

Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild

September 2020 Newsletter

President's Message:

Fiber On, Y'all

Like you, I yearn for some sense of normalcy, some return to "the good old days" of this time last year. I'm excited about our guild program line-up (listed elsewhere in this newsletter). Even if we must have our autumn meetings on Zoom, it will still be fun to gather virtually.

I have my fingers crossed for the annual Chimneyville Arts Festival scheduled for Dec. 3-5 at the *new* Trade Mart. This event is always a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate our crafts, meet new folks, and greet old friends. Not only would this year introduce us to a newly constructed Trade Mart but would also be the debut of our newly formed CWSG Co-op!

My foray into online learning continues.... Following the weave-along with Janet Dawson and Tien Chiu, I signed up for another online class with them. Along with several other guild members, I'm participating in Marcy Petrini's online class on Lacey Weaves. And I'm looking forward to the next phase of Anastasia Azure's Weaving Your Story class. Her previous offering pushed me *way outside* my comfort zone!

Yes, this virus is scary and the quarantine is challenging. And there's still fiber fun to be had online and (hopefully soon) in person.

Wash your hands and keep spinning and weaving, Beth



Above: Samples, yarn wrap, and color analysis for Weaving Your Story.

Right: Burgundy okra used as inspiration for Weaving Your Story.



Exciting Programs Planned

Beth Palmer

Saturday, Sept. 19 (Zoom, if necessary)

Spinning Wheel and Loom Maintenance and Repair; Terry Dwyer, presenter

Spinning and Weaving Week is celebrated every October during the first full week of the month (Monday-Sunday) **Oct. 5-11**. The CWSG Co-op has reserved space at the Craft Center for demos on **Oct. 3**. All CWSG members are welcome to participate.

Saturday, Oct. 17 (Zoom, if necessary)

Weaving on Opposites (*Heddlecraft*, Volume 4/Issue 5, Sept/Oct 2019); Beth Palmer, presenter

Saturday, Nov. 21

Surface Texture Inspiration: A Look at Free-Form Tapestry Weaving; Janet Lee, presenter

Saturday, Dec. 11

Holiday party; location to be determined

Saturday, Jan. 16

Honorary Life Membership celebration luncheon for Sharon Williams; location to be determined

Saturday, Feb. 20

What Makes a Good Fiber Art Show? (What one should think about when creating a piece for a show, and how one goes about displaying the work.); Sharon Williams, presenter

Saturday, March 20

Sheep to Shawl demonstration all day; Craft Center, main area downstairs

Saturday, April 17

Fiber Characteristics; Marcy Petrini, presenter (Zoom, if necessary)

Saturday, May 15

One-day workshop: Rigid Heddle: Beyond Plain Weave; Angela Schneider, presenter

Dues Deadline is Sept. 19

Beth Palmer

Our annual dues are a BIG part of our guild income for the year. They enable us to provide outstanding monthly programs, our annual Sheep to Shawl demonstration, and our upcoming rigid heddle workshop. Our dues also allow us to support other related organizations such as the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi and the Handweavers Guild of America, as well as to pay our own minimal expenses.

If you have not already done so, please mail your annual dues of \$25 to treasurer Nancy Hester at PO Box 793, Clinton MS 39056. The cut-off for payment of annual dues is Sept. 19, 2020.

Complete Survey to Prepare for Sept. Program

Terry Dwyer

I wrote up a short seven-question survey to try to get some ideas about the problems individuals might have. Find it here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TPDNW2G> or use this QR code, at right.

For the purpose of this presentation, I have a virtual handout. I am offering – gratis – a PDF of my monograph *Caring for Your Loom and Spinning Wheel*.

Anyone interested may email me (loomdoctor@gmail.com) and I will provide a link.



You Have Taken Up the Challenge!

Marcy Petrini

Thank you to all who participated in the challenge. What an incredible array of ideas! I am now analyzing them to see if there is any overlap. More to come but I wanted to say thank you!

Weaving Classes on Zoom

Marcy Petrini

When Covid-19 interrupted our twill class and once it became obvious that the Craft Center studio has no possibility for social distancing (and poor ventilation), we moved on to Zoom!

Here are the wonderful placemats already in use that Dianne Williams designed and wove – yes, she designed those, and she only had one beginning weaving class before the twill class!

Jeanne Peet designed and wove those gorgeous placemats. More twill placemats to come soon, I hope. At the end, we had a twill test which everybody did very well on. If you are curious about the test, it is in my August blog and the answers in the September blog.

Meanwhile, we have started the lacy weave class on Zoom as well.



Global Bead Project

Carolyn Campbell

I submitted beaded squares (at left) to a world-wide call to join the “Black & White Together Project,” calling for unity in the world. These small warped squares are made of size 11 black and white Delica beads.

The squares will be combined with those from makers around the world to construct a larger art piece, but we weren’t told what the final project will be.

Spinning and Weaving Week

The crafts of spinning, weaving, dyeing, and basket weaving are as ancient as our history; they are the threads that bind us to our ancestors and to each other. Our crafts know no national boundary. They are a part of the heritage of the world. The Spinning and Weaving Week celebration reflects the truly international membership of the Handweavers Guild of America Inc. and the international traditions of our crafts. HGA invites fiber artists around the world to join in celebration of our common heritage. (*from weavespindye.org*)

This year HGA has several events planned to celebrate Spinning and Weaving Week. More than 20 professional members (including our own Marcy Petrini!) are offering sales, specials, and promotions. HGA will also offer a virtual artist's studio tour on Thursday, Oct. 8. On Sunday, Oct. 11, the week will culminate in an informal online fashion show. More events may be added, so stay tuned at weavespindye.org

Locally, our CWSG Co-op will host spinning and weaving demonstrations at the Bill Waller Sr. Craft Center on Saturday, Oct. 3. All guild members are welcome to join us!

Copyright and Our Work

Kathy Perito

The subject of copyright as it pertains to craftwork is often misunderstood. Thanks to Long Thread Media, you can now have a ready reference to help navigate copyright questions. Along with publishing *Handwoven*, *PieceWork*, and *Spin Off*, Long Thread Media provides a vast amount of educational content for crafters.

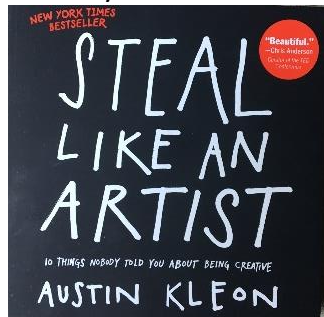
Recently, Long Thread Media republished *Know Your Rights: Copyright 101 for Weavers* and *Know Your Rights: Copyright 101 for Spinners* in the public domain to allow crafters access to information to help clarify issues related to creating work and respecting the work of others. Although the guides included specify that they are for weavers or spinners, you will notice the technical content is the same and can be applied to all fiber crafts.

These two ebooks are attached to this newsletter.

Book Review: 'Steal Like an Artist'

Beth Palmer

At our CWSG Co-op meeting on June 27, Marcy Petrini mentioned the book *Steal Like an Artist* by Austin Kleon. Intrigued, I purchased the book and quickly read through it. Kleon offers 10 tips for "anyone who's trying to inject some creativity into their life and work." I bet that includes all of us in the guild.



I won't review all 10 of Kleon's tips, but there are two that bear discussion here: *Steal like an artist* and *Creativity is subtraction*. Kleon asserts there is nothing that you or I might create that is truly original. That's because we ourselves are the product of nature and nurture. Everything around us has roots in other things. Kleon recommends that we focus on stealing from folks we admire and that we push ourselves to really ponder what it is about another

person's work that we love. For Kleon, stealing differs from copying in that stealing honors the original by studying, crediting, transforming, and remixing it. He also recommends stealing from lots of folks we admire, not just one of them.

In his final chapter, *Creativity is subtraction*, Kleon argues in favor of limitations and tells the story of Theodor Geisel (aka Dr. Seuss). After Geisel wrote *The Cat in the Hat* using just 236

words, his agent bet him he could not write a book with just 50 words. Geisel's reply was the book *Green Eggs and Ham*, which contains just 50 different words!

When I think of my own weaving, I think about all the times I've thought that I cannot weave something because I don't have enough shafts, or my loom isn't wide enough, or I don't have the right yarn, or enough time or talent. I enjoy setting up contests for myself in other parts of my life (e.g., Can I clean the bathroom in 10 minutes? Make dinner from what's in the pantry?), so why not in my weaving? How can I weave something similar to something I admire with four shafts instead of eight? How can I make it out of Tencel instead of silk? How many heddles can I thread in the next 20 minutes?

Steal Like an Artist is a tiny book, just 140 pages, each 6" by 6", many of those pages with just a few words on them. And I expect that I will be chewing thoughtfully on Kleon's nuggets for some time to come.

Steal Like an Artist by Austin Kleon, Workman Publishing

Southern Needle Classes Set

Beverly Anglin

Things at The Southern Needle have been extremely quiet but are starting to slowly take on the flow of a new normal. Shop hours remain Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the third Saturday per month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or by special appointment.

We will be offering a Cardigan Class from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays, October through December, with our very own Donna Peyton teaching. Cost of class is \$75 for eight sessions; all yarn and supplies are to be ordered through the shop before the end of September. A 10% discount will be applied to yarn orders for this class. Signup begins the week of Sept. 7 and six slots are available. I already know of three folks who want to take this class so sign up now!

Zoom Loom classes will be taught every Wednesday, 1 to 3 p.m., during September and October. Class is \$30 plus cost of loom at \$45. Sign up for three slots available.

Nancy to Exhibit in Meridian Show

Nancy Landrum

Hello, everyone. I have not spent my time wisely during this ordeal. I have stayed home and not done much at all on my loom. I finished the end of a warp which is not long enough for much at all. However, I did put a silk warp on using Convergence yarn from Reno. I finished it this week. I think I am coming out of this swamp.

There is something exciting coming up. From Oct. 14 until Nov. 19 I will be participating in an art exhibit at Meridian Community College. It is titled "7 Women. 7 Artists of Mississippi." I can give more information later.

I am sorry I have not participated in the Zoom things. I am going to try to get set up for it this fall. I really miss our meetings. Hope to see you soon.



Calendar

- **Chimneyville Arts Festival**, Dec. 3-5, new Mississippi Trade Mart building, Jackson. CWSG Co-op members will have a booth at the show.
- **Southeast Fiber Forum**, April 15-18, 2021, Arrowmont School of Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Details: www.sefiberforum.org



Kathy Perito wove these Krokbragd (3-shaft weave) mug rugs on a rigid heddle loom.

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: Janet Lee

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."

CWSG members may also join the CWSG Co-op, which is a member of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi and provides opportunities to sell original handwoven and handspun work through CGM's shows and gallery.

Meetings/Events

CWSG normally 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.

During the pandemic, however, meetings may be conducted online via Zoom.

We also enjoy public outreach activities such as weaving and spinning demonstrations at the Chimneyville Arts Festival and a springtime demonstration day we call Sheep to Shawl.

Next meeting:

Sept. 19: Spinning Wheel and Loom Maintenance and Repair; Terry Dwyer, presenter (via Zoom if necessary)

Newsletter

Please email newsletter content 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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cvillewsg.com