

Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild

Spring is here!

by Nancy Landrum, CWSG president

Flowers are blooming, trees are blooming and greening, and birds are looking for nesting places.

It is a good time to look at colors in nature and plan this year's accomplishments.

Sheep to Shawl is coming up soon. I am excited we will be doing this in conjunction with Chalk on the Trace.

I will be helping Kathy at the children's table, and I hope we can inspire a whole new generation of fiber artists. And, maybe, at the same time their parents. It is a good opportunity talk to everyone about getting involved.

On another note, I want to share what I think was an important realization last month. There is an old house in Kemper County circa mid-1800s. Now, I love old houses and this one was not being lived in, decaying a little. I told myself I really need to inquire about the owner so I could photograph it inside and out. We drove up to Kemper last week and the house is being demolished. Bottom line: Do not procrastinate. Don't wait until it's too late. This applies to anything in your life.

Happy weaving and I will see you at Sheep to Shawl. Let's make it the best ever.

February meeting minutes

We met on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Mississippi Craft Center with 11 members present (i.e., a quorum). After determin-



Photo by Nancy Landrum.

Officers 2017-2018

Each officer serves a two-year term on the CWSG board.

- President: Nancy Landrum
- Past president: Gio Chinchar
- Vice president: Alma Ellis
- Secretary: Beth Palmer
- Librarian/historian: Kathy Perito
- Treasurer: Nancy Hester

About CWSG

CWSG brings together people who enjoy and want to learn more about weaving and/or spinning.

Membership

Membership is open to anyone with like interests. Annual membership fee is \$25. A membership form is available at cvillewsg.com; click on "membership."

Meetings

We usually meet on the third Saturday of the month, September through May. Meetings include a business session, program and show-and-tell, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Mississippi Craft Center in Ridgeland, unless otherwise noted.

Newsletter deadline

Please email newsletter submissions to newsletter editor Debbie Stringer (news@ecm.coop) by the first day of the month of publication.

Contact info

www.cvillewsg.com

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Hand towels woven in 8/2 cotton by Gio Chinchar.

ing that there were no changes to the agenda, minutes from our Jan. 20 meeting were approved with the following addition: We voted unanimously to grant lifetime membership to Debbie Stringer. We will celebrate Debbie's achievement in the fall.

Treasurer Nancy Hester reported that the guild has \$3,334.39 in our bank account. Members reminded Nancy to reimburse herself the \$50 she spent to renew our PO box for another six months.

Under Old Business, we discussed plans for a weekend retreat to be held June 8-10 at The Gray Center near Canton. We will rent a cottage there, which can sleep up to 16. Each cottage also has a kitchen and a living room. We will not offer any workshops during our weekend together but rather spend the time enjoying our own fiber pursuits. We plan to eat our meals in the Gray Center dining room. Cost of the weekend retreat is \$231. Full payment is due no later than March 24 at our Sheep to Shawl event.



Crocheted spiral motifs by Beth Palmer.

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings begin at 10 a.m. at the Mississippi Craft Center, unless otherwise noted.

- **March 24: Sheep to Shawl**, Donna Peyton, chair. Held in conjunction with Chalk at the Trace sidewalk chalk art event. Bring white elephant items for donation table. Also, CWSG retreat payments will be due. Potluck lunch.
- **April 21: Master Spinner Certification**, Brenda Harrower.
- **May 19: Mississippi History Museum Field Trip Meeting with Lunch**

Calendar

- **"Stories Unfolded" Quilt Exhibit**, through Sept. 2018, at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum/Museum of Mississippi History in downtown Jackson. Forty Mississippi-made quilts from territorial times to present day, from the collection of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.
- **Meridian Mini Maker Faire**, April 7-8, at the Mississippi Industrial Heritage Museum. Show-and-tell event in a variety of fields. Free admission. Details: Meridian.MakerFaire.com.
- **"Material Pulses: Seven Viewpoints,"** Oct. 6 - Jan. 13, 2019, exhibit of art quilts, mixed media and installation work at the Mississippi Museum of Art. Details: www.msmuseumart.org.

Roc Day Host Schedule

2019

- Dyed-in-the-Wool Weavers & Spinners Guild, Pass Christian Yacht Club

2020

- CWSG, Ridgeland

2021

- New Orleans Weavers Guild

2022

- Bayou Yarn Benders, Baton Rouge

Donna Peyton shared the schedule for Sheep to Shawl to be held March 24 at the Mississippi Craft Center. Members signed up to wash, card, or spin wool or to demonstrate weaving.

Under New Business, we selected a Nominating Committee to identify candidates for secretary, treasurer, and librarian. Marcy Petrini and Debbie Stringer will serve as the Nominating Committee.

Marcy Petrini asked members to provide Debbie Stringer with pertinent news items to be included in our monthly newsletter.

Marcy Petrini also reported that Terry Dwyer has been in touch with Jean Sparks on the coast re Roc Day 2019. Members are encouraged to check out the Roc Day website at gulfs-tatesrocday.com.

After show-and-tell and a white elephant sale, the meeting adjourned and we watched the movie "L'Amour de Maman," about coton jaune and Acadian weaving.

Our next guild gathering will be our Sheep to Shawl event on Saturday, March 24, at 10 a.m. at the Mississippi Craft Center.

*Respectfully submitted,
Beth Palmer, secretary*

Sheep to Shawl

*from Donna Peyton,
chair*

This will be our meeting for the month, so come prepared to demonstrate and enjoy fellowship. **Please bring a potluck dish for lunch.** All spaces have a demonstrator except the washing station. If you really love washing, please think about filling that station. Otherwise, if you did not sign up at the February meeting, come prepared to fill in where you would like.

We are not going to have vendors this time, but we will have a donation table this year. **Please bring your white elephant items** for this donation table, where we will trade them for donations for the Craftsmen's Guild Education Fund.



These woven runners were made by visitors to our 2017 Sheep to Shawl. Let's see if we can outdo these this year! Submitted by Kathy Perito.

Treasurer's Report

from Nancy Hester

Prior balance	\$3,334.39
Add: Interest	.05
Dues paid	25.00
Subtotal	\$3,359.44
<i>(value as of 2/22/18 bank statement)</i>	
Add: CWSG retreat payments	1,050.00
White elephant sales	12.00
Less: PO box rental reimbursement	(56.00)
Current balance	\$4,365.44



The late Hazel Howell was one of our most devoted demonstrators at CWSG's annual sheep-to-shawl events. Hazel enjoyed dressing the part of a weaver from times past, when weaving was a survival skill.

Guild retreat in June at the Gray Center

The CWSG retreat will occur from **Friday evening June 8 through noon June 10**. This is no cost to the guild but the Gray Center expects payment in a lump sum, so individual participants must pay the guild.

The cost per person is \$231 for twin bed lodging with private bathroom, and Friday night dinner, three meals on Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday, and estimated taxes. The taxes may vary a bit, but we haven't received the final amount from the Gray Center.

The lodging will be in an eight-bedroom two-story cottage with common room and kitchen. We are allowed to bring in snacks and beverages including alcohol. We can stay in the common room on Sunday past noon, if we wish, but individual rooms must be vacated by noon.

This is a retreat; there will not be any organized class or activities. Bring any kind of handwork you wish. There are also trails on the ground, so bring your walking shoes if you wish.

There are already enough **paid** participants to make the retreat a reality, to ensure your place bring your

non-refundable check for \$231 no later than the March meeting and made out to the Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild. You can also send the check to Nancy Hester prior to the meeting. Staying in the cottage is first come first serve; any late comers may be housed in the main lodge, but join the guild group in the cabin.

Gray Center address: 1530 Way Road, Canton, MS 39046

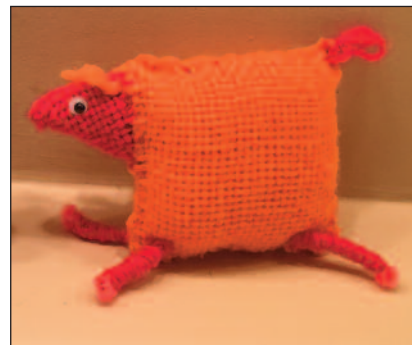
Website: <http://graycenter.dioms.org>

Directions: <http://graycenter.dioms.org/>

[About%20Gray%20Center/getting-here.html](http://graycenter.dioms.org/About%20Gray%20Center/getting-here.html)



Kathy Perito invites us to join her in making miniature sheep as awards for the junior crafters who participate in our upcoming Sheep to Shawl. Each sheep is made of three 4-inch pin-woven squares (and pipe cleaners), but you could substitute knitted or crocheted swatches. Her instructions are attached to this newsletter's email.



Thrums...

- The Craftmen's Guild of Mississippi fiber exhibit will be hung Saturday, March 3, Sharon Williams says. It will be up for the month of March. The works were shown previously at Oxford Fiber Festival and NWCC.

- Nichol Kadler crocheted some shawls while playing in the orchestra pit for "The Wizard of Oz."

- Debbie Stringer and her sister, Janet Smith, are enjoying a much-needed five-day sewcation in a lakeside cabin at Lake Tiak-O'Khata.

Honorary Lifetime Membership nomination

by Marcy Petrini

At the January 2018 meeting, the Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild awarded Debbie Stringer an Honorary Lifetime Membership for her long-term dedication to the guild. But this is not an award for longevity: since her joining after she learned to weave, Debbie has always been ready to contribute, volunteering for wherever is needed and doing the various tasks thoughtfully, carefully, in a timely manner and with a smile, expecting nothing in return, not even our gratitude, which is why she was surprised by this award. But grateful we are.

By a fortuitous set of events, all the necessary steps could occur in January because Debbie wasn't at the meeting. In following our procedures, I submitted the nomination (see below) to the CWSG board of directors who brought it up to the membership. A committee was appointed to review the nomination; it consisted of Nancy Landrum, president; Kathy Perito and Alma Ellis, board members; and members in good standing Donna Peyton, chair, and Carolyn Campbell. After the committee approved the nomination, the CWSG membership present, a quorum, voted for the award.

What follows is the text of the nomination, which will serve for our historical records. The celebration will occur in September during our regularly scheduled meeting the third Saturday of the month. Details will follow in the coming months.

Jan. 3, 2018

To: Board of Directors, Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild

From: Marcy Petrini

Re: Nomination of Debbie Stringer for an Honorary Lifetime Membership

As I am reading and scanning the CWSG newsletters, I am struck by the extent of Debbie Stringer's involvement in the guild and thus I am submitting this nomination.

Our current procedures state that the nomination letter of support should detail the contributions of the nominee.

Below in bold I have addressed each one of the areas outlined by our procedures (shown in blue).

To be considered for this award, the honoree must:

Be or have been an active member of the Guild for a minimum of 15 years.

Debbie has been a guild member since 1991;

she doesn't appear in the 1990-91 directory, and her name appears for the first time in the 1991-92 directory.

Have supported the guild activities and goals in a significant way such as:

- **Served as an officer**

Debbie has served one term as president (2 years); one term as vice president (2 years); one term as secretary; one term as treasurer; two terms as librarian/historian (4 years).

- **Served on committees**

Debbie has served as the newsletter editor five years; she has also served as publicity chair for various events, for the better part of 25 years, producing flyers, brochures and forms as needed. She has offered various guild programs. She is the "beta tester" for our website, checking it for content, layout and platform compatibility.

- **Contributed to Sheep to Shawl on a regular basis**

Debbie is a regular "fixture" at Sheep to Shawl! Not only does she demonstrate, but she allows the general public to try weaving on her loom. And she has probably designed more Sheep to Shawl flyers and posters than anyone else in our guild.

- **Worked in the community at large to promote weaving/spinning through demonstrations, events, festivals**

Debbie regularly demonstrates at the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi Chimneyville Crafts Festival; in the past she regularly participated in the now-defunct Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi Pioneer Festival at the Natchez Trace and other CGM festivals no longer in existence, including as a model in the fashion shows.

- **Be a weaver and/or spinner with a body of work that has been exhibited locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.**

Debbie has regularly contributed pieces to guild exhibits. She has contributed weaving to publications.

- **Have made significant contributions to regional, national or international events that showcased the guild.**

Debbie served on the steering committee of Southeast Fiber Forum 1998-2000, participating in the group decisions as well as serving as the PR chair. She has also served on the Roc Day committees when our Guild has hosted them.

For her 25-plus years of service, I would like to nominate Debbie Stringer for an Honorary Lifetime Membership.

Respectfully submitted, Marcy Petrini