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April 2022 Newsletter

Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild

**please be aware that some email systems shorten or truncate long messages like this newsletter. Look for a message to that effect - usually you simply click on the message and it opens the entire email.



Example of a
circular sock
machine (csm)

In this issue...

Guild Meeting Information and Zoom link

From the President's Desk

On the Horizon

Committee News

Barn Loom Raising - update

MAFA Update

Guild Groups Information

Lesson/Classes

Amalgamated Weaving (courtesy of Margaret Campbell)

Weaver's Wisdom (courtesy of Judy Klehm)

Knitter's Knots (courtesy of Judy Klehm)

Book Review - Spinning 101 by Tom Knisely (courtesy of Linda George)

Selling Your Work at LibertyTown

For Sale/Free/Wanted

Membership and Dues

Guild Links

Leadership Information



Guild Membership Meeting Info

Zoom Link for April 9 meeting - [click here](#)

Meeting ID: 834 9123 8366

Passcode: 756826

Programs

April's program will be a video (created by Denise Kash) on the basics of knitting a sock using Aileen's Circular Sock Machine. Video is about

April meeting video link: [click here](#)

March meeting minutes Dropbox link: [Not yet available](#)

NOTE:

All 2021 meeting minutes can be found on the guild website or in the Dropbox folder:

[click here.](#)

All 2022 meeting minutes can be found on the guild website or in the Dropbox folder:

[click here](#)



From the President's Desk

Spring has sprung and if you have allergies, so has pollen season. Right now I'm cautiously optimistic about our chances to actually get together for Earth Day on the 23rd. I don't want to jinx it, so I'm thinking happy thoughts. I hope to see many of you there, even if you just drop in to say hello.

Another important event on the horizon is the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. Right now they are planning for an in person event and I know some folks are already developing a game plan for that weekend. I'm planning on going on Sunday. I'm hoping since it's also Mother's Day the crowd will be smaller on Sunday morning so I can get dibs at Miss Babs.

Although all the upcoming events are exciting to look forward to, we also have some exiting guild business to take care of. Judy and the Handbook committee have been very hard at work drafting the updated handbook. **A link to the handbook has been provided in the Committee News section below.** Please take the time to review it before our meeting on Saturday and come ready for an open discussion. I would also like to thank everyone that participated in the Meeting Format survey. Your inputs have been extremely helpful.

On the Horizon...

From Education and Outreach:

April 23rd: Earth Day. 11 - 4pm at Old Mill Park

April 30th: Spring History Fair. 11 - 4pm at Dumfries Merchant Park

May 14th: International Family Day. 11 - noon at James Monroe Museum

May 14th: Living History. 10 - 3pm in Port Royal

Let Keren Pritchett know if you have questions or to sign up to participate in one (or more!) of these events at kjpritchett11@gmail.com

Committee News

Guild Engagement Committee

The next meeting is this Tuesday, beginning at 7 PM.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82905033088?pwd=bTFyNUdOWGZja1pIZmVpWUpKRXBiZz09>

Handbook Revisions are Ready for Review

The Handbook Committee has completed the revisions and created a draft version for members to review. Please follow [this link](#) to read the updated Handbook and plan to share your thoughts at the upcoming guild meeting this Saturday.

Click here to read the Handbook draft!



BARN LOOM RAISING!

The recent Barn Loom Raising was a wonderful success - with guild members working together to reassemble this weaving gem after decades alone in a dark, silent basement. The history of this loom is not certain but the most recent owner shared that it had come from West Virginia more than twenty years ago and felt the loom had originally been crafted in either West Virginia or North Carolina. Guild member Linda George, who has woven on similar looms and even helped assemble one some time ago, was the source of our insight into discovering how this loom should go together. She told us to look for Roman Numerals carved into the ends of the main beams - evidently they were often marked this way.

The group that worked on getting this loom put together were masters at teamwork, talking ideas out, moving heavy timbers into a variety of positions, and figuring out what the maker had intended all along. Touching and seeing the skill and precision that went into creating this treasure from our history was an absolutely awesome experience than none of us will soon forget.

The loom was disassembled that same day and is securely stacked in a dry shed, awaiting the time when a new owner claims her. If you know of any person or organization that would be interested in preserving this loom, please send them to Aileen Campbell at newsletter_editor@fswguild.org

Thanks to all who came out that day to help and thanks to LibertyTown for hosting this event!

MAFA:

The March/April edition of the MAFA Newsletter has arrived!
[Click here](#) to view the entire 7 page Dropbox document.

Changes to MAFA By-Laws (more details can be found [here](#))

There are two simple bylaws changes being proposed for adoption that reflect actual practices:

- 1) An update to make the meeting dates more flexible and reflect that we are having business meetings by video conference instead of requiring them to be in person.
- 2) An update to reflect that we actually have a compilation done which is sufficient for our situation, not a review which is more involved and costly. In accounting there are three tiers of service: compilation, review, and audit. Given our size and activities, we do not need a review or audit at this time.

Also, MAFA member guild dues are changing:

The proposed PROPOSED 2022-24 Full Dues are:

25 or fewer members: \$30

26-50 members: \$70

51-100 members: \$100

101-150 members: \$150

151-200 members: \$200

201 or more members: \$250

Associates: \$30

For comparison, the old full dues and tiers were:

Fewer than 25 members: \$60

26-50 members: \$70

51-100 members: \$100

101 or more members: \$150

Associates: \$40

MAFA Conference 2023 Hats! Hats! Hats! Love hats – traditional, silly, felted, knitted, or mad hatter? We are looking for someone to lead the new Hats Exhibit at the conference. Come up with the categories and criteria, create the application, keep track of the entries, and stage the exhibition at the conference. Work starts July 2022 and

continues until June 2023. Send an email to Carol at conference@mafafiber.org

Save the Date: The MAFA 2023 Conference will be held at Millersville University (near Lancaster, PA), June 22 – 25, 2023. The Conference Committee is working hard to finalize instructors for this conference.



Guild Groups

Currently our guild has three active fiber groups, in addition to lessons being taught in the guild studio. If you are interested in joining a group or finding out more about a group, each group's particulars are below:

Sock Knitting Group meets Mondays from about noon to 3-4 pm. in the guild studio space. Contact [Fran Slaterbeck](#) for more information. Some meetings may be via Zoom.

The Weavers Study Group is open to all weavers. We are studying crackle weave this year. The group is currently meeting via Zoom on the third Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Contact: Diane Kowalski, Diane@wovengems.com

Knitting Group meets Friday from 1PM to 3PM in the guild studio space. Contact [Margaret Campbell](#) for details. Some meetings may be via Zoom.

Lessons/classes

Lori and Mary are seeking donations of fiber for their spinning classes that benefit the guild. In addition, if you have a wheel you are ready to sell, they are willing to demonstrate it to the students. There may be more than one person looking to purchase in the next few weeks.

So far, they have taught 6 new spinners, and there are two new students lined up for this Sunday. Two students have joined the guild so far. At least one wants to rent a wheel.

Spinning class has raised \$960 so far. All proceeds benefit the guild.



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Amalgamated Weaving

Contributed by Margaret Campbell

Amalgamated Weaving is a new way to design some very complicated weaving patterns. A good thing about it is that the computer will do it for you. If you don't have a pattern to test just go to handweaving.net and use one of their patterns. Also handweaving.net has instruction and the program to change your pattern to an amalgamation. It's best to start with at least an 8 shaft pattern. Putting it through the amalgamation program adds some complicated design to your pattern. When you are finished the program keeps the new design and puts your pattern back to the original number of shafts.

The amalgamated weaving program was created by Alice Schlein. Alice has a monograph on [her web site](http://herweb.site) about amalgamated weaving.

Clicking this button takes you to a YouTube video produced by handweaving.net that demonstrates how to create an amalgamated pattern.

WEAVERS' WISDOM

From The Weavers Guild of Boston

In designing stripes, a single thread in a stripe gives the effect of a running stitch.

To be positively sure a sample will work when you transpose it to a large piece, the sample should be at least 8-14 inches wide. If the sample is smaller, the sett will be off when made into a bigger piece.



KNITTING NOTES

Create a neat edge with an easy chain slip stitch.

No more nubby garter stitch edges. The slipped chain creates an attractive braid-like edge along the right side.

There are several ways to to a chain edge, but this is the easiest way:

1. At the end of every tow, slip the last stitch with the yarn in front.
2. At the beginning of the next row, knit the slipped stitch.



Spinning 101

Step by Step from Fleece to Yarn with Wheel or Spindle



Book Review

by Linda George

I was at Red Stone Glen for a class last week and while shopping for yarns I saw Tom Knisely's newest book "Spinning 101" and couldn't resist buying it. Tom has taught many, many spinning classes and is quite expert at explaining spinning. The book is beautiful and full of step by step instructions and photographs showing every aspect of spinning. Tom starts with choosing a fleece and washing it and then goes through all the steps for preparing it for spinning. There are 19 photos with captions to go along with just the carding section. The book takes you through the entire process ending with a completed blanket of hand spun yarns. I'm quite sure anyone could learn to spin from this lovely and lovingly written book.

Selling your work at LibertyTown

This process is currently under review by the new screening committee. Be sure to see the proposed details in the [handbook draft](#)! In the meantime, send any questions you may have to Lesley Reynolds (president@fswguild.org) or Judy Klehm (jwklehm@gmail.com).

Items For Sale or For Free



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I have a Lendrum
Saxony spinning
wheel for sale with
matching lazy kate
with 3 extra bobbins
and 2 flyers. Contact
Ginger Burke at
540-455-5032

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36" Mighty Wolf Loom for Sale



This loom will fold for storage!

This was Jerry Barnes's loom - I have woven double weave wool blankets, linen and cotton towels and much more. Very good, sturdy loom. The ten treadles are handy for tying up multiple patterns on the same warp.



\$800

4 shafts

10 treadles

4 reeds (8,10,12,15 dent)

Contact Linda George 540-842-7001. or lgeorge1951@gmail.com



Spinning Wheel for Sale

Louet S10 Single Treadle

Peg Waters is selling her very lightly used Louet S10. The wheel was manufactured in the early 1990's and is in very good condition. Peg says that it spins very smoothly! This wheel comes with 4 bobbins and has a built-in Lazy Kate.

Price is negotiable.

Contact Peg at (540) 371-0120 or email pegbaskets@yahoo.com



Barbara Ritter's Leclerc Tapestry loom (60 inches wide) is ready to move to a new home.



This lovely loom, kept in pristine condition, comes home with an 8-dent reed and a sweet cherry raddle.



Barbara is asking \$250.

blhritter@gmail.com

Free to good home

A basic inkle loom and a 19th century skein winder-needs love and care-given to me by Rita Brown.

Contact Ginger Burke (gingerkburke@gmail.com) for further details.

SHOW MORE

Membership & Dues

As of 4/3/2022, 45 members are currently active in the guild (they have paid their 2022 dues).

Dues (\$30 annually, \$15 out of state & youth/student \$5) were due by September 30. Members who did not submit their dues by December 30th were removed from the guild's membership rolls.

Payment by check is preferred (make payable to FSWG and mail to the guild at LibertyTown or leave in the guild mailbox at LibertyTown).

LibertyTown Arts Workshop

Attn: FSWG

916 Liberty Street

Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Payment is possible by PayPal but please follow these instructions or PayPal will keep a portion of your money rather than crediting all of it to the guild:

- 1. Go to PayPal.com and login. You may need to click on the "MyPayPal" icon to get to the money dashboard.**
- 2. Click on the "Send" icon.**
- 3. In the box asking for a name or email address for where you want the money to go, enter the guild's email address: fswguild@gmail.com**
- 4. Type in the amount of money you want to send.**
- 5. In the "notes" box, enter in what the money is for, such as "donation", "August rent", or "annual guild dues".**
- 6. Click on "continue".**
- 7. When it asks what the payment is for, choose sending to a friend.**
- 8. Scroll until you can see the "Send Payment/Money Now" button and click on it.**

Guild Links

[Guild Roster](#)

[Guild Library](#)

[Guild Equipment available to rent](#)

[Guild Handbook & By-Laws](#) (currently being revised)

Drop Box How-to's (coming one of these days)

[Guild Website](#)

[Handwoven Online Access Instructions](#)

[Face Book](#) (members only page)

FSWG also has a presence on [Ravlery](#)

[Guild Calendar: if you would like an item added to the Guild calendar, please send the details to Aileen Campbell at \[newsletter_editor@fswguild.org\]\(mailto:newsletter_editor@fswguild.org\)](#)

Leadership (executive board members)

President - Lesley Reynolds president@fswguild.org

Vice President - Kara Peckar vice_president@fswguild.org

Secretary - Nicole White secretary@fswguild.org

Treasurer - Denise Kash treasurer@fswguild.org

Additional Leadership

Librarian - Denise Kash librarian@fswguild.org

Membership - Ishtar Watson membership@fswguild.org

Hospitality - Mary Snellings marysnellings@yahoo.com

Education/Outreach - Keren Pritchett kjpritchett11@gmail.com

Newsletter - Aileen Campbell newsletter_editor@fswguild.org

MAFA Rep - Aileen Campbell fswg_mafa_rep@fswguild.org



Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild

fswguild@gmail.com

0123456789



Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild | 916 Liberty St, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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