a short drive through part of Southern Switzerland, and an exciting bus ride over Grimsel pass and into the southern portion, where we found palm trees growing. This was part of the French area of Switzerland. Then back to Zurich for a final day of shopping, and alas, a plane home to America.

TEQUILA SUNRISE

This interesting 4 harness weave is from a sample suggested by Karen Gartner in Anaheim, California, from one of her experimental warps that she loves to work with. We thought it would make nice clothing or skirt material.

THREADING DRAFT:

4	X	X		X	X	
3			X			X
2				X	X	X
1	X	X				X

WARP:

Our warp is the 2/18's worsted in color #17, Sunkiss Orange.

WEFT:

In the weft, we have two colors of the 2/18's worsted. First is color #26, Light Yellow, and second is color #17, Sunkiss Orange.

REED USED

A 15 dent reed was used and it was double sleyed, 2 ends per dent, or 30 ends per inch.

WIDTH ON LOOM & LENGTH OF WARP:

Our loom was set up 40" wide, plus 8 selvage threads on each side. We did a 13 yard warp, and from this we received 11 yards and 30" of woven fabric. So, the loom take up, loom waste, and loss in weaving came to 1 yard and 6 inches in the 13 yard warp.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

It is a very simple, easy treadling, with just 6 shots in each complete pattern repeat. Here is the sequence:

1. Treadle #3 — Lt. Yellow 2/18's
2. Treadle #4 — Lt. Yellow 2/18's
3. Treadle #1 — Lt. Yellow 2/18's

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



4. Treadle #4 — Lt. Yellow 2/18's
5. Treadle #2 — Sunkiss Orange 2/18's
6. Treadle #4 — Sunkiss Orange 2/18's

END OF ONE COMPLETE PATTERN REPEAT. Do repeat over and over as desired.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

First of all, I want to tell you that we have not washed and pressed our sample. It would look even nicer if it were washed and pressed. I'd wash it in the tub, in luke-warm water with Ivory Snow or a good

soap, rinse thoroughly, and then allow it to drip dry, and then give it a good steam pressing.

This fabric should make a nice skirt or dress material, or light weight woman's suiting material. You should wash and press it before you make it up.

There were no problems with the weaving. We did have 8 threads on each side of a 3/18's nylon stitching twine for selvage.

It does come down narrower in the width if you do not use a temple. With our selvage, it was 40" plus selvage wide. Without a temple or stretcher, when taken off the loom it comes down to about 36½" width. We used a stretcher for some of it, and we increased our width in the finished fabric to about 38½" width from the 40½" width on the set-up.

It is really not necessary to use the stretcher if you have a selvage such as we did. These selvage threads were not wound onto the warp beam, but 8 ends were wound onto one spool, each 13 yards long, and this was weighted and allowed to hang over the back beam of the loom. Thus, you have no problems with a wool warp, with nylon selvage threads.

Easy to weave. No problems whatsoever.

COST OF THE THREADS USED

The 2/18's worsted is supposed to have 5040 yards per lb. It has just slightly less. Comes primarily on 1/2 lb. tubes, and it is \$12.00 per lb. We have 39 colors available. We used it in both the warp and weft. The nylon 3/18's we used for selvage comes in assorted colors, is available on 2 oz. tubes, and is \$2.00 per tube. It is also excellent for Macrame, for watch-bands, necklaces, etc.

COST OF THE FABRIC

In our 13 yard warp, 40" wide, we used 2 lbs. 15 oz. of the sunkiss orange 2/18's worsted. At \$12.00 per lb., the total warp cost comes to \$35.25 for the 13 yards, or the cost per yard is \$2.71.

In the weft of 11 yards, 30", we used 1 lb. 9 oz. of Light Yellow, and 10½ oz. of the sunkiss orange, or the total weft amount was 2 lbs. 3½ oz., so the total weft cost was \$26.63. Dividing this by 11 5/6 yards, our weft cost per yard comes to \$2.25 per yard.

Warp cost per yard, 40" wide	\$2.71
Weft cost per yard	\$2.25
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$4.96

This Month's Book Review

We want to tell you about an outstanding little booklet that became available last year. It is a booklet entitled GROWING HERBS AND PLANTS FOR DYEING, by Betty E. M. Jacobs and illustrations by Kathleen Gough. This is a fascinating book, well written, thorough, concise, and extremely easy to understand. It is divided into two sections, and the first section tells you how to grow 23 different herbs and 7 different spices. What is interesting is the organization and detail in this book. There are 30 plants explained, with complete details. There is a little section in the front which says you should read this introduction, and then proceed with the main book content. In this introduction, it tells you the Botanical name, the Botanical family, other names for the same plant in English, Spanish, French, German, and Italian or Russian names as well. It also tells about the life span of these various plants, the natural home of the plant, a description of the plant is given along with a full page drawing of the plant, and then the type of soil, whether it should be moist or dry, facts about sun, shade, and all of the necessary details for one to raise these plants is given. Then it tells when to dig or cut for use in dyeing, how to harvest, what part to use, what materials it will dye, what mordants to use, and what color you will obtain, and details of the fastness of the colors received. It covers a wide gamut of plants, and each one of the 30 is thoroughly explained. Then, part 2 of the book is

devoted to the use of these plants and herbs in the actual dyeing. It tells the equipment you will need to Mordant and Dye your wool, the chemicals you will need to mordant; how to get everything ready; some do's and don'ts of handling wool; quantities to use; how to wash and mordant your wool; how to use 3 of the major mordants; and finally, the last section is on how to dye your wool.

Then there are two appendix's in the book. The first lists the sources and growers of these 30 plants in many different states, and gives their addresses and details about obtaining seeds or plants, etc. The 2nd appendix is also most interesting, as it lists in detail the various books it recommends you read further and study.

I think this is an outstanding study on this subject, and I would recommend it highly.

TITLE: GROWING HERBS AND PLANTS FOR DYEING.

AUTHOR: Betty E. M. Jacobs

PUBLISHER: Select Books

PRICE: \$5.00 plus shipping

AVAILABLE: Direct from the publisher or from Robin & Russ Handweavers if desired.

This Month's Cover Photograph

Many handweavers have become most interested in traditional overshot weaves and in pattern weaving more and more. So, we have this cover photograph of a bedspread displayed at the Northern California Handweavers Conference in 1978.

This is an 8 harness novelty weave, and I believe it is the same weave that we have featured in our multiple harness bulletin, Drafts and Designs, two times in the past 20 years. It made a most outstanding and beautiful bedspread, and is unique, and one of a kind, and that is one of the main reasons why we do hand-weaving.

This was exhibited in the display of the Sacramento Weavers Guild, and the bedspread was woven by Bettie G. Roth. Perhaps she'll write us and tell us exactly what threads she used, so that we can share more of the details with you in a later issue. She called the pattern "Tic Tac Toe."

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR (cont. from page 3)

It was a most outstanding trip, and we have had letters or phone calls from all 16 of the participants telling how much they enjoyed their trip, and they have now asked if I would consider leading a trip to New Zealand and Australia in 1980 or 1981. Who knows. Perhaps time will see us heading into another part of the world.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

TWO 1-WEEK WORKSHOPS

with

Malin Selander

Sweden's leading weaving instructor,
author, and designer

First session: July 2 through July 6, 1979

Second Session: July 9 thru July 13, 1979

This will be a structured workshop, with all the looms warped per Ms. Selander's directions.

The subject of the workshop will be "THICK AND THIN WEAVERS, or TRANSPARENCIES."

First come, first served, on either or both weeks. Price is \$100.00 per week. You can take either one or both weeks if desired.

The 2nd week will be a repetition of the first. If you would like to register, we request a \$25.00 deposit to confirm your registration, and the balance should be paid by June 15.

Further details available upon request.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$6.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

RAYON SEED YARNS IN 5 NEW COLORS

We had 8 or 10 colors before, and have just purchased this lot of 5 new colors. It is on about 1 1/2 lb. tubes, has 1600 yards per lb., and is priced at \$4.00 per lb. The colors are Bronze Gold, Rosey Rust, Gold Nuggett, Pine Green, and Apple Red. About 50 lbs. of each color available. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

A LINEN AND RAYON FINE BOUCLE BLEND

Actually a 2-ply linen with a fine rayon twisted with it to make a nubby yarn. It is available in 2 colors, Dandelion Yellow, and Aqua Ice. It is exceptionally nice quality yarn with about 3200 yards per lb. Came on 2 lb. cones, and we can wind off 1/2 lb. tubes if you wish. Price is \$4.80 per lb. About 50 lbs. of each color. Excellent in drapes, upholstery, table cloths and linens, etc. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

LONG NUB RAYON IN 2 NATURALS

One is called Phantasia, and is the more natural of the two. It came on 2 lb. 4 oz. cones, and is \$4.00 per lb. The other natural is whiter in color and is the same yarn in a color called Ostrich Plume. The whiter of the 2 is in skeins of about 14 oz. each. Both are the same price at \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, Ore. 97128

CREAM OF WHEAT CRUNCH IS A NATURAL SYNTHETIC AND COTTON BLEND IN A FINE BOUCLE

It looks like 2 smooth cotton threads twisted with a white synthetic yarn into a boucle. It has 1250 yards per lb., and is \$3.20 per lb. Should be most interesting if you dye it, as the different threads should take different values of the same color. A good, good buy at \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

FUSCHIA FANTASY, FINE LOOP BRUSHED MOHAIR

This is quite fine with 3400 yards per lb., is a beautiful, striking color and should go beautifully with grey or dark hair. Available on 1/2 lb. tubes, it is \$12.00 per lb. or \$6.00 per 1/2 lb. tubes. An extremely good price for this mohair yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, Oregon 97128

A FINE TURQUOISE, SINGLE PLY, THICK AND THIN, FLAKE WOOL

This one has about 2100 yards per lb., and is a nice weft on the 2/18's or 2/12's worsted warp. It will give a nice texture because of its thick and thin effect. It came on 2 lb. cones, but we can wind off 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$6.00 per lb. About 70 lbs. left. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

A TUSSAH SILK AND VISCOSE BLEND, CALLED TUMBLING TUMBLEWEED #2

We have about 80 lbs. left of this nice silk and viscose blend. It makes a nice weft, and can be used as an occasional warp thread if desired. It came on 3 lb. 4 oz. cones, and is \$6.80 per lb. We can wind off 1/2 lb. tubes if you wish. It has 2400 to 2500 yards per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, Oregon 97128

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WEAVING, by Zielinski

I've used this book for reference many times, and was delighted to see it reprinted in paperback. One of the best reference books the handweaver can find. It is \$4.95 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

STERLING SILVER SPINNING WHEEL PINS OR NECKLACES

These are sterling silver, and are made in a small craft shop in Scotland. There are actually 4 styles available. There is a saxony type pin or a castle type spinning wheel pin. And both of these are also available with a loom to fasten on a chain and to be the main part of a necklace. The price for these "registered" sterling silver, spinning wheels pins is \$22.00 plus postage. Available from Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

KRISPIE KRUNCHIE WITH A BROWN INJECT

This is a linen and rayon blend yarn, with about 750 to 800 yards per lb. If all linen, you could call it 2 1/2 lea size. This is approximately 40% linen 55% rayon, and 5% other fibers. It is a textured, slightly slubby yarn, with a brown injected fiber blended with the linen and rayon. It came to us on about 1 1/2 to 2 lb. cones, and the price is now \$6.00 per lb. Excellent weft for many, many uses. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

NATURAL WHITE HEAVY RAYON FRILL-BOUCLE

A beautiful yarn with many many uses. Came on about 1 3/4 lb. cones, and has 550 yards per lb. Should be excellent in drapery, upholstery, mats, and many others. Price is \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

MINIATURE SHUTTLE PINS WITH ACTUAL BOBIN AND THREAD

Made for us in Switzerland, these are made of Zebrano or Palisander wood from Africa. Zebrano is blond, striped wood, and Palisander is dark, like black walnut. Price of these hand made pins are \$5.95 plus postage. In stock for immediate shipment. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SHUTTLE GUILD MONOGRAPHS OR STUDIES ON VARIOUS TYPES OF WEAVES, ETC.

There are 30 different ones available, ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$6.00 each. If you would like a listing, we would be pleased to send you one. Most in stock, but if not, usually orders can be filled in 2 to 3 weeks for those out of stock. Studies on Double Weave, Surface Interest, Weaving Inkle Bands, and many others. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

