Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild

Summer 1996 newsletter

CWSG Calendar

July 13-20 HGA Convergence Portland, Oregon

July 27
Summer get-together
Nancy Landrum's,
10 a.m., Meridian
We'll meet at the Ag
Museum parking lot at 8
a.m. to caravan to Nancy's.
See map in this newsletter.

Aug. 1 and Sept. 5 Study group

Marcy's house 6:30 refreshments 7:00 study

> Sept. 20 Spin-in

Deborah Levine's house (please RSVP, 362-6694)

Sept. 21 Guild meeting

Nov. 1-3
"Pushing the Plain
Out of Plain Weave"

A workshop by Donna Lee Sullivan in Ocala, Fla. Cost \$100. For info contact The Creative Hand Studio, 3675 NE 36th Ave., Unit B, Ocala, FL 34479; (352) 629-2529.

We finish our loom-woven baskets!

The eight brave souls who took part in Hazel Howell's loom-woven basket project met in her gorgeous backyard in early June (her daylilies were stunning) to finish our baskets.

At our January meeting, Hazel had given us basket reed, instructions and plenty of encouragement; we used all three in weaving our basket webs later at home. We agreed to meet in June to glue, clamp and weave the webs into baskets under Hazel's supervision. (It must be said here that some of us had never made a basket and knew not what we were getting into.)

In a nutshell, the weaving on the loom involved alternating shots of flat and oval reeds with weft of our choice at regular intervals, per Hazel's instructions. Hazel devised this basket design herself after much experimentation—and frustration, she said.

When we basketeers arrived at Hazel's, webs in hand, we were delighted with the variety of colors and fibers everyone had chosen for her basket. Veteran basketweaver Marva Goodman used rag strips and dyed reed, all in gorgeous soft colors. Nancy Landrum got a dramatic, ethnic look by using chocolate brown and ivory horsehair. Melba Nipper made matching mug rugs of the rag weft she used in her basket.

All the baskets turned out beautiful, after hours of hard work as Hazel coached while we wove our webs into baskets. (Her frozen tea renewed our resolve at weak moments.)

But it's not over. At our gathering at Nancy Landrum's July 27, Hazel will show us the crowning touch: finishing the handle with braid.

A million thanks, Hazel, for patiently and bravely taking on this chore of teaching a bunch of inexperienced (most of us, anyway), bumbling basketmakers.

I, personally, have a new understanding of and respect for basketmaking, and though my loom-woven basket is far from perfect, I'm proud of it. (The experience also reacquainted me with my Baby Wolf, who looked at me and said, "Who the heck are you?")

—Debbie Stringer

See you at Nancy's!

We'll let Nancy catch her breath from Convergence before we converge on her July 27 for a summer get-together. This is not a formal meeting, just a fun time at Nancy's wonderful home in Meridian. We'll meet at the Ag Museum parking lot in Jackson at 8 a.m. to caravan to Nancy's. (If you're coming from another direction, see map.)

Note from the director

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by checks not deposited in a timely manner in the Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild account.

If your check is not cashed by the bank due to the time delay, we would appreciate it if you would re-submit it. Please send checks to Margaret Pittman, 5875 Baxter Drive, Jackson, MS 39211 with a note stating what it is for. Margaret, our new treasurer, promises to be prompt, and our balance will be available at our first fall meeting, Sept. 21.

-Kathy Cohron

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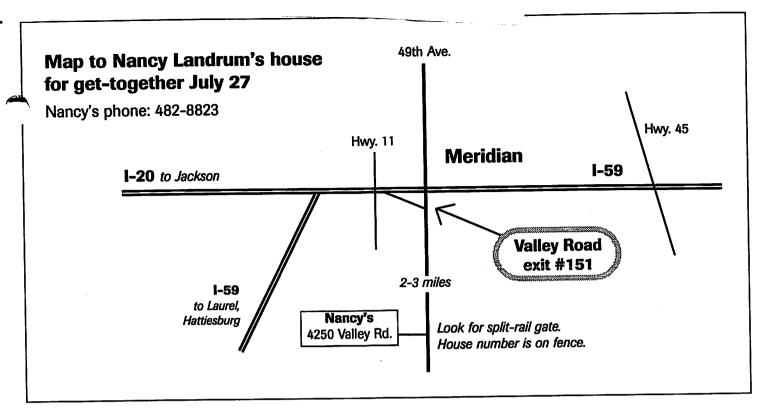
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Learn to knit and purl

Knitter Deborah Levine will teach a knitting class for any skill level in September. Call her at (601) 362-6694 if you're interested.

For sale

Like new 36-inch Harrisville loom. Good beginner loom. Call for price.

Barbara Mitchell, Jackson (601) 362-4570

LeClerc 4-harness counterbalance with sectional warp beam. Inca model. Good condition, with accessories. Call or write. All proceeds go to Guild office or classroom fixtures.

> Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, Jackson (601) 981-0019 1150 Lakeland Dr. Jackson, MS 39216

Rent before you buy!

The guild offers members equipment rentals at bargain prices. Available for rent are:

- Four drop spindles, \$2 per month each
- One small warping board, \$2 per month
- One carder, \$10 per month
- One spinning wheel, \$10 per month

These items are to be picked up and returned to Margaret Pittman only. Please call ahead to reserve the item you want. Margaret's address is 5875 Baxter Drive, Jackson, MS 39211; (601) 956-1478.

Send newsletter items to the newsletter editor:

Debbie Stringer

2534 Crestleigh Manor Jackson, MS 39204

home: 601-373-6292

office (it's ok): 601-922-2341 e-mail: Metheniac@aol.com

fax: 601-922-9869

Have equipment to sell?

Advertisements in the Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild newsletter are placed free of charge to members. The fee for non-members, which includes copies of the newsletter in which the ad appears, is \$5 per ad, to run a maximum of three times. Make check payable to the guild and mail with ad to the newsletter editor: Debbie Stringer, 2534 Crestleigh Manor, Jackson, MS 39204.

Coming in September

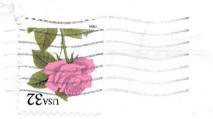
Our next official meeting is September 21, when we'll collect membership dues for the coming year. No word on the program yet, but Marcy Petrini and Marva Goodman will present information on our hosting the spring 1999 Southeast Fiber Forum. We'll vote on whether to pursue the project.

An invitation to demonstrate

We have received an invitation from Vermilionville to demonstrate spinning and/or weaving at its month-long cultural celebration in August. Vermilionville is a 23-acre attraction in Lafayette, La. that reflects the culture of the Acadians and Creoles. CSWG members are invited to demonstrate either an Saturday or Sunday (or an entire weekend). Anyone interested should contact Erin Gatza-Shinogle, programming manager, at (318) 233-4077 or 1-800-992-2968 as soon as possible.

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Debbie H. Stringer 2534 Crestleigh Manor Jackson MS 39204