

# PIEDMONT FIBER GUILD

## PFGB Board Members

- .....
- President - Sue Helmken
- Past President - Gail Boyles
- Treasurer - Maurice Blackburn
- Secretary - Julie Hogan
- Programs - Chris Dunlap
- Workshops - Shirley Young
- Charity - Julia Roskamp
- Webmaster - Maria Derner
- Membership - Dick Kistler
- Marketing/Events/Booth - Gail Boyles
- Social Media - Lori Smith
- Library - Susan Haney
- Equipment Manager - Vivian Brenner
- Newsletter - Sallie Olson
- Hospitality - Peggy Hood

## MEETING DATES remaining for 2017/2018:

February 18, 2018

March 18, 2018

April 15, 2018

May 20, 2018

All meetings at Arts on Main, 212 West Main Ave., Gastonia, NC, from 2-4 pm, except holiday party.

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*The following people have signed up to bring refreshments for the February 18 meeting:*

*Food - Pam Rumney and Lavyla Barker*

*Drinks - Julie Hogan*

*Thank you for doing this!*

Please remember to bring library books, videos, etc. for return. Thank you!

**QUILT AUCTION will be held at the MARCH meeting to benefit Quilts for Kids.**

If you have any items for our charity knitting, please remember to bring them: baby hats and items for Fort Bragg families, chemo hats for CMC-Shelby Levine Cancer Center, small toiletries for St. Michael's to use for the homeless, and Quilts for Kids items.

**Piedmont Fiber Guild - General Membership Meeting**  
**Arts on Main**  
**January 21st, 2017 at 2pm**

**Program:**

We began the meeting with a presentation from Crafted by Friends. The items on display were from Brazil (jewelry) and Madagascar (Lambas). Due to the fiber audience, Phillip Dail was able to describe how the organization originated and how the Lambas are created.

The ladies of the villages had created the woven scarves and shawls (Lambas) to be worn by royalty and to be used for burial cloths. After the 1960s, the royalty no longer existed, so the ability to sell/barter the items was limited.

The College of Textiles in Raleigh NC was the breeding ground for a network of likeminded people to create a marketing and distribution mechanism for the pieces to be sold in the US. Kylie was in the Peace Corp in Madagascar and saw the beautiful woven scarves and shawls. She contacted Phillip for help with the project.

The women gather silk cocoons from the Tapia trees. After boiling the cocoons to separate the fibers, the fibers are spun into yarn and dyed with natural dyes. The techniques and patterns used on the floor looms created from sticks have been passed from mother to daughter for generations. Crafted by Friends has been careful to not change the process, except for providing a synthetic blue dye to vary the options that would provide better selling potential.

The income provided from the sales has allowed the villages to obtain pigs and cattle, create a clinic, send children to boarding school, provide better nutrition for the all the villagers and enhanced the women's self-esteem.

**President** Sue Helmken welcomed all of our guests and new members. The chance to buy the items created by Crafted by Friends was so well received that the quilt drawing and opportunity drawing were put on hold until the next meeting.

**Equipment Manager** Vivian Brenner did not have new information on equipment for rental. Rentals are available to members that have been in the guild for at least a year.

**Treasurer** Maurice Blackburn. Account Balances:

- \$4291.38 in the checking account
  - Checking increase \$194.10
    - Adds for membership & workshop fees
    - Subtractions for workshop presenters and website payments
  - Balance includes \$480 from Quilt raffle to be paid to Charity
- \$2990.69 in the savings account
  - Saving increase \$15.10
    - Adds for opportunities and interest

January PFG minutes, continued:

**Programs Coordinator** Chris Dunlap presented the programs lined up for the rest of 2018:

- Feb Vicky Glover will present how to fit crocheted garments utilizing the Get Squared Method
- Mar Marsha Kummerle from GoodFibrations.com will discuss how she pulls inspirations from the colors of nature
- Apr Chris is finalizing the program

**Secretary** Julie Hogan no report.

**Newsletter Editor** Sallie Olson requested that newsletter updates be provided 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

**Charity** Julia Roskamp received donations of chemo hats.

**Webmaster** Maria Derner no report.

**Membership Chair** Dick Kistler shared that membership is now half price. Dues are \$12.50 for the rest of the year.

**Librarian,** Susan Haney no report.

**Hospitality** Peggy Hood still needs volunteers for the rest of the year.

**Workshops Chair** Shirley Young filled the 2 open spots for the Rag Rug Workshop. Shirley will be offering 3 sewing classes that can be taken as a series or can be taken as appropriate to your skill level (How to Use the Sewing Machine, Basic Sewing Skills and Historic Clothing Sewing).

A weaving workshop is in the plans. (Editor's Note: Please see Weavers Study Group notes for more information.)

**Publicity Chair** Lori Smith - keep the information coming.

Happy guild members with their lambas purchased from Crafted by Friends.



Minutes submitted by Julie Hogan. Photo submitted by Chris Dunlap.

## Weaving Study Group Meeting

The Weaving Study Group met on Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup> at Pam Rumney's house. Thank you Pam for hosting. There were 15 weavers present.

We began by discussing this year's project. Initially we had suggested a Rep Weave project but we have broadened this to include any warp faced fabric.

Rep Weave normally is used for heavier types of fabrics such as placemats, table runners and rugs etc. The weft comprises alternate thick and thin yarns. In some fabrics, the thick yarn is replaced by fabric strips similar to those used in Rag Rugs. The warp is multi colored and sett is high, covering all or most of the weft.

The book Rep Weave and Beyond by Joanne Tallarovic was circulated around the group. Maurice showed some samples he had previously woven which demonstrated the simpler form of Rep Weave where the weft is woven as a tabby with blocks being created by omitting the thin weft yarn or doubling up on it.

Sue Helmken pointed out the more complex patterns can be woven and subsequent to the meeting she circulated a pdf showing how this could be done with 4 and 8 shaft looms.

Kathy Marlowe has been in contact with Teena Tuenge, a well known weaver and teacher who lives in the Asheville area. She has offered to hold a workshop in September on one of the following topics: - color work, crackle, or double weave. Kathy had hoped to hold the workshop in her basement, however we have found that this posed some logistical problems and we are now considering Arts on Main. The group agreed we should try to take advantage of this offer and suggested that the subject should be crackle weave and that it should be a 2/1/2 day workshop to be held Sept 21-23. This has subsequently been confirmed with Teena.

We decided that the workshop would be organized by the Weaving Study Group and that Carol Wertz would look after the finances. The Weaving Study Group members would have preference in attending the workshop. The Weaving Study Group however is open to all and the only thing that is required for membership is attendance at the meetings.

Sue said that UKI has changed their policy concerning minimum orders and it is no longer possible to order individual cones. If anyone has had any recent experience of going to their location and buying smaller quantities over the counter as we used to be able to do, please let us know.

The next meeting will be held at the Blackburn's on March 28 and the designated weavers will be Alice Harrill and Sue Helmken.

- Submitted by Maurice Blackburn

**UPCOMING PROGRAMS** from Chris Dunlap**FEBRUARY: Get Squared with Vickie Glover**

Our speaker for the Feb 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of Piedmont Fiber Guild is Vickie Glover speaking about Get Squared, an online course that teaches how to fit crocheted garments to your specific body. Vickie has taken this course and is now an instructor for this program. She is also the regional representative for several large yarn companies so is very knowledgeable about available materials. She will be bringing her course materials and samples as well as information about the program.

**MARCH:** Looking forward, our March 18<sup>th</sup> speaker will be Marcia Kummerle of Good Fibrations speaking to us about her flock of mohair goats and the process Marcia uses in creating her unique colorways with her goats' fiber. Marcia will be bringing her gorgeous fibers and yarns for sale at the meeting.

**APRIL:** In April, we will have a panel discussion, Lace in All Its Forms, featuring PFG members speaking about their experiences and sharing their favorite form of lace work. We are still looking for members willing to join this panel. So far we have 2 members but are still looking for folks willing to speak about bobbin lace, shuttle/needle tatting and knitted lace. Please contact Chris Dunlap ([chrismom98@gmail.com](mailto:chrismom98@gmail.com)) if you would like to be part of this presentation.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Feb 16-18 - Southern Alpaca Celebration in Concord, NC at the Cabarrus Arena and Event Center. Come see alpacas compete in the show ring, check out the vendors, and join guild friends to demonstrate fiber arts. While not required, use of alpaca fibers is suggested. The arena is kept cold for the alpacas so dress in warm layers. Please contact Gail Boyles if interested in taking part in this event. Here's a link to the show site for more information: <http://carolinaalpacacelebration.com/>.

February 21<sup>st</sup> 10ish: Sheep Shearing Day at Cranberry Creek Farm, Mary Bare's Farm near Monroe. Kevin Ford will be hand-shearing sixteen Leicester Longwool sheep. We'll need plenty of help working the fleeces, sweeping, moving the sheep, etc., so come on over! Be sure to bring your spinning wheel, knitting, or lap project, as we'll gather round as we did last year at break time for some fiber-related camaraderie and chili with the fixings. Kevin anticipates a 10:00 arrival. Some local crafters will be selling handmade & farm-related goods - scented soaps, quilts, honey, & felted goodies. Fleece, crafters locks, roving, yarns & more from our sheep will be for sale as well. So come on over, bring a friend, & wear footgear suitable for the farm! Supervised children are welcome, but please leave animals at home. Email me at [cranberrycreekfibers@gmail.com](mailto:cranberrycreekfibers@gmail.com) with questions! Looking forward to having you all join us. Sent by Mary Bare of Cranberry Creek Fibers, 4521 Stack Rd., Monroe, NC.

March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Spinning Saturday at The Fibre Studio: Come spin and enjoy fellowship with other spinners. Here's a link to their FB page for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/TheFibreStudio>.

March 10: Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens, Gastonia, NC: Children's Art Weekend: Our groups have been invited to take part in this event demonstrating fiber arts. For more information and to take part, please contact Gail Boyles.

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UPCOMING EVENTS, continued:

March 16-18: Carolina Fiber Frolic in Sapphire, NC. This event, run by our own Jan Smiley, is always a great success with food, vendors, classes, and a lot of fun. Please contact Jan at [jan@carolinafiberfrolic.com](mailto:jan@carolinafiberfrolic.com) regarding registration and more information. While this event is always very popular, there are a few openings available for the spring Frolic.

Terms for Guild Equipment Rental

From our Equipment Manager, Vivian Brenner

The Guild has equipment to rent to members in good standing (dues paid for at least one year). If you would like to rent any of this equipment on a month-to-month basis, please contact the Equipment Manager, Vivian Brenner, at 704-841-1624. There is a brief contract you will sign at the time of the rental. Deposit plus first month's rent is due when the equipment is rented. If the equipment is kept over one month, additional rental fees are due.

If you have any fiber equipment you would like to donate, please contact Vivian or the Guild President.

Equipment	Rental Fee	Security Deposit
Drum Carder	\$30/month	\$50
Cotton Cards	\$5/month	\$20
Elbee Picker	\$30/month	\$100
Warping Board	\$5/month	\$25
Clemes & Clemes Spinning Wheel	\$25/month	\$100
Ashford Spinning Wheel	\$25/month	\$100
Sabina 32 in. 4-Shaft Folding Loom	\$50/month	\$100