

FEBRUARY 1989 NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY MEETING:

DATE: Saturday, February 25, 1989

TIME: 9:30- Board  
10:00- General

PLACE: Craftsman's Guild (Crafts Building)  
MS. Museum of Agriculture  
1150 Lakeland Dr.  
Jackson, MS

PROGRAM: Weaving Puppets, by Marcy Petrini-- see attachment  
and come prepared to participate

PARKING: Park near Smith-Wills Stadium by the Visitors Center  
and walk across the bridge. You won't have to pay  
to get into to Crafts Building, which is on the right.

PLEASE NOTE: The date of the meeting is not our usual 3rd  
Saturday, because of a conflict with the Craftsman's  
Guild meeting. Please help spread the word of the  
change to those who may not have gotten a newsletter.

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JANUARY MEETING

The board met at 9:30 January 21 and discussed topics to be presented  
at the General meeting.

During the General meeting we discussed doing a "Sheep-to-shawl"  
demonstration at the Agriculture Museum in the spring; Tina Bradford  
said she would check on specifics for this.

We discussed the possibility of changing our meeting place to the  
Craftsman's Guild building at the Ag Museum. Marcy Petriin offered  
to act as a go-between and see the CG directors about this. A  
move would enable us to have workshops and programs extending past  
our present 12:00 deadline, might allow us to develop a Guild library  
or invest in equipment, and would make it possible to the spinners  
or other "special interest" groups to get together after the regular  
meeting.

Sandi Tucker, director, appointed Marcy Petrini and Margaret Williard  
as nominating committee to make nominations for the positions of  
director, vice director (program chairman) and secretary. Historian  
is filled as it is a two year post, and Melanie Hays, who was  
appointed to complete the term of Susan Dignam, agreed to fulfill  
the second year of the Treasurer's positim.

Hazel Howell, Melanie Hays, Marcy Petrini, and Tina Bradford were appointed to the Library Committee to look into the suggestions for beginning. The Guild voted to give this committee the authority to act on our behalf in following through in whatever manner they deem appropriate in the matter of the library.

We discussed the location of our 1990 show; we had not received any word from the board of the Municipal Art Gallery yet, and suggestions for other places were entertained.

Amy Evans reminded us that it is time to renew HGA memberships, and mentioned the benefits of belonging to HGA including Convergence 1990 in San Jose, California.

Judy Foster presented a program on name drafting, using various techniques. Handouts were provided, along with samples to look at and a good dose of inspiration.

A reminder was made that dues need to be paid now!

We welcomed back two new/old members: Winki Allen, and Nancy Keys Landrum, both of Meridian.

*Marsha Harris*

Marsha Harris, Secretary

WEAVING CLASSES REGISTRATION  
The Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi  
Agriculture and Forestry Museum  
1150 Lakeland Dr.  
Jackson, MS 39216

Please write legibly!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Evening phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ Beginning class beginning March 6, 1989

\_\_\_\_\_ Project class beginning February 20, 1989

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your place will be reserved when this form and payment for \$75 is received. Please keep the class description sheet as a remainder of the class schedule; you will be notified only if the class is cancelled.

WEAVING A PUPPET FOR FUN  
(But not necessarily for profit)

I have made puppets 3 different directions: 1) warp-wise length of puppet, single width; 2) warp-wise length of puppet, double width; 3) weft wise length of puppet. Here is a case where a picture (well, 3 really) is worth 1,000 words, so we'll go through each case. But first some general guidelines.

A) Yarns: just about anything will do; sett the warp appropriate for the yarn. I don't use anything really fat or sticky. Often I use rya knots, so at least part of the warp will be covered; and thrums are wonderful for the rya knots.

B) Weaving structure: if I am going to make a puppet for the puppet's sake, I use plain weave and embellish with knots. However, if I want to try a totally new weave for which I don't know what to expect, I make it the size of a puppet; I guess it is my answer to sampling. Puppets are very forgiving: no such thing as too stiff, too limb, etc. All puppets can be loved. I also make puppets with left over warp at the end of a project.

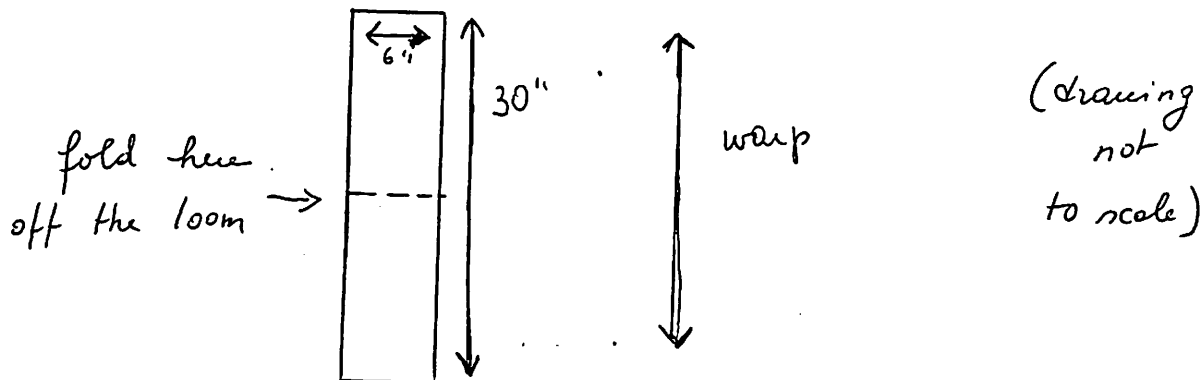
C) Loom: Rya knots can be slow and can tie (hee hee) your loom up for a while. Frame looms, tapestry looms, inkle looms, rigid heddles are good alternatives. In fact, you may need to make a puppet when your floor loom has an interminable project on it, so having one of those alternative looms is a great idea. If I am using my floor loom, I usually weave more than one puppet on one warp, especially since the loom waste would be almost bigger than the puppet. In this case, don't forget to wind enough warp for fringes on each puppet that you are planning to make. Another advantage of the alternative looms: portability.

D) Finishing the puppet: I always weave the face plain and then add eyes, nose, mouth and tongue, depending on the puppet personality, off the loom. It could be done on the loom, if so desired. An easy way to make the mouth is to make a 1/2" to 1" pleat at the end of the face. Crochet red tongues are my favorite.

E) Finishing the fabric: as always, I finish the puppet fabric for the worse case scenario. If this is going to be a gift for a small child, I wouldn't make it out of Merino wool. Because rya knots can be bulky, machine drying is often preferable. The puppet will become a trusted friend, and we all know that we can't sit around and wait for our friend to be air dried.

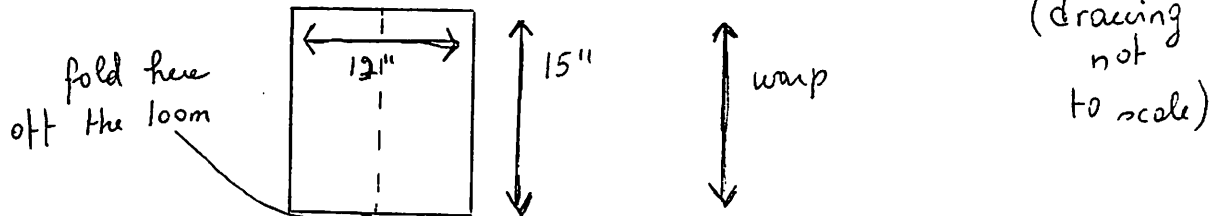
And now for the specifics. The measurements given are for the warp and take into account approximately 10% for take-up and 10% shrinkage and a bit for seams. Given the nature of the project, dimensions are not crucial! And of course, the order of the weaving usually doesn't matter (front or back could be woven first, for example).

1) Warp-wise length of puppet, single width.



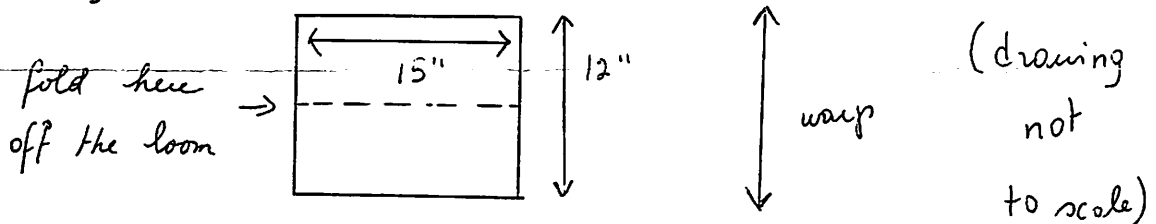
Weave 10" for the back (showy, with rya knots); weave 5" plain for the face; weave 15" for the tummy, showy or not, depending on the puppet future life (a couch potato puppet will lie flat better than one with knots on its tummy). Use the loom waste on the front and back for additional pizzazz (if making more than one puppet don't forget that you don't have loom waste for each side of each puppet).

2) Warp-wise length of puppet, double width.



Weave 10" for body; if only the back is to be showy, only half the width could have knots; this works OK for a puppet or two, but it can cause tension problems with a long warp. The weave 5" for the face. Use loom waste for fringe. The seam will be right at the mouth; I like to leave a little of the warp threads showing as "teeth".

3) Weft-wise length of puppet. Make knots only on 10" of the width, leaving 5" on one side for the face. If weaving more than one puppet, alternate the face side (left or right). This, too, will cause tension problems with a long warp. My least favorite one to do a puppet, but useful at the end of a warp as only 12" of weaving are needed.



#### FOR THE PROGRAM

Bring a loom dressed for type 1 puppet above (6" wide, 30" long). If you have an inkle, portable tapestry, rigid heddle or table loom, use it. If not, a simple frame loom can be inexpensively made by buying parts for a frame. (Herb's Frame Shop on Old Canton Rd., in the shopping center next to Everyday Gourmet has frames to be assembled; one of the ladies there even knows about frame weaving). I will probably demonstrate on a frame. I will have assorted yarns, but you are welcomed to bring any thrums that you may like to try (get rid of). If you use a frame, it helps to attach a flat ruler at the bottom or top to keep the sett more even.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE: 40" Eight harness Macomber loom, 4 reeds, umbrella swift, bobbin winder, warping board, all kinds of shuttles, bobbins, all you need to dress the loom. Many yarns, including Halcyon rug wools. Complete weaver's library-- some out of print and hard to find books plus years of issues of weaving magazines. Also studio shelving. This is really a weaver's studio. Value \$2,500. Make an offer. Please contact: Lynn Coleman, 222 Shenandoah Road, Brandon, MS 39042 Home phone 601-992-4162, Office 601-354-1102.

YOGA STRETCH CLASS

Excellent for weavers

Classes focus on posture, stress release, toning and firming, increasing mobility and flexibility and reversing the aging process, naturally. (Classes at: Reflection Pointe Apt. Clubhouse Lakeland Drive -- Mondays

St. Philip's Episcopal Church  
Old Canton Rd. -- Tuesdays)

Details: Call Judith Valerie  
856-9647

FOR SALE: 12-harness, 14-treadle, 60" width LeClerc loom. No bench. Three reeds- 10,8, and 6 dent. Fly-shuttle attachment, 2 shuttles, patterns, and book. \$1250. Also, 22" 4-harness, 6-treadle Macomber loom. 12-dent reed. \$250. No shipping. Joan Goodman, Rt. 2, Box65-C, Pelahatchie 39145. Phone 854-8043



Harris  
141 Hebron Hills Drive  
Brandon, MS 39042



MARCY PETRINI  
950 FAIRFAX CIRCLE  
JACKSON, MS 39211