

Open Sheds

Volume XII Issue III
September 2015



Welcome Back Open House

Sunday September 20, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Auditorium of Main Public Library

915 Monroe Street, Huntsville

Bring show-and-tell to share your past year of fiber projects, and bring guests. Spinning wheels and looms are encouraged so guests can see what a fiber guild is about. We and our guests will enjoy seeing what you have been up to.

Things are changing in the Huntsville Fiber Guild. Learn about upcoming programs, workshops and benefits of guild membership.

Bring finger food to share. Plates, napkins, cups and water will be furnished.

New Website for the Huntsville Fiber Guild

Huntsville Fiber Guild has a new website, www.HuntsvilleFiberArts.com.

As reported last month, we now have a 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.

President's Message

I am looking forward to our *Fall Kick Off* meeting in September. I had hand surgery in July and have not been able to do anything "crafty" except read about fiber the last couple of months. I can't wait to see what everyone has created over the summer. I hope everyone can come and work on a fiber project, share show and tell, and just catch up with old friends. See you there!

See the Main Library Display Case

The Huntsville Fiber Guild will be displaying items from past workshops in the Main Library display case in September. See it for yourself, and invite others to visit it also.

Yarn and Equipment Discounts for Current Guild Members

The Huntsville Fiber Guild is organizing yarn and equipment discounts for current guild members with local vendors. We are also arranging group buys for current guild members to take advantage of quantity discounts. Our next order comes courtesy of *Handmade Saori Studio* and is for Supreme (8/2 Plied Cotton and 3/2 and 5/2 Mercerized Cotton) and Mo Purl (unmercerized, mercerized and flake cottons, bamboo, rayon, rayon boucle, and rayon chenille). If you are interested in participating, please contact the guild.

Weaving Study Group

Come join us at *Weaving Study Group*. People of all skill levels are having fun talking about their weaving projects. Bring finished projects, pictures of projects in progress on your looms, and projects in

the planning stages. 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 found a great place to meet, the Central Presbyterian Church, in the Cooper House. We hope to meet the second and fourth Tuesday nights of each month. The next meetings will be September 8 and 22. The October meetings will be October 13 and 27. 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.

Cozy Cove Farm Presents A First Crochet Class

On Saturday September 12, come to *Cozy Cove Farm* for *A First Crochet Class*. Learn a couple of crochet stitches, and complete a pot holder or washcloth in class, or start a scarf. For a pot holder, bring firm worsted weight wool yarn (code 4) and size G crochet hook; for a washcloth, bring firm cotton yarn (such as Peaches & Cream) and size G crochet hook; to start a scarf, bring firm yarn and desired size crochet hook (the larger the hook, the looser the stitches). Bring your own handspun if you want. For your first project, don't bring lumpy, bumpy, fuzzy novelty yarn. Pick any two hours between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for your first crochet class. For more information or to pre-register e-mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com**. Walk-ins are welcome.

Huntsville Fiber Guild Presents Fiber Classes at Libraries

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.

Crochet for Beginners Offered at Libraries

Crochet for Beginners will be taught in three different sets of classes: Bailey Cove Library, on Thursday September 3, 10, 17 and 24, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.; Main Library, Thursday October 29, November 5, 12 and 19, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.; and Murphy Library Thursday March 3, 10, 17 and 31, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. In each of these sets of classes, there will be four 2-hour classes with homework between classes. These classes are open to adults and youth ages 14 and up. The pre-registration deadlines are one week before the first class date in the set of classes. E-mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com** to pre-register and for more information.

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 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.

Inkle Loom Weaving at Main Library

On Tuesday September 8 and 15, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., *How to Do Things – Introduction to Inkle Weaving @ Main Library* will be presented. Pre-register at Adult Services or the Reference Desk at the Main Library. E-mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com** for more information.

Learn to weave on an inkle loom, which can be used to make narrow bands. In class you will weave a band and can choose to make a bookmark, hatband, strap or small pouch, depending on how much time you want to spend. Begin to learn the language of weaving.

The inkle looms will be ready to use when you arrive, and you'll learn how to dress an inkle loom in the second class. No weaving experience is required.

The leader will bring all the tools and supplies you'll need to use during the workshop.

Other Fiber Workshops at Libraries

On Thursday September 3, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., *DIY - Beaded Kumi Himo Bracelet @ Murphy Library* will be presented; October 1, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., *Wet Felted Geode Pin Cushion @ Murphy*.

On Friday September 25, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., *Beaded Kumi Himo Bracelet @ Madison Library* will be presented; October 23, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., *Weave a Melon/Egg Basket @ Madison*.

On Thursday October 8, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. or October 22, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Bailey Cove Library will present *Recycle Plastic Bags: Learn to Crochet Plastic Mats for the Homeless*.

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

Local Spinning and Crocheting Groups

The local spinning group is called *Huntsville Spinners* and meets on the second and fourth Thursdays at Books-a-Million on University Drive at 7:00 p.m. The next meetings are on September 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 September 9. The group has a facebook page, facebook.com/groups/chainreactionhsv.

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 HFG wants to spread the word about fiber activities in the community.

Bobbin Lace Classes

Constitution Village Lacers meet in the Grapple Room at the Summit Crossing Church facility located at 7200 Governor's West. We meet on the second Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

On Monday, September 14 we will meet from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Grapple Room at Summit Crossing Community Church facility. The October meeting will be Monday, October 12.

We always welcome new lacers. We share books, patterns and help if needed. If you have questions, e-mail marygeier2@gmail.com. If you are new, please call ahead to confirm so that we can bring loaner equipment for you to practice on.

Felted Flower Workshop Report

The Guild had a wonderful workshop with local Felting Artist Kami Watson. She had a great technique to produce nuno felted flowers from silk caps and custom dyed merino. Everyone left with several colorful flowers. We can use the flowers to embellish hats, scarves, or bags or as centerpieces. She also showed us some of her lovely nuno felted scarves and clothing items. Check out her studio to see her work at Lowe Mill (2nd floor).

Dues for 2015-16 Membership Are Due Before September 30, 2015

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

Rag Rug Workshop Report

I recently attended a class on *Introduction to Rag Rug Weaving in a Log Cabin Threading* at the *Buffalo River Artisans Cooperative* in Linden, Tennessee. I found the information on this class mentioned in the July newsletter.

It was an interesting weekend. The *Buffalo River Artisans Cooperative* is made up of clay, fiber, drawing, and printing artists. It was an impressive shop and the town was beautiful.

I met with Melissa Goodwin at the shop and studio and set up my loom. I ended up being the only student, but that was fine as we could work to my level. We worked Friday evening setting up for Saturday's weaving. I was able to finish my loom and cut it off the loom before I left. I am proud of the rug I wove and my dogs love it.

It was a worthwhile trip and wonderful experience and I have a lovely rug to prove it.

Fleeces at the Tennessee State Fair

The *Tennessee State Fair* has fleece and spinning competitions and a fleece auction. Fiber events are September 16 and 17. Wednesday starts off with the fleece show. Last year, there were around 230 entries. They have classes for many specific sheep breeds, alpacas, and llamas, as well as general classes for handspinning fleeces and commercial fleeces. Anyone is welcome to come watch and ask questions.

Thursday evening, there is a *Spinning Contest*, followed by the *Fleece Auction* at 7:30. For more information go to tennesseestatefair.org and click on COMPETITION. You will find the Fleece Department listed under Livestock. If you are interested in car-pooling to the fair, please contact the Guild and we will try to coordinate rides.

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 September 26, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., the Cullman Fiber Guild will present *Bias Rectangle Loom Weaving*. Learn to weave on a rectangle loom with continuous thread to make a bias scarf. In this workshop we'll make a 9" x 36" scarf.

The second Sunday of each month through October, the *Basket Study Group* meets 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The next meeting is Sunday September 13. 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.tumblr.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.tumblr.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 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.

Volunteers Wanted

Burritt on the Mountain is looking for knitters and crocheters to work on a project they have planned. If you're interested contact Joan Morehead Director of Volunteers at joan.morehead@huntsvilleal.gov or www.burrittonthemountain.com, or phone 256-533-1365.

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday September 22, 5:00 p.m., is the deadline for contributions to the October 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 Sep 1	Set up Main Library display case
Tue Sep 8, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Sun Sept 20, 1:00-4:00	Welcome Back Open House, Main Library Auditorium
Tue Sep 22	October newsletter deadline
Tue Sep 22, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Sat Oct 17	Guild meeting – Crochet
Sat Nov 14	Guild meeting - Show-and-tell, UFO's
Sat Nov 21, 10:00-3:00	Huntsville Public Library Arts and Crafts Expo
Sat Dec 12	Guild meeting - Fiber related gift exchange
Sat Jan 9, 2016	Roc Day

Huntsville Library Fiber Workshops

Thur Sept 3, 10:00-12:00	DIY – Beaded Kumi Himo Bracelet @ Murphy Library
Thur Sept 3, 10, 17 & 24, 5:30-7:30	Crochet for Beginners @ Bailey Cove
Tue Sept 8&15, 6:30-8:30	How to Do Things – Introduction to Inkle Weaving
Fri Sept 25, 10:00-12:00	Beaded Kumi Himo Bracelet @ Madison Library
Thur Oct 1, 10:00-12:00	Wet Felted Geode Pin Cushion @ Murphy
Thur Oct 8, 1:00-3:00	Recycle Plastic Bags @ Bailey Cove Library
Thur Oct 22, 5:30-7:30	repeat of Recycle Plastic Bags @ Bailey Cove Library
Fri Oct 23, 9:00-3:00	Weave a Melon/Egg Basket @ Madison
Thur Oct 29, Nov 5, 12 & 19, 1:00-3:00	Crochet for Beginners @ Main Library

Other Fiber Group Events

Sat Sept 12	Introduction to Crochet, Cozy Cove Farm
Wed Sept 9, 6:30	Chain Reaction (crochet), West End Grill
Thur Sept 10, 7:00	Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million
Mon Sept 14, 10:00-2:00	Constitution Village (Bobbin) Lacers, Summit Crossing Church
Thur Sept 24, 7:00	Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million