

CONTEMPORARY
Handweavers
OF HOUSTON

CHHit CHHat

Newsletter of the Contemporary Handweavers of Houston

Vol. 72 No. 2

September 2020

President's Message

It was SO GOOD to see everyone at our first ever zoom meeting. It was super fun, and I'm so glad we are able to meet virtually. What an incredible show and tell, right!? The craftsmanship and skill presented was astounding. You all inspire me! As a matter of fact, after I finish writing my message, I'm going to start winding warp for my next project.

I hope to see many of the items shown at our meeting submitted to our online shop. The team is still ironing out the final details, so look for an announcement with how to submit your items later this month.

Weave on my friends - can't wait to see everyone for our next zoom meeting
September 19

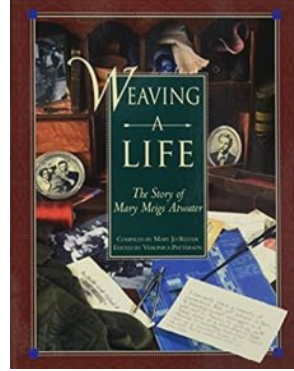
Molly K.

President

mollyekoehn@gmail.com

**CHH General Meeting
Show and Tell
Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020
Via Zoom Video Chat**

Karen Donde discusses: The Fascinating Life of Mary Meigs Atwater



Join us in the comfort of your own easy chair via Zoom at our September Meeting for a special program led by Karen Donde in her North Carolina studio. Karen is a fashion and home textile weaver, weaving class and workshop teacher, and journalist. She will be teaching our workshop on Turned Beiderwand this October!

Regarded as the dean of American handweaving, Mary Meigs Atwater, 1878-1956, was not driven by a passion for making cloth. Inspired by handweaving industries in southern Appalachia, she saw weaving as a productive outlet for women in her Montana mining community, as occupational therapy for soldiers injured in World War I and as financial support for her family. She also was an artist, designer, world traveler, novelist, patriot, beaver rancher, political activist, wife, mother, and avid fisherman. This seminar shares anecdotes, quotes and revelations that speak to Atwater's courage, adventurous spirit, intellect, and contributions to American handweaving.

Link to join meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82743094871>

Zoom will open at 9:45 and the meeting will start promptly at 10:00. Meeting will finish by 12:15.

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Rules:

- Everyone will be muted during the business meeting except the gatekeeper, Molly and current speaker.
- Molly will say who is to speak next and they can unmute themselves.
- There will be an opportunity to ask questions, give comments, and participate in Show & Tell. Each person can unmute themselves when called upon. Please be brief.
- Be sure and mute yourself after speaking.
- Use the chat function at the bottom of the screen to ask questions or comment.
- During the program if you like something, comment or click on an emoji.

DONATION DRIVE

THANK YOU so much for your generous outpouring of donations! In just a month, we have reached our matching goal of \$3,000 *happy dance*!

To add good news on to good news, we have another member who has offered to match an additional \$500! Our donation drive continues through September with a total match of up to \$3,500, but if we raise more than that, even better! Please share with your friends and family outside of the guild as well.

You can donate by following the donate button on our [website](#) or by check made out to CHH, 2327 Commerce St. #106, Houston, TX 77002.

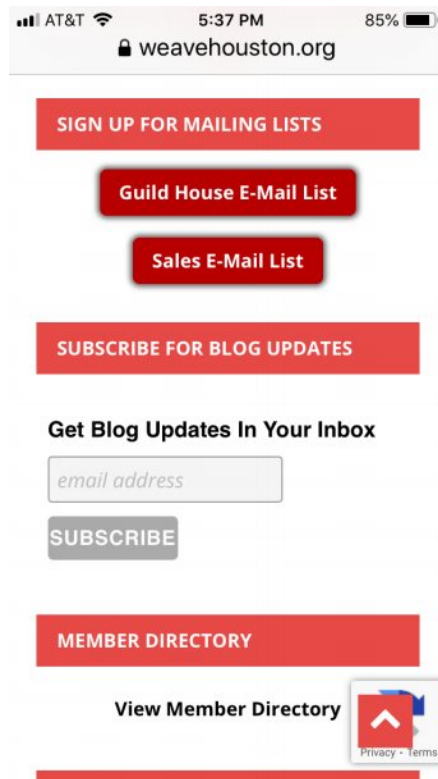
THANK YOU! Your donations mean the world to us!

Molly Koehn



CHH Blog Updates

You don't want to miss out on the Guild news! Months ago, you may have gotten notifications of each new blog post in your email automatically through our Mail Chimp account. But somewhere along the way, they upgraded and that service disappeared. So now we have a shiny new "Subscribe" button on the website. Go to home page of weavehouston.org and look for "Subscribe" button in the right hand column.



Don't forget to send news, links and articles that might be of interest to members to Diane Ferguson, yarngoddess@hotmail.com.

If you didn't have anything finished in time for the Zoom Show and Tell at the last meeting, please send photos and description for publishing on the website.

Guild House News

The Guild House is open Tuesdays & Saturdays in September from 10 am - 2 pm.

We have some position changes at the Guild House.

Guild House Volunteer Coordinator - Blaine Davis

Equipment Coordinator - Din Iyer

Thanks to outgoing Volunteer Coordinator - Lisa Rose and Equipment Coordinator - Donna Sanner. We appreciate all of their time and effort!

In person classes are suspended until further notice.

If you have any suggestions or requests for the future - drop me a line at tkweaver1@gmail.com.



To access the Guild House:

To enter the main building go to the door in the center of the front or back of the building. There is a coded lock on the door – Press 2341. Our interior door is marked.

Thank you to our Guild House volunteers!

Thank you to everyone who volunteers at the Guild House. We couldn't do it without you!



Want to volunteer at Guild House? Contact Blaine Davis at bd2921@gmail.com. If you do any volunteer work on behalf of the guild, be sure to record your hours in the book located in the Guild House office.

Turned Beiderwand: One Threading, Multiple Structures

October 10-12, 2020

Teacher: Karen Donde

Due to the Covid situation, Karen Donde's "in-house" workshop will be changed to a live online / Zoom format on a new date of October 10-12. There are two spots still open. The complete workshop description can be seen in the August newsletter.



Total class fee for 3 days: \$210.00 per person. Please pay \$100 as initial registration fee to book your seat. Send check (payable to CHH) to Din at address given below.

Materials fee: \$10.00 per person.

Level: Intermediate, students must know how to warp a loom.

Loom requirement: Either table or floor looms with at least 6 shafts. If you need to rent a loom, please email Din at dinakariyar@gmail.com to check on availability.

Dinakar Iyer
8106 Concho street
Houston TX 77036

Beat the Heat!

Looking for a way to beat this oppressive heat? Check out these delicious looking beverage recipes from the Herb Society of America - South Texas Unit.

<http://www.herbsociety-stu.org/cooling-herbal-beverages.html>

Thanks for sharing this Molly!

Do you shop on Amazon?

Lots of people are ordering on line to avoid going shopping in person. If members designate CHH as their charity of choice, our treasury gets a small percentage of the Amazon profits - no extra cost to the members.

There's a link on our home page down in the bottom right hand corner, so it's really easy to sign up. Or just go to <http://www.smile.amazon.com>

Swatch Swap 2020: Anni Albers and the Bauhaus

If you are participating in the swatch swap, you should have received an email with details on the number of swatches needed, along with instructions on how the swap will be conducted. If you have any questions, please contact Marian Carlson:

marian.carlson1@live.com

Study Groups

In addition to our regular monthly guild meeting, CHH has quite a few study groups that meet each month to provide our members with an extra opportunity to study a particular subject in more depth, as well as socialize with others interested in the same topics.

CHH SWATCH SWAP: Annual swatch swap exchange. This year's topic will be "Anni Albers and the Bauhaus School of Design". Email Marian Carlson marian.carlson1@live.com for details.

TAPESTRY STUDY GROUP: Meets monthly on 3rd Sunday, 1:30pm, at the **Guild House**.

The focus is on learning about design, equipment, yarns, weaving techniques, mounting, pricing and sale of created tapestries. Projects TBA.

WOW (Way Out West Weavers): Meets monthly on 1st Thursday, 10:00 am, at the *Cinco Ranch Public Library, 2620 Commercial Center Blvd., Katy*. The group began meeting in 1998 and has 21 members; some live out of town. Email Marian at marian.carlson1@live.com to see which location. **(West)**

WESTSIDE WEAVERS & SPINNERS: Meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, with the location rotating among members' homes. The group began meeting in 1981. For more info, contact Penny Nelson at 979-733-8120 or penny@skyloomweavers.com. **(West)**

All study group participants must be active members in CHH. Just as visitors are allowed to attend one general membership meeting, so are visitors allowed to attend one study group meeting. Regular participation in study groups requires active membership. It is not fair to those who maintain their membership regularly to have to support those who feel they don't need to because they don't attend the general membership meetings. So study group coordinators please have your delinquent members go to our website, www.weavehouston.org, and renew. Thank you.

On The Loom

Deflected Double weave or DDW, playing with a pattern from "Double met with a Twist" by Marian Stubenitsky. Pg 16-17. 8 shafts required, and two contrasting yarns. It helps to understand a profile draft to use this book. If you've done simpler ddw patterns you can do these. Or create your own using her directions. Barbara Esterholm



Remembering Margaret Sheppard



Margaret Sheppard, like many weavers, enjoyed the challenge of colonial overshot patterns—the triumph of concentrated focus to thread elaborate sequences, the dexterity to reach into the heart of her loom to those back harnesses, the agility to crawl under the loom to change treadle tie-ups and then the sheer skill of an even beat/perfect tension, regardless of humidity fluctuations affecting warp.

As an early Handweavers Guild of America certified *Master Weaver*, Margaret had mastered all the basic skills necessary to replicate the intricacies of colonial overshot. Where she excelled was in creative block design.

Most overshot patterns consist of Block A and Block B, separate patterns as in traditional quilt blocks that alternated or vary in repeat within a row. Margaret devised a way of design for blocks to integrate, thus eliminating the sharp breaks that clearly defined edge between Block A and B. Her pillow in the *Sun, Moon, and Stars* pattern is a stunning example of her creativity.

The four large central brown wool squares become both center in the four

moons or background to the parallel natural cotton lozenge shapes forming a *star* between those brown squares. Margaret so balances the proportions composing this duality that neither one dominates. Together they also form a *sun*.

The border blocks run vertically and horizontally to frame the center motif. Miniature repeats form the corner diamond *stars*. The lozenge shapes are mirror image repeats of the *star* units. Transition occurs when one side fits into the diamond pattern while the other side of the block is a double repeat to segue into the lozenge, an abbreviate cotton reverse of the brown square block.

Margaret's precision in these shifts creates a flow between blocks rather than distinct separation. She calibrates block proportions so the framing design connects into the central pattern. Her blocks become a continuum of each other.

All this is possible only through meticulous weaving as is evident in the subtle diagonal criss-cross visible as from top left to bottom right and top right to bottom left, each block corner aligning with the one above and next to it—echoing the traditional Irish Chain found in some quilts—the epitome of seemingly effortless perfection.

Jana Vander Lee

I learned pattern drafting from Margaret. She had a show Young at Art at M.E. Gallery back in the early '80's when she was about that old. Her bedspread in the pattern Pine Tree, woven in Swedish bright red rather than traditional indigo blue, hung on the wall. As everyone complimented her, she would giggle and point out the one thread skip in the board but say "that's ok, because I put that side to the wall and no one sees it."



Neva Derewetsky manages the CHH Instagram account.

Please follow and share

[houstonhandweavers](https://www.instagram.com/houstonhandweavers)

CLASSIFIED ADS

CHH Officers 2018-19

Executive Board

President

Molly Koehn
620-805-2501
mollyekoehn@gmail.com

Vice President

Kathy Bone
(281) 507-5574
bonehometx@gmail.com

INFORMATION

CHH Membership Meetings

are held the third Saturday of the Month, August through May at 10:00 a.m. unless there is a workshop conflict.

Guild House is open on

Tues., Thurs., and Sat.
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
2327 Commerce
Houston, TX 77002

713-807-0330

Secretary

Jan Day
(281) 832-1134
jday@dayjan.com

Treasurer

Jill Menning
713-817-9586
jillrmenning@gmail.com

Past President

Barbara Esterholm
(281) 403-0506
Besterholm@comcast.net

Contact info for committee chairs
can be found in the Member's Only
section of our website.

CHH Mailing Address

2327 Commerce, Suite 106
Houston, TX 77002
(we no longer have a P.O. box)

**CHH is an Amazon
Affiliate**

When you shop at AmazonSmile,
Amazon donates 0.5% of the
purchase price to Contemporary
Handweavers of Houston.
Bookmark this [Amazon](#) link to
support our activities.



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions to the
monthly newsletter is the 25th of
each month. The newsletter will be
emailed on the 1st. All members are
welcome to submit articles or photos
that might be of interest to the guild.
Articles may be edited for content or
space.

Want to advertise in the CHHit CHHat Newsletter that goes to all members?

Contemporary Handweavers of Houston's CHHit CHHat Newsletter is published monthly, August through June, and is sent to all paid members. DEADLINE for stories and advertising is the 3rd Thursday of the month for subsequent month's issue.

Send ad copy to Theresa Rogerson, Editor, (tdunn1953@gmail.com).
Send check in advance to the Guild House address, c/o Blaine Davis, Treasurer.
Electronic copy and artwork is preferred. **Make checks payable to CHH.**

NewsletterAdvertising Rates:
\$10/month, which includes one photo and up to 100 words.
Discount rate of 20% applies to advertisers who pay for one year in advance (10 issues).

**For more individual member listings and photos
check out the CHH ad page at <http://weavehouston.org/classifieds/>**

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