

Open Sheds

Volume XII Issue IX
March 2016



Learn to Crochet

Saturday March 19, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Hook a Frog Fiber & Fun, 105 C Church Street, Madison.

Hook a Frog Fiber & Fun is teaming up with the *Huntsville Fiber Guild* to host a free workshop! Beginners will learn crochet stitches, and others can review stitches.

Beginner's kits are available for purchase or you may bring your own supplies (light-colored, firm, worsted weight yarn and size G crochet hook).

Break time @ Noon: There will be a drawing for a crochet-themed project bag and goodies!

From 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. come back to learn advanced stitches!

All are invited to stop by at any time and bring your friends and current fiber project.

Please send the attached flyer to anyone who might be interested.

Contacting the Huntsville Fiber Guild

The website is www.HuntsvilleFiberArts.com. The telephone number, **256-384-5515!** Please leave a message, and an officer will reply to your message. So, in the remainder of this newsletter, when you see, "... *contact the guild* ...," you have the option of sending an e-mail to **HsvFiber @gmail.com** or using your telephone.

Weave a Melon/Egg Basket

On Saturday March 19, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., learn to *Weave a Melon/Egg Basket* at Bailey Cove Library. The workshop is open to adults and youth ages 14 and up. The supply fee is \$15, due at the beginning of the workshop. Pre-register by e-mail to **WeavingBasics @yahoo.com** or at Bailey Cove Public Library front desk by March 12.

Make an 8" melon/egg basket in class. Learn how to handle reed, make a god's eye and shape a ribbed basket. If you have already made a ribbed basket, you have the option of adding more shaping to your basket. (You may have to finish this basket at home.)

No basket making experience is required. Bring a towel (basket making is wet work) and sack lunch, and wear comfortable clothes. The leader will bring all the tools and other supplies you'll need to use during the workshop.

Bring a sack lunch.

See WeavingBasics.tumblr.com for more workshops at the libraries in Huntsville and Madison.

Upcoming Workshops Update

Gina Levesque will be here for a natural dye class on Monday May 30. Please send the attached flyer to anyone who might be interested, or post it where “fibery” people will find it.

Kathrin Weber will present a two day weaving workshop and a one day dyeing workshop Friday – Sunday September 9-11. More details will be available soon.

Beginning Weaving Workshop Series

Save the Date! This Spring, the guild will host a beginning weaving workshop series teaching the fundamentals of 4-shaft weaving.

No experience necessary, these classes are designed to take you from “never touched a loom” to confidence in creating complex weave-structures. Please plan to join us!

Part 1, Introduction to Weaving: April 9

Part 2, Weaving 101: April 16,

Part 3, Overshot Class: April 30

Part 4, Advanced Structures Class: TBD

Loom rental will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis, so register early in order to reserve a loom! There will be more details, pricing, and registration information to come in March.

President’s Message

The year is off to a good start. I hope you all have been busy creating during this dreary February. I am finally finishing a project on the loom after several years. I’m looking forward to starting on all those projects I have been planning. The guild officers are planning a lot of fun learning events. Be sure to check out the flyer for the Gina Levesque natural dyeing class on Memorial Day. Sign up before the class fills up. You can learn how to do your own natural dyeing. We are also planning a series of beginning weaving workshops. I can’t wait for the weaving and dyeing workshop with Karthyn Weber in September. There will be more details next month.

Advertise the Guild at the Family Farm and Market Day

On Saturday April 2, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., the Huntsville Fiber Guild will have a space for demonstrating fiber arts at the *Family Farm and Market Day* at the *Agribition Center*. This event is presented by the Tennessee Valley Women in Agriculture. This event was called *Family Farm and Fleece Day* in the past. Set up will be 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, or 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Friday. For more information, see TVWomenInAg.weebly.com. The *Agribition Center* is located at 4925 Moores Mill Road.

Please consider giving a couple of hours to help staff the booth to advertise the Huntsville Fiber Guild. Bring your spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, etc. to advertise the handcrafts you enjoy. Contact the guild about the hours you will be able to help.

Spinning Study Group on Breeds

The Huntsville Fiber Guild has a *Spinning Study Group* on how to spin wool from different breeds of sheep. There will be breed study kits for sale: \$20 for members and \$40 for non-members. The kits will include eight ounces of Corriedale, Romney and Lincoln, four ounces of Border Leicester, and two ounces of Shetland, Cotswold and Icelandic wool. The *Huntsville Spinners'* meetings are a place to get advice on

preparation and spinning techniques. The *Huntsville Spinners* meet on the second and fourth Thursdays at Books-a-Million on University Drive at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting is March 10.

We will create a binder for Huntsville Fiber Guild displays which will include raw clean fleece, a couple of samples of spun yarn, woven and/or knitted samples of the hand spun. We will add pictures of completed projects as they are finished. Extra fleece will be for sale later in the spring. For more information contact the guild.

Weaving Study Group

Come join us at *Weaving Study Group*. We meet most second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. The next meeting will be at 6:45 p.m. on March 8th at Central Presbyterian Church. We will not meet on March 22nd. On March 29 we will take a field trip to Toney to work on some looms. We will announce details the week before. If interested, email the guild to receive directions. The *Weaving Study Group* is for people of all skill levels. We talk about all things weaving, share information, and help each other with our projects. Some of us bring a project to work on (table looms are welcome) and some just sit and talk. Everyone is welcome to come when your schedule permits. We have found a great place to meet, the Central Presbyterian Church, in the Cooper House. Questions: contact the guild.

Directions: Central Presbyterian Church is at 405 Randolph Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35801. It is two blocks down from the town square, but directions are very different depending on where you're coming from, so it would be best to use Google. The Cooper House is across the street. Park in the parking lot across the street from the church, and enter the building through the front door of the Cooper House.

February Meeting Report

A big thank you goes to *Handmade Saori Studios* for teaching drop spindle spinning in February. They had a great time and some of the students are posting their spinning progress on Instagram. Remember that *Handmade Saori Studios* offers spinning classes throughout the year.

Huntsville Fiber Guild Presents Fiber Classes at Libraries

Will you volunteer to teach rug hooking, spinning on a drop spindle or needle felting at one of the libraries? Do you have other skills you would be willing to teach? If so, e-mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com** to learn the details for scheduling a workshop at the libraries. The libraries are eager to offer programs that bring patrons through their front doors.

The Huntsville-Madison County Public Library system graciously provides places to meet and advertises fiber classes that other generous people and I have been teaching for several years now. These have been opportunities to share skills and spread the word about the Huntsville Fiber Guild. Learn about these workshops as they are scheduled at **WeavingBasics.tumblr.com**. Help this outreach effort by attending classes, volunteering to teach a class and spreading the word about these workshops. We need to “grow” new members.

These classes are open to adults and youth ages 14 and up. The pre-registration deadlines are one week before the class dates. See WeavingBasics.tumblr.com or e-mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com** to pre-register and for more information.

Local Spinning and Crocheting Groups

The local spinning group, *Huntsville Spinners*, meets on Thursdays in two places in Huntsville. The group meets on the first and third Thursdays at the *Fiber Artwork* shop at 5:00 p.m., and the next meetings are March 3 and 17. *Fiber Artwork* is located at 87B Regal Drive, near Parkway Place Mall. See FiberArtWork.com. Someone is guaranteed to be there to spin with. Feel free to bring a snack and hang out and spin.

The group also meets on the second and fourth Thursdays at *Books-a-Million* on University Drive at 7:00 p.m., and the next meetings are March 10 and 24.

The group has a facebook page (search for “Huntsville Spinners”) which is closed to the public but anyone can request to join.

The local crocheting group is called ***Chain Reaction*** and meets on the second Wednesdays at *West End Grill* at 6:30 p.m. The *West End Grill* is located at the intersection of Old Madison Pike and Research Park Boulevard, 6610 Old Madison Pike. The next meeting is March 9. The group has a facebook page, facebook.com/groups/chainreactionhsv. Again, with the holidays coming up, check the meeting times.

Does anyone know of other non-profit spinning, knitting and crocheting groups that meet in the Huntsville area? If so, send the details to **HsvFiber@gmail.com**. The Huntsville Fiber Guild wants to spread the word about fiber activities in the community.

Bobbin Lace Classes

Constitution Village Lacers meetings will change for the next few months. Their 2015 meeting place at the Summit Crossing Church facility will be undergoing construction. They are working on new office spaces and new and expanded meeting rooms for everyone. In an effort to not impact their work we have decided to meet in homes for a couple of months. On Monday March 14, the group will meet at a home. Please call for directions. Also, let me know if you need books or if you need beginner equipment, marygeier2@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunity

If you would like to demonstrate weaving or spinning at the Celtic Day at Burritt Museum please contact the guild.

Celtic Day at Burritt on the Mountain: The Alabama Scot-Gaelic Society in cooperation with The Irish Society and Burritt on the Mountain are pleased to announce our first annual Celtic Day, May 14th from 9-4 p.m. We want to include as many of the traditional crafts from Scotland and Ireland as we can. Obviously, spinning and weaving are integral to the story. We were hoping for demonstrations of spinning and weaving (Burritt has a “friendly loom” if that helps) as well as people who wouldn’t mind answering questions from the public.

Dues for 2015-16 Membership Year Being Accepted

The Huntsville Fiber Guild membership year is October 1 – September 30. Dues are delinquent after September 30. There is still time to renew your membership now.

Both *Personal* and *Commercial Memberships* are available in the Huntsville Fiber Guild. The individual membership fee is \$20 per year, and the family membership fee is \$30 per year. We are pleased to give members over 80 years of age free membership. Individual and family members are entitled to one brief classified advertisement up to 40 words long in each monthly newsletter. This is provided as a service to individual and family members who want to sell or buy fiber equipment and supplies for their personal use. Each classified advertisement is subject to approval by the newsletter editor.

The *commercial membership* fee is \$50 per year. Commercial members are entitled to one quarter page advertisement 3.5" wide x 4.5" long or 7.5" wide x 2.25" long in each monthly newsletter. The advertisement must be submitted "camera ready" in a format which can be included in a Word document. Each commercial advertisement is subject to approval by the newsletter editor.

Send the attached *Membership Form* and *Fiber Arts Interest Survey*, along with membership fee checks payable to Huntsville Fiber Guild to P.O. Box 1562 Huntsville, AL 35807. Contact the guild if you

cannot remember whether or not you have paid your dues. At this time, let us know if you do not want your address, phone or e-mail shared in the directory which will be sent to members only.

Benefits of HFG Membership

The benefits of HFG membership include: yarn and equipment discounts for current guild members with local vendors. discount on fees for classes, early class sign-up window, access to HFG resources such as books and equipment, access to Handweavers Guild of America (<http://www.weavespindye.org>) video and kit rental through the HFG membership in HGA, discounts on magazine subscriptions from Interweave Press (usually offered in time for holiday gift giving), not to mention the friendship and mentoring available at every meeting.

Current Guild Members Discounted Yarn

If you are interested in participating in discounted yarn orders, contact the Huntsville Fiber Guild. Current Huntsville Fiber Guild Members may place an order to receive a discount on certain yarns from *Handmade Saori Studio*. If you want to see the sample cards, go to *Handmade Saori Studio* in Lowe Mill. The guild will handle the orders and payments.

HFG Privacy Policy

The Huntsville Fiber Guild is committed to protecting the privacy of our members online. We also have the policy of not posting personal information on our website or facebook page. The board agreed that we should ask permission at each meeting before taking pictures. No pictures will be posted on line with individuals identified or "tagged." We ask your cooperation in not "tagging" people in our pictures.

HFG Online

The Huntsville Fiber Guild is on Ravelry and Facebook! If you are on Ravelry, please join the group "Huntsville Fiber Guild" to stay connected! Be a part of the conversation on Facebook at: **[facebook.com/HuntsvilleFiberGuild](https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleFiberGuild)**. Find Guild and area fiber organization events listings, community discussion, and related posts of interest.

Stay up-to-date with the *Weaving Study Group* by joining the Facebook group: **[facebook.com/groups/HuntsvilleHandweavers/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/HuntsvilleHandweavers/)**.

Cullman Fiber Guild

On Saturday March 26, the Cullman Fiber Guild workshop will be *Navajo Knot Rug*. Pre-register for workshops by e-mail to **[CullmanFiber @yahoo.com](mailto:CullmanFiber@yahoo.com)**.

The *Basket Study Group* meets on the second Sunday of the month. The next meeting is Sunday March 13, 2:00 – 4:00. Basket makers can make a basket with the group or use the time to work on their own projects. No basket making experience is required to participate in the *Basket Study Group*. Pre-register for the *Basket Study Group* by e-mail to **[CullmanFiber @yahoo.com](mailto:CullmanFiber@yahoo.com)**.

See **CullmanFiber.weebly.com** for workshop details, and for the workshops as they are planned. These workshops will meet at the Peinhardt Living History Farm in Cullman, Alabama. To receive the complete Cullman Fiber Guild newsletter and to pre-register for workshops, send e-mail to **[CullmanFiber @yahoo.com](mailto:CullmanFiber@yahoo.com)**. See the Cullman Fiber Guild web site **CullmanFiber.weebly.com** for driving directions to Peinhardt Living History Farm in Cullman, Alabama.

Learning Opportunities in the Community

Please let us know if you're teaching any kind of fiber class or workshop, or know of other learning opportunities in the community. Non-profit classes, workshops and conferences will be advertised in the newsletter as a service to members. For-profit classes or workshops will be advertised for commercial members.

As a service to the community, local fiber businesses that are not commercial members may advertise one class in the newsletter per year (subject to approval by guild). Local fiber businesses are welcome to post any of their classes/workshops on the guild's facebook page or ravelry group. (If you do not know how, contact the guild to post it for you.)

On Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m., **Basket Classes** continue at the *Huntsville Madison County Senior Center*. The classes meet in the Ceramics Room.

On Mondays, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., and Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., **Weaving Classes** continue at the *Huntsville Madison County Senior Center*, meeting in the Weaving Room. Sign up at **qranks@knology.net**.

Loom for Sale

Gilmore loom with 46-inch weaving width, 8 harnesses, 14 treadles, Texsolv tie cords, metal heddles. Excellent condition. Includes 5 reeds, 6-, 8-, 10-, 12- and 15-dent; custom made bench; lease sticks; shuttles. Required floor space (including bench) is 4x5 feet. Asking \$2000, if new \$5000. Buyer must pick up loom in Madison, Alabama. Contact the guild.

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday March 29, 5:00 p.m., is the deadline for contributions to the April newsletter. Send contributions by e-mail to **HsvFiber@gmail.com**.

Permission to Copy

The Huntsville Fiber Guild grants permission to copy articles from this newsletter as long as the source of the article is included, and as long as no personal names or personal contact information is included. To receive a version of the newsletter without personal names and contact information, contact the guild.

Upcoming Huntsville Fiber Guild Events

Tue Mar 8, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Mon Mar 14	Bobbin Lace Group
Sat Mar 19, 10:00-3:00	Learn to Crochet, Hook a Frog & Fun
Tue Mar 29, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, field trip
Tue Mar 29	April newsletter deadline
Sat Apr 2, 9:00-3:00	Family Farm and Market Day, Agribition Center
Sat Apr 9	Beginning Weaving Workshop Part 1, Introduction to Weaving
Sat Apr 16	Beginning Weaving Workshop Part 2, Weaving 101
Sat Apr 30	Beginning Weaving Workshop Part 3, Overshot Class
Mon May 30	Gina Levesque Natural Dyeing Workshop
Fri-Sun Sep 9-11	Kathrin Weber Dyeing/Weaving Workshop

Huntsville Library Fiber Workshops

Sat Mar 19, 10:00-4:00	Weave a Melon/Egg Basket @ Bailey Cove
Fri Mar 25, 10:00-12:00	Simple Bookbinding @ Madison
Thu Apr 7, 10:00-12:00	Simple Bookbinding @ Murphy
Tue Apr 12, 6:30-8:30	Make a Grandmother's Flower Garden Quilt Block @ Main
Fri Apr 22, 9:00-3:00	Introduction to Painting a Floor Cloth @ Madison
Sat Apr 30, 10:00-4:00	Introduction to Painting a Floor Cloth @ Bailey Cove
Fri May 20, 10:00-12:00	Crochet a Mobius Scarf/Cowl Without Seams @ Madison

Other Fiber Group Events

Thu Mar 3, 5:00	Huntsville Spinners, Fiber Artwork
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Wed Mar 9, 6:30
Thu Mar 10, 7:00
Thu Mar 17, 5:00
Thu Mar 24, 7:00

Chain Reaction (crochet), West End Grill
Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million
Huntsville Spinners, Fiber Artwork
Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million