

CWSG

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CALENDAR**Nov. 29 - Jan. 19****"The Kimono Inspiration: Art to Art to Wear"**

Exhibit at Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis. Traditional and contemporary interpretations. From the Textile Museum, Washington, D.C.

Dec. 7-8**Chimneyville Crafts Festival**

Preview party, Dec. 6, 7-10 p.m.
Miss. Trade Mart, Jackson.

Dec. 13-14**Loom Crawl**

Details and map in this newsletter.

Jan. 4, 1997**Roc Day**

Hosted by New Orleans Weavers Guild at Mandeville Junior High School Gym in Mandeville.

Jan. 22-26, 1997**January Spin-In 1997**

in Destin, Fla. Hosted by Choctawhatchee Bay Spinners Guild. Call Nancy Kahrs, 904-897-5011.

Feb. 8**Jackie Wilson Triaxial Weaving Workshop**

Dyed-in-the-Wool Weavers and Spinners Guild; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Contact Helen Caire, 452-2390.

continued

Chimneyville

Weavers & Spinners Guild

December 1996 newsletter

Loom Crawl is Dec. 13-14

Nell Elam, Sharon Williams and Elizabeth Lewis have invited us to their neck of the woods for Loom Crawl, our guild's traditional Christmas celebration.

On Friday evening, Dec. 13, Nell has invited us to a spin-in and dinner at her house in Senatobia (see map in this newsletter).

On Saturday, Dec. 14, at 9 a.m. Sharon will host breakfast at her house, then our luncheon will be at noon at Elizabeth's house in Coldwater.

Those new to the guild will discover that Loom Crawl is a wonderful opportunity to peek into the studios/weaving areas of hosting guild members. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a small handmade gift. Don't worry about bringing food this year; our hostesses have offered to feed us. How wonderful!

RSVPs are requested. Please contact Hazel Howell, Loom Crawl chair, at 859-4836 if you plan to go, or you can call Nell, Sharon or Elizabeth. Hazel had members sign up for Loom Crawl at our November meeting and has passed this list on to Elizabeth. (This list appears in this newsletter.) If you have not RSVPed, please do so ASAP.

'96-'97 CWSG board

- **President:** Kathy Cohron, 856-6698
- **Vice president:** Nancy Landrum, 482-8823
- **Treasurer:** Margaret Pittman, 956-1478
- **Secretary:** Jane Dollar, 323-7079
- **Historian:** Marva Lee Goodman, 992-0383

November meeting minutes

by Jane Dollar, secretary

Chet Cohron, Kathy's husband, did our program on **photographing textiles**. I'm not sure I know what to say; I was impressed. I had no idea the man was so good! His many tips included the use of professional film—LZX, ASA 100; always use a 35 mm camera with a tripod; you need a flash meter, lights, white paper for a background or black (felt or velvet so you don't get reflection) and more things than I can remember! Handouts, please, Chet? And many thanks for the wonderful program!

We introduced ourselves again; we should go back to the nametags idea, maybe? Turtle Moon brought her daughter, Renee Todd, whose Indian name is Snow. And Melba Nipper brought Sherrie Lee, who became a new member!

Kathy passed out **calendars** to let us know what's upcoming. (*If you weren't at the meeting, yours should be included with this newsletter.*)

Debbie Stringer passed out directories compiled by Margaret Pittman to those of us who hadn't gotten ours. (*The remainder have been mailed to those not present.*)

Kathy passed out **Roc Day** info.

Since we have no volunteer for exhibit chairperson, we won't have one this year.

Carolyn Nichols is chair for the **membership drive**. It will be our regular meeting in January (the 18th). We will have a program but no business meeting. The hospitality committee will do food.

Hazel Howell went over the arrangements for **Loom Crawl**. Bring a handmade present if you want to participate in the gift exchange. Notify her if you wish to go for Friday night or just for Saturday and she will notify Elizabeth.

Loom Crawl sign-up

These are members who signed Hazel Howell's Loom Crawl sign-up sheet at our November meeting.

Going on Friday (Will probably meet at Ag Museum at 3 p.m. Please do your own networking.):

- Lu Harding
- Jane Dollar (will go from Starkville)
- Marva Goodman
- Carolyn Nichols
- Becki Jefferis
- Barbara Mitchell
- Marcy Petrini ?
- Linda Gayle Smith

Going on Saturday (Meet at Ag Museum at 9 a.m.):

- Melba Nipper
- Sherrie Lee
- Jennifer Turtle Moon ?
- Debbie Stringer
- Hazel Howell (will be picked up in Canton)
- Margaret Pittman
- Debbie Levine ?
- Nancy Landrum (will go from Meridian)
- Kathy Smith
- Sandi Tucker ?

I have sent this list to Elizabeth Lewis with the understanding that plans are tentative and changeable, but she needed a rough idea of how many to plan for.

—Hazel Howell

Melba Nipper passed on the message from Kathy Smith that she has taken care of the **Christmas tree**. There is a box of old decorations in the weaving studio; we need to reclaim any of ours if we don't want them sold. Martha Garrott wants us to price our ornaments (preferably tag them). They should be no cheaper than \$2.50 and priced in increments of \$2.50. Drop ornaments to sell at the weaving studio; there will be a box provided.

Marcy showed us how to make a **yarn angel**; Hazel said she has instructions if anyone wants.

Carrie Didlake is in charge of **volunteers for Chimneyville**; a sheet was passed around to sign up if you wish. Kit Barksdale will have the sheet.

Debbie Levine said the Rainbow Co-op may be moving and will have space to rent if some want **studio space/sales space** to share. If you are interested, let her know.

We discussed **library procedures**. The motion was made and seconded to add pink elephant money to help purchase new books and videos and to vote at the meeting on items to buy instead of the entire membership voting.

We then had our **pink elephant sale**; it earned \$10.50!

Show and Tell: Renee Todd (Snow) showed some of the hand-painted t-shirts she does. They were lovely, Snow!

Jill Hammes brought a flyer from the show she had in Meridian; she got them too late to bring one last month. She also got a brand new studio built onto her house. So our Feb. meeting will be at Jill's to inspect her new studio!

Debbie Levine showed her knitted miniature stocking Christmas tree ornaments (absolutely darling; I've already started one!) and her gorgeous new sweater.

Nancy Landrum brought a pattern for sewing handwovens and pictures of other patterns from The Corner Stitch on 23rd Avenue in Meridian. She offered to go by for us if we want some.

Marva Goodman showed off her knitted hat which is in progress. She's taking Debbie L.'s knitting class. I'm sure there will be more from those needles, knowing Marva!

Becky Jefferis showed her very first weaving project, a lovely scarf she made in Marcy's class. She's already ahead of me . . .

Marcy brought her scarf made from her handspun silk. It was beautiful, and blue, and I tried to sneak it out but got caught. She also brought fans—Convergence '98 fans. It's gonna be *hot*! Atlanta in 1998!

Lu Harding brought her knitting, a vest she's making in yarn bought at her favorite shop in Dallas.

After show and tell we adjourned and went to eat at McAlister's. We somehow always manage to eat . . .

Fiber Forum update

Important: You must be a Southeast Fiber Forum member to be eligible to register for classes to be held during the 1997 Southeast Fiber Forum, April 3-6 in Birmingham, Ala. You can include your \$5 lifetime membership fee with your application. Kathy Cohron has information on the forum's class schedules, which she'll be happy to share with those who call (856-6698) or stop by her house. Kathy says classes will be assigned beginning early Dec., so get your application in soon.

Report of Procedures Committee

by Marcy Petrini, Procedures Committee

The work of the procedure committee is nearly done. There are no motions left to be made; all that we need is to organize the writing of some procedures already in place. I hope to finish that and reconvene the committee in January. The notebook, then, will be in the Library.

There are a couple of pending issues, however, that I would like to clarify. First of all, I would like to apologize if I have offended anyone by my past comment that things were a mess. I am sorry if my statement was interpreted as saying that the work of the committee was a mess. No, everyone on the committee did what-

Directory update

Please update your membership directory with this information:

New members

Sherrie Lee
118 Oakdale Circle
Brandon, MS 39042
H: 829-3038
W: 825-1843

Joan Cotter
526 Bradford Dr.
Brandon, MS 39042
H: 992-1018
W: 974-1317

Welcome, Sherrie and Joan!

Calendar (continued)

Feb. 15

CWSG meeting

Program: Double Weave Pick-up by Jill Hammes (**note:** meeting will be held at her new weaving studio in Meridian!) Map and details in January newsletter.

Feb. 15-16

Silk spinning workshop with Celia Quinn

in New Orleans. Sponsored by New Orleans Weavers Guild (\$120 for non-members). Call Maureen Preau, 504-482-3546.

Mar. 1-31

"From Looms to Heirlooms," Dyed-in-the-Wool Weavers and Spinners Guild Annual Show

Pass Christian Library

Apr. 3-6

"Southern Alternatives"

1997 Southeast Fiber Forum in Birmingham. Seminars, workshops, vendors, demos, fashion shows, spin-in, more. Hosted by The Greater Birmingham Fiber Guild. Contact Jonnie Venglik, 205-822-5855.

ever she needed to help (committee members will be listed in the final notebook). My frustration, and hence my comment, has to do with the very reason I undertook this project: over and over again, we fail to document what we do, so the next set of people has to start from scratch. Our by-laws said one thing, and we were doing another. Lu Harding updated the by-laws not so long ago, and already they were outdated. This is not the fault of any one individual. Certainly I am at fault as anyone, since I have been with the organization from the beginning. If we are not going to follow the by-laws, why have them?

Which brings me to the next issue: yes, why have by-laws? Why not just go our merry way and not bother? The reason to have by-laws, policies and procedures is for fairness: people don't get treated equally if we don't have a set of agreed-upon "rules" that we all follow.

Take the case of the library. A while back, we voted to rent books for a small fee, but we didn't follow the policy we set. So, some people were paying borrowing fees; others didn't know about it, so they didn't. At some point, some folks discovered that they were supposed to be paying fees, but nobody quite remembered the details (we didn't write it down), so some were reticent to borrow books from the library.

Now we have voted and have procedures in place. Each one of us knows how to go about borrowing a book, and what the consequences are if we were to lose the book. The procedures are flexible enough to allow someone who is studying a specific topic to keep the book for a while.

Procedures are not there to hinder the workings of the organization, they are there so that every time someone wants to borrow a book, we don't have to scurry to figure out how, and every member who wants to borrow a book is treated like any other member who wants to borrow a book. This business of not treating people equally, of not having procedures written down, has caused the demise of some guilds, where some folks made rules arbitrarily and others didn't like it and left.

Personally, I don't care what our policies and procedures are, just as long as we have them. I don't agree with some of the ones we have in place now. But that's OK, I am a firm believer of democracy. In some cases people seem to think that these are Marcy's policies. All that I have done is document what has been done up to now, and to force the issue when either there was no policy, or when what we said and what we did disagreed. You don't like the current policies and procedures? Change them! But let's document it!

I have also heard complaints that the procedures are too detailed. Procedures are like directions. If the details are left out, the person trying to follow them will find them useless. Imagine if I didn't tell you to tie the back rod to the warp rod in several places before you wind on your warp. Just a small, little detail. Good luck with your tension. But our procedures, like the warping directions, are flexible. And if they don't work, they should be changed! Some folks have gotten the idea that just because we have procedures written down, they are now etched in stone. We should improve our procedures, not re-invent them regularly.

I will admit that this turned out to be a bigger job than I had anticipated. But, if we play our cards right, we should never have to do this again. All that is going to take is for presidents in the future to follow the procedure! At the beginning of her term, each president should check to see what has changed in the way we do things, and change the written procedures to reflect reality. Changes can be documented as we go along, and we will hopefully live happily ever after.

For sale

Harrisville loom: Like new, 36-inch loom. Good beginner loom. Call for price: Barbara Mitchell, Jackson, 601-362-4570.

Mohair fiber: Kathy Smith has sheared her registered angora goats and is offering kid and adult mohair for \$6.50 per pound (washed). Call Kathy at Willow Creek Farm, 601-854-6441.