

PIEDMONT FIBER GUILD NEWS

September 2019

PFG Board 2019-2020

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

Past President: Sue H.

Treasurer: Maurice B.
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 Salvucci

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

Workshops: OPEN
Workshop.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

Equipment Manager: Tammy D.
Equipment.PiedmontFiberGuild@gmail.com

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Hospitality : The following people have signed up for ---

Food: Pam D., Susan P.

Drinks: ???

Opportunities: Tammy D.

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



● **September 15th**

● **October 20th**

● **November 17th**

Our program for this month will be presented by Sue H. and Sallie O. on handmade buttons to help finish off your creations.

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

Button, Button, Who's got the Button?



It can be so frustrating. You spend hours making a vest or top then can't find a decent button to go on it. Well, here's one solution: Make your own! This month's program is a hands-on event. Sally O and Sue H will help you make dorset, stitched and crocheted buttons. We'll have supplies on hand, but you can bring your own yarns to use. You can even bring the item you made so we can put our heads together on ideas.



From the President

Wow! What an exciting month it has been for the guild! Between moving to our new home and demonstrating at Matthews Alive!, we've been busy!

Matthews Alive! was again an excellent event, and the weather was beautiful. The city again set us up inside the community center, where we were visited by several thousand people. Many thanks to the following members, and one non-member!, who so ably represented our Guild and the many fiber arts we love!

Gail B, Shirley Y, Sallie O, Maurice B, Ursula B, Tammy D, Pam D, Linda E, Peggy H, Vivian B, Dick K, Sue C, Susan R (not yet a member), Pam R, Rosalie N, Susan P, and Dawn C all lent a hand to making this event a financial and outreach success for the Guild.

Moving to our new location was accomplished on the 6th and 7th of September, and took a surprisingly short time to accomplish. On the 6th, a number of members, armed with boxes and packing tape arrived at our old location to pack up. Shirley Y, Maurice B, Ursula B, Sallie O, Andrea I. (and son Damian), Chris D., Mona C, and Sue H. did yeoman's service and completed the task in under 2 hours!

On the 7th, a crew moved everything to the South Tryon Community United Methodist Church and unpacked, accomplishing their tasks in just 3.5 hours! Carol W. brought her horse trailer, and along with daughter Sydney and their new exchange student guest Jella, Maurice B, Will P. (Maurice's son-in-law), Linda E, Pam R, Jeff B, Peggy H, Sue C, Vivian B. and Dick K. got everything moved and unpacked in about 3 ½ hours.

So we are settling in and looking forward to our new home and community!

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Our next meeting will be held at the new location on Sunday, Sept. 15th. The address is 2516 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, 28203. There are 2 parking areas available, the first is near the front of the church on Tryon St and the second is closer to the back of the church, near the leasing office for the neighborhood and the community center. To access this lot when northbound on Tryon, turn left onto Basin St, then take the first left, following the sign for the Brookhill Village leasing office.

We meet in the church basement, entering by the side door or the back door down the ramp if needed.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Days to look forward to in September include:

Sept 11 – National Day of Service and Remembrance AND National Make Your Bed Day

Sept 19 – International Talk Like a Pirate Day

Sept 22 – National Elephant Appreciation Day, Hobbit Day, AND National Ice Cream Cone Day

Sept 28 – National Bunny Day AND National Beer Drinking Day

Sept 29 – National Coffee Day

Sue C.

President
Piedmont Fiber Guild



Meeting Minutes August 2019

PIEDMONT FIBER GUILD - GENERAL MEETING - AUGUST 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 2 pm by President Sue C.

Treasurer Maurice B. announced that the guild has \$4304 in the main account and \$3128 in savings.

Maurice also shared that he has been developing a budget for the guild for 2020. Our financial year now runs January-December. He has been running a new version of the budget with \$100 for monthly rent to reflect the rent at the new location (starting in September). He stated we should now break even. Five hundred dollars is allotted for speakers for the remainder of 2019; \$100 is allotted for speakers in 2020. Maurice has details of the developing budget should anyone care to see them.

Secretary Sallie O. had no announcements.

Pam R., co-chair for Programs, announced that Varian Brandon will be presenting later this fall.

Pam R. raised the question of liability insurance going forward. Sue C. stated she has talked with Carol W. about this. Sue C. plans to discuss with an insurance broker the possible need for a different sort of policy than we currently have. The guild should be covered under the church's liability policy at our new location. Sallie O. questioned if we need liability insurance for when we are demonstrating at other venues.

Sue H., Program co-chair, announced that the September program will be on Buttons. Sue will teach how to make crochet buttons. Sallie O. will teach how to make Dorset buttons.

Gail B. was unable to be at today's meeting to discuss Events due to her recent move. Chris D. spoke to the guild about upcoming Events for Gail. For Matthews ALIVE Festival over Labor Day weekend, we need people to demonstrate; Gail has a chart breaking the time up into shifts. Please contact her if you can be part of this big event. It is a major money-maker for the guild.

Sue H. spoke to the need for people to volunteer and not leave the same core group to do all the work.

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(Meeting Minutes, continued)

Other upcoming Events:

9/28 and 29 - Murray's Mill; Gail B. is coordinating volunteers.

9/28 and 29 - National Alpaca Day, Cornelius, NC. Two farms have asked for guild members to demonstrate: Happy Tails in Concord, and Apple Hill Farm in Banner Elk. Gail B. is coordinating volunteers.

10/12 and 13 - Cotton Ginning Days in Dallas NC.

Linda E. has agreed to serve as the Workshop committee chair.

Sue C. thanked all who had completed the survey for the guild.

Charity chair Carol W. is collecting chemo hats and blue hats for "Hats not Hate".

Librarian Sonia S. had no news.

Newsletter Editor Bill D. spoke to the need to use first name and last initial in articles in the newsletter to protect members' privacy.

Hospitality chair Peggy reviewed who is signed up for September's meeting.

A question was raised about the June 2020 meeting falling on Father's Day. It was decided to leave the meeting on that date.

Sue C. presented information about the guild's upcoming location change. We will be moving to South Tryon Community United Methodist Church at the intersection of South Tryon and Remount Rd. in Charlotte. We will have locked storage. Boxing day will be Friday 9/6/19. Please contact Sue if you can help. Morning shift starts at 10 am, and evening shift starts at 6 pm. Moving day will be Saturday 9/7 at noon. We need boxes, dollies, and people to help, please.

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(Meeting Minutes – continued)

The 'Sabina' 4H 6T 36" weaving width loom which belongs to the guild is for sale; \$400 or best offer.

Our landlord at Remount Executive Center has been very nice about our relocation. They have waived the 60 day notice and waived the rent for the first week of September.

Sallie asked for someone to take minutes in October when she will be unable to attend the meeting.

Sallie O. made an announcement about CLTextiles upcoming show "Textures Fiber Art Exhibit". Opening reception will be Friday 9/6 7-10 pm at C3Lab, 2525 Distribution St., Charlotte. There will also be an artists' gallery talk on Sunday 9/8 2-4 pm. Please see their Facebook page 'CLTextiles' for more information. There will be at least two PFG members showing their work in this show.

After a refreshment break, the group reconvened at 3:05 pm for the program.

Debbie Davis, owner of The Fibre Studio at Yarns to Dye For in Charlotte, discussed how different fiber density and composition affects dyeing. Debbie first started her retail business in September of 2008. In 2014 she closed her retail yarn shop and began dyeing full-time. She recently moved to a new location at 540 Griffith Rd., Charlotte, behind the Costco on Tyvola Rd.

Debbie uses acid dyes with vinegar or granulated citric acid. She dyes wool, silk, nylon, and some blends, but not plant fibers. One needs to use fiber reactive dyes for plants (fiber reactive dyes also dye animal fibers).

Debbie soaks fibers in water with Dawn dishwashing liquid prior to dyeing. Acid dyes are safe, but when in powdered form, particles are so small they can be inhaled. Debbie and her staff use masks when mixing the colors for dyeing. They do not 'sprinkle-dye'; all their dye is mixed to liquid before use.

Blends take up the dyes differently, for example merino/bamboo or silk/linen. Linen is especially hard to dye. Debbie and her staff dye lace weight to bulky yarn, also novelty yarns. The Fibre Studio is known for its gradient yarns.

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(Meeting Minutes – continued)

Debbie also gave out 'Yarn Tasting' gifts to all attending today: a wine glass with eight samples of different yarns all dyed the same color to show the difference the fiber content makes in the finished yarn appearance. Also, Debbie reminded the group that the Charlotte Yarn Crawl occurs September 20-28; seven stores are participating in the Yarn Crawl this year.

Chris D. commented on the safety aspect of dyeing as well. She added that the small powdered dye particles that can enter the lungs cause a small cyst to form around each particle. Long term, this results in decreased lung function, and could possibly be carcinogenic.

Following the program, the guild participated in drawing for 'Opportunity' items and 'Show and Tell'.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm. The September meeting will be in our new location.

Respectfully submitted,

Sallie O., Secretary



Carolina Handspinners

Hi All,

Hope this steamy day finds you inside keeping cool and having fun with fiber. We had a great group at our meeting today with lots of lively discussions about previous and upcoming fiber adventures. Here are some updates from today's meeting:

1. The next regular meeting of Carolina Handspinners will take place on Tuesday September 10 2-4pm at Lowell Community Center, 501 West First Street, Lowell, NC. This meeting is open to the public, so please invite fiber-interested friends to attend.
2. We need a volunteer for our September Bimonthly Saturday. Host chooses which Saturday we get together for this meeting that allows those who can't make our weekday meetings to enjoy the fun of Carolina Handspinners.
3. Upcoming Events:
 - a. Remember the weekly meetings of the Catawba Valley Fiber Guild at the Polk Homesite in Pineville. They meet each Wednesday 11am-1pm. Bring your project and enjoy fellowship with other fiber artists and lovers. This group also meets the last Thursday of each month 6-8pm at the same location. Here's a link to their site for more information:
<https://www.jameskpolk.net/events.html>. Scroll down to On-going Events.
 - b. September 7th and October 5th 10am-4pm: Spinning Saturdays at The Fibre Studio at Yarns to Dye For, Griffith Rd, Charlotte, NC: Here's an opportunity to shop hand-dyed yarns and fibers many in luxury blends as well as patterns and projects created specifically for these yarns. Come join the group to spin and enjoy this great fiber community.
 - c. Sept 28-29 Murray's Mill Festival 1489 Murray's Mill Road, Catawba, NC 28609 Contact Gail B. (gboyles44@gmail.com) if you'd like to attend.
 - d. October 11-13th: Cotton Ginning Days: Dallas, NC at Dallas County Park.: This event brings together vintage farm vehicles and fiber enthusiasts in a festival honoring all things cotton. Here's a link for more information: http://www.gastongov.com/government/departments/parks_and_recreation/cotton_ginning_days/index.php. Please contact Gail B. (gboyles44@gmail.com) if you would like to demonstrate fiber arts at this event.
4. Please share with the group if you are aware of other fiber events in the area that might interest the group. Also, please let me know if you have questions or ideas that could make the group even more fun for all.

Have a great month, and Happy Spinning!

Christine D. chrisdmom98@gmail.com

Weavers Study Group

As the Weavers Study Group meets only Bi-Monthly, there is no meeting update this month. Future meeting dates for 2019 are Sep 25th, and Nov 20th. The group generally meets on the third Wednesday, every other month, but scheduled meetings could change based on the host's availability and/or major holidays.

The next meeting will be September 25th, Wednesday at the home of Alice Harrell; followed by November 20th, location TBD.

Future Programs

October 20, 2019 - program by knitwear designer Varian Brandon

November 17, 2019 - program TBA

December 15, 2019 - (holiday party?)

Please contact Program Chairpersons Pam R. or Sue H. if you have any ideas or suggestions for interesting programs for future Guild Meetings.

From Our Members

Interesting articles about people, places and experiences, written by PFG Members

Job Description: Weaver Must Be Mechanic!

By Chris D.



This story begins with this warp threaded through 2 heddles (12.5dpi) on my rigid heddle loom. Threading was very complex as this set-up actually produced a version of Rosepath...on a rigid heddle loom!



This warp happened to start out with a couple different grists of wool yarns. Most were lace weight but I had two that were closer to sock weight. I found the problem with the light yarns (sock ones) after threading, tying on and beginning to weave. These were extremely stiff, hard and had NO elasticity.

With the complex threading and weaving sequences of this project, these yarns almost immediately showed a great difference in tension and ability to mesh with weft yarns woven same as warp.

Solution?



Weaver Becomes Mechanic!

First, I was determined NOT to cut this warp off the loom! It had taken me 2 days...almost 6 hrs...to thread the heddles. I know to floor loom weavers, 6 hours might not seem unreasonable depending on the complexity of the pattern being threaded, but part of the beauty of rigid heddle weaving is that it's quick to thread, right? Not complaining; just also not going to dump this warp.

I found other softer yarns in my stash in similar colors and grists. Each warp thread was measured individually and approximately, once all 8 threads for each stripe had been measured and knotted on, one at a time, all threads for that stripe were wrapped around cardboard storage perns.

After all the threads were attached, and the bundles wrapped, I needed something to approximate the tension of the other threads. These glass bottles turned out to be the best solution for weight as well as a way to attach the weight to the warp threads.



The finished piece is too short for a scarf due to all these changes (54") and the selvages were uneven due to difference in the weight of the bottles but I did get a finished piece that will make an acceptable wall hanging. I'm still amazed that you can get Rosepath on a rigid heddle loom and have learned a great deal from this project. I plan to do another one of these soon. Even with all the challenges, this project was great fun!



Upcoming Events and Activities



EVENTS

Hoyle Homestead Open House

September 14, 2019

9:30am - 3:00pm

1214 Dallas Stanley Hwy

Dallas, NC 28034

You can wear regular clothes

<https://www.facebook.com/HoyleHistoricHomestead/>

35th Annual Murray's Mill Folk Festival

September 28 10am - 5pm

September 29 1pm - 5pm

1489 Murray's Mill Rd

Catawba, NC 28609

You can wear regular clothes

<https://catawbahistory.org/murrays-mill>

Cotton Ginning Days

October 12 10:00am - 5:00pm

October 13 10:00am - 5:00pm

1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy

Dallas, NC 28034

http://www.gastongov.com/government/departments/parks_and_recreation/cotton_ginning_days/index.php

For more information on any of these events, please contact Gail B. at gboyles44@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES

October 7-13 - National Spinning and Weaving Week.

Weekly - Catawba Valley Fiber Guild, Wednesdays 11 am – 1 pm

<https://www.jameskpolk.net/events.html>.

Monthly - Spinning Saturdays at The Fibre Studio at Yarns to Dye For,
Griffith Rd, Charlotte, NC. 1st Saturday each month 10am-4pm

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.

Workshops

Discharge Dye Workshop
Saturday, October 5, 2019
530 Calabash Rd, Clover, SC 29710
10 AM-4 PM
\$50 includes everything needed

I've had requests for another discharge dye workshop, and this weekend opened up for me. Here's the info!

Discharge dye is the removal of color from cloth or yarn using thiox and thickener. By making a paste with the discharge mix, you can remove color in specific areas and in specific shapes. Unlike bleach, the thiox mix is safe for use on silk! We will work with yarn and cloth to explore ways to transform colors. I'll show you stamping, stenciling, and other techniques for cloth. We'll also explore techniques for color removal on skeined yarn and warps. I'm generous with the supplies, but more will be available for purchase.

Class size is limited to 8 people due to the size of my studio. Wear old clothes and pack a lunch. [I have disposable gloves and masks, or you may bring your own.] If you have some cloth or yarn you want to try [natural fibers, no synthetics] you may bring that as well.

For your convenience, I accept paypal. Please check with me for more info. This is late notice, so if you are interested but can't make it this day, please let me know. There will certainly be other classes offered. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sue Helmken
barefootweaver@earthlink.net
703-944-4488

(sample photos – next page)

Discharge Dye Sample Photos from Sue Helmken



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).

Membership Dues: Reminder, it's a new membership year for PFG. Dues are payable annually by May 1st. There is a grace period – dues must be paid by the October meeting to keep your membership in good standing.

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

Guild Loom for Sale

FOR SALE:

The Guild's Sabina, rising shed, 4 shaft folding loom and stool.

The working width is 33 inches and it folds to a depth of 22 inches.

The Sabina looms were built in Ohio in the 1940's The loom is in good working order. Both Bill D and Maurice B. have woven on it and found its operation to be quite smooth.

The loom is currently in our storage area at 2020 Remount Road Gastonia.

Asking price \$400 or best offer. Price includes various accessories.



Member Items for Sale

Two Table looms for Sale Please contact Sue Helmken @ 703-944-4488 for more information

Leclerc Dorothy loom
4-shafts, 16" weaving width
8-dent reed, inserted-eye heddles
In good working order
\$45.00

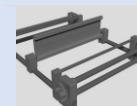


Structo Craft Loom
4-shaft, 20" weaving width
8-dent reed, string heddles
in good working order
\$45.00





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	

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