

CWSG

P.O. Box 1152
Ridgeland, MS 39159

Submit newsletter items to:

Debbie Stringer
2534 Crestleigh Manor
Jackson, MS 39204
home: 601-373-6292
office: 601-922-2341
office fax: 601-922-9869
e-mail: Metheniac@aol.com

CALENDAR**May 10**

Spinning lessons
at Tina Bradford's, 601-673-9446.

May 16

Spin-in
at Barbara Mitchell's, 362-4570.

May 17

CWSG meeting
Program: warping tips

May 22

Weaving & spinning
at Kathy Cohron's.

May 24-26

Introduction to Navajo Weaving with Kim Mumbower
at Casa de Cosas, Pensacola, Fla. Sponsored by Gulf Coast Weavers' Guild. Participants will warp loom, use traditional tools, select a design and weave a small piece. Plans for loom sent with supply list. Fee is \$60 plus materials for non-members. Last date to register is May 12. Call Leslie Caruso, 904-932-8667.

continued

Chimneyville

Weavers & Spinners Guild

May 1997 newsletter

Next meeting: May 17 at weaving studio

Who's on the program? *You* are! You will help lead the program in May with your tips and tricks for successful warping. Bring books or any other materials on warping to share as we discuss ways to improve dressing our looms.

Special treat: We'll draw for the winner of the handwoven shawl (from a previous sheep-to-shawl), so come prepared to buy or turn in your raffle tickets. And don't forget your white elephant!

Board meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.; program at 10; show and tell at 11:30 and business meeting at 12. Then we'll adjourn for lunch.

May meeting minutes

by Barbara Mitchell

The April meeting of CWSG was held at the home of Margaret Pittman with a small but select crowd attending.

Barbara Mitchell, after due appointment by the president, presided in the absence of all officers except Margaret Pittman, who was busy loading the dishwasher.

The nominations for president (Marcy Petrini) and vice president (Sharon Williams) were presented, and a motion was made and seconded that they be elected by acclamation.

Motion carried. Congratulations/sympathy to Marcy and Sharon.

Marcy reported Fiber Forum was a huge success and gave us some ideas about our responsibilities for hosting Fiber Forum '98.

Marcy has volunteered to make 500 small bags for Convergence. No problem for a well organized person like her, but she really would enjoy a little help. Details of a work day later. (*See Marcy's note in this newsletter.*)

Lu Harding reported details of the spring retreat and requested \$100 advance from the treasurer to purchase food. This will be paid back out of registrations and division of costs among attendees.

The next spin-in will be May 16 at Barbara Mitchell's house.

Barbara displayed two weavings and some photos of the weavers, brought back by relatives who made a trip to Guatemala recently. There was a discussion about color and color interaction so much a part of Guatemalan textiles.

Letter from outgoing CWSG president Kathy Cohron

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the beautiful weaver's pin I was presented. I just love it! Ever since I joined our guild I've treasured the friends made and our sharing of weaving, spinning, etc.

Thank you all, too, for supporting me as your president. Together we have had

'97-'98 CWSG board

- **President:** Marcy Petrini, 957-1423
- **Vice president:** Sharon Williams, 233-2990
- **Treasurer:** Margaret Pittman, 956-1478
- **Secretary:** Jane Dollar, 323-7079
- **Historian:** Marva Lee Goodman, 992-0383

Calendar, *continued*

June 1
Deadline for newsletter items, June issue

June 5
Study group: Huck
at Marcy Petrini's.

June 6-9
Jason Collingwood Twill Workshop
Huntsville, Ala. Contact Mary Geier, Greater Birmingham Fiber Guild, at 205-967-2792.

June 13-16
Jason Collingwood Rug Weaving Workshop: Block Weave
in Fairhope, Ala. Call Caroline Bates-Hoffman, Mobile Bay Fiber Guild, at 334-928-4077.

June 27-28
R&M Yarns Dollar Day Sale
1-800-343-9276

June 28
Dyed-in-the-Wool Weavers & Spinners demonstrate
at Hancock County Welcome Center.

Nov. 14-15
Workshop: Ya Gotta Be Warped to Weave
with Michele Belson.
Hosted by New Orleans Weavers Guild.

Jan. 10, 1998
Roc Day
in Baton Rouge with Bayou Yarn Benders.

a lot of fun, learned a lot, worked, ate and laughed a lot. I know I'll enjoy the coming years even more. Plus, we will be in good hands with Sharon Williams as vice president and Marcy Petrini as president.

I know I can speak for everyone in thanking Debbie Stringer for writing our newsletter every month. Not only does it require a lot of work, but ours is always interesting and a newsletter we can be proud to have other guilds read as well.

We need to thank Marva Lee Goodman, our historian and librarian, for her efforts. We now have new videos and books!

Our secretary, Jane Dollar, has surpassed the duties of her office. I hate taking notes, especially when two people are talking at the same time.

Our treasurer, Margaret Pittman, who keeps our financial gears running smoothly in an accurate manner, has done an excellent job and we applaud her efforts. Part of her duties is equipment rental, drawings, white elephant, dues—the list goes on and on.

And last but not least, our appreciation goes out to Nancy Landrum, vice president, who has organized and scheduled our super programs.

Of course, our chairperson's efforts are appreciated on projects. It takes all of us to make our guild run smoothly and ever so enjoyable.

Oh, let me tell all of you about an upcoming treat. Barbara Mitchell and I are going to Pensacola, Fla. in May. We are attending Kim Mumbower's three-day class, Introduction to Navajo Weaving. I can hardly wait! When I get back, I'll be glad to share the obtained knowledge with anyone interested in this type of weaving.

Have a nice summer.

Reminder: Don't forget to bring your raffle tickets. Our drawing will be at our May meeting. This will be our last meeting before our summer break. Also, please remember your white elephant. We are depending on you!

SEFF report

by Marcy Petrini

Several Chimneyville Weavers Guild members attended the Southeast Fiber Forum Association conference in Birmingham, Ala. The local guild, led by our very own (OK, ex-very own) Virginia Rogers did a wonderful job of hosting the conference.

We arrived on Thursday to find a well organized registration table set up outside the school where the conference was being held. The line was just long enough for us to meet old friends and to get excited because we could see some vendors through the glass doors! We each received a wonderful name tag (!) and a purple conference bag (the only thing that I didn't like about the bag is: now, what color are we going to use in '99?).

Checking in our pieces for exhibits, shopping the vendors and lunch with Alice Schlein entertained us until the afternoon speakers, Virginia West and Gloria Tracy. No time for dinner on Thursday, as there was a "meet the teach" session; good thing, too, as the reception that followed had great food. There was more shopping and visiting.

Seminars of our choices were held on Friday and Saturday and, for some, on Sunday. In between, there were vendors upstairs and downstairs. And more visiting. I worked the Convergence 98 booth for a while and enjoyed promoting Convergence and meeting some new people.

Friday for dinner Marva Goodman and I joined the Southeast Fiber Forum Association Board of Directors to present our proposal. You may know that the Metro-Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau prepared wonderful books for us to promote Jackson. To that, the steering committee added a cover letter, brief bios of the steering committee members and the signed contract. A copy of these materials are in the library if you are interested in looking at them. The board was duly impressed, and we are now the official site for the SEFF conference in '99!

Friday night after dinner was the fashion show, followed by dessert. There were some gorgeous pieces. Saturday night there were the non-wearable exhibits, several of them in gym. As usual, I learned a lot looking at the wonderful things that peo-

For sale

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.

Spinning wheels: Majacraft Tiny Tim traveling spinning wheel, one year old, \$225, plus bobbins. Ashford Traditional scotch tension spinning wheel, five years old. Includes many bobbins and lazy kate. \$150. Contact Heather Gillis at home, 601-264-6263; at work, 1-800-821-7399 (Miss.) or 1-800-321-8750 (WATS).

Dealers

(CWSG members)

Melba Nipper

Ashford & LeClerc equipment; yarns; fiber; 601-825-3749.

Linda Gayle Smith

Schacht equipment; 601-426-2264.

Crafts Center events

Here's a sampling of demos and events set for the Mississippi Crafts Center on the Natchez Trace:

- June 7: Children's Summer Sampler, 1-5 p.m.; 12 hands-on workshops

Weaving demonstrations:

- June 21-22: Margaret Pittman
- Aug. 16-17: Sharon Williams
- Sept. 20-21: Cynthia Crull
- Oct. 25: 20th Pioneer & Indian Festival, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

ple do.

On Saturday and Sunday I took two classes from Alice Schlein which were just wonderful. They were both seminars type, so I "only" had a stack of papers to show for them, but I have lots of good ideas for future projects, and I am anxious to get the present projects off my looms! Alice is a great teacher, so I am hoping to sign up for her seminars at Convergence 98.

I had a lazy Sunday morning, mostly visiting at the Convergence booth. The word had gotten out that we are hosting the next one, so I had teachers and vendors approach me with their interest.

By the end of the weekend, it seemed that it went too fast! You will all be proud to know that I didn't buy any yarn or fiber (I did win some cotton, though), but of course I bought lots of books.

The library committee did its job and the books for the library were purchased (see separate report about books). Also, the Birmingham Guild gave us a wonderful book as a thank you for doing the name tags.

And, speaking of name tags, many people came up to us to tell us how much they liked them. I graciously accepted compliments, telling people that Margaret Pittman was the one responsible for the project. I am only sorry that Margaret wasn't there to accept the compliments herself.

Now it's our turn. Put your thinking caps on and think of a good slogan and logo. That's one thing that I don't do well, so if this conference is going to have a logo, start thinking....

Education Report: Interested in Michele Belson's warping class?

by Marcy Petrini, Education Chair

Since Weave-In in New Orleans, many people have asked me about Michele Belson's method of warping. Well, after watching one demonstration, I am no great expert and even the parts that I have already been using are fuzzy. Plus it's not my style to teach somebody else's class.

But we could get Michele here! Michele is going to be driving through Jackson and will be my guest in August. That prompted me to ask her whether she would be willing to come a little early, or stay a bit later after the conference she is attending, to teach her method. But Michele said that she cannot do that. She is going to be on the road a lot this summer, having booths at several conferences, so it would be hard for her to squeeze in a class.

However, if there is enough interest, she is willing to come some time in the fall to teach us. She thinks that the class is best attended as hands-on (I learned that — I forget a very small, but crucial step in the tying on and my warp came off the loom!) on one's own loom. We can use the warping boards in the studio with no problem, but each person needs to learn the method on his or her own loom and then weave off the warp.

Before I approach Michele for the details, I would like to know whether there is enough interest. (See form in this newsletter.) This is not a commitment at this stage, just a show of interest.

If there is enough interest, I will find out specific dates, cost, etc. Unfortunately, I won't be at the May meeting because of a work-related trip, but I have a mailbox at the Craftsmen's Guild office, so you can leave your answer there (Of course, you can always mail it to my home: 950 Fairfax Cr. Jackson, MS 39211). Don't wait till you find out the details, because I won't pursue this if there is not enough interest.

Michele is teaching the class in New Orleans, so if there is not enough interest here, perhaps those who are interested could go there.

Fiber retreat '97

by Debbie Stringer

Nancy and Don Landrum welcomed CWSG and Dyed-in-the-Wool Weavers and Spinners Guild members into their rural home near Meridian for our annual fiber retreat April 18-20. Skies were sunny, as was our mood as we settled in for a truly

fulfilling weekend of fiber work and warm comradery. Spinners set up their wheels and chatted on the Landrums' huge front porch overlooking flower and vegetable gardens, woods and the lily pond. Nancy demonstrated her countermarche loom, on which she is weaving upholstery fabric of twill blocks for an upstairs chair.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and went home inspired by all the ideas shared. We're also grateful to Nancy and Don for graciously agreeing to host our spring fiber retreat!

Help me help Convergence 98!

by Marcy Petrini

I said kiddingly that our guild did such a great job with the SEFF 97 name tags that we have been asked to do those for Convergence 98. But the truth is that Catherine Neiner, chair of Convergence 98, has asked me to help. As president of the organization I feel that I must support the Convergence committee, especially since I was a big supporter of Convergence coming to the South when it was first proposed in 1992. For many in the Southeast, this may be the only chance they have to attend, and attending Convergence is an experience not to be missed by any fiber person.

This is what Catherine has asked me to do: sew 500 of the pouches. Now, this sounds like an unattainable task, but it's not. The fabric will be woven on jacquard looms, I believe. At least it will be a chance to handle fabric that most of us will never have the chance to handle. Each pouch requires two seams which should catch the ribbon. Three other guilds are doing the other 1500 pouches.

Over the years, many of you have asked me if you could help me with my job as HGA president. There really hasn't been much for the most part, as most of my job has been writing individual letters, reading reports—individual paper work, in other words. But this is an activity that anyone can help.

This is not a guild activity. Catherine needed an answer and I told her that I would take the responsibility for the pouches. I am planning on asking quilting friends and others who sew. You all know that I am not a great seamstress, but I feel sure that I can handle doing seams carefully!

Besides, so far, Mississippi is the only state in the Southeast not contributing to Convergence. Unlike the other guilds who have hosted Convergence, the Chatahoochee Guild is rather small, so they are counting on regional help.

What I am envisioning is a sewing party or two, at the weaving studio, at a time to be determined when the fabric is scheduled to arrive. Because we break up for the summer, I would like to know who is interested in coming, so I can call. If you would like to help, fill out the form in this newsletter, and drop it in my mailbox at the Craftsmen's Guild or at home.

Thank you!

New materials for CWSG library

Recent additions to the CWSG library include two purchases and a donation:

- "Spinning Wool: Basics and Beyond" video
- "Fiber and Color" by Lambert/Fry/Staepelaere
- "Complete Book of Gourd Craft," donated by the Birmingham guild in appreciation for our creating name tags for SEFF

We're saving to buy "Keep Me Warm One Night," a book on eastern Canadian weaving traditions. Our white elephant program raises funds for library acquisitions, so remember to bring your white elephant to the next meeting.

SS&D correction

From Marcy Petrini: The volume number and date on the current issue (with the pink and gold handspun yarns on the cover) are wrong. It's actually Issue 110, Spring 1997.

Warping class poll

Name: _____

____ Yes, I am interested in Michele Belson's warping class.

I won't be available these times (please list any weekend starting with the second weekend in September):

Leave completed form at Marcy Petrini's mailbox at the Craftsmen's Guild office, or mail it to her at 950 Fairfax Circle, Jackson, MS 39211.

I volunteer to sew!

Name: _____

____ Yes, I can help with the sewing party for Convergence 98.

Leave completed form at Marcy Petrini's mailbox at the Craftsmen's Guild office, or mail it to her at 950 Fairfax Circle, Jackson, MS 39211.