
CUYAHOGA WEAVERS GUILD

President's Letter

Dear Weavers

This time I nearly forgot that it was time for the newsletter. There is so much going on. Everyone wants me to do something, and all the things I agreed to in the summer are coming home to roost. It is too cold and wet to take a long walk to clear the head. Thank goodness for fibers! Sitting down to spin a while, or knit, or weave gets me back on track. All the shopping can wait. Over the years past I have trained my family not to expect all handmade gifts exactly on Christmas Day. I try to do my best, but rushing weaving does not result in something good. If you are in the same bind you could take a picture of the work in progress. You could wrap up a sample. I am sure your family and friends will understand.

The best thing about yarn at this time of the year: all the color! When it is grey and dark, I get depressed, and looking at my yarn is the best pick me up of the season. That reminds me: what do you say to someone who asks: "what do you want for Christmas"? Answer: A gift card for Webbs. Happy weaving now and in the new year.

Elfriede

2019-2020

CUYAHOGA WEAVERS GUILD PROGRAMS

Thursday, December 19, 2019 Pot Luck and Show & Tell

The annual Holiday Pot Luck will be at Patty's house at 11:30 am. If your last name begins with A-M, please bring a main dish or salad, if your name begins with N-Z, please bring a side dish or dessert. We will enjoy our lunch followed by a Show & Tell, sharing your recent woven creations.

Thursday, January 9, 2020 Study Group

10 am location not scheduled

Thursday, January 23, 2020 Guild Meeting/Program: Trey Gehring

11:30 am Brown Bag Lunch at Warrensville Hts Public Library - North Room (r6q7s9)

12 noon Meeting

12:30 Trey Gehring, textile artist, will talk about loom controlled leno lace, "Doup Lace".

Thursday, February 6, 2020 Study Group

10 am Miriam's house Miriam & Victoria presenting

Thursday, February 20, 2020 Field trip to Lake Farm Park Quilt Show

We will take a field trip this month to Lake Farm Park for their annual Quilt Show. We will have lunch there in the atrium (reserved for us) with either your brown bag or purchasing lunch from their cafeteria. Beverages can be purchased. Our own Sheri Gittinger and Joan Horwich, veterans of this show, will be our guides to this exceptional show.

Thursday, March 5, 2020 Study Group

10 am Location not scheduled. **Consider hosting here!**

Thursday, March 19, 2020 Trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art

Meet at the Cleveland Museum of Art for a Docent-led presentation of the newly opened exhibit, "Golden Needles: Embroidery Arts from Korea". After this exclusive exhibit, we will have time to see the Tiffany Collection featuring much of the newly donated by L.C. Tiffany. Lunch at the museum if you wish to stay.

Thursday, April 2, 2020 Study Group

10 am Location Jessie's house Nancy presenting

Friday, April 3, 2020 Set up at the Beachwood Library for our show (12:30-4:00)

Demo dates will be forthcoming, and **Saturday, April 25** - Take down show

Thurs. April 23 & Friday, April 24, 2020

WORKSHOP: Sara Bixler, owner and resident instructor at Red Stone Glen, will join us for a 2-day workshop on Surface Embellishments and Lace Techniques. (see flyer for more information). The flyer follows.

LECTURE (for all on Thurs, April 23rd at 12:30)

Thursday, May 7, 2020 Study Group

10 am Location Bobbie Jones Shafer's house- Patty presenting

Thursday, May 21, 2020 Guild Meeting/Program: Video Viewing

11:30 Meet at the for brown bag lunch.

12 Noon Meeting

12:30 A video to view from our renown library of Weaver' Resources

Monday, June 1, 2020 Hang show in Chagrin Falls at the Joan P. Wenk Gallery, 88 N. Main St., Chagrin Falls (10:00 a.m.)

Show open to the public 10:00 -4:00 pm June 3-19.

June 6-7 12:00-3:00 pm Demonstrations and reception at Gallery.

Thursday, June 18, 2020 At the end of the Weaving Year, our traditional pot luck picnic will be a perfect place to reflect on the year, what was good, what was not, and what we would like to see next year. Bring your creations for Show and Tell. Location: home of Joan Horwich.

ANNOUNCEMENT about the Beachwood Library Show—New Date!

The show has moved from May to April 2020.
Please plan accordingly. More details are expected.

April 3, 2020 Set Up for our show at the Beachwood Library, 12:30-4:00
Demonstrations for the Library
April 25, 2020 Take Down 10:00 am

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS from CWG members

2020 Conover Workshops Fiberarts Classes

We will be offering our [Comprehensive Basic Weaving Class](#) in 2020 four different weeks. Take advantage of a \$40 coupon if you sign up for the February 24-28th or March 16-20th sessions prior to December 31st. We are in the holiday spirit and want to share the good joy! This well-developed curriculum has a great deal to offer experienced and novice weavers alike over a five-day period. This truly is an immersion course where you leave day-to-day issues behind and focus on the wonderful craft of weaving. If you want to give yourself a real break we offer [lodging](#) in our beautiful home.

The [10-shaft Twill](#) 3-day class being offered in April in a monumental undertaking for the Conover elves. We will have four Glimåkra counterchange looms beamed, threaded, tied-on and ready for you to throw the shuttle. The warp consists of 848 ends in 16/2 and 16/1 line linen in half-bleached. The weaver gets to choose from sixty-six different colors offered by Bockens in 16/2 line linen.

[Spinning Flax & Hemp](#) is back by popular demand in August. Don't miss out on Susan's enthusiasm for this beautiful fiber. Hopefully the two-days spinning will create a frenzy for you and you won't be able to get enough of this ancient fiber!

Every Autumn we offer our intensive hands-on [Learn to Spin on a Treadle Wheel](#) class which meets on a Saturday morning for four consecutive weeks. We use wool as the fiber of choice. This is a great opportunity to see many different wheels in use and we do have rentals available.

A three-day course in [Double Width Weave](#) will be offered in October and then again in November. All four Glimåkra 8S counterchange looms will be ready for the weaver to throw the shuttle. Each participant will have a wool throw to take home measuring 57" wide x 53" long off the loom. Enrollment for this class will open up on Monday, June 22nd.
Copyright © 2019 Conover Workshops, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
18115 Madison Road
Middlefield, OH 44062-9237

FROM Lynne Kilgore

Cotton yarn resource

Here is Michael's new website.

<http://gayarnco.com/>

Victoria received this image from one of her lace friends via FaceBook. Lace renditions of weavers. Just lovely.

Schedule for Study Group meetings for 2020

Please refer to the Guild roster for addresses

Jan. 9, 2020

No hostess scheduled

A good opportunity to weave your

Pictorial

Feb. 6, 2020

Miriam Lidsky's home

Miriam and Victoria to present

March 5, 2020

No hostess scheduled

April 2, 2020

Jessie Adler's home

Nancy to present

Calling all hostess-tempted folk!

Volunteer for our **March 5, 2020**

Study Group.

A Tip of the Hat, er, Bonnet: A Remembrance

Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Dear Judy

I know you're dead a long time now so I have no plan to affix postage to this letter. Maybe you occasionally peak back to check in on what you left behind. Maybe not, but it doesn't matter. I'm writing this so others will know the story.

Long ago when I was hardly more than a weaver wanna-be, you saw something in my future. When you knew you were loosing that last battle, you made a point of passing along something to me that you said I would eventually use. We had hardly had time to get to know each other, so you gave it to Jean with instruction to make sure I got it. I don't know how you knew I would need a proper pioneer bonnet, but it turns out that you were right.

Few groups value the weavers and spinners as much as those that focus on the past. Local historical societies live to preserve and explain the way things used to be around here in the early 1800s. Those of us that use the tools they have up for display create a current connection to times long past. Friends involved with such societies have repeatedly invited me to demonstrate my ancient skills during their public events. There is always a thin veneer of pretense that nothing past them has happened yet and they ask me to play along. A long skirt, a simple blouse and an apron is considered close enough for costume, but whatever you cover your body with, your head requires a bonnet. If I didn't already have yours, they'd be quick to loan me one.

No single piece of clothing implies olden times quicker than a "Little House on the Prairie" hat. Back in the day, no proper pioneer lady of any age would venture outside without her bonnet tied neatly under her chin. It not only shades eyes, it can keep burning sun off my whole face and the

back of my neck. It baffles and blocks the wind, protecting and preserving both skin and hair style. Having done demos through sun, wind, rain and snow, I can understand why it was what we wore. I doubt it will rise again in fashion, but when everybody around is wearing one, it makes sense and looks a lot less silly.

I can't wear it without thinking of you. I always wonder how many times you wore it to expose others to the wonders of weaving. Maybe you spun at a wheel or worked some other fiber skill while wearing it. I don't know when, how or from where you got it, but I know how it got to me. It may not look like much, but it holds a rich history all it's own that I can personally hand down.

Thank you forever wherever you are.

Love

Victoria

12/2019 VJP

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENT from OTHER GUILDS

CONVERGENCE 2020

July 24-30, 2020, Knoxville, Tennessee

The national conference put on by the Handweavers Guild of America. A large range of seminars and workshops on weaving, spinning and related crafts. Multiple exhibitions and other activities. A preliminary schedule available. Registration opens October 1st .

www.weavespindye.org/convergence

News from Medina Weavers Guild

Color and Design in Huck Lace Towels With Rosalie Neilson

May 1-3, 2020

(9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday) (9 a.m.-noon Sunday)

Weymouth Historical Preservation Society 3314 Myers Rd.
Medina, Ohio 44256

Workshop fee: \$220 members, \$245 non-members

Officers and Committee Chairs

2019 -2020

President:
Elfriede Heaney

Secretary
Joan Horwich

Treasurer:
Jean Jackson

Newsletter:
Nancy Allman

Membership:
Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Librarian:
Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Card Correspondent:
Ele Richardson

Web Mistress:
Nora Eason

Hospitality:
Sarah Berg
Debbie Swan

Publicity:

A great place to volunteer!

Study Group Facilitator:
Patty Hridel

Programs 2019 - 2020
Sheri Gittinger
Patty Hridel

Programs 2020 - 2021
Patty Hridel
Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Exhibition Committee
Bobbie Shafer
Jean Jackson
Nancy Allman
Victoria Johnson-Parratt
Ele Richardson
Patty Hridel

Nominating Committee
A great place to volunteer

Weaver emeritus
Rose Rubin
Elly Rose

Contributors
Winter Issue
2019 - 2020
Issue 130

Nancy Allman
Elfriede Heaney
Sheri Gittinger
Patty Hridel
Victoria Johnson-Parratt
Medina Weavers
GuildNewsletter

DEADLINE FOR WINTER NEWSLETTER IS

March 15, 2020

Submit to:
newsletter@cuyahogaweaversguild.com

Cuyahoga Weavers Guild is hosting Sara Bixler

(Thur/Fri.) April 23-24, 2020

Lace Embellishment 2-day workshop

As weavers we have seen these wonderful lacy units our multi-harness looms cannot create ...now it's time to play at creating lace with the use of pick-up sticks. Students will navigate through the wonderful world of creating open, airy spaces within the interior of their weaving with such techniques as Leno Lace, Brook's Bouquet and more on pre-warped looms. Sara will discuss with students appropriate materials , special tools

and their uses as well as recommended-mended applications for these lovely lacy pieces. (Maximum 15 students)

Students will bring a 4-shaft table or floor loom warped according to Sara's instructions.

Sara is the owner and resident instructor of Red Stone Glen Fiber Arts Center. Many of Sara's students praise her ability to guide students through the challenging world of color theory, specifically relating to weaving. Sara has spent many years experimenting with color in weaving focusing her studies in how color relationships are affected by yarn size, luster, sett and weave structure. She loves giving students core principals to follow so they become more confident in their color decisions when designing new pieces.

Location: Beachwood Library 25501 Shaker Blvd.

Beachwood, OH 44122 Time: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Cost: \$120 for guild members & \$145 for non-guild member

Deposit: Half down (DEADLINE 2/29/20) and balance due at workshop

Name: _____ Address: _____

_____ City, State, Zip

_____ Phone

_____ e-mail _____

Send check to: Patty Hridel, 17592 Lakes Edge Trail, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

Payable to Cuyahoga Weavers Guild



ABOUT CWG

The Cuyahoga Weavers Guild of Cleveland, Ohio is an organization open to all weavers, spinners and any others interested in textiles and fibers.

The Guild's calendar year is September through June. Meetings are generally held the third Please refer to the Program calendar and descriptions. Brown bag lunch usually starts at 11:30 AM; the business meeting at 12:00 PM and the program by 1:00 PM.

The Guild provides coffee, hot tea and cookies or other goodies. The date, time and/or place may occasionally be changed. If this occurs, notice is given in the newsletter, on the Guild's web site, by email, by phone.

Dues are \$25.00 per year, payable at the September meeting or by mail to the Treasurer, Jean Jackson, 2980 Washington Blvd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. If you are unable to attend meetings or workshops but would like to receive the newsletters, you may subscribe for \$12.50 per year.

Dryer Balls

Victoria Johnson-Parratt

It's been over a year since I bounce away from the oil coated dryer sheets and into balls. Wool balls to be specific. I'm told merino is best. I'm not sure if breed actually matters, but I've come to consider merino the queen of wool, so I won't argue. All natural, chemical free and re-useable, the pure white wool is felted into balls the size of navel oranges. Placed in the dryer, they absorb wet from the wash load and add separation so clothes dry faster. The concept comes to us from the great wool cultures of New Zealand and Australia.

I really like using them, but I had to adapt. First of all they ain't cheap. It turns out that they more than hold their own in the comparative cost ratio, but it can be an investment to start. Then there's the life expectancy mystery. In my culture everything has an expiration date. I had to find peace with vague instructions on how many to use and how long they last. There was no mention at all on how to tell when your dryer balls have gone dead.

The question of how many balls needed seems to be a personal judgment call based on variables of load quantity and material quality. I started with a few and have added more to the dryer drum through the year to settle on 8. I don't always use them all, but a full load of towels needs many.

I expected them to felt into hard little marbles, but with time and use, I noticed some getting soft and squishy. I assume those to be the oldest balls, but I wasn't ready to compost them. It turns out the manufacturer did include instructions on refreshing their balls, and it requires very little hygienic maintenance.

Panty hose is best used to secure multiple balls using a simple overhand knot between each ball. Thin socks (not wool) can be used to tie up each ball individually. Once separated and secured, toss them through a hot soapy wash cycle. They need to be completely saturated, but use as little water as possible to encourage the most agitation. You're re-felting here, so the more you beat your

balls the better. Put them through their own hot dryer cycle before you take them out of the socks and your balls are ready to go to work again.

I plan to keep using my wool dryer balls. I suspect they may last for many years, but I will submit an obituary should any pass away from natural causes.

