

Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild

Message from the President

From Janet Lee

Dear CWSG Members,

I spent some time recently looking through the old newsletters and picture galleries archived on our web site, and it is amazing to see how things have changed over the years, but also how things have stayed the same. When I looked at pictures from 2010, well before my weaving and spinning journeys began, I see the same consistency and commitment that I experience at our events today. The willingness and passion of our members to hone a craft and openly share it with others is such an inspiring characteristic of our guild and I believe is what keeps us strong – 45 years strong in fact!

I look forward to seeing everyone at Sheep to Shawl on the 28th and sharing this special art form with our community.



Handwoven sheep on display at our 2018 Sheep to Shawl.

March 2026

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CWSG Program Schedule

Sheep to Shawl Demonstration, March 28th

In lieu of our regular meeting and program, we will be hosting Sheep To Shawl on March 28th at the Craft Center from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

Sheep to Shawl

Submitted by Jeanne Marie Peet

We are looking forward to another great Sheep to Shawl event at the Waller Craft Center on March 28 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

A sign-up sheet that included the list of stations available has been emailed to members. If you have not signed up, please email me at jmpeet@bellsouth.net and I will add you to the signup sheet. If you would like to interact with children weaving on a rigid heddle and have not signed up, we need a few more volunteers for that station; no experience is required and the looms will be pre-warped.

Setup will be Friday afternoon at 3:00 pm. For your convenience, you may leave your equipment or items for destash between 2:00-4:00 pm. The Craft Center will open at 9:15 am Saturday morning to allow us time to finish setting up.

As usual, the guild will have a destash table. If you have items to donate, you can bring them on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.

Lunch will be potluck (or bring your own brown bag lunch). There is always plenty of good food to share.

The Sapphire Exhibit is now up in the George Berry Gallery and is viewable until Sheep to Shawl. You may take your items home with you after the Sheep to Shawl event.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Janet Lee. Hope to see you all on March 28!

CWSG Program Schedule

September 20, 2025

Anniversary Year Kickoff

Presented by CWSG Members

Moderator Donna Peyton

October 18, 2025

Fiber Identification

Presented by Jacqueline Dutsch

November 22, 2025

There's an App for That

Presented by CWSG Members

Moderator Donna Peyton

December 13, 2025

Christmas Party

January 24, 2026

Zoom Show & Tell

Presented by CWSG Members

February 28, 2026

Sapphire Challenge Preview

Presented by CWSG Members

Moderator Donna Peyton

March 28, 2026

Sheep to Shawl (demonstration)

April 18, 2026

Cloth Road Video

May 16, 2026

Rigid Heddle CrazyShot! Technique

Presented by CWSG members in the

Rigid Heddle Study Group

Upcoming Events

January 27 – April 26, 2026	The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art will host “Art Evolved: Intertwined” in Laurel, MS. The exhibit, created by Studio Art Quilt Associates and the National Basketry Association, will feature works by fiber artists in traditional materials, including fabric, thread, reed, wood and paper.
February 28- March 28, 2026	Sapphire Challenge Exhibit at the George Berry Gallery inside the Waller Craft Center.
March 12, 2026	The Acadian Brown Cotton and Acadia Fibershed is hosting a spring event on Saturday March 12, 10am-5pm. https://www.facebook.com/acadianbrowncottonfromfieldtofashion/
March 28, 2026	Our annual CWSG Sheep to Shawl Event will be held at the Craft Center on March 28th. Jeanne Marie will chair the event. More discussion regarding the event will be held at our upcoming guild meeting, so come prepared to volunteer!

Step Right Up and Make a Difference

Submitted by Alma Ellis

At last month's meeting, members discussed the upcoming election for guild secretary. This is an important position—this person manages the clerical and administrative tasks of our guild, most particularly the minutes of each meeting. The secretary knows what's going on and who's making it happen. In some cases the secretary has also been the newsletter editor, or they have found another guild member to work with them. Just think, technology can be a good thing. Our newsletter editor no longer has to use a typewriter or cut and paste or lick stamps like they had to not too many years ago!

During our discussion, I asked for anyone who had ever served as a CWSG officer to raise their hand. As you can imagine, just about every hand at the table was raised. In a small guild, active members have to wear many hats. We have members who have served as president, vice president, secretary/newsletter editor, treasurer, historian/librarian—multiple times. But everyone has always been willing and also understanding of letting members hang back some years to accommodate life's sidetracks.

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

March 3, 2026: Judi Jetson

A fiber activist with a community economic developer's heart.
Sponsored by [Weave A Real Peace](#)

March 10, 2026: Margery Erickson

A member and master artisan in weaving with the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen since 1991.
Sponsored by [Halcyon Yarn](#)

March 17, 2026: Gretchen Fancher

Loves to explore the possibilities of color play, texture, and structure available to rigid heddle weavers.
Sponsored by [Follow the Threads](#)

March 24, 2026: Phoebe Vlassis

A weaver and musician from Athens, Greece, currently based in New Orleans, Louisiana.
Sponsored by [Dell Christy](#)

March 31, 2026: Patricia Martin

Runs a weaving and dye studio in California called Whispering Vista Studios.
Sponsored by [Central Coast Weavers](#)

And yes, this willingness to serve has kept us going—for 45 years. Let's continue this as we head toward our 50th anniversary. If you are ready to take a role in the guild or return to involvement, please contact the Nominating Committee: Lynn Watkins or me. We'll be glad to talk about possibilities, and making a difference.

Sapphire Challenge Exhibit

Submitted by Janet Lee

Thank you to everyone who contributed items and helped setup our Sapphire Challenge Exhibit – it took a village but really came together nicely!

The exhibit will be open to the public until Sheep to Shawl so be sure to get the word out. We have a guest book for visitors to sign, so when you get a chance be sure to add your thoughts and memories to our book.



Summer Retreat Survey

Be checking your emails for a survey on possibly holding a summer retreat this year. I'm trying to gauge interest, desired price range, and location to ensure the best participation. Thanks!

Janet Lee

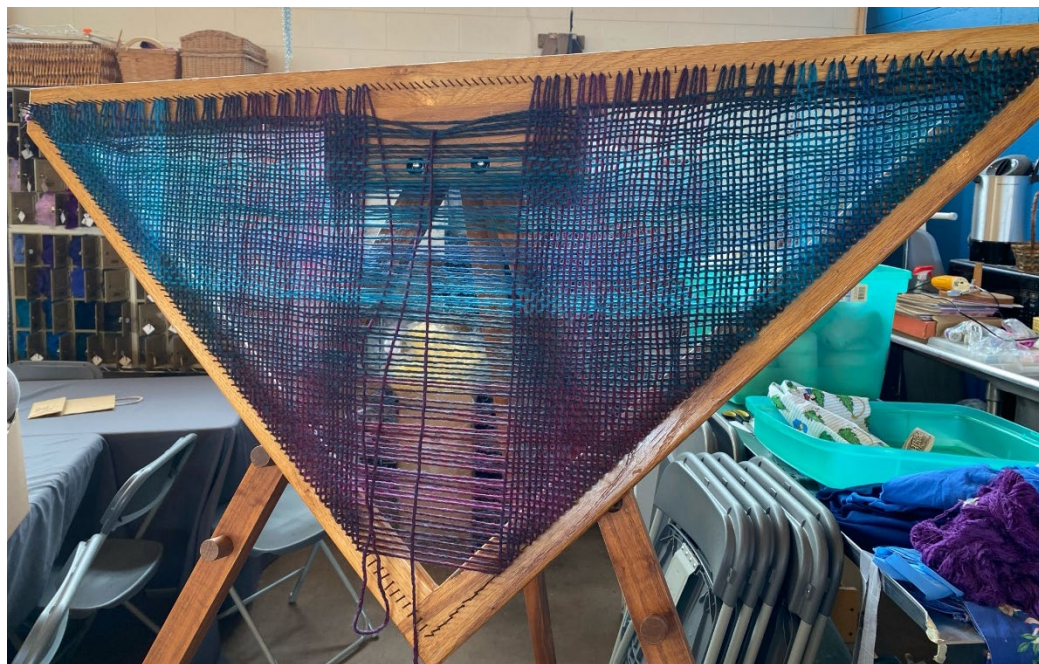
CWSG Co-op Announcement

The Co-op will have a table to sell items this year at Sheep to Shawl. Sharon Williams will bring items she has left from Oxford and Vicksburg, and Co-op members can bring new items if they wish. Donna Peyton is the Co-op contact if you have any questions.

Member Submissions

Submitted by various members

From Jacqueline Dutsch: Continuous Strand Weaving in Chicago



From Janet Lee: My mother and I took the twining class from Jonee Davis at Fiber Fun 'N the Sip in Vicksburg. We received a frame the size of a large potholder and all the fabric needed. I can't wait to make a bigger frame for a rug!



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: Janet Lee

Vice President: Donna Peyton

Secretary: Sarah Pair

Treasurer: Gio Chinchar

Librarian/Historian: Jacqueline Dutsch

Past President: Alma Ellis

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 Bill Waller Craft Center in Ridgeland, MS unless otherwise noted. We also conduct public outreach activities such as weaving and spinning demonstrations and a springtime demonstration day known as Sheep to Shawl.

Newsletter

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

CWSG Meeting Minutes from February 28, 2026

Submitted by Sarah Pair, Secretary

President Janet Lee called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. on February 28, 2026, at the Bill Waller Craft Center. With 14 members present, a quorum was determined. Janet welcomed new member Annie Parr, who introduced herself and spoke about her weaving and educational background.

Meeting minutes from January 24, 2026, were approved as distributed in the February newsletter.

Treasurer Gio Chinchar presented the monthly financial report. A small amount of interest and a cash deposit from the Roc Day destash table resulted in a slight increase to the guild checking account. There have been no unbudgeted outstanding expenses.

In unfinished business, Janet and the Sheep to Shawl Committee chair Jeanne Marie Peet gave an update on S2S. The event will take place March 28, 2026; doors will open for members to set up around 9:15 a.m., and the event will start at 10 a.m. Last year, several families arrived before the start time, so it's a good idea to get there as early as possible. A sign-up sheet for stations was passed around. Jeanne Marie said an email would also be sent to members so those not in attendance could sign up. Stations and large items can be set up Friday afternoon at 3 p.m. Members can bring their things at this time, including destash items. Rose Marie Moody and Abby Gibson are bringing the sheep to be sheared. Lunch will be a potluck/brown bag lunch in the kitchen, so members can bring whatever they like; there will not be a sign-up sheet. S2S will take the place of our March meeting. Flyers were distributed to members at the meeting and will be emailed to members as well. The Craft Center has S2S on their calendar and has posted it to social media. Guild members are encouraged to share these posts. The CWSG Sapphire Anniversary Challenge exhibit will be on display in March through S2S. Members should take their items from the exhibit immediately after S2S. The Co-op will also have a table to sell items. Sharon Williams will bring items she has left from Oxford and Vicksburg, and Co-op members can bring new items if they wish. Donna Peyton is the Co-op contact.

Under new business, Janet announced that Alma Ellis and Lynn Watkins will serve as the Nomination Committee. Alma discussed the activities of the Nomination Committee. Gio Chinchar and Jacqueline Dutsch are willing to stay on as Treasurer and Librarian, respectively. Sarah Pair is stepping down as Secretary and Newsletter Editor. Members willing to serve as the Secretary or Newsletter Editor, or both, should reach out to Alma or Lynn. The nomination slate will be presented in the April newsletter, and officers will be voted on at the April 18, 2026, meeting.

A discussion regarding membership growth followed, with Janet stating a committee may be formed next year to explore opportunities for attracting and retaining new members.

Janet discussed the possibility of a summer retreat. A survey will be emailed to see how much interest members have in a retreat to determine next steps.

There were no other announcements. A brief show and tell followed. Beth Palmer motioned to adjourn the meeting and Lynn Watkins seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. Snacks and the Sapphire Challenge Program followed a brief break.