

## CHIMNEYVILLE WEAVER'S GUILD

FEBRUARY 1994 NEWSLETTER

Director: Nancy Landrum  
Vice-Director: Marva Goodman  
Secretary: Heather Gillis  
Treasurer: Eileen Wagar  
Historian: Beth Arrington

### January Meeting

The January meeting was held January 15, 1994 at the weaving studio in the Chimneyville Crafts gallery. Sandi Tucker presented an informative program on sewing handwovens. She brought some of her handwovens she had sewed for demonstration. Later that afternoon she and Hazel Howell shared patterns and suggestions for those adventuresome ones who wanted to sew their handwovens.

Jane Dollar brought a guest weaver, Joyce Kille-Marino from Starkville to the meeting.

### Treasurers Report

Eileen Wagar informed the guild that she and Frank would be moving to New Orleans in the near future. The date has yet to be set. We'll miss her very much- especially her wonderful baking!

### Show and Tell

CWG members have been very busy lately. We had many show and tell items. Marva Goodman, who had been teaching a basket class at Allison Wells, brought a handwoven heart basket she made. Nancy Landrum had fabric for a jacket and Debbie Stringer brought a knitted scarf made with eyelash yarn she got at Chimneyville. Tina Bradford has been knitting headbands and Barbara Mitchell finished her fabric for a ruana. Margaret Pittman is continuing to work on overshot and had a beautiful overshot runner with border stripes. Hazel Howell made some luggage straps on her inkle loom as a gift for the friends who loaned us their cottage during ROC Day. CWG's newest member, Laura Mullins, completed her first twill scarf.

### Felting Workshop

Julia Kubat's felting workshop was scheduled for 4/16/94 at 9:00am at Hazel howells. The guild voted to hold our business meeting at Hazel's at 4:00 pm and then go to supper at a local restaurant at 6:00 pm.

### Logo and Name Change

Debbie Stringer moved that the name change be decided first and the logo chosen the next month. This would allow people to tie the name into the logo design if they chose to. The motion passed. The process we will use to decide both is the same. These are the names suggested so far:

CHIMNEYVILLE FIBER GUILD  
CHIMNEYVILLE WEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILD  
MISSISSIPPI FIBER FUNATICS  
CHIMNEYVILLE FIBER ARTS GUILD

The vote will be taken at the February meeting. If you can't come to the meeting, call or send your vote by someone. This is an informal choice. The name that is chosen will be voted on as an Amendment to the By-Laws. The same procedure will be followed in March for the Logo.

### Library Equipment

Marva Goodman moved that CWG buy used pieces of equipment for the library that members can check out. She suggested we start with a loom and spinning wheel.

After discussion about checking it out for home and demo use the motion was amended to add that a committee be formed to investigate and present findings to guild members prior to purchasing any equipment. The motion passed. Debbie Stringer has offered to contact other guilds to find out how then loan equipment and rules and regulations.

### Spinners

The spinners are invited to get together and spin a Lu Hardings on 2/18/94 at 6:30 pm. She will have an entree, bring salad, vegetables or desert. Contact Lu to confirm.

### Wanted

Nancy Landrum is looking for a roommate to share her hotel room at Convergence, 7/1/94. Contact her if interested.

Any one with equipment for sale please contact Chimneyville Weavers Guild c/o/

Heather Gillis

507 Boardwalk Blvd

Ridgeland, Ms 39157

Don't forget our next meeting, February 19, 1994 and the weaving studio. The Board meeting is a 9:30 am and the regular meeting, 10:00 am.

## **A word from the Education Committee about the name change**

I am well aware that we need to change our name to reflect our inclusive nature. My concern is that we use the appropriate term so as not to cause confusion, or dilute our efforts.

The term *Fiber* is generally applied to guilds and exhibits that include items made with fibers: spinning, weaving, dyeing, felting, basketweaving, knitting, crocheting, tatting, papermaking. This is in contrast to the term *Textile* which includes most of the above, but is broader and incorporates quilting, surface design, stitching, sewing, etc.

It is not necessarily that we would want to exclude other textile artisans, but we want to be careful as not to encroach in the territory of other groups; there already exists a stitchery guild in Jackson, to whom quilters also belong; the surface design group used to exist in Jackson, but it dissolved because of disorganization; other related groups have also died. Nationally, I am aware of a surface design organization, knitters organization, quilters, and stitching, besides our HGA.

Since I am one of the original founders of our guild, I would like to remind you that when we started, the name Chimneyville was chosen not because we were primarily from Jackson; in fact, our original membership was even broader geographically; the name was chosen because we were Jackson based - and we still are. Also, the name has character, I think. After more than 10 years, we also have name recognition, not only in the Gulf States area, but also nationally. So, I hope we don't throw away the baby with the water.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Petrini

## February Program

**HELP HELP HELP HELP**

Do you have some lovely yarns you would like to use, but you just can't quite decide how to use them?

Is there a project you want to weave--you just don't know what weave structure or sett would be best?

Do you have a project almost planned--just your colors, or yarns aren't quite right?

Do you have a question or a project about which you would really like some helpful advise?

Let's get together and help each other for our February program. Here is your chance to let your weaving be seen through someone else's eyes. This may even give us a new lease on life or just a hand up from the Winter Doldrums.

**DO THIS:** Bring yarns for which you desire suggestions from others. Write down the plans or ideas that you have formulated so far. List the points which you would like others to consider when giving their advise.

I will provide forms for everyone to use. We will all spend some time pouring over the materials brought and try to come up with helpful advise. A detailed project plan with specific epi, length, etc., will not be our goal--just, hopefully, some interesting, helpful, information.

## **DON'T FORGET YOUR SHOW 'N TELL**

**FELTING WORKSHOP:** I have received a letter from Julia Kubat confirming the Felting Workshop on April 16. Hazel has offered her backyard. Fee for the one day workshop will be \$250, which will include the materials for up to 10 participants. Julia will be carding batts of wool and will have choices of 4 colors: black, grey, and 2 other colors (such as maroon or blue). She would like for us to let her know if we have special color preferences by March 15. It would be helpful to have drum carders available for blending of colors. If you have one, please bring it. Also, **WASHBOARDS** are needed--Julia has two.

Each participant needs to bring: 7" diameter bowl, 3-3½ high -- with no handles  
1-2 towels  
bucket or large bowl for rinsing  
scissors, straight pins, measuring tape or ruler

At this point, I have seven who have paid \$25 for the workshop. There is still space for three more. Those who have paid are: Lou Harding, Nancy Landrum, Carol Parks, Hazel Howell, Sandy Tucker, Joyce Kille-Marino, Marva Goodman. If you would like to attend, please let me

know as soon as possible.

**A great big THANKS to Sandy Tucker for her program on Tailoring Your Handwovens in January. This should give us all the courage and incentive to weave and sew something special.**

**DYING TO DYE? Would you like to spend a few days --or maybe a weekend dying and blending wool? I have a friend who offered her home, basement, and wool for a group to come and dye. If you are interested, we could spend some time at the next guild meeting talking about a trip. I, for one, could have my bag packed and in the car in about 15 minutes.**

## SEWING HANDWOVENS

Sandi Tucker for Chimneyville Weavers Guild

January 15, 1994

- I. If you have good skills, the two most important factors in making clothing from handwovens are:
  - (A) Common sense
  - (B) Overcoming fear

*(B is hardest, because there is so much at stake! The good news is that B can be overcome by A.)*
  
- II. **PLAN!** If garment is to be tailored, it is best to select pattern first and weave accordingly. If loom is too narrow for required yardages, cut pattern pieces apart and lay them out as efficiently as possible within your width limits. *(Watch out for the number of pieces required!)* Measure the area and add a generous amount for takeup and shrinkage, and weave what is needed. Or you may prefer to weave double-width. If the garment is to be loom-shaped, be generous with the warp and weft. It always seems to require more than you thought, or weaves up less than you thought.
  
- III. **TIME TO CUT** *(aaaagh!!)*
  1. Full fabric to the limit of acceptance and practicality. You don't want any surprises the first time you wash the finished garment.
  2. Press, and let dry thoroughly. There is always a little moisture in a newly pressed piece.
  3. Lay out pattern pieces on folded fabric. Check them. Check again. Again. On fold? Bias? Good use of woven edges? Provision for required number of pieces? Are you sure? Then leave it for a while. *(You'll feel better when you come back...)*
  4. The mechanics of cutting depends on weight of fabric. Common sense to the rescue! Pinking shears usually not required. Pin at edges through all thicknesses? Pin in center, trace in chalk? Glance over layout again.  
  

Then pick up the scissors. *(Forget the whole thing unless they are designed to be used for fabric, are used only for fabric, and are very sharp and smooth-operating.)* Take a deep breath, hold it, then start cutting. *(It helps the psyche to begin with a small piece.)*
  
- IV. **HANDLING THE PIECES.** Handle the cut pieces as little as possible, sliding your hand under them and holding them flat on your palm. Protect the edges from everything, even each other!
  1. With a scrap, test your sewing machine settings: feeding pressure, length of stitch, kind of stitch. Look at each kind before deciding what to use.
  2. Most often it is best to zigzag or serge stitch around edges of pieces before stitching them together; if curved or bias edges stretch and look ruffled, then it will probably be best to sew the seam on the allowance and then machine overcast. The scrap will dictate. (Of course, if you have a serger this problem is solved for you.) At this point you will also decide whether you want to use a full 5/8 inch seam allowance, or if a narrow seam of some type is best.
  3. Consider the hand of the fabric and look at the pattern to discern where seams will need to be reinforced, and with what. Decide on interfacing, if needed.

**BE FLEXIBLE--LET THE FABRIC TALK TO YOU!** You may have to change a point or two to accommodate the fabric's characteristics. That's fine, too. Don't try to force it to do or be what it isn't!

## THE HUNDRED YARD RULE

Mark off a 10 1/2 inch knitting needle in 1", 2", and 3" measurements. For fine yarns, one inch will be enough to determine amounts, but for heavier or textured yarn, two or more inches will give a better average.

**METHOD:** catch one end of yarn on needle with a bit of tape and wind yarn around needle without stretching; 1 inch for fine yarn, 2-3 inches for heavier or textured yarn. Count the number of wraps per inch and multiply by 100. This will give you the approximate yardage needed for an average adult sweater. For smaller or larger than average sized adults or for children, use the rules listed below for more accurate yardage.

### SIZE ADJUSTMENTS:

Child, size 26 or less - medium yardage minus 30 per cent.  
Extra small adult, size 26 - medium yardage minus 20 per cent.  
Small, size 32-34 - medium yardage minus 20 per cent  
Medium - use standard 100 yard rule.  
Large, size 40-42 - medium yardage plus 10 per cent.  
Extra large, size 44-46 - medium yardage plus 20 per cent.

**EASEMENT:** For great ease (looser sweater) or longer than average length, add 10 per cent more yarn.

**TEXTURE:** Sweaters that are heavily textured, add 20 per cent.

**VESTS:** Sleeveless vests take about 10 per cent less yarn.

**COLOR STRANDING:** Add up to 50 per cent, and reduce the main color when adding other colors. Actual adjustments depend upon the area covered by the design.

**YARN INTERCHANGES:** Make an equal number of wraps of each yarn over 2 - 3 inches to obtain amount of difference between yarns.

**HANDSPUN YARNS:** Wrap yarn from various areas of handspun to obtain an average measurements.

**YARN SAMPLE:** Braid yarn

**SPINNER:** Ruth Weidle

**FIBER:** dyed merino and natural cotton blend

### DIRECTIONS:

This was made in the Sue Beevers workshop at SOAR '93. It is made by plying 2 plied yarns.

1. singles yarn spun S
2. Z ply this yarn, placing additional spin on it while plying
3. Then, S ply the Z plied yarn.

Compliments of The Choctawhatchee Bay Spinners' Guild



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JR, MS 39211