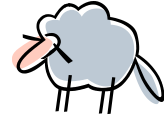


WOOL GATHERINGS...



The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Fleece Spinners' Society

The mission of the Society is to preserve and perpetuate the art of hand spinning; to promote interest in spinning by educating the public through demonstrations, lectures, displays, and news/social media; and to provide instruction and social life in spinning for its members.

Next Meeting: Saturday February 17th, 2024, 10:00 AM
Grace Episcopal Church
Baldwinsville, NY

Open Spin

Hostess: Linda Brust, Treats: Sam Bova, Betsy Walker

Bring your spinning, knitting, crocheting, etc for a relaxing few hours of crafting and conversation.

Start thinking about donations for the **March auction**. Each member is asked to contribute two items which can be yarn, fiber, knitting, spinning and weaving books, eggs, plants, fiber equipment, basically things that are spinning, knitting and weaving-related.

New Feature in the Newsletter: Going forward, each newsletter will feature the fiber biography of a guild member and what better way to start than with the Guild President Jill Robinson. When asked if you'd like your Bio featured in the newsletter please say yes. You can fill in your fiber history using a supplied template, free form your response or do a combination of both. It's your story so tell it in a manner you are comfortable with. You will be surprised at what we learn about each other!

Breed Exploration: Our next breed fiber to explore is Finn. The fiber is from guild member Diane Tice's flock and was processed by Acorn Fiberworks near Rochester. Four ounces of Finn will be handed out to each member at the February meeting. We have white fiber and gray fiber - there is more of the white than the gray. There is some vegetable matter (VM) in the fiber, but for the most part it is large and easily picked out. That said, the fiber has a very nice hand. I will have a spun yarn sample at the meeting. I normally have ten pounds of roving, but this time we have approximately thirteen pounds, so there may be some left over for purchase once all interested guild members have received their sample.

JANUARY MEETING

President Jill Robinson called the meeting to order at 10:25 AM.

After welcoming all attending, she reminded everyone of Name Tags.

The Treasurer reported that our balance is \$5,717.31. We received a thank you for our donation to Adopt An Elder. Angela also reported that her employer put this organization back on the list eligible for matching contributions.

Makers Faire: Will be held at the Fairgrounds May 4th from 10 to 4, and our application has been accepted. Nicole Massenzio will be coordinating and welcomes volunteers, but they must be willing and able to teach spinning on a drop spindle.

The March meeting is our annual **auction**. We are all reminded to start putting together contributions to donate,

Preparations for this year's **Fiber Frolic** are under way.

<https://goldenfleecespinnerssociety.org/fiber-frolic/>

This is an election year for officers. Anyone who would like to run for office should see Jill.

Jill raised the question of wasted coffee. after informal surveys of who drinks coffee, etc. and a generous offer of a donation of an electric kettle, we will probably switch to having instant available as well as tea.

Jill then explained the history of Roc Day.

Christina Mevec, a new member, won the **Best Decorated Wheel Contest with** her beautiful drop spindle. She received a prize of a braid of dyed fiber from Red Dog Yarn.

We received a thank you letter from Kim Meyers for support from guild members at the loss of her mother.

The meeting was followed by Show and Tell of the amazing work by our members, a beaded lanyard for name-tags group project, and a bountiful and delicious potluck luncheon.

Announcements

MEMBER BIO: President Jill Robinson (nee Peterson)

Member of GFSS since October 2005

Favorite type of fiber art: spinning, knitting, weaving and sewing. Making yarn is my favorite, but knitting is what I do most. I always have at least 3-4 knitting projects in process at any given time. And I never leave home without my knitting.

Favorite materials: rovings of Dorset, Cheviot, Shetland and any other breed that isn't Merino. I am open to trying any breed, except the hair breeds. I also like to try new, experimental breeds.

Favorite piece of equipment: my Lendrum folding wheel, my drop spindle that is an antique bobbin from a spinning mill, and my antique knitty noddly with the name Laura Kimpton burned into it.

The first fiber art I remember doing was: knitting, then sewing.

I learned to spin/knit/crochet/felt/weave/etc from: I learned to knit at the age of 8 from Marge Dana, a family friend. My father thought it would be good for my sister and I to learn to knit, and the perfect opportunity was when Dad was deer hunting with Marge's husband and sons. I made my first cardigan sweater at about 14. I continued to knit on and off until age 26 when I made friends with a co-worker who lived close to me and who always had a knitting project in the works. From there, I was off to the races.

I don't remember who taught me to crochet, but I do remember crocheting afghans in college. I don't crochet a lot, but it does serve a purpose regularly.

As for spinning, it was a fiber art that Gail Roemer decided she wanted to try. "I got a spinning wheel," she said, "Come over and try it!" I sat down at the wheel and thought "this is one hobby I can pass on." That was September or October of 2005. By January of 2006, I had my own wheel and was buying fiber by the pound from Linda Miller. I took one lesson at North Winds knitting shop in Oswego from Sue Belloma, and the rest was practice, practice, practice. I've taken classes at SOAR and Northeast Handspinners Gatherings.

I learned weaving from YouTube, friends, books and practice. My mother, grandmother and Girl Scouts taught me to sew.

The last item I completed was: a blanket for a new great niece, hats for Christmas donation, hats for the Seamen's Church Christmas collection, and six hats for the State Fair and a pair of socks for me. And I am now on the edging of my Hansel Hap, so there is hope that it will be finished this Century.

My inspiration comes from: mostly from friends' projects, Ravelry, The Woolly Thistle, magazines and travel.

I am most proud of: that my husband and I will celebrate 50 years of marriage this year, and all my completed spinning, knitting, weaving and sewing projects.

In addition to fiber arts, some of my favorite things are: reading and travel.

A helpful hint that I would like to offer is: When you are spinning, hold your fiber like you are holding a baby bird – gently.

I would like to add: I was born in northern New York. I have lived in Potsdam, Degraw, Massena, Fredonia, Albany, Plattsburgh, Watertown, Cicero and Clay, all in New York state. My husband and I have lived in Clay in our present home since 1983, currently with our two rescue dogs, Zach (#11) and Homer (#12). I like to spend time on Cape Cod and in Schroon Lake, NY.

Events for your Calendar (* indicates events we provide spinning demonstrations)

February 18, 2024	Tina Turner Knits Fiber Arts Festival , Henrietta, NY
April 20, 2024	Fiber Frolic at Beaver Lake Nature Center* , Baldwinsville NY
April 27, 2024	Connecticut Sheep & Wool Fiber Festival , North Haven, CT
May 4, 2024	Syracuse Maker Faire , NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY
May 4-5, 2014	Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival , West Friendship, MD
May 11, 2024	Shepherd's Wool Market , Rush, NY
May 11-12, 2024	New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival , Deerfield, NH
May 18-19, 2024	Central Pennsylvania Fiber Festival , Hughesville, PA
May 25-26, 2024	Massachusetts Sheep & Wool Show , Cummington, Ma
June 8-9, 2024	CNY Fiber Arts Festival* , Bouckville, NY

2022-2023 Calendar and Program Plan (at the church unless otherwise noted)

September 16, 2023	Welcome to New Members, Luncheon, Market Day
October 28, 2023	Ornament Collection for Everson Museum Festival of Trees and Light
November 18, 2023	Charity Knit and Crochet
December 16, 2023	Holiday Party
January 20, 2024	Roc Day Celebration
February 17, 2024	Open Spin
March 16, 2024	Guild Auction
April 20, 2024	Fiber Frolic at Beaver Lake Nature Center
April 27, 2024	Open Spin
May 18, 2024	Open Spin
June 15, 2024	Guild Picnic
July 20, 2024	Open Spin, Onondaga Lake Park
August 17, 2024	Open Spin, Onondaga Lake Park
August 24-25, 2024	Guild Weekend at the NYS Fair Wool Center

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