



Announcements.

Dec 2021 Holiday Fiber Quiz. **Kay Krebs** and **Marjie Gray** were co-winners of the Fiber-Related Quiz; the game for sometimes silly/ sometimes serious fiber enthusiasts! Kay won a gift certificate to **Hodge Podge** and Marjie to **Serendipity**. *Congrats to them both!*

The BV library display is coming up! (March – April, 2022) *Get your pieces ready!*

Show & Tell Photos. During our remote meeting month(s), kindly email your photos to karmannghia64@gmail.com

Website Volunteer Needed. A website volunteer is needed to take over maintenance of HCFG's website. Mara will train and be available as a backup. Please email Mara at karmannghia64@gmail.com with questions. *Thx!*

Zoom Etiquette Reminders.

- a. Login to meeting(s) early.
 - Meetings are “opened” approximately 15 minutes early, allowing you to address any technical difficulties prior to the commencement of the meeting.
 - Once a meeting has commenced, there really is no way to address individual technical difficulties without disrupting the entire meeting so please login early! *Thx!*
- b. Keep yourself on <mute> unless speaking.
 - You can always depress the <space bar> to speak and lift up on the <space bar> when done speaking.

Programs & Workshop News.

Feb 4th, 2022 - Our very own **Pat Hensley** will present, **“HOW TO DESIGN HAND KNITTED SWEATERS.”**



Pat Hensley has been knitting for 42 years; teaching beginners/ intermediates for the past 10.

She used to waste hours/ dollars knitting sweaters designed for “svelte people” – “sadly” this did not make Pat less curvey. A master knitter pointed out the obvious to her, “Those sweaters weren’t designed for her body type!”

If you’ve ever spent weeks/ months knitting a sweater only to discover you dislike the fit, this lecture will show you how to design a sweater based on one you already like.

You will also leave with a list of resources to help you in search for the perfect fit based on your body type.

If possible (*subject to Chaffee Cty. Public Health guidance*), we will meet at the Salida Methodist Church (*9:30am start time*). *If not*, the February **Zoom** information is directly below.

Feb Zoom information is:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82291944593?pwd=eWxTUm9vSDAxczZYMIhhUHRuVUNiQT09>

Meeting ID: 822 9194 4593 Passcode: 009670

Please start joining at 9:15am. Thx!

March 4th, 2022 - Elaine Sipes will present, “**DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING HANDWOVEN GARMENTS.**”

Workshop. Below the information about the workshop is a registration signup form.

<https://www.heartofcoloradofiberartsguild.org/program-and-workshop-information.html>

Elaine can accommodate up to 20 in this workshop. *It will be helpful to plan the workshop location if everyone signs up ASAP.* The cost is \$75 for the Saturday, March 5, 9am-3pm workshop.

Elaine recommends a minimum size woven piece to bring to class, but several yards will also give you more to work with. If you don't have handwoven, you can still participate with creating muslin patterns. If you have a dress form to bring to class, that would be helpful and we can arrange closer to the time to have several sewing machines/sergers for group use.

In the case of bad weather, the workshop will be rescheduled but the presentation will still take place on March 4 via Zoom.

Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum. In case you missed the Dec 26, 2021 email ... the Guild now has membership (8 guest passes) to the Rocky Mt. Quilt Museum for the next year (expiring Nov of 2022). Anyone who would like the passes, please email Mara at karmannghia64@gmail.com and we can arrange to get them to you.



Trying Something New, by Rita Leydon

I've been fairly secure and content in my limited realm of weaving interest: I wove essentially only Swedish. Granted, that realm is quite enormous and I've been scratching the surface since forever. My early years transpired in Sweden because that's where my people are from, purebred Viking here (raise hand). My weaving language has been essentially only Swedish and I always found it difficult to speak about or explain any of what I was doing in English.

My loom is a big Glimåkra my husband gave me before our boys were born (they are now in their 40s), it is the very definition of "loom" in my brain and looks just like the looms all my female relatives in Sweden wove on. Weaving was a normal expression of joy and need all around me (except for my mother whose interest was flying gliders and and only came to weaving late in her life). So that's the scenario. After nearly a dozen years in Colorado

and finding a wonderful group of weavers here brimming over with energy and enthusiasm, not to mention talent, I decided I needed to brave some new waters.

Prowling the internet I discovered a huge global world of fiber artists “out there.” I was fascinated and slightly alarmed that I hadn’t exposed myself to inspiration from any other cultures. Cool it Rita, thought I, you are now in your seventies and perhaps need to realign judiciously and with care. Right, said my inner voice. To tease my weaving mettle, I had flown out to Massachusetts twice to study at Vävstugan with Becky Ashenden’s one week courses (highly recommended). Her focus is entirely Swedish so I fit right in and felt totally at home. This was a lane I could have stayed in until my dying breath BUT I felt a desire to expand a tiny bit.

Daring to cast a wider net I came upon Jane Stafford’s weaving school in British Columbia, Canada. (www.janestaffordtextiles.com) Oh my! This looked good, not too far afield to relate to and still be FUN. Take a moment to look her up on the Internet and dig deep. This is what I did. I signed on and somewhat nervously I am committing to go through her vast program of lessons. There are oodles of handholding videos and lessons and she is continuously preparing more and more. I get the feeling that she is as excited about learning more and more as she is about sharing. Her teaching style is easy and homey as she pads around her studio barefoot. A pure delight. She also sells yarns, looms and equipment as an adjunct to her teaching. This may sound like a commercial, it is not. I plan on weaving all her lessons and learning new yummy stuff, as well as trying new (for me) yarns. My fingers are tickling with anticipation. The first thing I am trying out is a simple towel project in cotton bouclé which is a yarn I had never heard of before. One up front challenge I have is that all my reeds are metric, in other words, x number of dents per decimeter. I shall overcome and learn to think in feet, yards, pounds, ends per inch and so forth.

Ah ... expanded horizons! This ocean is vast.

President’s Message.

HCFG Website. Always check the HCFG website for the latest news: <https://www.heartofcoloradofiberartsguild.org/>

Charity Activity Update. As adults, just think how “burned out” we are on Covid ... imagine if we were still kids!

To that end, the Guild has sponsored (in 2021 and now 2022) two different “kid-friendly” fiber/ materials donations/ events. The first was the Boys & Girls Club donation of materials (yarns, needles, hooks, small looms, miscellaneous types of fiber projects ...) described in an earlier Guild newsletter.

The second event, “Learning Math through Learning to Knit” is upcoming (with dates to be announced) @ the BV Library. Knitting needles and fun yarns have already been donated but some volunteer assistance may be requested.

Charity Process Update. The Board agrees donations made by the Guild should have an associated process and some modest accountability, e.g., (a presentation showing how the funds were used). Look for further information in upcoming newsletter(s).

Health of Guild. We are now up to **55** members! *Thank you for supporting the Guild!*

Just for Fun.

I was going to tell a joke about stashes, but it was turning into too much of a yarn.

I was going to tell a joke about winding a warp, but I started at the end.

I was going to tell a joke about double-weave, but it was two-faced.

I have a joke about warping; it really sleys.

I was going to tell a joke about indigo, but it’s a bit too blue.

I had a joke about dyeing yarn red, but it doesn’t madder.

Thank you for all the “groans” from “Handwoven”!