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## January 2024 Newsletter Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild

# Welcome everyone!

Code for Member Portal on the guild [website](#):

X^8Y5Rex

(the Member Portal is your gateway to guild newsletters,  
the roster, the guild's subscription to Handwoven  
magazine, and guild forms)



Almost all images in this NL were downloaded from  
[www.FreePik.com](http://www.FreePik.com)  
(Love the itty bitty knit cap!)

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# Guild Membership Meeting/Program Info (AKA Hospitality Happenings this month)

December Meeting Minutes link: not available

December Video link: not available

Meetings usually begin at 10 AM and generally conclude shortly after noon. Unless noted otherwise, meetings are held at the Fredericksburg branch of the library at 1201 Caroline Street, in Room #2 (in the basement.) There is ample parking behind the library.

## MEETING LOCATION

Our January monthly meeting will be held at Florence Ridderhof's home at 913 Mortimer Avenue in Fredericksburg. There is residential street parking, but if you can carpool that would be considerate so we don't take up all the available spaces. The meeting begins at 10 AM.

The location for our February meeting will be announced later.

**Hybrid meetings: The January meeting will be in-person only.** We will resume hybrid meetings in February to allow participation by people who, for whatever reason, cannot or prefer not to attend in person.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS (Vice President's Report)

**JANUARY 13: Meeting and annual Guild sale at Florence's house!** Many thanks to Florence for offering to host us again. This is the sale where we bring donations to sell; the proceeds go to support the Guild. It's a great way to clear out those tools and items from your stash that you bought but never got around to using.

We still need volunteers to help with pricing the items for sale and to collect proceeds. Please contact Kara Pekar at [vice\\_president@fswguild.org](mailto:vice_president@fswguild.org) if you can help. You can donate spinning fiber, yarn, crochet or weaving thread, tools (knitting needles, craft scissors, shuttles, etc.), and equipment (loom, yarn swift, etc.) Please make sure all items are in usable condition. Bring cash or your checkbook! There are always some great deals.

**FUTURE PROGRAMS: We need your help!** If you have an idea for a post-meeting program, a class, or a workshop, please let us know! Programs don't have to be long or involved; they can be as simple as a demonstration or a craft

nave to be long or involved; they can be as simple as demonstrating a useful technique or sharing your photos and memories of a fiber-related trip or shop. Whether it's something you can present, something you have seen elsewhere, or just something you would like to learn more about—we still want to hear about it. If you have an idea, please contact Kara Pekar at [vice\\_president@fswguild.org](mailto:vice_president@fswguild.org).



# From the President's Desk

Hello, I'm Aileen Campbell - your new president! While many of you know me, several likely do not. That said, here's my story: I've lived in Virginia all my life even during my college years. I was a special education teacher, mostly at the high school level, for more than 30 years and was fortunate enough to retire just before COVID shut everything down. I absolutely adore dogs (we have two). Mom and I share a house and the dogs. Linda George was my first weaving instructor (yay!) and now Mom and I have more than 10 looms between the two of us! My fiber-y passion though is cranking socks on my circular sock knitting machine - hand knitting is terribly slow for me!

Enough "I" stuff.

My goal for the guild is to have as many guild members involved in fiber activities with the guild as possible. With more people involved, we can have more activities, classes, workshops, demonstrations and just plain fun! So let's pull out our fiber, yarn, needles, hooks, spindles, etc. to show off and build our skills! Collectively there is so much knowledge in this guild - let's spread that wealth amongst ourselves and our community.

And think snow - not deep snow, just pretty snow that only sticks on grassy areas!





### Cookies & Clydesdales from a Weaver's Point of View

On Saturday December 9th the guild was invited to attend the annual festival at a guild member, Beth Honrine's farm in north Stafford. If the clothing were different it would have been a venue from the book THE LITTLE WOMEN.

There was a forge, bonfires with s'mores, lots of food, pine cones using alpaca fiber for birds building nests, and much more including the Clydesdales, alpacas and donkeys. There was also a building with articles for sale. Mary, Lori, and Tessa spun using a drop spindle, a wheel and an electric spinner .





by Fran Slaterbeck

I took a rigid heddle loom for visitors to use. Over 30 children from 2-14 wove. I had the most fun when a two year old wanted to weave because her sister was weaving. I put her on my lap. What fun. Rumor has it that we are invited again next year. Yeah!

For more information about last December's event, go to <https://cookieswiththeclydesdales.com/>

# What is Roc Day?

contributed by Judy Klehm

*Photo shows a woman walking and spinning with a drop spindle.*

The ancient English holiday called Roc day or Distaff day is celebrated on the 7th of January following the 12th night, which marked the end of the Christmas celebration. On this day the women were expected to return to the chore of spinning. A distaff is a tool used to hold unspun fibers. The fiber is loosely wrapped around the distaff. The distaff can be held under the arm when drop spinning, or attached to a spinning wheel.

Traditionally, the men returned to work on Plough Monday, the first Monday following the 12th night.



## **Rita Brown**

Guild leadership is developing a tribute to Rita for all her contributions to the guild. More details to follow.

There will be a showing of some of Rita's work in the LibertyTown Gallery.  
Again, more details to follow.

## **Studio News**

by Lynette Reed, Guild Liaison to LibertyTown





## Patron Show at LibertyTown

MAY (entries due April 29th)

Guild members are welcome to donate articles they have made to LibertyTown's annual fundraising event. The total value of donations should be a minimum of \$250. It's fine to create sets or combinations (for instance 3 weavers might donate a coordinating set of tablecloth, kitchen towels, and a small rug).

Here's the details from **last year's Patrons Show** - this year's are not yet available.

### HOW THE PATRONS SHOW WORKS:

WHAT: The Patron Show is all artwork donated by our very own artists as a fundraiser for LibertyTown. If you are interested, you may decide to purchase a voucher to come to a really fun event with food and drinks AND go home with one of the artworks!

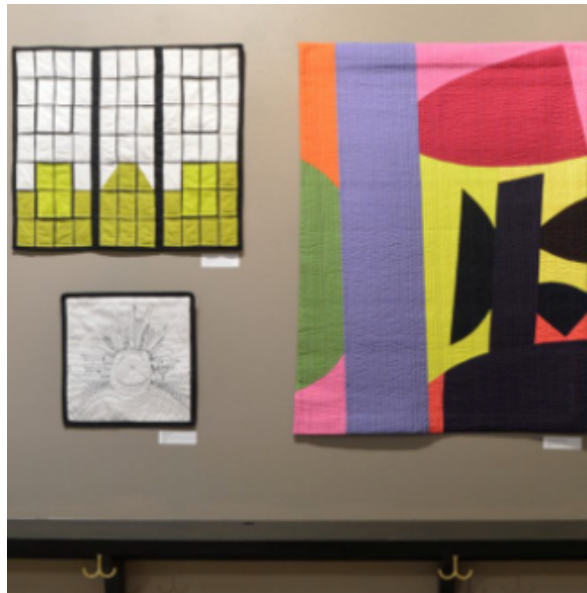
WHEN: The opening reception is May \_\_\_\_. Public voucher sales start at 5PM on May \_\_\_\_. The drawing will be held on May \_\_\_\_ from 7-9 PM for those who purchase vouchers.

WHERE: In the gallery, IN PERSON this year!

HOW: How does it work? Each voucher entitles you to one piece of art in the show...but the twist is you only get to pick your piece when your voucher number is drawn. If your number is selected last, you automatically get to be first the following year if you buy a voucher.

HOW MUCH: The vouchers are \$175 plus sales tax! It may seem like a lot, but each piece of art is worth well more than that, and we try to give you a really good spread of food at the drawing.

WHO: Everyone is invited to see the show as usual on First Friday, May 5th and all month long. But only those who choose to buy a voucher may come to the Big Drawing event on May \_\_\_



### Fiber IV Show at LibertyTown

October (entries due 10 PM Sept 16)

A national, juried show that celebrates everything fiber!

More details soon but let's rev up our inspiration and get some projects going.

[Look here to see past entries into this show.](#)

## **Education and Outreach**

from Keren Pritchett

Nothing happening here (yet).  
Stay tuned though!

### **Arts & Crafts Night Out 2nd Thursdays, 6-7 PM**

All spinners, weavers, knitters, and crafters are invited to Arts & Crafts Night Out, 6-7 PM, second Thursdays at the Howell Branch of the Central Rappahannock Regional Library (806 Lyons Blvd.). We'll gather on the comfy sofas in front of the fireplace.

The next meeting is Thursday, January 11th, at 6 PM. Bring your current project!

Contact Beth Spragins at [bethspragins@yahoo.com](mailto:bethspragins@yahoo.com) for further details.



## Square Plate III

Member Linda George wanted to share this opportunity with guild members.

Participate in [Square Plate III March 2024](#) at Artful Dimensions and support the [Lisa Pitts Eley Cancer Foundation](#)

Register for \$30 and receive a 10" bisque-fired ceramic plate to decorate with paint, collage, fabric, mosaic, or any other medium, or create your own 10" decorated plate.

Return completed plates to the gallery on February 24 or 25, 11am-6pm. Plates will be exhibited from February 27 through March 31. The Opening Night Reception will be on First Friday, March 1, 6-9pm.

Artists have the option to sell their plates. There is a 30% commission to cover costs and to support the families of cancer patients who struggle with daily needs.

Artful Dimensions reserves the right to reject a plate if inappropriate for display. Unsold plates can be picked up March 31, April 2, or April 3, from 11am – 6pm

Check out [Square Plate III](#) on Artful Dimension's website and to find the application form (scroll down the page for the application form).

# Annual Dues

Annual dues are past due!

Our treasurer, Denise Kash, sent out a reminder to all who have not yet paid their 2024 guild dues. Those who have not paid their dues are being purged from the guild's email distribution list, which means no more guild emails, no more guild newsletters.

So don't forget to send / bring a check to Liberty Town OR bring it to our next meeting on January 11th. You can also pay via PayPal, but please read the directions in every newsletter (see below in the Membership and Dues section) so PayPal doesn't get a portion of the \$\$.

If none of these options work for you, you can pay in cash :)



# Committee News

Guild Engagement Committee

**The next scheduled meeting is February 1st at 7 PM.**

**All guild members are encouraged to attend!**

The purpose of this committee is to explore and promote ways in which the guild can support its members' fiber interests, as well as grow the guild and expand its reach into the local community.

Zoom link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89028356071?  
pwd=aHo2aUlwQXZTNDRhbmJKZnZlWEs5Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89028356071?pwd=aHo2aUlwQXZTNDRhbmJKZnZlWEs5Zz09)

Meeting ID: 890 2835 6071

Passcode: 720624

All meeting dates can be found on the guild calendar on our website  
([www.fswguild.org](http://www.fswguild.org))



# Happenings

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**January 23, 2024, at 7:30 pm: MAFA Book Club.** They are reading *The Lost Flock* by Jane Cooper. You can sign up for free on Lessonface:

<https://www.lessonface.com/apply/mafa-book-group-discussion-lost-flock-jane-cooper>

**January 27, 2024, at 10:00 am: Jane Cooper is giving a presentation on *The Lost Flock*** for MAFA members. Again, it's free on Lessonface:

<https://www.lessonface.com/content/lost-flock-presentation-jane-cooper>

### **Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival**

Registration is now open for Winterfest 2024 at [lessonface.com/sheepandwool!!](https://www.lessonface.com/sheepandwool!!)

Our third annual Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival Winterfest is two days of virtual fiber arts seminars, to be held on on Saturday, February 3 and Sunday, February 4, 2024. The following instructors will be teaching fiber prep, spinning, and knitting: Kate Atherley, Maggie Casey, Roy Clemes, Shana Cohen, Jill Duarte, Laura Lineman, Sarah Schira, & Emily Wohlscheid.

There will be a free keynote lecture on Sunday at 12:00 pm ET. In "A Year in the Life of a Fleece Producer", Lee Langstaff of Shepherd's Hey Farm will take you on a journey through a year at her farm in Maryland. The lecture is free, but you must sign up through Lessonface. Find full details of all the classes and register online at [#MDSW](https://www.lessonface.com/sheepandwool) [#winterfest2024](https://www.lessonface.com/sheepandwool)

**June 8, 2024: World Wide Knit in Public Day.** (And it coincides with our June monthly meeting!) We will be holding some sort of knitting-in-public event. Watch our future newsletters for details. (And let Aileen Campbell or Kara Pekar know if you want to be involved in the planning!)

**June 29 through July 21, 2024: Tour de Fleece!** This multi-week spinning challenge coincides with the Tour de France. You set your own goals, and spin a little on each day the cyclists compete. Thousands of spinners participate each year. FSWG will organize a "team" again this year, with in-person and online spinning meet-ups and even prizes. (Teams aren't competitive; a Tour de Fleece team is just a group organized for fun and mutual support.) Details to come in a few months. (Contact Kara Pekar or Mary Snellings if you want to be involved in planning.)



**September 21, 2024: World Wide Spin in Public Day.** We will hold an event; watch our future newsletters for details.

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## Library News!

Most of the Spin-off magazines have been put in 3-ring binders and those binders are now in the white cubbies at the guild space (blue labels). White labels are Handwoven magazines.

We will also be doing the same thing to Shuttle, Spindle & Dyepot soon. The binders help preserve the magazines and make access to them much more efficient. They are an outstanding resource on “everything fiber” that the guild pays for. Check them out!!

Denise Kash  
FSWG Librarian





## MAFA Updates

# Our Guild Representative to MAFA is Georgette Champagne

To view the most recent MAFA Newsletter, [click here](#).

Movie Night is Wednesday, January 10th at 7 p.m. ET, and our featured fiber artist will be Anni Albers. Anni Albers is widely considered to be the foremost textile designer of the 20th century. She made major innovations in the field of functional materials and at the same time she expanded the possibilities of single weavings and individual artworks. She was also an adventurous graphic artist who took printmaking technique into previously uncharted territory.

MAFA has some interesting virtual programs coming up!

Sign up via [www.lessonface.com/mafa](http://www.lessonface.com/mafa).

Here is a listing for January and February.

A Weaving Loom Compendium with Liz Moncrief. Join us for a 3- hour discussion of some of the best information available regarding your weaving equipment. Details on looms, shafts, treadles, reeds, shuttles, benches, and tips/tricks will help you achieve a better handwoven cloth, and will make you more comfortable at your loom. Saturday, January 20, at 2 pm

MAFA Book Group discussion of *The Lost Flock* by Jane Cooper. MAFA members will get together for the first MAFA Book Group to discuss *The Lost Flock* by Jane Cooper. Tuesday, January 23, at 7 pm.

The World of Computer Weave Drafting with Liz Moncrief. This class will allow beginning computer drafters the time and patience to comfortably enter the world of weave drafting at minimal cost and with the confidence to start designing immediately. Thursday, February 1, at 7 pm

Paint Two, Beam One: Painting Two Warps and Weaving Them as One with Denise Kovnat. Learn how to hand-paint two warps in different color palettes and beam them together to weave one luminous fabric on their loom. Saturday, February 10, at 1 pm ET

An Introduction to Bead Weaving with David Heustess. Join David Heustess as he shares with you the basics of bead weaving, including right angle bead weaving (RAW). This "off

loom" bead weaving technique can create a beaded fabric that has a wonderful drape that can be used for ties, scarves, jewelry, beaded tapestry designs and more. Saturday, February 10, at 2 pm

Echo and Jin: Variations on a Theme with Denise

Kovnat. Working with a variety of yarns, tieups, treadlings and setts (if you choose), you'll weave a series of designs in Echo and Jin (Turned Taqueté). You'll explore the interaction of color and structure, using two to four colors in the warp and a variety of colors in the weft. Saturday, February 24, at 1 pm

Sculptural Vessels with Right Angle Bead Weaving with David Heustess. Participants in this class will explore different ways to use Right Angle Weaving (RAW) with beads to create and construct one of a kind sculptural objects and vessels. Saturday, February 24, at 2 pm

Mary Zicafoose, Jennifer Moore and Marilyn Murphy are offering a Textile and Cultural Arts tour to Bolivia In April, 2024. Please contact Mary at [maryzicafoose.com](http://maryzicafoose.com) for more information

**Remember - MAFA MOVIE NIGHTS will take place on Zoom, on the second Wednesday of each month (except December), at 7 p.m. Eastern. Sign up at [movies@mafafiber.org](mailto:movies@mafafiber.org) to receive reminder emails and the Zoom link for these movies.**

## **Lessons/classes here at the Guild**

**Spinning, Rigid Heddle Weaving, and Harness Loom Weaving are offered through the guild!**





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## **Spinning Classes:**

Beginning Spinning classes are taught by guild members Lori Green and Mary Snellings. Sign up by contacting Mary at 540-589-0173 or [marysnellings@yahoo.com](mailto:marysnellings@yahoo.com).

## **Rigid Heddle Weaving Classes:**

Rigid Heddle Weaving Lessons are now available and being taught by Fran Slaterbeck. Contact her at [fslaterbeck040@gmail.com](mailto:fslaterbeck040@gmail.com) for details. She is so excited to have her rigid heddle loom in the guild studio space available for visitors to try.

## Harness Loom Weaving Classes:

Weaving Lessons are also available and are being taught by Georgette Champagne. Contact Georgette at [silverknot67@gmail.com](mailto:silverknot67@gmail.com) for details.

Notes from Georgette about her classes: The fifth student is weaving her way to the end make of her scarf and should be done by December 9th. So far 3 out of the five students have bought themselves a loom to pursue the craft further, I think 4 have joined the guild. Please welcome Elizabeth, April, Ruthy and Roxanne to the world of weaving! There are two more students signed up for January.

Opportunities from Georgette: Any guild member who does not know how to weave but would like to learn, you are more than welcome! I would be more than happy to give you complimentary beginners lesson. The lessons would be at the Studio on either a floor loom or a table loom. There are 4 lessons that usually last 1-2 hours, and for some of that you would be on your own after you learn how to actually weave. Contact Georgette at [silverknot67@gmail.com](mailto:silverknot67@gmail.com) if you are interested in this opportunity to jump into the world of weaving!



## Wooly links

Brought to you by Kara Pekar

**Washing wool with snow:** <https://www.thewoolchannel.com/snow-washing/?ref=the-wool-channel-newsletter>

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**Wool helps you stay cooler under pressure:** <https://www.wool.com/news-events/news/wool-helps-you-stay-cool-under-pressure/>

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## T-Shirts and other items with our Guild Logo

Well, Judy Klehm figured out an easy way for all guild members to order their own merchandise with the guild logo on it! Judy ordered her shirt from Zazzle - she played around with placement and size of the logo and voila! a really cool shirt! A few of the guild engagement committee also ordered shirts to test the quality and speediness - all was quite satisfactory!

So, how to order your own? An easy, peasy way is to follow [this link to Zazzle](#), as the logo is already on a shirt. Then play with the many choices of type of T-shirt, colors, sizes, etc. You can even order aprons, tote bags, and a myriad of other items! Then order and wait until your package arrives.

Or, you can access the jpeg file for the logo in the guild's Dropbox by [clicking here](#). Copy the file and use to create your own items at sites like Café Press, Zazzle, etc.

Thank you Judy!!!



## **Interested in selling your work at LibertyTown?**

If you are interested in selling and would like to have your items reviewed for approval, please complete the application on our [web site](#) in the members only section. This is an electronic submission and will go to the committee chairperson. You may also complete a paper submission. The forms are on the Bulletin Board at LT and in the Handbook which was recently distributed. Please leave your paper copy on the seat at Judy Klehm's loom. You will be contacted and told when to bring your items to Liberty Town. The \$10.00 review fee will be collected when you drop off your items to be reviewed. Future review dates will be scheduled. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Klehm at 540-842-1970 or [jwklehm@gmail.com](mailto:jwklehm@gmail.com).

# Membership & Dues

As of 1/03/2024, the guild has grown to 63 members (though 13 have not paid the 2024 dues).

**Dues (\$30 annually, \$15 out of state & youth/student \$5) are due each year by September 30. Members who do not submit their dues by December 30th are 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](mailto:fswguild@gmail.com) (Lesley Reynold's name will come up with the guild email - select this for who to send the payment)**
- (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](#) (revised 2022).

[Guild Website](#)

[Handwoven Online Access Instructions](#)

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

[Instagram](#)

FSWG also has a presence on [Ravelry](#).

[Guild Calendar: if you would like an item added to the Guild calendar, please send the details to Aileen Campbell at \[specedt1@gmail.com\]\(mailto:specedt1@gmail.com\)](#)

**Leadership (executive board members)**

President - Aileen Campbell [president@fswguild.org](mailto:president@fswguild.org)

Vice President - Kara Peckar [vice\\_president@fswguild.org](mailto:vice_president@fswguild.org)

Secretary - Nicole White [secretary@fswguild.org](mailto:secretary@fswguild.org)

Treasurer - Denise Kash [treasurer@fswguild.org](mailto:treasurer@fswguild.org)

**Additional Leadership**

Librarian - Denise Kash [librarian@fswguild.org](mailto:librarian@fswguild.org)

Membership - Lesley Reynolds [membership@fswguild.org](mailto:membership@fswguild.org)

Hospitality - Mary Snellings [marysnellings@yahoo.com](mailto:marysnellings@yahoo.com)

Education/Outreach - Keren Pritchett [kjpritchett11@gmail.com](mailto:kjpritchett11@gmail.com)

Newsletter - Aileen Campbell [spcedt1@gmail.com](mailto:spcedt1@gmail.com)

MAFA Rep - Georgette Champagne [fswg\\_mafa\\_rep@fswguild.org](mailto:fswg_mafa_rep@fswguild.org)

[Liberty Town Liaison](#) - Lynette Reed [yarnlyn@aol.com](mailto:yarnlyn@aol.com)

**Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild**

[fswguild@gmail.com](mailto:fswguild@gmail.com)

0123456789



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[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#).