

PIEDMONT FIBER GUILD

**** The PFG meeting for this Sunday 9/16 has been cancelled due to the hurricane. We will meet on Sunday **9/30** instead (NOT the 23rd - there was a schedule conflict for that date). Please be safe out there; this is a huge storm. ****

PFG BOARD MEMBERS 2018-2019

President
Sue Helmken

Past President
Gail Boyles

Treasurer
Maurice Blackburn

Programs
Debbie Stairs

Secretary
Gail Boyles/Sallie Olson

Newsletter
Sallie Olson

Charity
open

Webmaster
Sue Clover

Membership
Dick Kistler

Library
Susan Haney

Hospitality
Peggy Hood

Workshops
Shirley Young

Marketing/Events
Gail Boyles

Social Media/Publicity
Kristin Quackenbush

Equipment Manager
Vivian Brenner

!!! WE HAVE MOVED !!!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR AT OUR NEW LOCATION, **REMOUNT EXECUTIVE CENTER**, LOCATED AT **2020 REMOUNT RD., GASTONIA, NC 28054**.

The new location is easily accessible from the Cox Rd. exit off I-85. Go North at the Cox Rd. exit (away from Franklin Blvd, Mary Jo's, Target, etc.), then go left at the first light onto Aberdeen. Follow Aberdeen to the intersection with Remount Rd, and turn left. Immediately turn into the first drive after the turn, and you will have reached Remount Executive Center.

Enter through the front door. We will be meeting in the conference room down the hall on the right. Due to security requirements, the front door will be locked when the meeting starts. There will be information posted on the door as to how to contact someone to let you in if you arrive late.

If you are bringing refreshments they must go in the kitchen right next to the conference room. Food and drink are not allowed in the conference room.

UPCOMING MEETINGS 2018-2019

Sept. 16 - Speaker Jeff Beacham: Small Looms and Continuous Strand Weaving

Oct. 21 - BIG Show and Tell

Nov. 18 - pending

Dec. 16 - Christmas party and potluck

Jan. 20 - Sue Clover: Fiber Adventures in Egypt

Feb. 17 - charity work meeting

Mar. 17 - Carol Wertz: Journey to Master Weaver 1 and Beyond

Apr. 28 - pending

May 19 - "Boot Sale" (Fiber Yard Sale)

*** Please note: For the September meeting we will have a speaker. We will postpone our big Show and Tell until the October meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

There are so many changes going on for the guild right now. The board has been busy all summer long setting up in our new location, making our website and chatter groups easier to use, and planning programs. Special thanks go out to Sallie for taking copious notes for the board meeting and newsletter, to Maurice for figuring out our finances, to Susan for her work on our library, to Sue C. for tackling the website, and to Kristin for talking up our chatter group. I can't thank everyone enough. Everyone needs to extend thanks to Gail. She does so much work behind the scenes to help the guild get publicity, stay organized, move smoothly... The list goes on and on. I'd be lost without her.

Many of you have told us you'd like more time to socialize at meetings, and we have addressed that, too. When you review the programs, you'll notice we scheduled a charity work day. This will let us increase our charity donations while we spend time with each other.

I look forward to seeing all of you on the 16th. Remember, we'll have a speaker this month and our BIG Show & Tell will be in October. See you then!

Sue

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 29 - 30, 2018, National Alpaca Days at Apple Hill Farm in Banner Elk, NC.

September 29 - 30, 2018, Harvest Folk Festival at Murray's Mill. Saturday 9/29 10am - 5 pm; Sunday 9/30 1pm-5pm. Murray's Mill is located at 1489 Murray's Mill Rd., Catawba, NC, 28609. Website: <http://catawbahistory.org/harvest-folk-festival>. Former guild member Pat Blackwell is the person to contact if you would like to participate in this event.

October 13 and 14, 2018, Cotton Ginning Days in Dallas, NC. This is a great event that our groups have participated in for years. Website <https://www.ncfestivals.com/events/2018/cotton-ginning-daysgaston-co>. Coordinator - Gail Boyles.

October, 2018, Scarecrow Contest at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden. Preparation for this will need to be done in September. If interested in helping with this project, contact Sue Helmken.

October 26, 27, and 28, 2018, Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair (SAFF) at the WNC Agricultural Center in Fletcher, NC (outside of Asheville). Admission \$5/day, or \$10/3 days.

BOOK REVIEW: The Handweaver's Pattern Directory by Anne Dixon

Containing over 600 weaves for four-shaft looms, this book is so full of ideas, it's hard to say where to start. This is NOT a "recipe book." There are no directions for making specific project such as a scarf or table runner. It IS a great resource for pattern ideas. Anne examines plain weave, twills, block weaves [Monks Belt, M's & O's, Overshot, Summer & Winter, lace weaves] and much, much more to provide inspiration for weavers of all levels.

If you are a beginning weaver, you'll love her clear drafts and the variations she shows. Advanced weavers can apply her creative ideas to more complex weaves, too. Along with the multitude of drafts, Anne has included information from yarn selections and calculations, to color theory and finishing techniques. There's something for everyone in this book, so check it out!

- submitted by Sue Helmken



A Day with the Goats submitted by Chris Dunlap

Back in March, Marcia Kummerle of Good Fibrations Mohair Goat Farm and Fibers came to present a talk to Piedmont Fiber Guild about her wonderful farm and her process in creating her gorgeous colorways. At that time, she invited us to come to her farm later in the year and share her goats and farm.

On August 25th, a small group of fiber lovers made the trip to Barnardsville, NC to Marcia's farm. Her cheerful welcome and the sight of all her 4 month old goats made the trip more than worthwhile.

We were able to go right into the field with the babies who were newly sheared and cute as could be. We shared lunch under the trees in front of Marcia's barn home.

Marcia had prepared and showed us three of her different processes whereby she creates her gorgeous colorways: dip dyeing for her Yum Yum gradients, crockpot dyeing, and hand-painting for the Joseph's Coat colorway.

Marcia and her friend Lynn timer worked very hard to prepare these demos for us and the results were stunning. All dyeing was on Marcia's blend of mohair and merino processed for her by a small mill in Michigan that utilizes American Merino in their blends.

Of course, there was lots of shopping in Marcia's shop full of Mohair yarns and fibers.

We all had a great day together and want to thank Marica so much for inviting us to her farm.



Photos to the right and left are from the open house at the Historic Hoyle Homestead on 9/8/18. Demonstrating were Gail Boyles, Julia Roskamp, Linda Erickson (and her very popular rug twining), and Sallie Olson. Our condolences to Beth Nathan who was unable to attend due to a death in her family.



WORKSHOPS being offered by Sue Helmken:

Please note:

1. class fees include a percentage for the guild.
2. If enough people sign up, cost will be reduced

The Well-Dressed Loom

1-day class for all levels

No equipment needed

Class - \$45, materials fee - none

If you're new to weaving or just want to improve your techniques, this is the class for you. We'll cover cutting the warp, dressing the loom front to back & back to front. You'll get tips to help with threading, sleying and troubleshooting.

Not Your Ordinary Overshot

2-day class for advanced beginner and up

Equipment: 4-shaft loom dressed and ready for weaving

Class - \$100, materials fee - \$5

Overshot is a fascinating structure with so many possible variations. In this class we'll go beyond the standard treading patterns and explore the variations. The weave requires two shuttles, but those can be provided. Drafts will be provided in advance, and there will be plenty of hand outs.

Indigo Blues

1-day class for all levels

No equipment needed

Class - \$60, materials fee - \$10 (includes dye, chemicals, silk scarf)

Who knew having the blues could be so much fun? Indigo is a magical dye that can be used on both cellulose/plant and protein/animal fibers. You'll be able to dye skeins, warp yarns and cloth depending on your interests. Put on your old clothes and get ready to play!

Hyperbolic Crochet

1-day class for all levels

Equipment: crochet hooks, yarn, scissors

Class - \$35, materials fee - none

Hyperbolic crochet is a method of using mathematical ratios to create amazing, ruffled shapes. It gained popularity when used to create the Crocheted Coral Reef projects. It may sound difficult, but it's really quite simple. It only uses slip and single crochet stitches. You'll learn how to make linear, spherical and conical shapes without using patterns!

Please remember to contact Sue Helmken and Shirley Young if interested in signing up for these classes.

Photos from the July Weavers Study Group meeting, submitted by Maurice Blackburn. (Editor's Note: the report from the meeting was included in the previous newsletter.)

The next meeting is 9/26/18 from 1-3 pm at the home of Rosalie Nast.



Notes from the Matthews ALIVE Festival - from Sallie Olson

Kudos to all who participated in the Matthews ALIVE Festival! It was truly a group effort. There were people who set up and dismantled the room used for demonstration and display. Vivian and Dick were so very helpful with parking and parking passes and providing respite for those who drove and parked at their house. Sue Clover's working 200 year old walking wheel was a big hit, as was Linda Erickson's twined rug loom, Sue Helmken's table loom, and the spinning wheels. There were people who demonstrated, from half a day to all three days the festival was running.

And then there was Gail, who organized and kept things running smoothly. You should have seen her spreadsheet for who was coming at what time, what they were doing, phone numbers, etc. It was truly a thing of beauty.

There was a really good response to the guild's participation, and somebody from the host crew said they hoped we'd be back next year. The facility was air-conditioned, and we had restrooms close by. There was also an elevator for things that were difficult to carry up steps. The room we were in, and the building were locked when we weren't there to keep things secure. We learned that there is a parade the morning of the first day and it is impossible to get through Matthews during that time!

I'm sure Gail and Sue will have many more details to share about the Matthews ALIVE Festival at our guild meeting. But I just wanted to let everybody know what a great job those who were involved with this event did.

Notes from Carolina Handspinners:

Next gathering will be on Tuesday October 9th 2-4pm at Lowell Community Center, 501 West First Street, Lowell, NC. The meeting is open to the public so please invite all fiber-interested friends to attend.

The next Bimonthly Saturday meeting will take place on Saturday September 15th 10am-4pm at the home of Linda Pushee.

And another upcoming event to enjoy: **Saturday October 20th 10am-4pm: Curtin Farm Fest** at Curtin Farm, Clover, SC.: Artisan Craft and Food Market as well as live music and farm animals. Our groups have taken part in this event in the past and Cathy Curtin would love to have a group of spinners and fiber artists demonstrating again this year. Chris will be unable to attend this event. If you would like to act as coordinator for this event, please contact Chris and post to the group. Here's a link to their website for more information: <https://www.curtinfarms.com/>.

Refreshments for the guild meeting are scheduled to be provided by Peggy Hood and Sallie Olson. A sign-up sheet for future meetings will be passed around at the meeting.

Please remember to bring library books, etc., back for return. Thanks!

The library has been moved, sorted, culled, and is ready for you to check it out. Please see Susan Haney, our librarian, for any questions or requests.

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