



LibertyTown Arts Workshop

916 Liberty Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
<http://fswguild.org/>

August 2014 Newsletter

2014 CALENDAR

August 1: First Friday at LibertyTown Arts Workshop Plein Air Juried Exhibition and Virginia Potters Invitational. (LibertyTown Note: September/October shows still need confirmation. Stay tuned.)

August 9: FSWG Meeting. 10 AM at LibertyTown Arts Workshop We will have our annual Pot Luck/Picnic luncheon. There will also be a yard sale. Bring what you want to sell!

September 13: FSWG Meeting. 10 AM at LibertyTown Arts Workshop.

October 11: Let's Stitch held at LibertyTown. Please try to help with this event.

Corset Spinning Workshop

Date: August 9 from 1:00 - 5:00 (after the guild meeting)

Cost: \$25.00 per person plus a \$10.00 materials fee

Class size: Limit of 12 participants. We have 9 on the list so far.

Supplies and requirements: Must be able to spin a continuous yarn and be familiar with the basics of plying. This is **NOT** a learning to spin class.

Be familiar with the operation of your wheel

Bring your wheel, a lazy Kate (or something to hold your bobbins), 4 empty bobbins (3 may work if that is all you have).



Spin the Bin~June 2014 By Aileen Campbell

This month, I have to talk about myself. I was afraid I wouldn't have anything spun in time for this month's Spin the Bin, but I finally managed to finish something up! While I do want to spin the fibers I put in my bin back in dank, snowy January, I am being picky about how they get spun, as my plan is to spin my way through Jacey Boggs' book, *Spin Art!* As I tend to spin more traditional types of yarn, I still drool over the art yarns that so many spinners are creating. I covet the saturated colors, the varying textures, the incredible surprises of cocoons, beads, or sequins embedded in the yarn, and yes, even the bling of gold, silver, or copper threads wending mysteriously through a skein of to-die-for handspun yarn. So, even before *Spin Art!* was available, I pre-ordered it. I mean, I had taken a workshop with Jacey a few years ago, so I didn't think it would be a problem to follow her directions and, bonus, the book even came with its own DVD. The pictures in the book are gorgeous and very inspiring. Jacey is a great instructor and entertaining to boot. I have the equipment and the fiber needed...after finishing my first skein, I wonder if perhaps I shouldn't have stuck with those traditional yarns after all.

But why did I first start spinning? Easy - both Mom and my Leesburg sister were spinning and the fiber calls to me. I know most of you can hear it too. Mom's would peek out of a basket and beg for me just to pet it a little. Mom was no help either. She would come home with bags of the stuff and well, I eventually caved and asked / begged someone to please show me how to get started. It was scary at first but also so soothing! I recall some frustrations but it worked out and some months later I was able to hide my first yarns in a blanket I wove for my brother! What really fixed spinning for me was getting my first wheel (thanks Judy!). Using that wheel made me feel like a real spinner, not just someone who played at spinning - I was officially a spinner!

Now, back to my art yarn. My mission was to create a yarn called "Racing Stripe". It's the first and supposedly the easiest yarn in the book, which isn't a good sign for me right now. Anyway, I spun the thinner, outside yarn S-wise (wheel going counter-clockwise) and put its bobbin on a Lazy Kate. Then, as I was spinning the main fiber Z-wise (wheel going clockwise), I guided the thinner yarn around the main fiber. There are a few easy hand-things to do but it should be a relaxed spinning technique that produces a thicker singles yarn that is wrapped on the outside with another, thinner, singles yarn. Since the two singles were spun in opposite directions, they do not ply in a conventional sense. Jacey warned against putting in too much twist (which of course I did) and her yarn lays in a beautiful, relaxed heap (mine immediately kinked up on itself and looked like my wheel had thrown up a heap of fiber). I'm wondering if washing and weighting while drying would help. Here it is, tightly controlled in a twisted skein so it cannot do that horrible throw-up mound again...

So, what's next? The autowrap.(I am not going back to
ter all, following autowrap, new yarns are calling to me, like
the tornado, corespinning, tailspinning, beehives, and
so, so many others!

traditional yarns just yet.) Af-



Featured Artists at Water Street Studio

Rita Brown and Margaret "Peg" Waters will be the Featured Artists at Water Street Studio for the month of August. A collection of tapestries and baskets will be on display (and for sale!) Come join us for the opening reception on First Friday, August 1 from 6-9 pm.



Studio Space Available

There is an available space in the FSWG studio as of August 1.
Contact Anne Nourse if you would like more information.

SpinQuest 2014



A fibery adventure awaits! SpinQuest is for handspinnners who want to explore the creative potential of this traditional craft. Enjoy various spinning and fiber prep demonstrations, games and activities while spinning and checking out the spinning-focused vendors. Each participant will receive a 'Quest Kit' containing approx. 4 oz. of fiber provided by the vendors to use in the days activities. This year's theme is 'Au Naturelle' - creative spinning with naturally colored locks and fibers. Only 35 spaces available so register today!

This event is sponsored by Wild Hare Fiber Studio and Three Ravens Fiber Shop. It will be held on Saturday, August 23, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Front Royal, VA. Contact melissa@wildharefiber.com or call 540.305.6853.

From the Heart...



Our greatest needs at this time are lap blankets (both military and regular ones), hat and scarf sets for fall. This is so we can be stocked and ready for winter as we deliver to the school systems in Stafford, King George, Spotsylvania, Caroline and the City of Fredericksburg. That does not even include our senior citizens, the homeless and a few other places. Anything that you can do is appreciated.



Education~Outreach Opportunitites

September 12-14 (Friday-Sunday) at the Stafford Co. Hartwood Days Festival & Agricultural Fair. The Hartwood organizers would like for us to come and demonstrate spinning/weaving/knitting/crochet/whatever we'd like on the days of the festival. More information to come.

September 20 (Saturday) from 11 - 5 at the Welsh Festival (James Monroe Museum) on the 900 block of Charles St. One of our annual events.



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The Guild meets on the second Saturday of the month at 10 AM. Call for location.