

PIEDMONT FIBER GUILD NEWS

March 2020

PFG Board 2019-2020

President: Sue C.
President.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Past President: Sue H.

Treasurer: Linda E.
Treasurer.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Programs: Pam R. and Sue H.

Secretary: Sallie O.

Newsletter: Bill D.
Newsletter.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Charity: Carol W.

Webmaster: Sue C.
Webmaster.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Marketing/Events/Booth:
Gail B.

Social Media: Kristen Q.

Membership: Dick K.

Library: Sonia S.

Hospitality: Peggy H. and
Linda E.
Hospitality.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Workshops: OPEN
Workshop.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Equipment Manager: Tammy D.
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Hospitality : The following people have signed up for ---

Food: There are no volunteers listed for this month
Drinks: I sent an email out on Peggy Hood's behalf requesting volunteers
Opportunities: if you have responded to her, THANK YOU!

Please remember, if you find you cannot attend and bring your refreshment, drink, or opportunity item, please contact one of the Hospitality Chairpersons Peggy H. or Linda E. and let them know so other arrangements can be made. Thanks!

Upcoming Guild Meetings



- **March 15th**
- **April 19th**
- **May 17th**

Our program for this month will be on Estonian Knitting (see next page for more details.

Remember, our NEW MEETING PLACE (next month)- South Tryon Community United Methodist Church, 2516 S Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28203 (at the intersection of S. Tryon and Remount Rd.)

Program for March 2020

On March 15 at PFG come see Judi White, knitting teacher, who has specialized in Estonian Lace Knitting. She will bring examples and discuss where and how the specific pattern come from for this unique style of loopy work. A truly unique program and of interest to knitters and non-knitters alike.

Future Programs

April 19th - Flax to Linen The Ancient Fiber - Pam Rumney, flax grower, processor and spinner and Marion Flint, her mentor in flax/linen weaving will give flaxfacts with some historic samples

May 17th - Plant Based Dye Presentation from outside guest, possibly linked to a workshop - TBA



From the President

Dear Friends,

Welcome to spring! Tulip magnolias, daffodils, azaleas, cherries and peaches are all blooming in my garden, and I suspect that you are all enjoying the blossoming of something wonderful in your yards and neighborhoods as well. The amazing colors and textures of new plant growth and flowers is always fascinating to me, urging me to try new things in the dyepot, start new projects, and resurrect the ones that have been in “time out”.

Last week I dyed a warp inspired by the rich colors of tulip magnolias, I knit a cowl and started a pair of socks. My oldest current WIP is a lace alpaca shawl, that has been in “time out” for about 15 years. Today I saw the camellias blooming along my driveway and started thinking about pulling it out and finishing it. Spring definitely has its grip on me, and I hope on you too!

We have recently had a change in one of the board positions of the guild. Maurice Blackburn contacted me a few weeks ago and asked me to find someone to take over the remainder of his term as Treasurer. With great regret I accepted his resignation and sought someone to take on the task. To my great pleasure, Linda Erickson has volunteered to step in and fill the void. I expect she will do a great job!

It is also time to think about the future of our guild. Election season is upon us, and it is time to appoint a nominating committee to create a slate of members willing to serve. The positions to be filled by election are President, Treasurer, Secretary and Program Chair. All other positions are filled by appointment. If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or serving on the Board of one of the various committees, please let me know, or come to the March meeting and speak up!

I hope you are looking forward to the following special days in March, I know I am!

March 9 – Nat’l Napping Day (Day after Return of Daylight Savings Day)

March 14 – Nat’l Pi Day (3.14)

March 21 - Nat’l French Bread Day & Nat’l Corndog Day

March 25 – Manatee Appreciation Day

March 31 – Nat’l Bunsen Burner Day

Carolina Alpaca Celebration as recorded by our Secretary Sallie O.

Since there was no regular meeting in February, there are no minutes to record and report.

In lieu of our regular guild meeting, members were encouraged to demonstrate at the Carolina Alpaca Celebration held February 15 and 16 at the Cabarrus Arena.

Saturday was very well attended both by guild members and the public. Pam D.'s drum carder and Linda E.'s frame twining loom attracted a lot of interest from young and old alike. Guild members also demonstrated wheel spinning, charka spinning, two harness table loom weaving, knitting, and a frame sample loom. Many beautiful samples of guild members' work were displayed.

Sunday was not as busy as Saturday but was also well attended. There were quite a few guild members who were able to demonstrate on Sunday, too.

Saturday's Fleece to Shawl competition garnered a lot of interest. There were two teams competing, both with a lot of guild involvement. The "Marvelous Mavens" were comprised of Shirley Y., Burgl P., Sue C., Jennifer F. and Susan R. "Wool, Wheels, and Weavers" team was comprised of Sue H., Gail B., Andrea H., Kate S., and Chris D.

After several hours of intense competition, "Wool, Wheels, and Weavers" won with 99 points (photo below right) over "Marvelous Mavens" with 93 points (photo below left). Both shawls were beautiful. They both went to the silent auction after the competition. The shawl by "The Marvelous Mavens" sold for \$300; the shawl by "Wool, Wheels, and Weavers" sold for \$360. Half of each selling price went to the Carolina Alpaca Breeders Association.

It is interesting that the bidder who won the purchase of the winning shawl was Char from Happy Tails Alpacas. Char had donated the alpaca fleece to the "Wool, Wheels, and Weavers" team to use for the competition! (A few years ago the guild visited Happy Tails Alpacas and had a most interesting day, complete with the birth of an alpaca cria.)

Several current and former guild members stopped by to say hello and see the guild's demonstrations.

- from Sallie O., with thanks to Chris D. for the information about the shawl competition.





Meeting Minutes – February 2020

Last month, as in most years, our meeting date fell on the weekend of the Carolina Alpaca Celebraton, at Cabarrus Arena. We did not hold a regular business meeting but requested that as many members as possible come out to demonstrate our craft to the public. Since there was no business meeting, there are no actual meeting minutes, but please see the nice article later on in this newsletter, written by our Secretary, Sallie O.

Weavers Study Group

Since the Weavers Study Group meets only every other month, there are no notes for February. The next meeting will be Wednesday March 25th at the home of Pam R..



Carolina Handspinners

Hi All,

We had a great new fiber experience today at our meeting. Thanks to Dawn and Sue for bringing manual sock knitting machines and getting all of us cranking. Dawn says this is something she loves and she recently took a class about this great fiber tool from Milissa Dewey, wife of Alan Dewey of Bobbin Boy Restorations. Milissa herself has a small museum of sock knitting machines in her own home and Dawn said she was extremely knowledgeable about getting her machines up and running. Dawn got 2 of her sock knitting machines running for us today and shared her knowledge of their use. Sue was delighted to find herself cranking on her machine in short order as well. Thanks so much again to these ladies for bringing their passion to share with our group today. See the fun in the attached photos.

Here are some reminders about upcoming meetings and events:

1. The next regular meeting of Carolina Handspinners will take place on Tuesday March 10th 2-4pm at the Lowell Community Center, 501 West First Street in Lowell, NC. This meeting is open to the public so please invite all fiber-interested friends to attend.
2. We need a volunteer for the April Quarterly Saturday. Host gets to choose which Saturday we meet. Please contact me (chrismom98@gmail.com) if you're interested in hosting this event.
3. Upcoming Events:
 - a. Mark Your Calendars:
 - i. More information to follow at a later date: Please contact Gail B. (gboyles44@gmail.com) with questions.
 1. May 2, 2020
 - a. 10am - 2pm
 - b. Belmont, NC Historical Society Living History Day
 - c. 40 Catawba St Belmont, NC
 2. June 6, 2020
 - d. 9am - 2pm
 - e. Alpaca Shearing
 - f. Apple Hill Farm
 - g. 400 Apple Hill Rd Banner Elk, NC

Please share if you're aware of other events of interest to our group. Also, please let me know if you have any questions or ideas to make our group even more fun for all.

Sock knitting machine 'playdate' at Carolina Handspinners February Meeting





Upcoming Events



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars - More information to follow at a later date:

May 2, 2020

10am - 2pm

Belmont, NC Historical Society Living History Day

40 Catawba St Belmont, NC

June 6, 2020

9am - 2pm

Alpaca Shearing

Apple Hill Farm

400 Apple Hill Rd Banner Elk, NC

The Catawba River Artisans Show

Saturday June 6

Another fun event the guild has participated in for many years that includes other artisans.

Cramerton Recreation Center

8 Julian St

Cramerton, NC

Matthews Alive!

September 5 to 7

This will be the guild's 3rd year participating.

Downtown Matthews, NC

Cotton Ginning Days

October 10 & 11

A great area event that focuses on textiles and farm equipment. The guild has participated for many years at this event and hope to again this year.

Biggerstaff Park

Dallas, NC

Please contact Bill at Newsletter.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com to add **ACTIVITIES** of interest to this list!

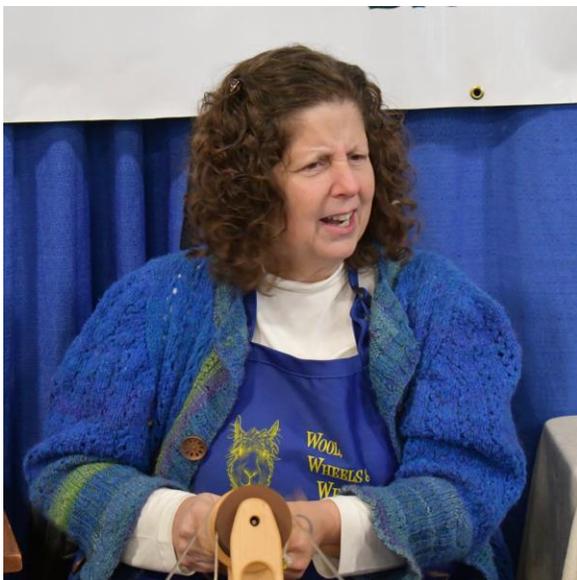
Contact Gail B., Events Coordinator, to suggest **EVENTS** that the Guild might participate in, or to volunteer your participation.

Unless otherwise listed, please contact Gail B. to volunteer your participation at one of these events.

More Fun at CABO

Photos provided by Alice Harrill









More from one of our members

I recently received an email from former President Sara Munday who has run across a couple of things online that she thought might be of interest. Thanks Sara! We have missed you and looking forward to seeing you at a meeting soon.

From Sara -----

I would like to encourage the guild to check out two things:

The first is a podcast called "I thought I knew how". It's created by a woman from CT, Anne Frost, who is on the path to becoming a master knitter. She is discussing her learnings along the way as well as sharing interesting travel stories around fiber and yarn events. It is truly a life, the world, and everything podcast, with knitting included. She traveled to the Fair Isle area of Scotland and fell in love with the people and the knitting. Here is the link.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/i-thought-i-knew-how-a-podcast-about-knitting-and-life/id1450808650?i=1000463205026>

Which leads to my next item:

www.Mrimaakers.com. This is a group of Fair Isle knitters who have come together to contribute to the effort to purchase an MRI machine for the Shetland Islands. Currently, it takes over 12 hours to travel to the nearest MRI machine! The knitters have raised nearly 6,000 British Pounds in their effort, through the sale of fair Isle patterns for a hat, cowl, mittens, gloves. Because not everyone knits, there are knitters who follow the patterns and then donate items to be sold (you can find them on the website) and there are some larger items that get auctioned off. As it turns out, I connected into them when they were in the midst of an auction and I won a beautiful cowl. I purchased a hat to go with it. I'll bring them to the meeting. I hadn't *really* wanted to learn how to do fair aisle knitting, but I might be leaning towards jumping in! Check it out!

Finally, I would like to say thank you to guild members for patience and for loving me and my family with food and cards as we went through grief in October of 2018. I am finally starting to get my act together and to function relatively normally (if that exists even!).

See you in March!

Sara

Quick Notes

PFG Library: We have a wonderful selection of books covering all types of fiber art. The library is open during our meeting. Please take a look at these resources and check-out a book (members only).

Newsletter Contributions: If you have done or seen something fiber related that might be of interest to PFG members, please send it to me for addition to a future newsletter. I would like contributions **by the first week of each month** so that I may send the newsletter out one week prior to our meeting, as a meeting reminder. Don't worry, I'll send out an email reminder a week or two prior to the deadline! Thanks.

Bill D. Newsletter.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com or wdunlap323@gmail.com

Hospitality - For those of you who have not volunteered yet, I am sure that our hospitality chairperson, Peggy H. would appreciate some volunteers for the next few meetings.

For those of you who are new to PFG, the refreshments provided at each meeting are provided by member volunteers. Usually, refreshments are broken down into food and drinks, being provided by different volunteers.

Opportunity items are donated materials, equipment, etc., that are auctioned at each meeting by way of purchasing tickets for \$1 donation to the guild. Peggy is also in charge of recruiting volunteers to donate materials for the drawings that we have at each meeting.

Please contact Peggy H. if you are able to help out with either .



Terms for Guild Equipment Rental 2019-2020



The Guild has the following equipment available for 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, Tammy D., Equipment.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com. There is a brief contract that 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 for more than one month, additional rental fees are due.

If you have and fiber equipment that you would like to donate to the Guild, please contact Tammy (Equipment.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com) or the Guild President (President.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com).

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Rental Fee</u>	<u>Security Deposit</u>
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" 4-shaft Folding Floor Loom	\$50 / month	\$100
Harrisville 4-Shaft Floor Loom	\$50 / month	\$100
LeClerc 2-Shaft Table Loom	contact Tammy	
Small Schacht Tapestry Loom	contact Tammy	
Dorothy 8-Shaft Table Loom	contact Tammy	

Piedmont Fiber Guild meets at South Tryon Community United Methodist Church, 2516 S Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28203 , at the intersection of South Tryon Street and Remount Road. We meet in the church basement, entering by the side door or the back door down the ramp if needed.

Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month from 2-4 pm. Occasionally this changes, due to conflicts with major holidays.