

# Open Sheds

Volume XIII Issue I  
July 2016



## Potluck and Indigo Dyeing

**When:** Saturday July 9, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Member's house near the Priceville I-65 Exit

Please e-mail to **HsvFiber @gmail.com** before noon on July 8 to receive directions and to indicate if you will be bringing something to dye.

Bring a dish or dessert to share. Drinks and paper products will be provided.

Bring your latest projects to show them off.

After the lunch inside, we will be able to experiment with a natural indigo pot outside. Those who don't want to dye can watch from inside. **Bring one item to put in the indigo pot and a plastic bag to take home your wet item.** Item needs to be natural fiber, i.e. cotton, wool, bamboo, rayon. Hobby Lobby has a nice selection of dyeable items. (Perhaps an apron or a T-shirt to protect your clothes at the next dye workshop. Skeins of yarn up to one pound are okay, too.) Item needs to be prewashed. No mordant is needed with indigo. Instructor will provide some string and a couple of pipes for shiborri. Or you can pre-tie your shiborri. There are lots of "how to's" online for ideas. Instructor will provide everything for the dye pot and dye gloves. Wear older clothes or bring some to change into for the dyeing part of the day. For more information, e-mail **HsvFiber @gmail.com**.

## 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.

## Election News

The executive board of the Huntsville Fiber Guild voted in June to move the election of officers to the September 18, 2016 business meeting.

## Change in Guild Structure

While we try to encourage all the variety of disciplines in the Fiber Arts, it can be difficult to plan events outside of a limited group of officers' areas of expertise and time. In order to better serve the community and advance the arts, we are changing the structure of the guild to ensure that all disciplines are supported. To that end, we are creating a group of *Advocates* for each of the major Fiber Arts disciplines (knitting, crocheting, spinning, felting, weaving, and historical fiber arts). Each *Advocate* will have knowledge, community insight and most importantly, love and excitement for their craft. *Advocates* will work with the officers to brain storm, plan and implement ideas which will benefit the community. We hope this diversity will allow us to provide more events, classes and study groups to better serve your needs. The first *Advocates* will be appointed by the officers but over time, we hope to have enough interest that we

can include them in the election cycle. Please consider joining the *Advocate* group – no experience is necessary, just enthusiasm for your art!

### **Kathrin Weber is Coming to Huntsville September 9-11, 2016!**

Kathrin Weber is a popular, dynamic, experienced teacher. We are fortunate to be able to schedule these workshops. There will a 2-day weaving workshop to learn what to do with all those beautiful hand dyed warps you have seen for sale. She will show you how to design with multiple warp chains and to develop new techniques in the creation of fabrics. Then the third day, she will show you the basics of dyeing your own cellulose yarns. The dye techniques can be used to create warps or skeins of yarns. You can take one or both workshops. Details and costs of the workshops are in the attached flyer. Or contact the guild for more information.

### **Tour de Fleece**

Spinner's get ready – It's time for Tour de Fleece! For those of you who are unfamiliar with this event, it was started by Ravelry as a fun way to spend a little time celebrating spinning while the Tour De France is "spinning". This event is very informal and relaxed. The only rules are to try to spin every day of the Tour De France (July 2-24<sup>th</sup> with the exception of rest days July 11th and 19th) and to set your own challenge! Your challenge can be simple – i.e. spin for 15 minutes per day, or ambitious – i.e. try a new technique, or type of fiber or try for a speed record! Everyone's goals will be different. There are multiple local teams (some are Team Rocket Spinners and Team Twisted Amphibians) as well as general groups – join as many as you'd like and have fun egging each other on! For more information see <http://www.ravelry.com/groups/tour-de-fleece>.

### **Hands-On Lab Added to Weaving Study Group**

We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of most months. The next meeting will be at 6:45 p.m. on July 12th in the Cooper House at Central Presbyterian Church. This will be our regular Question/Answer session.

The study group will have a hands-on lab July 26<sup>th</sup> in a studio at Lowe Mill. We will meet at Piper and Leaf Tea (2211 Seminole Drive SW Huntsville) at 5:00 p.m. and be guided to the studio. We will get a lesson on Shadow Weave, what it is and how to design projects with it. We will have a loom set-up for people to try hands-on weaving with Shadow Weave and we will help everyone choose/design a project and create a warp to take home to try out. Bring your own yarn for the warp (two colors, light and dark) or purchase yarn at the shop. Bring your own drafting paper (graph paper/handouts/project plans will be available for optional purchase). It would be best to park in the parking lot near the water tower.

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. Everyone is welcome to come when your schedule permits.

We now have a private facebook group for those who attend this group. Contact the guild to be invited to join. Questions: contact the guild.

### **Bobbin Lace Classes**

*Constitution Village Lacers* meetings will change for the next few months as the Summit Crossing Church facility will be undergoing construction. We have decided to meet in homes for a couple of months. The next meeting is Monday July 11. Please contact us to learn the location. Also, let us know if you need books or if you need beginner equipment. E-mail [marygeier2@gmail.com](mailto:marygeier2@gmail.com).

### **3-D Needle Felting Class**

On Saturday July 9, 11:00 a.m., at Cozy Cove Farm in Gurley, learn 3-D needle felting. Create your own whimsical cactus friend made from needle felted wool. \$5.00 fee for supplies. This project will take approximately 2-3 hours, depending on class size. You will leave with a finished cactus resembling the one pictured on page 5. We have room for 8 attendees ages 10 to adult. Please RSVP to: t\_campbell614@knology.net so we may accommodate all who want to attend.

### **Painted Floor Cloth – Art and History**

On Saturday July 30, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at Bailey Cove Library, there will be a painted floor cloth workshop. 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.

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.

Pre-register by e-mail to **WeavingBasics @yahoo.com** or at Bailey Cove Public Library front desk by July 23. This workshop is open to adults and youth ages 14 and up. The \$12 supply fee is due at the beginning of the workshop.

### **Crochet and Needle Tatting Classes Coming**

*Introduction to Needle Tatting* will be offered at Bailey Cove Library on Wednesday August 3, 10, 17 and 24, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Learn to make lace with a tatting needle. You'll learn the basic stitches and how to read patterns. Class projects include trims that can be attached to handkerchiefs and garments, and ornaments that can be starched or glued to note cards. No tatting experience is required. Homework is required. The book *Learn Needle Tatting Step-by-Step* by Barbara Foster is recommended. Bring a size 5 tatting needle, size 10 crochet cotton, and scissors.

*Crochet for Beginners* will be offered at the Main Library on Thursday August 4, 11, 18 and 25, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Learn to crochet from the beginning. You'll learn the crochet stitches and how to read a pattern. Homework is required. Bring a size G or H crochet hook and firm, light-colored worsted weight yarn to the first class. Do not bring soft, fuzzy yarns or novelty yarns to the first class. You will be able to choose from a selection of class projects. No crochet experience is required.

Pre-register for both of these classes by e-mail to **WeavingBasics @yahoo.com**. These workshops are open to adults and youth ages 14 and up. There is no supply fee for either of these classes.

If these classes won't fit in your schedule, e-mail **WeavingBasics @yahoo.com** to suggest better times.

**Huntsville Fiber Guild and the  
Huntsville Madison County Public Libraries**

**Beginner Fiber Workshops for Adults**

*Leaf Pounding/Printing @ Murphy Library*  
Thursday July 7, 10:00-12:00

*Knitting on a Loom - No Needles @ Main Library*  
Tuesday July 12, 6:30-8:30

*Learn to Make Paper Beads for Jewelry @  
Madison Library*  
Friday July 22, 10:00-12:00

*Introduction to Painting a Floor Cloth @ Bailey  
Cove Library*  
Saturday July 30, 10:00-4:00

*Introduction to Needle Tatting @  
Bailey Cove Library*  
Wednesday August 3, 10, 17 and 24,  
5:00-7:00

*Introduction to Crocheting with Rags - Basket or  
Rug @ Murphy Library*  
Thursday August 4, 10:00-12:00

*Crochet for Beginners @ Main Library*  
Thursday August 4, 11, 18 and 25,  
1:00-3:00

*Introduction to Crocheting with Rags - Basket or  
Rug @ Main Library*  
Tuesday August 9, 6:30-8:30

*Weave a Basket on a Gourd Bowl @ Madison  
Library*  
Friday August 26, 9:00-3:00

Workshops are open to adults and youth 14 and up.  
See **WeavingBasics.tumblr.com** for details, or e-  
mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com**.

**Membership in the Huntsville Fiber Guild**

The Huntsville Fiber Guild membership year is October 1 – September 30. Dues are delinquent after September 30.

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.

## Local Spinning Groups

### Huntsville Spinners @ Fiber Artwork

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays

July 7 and 21, 5:00

*Fiber Artwork*

87B Regal Drive

Facebook

*New Meeting Place and Time!*

### Huntsville Spinners @ Lowe Mill

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays

July 14 and 28, 5:00

Lowe Mill

Facebook

## Local Crochet Groups

### Murphy Library Crocheters

Wednesdays 10:00-12:00

*Murphy Public Library*

7910 Charlotte Drive

[APhillips@hmcpl.org/256-881-5620](mailto:APhillips@hmcpl.org/256-881-5620)

### Chain Reaction

2nd Wednesdays

July 13, 6:30 p.m.

*West End Grill*

6610 Old Madison Pike

Facebook

### Huntsville Madison County

#### Senior Center

*Basket Classes*

Tuesdays 11:00

Ceramics Room

256-880-7080

*Weaving Classes*

Mondays 9:00-1:00

Wednesdays 9:00-11:30

Weaving Room

[qranks@knology.net/256-539-9319](mailto:qranks@knology.net/256-539-9319)

## 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://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://facebook.com/groups/HuntsvilleHandweavers/).

## Cullman Fiber Guild

On Saturday July 23, the *Cullman Fiber Guild* workshop will be *Make a Small Harvest Basket with Swinging Handle*. E-mail **CullmanFiber@yahoo.com** for location and other details.

The *Basket Study Group* usually meets on the second Sunday of the month. The next meeting is Sunday July 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**.

See **CullmanFiber.weebly.com** for workshop details, and for the workshops as they are planned. These workshops usually 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**. See the *Cullman Fiber Guild* web site

**CullmanFiber.weebly.com** for driving directions to Peinhardt Living History Farm in Cullman, Alabama.

## Make Your Own Lotion!

On Friday August 5, 9:30 a.m., at Madison Public Library, *Make Your Own Lotion!* Join instructor, Margaret Mazikowski, to make your own 8 ounce bottle of lotion, a 7 ounce bottle of massage oil or lotion, and a 4 ounce bottle of cream. You will learn the different properties of the oils used to make

lotions and creams. This workshop is for adults and youth ages 16 and up. The cost for the class is \$25. Pre-registration is required. To register, please call 256-461-0046 or e-mail **tallison @hmcpl.org**. Preregistration and payment are due on or before July 29. Make checks payable to *4 Maz Farms*, and mail to Madison Public Library, 130 Plaza Boulevard, Madison, AL 35758.

### **Fiber Teachers Needed**

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 usually 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.

### **Learning Opportunities in the Community**

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.

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.)

### **Events in Other States**

The *Georgia Fiberfest* will be September 8-10, 2016 in Columbus, Georgia. See [www.gafiberfest.com](http://www.gafiberfest.com) for more information.

The *2016 Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair* (SAFF) will be October 28-30, 2016, in Fletcher, North Carolina. See [saffsite.org](http://saffsite.org) for more information.

*Fiber in the Boro* will be October 22, 2016, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. See [fiberintheboro.com](http://fiberintheboro.com) for more information.

*Convergence 2016* will be July 30 - August 6, 2016, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. See [weavespindye.org/convergence](http://weavespindye.org/convergence) for more information.

### **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 July 26, 5:00 p.m., is the deadline for contributions to the August 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 personal contact information, contact the guild.

### **Upcoming Huntsville Fiber Guild Events**

Sat July 9, 11-2	Social and Indigo Dyeing
Mon July 11	Bobbin Lace Group
Tue July 12, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Tue July 26, 5:00	Hands-On Lab Weaving Study Group, Lowe Mill
Tue July 26	August newsletter deadline
September	Guild has display case at Main Library
Fri-Sun Sep 9-11	Kathrin Weber Dyeing/Weaving Workshop