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I joined the VT Weavers Guild this past fall of 2020. I retired from teaching middle school in January of 2021 and was ready to learn to weave. I've wanted to learn since I was a young girl and watched a neighbor weaving on her loom. She let me try throwing the shuttle and to this day, I remember the excitement and desire to have my own loom and to weave. I am thoroughly enjoying learning to weave.



I own one loom, a 4 shaft Schacht Baby Wolf. I've woven three projects, so I am truly a beginner. My first project was a wool scarf that I made while following step by step with a Tom Knisely Beginning to Weave video. I have found video tutorials enormously helpful since I am learning on my own because of the pandemic. The second project was a cotton twill sampler and my third project is a small wool area rug. I'm very intrigued by rug weaving and look forward to trying different types of rugs. Each project teaches me many new things and I can't wait to re-warp and get on to my next project.

Describe your studio

My studio is the former bedroom of one of my four children who has grown and left home. It has great natural light and allows me to have hanging plants in the windows. I love having our large Japanese maple right outside the windows and have had fun watching squirrels climbing



high in its branches, oblivious to my watching them. I love the deep red of its leaves and imagine planning a woven piece using it as inspiration.

I have a few remnants of my teaching career on the walls and bookshelves in my room and they ground me from past life to now. The “Breathe” painting done by a friend feels comfortably familiar, but much less necessary now than when it hung in my classroom as weaving is peaceful and almost meditative.

Describe how the Vermont Weavers Guild has supported your weaving

I look forward to Guild meetings, both the monthly business meetings and the in between drop in sessions because I am learning so much and making friends. Multiple people have reached out to me with offers of supplies to borrow and even supplies from their collection as they clean out their own studios. I know that I have many sources of inspiration and support in the members I’ve gotten to know and my beginning projects are better for the help and support! I cannot wait to meet everyone in person once meetings resume and imagine I will learn more with each contact.



A guild member was kind to suggest the use of a temple and lent hers to me for my rug project. It was invaluable and I am so happy for the advice and support!

Describe other crafts you enjoy

I love to make bread and am enjoying learning to needle felt.



What are you looking forward to in 2021?

I am looking forward to meeting my fellow Guild members this year! Also, I signed up for Dena Moses' *Learn, Build, Create Club* and am excited to build my collection of fiber and to gain more weaving experience with the support of the Club. I hope to take weaving courses in person as well this fall. Finally, one of my daughters is getting married in August and I am looking forward to weaving a set of placemats and napkins for her this summer.

