CUYAHOGA WEAVERS GUILD

President's Letter

Hello Everyone

If our recent "dyeing day" was any measure of what is to come, then the coming year will spectacular. You may have heard me say this before, but I like to claim that I've never met a color I didn't like. Seeing all your smiles as the different colors came out of the dye pots convinced me that we will need to do this again. With our September meeting held at Kent State, I don't know if we will have a show and tell, but please bring everything that you dyed to share in October.

A big Thank-you to Patty for leading the program committee. We have a fantastic set of events lined up for our monthly meetings, and plan to hold a workshop again.

The "botanical" theme for study group is so perfect. It gives a focus, but allows for so many ways for each of us to express our joy in weaving. Jean and I already have some ideas of what we will be making.

Excited to be a part of it... Bob

Programs for this year come to us via the efforts of Patty, Bob, Victoria and Joan. Be sure to extend a thanks to them when you next see them.. Bravo!

CWG Program Calendar 2022-2023

September 15, 2022

Janis Lessman-Moss Retrospective exhibit at the Kent State Museum, 515 Hilltop Drive, Kent, OH 44242. We will have a guide to tour the exceptional exhibit that will be closing at the end of September. Please meet at the museum at 11:00 where we will purchase our tickets for the tour.

After the museum, we can meet at Wild Goats, 319 W Main Street, Kent HO 44242 for lunch. They offer soup, salads or sandwiches. It is a short drive from the museum.

Please make carpool arrangements individually.

October 6, 2022, Study Group 10 am, Patty Hridel's house October 20, 2022

Tracy Jackson will conduct a mini workshop with us on **Bow Weaving.** Tracy will bring all equipment including a loom that resembles a bow—as in a bow and arrow. 11:30 we will meet at the Warrensville Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library,

4415 Northfield Road, Warrensville Heights, OH. 44128. Please let Patty know if you will be able to attend. Please bring your brown bag lunch and a beverage.

November 3,2022 Study Group November 17, 2022

Bonnie Tarsas will join us via zoom at the Warrensville Library to present **Sixtytwo and a Half Years but Who's Counting,** an overview of her weaving journey which includes Color Horoscope, Turned Weft Ikat, Weaving to Origami among others. Our Joan Horwich has taken a workshop with Bonnie and enthusiastically recommends the joy, humor and insights Bonnie will share with us. 11:30 meet at Warrensville Heights Library with a brown bag lunch. Meeting begins at Noon.

December 1, 2022, Study Group December 15, 2022

Potluck and Show & Tell

Bring a main dish, side dish or dessert to our annual Holiday Potluck. And be sure to bring your weavings for show and tell.

No Study Group will be scheduled in January 2023 January 19, 2023

Meet at **The Cleveland Museum of Art** for our favorite docent, **Laura Martin**, to lead us through the **Cycles of Life: Four Seasons Tapestries**. The set of four tapestries depicting the seasons have been harbored from view because of their fragility since 1953. After extensive restoration, these jewels of our museum will be on view only one more month. Meet at 10:00 to gather, tour to begin at 10:15.

February 2, 2023, Study Group February 16, 2023

We will meet at the Warrensville Library at 11:30 for a brown bag lunch with the zoom program by **Melissa Weaver Dunning** beginning at Noon. Melissa (how can we miss with her name including Weaver) is a handweaver, spinner and knitter who works on antique equipment, specializing in 18th & 19th century textiles. She loves tartans, wool and linen weaving. Her presentation will be on **Shaker Textiles.** Look forward to learning about a Peace Weaver also.

March 2, 2023, Study Group March 23-24, 2023

The much-anticipated workshop with **Sara Bixler** will take place this month. She will conduct her **Embellishments in Weaving** class. This will be an in-person workshop with pre-warped looms. Please note the change of date: Sara could not come for our regular 3rd. week of the month so it is the 4th. Thursday and Friday of March. Our location is being negotiated but we will have that decided well before the workshop. Sara will give a lecture on Thursday, at Noon for the entire guild, whether members are taking the workshop or not. Remember, there is scholarship money for opportunities like this. Stay tuned for details.

April 6, 2023, Study Group April 20, 2023

In April we will have our first **Exhibit for 2023.** We are delighted to be welcomed to the Beachwood Community Center, 25225 Fairmount Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122 for

Cuyahoga Weavers Guild

our exhibit. This venue is expansive and will show our work beautifully so, start now weaving and planning what you will be able to show in April. Keep watching for details of set up and a reception in early April. Our meeting will be at the Community Center.

May 4, 2023, Last Study Group May 18, 2023

The normal and necessary business meeting in May will be held to elect officers for 2023-2024 and have a new element added. We will have a **Weaving Exchange.** This concept will be explored and discussed through our weaving year. It will be intriguing to define and discuss. One of the first concepts is it will not be mandatory, just voluntary. This meeting will be at the Warrensville Library beginning at 11:30 for a brown bag lunch.

June 15, 2023

Wow! It will be a busy year and a **Potluck Picnic** will be just the thing to bring it to a close. We will have our picnic in the **Firefly Lodge at Frohring Meadows**, one of the parks in the Geauga Park System, 16780 Savage Road, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023. Please bring your table service and a main dish, salad or dessert. We met at this beautiful lodge in July for our "make-up" picnic in 2022. The facility is completely enclosed or can have the doors open for fresh breezes too.

Please keep watching for updates to our calendar as it can change or your coordinator could have unbelievably, made a mistake??

Study Group Project 2022-2023BOTANICAL

In May, Study group gathered for the finale of the year and harnessed the concept for



our coming year Study topic, Botanical.

Whether you choose: a fiber (i.e., hemp, cotton, bamboo, linen,) a dye (i.e., indigo, madder)

a subject (i.e., weave a pictorial, tapestry, a color flow as in botanical subject) a botanical object to weave (i.e., a three-dimensional object maybe, or felt)? or a combination



The choices are vast, there being almost no restrictions. Using imaginations and all the resources we have available to us; this should prove to be a wonderful project. And exceedingly interesting for our exhibit that will be on display in April.

Need a boost in discovering your project? Come to the first Study group meeting of the weaving year on October 6, 2022, at Patty Hridel's house, 10:00am and enjoy discovering together. PS: The M/A 2012 issue of Handwoven has "13 projects that celebrate nature's bounty."

DYE DAY. August 18

A day full of woodsmoke, indigo, cochineal, black walnut, and madder. And a bevy of weavers, spinner and yarn-folk met to indulge their color hunger. A tour of the Breitzmann's wonderful studio.















Welcoming Our New Members

Patty Hridel

Patty reports that CWG has three new members. Please give a warm welcome to:

Gina Talandis of Wellington Sarma Eglite of Bay Village Patty Foxall of Garfield Heights

SPIDER SILK

Victoria Johnson-Parratt

In 2004, two English speaking men were living in Madagascar. Using a thought process that I could never replicate, they formulated a grand plan. It wasn't an original idea. Records from hundreds of years ago referenced the process and helpful illustrations eliminated a lot of guesswork. The idea had been repeatedly abandoned. As a business venture it was always doomed to fail. Simon Peers from England and Nicholas Godley from the USA thought it was a great idea and obviously had no fear of arachnids. They dedicated the next 8 years to milking the local spiders and weaving their golden threads to create some of the most beautiful cloth on earth.

It's a very rare occasion when I spy a spider and don't immediately contemplate murder. I'm told the Nephila Madagascariensis or Golden Orb spider is very gentle and not at all aggressive. I know they have their place. I would just prefer it not be in my place. I'm glad to hear that when I see that they have olive sized bodies and a leg span that exceeds my palm. They might be the friendliest creature in the world, but I hope to never gain an intimate knowledge of their touch or true personalities.

70 people who were much braver than I could ever be, spent years collecting the necessary number of spiders from local trees and telephone poles. They were lined up like heifers at milking time and locked into a stock that resembles a bad Pilgrim punishment. 24 spiders at a time were held in place and milked to harvest their silk. These strands were rolled onto a reel to create one ply. After they had given their all, the workers were released back into the wild. No spiders were hurt in the process. 23,000 were needed to produce a single ounce of silk. After 5 years of careful collection and the participation of 1.2 million Golden Orb spiders there was enough thread to bring in the weavers.

A dozen worked weeks and wove 80 feet of spider silk fabric. The weft brocade has 96 strand threads in the main cloth and used 10, 96 strand threads (960 threads) in each supplementary shot. The lining was created using 48 strand threads.

The golden fabric was passed onto the embroidery professionals who used unspun 24 strand threads to embellish the fabric with images of spiders and webs. 4 garments were created and the results are absolutely stunning. The pure golden cloth glows. They crafted 2 shawls, a native lamba and a 13 foot long cape that made tour stops at the American Museum of Natural History in NYC and the Victoria and Albert in London.

Scientists have also been playing with spider silk. They have discovered that it is stronger than steel and useful for many applications. To increase scale for profitability, labs are generating genetically engineered spider silk.

In 2017, a company called Bolt Threads started marketing their version of this new thread. They call it Micro-silk, and their website points to its "High tensile strength, elasticity, durability and softness".

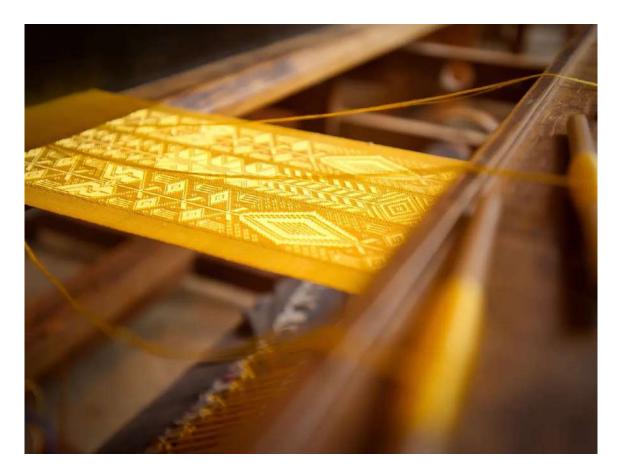
Their first offering was severely limited: 50 neckties that sold out in minutes. Stella McCartney did a draped designer dress they displayed at MOMA in NYC in 2017. By 2019, they were blending Micro-silk with other fibers; wool for cozy warm winter caps and cellulose for a cute little tennis dress also done by Ms. McCartney. No prices were mentioned on boltthread.com. I assume that if I have to ask, I shouldn't ask.

They hope to make enough to make a real difference without ever having to touch a spider. I'm hoping they make enough to make it extremely affordable so none of us needs to touch spiders to get our hands on this amazing cloth.

As impressed as I truly am by the work of Mr. Peers and Mr. Godley, the thought of it still makes me shudder. I'll stand right behind science on this one and look forward to progress in the perfect example of better living through chemistry.











Transformation/Weaving

Ele Richardson

A collection of bright, colorful cones stands on my bookshelf. There are sixty of them in all (I counted), each about seven inches tall. They are wrapped in yards and yards of shiny cotton thread, every color of the rainbow and some colors that were never in a rainbow at all. There are varieties of every color, four reds, ten blues, eleven greens, for example, and of course black, brown, white, and even one silver. They are grouped in rainbow order and stand in joyful array, ready for me to decide which I will use next.

I love the sight of them, but that's not why they are there. My job as a weaver is to transform these waiting threads into something that matches an image I have in my mind. It's that transformation, plus my own in the process, that I'm writing about.

When I have an idea of something I would like to weave, first I make a very small drawing of it, thinking of the colors it would need. I copy this full-sized, then trace it onto a transparency which will guide me as I weave. My latest project was a design of trillium blossoms, seen from above. The two layers on the loom would be green and white.

Preparing the loom (warping) is a long and complicated process that usually takes me several days. Over two hundred threads must be measured and cut, wound together on the loom, and then each threaded separately through a sort of needle (heddle). My loom is small, old, and wooden. It was handmade by the husband of a weaver.

The technique I usually use, double weave pickup, produces two layers of cloth at once, one on top of the other. With the help of a knitting needle and a large wooden pickup stick the layers can change places. So in this case I could have white on a green background or green on white. Other colors could be introduced if I choose. It's slow-the decision of where to change colors must be made every time I pass the shuttle. The design appears little by little. At last the whole thing can be unrolled and I can see whether it matches my original idea!

In the case of the trilliums, it was fine. I cut it off the loom, leaving a fringe on the bottom and enough for a sleeve on the top. My daughter secured the ends with her sewing machine. I sewed on yellow beads for flower centers. Now, who would like very large green and white trilliums on their wall?

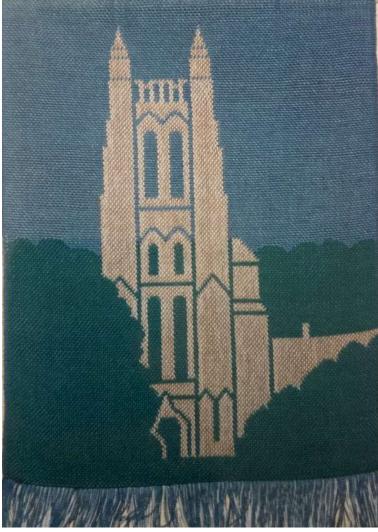
Here are pictures of some of my work. You have also seen my weaving in the paraments in the chapel (green and white, red and purple).

Now, as I finish this project, some of the threads on my shelf have been transformed into a new creation. What about me? In what way am I transformed, too? From someone with an idea, full of uncertainty about the result, I have become a maker with pride and

satisfaction. May I feel that way about myself, too, creating a more Christlike me every day, with the great Weaver's help.











NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS and EXPLORATIONS GLEANED from other Guilds

Medina Guild news from The Wooly Pages August issue PENINSULA FIBER ART SHOW

August 14 - September 11, Peninsula, OH

The 19th annual Fiber Art Show is accepting works until August 11th. See details at peninsulaartacademy.org/news

MICHIGAN FIBER FESTIVAL

August 17-21, Allegan, MI

A variety of Workshops both full day and half day along with exhibitions and over 100 vendors. Held at the Allegan County Fairgrounds

www.michiganfiberfestival.info

A WOOL GATHERING

September 17 & 18, Yellow Springs, Ohio

Held at Young's Jersey Dairy. There will be shearing demonstrations, wool spinning, weaving and much more to see and learn. There are over 100 vendors from several surrounding states. Admission to this event is free! Hours are 10am to 6pm Saturday and 10am to 5pm on Sunday.

youngsdairy.com/wool-gathering/

RHINEBECK SHEEP FESTIVAL BUS TRIP

October 14-16, 2022

From \$650 per person based on double occupancy. Included: Comfortable charter bus from Cleveland area (east side & west side locations) to Rhinebeck NY for the New York Sheep Festival; gourmet box lunch (Fri.); sit down dinner (Fri. & Sat.); admission to the festival Sat. & Sun.; 2 nights hotel (double occupancy)

We will leave the west side at 8 a.m., making a stop on the east side to pick up additional people. We will return late in the evening on Sunday.

Registration will begin at the Wild & Wooly Fiber Expo on February 12, 2022 between 1 and 3 p.m. at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. After Feb. 12 and until Sept. 1 (or full), you can

register by email. A \$100 deposit is due at the time of registration to confirm your spot. Balance is due by September 1st.

We will follow the Health Department's requirements about masks at the time of the trip.

Contact Stacy Allen stacallen@outlook.com MAFA VIRTUAL

The MidAtlantic Fiber Association has added virtual workshops and lectures occurring monthly. Check out the schedule at mafafiber.org/virtual/

Autumn Fiber Festival

I'm writing to let you know that the <u>Autumn Fiber Festival</u> will be held on Saturday, October 15th and Sunday, October 16th in Ashland, Ohio. We have close to 50 vendors setting up for this event that will take place in Mozelle Hall at the Ashland County Fairgrounds. See who's coming by clicking the link above. There will be fiber related demonstrations going on throughout the day event, and fiber animals to see outside. Our vendors donate items to be put in baskets for a raffle that benefits the 4-H club that helps with the show, and the Ashland County Food Bank. There will be a food vendor in the building so you can have lunch or an afternoon snack while you're there. Parking is free and so is admission. I hope you can come!

You are receiving this email because you are the contact person or president of a spinning, weaving, or fiber arts guild. Would you be so kind as to pass along this information to your group? If you have a newsletter, or Facebook group where you could post our event, that too would be much appreciated. I've attached our flyer that could be printed or posted. If you no longer are the contact person for your guild and you know who is, would you be willing to provide me with that information? It would be used solely to pass along information about the Autumn Fiber Festival.

Again, I hope you will mark your calendars and set aside time for some fiber fun and shopping at the Autumn Fiber Festival!

Julie Petty Chairperson <u>Autumn Fiber Festival</u>

Alpaca Meadows

1200 Rock Road Mansfield, OH 44903 (419) 529-8152 Farm

Western Reserve Weavers and Spinners

https://www.facebook.com/wrspinweave/?ref=page_internal

 $\frac{https://wrspinweave.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-brochure-file.pdf}{}$

Cleveland Museum Of Art Exhibitions of Interest

https://www.clevelandart.org/exhibitions/cycles-life-four-seasons-tapestries

https://www.clevelandart.org/exhibitions/ancient-andean-textiles

LINKS OF INTEREST

www.facebook.com/blackswampspinners/

www.interweaveyarnfest.com

greatlakesfibershow.com

https://weavespindye.org

https://www.praxisfiberworkshop.org

https://www.clevelandart.org/art/departments/textiles

https://www.kent.edu/museum

https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/guna-mola-textile-revolution-history

https://fashionunited.com/news/fashion/craft-clusters-how-one-sustainable-brand-uses-india-s-textile-heritage/2021092842443

https://www.loomandshuttleguild.org/national-weaving-organizations-conferences/

Curiosities

 $\frac{\text{https://iamcaiweiqun3466-myportfolio-com.translate.goog/this-book-can-be-weaving?} \text{ x tr sl=zh-true x tr hl=en& x tr pto=sc}$

https://www.etsy.com/ie/shop/WovenWoolArt? fbclid=IwAR0Ks3mZbmLopf4AaDyEPERddUugvfSh0Wk9gmLPLDcdJ5EnpYSd6mCp2mw

https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/french-shore-tapestry?utm_medium=atlas-page&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAR06YLMIyhgMf6o0z2ME3j9hLqqpMi2KGysUMyB3qJvF-rZ1p1jl7kCnrds

https://www.karmatube.org/videos.php?id=8922

CWG Liaison

Sheri Gittinger



As the new liaison for our guild, I hope to keep you informed about local events, W.A.R.P, and HGA happenings.

So for those of you who may not be aware of "Textiles & Tea," this is a weekly program (every Tuesday at 4 pm) by HGA (Handweavers Guild of America) that you can watch via Zoom or Facebook Live. All you have to do is register online https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/ every month when the link becomes available. They will then provide you with a meeting ID that allows you to view the program "live. It is not required that you be a member, and if you miss it, they are recorded. Watch all the past episodes on You Tube.

This month features fiber artists Catharine Ellis, Amy Putansu, Porfirio Gutierrez (W.A.R.P.) and Keith Leonard.

Also from HGA. . . 2022 Handwoven Scarf Exchange. Must be a member to participate and there is a \$15 fee per scarf.

W.A.R.P. (Weave a Real Peace) offers a free online event "Continuing Textile Traditions: Sustainable Fiber Systems" on September 10th at 1:00 EDT. The discussion features Rebecca Burgess, founder of Fibershed. For more information and to register click on this link: https://weavearealpeace.wildapricot.org/event-4942517

If you're taking a drive, consider one of the following destinations where you may see some familiar faces from **WRSW** (**Western Reserve Spinning & Weaving**) guild providing fiber demonstrations:

3rd Annual Honey Bee Festival at John's Country Nursery, 15808 Old State Rd., Middlefield on September 17th from 10-5.

Apple Butter Festival at Lake Farmpark, October 1St & 2nd from 10-4. **Ohio Mart Textile Arts & Artisan Show** at Stan Hywet October 6-9 from 10-4

Also happening is the **26th Annual Wool Gathering** at Young's Dairy September 17th (10-6) & 18th (10-5). It's free and lots of vendors! See more about it here: https://youngsdairy.com/wool-gathering/

Sauder Village Fiber Arts Fest is Saturday, October 1St from 10-5, which is about a 2-1/2 hr. drive to Archbold, Ohio. Check it out here: https://saudervillage.org/classes-events/details/2022/10/01/default- calendar/fiber-arts-fest

Praxis has some upcoming weekend workshops from 10-4 pm including:

Cuyahoga Weavers Guild 17

- Ice Dyeing on September 24th
- Visible Mending on October 15th
- Two-Day Sculptural Basketry on October 21-22
- Two-day Resist and Natural Dyeing on November 5-6

MEMBER PROFILE

Joan Horwitz

My interviewee of the quarter is none other than our Nancy Allman. Nancy first became infatuated with weaving when she went to visit a friend of hers at the Cleveland Institute of Art. She walked into the weaving studio and became fascinated with the art. She said that it "Just felt right". Thus began her weaving journey.

Nancy studied weaving at Akron University with Carol Adams Nancy and her father built her first loom in the late 70's. Nancy also owns a Leclerc Nilus loom, a Brown loom which she bought from Debbie Swan, and a table loom.

Nancy's weaving took off once she retired from teaching in 2010.

Nancy learned about the Cuyahoga Weaving Guild when she randomly met Victoria. Nancy was at a thrift store purchasing some wool and stood in line in front of Victoria. They began talking and Victoria invited Nancy to join the guild. Nancy's introduction to the other guild members was when she attended her first meeting which happened to be a trip to the Croatian Heritage Museum & Library. Nancy went to the Golden Gate Parking lot to meet up with the members and ride with them to the museum. She looked around and there she found Nora, Patti, Rose and Miriam. She bravely got into the car with them and off they went.

Nancy's favorite weave structure are twills. When she first began weaving, she wove with thicker yarns and simple patterns. Now she enjoys weaving with finer yarns. She states that she still feels the same way about weaving that she did when she first began.

CONFLUENCE REPORT

Joan Horwitz

I attended Convergence in Knoxville, Tennessee this past summer. It was quite an experience. I drove to and from Cleveland and roomed with Debbie Silver, who was giving a 3-day workshop. Wearing masks was somewhat complicated, but did not present as much as a challenge as I was afraid it would.

The fashion show was quite lengthy and interesting. Since Convergence 2020 was cancelled due to the pandemic, both the fashion show and exhibits included items from 2020 as well as 2022. There were also exhibits at galleries in the Knoxville area walking distance from the hotels. These included small tapestries and the small expressions touring exhibit.

The vendors hall was reported to be smaller than it had been in past years, but all of the main players appeared to be there. I took a full day workshop on Blocks with Robyn Spady, and 3-hour workshop on Turned Beiderwand with Karen Donde and a 3-day workshop on shifted warp ikat from Mary Zicafoose. While I enjoyed the first two workshops, taking a 3-day one was certainly more interesting and exciting. I'm not sure if I will attend the next Convergence which is to be held in Witchita, Kansas in 2024, but I'm glad that I went to this one.

PHOTOS from STUDY GROUP and SHOW AND TELL

A medley with no attributions or captions.









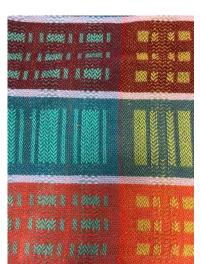






















Cuyahoga Weavers Guild















































Officers and Committee Chairs 2022 - 2023 Publicity: A great place to volunteer!

Weaver's Honor Hall Rose Rubin Elly Rose

Presiding President: Robert Breitzmann Study Group Facilitator: Patty Hridel

Contributors Fall Issue Issue 138

Secretary Joan Horwich

Parratt
Treasurer: Bobbie Shafer

Treasurer: Patty Hridel

Newsletter: Nancy Allman

Membership: Victoria

Johnson-Parratt

Programs 2022-2023 Robert Breitzmann Joan Horwitz

Programs 2021 - 2022

Victoria Johnson-

Patty Hridel

Victoria Johnson-

Parratt

Nancy Allman Bob Breitzmann Sheri Gittinger Joan Horwitz Patty Hridel

Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Ele Richardson

Librarian: Victoria

Johnson-Parratt

Card Correspondent: Ele Richardson

Web Mistress: Victoria et al

Hospitality: Debbie Swan Exhibition Committee Bobbie Shafer?

Nancy Allman Victoria Johnson-

Parratt

Ele Richardson? Patty Hridel

Nominating Committee A great place to

volunteer

DEADLINE FOR FALL NEWSLETTER IS

DECEMBER 1, 2022

Submit to:

 $\underline{newsletter@cuyahogaweaversgu}$

ild.com

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 held the third Thursday of the month via ZOOM or in person as Covid practices allow. Please refer to the Program calendar and descriptions.

Dues are \$25.00 per year, payable at the September meeting or by mail to the Treasurer Patty Hridel at 17592 Lakesedge Tr, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023.

If you are unable to attend meetings or workshops but would like to receive the newsletters, you may subscribe for. \$12.50 per year.

For more information about the Guild, please contact Robert Breitzmann at robert.breitzmann@gmail.com or Patty Hridel at hridelierpat@aol.com

Look for us online at http://cuyahogaweaversguild.com. The newsletter is published three times a year in the fall, winter and spring.

Please send newsletter content to newsletter@cuyahogaweaversguild.com. Deadline for the CWG fall edition is **December 1, 2022.**

MEMBERSHIP

JOIN US

Membership Renewal NAME:_____

NAIVIL	_
ADDRESS:	_
PHONE:	-
MOBILE:	_
EMAIL:	_
Return payment to Patty Hridel	
17592 Lakesedge Trail, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 payable to Cuya	ahoga Weavers Guild
Check here if this information is new	
Regular membership for \$25.00Or newsletter only membership	pership for \$12.50

Cuyahoga Weavers Guild 27