

# Open Sheds

Volume XII Issue IV  
October 2015



## **Fall Knitting Fun! Calling on Experienced Knitters and Knitting Newbies for an afternoon devoted to Knitting**

Saturday October 17, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Madison Public Library

130 Plaza Boulevard, Madison

It's time to pull out your knitting needles and get started on those warm projects before the cold weather hits! Experienced knitters are invited to bring current projects to work on and completed items for show-and-tell. Beginning knitters will be guided through the creation of a simple garter stitch scarf. We look forward to seeing you!

Beginners: There will be a materials fee of \$5 for yarn and needles, or bring your own knitting needles, size 10 or larger, and bulky yarn. Walk-ins are welcome. However, if you pre-register, we'll definitely have supplies for you. Contact the guild to reserve your supplies.

## **New Website for the Huntsville Fiber Guild**

The Huntsville Fiber Guild has a new website, [www.HuntsvilleFiberArts.com](http://www.HuntsvilleFiberArts.com).

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](mailto:HsvFiber@gmail.com) or using your telephone.

## **President's Message**

Fall is finally in the air. At least that is what the calendar says. It is time to start staying inside and playing with fiber! The guild is trying to change with the times. Even though we all do crafts that are rooted in history, we still need to communicate with modern technology. Many thanks to Erica Parker and Carolyn Pendergrass for our new website, new phone number, and pay pal. We are trying to make the guild meet the needs of the members. Look for lots of new programs as well as old favorites. We welcome suggestions as we make lots of changes. I hope everyone comes out to enjoy knitting together at the October 17 meeting.

The fall *Open House* was a success. Of the 18 attendees, over half were visitors. We welcome all the new members that joined at the meeting. The library display window let a lot of people know about our meeting. Everyone had a good time spinning, sharing and visiting with each other. One visitor said, "... saw yarn and just had to follow it and see what was going on." That is the universal sign of a fiber artist – not being able to pass up touching the yarn!

## **Board Meeting**

On Tuesday October 13, 5:30 p.m., the Huntsville Fiber Guild board will meet at a place yet to be determined. It will be a short meeting to discuss programs. Board meetings are open to all members. A meeting reminder will be sent with more details the week before.

## **Current Guild Members Discounted Yarn Order Deadline**

October 1 is the deadline for current Huntsville Fiber Guild Members to place an order to receive a discount on certain yarns from *Handmade Saori Studio*. This order will include 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 want to see the sample cards, go to *Handmade Saori Studio* in Lowe Mill. The guild must receive your order and payment by October 1. Make checks payable to *Handmade Studio*.

## **New! Spinning Study Group on Breeds**

The Huntsville Fiber Guild will have 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 meetings are on October 8 and 22.

At *Roc Day* on January 9, 2016, we will share our samples. We will also 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 at *Roc Day* or later in the spring. For more information 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 October 13 and 27. Questions: contact the guild. Due to the holiday, there will be one November meeting on November 10.

For the September 22 meeting, we made a "house call" to help a new loom owner adjust her floor loom. When we left, she was successfully treadling away.

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? If so, e-mail **WeavingBasics@yahoo.com** to learn the details for scheduling a workshop.

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**

The first *Crochet for Beginners* taught at Bailey Cove Library on Thursday evenings was successful. *Crochet for Beginners* will be taught in two more sets of classes: 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.

If you need *Crochet for Beginners* taught at a different time, e-mail **WeavingBasics @yahoo.com** to let us know.

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.

## **Other Fiber Workshops at Libraries**

On Thursday October 1, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Murphy Library will present *Wet Felted Geode Pin Cushion*. 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*. On Friday October 23, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Madison Library will present *Weave a Melon/Egg Basket*.

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](http://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 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 October 8 and 22. 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 October 14. The group has a facebook page, [facebook.com/groups/chainreactionhsv](https://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, October 12 we will meet from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Grapple Room at Summit Crossing Community Church facility. The November meeting will be Monday, November 9.

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

## **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.

### **Southland Flywheelers Festival**

On Saturday October 24, the Southland Flywheelers will hold a festival just east of mile marker 27 on Alabama Highway 36 (east of I-65). If you're interested in having a booth or demonstrating, contact LMCalahan @bellsouth.net.

### **November Craft Events**

There are two events in November that will allow the Huntsville Fiber Guild to advertise. On Saturday November 14, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., the Murphy Branch Library will have a *Craft Fair*. If you wish to sell items, the registration fee is \$15. Contact Annie Phillips at 256-881-5620 or [APhillips@hmcpl.org](mailto:APhillips@hmcpl.org). The Huntsville Fiber Guild will have a demonstration table, but we won't be able to sell items.

On Saturday November 21, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., the Main Library will have an *Arts and Craft Expo* (replaces event previously held the second Saturday in January). If you wish to sell items, there is a suggested donation. Contact [asprogramming@hmcpl.org](mailto:asprogramming@hmcpl.org) to register. The Huntsville Fiber Guild will have a demonstration table, but we won't be selling items.

If you can help represent the Huntsville Fiber Guild at either of these events, contact the Guild.

### **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**. 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/**.

## Cullman Fiber Guild Has New Website

The Cullman Fiber Guild has a new website: [CullmanFiber.weebly.com](http://CullmanFiber.weebly.com). The Cullman Fiber Guild does not have workshops during the months of October through December. On Saturday October 24, we will be demonstrating at the Peinhardt Living History Farm Day.

On Sunday October 11, 2:00 – 4:00, the *Basket Study Group* meets for the last time in 2015. 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 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**. See the Cullman Fiber Guild web site **CullmanFiber.weebly.com** for driving directions to Peinhardt Living History Farm in Cullman, Alabama.

## Alabama Gourd Society Conference

On Saturday and Sunday October 17-18, the *Alabama Gourd Society* will have a conference at the Cullman Civic Center. Be sure to see the competition gourds. There will be gourd decorating classes on both days. See [AlabamaGourdSociety.org](http://AlabamaGourdSociety.org) for details.

## 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**.

## Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday October 27, 5:00 p.m., is the deadline for contributions to the November 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 Oct 13, 5:30	Board Meeting
Tue Oct 13, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Sat Oct 17	Fall Knitting Fun! Experienced and Newbies
Tue Oct 27	November newsletter deadline
Tue Oct 27, 6:45	Weaving Study Group, Central Presbyterian Church, Cooper House
Sat Nov 14, 10:00-4:00	Murphy Branch Library Craft Fair
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 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

Thur Oct 8, 7:00	Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million
Sat Oct 10	Introduction to Knitting, Cozy Cove Farm
Mon Oct 12, 10:00-2:00	Constitution Village (Bobbin) Lacers, Summit Crossing Church
Wed Oct 14, 6:30	Chain Reaction (crochet), West End Grill
Thur Oct 22, 7:00	Huntsville Spinners, Books-A-Million