

# Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild

## Message from the President

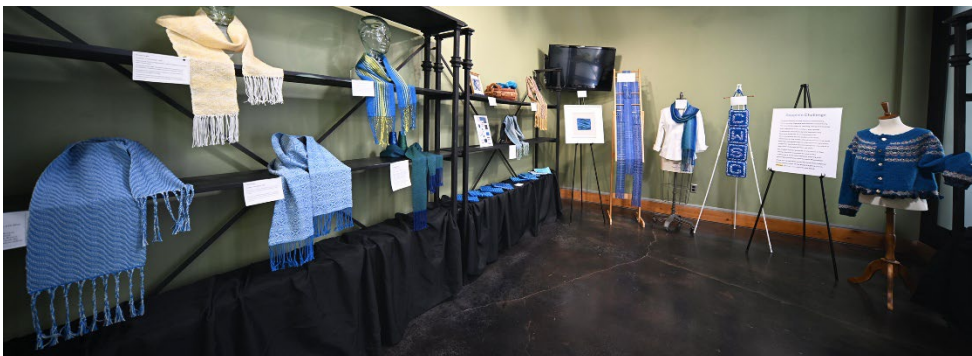
*From Janet Lee*

Dear CWSG Members,

It's that time of the year again – yes, springtime and azalea blooms – but also election time for some of our officers. Included in this newsletter is the slate of nominees and I encourage everyone to read through the information provided to get to know the candidates better and come to our April meeting ready to cast your vote.

Also, please remember to thank them. As many of you who have already served know, it can be time-consuming work and we are fortunate that we have members willing to step up into these volunteer positions.

Speaking of being thankful for our volunteers, I would like to send out a special thank you to Terry Dwyer for providing professional photos of our Sapphire Challenge Gallery Exhibit and of course maintaining our web site, an unelected but much appreciated job.



April 2026

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# CWSG Program Schedule

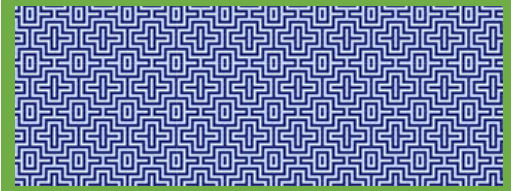
## *Cloth Roads Video*

We will be watching a few short videos by Cloth Roads, an organization dedicated to traveling the world and highlighting handmade textiles. Their motto is “Meet the artisans, learn the techniques, experience the cultures.”

As time allows, we will also watch a video that highlights Weaving History.

## 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.
March 20 - June 14, 2026	The MS Museum of Art current exhibit “Coulter Fussell: The Proving Ground” is the first museum survey of “quilt-works” by Mississippi-based artist Coulter Fussell (b. 1977). Presenting over forty sewn collages created over the past five years, the exhibition reveals the trajectory of Fussell’s practice from traditional quilting formats to increasingly sculptural, mixed-media works that incorporate upholstery techniques, photography, and digital projection.
May 9, 2026	Mississippi Makers Fest, hosted by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), will be located at the Entergy Plaza near the Two Mississippi Museums and along North Street on Saturday, May 9, 2026. This festival will feature Mississippi artisans, live music, make-and-take activities, food trucks, and more.
July 18, 2026 10:00 am – 4:00 pm	“Christmas In July” Demo Day at the Waller Craft Center. If you are able, please make plans to attend. Our guild has received a personal invitation, and it is good to support the Craft Center since they are so generous in their support of us.
August 11 – August 16, 2026	Handweavers Guild of America’s biannual conference, Convergence, will be held in New Orleans, LA. This conference is very flexible in terms of how long you stay and what you sign up to do. Seminars, workshops, fashion show, exhibits, tours, and a vendor marketplace will occur throughout the week.



## 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 Roads Video

### **May 16, 2026**

*Rigid Heddle CrazyShot! Technique*

Presented by CWSG members in the

Rigid Heddle Study Group

# Presentation of 2026 Officer Nomination Slate

*Submitted by Alma Ellis and Lynn Watkins*

The elections for the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian/Historian for our guild occur in even years, with members voting at the annual meeting for officers for the upcoming program year.

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for consideration for the CWSG 2026 election for Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian/Historian. Voting will take place at the CWSG Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 18, at the Waller Craft Center. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please email your vote (Yes or No) to Alma Ellis at [almacellis@gmail.com](mailto:almacellis@gmail.com), no later than Friday, April 17. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. New officers will take their elected positions at the end of the May meeting, before the guild's new fiscal year begins on July 1.



## Secretary - Cheryl Deas

Cheryl became a guild member last year after attending Sheep to Shawl. As a new weaver, she decided to focus on potholders to learn the process. Cheryl says she is hooked, and is ready to learn more. At this year's S2S she was a hit. She manned a table sharing her now considerable skills with people of all ages. From Magee, Cheryl has worked as a bank compliance officer for more than 20 years. "I would be honored to serve as secretary for the guild."

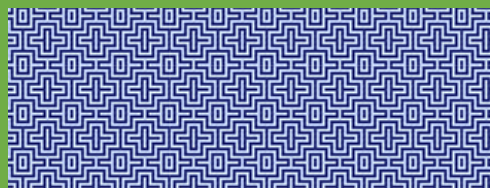
## Treasurer - Gio Chinchar

Our current treasurer, Gio, a longtime CWSG member and weaver, has agreed to serve as treasurer for another term. Gio has served as CWSG president, vice president, secretary, and chair of many committees. Gio, who is known for her beautiful handwoven towels, began weaving after her retirement as a college biology professor in 2006.



## Librarian/Historian - Jacqueline Dutsch

Jacqueline was elected last year to complete an unfinished term when Janet stepped up to president. She has agreed to return for a full term. From Hernando, with a background in arts organizations, Jacqueline is a relatively new weaver, but she has jumped into the fiber world with excitement and energy, attending conferences and workshops, when she is not globetrotting.



## 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](http://weavespindye.org)

**April 7, 2026: Stephen Tornero**  
*Sponsored by Ron Janish*

Tornero teaches visual art and fashion design to middle school students in his hometown. In his studio, Tornero weaves yarns he dyes himself alongside nontraditional materials.

**April 14, 2026: Emerson Croft**  
*Sponsored by Grace Tully*

Primarily a fiber artist, their practice focuses on weaving and quilting, with additional interests in woodworking, bookbinding, and songwriting.

**April 21, 2026: Kira Keck**  
*Sponsored by Ron Janish*

Kira Keck is an artist with an intense love for color and pattern, working primarily in weaving, embroidery, and drawing.

**April 28, 2026: Sebastien Courty**  
*Sponsored by Becky Flax*

An internationally recognized, award-winning artist whose studio practice is dedicated to sustainability and the exploration of multiculturalism.

# Sheep to Shawl Report

Submitted by Jeanne Marie Peet

The sunny and mild weather on Saturday, March 28, 2026, provided a lovely background at the William Waller Craft Center in Ridgeland, MS, for Sheep to Shawl. Visitors to the day-long event were able to view the shearing of sheep, and the carding, dyeing, and spinning of wool into yarn. Guild members demonstrated weaving on several varieties of floor and table looms. Children's activities included weaving on floor looms, rigid heddle looms, and a variety of smaller looms on which participants could "make and take" mug rugs and potholders.

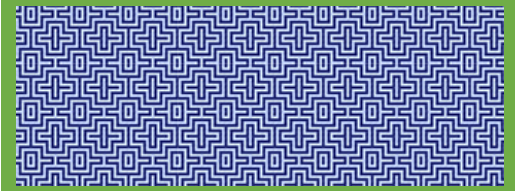
At the Destash table, members and visitors browsed and selected yarn and other donated items available for a small donation to the guild, demonstrating that, indeed, one person's trash is another person's treasure. The Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Co-op offered hand-spun and hand-woven items for sale. Brian Hill had hand turned items frequently used by spinners and weavers for sale.

Concurrently on exhibit in the George Berry Gallery was the Sapphire Exhibit: 45 Years of the Chimneyville Weavers and Spinners Guild.

Approximately 25 guild members contributed to making the event a success, from setting up, bringing potluck lunch, demonstrating, cleaning up, and helping each other. Although an exact count of visitors was not taken, an estimated 150-200 people enjoyed the events of the day.



*Ivy (ewe) and Izzy (lamb) were the stars of our show this year*



## Summer Retreat

19 members responded to the survey regarding the summer retreat, and 13 members indicated they would be interested in attending. I will be sending out more planning information in the next few weeks to those who are interested. If you would like to attend but didn't complete the survey, please email me and let me know!

Janet Lee

## Marcy Petrini's March Blog Post

More about sapphire. If you don't care for the color data, look at the difference in the colors, all called sapphire, shown in the boxes with the data. Amazing variation, I think.

[https://www.marcypetrini.com/marcy-s-blog-posts/432\\_blog-147-more-sapphire-no-hues](https://www.marcypetrini.com/marcy-s-blog-posts/432_blog-147-more-sapphire-no-hues)

## Craft Center Demo Day

"Christmas In July" Demo Day at the Waller Craft Center will be July 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 4:00pm. If you are able, please make plans to attend. Our guild has received a personal invitation, and it is good to support the Craft Center since they are so generous in their support of us.

Please note, if you are a member of the co-op, then you need to attend as part of the commitment of belonging to the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi.

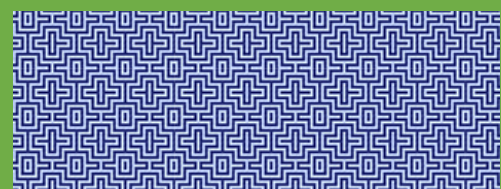
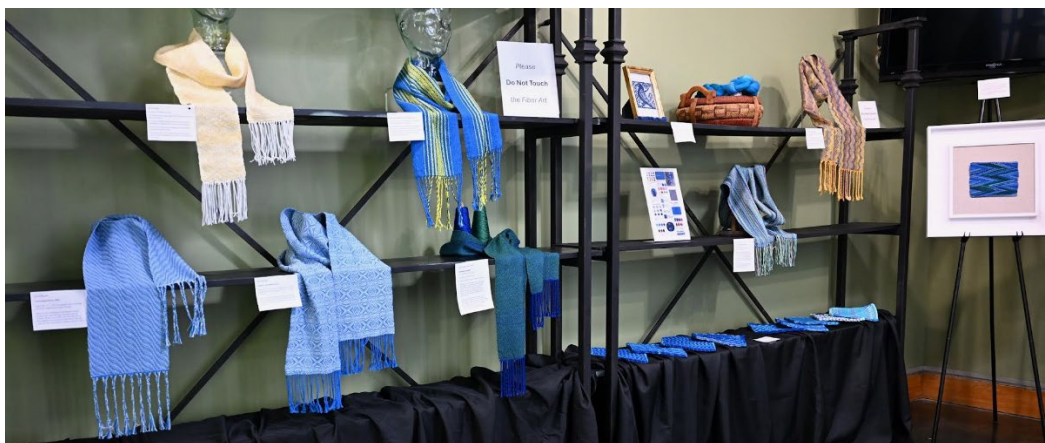




# Sapphire Challenge Exhibit

Submitted by Janet Lee, Photos by Terry Dwyer

The Sapphire Challenge Exhibit was a tremendous success! Huge thanks to everyone who contributed an item or who visited to support the guild during our celebration. Terry Dwyer generously volunteered to take pictures of the exhibit, which are shown below.



## 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 the newsletter editor ([cvillewsg@gmail.com](mailto:cvillewsg@gmail.com)) by the first day of the month of publication. If you are sending a photo, please include caption information.

