

Open Sheds

Volume XV Issue IX
April 2019



What: Spinning Practice for Sheep to Shawl

When: Saturday April 13, 2019, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Where: Main Library Auditorium,
915 Monroe Street, Huntsville.

Calling all spinners and “wanna-be” spinners: Let’s practice for the upcoming *Sheep to Shawl Contest*. Come see how much you can spin in an hour.

If you’re ready to learn to spin, or have done a little spinning and want to learn more, let us know and there will be someone to help you. Contact the guild by April 8 so an experienced spinning teacher will be ready for you.

Sheep to Shawl

The Huntsville Fiber Guild will be hosting a *Sheep to Shawl Contest* this summer. Start forming your team now and thinking of a great name! We’ll have news about the location and rules later.

The Lowe Mill Fiber Festival has been cancelled.

We are still working on the guidelines for the competition but we do know that each team will have carders, spinners, and only one weaver at a time. Any kind of loom allowed as long as finished shawl is 20 X 72 inches or at least 1440 square inches. All looms except for triangle looms can be prewarped. Teams will provide all their own equipment and supplies. Use any animal fiber that is cleaned and ready to card. The fiber may be dyed. No electric equipment will be allowed. We want people of all skill levels to participate. Points will be given for team spirit as well as quality of spinning and weaving. There will be other prizes including a *People’s Choice Award*.

The final details will be announced in next month’s newsletter.

Fiber Study Group

The *Fiber Study Group* is for people of all skill levels. The next meeting will be Tuesday April 9, 6:30 p.m., at the Cooper House. We will be preparing for the *Sheep to Shawl Demonstration* and *Sheep to Shawl Contest*. The second meeting will be Tuesday April 23, 6:30 p.m., at the Cooper House.

Everyone is welcome to come when your schedule permits. All guild members are welcome, whatever your fiber activity. Bring your show and tell. If you want to work on a project or talk about fiber, join us. Bring your fiber questions! Suggest a topic for future meetings.

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.

Contacting the Huntsville Fiber Guild

The website is www.HuntsvilleFiberArts.com. The telephone number is **256-384-5515**. Please leave a message, and an officer will reply to your message. (If you don’t leave a message, we’ll assume you are a telemarketer, and won’t attempt to return the call.) So, in 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. Find the Huntsville Fiber Guild on Facebook and Revelry.

The February Puzzle

So as most of us have figured out, the draft from the February newsletter is an overshot pattern called “snail trails” (or Cats paws”).

The threading blocks for overshot are always: 12, 23, 34, and 41 for a four shaft weave, with tie down pics of 1,3 and 2,4, between each pattern pic, so if you cut out the overshot pattern, you would be left with a plain weave structure. Overshot must be woven with tie down or “tabby” because the overshot design has multiple repeat treading to create the design blocks.

If you start thinking about all weave structures as a combination of BLOCKS endemic to a particular weave structure, weaving becomes much more understandable and opens up the freedom to design your own patterns.

SO, if you think of pattern blocks you see in the overshot pattern in the puzzle as just a “design tool”, what other weave structures could you design with? Overshot is a twill derivative with a two warp float in each pattern pic. First let’s take “Summer & Winter; in S&W, 1 and 2 are used for tie down threads regardless of the number of Shafts used. With a 4 shaft loom, you have two design blocks, with 8 shaft loom, you have six design blocks, therefore to weave the pattern in Summer and Winter, you need 6 shafts.....BLOCK One: 1323, BL2: 1424, BL3: 1525, BL4: 1626. So, hopefully you begin to see the possibilities for creating the same design in different weaves structures, depending on what you will be using your finished weaving for.

Next month, we will be talking about the tie-ups you need to create your proposed design and, also, the treading designs.....”tromp as writ”, star fashion, rose fashion, shadow fashion, opposites, and squaring a design.

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 the membership fee. Payment can be made with Paypal, for a small convenience fee, by sending email to **Hsvfiber @gmail.com**; or send check 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. 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, discounts 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.

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.

Constitution Village Lacers General Meeting

Constitution Village Lacers meets the second Monday of the month at Asbury United Methodist Church, 980 Hughes Road Madison, Alabama. We meet in room number H216. The next meeting will be on April 8. We’ll meet to work 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Our group is dedicated to furthering knowledge and practice of bobbin lace. Visitors are welcome. Come sit with an experienced lacemaker and learn how bobbin lace is made.

For directions and additional information on our group, please email worleysu@gmail.com.

Morgan County Bicentennial Festival

On Friday April 5, 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., there will be a *Morgan County Bicentennial Festival*. This event will be for schoolchildren, and will be located at the *Morgan County Celebration Arena* in Priceville, Alabama. The organizers want the skills we are studying to be demonstrated. If you’re willing to help, contact April Childers, AKChilders@morgank12.org.

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.)

Shuttle Tatting

Tatting is a form of lace making that has undergone cyclic interest since the early-mid 1800s. Currently in a resurgence, this fiber art has the advantages of being extremely transportable and compact, minimal cost, reasonably quick to produce, and capable of a broad range of designs from jewelry to doilies to clothing accessories.

Learning to tat is not difficult and, once the basic steps are mastered, the full universe of patterns available on-line and in books is open for consumption.

While tatting can be done with needles, using shuttles appears – based on Facebook groups – to be somewhat the more favored method currently.

You can find tatters each Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Bailey Cove Public Library. We’re always ready to teach new tatters, share our favorite tatting patterns, swap threads, and foster the art. We hope you will join us and tell your fiber art friends about our gatherings.

For more information, email Mike.Lyon @comcast.net.

What supplies will you need?

2 tatting shuttles - Tatting shuttles in a variety of styles may be found at Hobby Lobby (about \$3-5 each). You will need 2 of them (in different colors if you like), as most tatting designs require 2 shuttles. Personally, I recommend the plastic “Aerlit” or “Moonlit” models with the small metal hook on one end for doing joining. Shuttles without the hook are perfectly fine, although you will need a separate very fine crochet hook if your shuttle lacks one.

2 balls of thread - For thread, perhaps the best size to start with is size #20. You should be able to find balls in several colors at Hobby Lobby in the tatting section. Pick any colors you like. I recommend the Lizbeth brand.

Alternatively, an on-line source for all things relating to tatting is <http://www.hhtatting.com/>.

Crochet for Beginners

If you're interested in learning to crochet, classes can be arranged to suit your schedule. There will be four two-hour classes, with homework required. The classes can meet at Bailey Cove Library, Eleanor Murphy Library or the Main Library. Let me know the days and times, as well as the place, that are best for you. I'll advertise the classes, and others may join the group. The maximum number in a class is 6 adults and youth ages 14 and up. Email WeavingBasics@yahoo.com.

Chain Reaction Crochet Group

Chain Reaction is a local chapter of the Crochet Guild of America (CGOA). The local group meets the second Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at Panera Bread in Bridge Street Town Center. The next meeting is April 10. We can be found on facebook as *Chain Reaction*. At meetings we talk about crochet, patterns and yarn and share what we are making.

For more information (and to confirm this meeting date), email AnnsCrochetGifts@gmail.com. See <https://www.crochet.org/> for more information on the national organization.

Peinhardt Living History Farm Workshop News

The *Fiber Workshops*, *Basket Study Group* and *Tatting Study Group* started in February 2019. The *Basket Study Group* meets on the second Sunday of the month, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., February – September, except no May meeting. The *Tatting Study Group* meets on the third Saturday of the month, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., February – September, except no May meeting. The *Fiber Workshops* meet on the fourth Saturday of the month, starting at 9:00 a.m., February – August, except the third Saturday in May.

On Sunday April 14, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., the *Basket Study Group* will be weaving a *Round Basket*. The supply fee will be \$5. There will be a beginners basket available for a \$5 supply fee.

On Saturday April 27, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., the *Fiber Workshop* will be *Weave a Rush Seat*. Pre-registration is required by March 30. The supply fee is \$15. See **PeinhardtLHF.tumblr.com** for details.

The other *Fiber Workshops* will be May 18, *Introduction to Spinning and Carding and Blending Fiber*; June 22, *Triangle Loom Weaving or Bias Rectangle Loom Weaving*; July 27, *Make a “Navajo Knot” Mug Rug*; August 24, *Natural Dyes – The Color Green*. See **PeinhardtLHF.tumblr.com** for more information and location in Cullman and driving directions.

Chattahoochee Handweavers Guild

The *Chattahoochee Handweavers Guild* in Atlanta, Georgia, presents a full schedule of workshops. See CHGWeavers.org for details.

Some 2019 Fiber Festival Dates

These following two fiber events are still accepting registrations. The *Southeast Fiber Forum* will be in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, on April 4-7, 2019. See <http://www.sefiberforum.org/> for more details and the workshops being offered.

The *Smoky Mountain Fiber Festival* will be in Townsend, Tennessee, on April 12-14, 2019. See <http://townsendartisanguild.net/fiber-arts.html> for more details and the workshops being offered.

There will be a *Middle Tennessee Fiber Festival* this year, on May 24-25. See TNFiberFestival.com for more details and the workshops being offered.

Fiber in the Boro will be November 3. See FiberintheBoro.com for details.

No Family Farm and Market Day This Year

The *Family Farm and Market Day* will not be held this year.

Have You Heard About ...

Adapting Reeds to Different Warp Setts

https://www.interweave.com/article/weaving/adapting-reeds-different-warp-setts/?k=B1tXozLKSiJuHEzHjPiv05MUEcArttgJ8%2B6vHkAwjIw%3D&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=wt-tsa-nl-180228

Whip Stitch Tutorial

https://www.interweave.com/article/weaving/whip-stitch-tutorial/?k=B1tXozLKSiJuHEzHjPiv05MUEcArttgJ8%2B6vHkAwjIw%3D&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=wt-tsa-nl-180228

Irregular Denting Orders

<https://www.interweave.com/article/weaving/ask-madelyn-irregular-denting-orders/>

Please make contributions for the *HYHA* section of the newsletter. If you find it interesting or helpful, the chances are that someone else might also.

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday April 23, 5:00 p.m. is the deadline for contribution to the May newsletter. Send contributions by email 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.

Huntsville Fiber Guild and the Huntsville Madison County Public Libraries

These beginner fiber workshops are open to adults and youth 14 and up. See WeavingBasics.tumblr.com for details or email WeavingBasics@yahoo.com.

Grandmother's Flower Garden Quilt Block With English Paper Piecing @ Main

Tue Mar 12, 6:30-8:30

Two Ways to Colorful Silk Scarves @ Bailey Cove

Fri Mar 15, 1:00-3:00

"Navajo Knot" Rag Mug Rug @ Madison

Fri Mar 22, 10:00- 12:00

Grandmother's Flower Garden Quilt Block With English Paper Piecing @ Murphy

Thu Apr 4, 10:00-12:00

Beyond Beginning Crochet @ Main

Tue Apr 9, 6:30-8:30

Weave a Tote/Purse Basket @ Madison
Spinning on the Drop Spindle @ Murphy
Spinning on the Drop Spindle @ Main
Two Ways to Colorful Silk Scarves @ Madison
“Navajo Knot” Rag Mug Rug @ Murphy
Beaded Lanyard for Badge or Glasses @ Main
Basket on Gourd Bowl @ Madison

Fri Apr 26, 9:00-3:00
Thu May 2, 10:00-12:00
Tue May 14, 6:30-8:30
Fri May 17, 2019, 10:00–12:00
Thu June 6, 2019, 10:00– 12:00
Tue June 11, 2019, 6:30 – 8:30
Fri June 28, 2019, 9:00–3:00

Huntsville Madison County Senior Center

Basket Classes
Tuesdays 11:30
Ceramics Room
256-880-7080

Weaving Classes
Mondays 9:00-1:00
Wednesdays 9:00-11:30
Weaving Room
qranki@knology.net

Upcoming Huntsville Fiber Guild Events

Tue Apr 9, 6:30 Fiber Study Group, Cooper House
Sat Apr 13, 10-2 Spinning Practice for Sheep to Shawl, Main Library Auditorium
Tue Apr 23 Deadline for May newsletter
Tue Apr 23, 6:30 Fiber Study Group, Cooper House
Tue May 14, 6:30 Fiber Study Group
Tue May 28, 6:30 Fiber Study Group