

Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild

June 2021 Newsletter

A Word of Gratitude

Nancy Hester, president

Dear Members,

Thank you all for continuing to support the Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild!

I want to express my appreciation to our members for all their continuing enthusiasm, hard work, support and perseverance during the "Covidian era."

And a huge thank-you to Beth Palmer to serving as our president for the past two years. Also, I want to thank all the past and present board and committee members, who have kept our guild meetings, celebrations, events, sales and programs going.

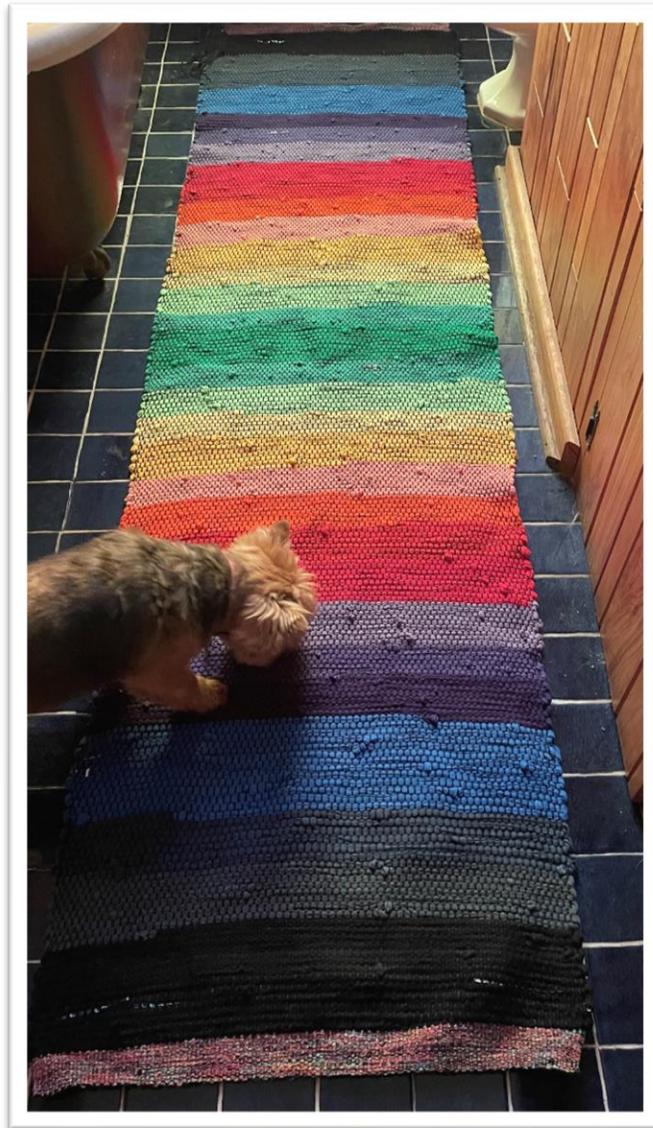
While I am very thankful we have the ability to meet remotely with Zoom technology, I am hopeful we can meet live and in person more often in the near future.

May Meeting Minutes

Jeanne Marie Peet, secretary

The May meeting of CWSG was called to order on Zoom conferencing by President Beth Palmer on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at 10 a.m. A quorum was determined with 13 members present. Sharon Williams moved to approve the agenda; Marcy Petrini seconded. The agenda was approved. Marcy Petrini moved that we accept the minutes from April 24 as printed in the May newsletter. Debbie Stringer seconded, and the minutes were approved as presented.

In old business, the rigid heddle workshop held on May 15, 2021, at the William Waller Craft Center, was reported a great success. Presented by Angela Schneider, the program *Beyond Plain Weave* was enjoyed by all who attended. Gio Chinchar coordinated this event.



Beth Palmer tells the story of her twice-woven t-shirt rug in this issue. Photo by Beth.

Annual reports were presented to the membership by event chairmen/coordinators. Sharon Williams reported on exhibits by guild members and co-op members. CWSG held an exhibit in the George Berry Gallery of the William Waller Craft Center March - April 2021. The CWSG Co-op additionally exhibited at Chimneyville at Home in December 2020, and at the Oxford Fiber Festival in January 2021. Future opportunities for exhibits will be at Chimneyville in December 2021, Oxford Fiber Festival in January 2022, Fiber Fun in the 'Sip (Vicksburg) in September 2022 and Sycamore Arts at Northwest Community College in February 2022.



Brenda Harrower's summery top of her handspun three-ply cotton yarn looks so cool and comfy!

Janet Lee reported no expenses or book check-outs from the library this year. Inventory is checked and updated online in LibraryThing. Members may review our inventory at www.librarything.com/catalog/CWSGLibrary/yourlibrary.

Debbie Stringer, newsletter editor, compiled and published 10 newsletter issues this year. Sent via email to guild members, other guilds and HGA, the newsletter is also posted on the guild website.

Alma Ellis reported on this year's Sheep to Shawl activity. Despite much effort, no sheep were available for the event, but weavers and spinners had the opportunity to demonstrate and showcase their talents. Due to pandemic restrictions, a small number attended.

The year's variety of programs was reviewed in Gio Chinchar's report:

- September - Wheel/Loom Maintenance by Terry Dwyer (Zoom)
- October - Weaving on Opposites by Beth Palmer (Zoom)
- November - Tapestry Weaving with Janet Lee (Zoom)
- December - Christmas Party (Zoom)
- January - Matching Fiber, Yarn, and Structure by Marcy Petrini (Zoom)
- February - Fiber Shows by Sharon Williams (Zoom)
- March - Sheep to Shawl Demonstrations (Wm. Waller Craft Center)
- April - Lifetime Membership Celebration for Sharon Williams (Anjou restaurant)
- May - Rigid Heddle Workshop with Angela Schneider (Wm. Waller Craft Center)

After the budget report, Marcy Petrini called for the meeting to adjourn.

How Well Do You Know the Simple Weaves?

The online study group I am leading, which includes Beth, Jeanne Marie, Patricia and people from all over the country, has reached a good point for assessment. We are finished with what Irene Emery calls the simple weaves (in *The Primary Structures of Fabrics*, aka “The Bible”), so they have a test. How well do you know the simple weaves? You can take that test online, with answers coming next month:

www.marcypetrini.com/marcy-s-blogs/320-blog-089-weaving-year-of-wonder

A Weaving Disaster (Redeemed!)

Beth Palmer

If at first, you don't succeed....

Long before the pandemic began, I started accumulating used t-shirts. Some held too many memories to be tossed. Others featured happy colors. Many were sturdy, except for a hole or splash of paint somewhere. I imagined that one day I would weave a rug using t-shirt strips as weft.

A plan emerged for my imaginary rug. I would use t-shirts in rainbow colors. I could use up some cotton/poly carpet warp I had mistakenly purchased. The rug would brighten up our downstairs bathroom. I happily set about this new project.

Unfortunately, my brain had not fully engaged and my warp was only about 2/3 as wide as it needed to be. I have no explanation for this oversight. I wove the entire rug (about 3 yards), cut it off the loom and plopped it onto the floor. What on earth? It was much too narrow for the space!

I sulked overnight, angry with myself for messing up a very fundamental part of this project. I debated whether to live with the rug as it was (and face its recriminations every time I entered the bathroom) OR to relegate the rug to the heap of weaving disasters that live in a dark corner of the hallway closet.

After a good night's sleep, I knew what I needed and wanted to do. Armed with scissors, I cut up the warp and extracted the weft. I re-warped my loom (using the rest of the cotton/poly carpet warp!), measuring and re-measuring the warp's width in the reed. The second round of weaving went much more quickly as the t-shirts were already cut into strips.

I likely would not have taken this approach with a piece woven in finer threads and more difficult to de-construct. But I'm so pleased that I was able to salvage the t-shirt weft and create a rug closer to what I envisioned. As you can see in the photo (*on page 1*), my dog approves as well!

'Textiles & Tea' Schedule

Beth Palmer

Here's an update on “Textiles & Tea,” a weekly (free!) online presentation by Handweavers Guild of America. These events begin at 3 p.m. CDT on Zoom. You must register ahead of time. Learn more at weavespindye.org.

Tuesday, June 1 - Gerhardt Knodel, former director of Cranbrook Academy of Art

Tuesday, June 8 - Majeda Clarke, fiber artist with Indian roots living in UK

Tuesday, June 15 - Linda Hartshorn, weaver and dyer living in northern CA

Tuesday, June 22 - Justin Squizzero, weaves coverlets on 18th century looms

Tuesday, June 29 - Jessica Pinsky, background in studio art, painting and sculpture

RH Weavers Learn New Tricks

Debbie Stringer

A group of CWSG members learned how to take rigid heddle weaving “Beyond Plain Weave” in a recent workshop led by Angela Schneider, of Allemande Fiber Arts, and coordinated by Gio Chinchar.

Participants wove a sampler of techniques including hand-manipulated lace weaves, Brooks bouquet, pick-up stick patterns, two-shuttle weaves and more.

Angela demonstrated each technique, offered one-on-one

guidance, and gave us an illustrated booklet she had prepared covering all the techniques. A special treat was the opportunity to buy wooden weaving tools made by her father, John, of John D’s Wood Things (a past Roc Day exhibitor).

Some comments from participants:

“Growing in knowledge of weaving projects on my RH. I’m now working on an overshot rug for my new bathroom. Angela did a fantastic job. Hope she’ll come share with us sometime in the future.” –Beverly Anglin

“There was a wide range of experience and talent among the participants in the workshop. Angela made everyone feel comfortable, teaching each of us where we were in our weaving journeys.” –Jeanne Marie Peet

“First, I would like to thank Gio for arranging and organizing this workshop for us, and for having our lunch catered. Due to the pandemic, it was not certain if this workshop could be held. It was wonderful to be able to meet in person, and to learn from Angela Schneider.

Angela is an excellent teacher. She is patient, provided individual help and set a very comfortable pace for our class. I especially appreciated sharing the experience with the other class members. I learned quite a lot from the other weavers and loved seeing everyone’s work. Have always wanted to try some of the weaving techniques introduced in this class, such as clasped weft.” –Nancy Hester

“Angela had given us a choice of yarns and setts to use so each of our samplers looked different, which was interesting to see. I appreciate the booklet she made for us; it will be a good reference to keep with my sampler. I thoroughly enjoyed (and am inspired by) this workshop.” –Debbie Stringer



*Angela Schneider, above.
Beverly Anglin’s workshop
sampler, above left.*

Financial Report

Nancy Hester, treasurer

Checking Account as of 4-30-21:

Prior balance, 2-28-21	\$7,406.82
Add:	
Interest	0.12
Less:	
Celebration expense reimbursement CK#595	(95.25)
Celebration expense reimbursement CK#596	(43.15)
Workshop instructor fee, travel expense CK#597	(572.00)
Current balance, 5-30-21	\$6,696.54
Reserve/Savings Account as of 5-30-21:	\$1,414.23

Calendar

- **Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association (MAFA) Conference 2021 - A Virtual Fiber Event**, June 24-27. More info at mafafiber.org.
- **25th Convergence**, July 15-21, 2022, Knoxville (Tenn.) Convention Center. WeaveSpinDye.org.

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. New officers are installed at the May meeting. Officers as of May 2021 are:

President: Nancy Hester
Vice President: Brenda Harrower
Secretary: Jeanne Marie Peet
Treasurer: Jane Klinck
Librarian/Historian: Janet Lee
Past President: Beth Palmer

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, www.MSCrafts.org, in Ridgeland, Miss., unless otherwise noted.

During the pandemic, however, meetings are being conducted online via Zoom.

We also conduct public outreach activities, including group weaving and spinning demonstrations and a springtime demonstration day known as Sheep to Shawl, all at the Craft Center.

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. Your comments and suggestions for improving our newsletter are always welcome!

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