

Beva Chissom (Meagher) Class of 1975

As a child of older parents, I was not in the same social network as most of my peers.

Thankfully, my Mother loved to craft, and she passed the interest on to me.

In my youth and early adulthood, to put pencil, or ink, pastel, or paint to paper- was the way that I communicated and bridged the gap with my peers. I discovered that all forms of arts and crafts have a real purpose to our world. Arts bring people to a common ground.

To balance my life when times required, I would find a quiet place to create.

Art became part of who I am.

Crafting has inspired me to explore, and as I do so I discover more about me, and this wonderful place we call home. In my years of life, I have enjoyed many types and styles of art ranging from drawing and painting, quilting to leather working, stained glass works, wood carving, and in my later years- multiple kinds of fiber arts. Each of those crafts have taught me a variety of lessons- some in patience, others as skills, many manifest as a gain in insight as to how I relate to this world around me.

As time progressed, I discovered the joys of teaching students needle felting, and how they can energize their own creative selves.

Today, as I seat myself at the workbench, the loom or spinning wheel, I feel the excitement of where this journey can take me! There is no personal limit as long as there is a spark of curiosity, and a bit of creative flow.

Crafting and Art are good medicine for the mind, body and spirit, and for the community of mankind!