

*This document was researched and compiled by Robin Lunger, December 2015
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A Holiday Gift for CPGH

In an effort to uncover information and/or documents to support some History of the Central Pennsylvania Guild of Handweavers to incorporate in our website, I entered the name of Osma Gallinger Tod into my search engine.

Now, if you've spent any time at the Mannings, you will know that the name Osma Gallinger Tod was mentioned frequently, along with the names Harry & Katherine Manning. However any specific paperwork or documents regarding the evolution of CPGH seemed to be elusive.

The voyage of discovery that followed was delightful. So, rather than providing a boring timeline, I thought you might enjoy seeing and reading the actual articles and documents as they unfolded. Enjoy!

#1 : Googled (if that is actually a word?) Osma Gallinger Tod

www.oocities.org/rugtalk/CromaineCraftsLoom.html

Cromaine Crafts has a long and proud history. It was located in Hartland, Michigan, and developed into the third largest weaving center in the country during the 1930s and 40s. Established in 1931 by J. Robert Crouse who purchased an old gristmill and hired Osma Palmer Couch (Later known as **Osma Gallinger Tod**, author of many books including "The Joy of Weaving" to develop the handicrafts facet of the project. (from: "Things Useful and Beautiful" by Fran Reiland). Future husband Milo Gallinger later made the looms and, together, they expanded and developed the project. In 1944 the Gallingers moved from Michigan to Guernsey, Pennsylvania then to East Berlin. In 1960 the business was sold to Harry and Katharine Manning. The Mannings continues to be an active place of business with supplies, exhibitions and classes.

Janet Meany

The Loom Manual Library

jmeany@weaversfriend.com

#2:

Osma's name shows up in Weaver Daryl Lancaster's blog from 2010

weaversew.com/wordblog/2010/09/14/historically-speaking-2

"First off, I had all four issues of Handweaver and Craftsman from 1960. What a wealth of information and a complete time warp! I had the best time leafing through the articles, and the ads, and the society pages (including the wedding announcement of one Mrs. Osma Gallinger to a Mr. Tod. Mrs. Gallinger, author of many weaving tomes, and director of Creative Crafts in East Berlin PA, was to be married in Massachusetts, hosted by her daughter. The announcement goes on to say that since Mrs. Gallinger would be moving to Coral Gables Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Manning, president and secretary of the newly formed Central Pennsylvania Weavers' Guild will be taking over managing Creative Crafts, which we all know today as [The Mannings](#)...). Who knew?"

#3

I was able to find all 4 copies of *Handweaver and Craftsman* for 1960. Below is a copy of the article referenced in the blog.

Mrs. Gallinger to be Married to Mr. Tod

Announcement has been made of the approaching marriage of Mrs. Osma C. Gallinger, director of Creative Crafts, East Berlin, Pennsylvania, to James Rowlands Tod of Coral Gables, Florida, which will take place August 1 in the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor, Provincetown, Massachusetts. Mrs. Josephine Del Deo, Mrs. Gallinger's daughter who lives in Provincetown, will be hostess for the wedding.

Mrs. Gallinger will return shortly from a trip through the Scandinavian countries, which was organized by Mrs. Aina Ringler of Rochester, New York. After her marriage she will continue to teach weaving and publish the *Shuttle Service* from her new studio, The Craft Cloisters, at Coral Gables. She also will act as a consultant on various phases of handweaving.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Manning are now managing Creative Crafts where they are continuing the customary activities through the summer. Mr. Manning is president and Mrs. Manning secretary of the recently organized Central Pennsylvania Weavers' Guild. The guild will hold an all-day meeting at Creative Crafts August 13 when Mrs. Gallinger will report on her trip, illustrating her talk with slides and samples of fabrics.

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At this point, I thought I had established with reasonable certainty that CPGH was established in 1960 by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Manning. This was further validated by the following article from *Weavers Magazine* which Gay McGeary acquired from The Adam's County Historical Society archives.

12 THE MANNINGS

ETHEL TRIMMER

Way back in 1954, we saw an advertisement for a 95-acre farm with creek frontage, lots of buildings, and a brick house. When I called the real estate man, he asked what my husband did. I told him he was a carpenter, and he said, "Oh, he'll love this place." The barn roof was flapping in the breeze and the house was locked with a wire coat hanger! But we liked it, and the price was right.

When we met Milo and Osma Gallinger, the owners, they told us they were weavers but we had no idea what they were talking about. They sold us the land to raise cash to expand their weaving business. So, I have watched this business grow.

Mrs. Gallinger taught weaving; wrote two books, *The Joy Of Handweaving* and *Rug Weaving For Everyone* (now titled *Designing and Making Handwoven Rugs*); sold supplies; printed her own monthly publication, "The Shuttle Service"; printed her own leaflets and folios—all here in the small office building!

Milo had designed the Gallinger loom while living in Michigan. In 1955 he built the first part of the 'loom house' here where he built the Gallinger looms until his health gave out around 1960. He taught the man who helped him build the loom house to make the looms; this man is still building the Gallinger looms for us today.

"I can still see some of the great weaving teachers such as Helen Allen, Clara McNulty, Florence House, and Berta Frey strolling across the lawn."

After Milo's death, Mrs. Gallinger continued to teach and sponsored several national handweaving conferences at the studio. I can still see some of the great weaving teachers such as Helen Allen, Clara McNulty, Florence House, and Berta Frey strolling across the lawn.

In the early 1960's, Mr. and Mrs. Manning came to the studio to learn to weave. They were schoolteachers looking for a hobby for their retirement. By this time, Mrs. Gallinger was thinking of selling the business and moving to Florida, so she asked the Mannings if they would like to 'house sit' for a few summer months.

They fell in love with the place and the business and bought it. They immediately changed the 'loom house' to a weaving studio and supply center. They were both involved with the teaching and had several other workers helping with the cus-



tomers and the mail order business.

Mr. Manning took great pride in the grounds, and you would see him mowing or working in his flowerbeds every evening. But, he liked a 'cluttered' look inside; he always said, "You don't want it to look too neat and clean, or the customers will think we don't have any business."

In 1972, Mr. Manning hired Marianne Geldmeier to help with the weaving instruction, and in September I joined this new crew. Together we watched the 'getting back to basics' movement. Everyone was buying old spinning wheels, many wanted to build their own looms, and they came to us for parts and repairs.

We started holding spinning seminars the second

Saturday in June, and they have proved a great success. This was our big day of the year: we had lots of demonstrators and special lecturers.

We also decided to hold a three-week handweavers exhibit. Mr. Manning wanted this show to be an exhibit for all weavers—regardless of their experience—because so many of the hobby weavers had no chance to exhibit their work. All entries were hung and judged, and prizes were awarded in several categories. This tradition is still carried on today: we just held our 16th show in April.

We also have week-long summer workshops when Tom and Marianne teach intermediate or advanced weavers. One of our most popular workshops, and one that we usually repeat every summer, is the 'Warp and Weave' since so many weavers never quite understand warping. This workshop gives them a chance to warp each day for five days!

I suppose the best and most popular instruction we give is our year-round beginning weaving instruction, which we teach on a weekly basis—Monday thru Friday—with the exception of holiday weeks. We never take more than five or six students so everyone gets individual attention, and we'll even teach one student if that is all we have.

Most students stay in the house and eat their meals with the Woolcocks. Students prefer our quiet, peaceful, country setting to the hustle and bustle of cities, motels, and institutional food. They sit at the table in the kitchen and watch the waterfall just a few yards across the lawn. There are always ducks and geese swimming in the creek.

"Our studio was written up in an early issue of The Handweaver and Craftsman as being 'A Weaver's Paradise.' It truly is!"

One of the reasons our studio has stayed so popular for all these years is word of mouth: "You want to learn to weave? go to The Mannings" is a phrase beginners often hear. ☞

Weaver's No. 5

So... I figure that is as far as I can go. Then..... fate intervenes.

Barbara Diefenderfer recently shared the following: "They say it is good to move once in a while to find things of importance and to weed out the junk."

So.....During the set up of the Guild library in our EBACC classroom this past Tuesday, professional librarians Kris Peters & JoAnne Trygg, along with their minion (that would be me), are diligently organizing and sorting through periodicals, folders and other various pieces of paper to determine some kind of order, when JoAnne casually hands me a folder and says, "I think you want this for your Guild history project. It looks like minutes of old meetings or something, it was in with other junk". She knew exactly what she had found!

and.....The rest is CPGH History!

318 N. Front St.
Wormleysburg, Pa.
October 23, 1959

Dear Fellow-Weaver:

This summer a group of weavers gathered at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Morton Nauss near Wrightsville to share experiences in our craft. A delightful time was had by all in exchanging ideas. It was suggested that "we do this more often" and maybe form a Weavers Guild for Central Penna.

I am taking this opportunity to invite you and any other weavers that you may know to come to a meeting this coming Saturday, October 31.

A central place to meet seemed to be the Studio of Osma Gallinger at Browns Dam near East Berlin.

We thought we would ask you to bring a box lunch and have lunch together about 1:00 P.M. (Tea or coffee will be provided).

A tentative program is as follows:

- 1:00 - Lunch and Get-together
- 2:00 - Discussion of organization and future meetings
- 2:30 - Several short talks and remarks on Weaving.
- 3:00 - Social Hour
- Home - Whenever you are ready.

Be sure to invite and bring any weaver who may not have received a notice.

If you are not able to attend, would you like to be kept informed as to any future meetings? Please drop me a card and I will place you on the mailing list. Also, if you are no longer weaving and have a loom for sale-- perhaps we could help you.

Sincerely,

Katharine S. Manning

SATURDAY, October 31 - Creative Craft Studio - Browns Dam

CENTRAL PENNA. GUILD OF HANDWEAVERS

Meeting Notice

December 29, 1959

Dear Fellow Weaver:

The next meeting of the new Weaver's organization will be held on Saturday, January 9, 1960 at 1:00 P.M. at the home of Morton Nauss. (See instructions below).

The meeting will begin at 1:00. Bring a box lunch. Coffee and tea will be served.

The subject of the meeting will be " Place Mats". Bring your mats for discussion and comment.

Membership in the organization is open to all handweavers. All enrolling before Sept. 1, 1960 will be charter members. The dues the first year will be \$1.00 per person. It may be necessary to increase this amount but only as our expenses increase.

This will be the last notice sent to non-members. If you are interested please forward your dollar to the Sec.-Treas. or plan to attend our next meeting.

Please notify anyone you may know that we may have missed in forwarding a notice of this organization.

At the Executive Meeting in December, much interest was expressed as to the need and the many benefits to be derived from this organization.

Beautiful lace work was exhibited by Mrs. Deily and she is going to have a workshop on lace at a future meeting. This is just one idea of what the future holds for members.

There are about thirty members at this time and if this is doubled the organization will have a nucleus of weavers to give strength and importance to the organization.

Come out to the January Meeting.

Sincerely,

Sec.-Treas.- Harry E. Manning
318 N. Front St.
Wormleysburg, Pa.



Directions to The Nauss's: Route 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of Wrightsville. Turn north on paved road near large barn. Watch for Guild sign. House is about 1 mile from highway.

BY-LAWS

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GUILD OF HAND WEAVERS

NAME - The name of this group shall be the Central Pennsylvania Guild of Hand Weavers.

PURPOSE - The purpose of this Guild shall be to foster the craft of hand weaving and through education and exchange of ideas, to inspire its members to a greater enjoyment of their craft and to become proficient in it.

MEMBERS AND DUES - Anyone interested in the craft of weaving may apply for membership.

Individual Dues - - - - -
Husband and Wife - - - - -

OFFICERS - The officers of this Guild shall be President, First and Second Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. They shall be elected for a period of years. They may not serve more than two consecutive terms but they may serve in another capacity.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE- This committee shall consist of the officers of the Guild and eight Board Members who shall be appointed by the President for a two year term; four to appointed each year. The eight Board Members will be Chairman of the Standing Committees.

The duty of this committee is to prepare a budget to accomplish the aims of the organization and to administer the affairs of the Guild.

MEETINGS- There shall be a minimum of 8 monthly meetings- the second Saturday of each month - with no meetings to be held in January and February.

AMENDMENTS - These BY-LAWS or any section of these BY-LAWS may be amended in the following manner:

The proposed amendment shall be presented in writing at a regular meeting.

A copy of the proposed amendment shall be sent to all members 10 days before the next regular meeting.

If accepted by a majority of the members present at the next regular meeting, the proposed amendment becomes a part of the BY-Laws.

ROSTER - CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GUILD OF HAND WEAVERS
AS of April 1, 1960

Mrs. Isabel I. Abel
R #2, Box 93
Hellam, Pa.

Mrs. Agnes Becker
355 Washington Ave.
Leechburg, Penna.

Mrs. C.H. Bruns
1420 Hillcroft Rd.
York, Pa.

Mrs. Helen Coryell
500 Hidden Knoll Road
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. Max Cater
24 S. Hanover St.
Hummelstown, Pa.

Mrs. Earle A. Deily
R. #2
East Berlin, Pa.

Mrs. Dorothy Donohue
127 N. Diamond St.
York, Pa.

Miss Mary Douglas
Grantham, Pa.

Mrs. Dorothy Eshenbaugh
1920 Elm St.
New Cumberland, Pa.

Mrs. Mrs. Helen I. Eyler
5718 Park Heights Ave.
Baltimore, Md.
(5/1 to 10/1
R.D. #2, Fayetteville, Pa.)

Mrs. Elma Fisher
136 Shell St.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mrs. Osma Gallinger
Creative Crafts
East Berlin, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. Alex Goetze
327 Reinecke Pl.
York, Pa.

Linden Green
218 N. Stratton St.
Gettysburg, Pa.

Dr. Elizabeth Gregg
803 Highland Ave.
Gettysburg, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Warren Heyberger
640 McGrann Blvd.
Lancaster
(Summer - RD #2 Gettysburg, Pa.) *Fayetteville R.D. 1*

Miss Josephine Hoelzle
4th Ave.
Altoona, Pa.

Mrs. Harold Holland
Red Lion, Pa.

Mrs. Philip Hoover
R.D. # 3
Dallastown, Pa.

Mrs. Ethel Houseal
104 Shell St.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank S. Hower
218 N. Stratton St.
Gettysburg, Pa.

Miss Margaret Hower
600 Woodbine St.
Harrisburg, Penna.

Mrs. Joseph Hurst
310 Broadway
Hanover, Pa.

Mrs. Alma Keeney *C. not to me.*
McKnightstown, Pa.

Mrs. Mary Nell Kling
555 Madison Ave.
York, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. Luther King
193 N. Main St.
Mt. Wolf, Pa.

Mrs. N. J. Leader
Jacobus, Pa.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry E. Manning
318 N. Front St.
Wormleysburg, Pa.

Telephone
Harrisburg CE 2-166

Mr. & Mrs. Myron Miller
245 Maple Ave.
Hershey, Pa.

Mrs. Katherine F. Miller
2731 N. Second St.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Mrs. Leon H. Mower
R.R. # 1
Chambersburg, Pa.

Miss Alliene McCue
3709 Walnut St.
Harrisburg, Penna.

Mr. & Mrs. Morton Nauss
R.D. # 1
Wirghtsville, Pa.

Mrs. Raymond S. Neiman
131 E. Philadelphia Ave.
York, Pa.

Lucile Powell
R.D. # 1
Gettysburg, Pa.

Mrs. Lula Rennoll
Hungerford, Pa.

Miss Jean M. Rhinehart
1968 Carlisle Rd.
York, Pa.

Miss Edith A. Roach
Reistertown, Md.

A. Florence Roschen
Reistertown, Md.

Mrs. Luther Ruby
R.D. # 2
Hellam, Pa.

Miss Helen C. Ryder
470 W. Philadelphia Ave.
York, Pa.

Mrs. Harold Schuh
R # 5
Gettysburg, Pa.

76 Mrs. Elsa R. Shaw
76 Hanover Rd.
Reistertown, Md.

Mrs. Kenneth S. Thomas
3517 Rutherford St.
Harrisburg, Penna.

Mr. & Mrs. John P. Wadham
1822 Willow Rd.
Camp Hill, Pa.

Miss Pearle Wallace
849 24th St.
Altoona, Pa.

Mrs. Nora Waltmyer
R # 2
Hellam, Pa.

Dr. & Mrs. Louis R. Wiley
9 W. Hanover St.
Hanover, Pa.

Mrs. Leon L. Winslow
222 West Ave.
Hanover, Pa.

Mrs. Delbert Williams
RD 1 Flegal Rd
Clearfield, Pa.

Mrs. John M. Sollenberger
204 N. 32nd St.
Harrisburg, Penna.

I personally feel privileged to be member of an organization with this kind of creativity, commitment & longevity. Kudos to the "Keepers of the Flame", Osma & Milo, Harry & Katherine, and Carol & Ron.

[\(To go back to newsletter, click here\)](#)