

Open Sheds

Volume XII Issue X
April 2016



Fundamentals of 4-Shaft Weaving Workshop Series

Find class details and registration information in the attached document.

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

Part 1, Intro 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!

Registration closes April 2.

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.

Paint a Floor Cloth

On Saturday April 30, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., learn to *Paint a Floor Cloth* 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 256-881-0257 by April 23.

This same workshop will also be offered on Friday April 22, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Madison Library. Pre-register by e-mail to **TAllison @hmcpl.org** or call 256-461-0046 by April 15.

Learn to make a painted floor cloth. Painted floor cloths were used prior to linoleum flooring. They brightened homes early in the history of this country. Large floor cloths were made from the canvas used for sails. A painted floor cloth is sturdy and long wearing if placed on a firm flat surface and kept properly sealed, and can be swept with a broom and cleaned with water.

You'll start with a 24" x 30" piece of canvas which is ready for your design. Your design can be painted or stenciled. Faux painting techniques will also be introduced. No painting experience is required.

There will be stencils and stencil brushes and an assortment of acrylic paints and brushes for use in the workshop. Bring your own stencils, acrylic paints, brushes, T-squares and yard sticks if you wish. (Put your name on your supplies and equipment.)

You'll learn how to prepare the canvas for painting, and how to seal your project at home after the paints have had time to cure.

Be prepared to take your floor cloth home flat. If you have it, bring a hair dryer. Wear your old painting clothes and bring an apron. Bring masking tape or painter's tape. The leader will bring all the other tools and 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. Members of the Huntsville Fiber Guild present these classes to share skills and spread the word about the Huntsville Fiber Guild.

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.

President's Message

Spring is finally here. I enjoyed a long trip to see my daughter's family in North Carolina. On the way back through Georgia, I noticed the newly sprouting trees by the interstate had all these beautiful shades of green dotted with redbuds. I wish I could capture that look in a piece of cloth. I definitely need to make time to create.

The purpose of the guild is basically to pass on the techniques of fiber arts to anyone. We have lots of opportunities for that in the coming weeks. Be sure and check out all the classes and workshops listed in the newsletter. There should be something for everyone.

We also need your help in promoting the workshops to the rest of the fiber community. We try to keep HFG workshops affordable and that means we need a full class in order to "break even" on our expenses. Be sure and invite your fiber friends to participate.

Crochet a Mobius Cowl/Scarf Without Seams @ Cozy Cove Farm

On Saturday April 9, at the *Cozy Cove Farm Open House* 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., learn a couple of crochet stitches, and crochet a magical mobius cowl/scarf without seams in two hours. A mobius strip is a rectangle with two opposite ends joined to form a loop with one twist. This same pattern may be used to make head band or shrug.

No crochet experience is required. Bring a size Q crochet hook and a skein of bulky (code 5) yarn or extra bulky (code 6) yarn (Homespun Thick and Quick is one brand). If you already know how to crochet, you may bring two or more strands of lighter weight yarn.

Cozy Cove Farm is located at 888 Miller Road Gurley, AL 35748.

Learn to Make Your Own Soap

On Friday April 15, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., **Learn to Make Your Own Soap** at Madison Library. Each participant will take home 2 pounds of soap. The supply fee of \$20 is due by April 8. Register at

Madison Library, 256-461-0064 or **TAllison @hmcpl.org**. This workshop is open to adults and youth ages 13 and up.

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 April 14.

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: cmlaymon @comcast.net.

Weaving Study Group

Come join us at *Weaving Study Group*. We meet most second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. The next meetings will be at 6:45 p.m. on April 12 and 26 at Central Presbyterian Church. 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.

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 usually 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 April 7 and 21. *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 April 14 and 28.

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 April 13. The group has a facebook page, facebook.com/groups/chainreactionhsv.

Does anyone know of other non-profit spinning, weaving, 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. The next meeting is Monday April 11. Please e-mail to learn the location. Also, let me know if you need books or if you need beginner equipment. Contact 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 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 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 April 23, the Cullman Fiber Guild workshop will be *Macrame a Market Bag*. 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 April 10, 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 qranki@knology.net or leave a message at 256-539-9319.

Hand-Dye Indigo/Shibori Workshop at Lowe Mill

On Saturday April 2, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Lowe Mill will present *Hand-Dye Indigo/Shibori Workshop* with Nadene Mairesse of Idyllwilde. See www.lowemill.net/event/hand-dye-indigoshibori for details.

Fiber Education Festival on April 30

On Saturday April 30, the Scenic Valley Handweavers Guild presents the **Fiber Education Festival** on the front lawn of R&M Yarns, 8510 Highway 60, Georgetown, TN 37336. Admission is free. See www.rmyarns.com for more details.

Middle Tennessee Fiber Festival

On Friday and Saturday May 27-28, the *Middle Tennessee Fiber Festival* will present a selection of workshops in Dickson, Tennessee. See www.tnfiberfestival.com for details.

DIY Wall Art: Tapestry Weaving in Drawn-Thread Fabric with Erica Parker

On Saturday May 28, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., join us to explore **color**, **texture**, and learn fundamental **tapestry weaving** techniques as you begin a one-of-a-kind **decorative wall hanging** in this 2.5 hour class.

You will deconstruct existing fabric and weave in new material to create a 6" circular work of fiber art.

This workshop will take place in the North Floor Gallery at Lowe Mill, surrounded by the work of Claire Lewis Evans.

Registration is online at: bit.ly/LoweMillTapestryWorkshop. E-mail any questions to the Gallery Coordinator, at aaronhead@lowemill.net. There is an age-minimum of 12 years old, and no refunds are offered for workshops.

Erica Parker is a local artist and textile designer, who recently launched the modern-handmade lifestyle brand Re|Form STUDIO. She currently specializes in designing and producing hand-woven baby wraps; and spends her spare time sharing her love and knowledge of textile traditions gained from her BFA in Fibers earned at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday April 26, 5:00 p.m., is the deadline for contributions to the May 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

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
Mon Apr 11	Bobbin Lace Group
Tue Apr 12, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Sat Apr 16	Beginning Weaving Workshop Part 2, Weaving 101
Tue Apr 26, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Tue Apr 26	May newsletter deadline
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

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 15, 9:30-12:30	Learn to Make Your Own Soap @ Madison
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
Thu May 5, 10:00-12:00	Redwork Embroidery @ Murphy
Tue May 10, 6:30-8:30	Simple Bookbinding @ Main
Fri May 20, 10:00-12:00	Crochet a Mobius Scarf/Cowl Without Seams @ Madison
Thu Jun 2, 10:00-12:00	Learn to Make Paper Beads for Jewelry @ Murphy
Tue Jun 14, 6:30-8:30	Leaf Pounding/Printing @ Main
Fri Jun 24, 9:00-3:00	Weave a Double-Walled Basket @ Madison
Thu Jul 7, 10:00-12:00	Leaf Pounding/Printing @ Murphy
Tue Jul 12, 6:30-8:30	Beachy Dangly Earrings @ Main
Fri Jul 22, 10:00-12:00	Learn to Make Paper Beads for Jewelry @ Madison
Thu Aug 4, 10:00-12:00	Introduction to Crocheting with Rags - Basket or Rug @ Murphy
Tue Aug 9, 6:30-8:30	Introduction to Crocheting with Rags - Basket or Rug @ Main
Fri Aug 26, 9:00-3:00	Weave a Basket on a Gourd Bowl @ Madison
Tue Sep 13, 6:30-8:30	Autumn Splendor Sweatshirt @ Main
Fri Sep 23, 10:00-12:00	Autumn Splendor Sweatshirt @ Madison
Thu Oct 6, 10:00-12:00	Autumn Splendor Sweatshirt @ Murphy

Other Fiber Group Events

Thu Apr 7, 5:00	Huntsville Spinners, Fiber Artwork
Wed Apr 13, 6:30	Chain Reaction (crochet), West End Grill
Thu Apr 14, 7:00	Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million
Thu Apr 21, 5:00	Huntsville Spinners, Fiber Artwork
Thu Apr 28, 7:00	Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million