

Open Sheds

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Handweavers Guild
of America, Inc.

Handweavers Guild of America is having another **woven towel exchange** this Year!

I had so much fun doing this last year. The last minute rush to get them woven and in the mail by the deadline was definitely worth ever stressful minute. I learned a lot about finishing a project by a deadline and making a towel the correct size. The picture is the 5 towels I received in the exchange. All of them are very different but wonderful. I also got an electronic copy of the over 50 participant's drafts.

Zoom Towel Weaving Support Group

I am willing to host a **Zoom Towel Weaving Support Group** so we can encourage each other to finish by the Aug 31, 2021 deadline. First meeting will be Sunday April 18, 2021 at 5 PM – 6PM. We will discuss details like meeting times, how often, dates etc. at this first meeting. You don't have to do the exchange to talk about weaving towels. Email the guild to get the zoom link.

The rules for the towel exchange are online at <https://weavespindye.org/rentals/>.

You do have to be a member of HGA to participate in the towel exchange. But you want to be a member so you can attend **HGA Convergence July 2022** in Knoxville, Tennessee. This is a golden opportunity since it is only 4 hours away. See <https://weavespindye.org/schedule-and-registration/>. Registration opens August 2, 2021. (This was rescheduled from 2020.)

2021 Handwoven Kitchen Towel Exchange

HGA Individual, Family, Student and Professional Artists members are invited to participate in a weaving exchange and increase your handwoven towel stash. Participants will each send five towels and will receive

five wonderful new towels. **Register to Participate.**

Guidelines

1. Towels must be woven from cotton (unmercerized is preferable for kitchen towels), linen, hemp, bamboo or any combination of these fibers.
2. Towels should be hemmed (either hand-sewn or machine-sewn).
3. Wash your towels so that shrinkage has been addressed.
4. Finished (after washing and hemming) minimum measurements are to be 18" x 25".
5. Weave five towels.
6. Include five (5) printed one-page information sheets with your name, contact information, and the draft for your weaving along with thread samples and sources. There should be one for each towel. Insert each information sheet in a sheet protector to keep it flat and neat while shipping.
7. Email a digital copy of your information sheet to the exchange administrator (to compile a complete listing of all towels entered). Instructions will be emailed with your registration confirmation.
8. **Ship your towels beginning August 1, 2021. Towels must be received by the exchange administrator no later than August 31, 2021.** Instructions for mailing will be emailed with your registration confirmation.
9. **DO NOT MAIL TO HGA. Your towels will not be received.**
10. Towels will be exchanged and shipped by September 30, 2021.

Participant Requirements

1. Current HGA Student, Individual, Family or Professional Artist Membership. Not a member? Join.
2. Participant fee of \$20 to cover return priority-mail shipping (international participants will have their towels returned via first class mail) and administrative fees.

Community (Optional)

1. Participants will be invited by email to join the Facebook group for the 2021 exchange so you can share and communicate with each other.
2. Participants will be invited to participate in a Zoom event during Spinning & Weaving Week (October 4 -11, 2021).

Free Weave-A-Long Starts April 16

Join Color-In-Weaving expert Tien Chiu and well-known weaving teacher Janet Dawson in a fun weave-along community as we help you solve the problems of dealing with stash projects. We'll offer lessons, video chats, free Q&A sessions, and the chance to join a supportive community of your fellow weavers, sharing your trials and triumphs. Sign up to be notified for when registration starts,

<https://www.warpandweave.com/classes/stash-weave-along/weave-along-notification/>

I took the free learn about color weave a long last year. I really enjoyed it. The teachers were good and the online part was easy to handle. I especially enjoyed the interactive parts. Even if you don't have time to weave the information is wonderful.

See <https://www.warpandweave.com/> or <https://weavingwithjanetdawson.com/>.

Zoom Meetings

Huntsville Fiber Guild Zoom meetings are usually scheduled every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m. The next meetings will be April 8 and April 22 with show-and-tell. What have you been doing in the past weeks?

Many thanks to the host, Teresa from *Hook a Frog* in Madison. All are welcome to join the meetings, bring show-and-tell, and bring something to work on.

2021 Workshop Suggestions Welcome

Which workshop instructors/topics would you like us to have in 2021? The instructors can be national or local. I'm a member of two other fiber guilds that are presenting workshops in Zoom. Their workshops have been a mix of their local members presenting and outside instructors.

We need ideas for challenges, contests and learning activities that will make us feel like a group. Contact the Guild with your ideas.

Alchemy Farms and Plants

Marguerite McClintock of *Alchemy Farms and Plants* has invited the guild to see her sheep being sheared on April 9 and participate in an auction for raw fleeces.

There will be 23 sheep plus 18 Gulf Coast sheep being sheared.

Alchemy Farms and Plants is a teaching farm and part of *Artisans Cove*, across from Hampton Cove Schools.

For more information, see *Artisans Cove* or *The Market @ Artisans Cove* on Facebook.

Our Local Yarn Stores

We are fortunate to have several local yarn stores to choose from. Here they are listed alphabetically

Fiber Art Works, Huntsville, AL, see <http://www.fiberartwork.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/fiberartworkhuntsville>.

Hook a Frog Fiber and Fun, Madison, AL, see <https://www.hookafrog.net/>.

Thanks to *Hook a Frog* for hosting our video meetings.

Sparkle Studio at Lowe Mill, Huntsville, AL, see <https://thatsparklestudio.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/ThatSparkleStudio>. *Sparkle Studio* is a HFG business member.

Yarn Boutique, Decatur AL, see <https://yarn-boutique-of-decatur.business.site/> and <https://www.facebook.com/YarnboutiqueofDecatur/>.

Yarn Fish is the newest commercial member. The owner has just moved to the area, and is still unpacking. See YarnFishga@gmail.com.

Membership Dues Update – Dues Waived for 2020-2021 Membership Year

Normally, we would be asking for your membership fee for the 2020-2021 membership year. The board has decided to not charge membership dues this year due to the pandemic. If you would like to join the guild or remain a member, see the end of the email containing this attachment. Click the “Fill Out Form” button at the end of this email.

Why bother with a *Membership Form* when there is no fee due? We want to know how to reach you, what fiber arts you enjoy and hear your program/workshop suggestions.

The Huntsville Fiber Guild membership year is October 1 – September 30. Both *Personal* and *Commercial Memberships* are available in the Huntsville Fiber Guild. 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.

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.

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, not to mention the friendship and mentoring available at every meeting.

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.

Chattahoochee Handweavers Guild Virtual Workshops

The fiber guild in Atlanta is hosting virtual workshops. **Weaving in a Parallel Universe** presented by Linda Hartshorn April 17-19. See <https://chgweavers.org/workshops/> for details on this and other workshops they are planning.

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.

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday April 27, 5:00 p.m. is the deadline for contributions to the May newsletter. Send contributions by email to [HsvFiber @gmail.com](mailto:HsvFiber@gmail.com).

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