NEW RYA STUDY GROUP FORMING!

If you are interested in Norwegian rya traditions, or contemporary expression in this time-honored technique, a new group is forming to study the subject. Judy Ness, textile artist and University of Oregon adjunct weaving instructor, will lead the group. Serving as advisors will be three knowledgeable and experienced researchers and weavers: Ellen Kjellmo, author of Båtrya i Gammel og Ny Tid (Boat Rya, Past and Present), Marta Kløve Juuhl, who addressed the 2005 Decorah conference on rya traditions in her home area of Voss, and Betty Johannesen, Midwestern weaving teacher with a special interest in rya.

Any Guild members who are interested in joining what promises to be a very special study group should contact Judy at judyness@uoregon.edu.

Replica of a rya from Voss Folk Museum, woven by Marta Kløve Juuhl. Marta will serve as an advisor to the new Rya Study Group. (The original Voss rya is pictured in Fig. 9.28 of The Woven Coverlets of Norway.)

Contemporary rya woven by Betty Johannesen features bands of slit tapestry in three colors. A combination of rya wool and 14/4 linen was used for the knots. Three sizes of washers were covered with linen and knotted to hang on the surface.

NORWEGIAN TEXTILE GUILD MEETING AT CONVERGENCE 2006 GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

If you are going to Convergence in Grand Rapids this summer, be sure to attend the Norwegian Textile Guild meeting. Kay Larson will give a presentation on plans for the 2007 Textile Study Tour to Norway and Sweden arranged by Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum. The theme of the tour will be A Common Thread: Norwegian and Swedish Weaving Traditions. The NTG meeting will be held on Friday, June 30 at noon, location to be announced. Please bring your lunch and join us!