

Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild

February 2020 Newsletter



Close to 100 weavers, spinners, vendors and friends joined us for Roc Day 2020. CWSG hosted the annual event at the Bill Waller Jr. Craft Center, in Ridgeland. Roc Day photos in this issue by Terry Dwyer

President's Message

Guild Sales Update and Survey Results

Our guild has stumbled upon a great way to make money! Last year we revamped our bi-monthly white elephant sales and instead held one big sale at our Sheep to Shawl demonstration in March. We raised \$750 for our guild! We offered a similar sale at Roc Day and raised another \$1,300 for the guild! We plan to host another sale at Sheep to Shawl on March 14.

This unexpected income of more than \$2,000 over the past year got me to thinking about how guild members might like to see that money used. And so, I created a short, simple survey to garner your thoughts. Sixteen of our members responded and here's some of what I heard.

More than half the respondents said that we should spend this money to expand or enhance our guild. Five folks believe we should hang onto this money for future needs and two more said we should put the money in a savings account or certificate of deposit. (Note that we have \$1,000 currently in a certificate of deposit, which will mature in March 2020.)



In thinking about how we might expand or enhance our guild, the majority of responses called for underwriting the cost of workshops. Three people think we should underwrite the cost of a retreat. Two people suggested we purchase more equipment (such as rigid heddle or table looms) to rent to members, while one respondent pointed out that rental equipment can be difficult to track and maintain.

Suggestions about workshops were spread across both weaving and spinning with color coming in third. Responses overwhelmingly called for workshops geared toward those with some experience (vs. those aimed at beginners or advanced workshops).

Responses were also very clear about the preference for workshops of 2-3 days (vs. shorter or longer) to be held on weekends (vs. during the week).

The final question was about funding scholarships for guild members to attend classes elsewhere. Some respondents expressed interest in this option while others said they preferred for us to offer local workshops that in which all our members could participate.

Thanks to all who shared their opinions in this quick-and-dirty, unofficial survey. My goal is to use this information, and any other comments received, as your board makes plans for 2021 and beyond.

Keep weaving, Beth

[Note: Due to our hosting Roc Day, there was no business meeting in January, thus no minutes to report.]

Roc Day Wrap-up

Kathy Perito

Even though Mother Nature tried to put a damper on our fun, we had a great turnout for Roc Day 2020! Thanks to all who donated their



time and talent to help pull things together and host our fiber friends. If you registered for the event and were not able to attend, you can collect your goodie bag at the next guild meeting. And don't forget to mark your calendar for Roc Day 2021 on Jan. 9 in New Orleans!

February Meeting Program

Gio Chinchar

The program for our Feb. 15 meeting is **Specialty Looms**, their basic structure and their applications, as well as their limitations. Patricia Holmberg will cover the inkle loom, Nancy Hester the Cricket loom, Sharon Williams the triangle loom, and Marcy Petrini will compare and contrast the Navajo and tapestry looms.

CWSG Co-op Corner

Beth Palmer

Following the guild vote in December to form a co-op to pursue membership in the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi under the medium of fiber and the categories of weaving and spinning, we have taken several steps to prepare our submission for jury consideration in March. We currently have 13 CWSG members who have applied to be a part of the co-op, paid their dues, and signed statements of originality in their work. (Note that the deadline for joining the co-op this year is midnight on Friday, Jan. 31, 2020.) We've also gathered three samples of weaving, three samples of spinning, and more than five photographs of additional weaving and spinning for our submission. Marcy Petrini has drafted an artists' statement for the co-op and is working on our professional résumé. Sharon Williams will prepare all of our items for submission to the jury by 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28, 2020. We expect to receive the jury's decision by mid-March.

Tips for Rigid Heddle Weavers

Marcy Petrini's recent blog post is on rigid heddle weaving, as a result of a former student question. See Marcy's advice improving the drape of handwoven scarves here: www.marcypetrini.com/marcy-s-blogs/288-blog-blog-074-drapable-scarves-on-the-rigid-heddle

Sign Up for Sheep-to-Shawl Demos

Donna Peyton

Sheep to Shawl is coming up March 14. Everyone attending will need to sign up for a station. There is a morning and an afternoon assignment if some want to do more than one station. The stations are carding/washing, dyeing, children's activities, spinning, weaving, and knitting. Alma has our friends Larry and Jenny bringing their Gulf Coast sheep for shearing that day. Sign up will be at the February meeting. You can also email Donna at peytondonna@gmail.com.

New Weaving, Spinning Classes Set

Marcy Petrini

Designing Twills

Mondays, Feb. 10 and Feb. 24 – April 6; 6-8:30 p.m.; Bill Waller Sr. Craft Center

Learn how to design your own twill patterns and weave a set of 4 placemats based on your design. ***Students must be able to dress a shaft loom and do a drawdown independently as a prerequisite for this class.*** Weekly required discussions by Marcy Petrini and Kathy Perito,



instructors and exhibiting members of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, will focus on the structure of twills, how twills are different from other weaves, how to sett the warp, how to vary treadlings, and the appropriateness of twills for a variety of cloths, from scarves to rugs. Class cost is \$280, non-refundable, which includes a monograph on twills and one on project planning. Students will provide their own yarns **as specified in the first session**. Class size is limited to eight students, but a minimum of four participants is required to conduct the class. Paid registration must be received by Thursday, Feb. 6, to secure a spot in this class. To register, contact Sheri Cox at 601-856-7546.

Beginning Spinning on a Wheel Workshop

Saturday, Feb. 22; 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Bill Waller Sr. Craft Center

Come and learn to make yarn on a spinning wheel; equipment, fiber, and a monograph will be provided. The workshop will be taught by Marcy Petrini, Fellow member of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi and recipient of the Guild Lifetime Achievement Award 2016. Workshop cost is \$155, non-refundable. The workshop is limited to four people and paid registration must be received by Monday, Feb. 17. To register contact Sheri Cox at 601-856-7546.



Opportunity to Demonstrate

Kathy Perito

If you are looking for an opportunity to demonstrate your weaving or spinning expertise, how about at CelticFest Mississippi? Suezen Brown is the Celtic Heritage Society president and director of the annual festival. At a recent weaving class, Suezen mentioned that she would like to bring demonstrations back to the festival. Let's help her out!

CelticFest will be held on Saturday, March 21, at the Ag Museum. Gates open at 10 a.m. and the festival runs until midnight. Demonstrations can be done indoors, on a patio or in the vendor area. You will need to bring your own tent if you want to work out in the vendor area. If you demonstrate, Suezen will provide you with a pass to the hospitality suite for food and drinks.

To learn more about the festival, check out the website: www.celticfestms.org.

Contact Suezen at celticfestms@gmail.com or 601-260-1429 to coordinate your demonstration.

Financial Report

Nancy Hester

Add:

Interest	0.60
Membership dues	75.00
CWSG ROC Day cash sales	1,297.85

CWSG Roc Day Square sales	64.56
(total sales proceeds = \$ 1,362.41)	
ROC Day deposits	530.00
Less:	
Roc Day expense reimbursement	(1,499.70)
Ending checking balance	\$6,816.26
(As of 01/31/2020)	

Calendar

- **Convergence 2020**, July 24-30, Knoxville, Tenn.
- **Fiber Fun in the 'Sip**, Sept. 24-26, Vicksburg Convention Center. Workshops, fiber arts market, demonstrations, sit-and-stitch area, live music and more. Details: www.FiberFunintheSip.com

About Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild

CWSG brings together people who enjoy and want to learn more about weaving and spinning. Our guild is based in the Jackson, Mississippi, area.

Officers

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

President: Beth Palmer

Vice President: Gio Chinchar

Secretary: Jeanne Marie Peet

Treasurer: Nancy Hester

Librarian/Historian: Kathy Perito

Past President: Nancy Landrum

Membership

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

Meetings/Events

CWSG usually meets on the third Saturday of the month, September through May. Meetings include a business session, program and show-and-tell. We begin at 10 a.m. at the Bill Waller Sr. Craft Center in Ridgeland, Miss., unless otherwise noted. Upcoming programs are:

- **Feb. 15:** *Specialty Looms*, various presenters
- **March 14:** Sheep to Shawl fiber arts demonstrations and guild sale (open to the public)
- **April 18:** *Spinning Short Fibers*, Marva Goodman
- **May 16:** *Beyond Squares and Rectangles: What to Do with Leftover Fabric*

Newsletter

Please email newsletter submissions to newsletter editor Debbie Stringer (dhstringer@gmail.com) by the first day of the month of publication. If you are sending a photo, please include caption information.

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