

# Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild

September 2022

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## Message from the President

*From Nancy Hester, President*

Dear Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild Members,

Getting together again is really happening! Thanks to all of you for your patience while we met through Zoom technology over the past two years. Although we may have to go back to virtual meetings in the future, for the time being the CWSG will be gathering at the Madison Library in-person beginning on September 17 at 10 a.m. Although we have enjoyed a good relationship with the William Winter Craft Center over the years, the financial restraints and unreliability of meeting dates has necessitated a move on our part that was made with much careful thought and discussion.

Sharing ideas, listening, discussing, rekindling old friendships and committing to new ones are all part of the fabric that has held our fiber artistry group together. We hope to continue this tradition as we move ahead in fall of 2022. See you at our "welcome back" meeting on September 17. Be sure to bring something for "show and tell." Also, I plan to bring an extra rigid heddle loom for anyone wanting to try one after our program.

The 2022-2023 Annual Membership dues are due by the end of the September 2022 meeting. Annual dues are still \$ 25.00 per year. If you prefer to mail your dues in advance, please send them to our Treasurer Heather Mitchell. Her address is 354 Marachino Drive, Clinton, Mississippi. 39056.

Logo image adapted from image  
graciously provided by Marcy Petrini at  
<https://www.marcypetrini.com/>

## Meet the Members: Spotlight on Alma Ellis

**I was born/raised:** I've lived all my life in Madison County. I grew up in Madison, with family ties to that town that are 200 years old. My husband and I moved out in the county, closer to Flora, almost 40 years ago.

**Family:** My husband, Carroll, and I have been married for 48 years. We have one son, a lovely DIL, and two wonderful grandsons.

**Work:** I retired in 2019 after a 42-year career. When I retired, I'd been working for 22 years as a special project director with the Institute of Disability Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi. I began my career as a newspaper writer/photographer, moved on to 14 years of corporate communication/public relations, then went into state government as a writer—lots of reports, magazines, brochures, grants.

### **How I became interested in weaving/spinning/fiber art**

I tell people I'm a begin-again weaver. I started in the '80s, but I didn't get back to it until the 2000s. Like many, my interest in weaving began with garment sewing. My mom, who sewed beautifully, taught me to sew in grade school and helped me to progress to garments as a clothes-loving teen. I first became interested in weaving by watching demonstrations at Pleasant Hill, a restored Shaker village in Kentucky. My aunt worked there, and when we visited, I would always head to the fiber building. There was an aha moment—as a weaver, you can make your own fabric for your garments! I finally got around to taking a class from Marcy Petrini in the early '80s when she was teaching weaving as part of the Millsaps Community Enrichment Programs. But I was a full-time working wife and mom with a small child so I didn't get back to weaving until I bought my first loom when my son graduated from college.

### **How I became interested in CWSG; How long I've been a member:**

Marva Goodman and I would see each other at the knifemaking activities our husbands attended. I knew Marva wove and spun so I always cornered her to question her about weaving. She helped me decide on a loom and directed me to former member Melba Nipper to make that Schact Baby Wolf purchase in 2007. I also attended a ROC Day meeting at the invitation of Jane Dollar who was a friend of one of my sisters. After piddling around at the loom on my own for a couple of years, I attended my first CWSG meeting at Marva's invitation in September 2010 and joined that day.



## CWSG Program Schedule

**September 17, 2021**

*"Member Show and Tell"*

To celebrate our return to in-person meeting, we encourage all attendees to bring something you have made, whether it's a project recently finished or something you worked on during the pandemic, to share with the group. Let's enjoy this time of fellowship together and re-connect!

## Rigid Heddle Group Meet-up

**September 17, 2021**

If you would like to bring your rigid heddle loom, a few members will be staying after the meeting and program to work on our current projects and help each other as we have questions.

Even if you don't have a rigid heddle loom, you are welcome to bring anything you would like to work on and come hang out with us!

## Membership Dues

Annual membership fee of \$25.00 is due in September. You can pay at September's meeting or mail to our Treasurer, Heather Mitchell. Her address is 354 Marachino Drive, Clinton, MS 39056.

If you know of any fiber artists who would be interested in joining our guild, please invite them to join.

If you have had any changes to your contact information, please send an updated form to Heather.





## HGA Weaving and Spinning Week

From October 3rd-9th, HGA will offer virtual activities and events to educate, inspire, and support the fiber art community. All sessions will be recorded and available on-demand to registered attendees for 90 days. The registration fee includes access to all 7-days of programming including Marketplace LIVE, Thread Talks, Studio Tours, Panel Discussions, Fashion Show, Virtual Exhibit Hall, and Networking Opportunities.

New this year are Art Sparks sessions, which are sample classes or mini workshops covering a hyper-specific topic and are often used to introduce participants to a new art form, technique, or equipment. You must first register for the Spinning & Weaving Week Celebration before you can register for an Art Sparks Session.

For more information or to register for the HGA Spinning and Weaving Week, you can visit the HGA site at <https://weavespindye.org/spinning-and-weaving-week-2022/>

### Other art or craft interests/experiences/ambitions

I've long had an interest in art to wear clothing, so sewing garments with hand woven fabrics has always been on my radar screen for my weaving projects. Retirement has allowed me more time to weave, but as newer weaver, I'm still experimenting widely with weave structures, fibers and projects.

### Other hobbies/pastimes

I walk most every day, am a voracious fiction reader and enjoy cooking.



## Home Sweet Home

*Submitted by Jeanne Marie Peet*

After much deliberation and searching, a new meeting space has been located for the guild! The Madison City Public Library has graciously and excitedly welcomed our guild. They are eager to assist us in any publicity needs we have and have agreed to waive the fees for using the meeting space. The Madison City Public Library is located at 994 Madison Ave, Madison, Mississippi 39110. We can't wait to see everyone in person again!





# Fiber Fun in the 'Sip

*Submitted by Beth Palmer*

Fiber Fun in the 'Sip came back strong after a three-year hiatus. The fiber festival returned to the Vicksburg Convention Center Friday and Saturday, August 26 and 27. Hosted by Judy Busby, owner of Agape Knits (formerly The Whole 9 Yarns) and co-owner of JEMS Luxe Fibers, the event included two days of classes, a marketplace, and a spacious area to sit and stitch while enjoying music and adult beverages.

Several guild members taught classes at the festival. Donna Peyton taught entrelac and Fair Isle hat knitting as well as drop spindle spinning. Beverly Anglin taught finishing techniques and Tunisian crochet. Katie Clark taught double and Continental knitting along with making a sweater that fits for knitting or crochet.



The Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Co-op, comprised of guild members, was one of 14 vendors at the event. The Co-op offered custom-blended spinning fiber, handspun yarn, handwoven towels, scarves, birds, sachets, and other hand-crafted items for sale. The Co-op booth was sandwiched between

Ewe2Yarn from Texas (offering hand-painted, breed specific yarns) and the DeSoto Arts Council with their ever-popular African baskets.

While this year's festival was smaller than pre-Covid events, everyone in attendance seemed very happy to be there. Fiber friends who had not seen one another in person for several years hugged each other, exclaimed over new projects, and chatted excitedly about the future. Before the last car departed the parking lot, Judy Busby announced plans for a bigger, better festival next year. Stay tuned for the dates of Fiber Fun in the 'Sip 2023!



## HGA Textiles and Tea

Each Tuesday at 4 pm (EST), HGA hosts a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. They are broadcast via Zoom and free to view and open to all. Full schedule at [weavespindye.org](https://weavespindye.org)

### September 6, 2022:

Catharine Ellis sponsored by Schiffer Craft Publishing

### September 13, 2022:

Amy Putansu sponsored by Weavers' Guild of St. Louis, in Memory of Dorothy Haddock

### September 20, 2022:

Karen Clancy sponsored by Weave a Real Peace

### September 27, 2022:

Janice Lessman-Moss sponsored by Illinois Prairie Weavers





# Member Show and Tell

*Submitted by Various Members*

*Image 1: Twill Christmas Towels*



*Image 2: CWSG co-op booth at Fiber Fun in the 'Sip*

*Image 3: 40-shaft Shawl*

## Want Ad: Demonstrators

A friend is having a tour of the church/cemetery at Rocky Springs on September 24th for 3 hours. They wanted people to demonstrate crafts from the early 1800's and asked if I knew anyone that had an old fashion loom or spinning that might be interested.

If there is anyone that would like to help, please contact me and I will get you in touch with Wanda Horton.

Thanks,  
Carolyn Campbell

**Image 1:** Gio Chinchar's weaving from this summer; twill Christmas towels; 22/2 cottolin

**Image 2:** Beth Palmer captured photos of the CWSG co-op booth at Fiber Fun in the 'Sip festival.

**Image 3:** Submitted by Marcy Petrini: Ever wonder whether you could "downsize" a multi-shaft pattern to 4 or 8? That is the topic of my August blog:

<https://www.marcypetrini.com/marcy-s-blogs/343-blog-104-from-more-to-four>

I took this 40-shaft shawl and "downsized" it.

# May 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes

*Submitted by Jeanne Marie Peet*

The Annual Guild Meeting of the CWSG was called to order by President Nancy Hester on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at 10 a.m. on Zoom video conference. A quorum was determined with 14 members present. Debbie Stringer moved that the agenda be accepted. Donna Peyton seconded, and the motion was approved. The minutes of the April 16, 2022, meeting, as printed in the CWSG May 2022 newsletter, were presented. Corrections to the minutes in paragraph 2 to include "the motion passed" instead of "the vote passed" and to add "and no write-in votes on the absentee ballot" were noted by Debra Sue Pate. Lynn Watkins moved to amend the minutes as stated and Debra Sue Pate seconded. The minutes were approved as amended and will be recorded.

The summer meeting, to be held on Zoom in lieu of a summer retreat, was set for August 7, 2022, from 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Members wishing to meet and/or demonstrate at the William Waller Craft Center either individually or in small groups should contact Sherri Cox to set up dates and times on an individual basis.

The annual Treasurer's report was presented, along with reports from the nominating committee, and a report from the librarian/historian.

The new officers will take office at the end of the May 21, 2022, meeting.

The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Marcy Petrini.

Donna Peyton then presented the PowerPoint program "In Olden Days: Fiber Work in Ancient Greece and Rome" which included ancient mythology and literature along with discussion of fibers, textiles, and techniques of this time period.



## **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: Nancy Hester

Vice President: Debra Sue Pate

Secretary: Jeanne Marie Peet

Treasurer: Heather Mitchell

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 <http://cvillewsg.com/> and 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 Madison City Library in Madison, Miss., unless otherwise noted. We also conduct public outreach activities such as weaving and spinning demonstrations at the Chimneyville Arts Festival and a springtime demonstration day known as Sheep to Shawl.

### **Newsletter**

Please email newsletter content submissions to newsletter editor Janet Lee ([jlemasters100@yahoo.com](mailto:jlemasters100@yahoo.com)) by the first day of the month of publication. If you are sending a photo, please include caption information.