

May 2004

Mobile Tatter's Guild

Mobile, Alabama

Founded May 4, 1987

At the next meeting....

The Annual Mobile Tatter's Guild Birthday party will be Sunday, May 2, at 1:00 pm at Blacksher Hall – home of Janine Stebbin: 1056 Government Street, 251-433-3875.

Bring a tatted bookmark for exchange.

A Tatter's Spotlight....

Sandy Caminas has been tating for fifteen years. She learned to tat at a community class at Shaw High School taught by Mrs. Annie and her friends that tatted with her. So far, Sandy has not taught anyone to tat, however, she has been an active member in the Tatter's Guild. Her favorite thread is size 20 and 90 in beige and white. She prefers to use a clover shuttle. Sandy does most of her tating at night while watching TV. The strangest place that she has ever tatted was at Big 10 Tires.

Sandy has been married for 39 years to the same wonderful man—Cordell. Sand and Cordell have three children and four grandchildren. Their oldest is Laurie, age 38, who has three children ages 17, 7, and 2. Next, is Jennifer, age 36, with one child age 5; and the youngest is Jim, age 34, who is single and living in New Orleans. As far as the four-legged babies, Sandy has Buddy and Baby, who are brother and sister Bassett Hounds that are seven years old. She works as a dental assistant and a chair cainer. Sandy says that “being a part of the guild, I’ve made lots of friends and I cherish the time spent with all of them.

Elizabeth Birmingham has been tating for seven years. She and Sharon Thomas went to a craft show the Tatter's Guild had a table set up and we went over to talk to them and look at their work. She believes that Sandy Caminas was one of the tatter's there. They both had always wanted to learn to tat so she and Sharon signed up for lessons.

The Editor's Corner



Laurie was born in Arkansas, lived most her life in Missouri and then moved to Alabama, about, five years ago. She learned to weave in Missouri, at a craft camp called Shanondale, in the middle of a federal park. There were many different kinds of crafts being taught. She worked on spinning, natural dyeing, and Tri-loom weaving. Of the three, Tri-loom weaving was what Laurie felt she did best—probably because of her small fingers. The entire camp attendees were working on a "sheep to shawl" project which turned out to be the beginning of a love of weaving.

Laurie's mother, who attended the camp with her, gave her a loom for her fifteenth birthday. The loom was made by Carol Leigh, a very nice lady who lives in Colombia Missouri. Carol goes to Shanondale almost every year.

The loom makes two basic shapes, triangles, and diamonds, made by joining two triangles together. The loom can also be used to make purses, scarves, pillows, ponchos, ruanas, blankets, jackets, and of course, shawls. Laurie made a coverlet for when she was in college by joining four of the seven foot triangles together. She does not think she will ever do that again, because by the time she was working on the fourth triangle her loom was bent like a bow.

Laurie has been crafty most of her life. When she was in middle school, she took her shawls to several craft shows. She did not make very much money, but she had lots of fun. The biggest problem she had at the shows was that she had to explain to a lot of people what a shawl WAS—most of them had never seen one. To weave, she mainly uses wool, acrylic, or a mix of the two, mainly because of the price, and the fact that they are easier to care for. However, she really enjoys working with some of the more exotic kinds of yarns, chenilles, mohair, boucle, metallics, etc. The main thing you have to look out for is tensile strength, and the yarn has to "mesh". This leaves out most cottons and linens, because of the meshing, and most handspun yarns because of the strength issue. For the yarn weight she usually uses at least worsted weight, although she has used sport weight in emergencies. The rule is the bigger the better.

As far as equipment goes, Laurie uses three main tools other than the loom. First, is scissors, of course. I also use a tool called a latch hook. This little jewel has a blunt hook on one end, like the kind you use to do latch hook rugs. This is used to attach the fringe, which, unlike most weaving, is attached to the finish piece. At the other end of the latch hook is a large eye, like a neetle. This is used to repair any broken threads when the piece is on the loom. The last tool is, oddly enough, a book. This is used to make the fringe. You wrap the yarn around the book, and cut along one edge. I usually use a paperback because it is the size I want. The old standby is "The Old Man and the Sea," but I change if I want the fringe longer or shorter.

Alright, about the rest of my life. Well, I fell victim to the family curse, so I am a teacher. A Speech/Language Pathologist, to be precise. My mother, father, younger brother, grandmother (deceased) great-grandmother (also deceased) two uncles, one aunt, and so far one cousin are or were teachers. I work at Bay Minette Elementary School. This is my fourth year working for Baldwin County Public Schools. I also worked at Vaughn Elementary, Vaughn Headstart, Bay Minette Middle, and Baldwin County High School. I really enjoy working with my kids. I know that that is sort of a cliché, but I truly do. A person who does not enjoy teaching should not step foot in a classroom. And after awhile, they become YOUR kids. You help them with their homework, you get the bandaid when they scrap their knee, you listen to their stories, you worry about them. Sometimes people ask me if I miss not having children of my own. Certainly not. I have thirty plus children to look after!

Being a teacher by trade, I would not mind at all to teach someone how to use the Tri-loom. The process is quite simple, IF you have a loom and know what you are doing. It is nearly impossible to explain without having the loom there to demonstrate on. This is the reason I started lugging my poor loom around to craft shows. People kept asking me "How do you do this?" and I couldn't tell them! As with most things, the best way to learn is to do, but you almost have to have someone there to start you off. Just looking at the silly thing, it is almost impossible just to figure out what to do.

My mother is the craft-y one in the family. She embroiders, dries flowers, makes soap, presses flowers. I her (sometimes) willing assistant in these projects. My mother, June, is also a potter, a very good one I think. She has her own wheel, and kiln (only electric, alas!) There really isn't much surprise when it comes to Christmas presents, Mom always gives pottery, and I always give weaving! I use to cross stitch, and I have a standard single hettle table loom, but I enjoy my tri-loom so, I rarely do other crafts (except when Mom need help!)

What's up?

PATTERNS OF THE MONTH

“E” is for EMBELLISHMENT



“F” is for FANCY

(Alphabet designed by Heidi Sunday)

In size 20 thread, the letters measure 2” wide by 3” tall.

Start at either end of the “straight” section, with a shuttle & ball. You will need at least 8 yds on the shuttle.

Ring 1: 5 – 2 – 2 – 5, close ring, reverse work

Ring 2: 5 – 5 – 10, reverse work

Chain 1: 7 – 7, shuttle join to picot 2 of previous ring (be sure to compress the chain before joining), reverse work

Continue as above, reversing the position of the chain each time so that the piece will remain relatively straight, rather than curving. After 5 rings and chains, repeat Ring 1, then cut and tie.

To make the horizontal pieces, make 2 or 3 rings and chains, connecting to the straight piece at the first and last ring 2 picot. Cut & tie, and finish off ends.

PATTERNS OF THE MONTH

Friendship Doily Round 5

With shuttle only, leaving 1/8-inch sp between each R,
(It is a good idea to use very small picots where the rings join)

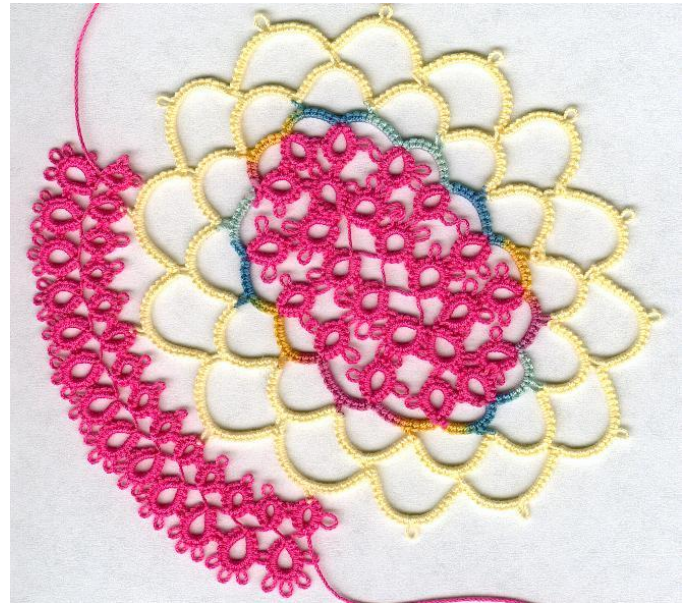
R: 3ds, p, 3ds, j to any p on Rnd 4, 3ds, p, 3ds, cl, RW.

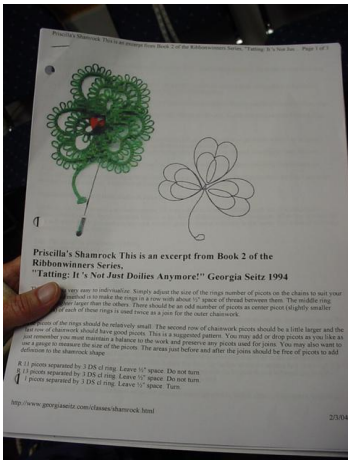
****LR:** 4ds, p, 3ds, [p, 2ds] twice, p, 3ds, p, 4ds, cl, RW.

***R:** 3ds, j to last p of 2nd-to-last R, [3ds, p] twice, 3ds, cl, RW.

LR: 4ds, j to last p of 2nd-to-last R, 3ds, [p, 2ds] twice, p, 3ds, p, 4ds, cl, RW.*
Rep from * to * twice more.

R: 3ds, j to last p of 2nd-to-last R, 3ds, j to p on next ch from Row 4, 3ds, p, 3ds, cl, RW.
Rep from ** around, joining last p of last R to first p of first R, and last p of last LR to first p of first LR worked. Cut threads and tie ends.





Things to Remember:

Birthdays!

These are the birthday pictures from the March meeting.



Pictures from the April meeting



MEETING PLANS:

Knitter's Guild of Mobile meets the 4th Monday each month at Janine Stebbin's House: 1056 Government Street 251-433-3875. Next Meeting: **May 24th**.

May 2004

- ⇒ Friendship Doily – Rounds 5
- ⇒ Letter “E” & “F”
- ⇒ Bunches of pictures

SUBSCRIBE!

What a Deal! Annual Membership of \$15.00 includes your subscription to this lovely newsletter. Subscriptions run from January through December. For partial year subscription, pay \$1.25 per month.

Example: August->Dec = 5 months, X \$1.25 = \$6.25.

Mail checks to:

Mobile Tatter's Guild
c/o Heidi Sunday, Treasurer
1004 Cedar Creek Circle
Mobile, AL 36695

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

BIRTHDATE, EMAIL: _____

CHECK HERE IF YOU DO NOT WISH YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY WHICH IS ONLY DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS

Mobile Tatter's Guild Newsletter
JL@PEPPER.NET

J.B. Locke
5290 Lemans Drive West
Satsuma, AL 36572-2623