Exhibit at Runge Nature Center "Inspired by Nature" July through August

The Missouri Department of Conservation has invited the Columbia Weavers and Spinners' Guild to offer an exhibit in their Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City July and August 2016 of works inspired by nature. What a great challenge! We're offering a variety of works, from baskets woven of grape vines to weavings with images of flowers, dragon flies and cranes, to colors and other images from nature. My entries (as though you couldn't guess!) are shawls and wraps dyed with natural dyes using wool raised by a Missouri farmer. Also will be my book *Nature Provides Dyes for Rainbows*. If you happen to be in the central Missouri area this summer, take some time to visit the exhibit. (for info: ginny.k.wallace@gmail.com)

Coreopsis Garden

We have been picking and freezing coreopsis flowers for my dyeing use throughout the coming year. Coreopsis is one of my favorite dyes because we can obtain so many dramatically different colors from one dye bath: yellow, orange, grayed greens, rich browns, and more, depending upon the dye concentration and the mineral salts to pull different colors.

Also in the freezer are elderberries, bidens, and pokeberries — all waiting for when I can catch up on everything else!



Flowers, Coreopsis Shrug, Skeins dyed with Exhausted Dye Baths, File Folder

Color Blending for Square Lap Blanket for Jesse and Danae Wedding

Weaving on the large 5-foot Spriggs Adjustable Square Loom set at the largest setting. I'm color-blending four nature-dyed colors of the Riata 3-ply yarn of silk, mohair and merino wool, in Logwood Lavender (L), Red Logwood Burgundy (R), Indigo Blue (B), and Saxon Green (G).



In planning a color-blending exercise, use graph paper and pencil with eraser. The eraser part is necessary! The 5-foot square loom at the largest of 9 settings has 161 nails along each edge. I plan by nail count. The Riata yarn, at 375 yards per 8 ounces, is just a little heavier than a "worsted weight" yarn — just perfect for a light-weight triangle shawl, but a little light for a warm blanket, so I'm doubling the yarn on approximately every other nail. Doubling on every nail would make the fabric too dense and stiff.

The following chart is by nail count.

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If one is doubling every other nail, then 4 nails means 6 rows, 7 nails means 10 rows, etc.

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G	1		2		3		4		7		4		3		2		1																				27

(Continued on Page 7)

161 nails