

CHIMNEYVILLE WEAVERS' GUILD

September  
AUGUST NEWSLETTER 1981  
(post August meeting)

WE ARE OFFICIALLY the CHIMEYVILLE WEAVERS' GUILD!

The Bylaws and Directives were approved unanimously at the August 8th meeting, with some changes. We will distribute the final version soon, but we won't mail them to save money. There are some points, however, that need to be expanded since they have been questioned and they have been changed:

- 1) The requirement for membership has been reworded; the controversy was mostly about the wording, not the purpose: no-one wants to keep weavers from joining, but we are a guild of weavers. Thus the requirement now reads: minimum weaving experience, by either submission of a sample or a history of weaving courses. This should cover anyone having taken a class or being self-taught.
- 2) The audit committee will automatically include the present Assistant director and the immediate past treasurer.
- 3) The Craftsman Guild Liason will coordinate the Exhibit and the Publicity Committees, rather than to be chairman of both.
- 4) The Community Service and Publicity Committee have become two committees; an Exhibit Committee has been added.
- 5) We all agreed that another committee is needed, Historian, but we did not vote on this. We will in September.

This means that your dues of \$12.00 are now payable; by the grandfather's clause, if you are on our permanent list (i.e. have provided envelopes) you can be a charter member by paying your dues. The deadline is October 1. People not having paid their dues by October 1 will be considered new members and will have to follow procedures to be accepted. All members will have a membership card, charter members will have a charter member card.

SHOWS

Three of our Guild members, Winki Allen, Judy Rayner and Nancy Keyes, are having a show in Meridian, 25th Ave. at 7th St.. Try to attend!

The entire Guild is having a show in Meridian the whole month of October; this is to celebrate Weaving Month and to choose a second piece to represent us at Convergence '82.

Pieces for the show must reach Judy Rayner BEFORE October 1. A sure way is to bring them to the Sept. 12 meeting. Either Judy, Winki or Nancy may be coming to Jackson after that, but not for sure. Pieces may be transported by bus and during the Sept. meeting we will organize the best way to send the pieces to Meridian toward the end of the month. If anyone will be travelling that way, help will be appreciated. Let us know.

Pieces should have hanging instructions. By HGA rules, the piece going to Convergence must be an household item: that is, no clothing or yardage. Just about anything else qualifies; if unsure, check your Shuttle, Spindle and Dyepot or call Marcy Petrini, or better yet Joan Vaughn who was the HGA State Rep when this was being organized. Garments and other items may be submitted for the Meridian show, they just won't qualify for Convergence. Also you may submit items for the show and request that they not be included in the Convergence ballot. However, if we will have space limitations, preference must be given to those pieces in competition for the Convergence spot. If submitting more than one piece, number them in order of preference, again for space reason. Thus, if there is only room for one piece per person, all the # 1 will be hung, for two spots, all the # 1 and 2 will be hung, etc.

If your piece is chosen to go to Seattle, you must submit a slide of your work to the Convergence Committee by November. That's because they'll have to organize the show in Seattle. We will mail the slide from the Meridian show when we mail the slide from the Mississippi Guild Coat piece. HOWEVER, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE A SLIDE OF YOUR PIECE AVAILABLE. Please make sure that it is a professional looking slide.

October 4th, a Sunday, has been chosen as the reception day for our show. (It had to be a Sunday by Gallery request). THIS IS INSTEAD OF THE OCTOBER 11th MEETING. On that day, by secret ballot, we will chose the Convergence piece. However, in order to give every Guild member a chance to vote, voting will be possible till October 11. There will be a list of members at the gallery which each one will sign when we pick up a ballot. Only

Guild members will vote. The ballot will include only those pieces in competition for Convergence. Start weaving!

#### MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST PIECE

Everyone is weaving, some are even done! Please remember that by Sept. 12, at our assembling workshop, the barnacles have to be not only woven, but also shaped (trimmed, sewn, etc.). Judy Rayner suggests that it's easier to first sew, then draw the linen threads to make barnacles. Dianne Davidson has volunteered to help with the sewing anyone who would like to sew barnacles by machine (it's sturdier by machine and it will not show). Call Dianne at 956-7660.

And we need \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$. Marcy will be glad to provide anyone with more flyers. With the Convergence piece two small frames will be hung: one will contain the signatures of the weavers; the other will contain the names of the sponsors, individuals or companies who will have contributed \$50.00 or more. These folks will also have the option to have the piece displayed at a place of their choice, provided it's safe for the piece, for a short period of time (yet undecided), after Convergence. The piece will belong to us, provided we won't get arrested for not paying our bills.

Helen Vorengos of the Clairon Ledger came to our meeting on August 8th and is writing an article about us, which should be coming out AUGUST 18 (hopefully). Buy a copy and use the article for possible contributors! Helen is very interested in following up on this so we should have more publicity when the piece is done. I wonder if they will let us bring the piece in jail with us.

Our treasurer reports that contributions are low: there isn't even enough money for Merrie to open an account!

Marcy thinks that there will be lots of yarn left (which we can't return). She will bring it all at the Sept meeting. Please consider buying some of what will be left after the assembly.

#### PEG MCNAIR WORKSHOP

Our pre-workshop workshop was very successful. Everyone learned to paddle warp. If you couldn't come to the meeting and you are taking Peg's workshop, you DON'T NEED TO PADDLE WARP. This method is best for tension, especially for large pieces, but for a 10" sample it probably won't matter much. Use any method for warping that you are comfortable with. Peg will show us how to paddle warp efficiently, but you must have a warp tied on Friday Aug. 14, 9:00 a.m. Peg sends word NOT TO BE DISCOURAGED WITH THE WORKSHOP, especially if you are a beginner. She says warping is by far the hardest part of the technique and she reassures us that after weaving, you'll think warping worth the trouble.

If you haven't ordered yarn for the workshop, there is PLENTY around. Just call any of the officers. A special thanks to Merrie Osborn, Judy Forster and Sandi Pace for figuring, ordering and dividing the yarn.

#### PEG MCNAIR RECEPTION

There will be a reception honoring Peg McNair on Sunday August 23 7:30 p.m. at Marcy's. You are invited whether you are taking a workshop or not. Also, please invite anyone who you may think would be interested. Since this is a Weavers' Guild first, please help it make is a success. The Craftsman Guild is also helping, and we would really like a good show. Two of Peg's pieces will be available for showing and her slides will be projecting. If you are interested in helping, please call Marcy at 987-5573 (day) or 957-1423. The reception will be at 950 Fairfax Circle, off Adkins Blvd. (which is off Rigde-wood). Call Marcy for specific directions.

#### A WORD FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

First of all I would like to thank Joan Vaughn and Merrie Osborn for holding us together through last year and hard times; and I would like to thank Dan Overly and Mar, Nichols for the help and especially for their patience during our shaky beginnings.

This Guild means a lot to me because it gives me the inspiration to weave (or is it the pressure of deadlines?). But I can only help to coordinate the effort of others.



We are a small Guild; we cannot afford to have inactive members. We will all have to pitch in and do everything, from leading workshops to licking stamps.

I think the worst of the organizing is over -- thanks to the effort of several people. We haven't agreed on everything and we won't. We couldn't possibly. (who picked those sea greens for barnacles, anyway? Barnacles are purple). But I hope that we at least agree with the overall goals, so that we can accept the majority's wishes on small everyday matters and that we won't toss the baby with the bath water.

There are some specific things that I hope we can accomplish this year, things that hopefully will get us going in the right direction.

- 1) I would like us to have organized business meetings and to the point; then go on with the weaving. I'm not saying that business meeting are not important; they are necessary evils. But if we can concentrate with one item at the time, we can solve problems, discuss alternatives, appoint people to do the real work between meetings, we can get a lot more done, during and between meetings. I hope you agree with me.
- 2) I hope to have serious programs and workshops. We've got a lot done on the 8th, and that's the way it should be. But we have had some flops in the past. By having separate business and workshops some of this can be avoided. When I gave a workshop in the spring, sometimes I had the feeling I was talking to myself because there were all sorts of other things going on at the same time. I felt frustrated while attending other workshops (although I feel I've learned a lot), because people's attention was attracted to other things. Maybe in the future we should have a workshop and a coffee hour somewhere else, at the same time, for those people who want to talk about weaving, but don't want to attend the workshop. What do you think about this?
- 3) I would like to see us have programs other than workshops: for example, a photographer to teach us to take professional looking slides of our work; someone to teach us how to have a portfolio; different aspects of fiber work, for example, what does a museum conservationist do?; programs on weaving of other countries (I know a lady who has hand-woven silk kimonos, I'm sure other people know of other works from other countries). I think it is fun to weave, but I also think that it is also fun to learn about other aspects of weaving. Also, it is often from these sources that we can get ideas for our weaving.
- 4) And finally, I really hope that everyone really finds something that they would like to do to make this Guild work. I've enclosed membership sheets. Please fill them out and send them to me as soon as possible, or at least bring them to the meeting. I would really like to see committees organized soon. Please volunteer for whatever you would like to do, and remember that in some cases, you will be that committee, since there are only a handful of people. If you work all day, there are some things that can be done at night or weekends; if you are at home and not very mobile, there are loads of very time-consuming daytime phone calling to do that cannot be done by <sup>day</sup> working folks. If you are a busy person, well, you know what they say about getting things done, ask a busy person (maybe that's an Italian saying).

There are two groups of people whom I am particularly concerned about (from experience, since it has happened to me): the novice weavers who think that just because they can't weave 24 harness damask, they couldn't possibly contribute to the Guild. If you think that, that's nonsense. If somebody has made you feel that way, I certainly apologize. And if you are a superweaver, remember that we were not born that way and that there were times when none of us even knew what a shuttle was. And a couple of weeks ago some of us didn't know what a paddle was (and now some wish they didn't). The other group of people I am concerned about is the new members -- whether they'd be new or seasoned weavers. Most of us have now worked together for a year or so; we know each other, we have made new friends, we have started together so it was a lot easier to get to know people. And it is human nature to feel more comfortable with the folks we know than to reach out to someone new. I am guilty of this, I know. But I promise I will make an effort to make the new people feel welcomed. I've known what is like to walk in to a Guild meeting and nobody caring enough to even say hello. And I hope that everyone else will talk to a new person appearing at our meeting and get her/him volunteered to a committee. And if you are a new member, please remember that often is not because of rudeness that people won't be friendly, they probably feel just



as intimidated as you do.

I've said it all (I don't plan to do this on a regular basis -- know you know why I set time limits on agendas!)

Happy Weaving,  
Marcy Petrini

#### MEETINGS

Executive Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. Sept. 12 Chimneyvill Annex; to form Committees

Weavers Guild Meeting 10:00 a.m. Sept 12 Chimneyvill Annex (hopefully, if not try next door) Agenda below.

October meeting: special October 4th reception for Meridian show. No October 11th meeting. Details next bulletin.

#### AGENDA

- 10:00 Future programs and Workshops Winki Allen
- 10:15 Meridian Show update Judy Rayner
- 10:30 Convergence piece left over yarn: what will we do with it? Marcy Petrini
- 10:40 Treasurer's report Merrie Osborn (hopefully there will be something to report)
- 10:50 Feedback of Peg McNair's workshop; bring your comments or let Judy Rayner know
- 11:00 Historian Committee is needed; voting from last meeting discussion; Marcy Petrini
- 11:10 October is weaving month; what else are we doing?
- 11:30 Show and Tell; this time I hope to have a show and tell table
- 11:45 Lunch at Chimneyville
- 12:15 Workshop: Assembly of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Piece, Winki Allen and Judy Rayner. Even if you didn't weave part of it, we'll need all the help we can get with the assembly.