

PIEDMONT FIBER GUILD

PFG BOARD MEMBERS:

President - Sue Helmken

Past President - Gail Boyles

Treasurer - Maurice Blackburn

Secretary - Julie Hogan

Programs - Chris Dunlap

Workshops - Shirley Young

Charity - Julia Roskamp

Webmaster - Maria Derner

Membership - Dick Kistler

Marketing/Events/Booth - Gail Boyles

Social Media - Lori Smith

Library - Susan Haney

Equipment Manager - Vivian Brenner

Newsletter - Sallie Olson

Hospitality - Peggy Hood

MEETING DATES remaining for 2017/2018:

March 18, 2018

April 15, 2018

May 20, 2018

All meetings at Arts on Main, 212 West Main Ave., Gastonia, NC, from 2-4 pm, except holiday party.

***** IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING BUILDING ACCESS AT ARTS ON MAIN - from our president, Sue Helmken *****

The new owners have asked the guild to use **only** the back entrance for guild meetings. There are concerns that vagrants might try to enter the building or such. The back door (the one closest to the pavilion) we usually use is still to remain locked.

The owners ask that no one enter through the front door. Everyone should park in back and enter from the back of the building through the door nearest the restaurant. Thanks, Sue

Many thanks to those who pitched in and brought refreshments for the guild meeting in February. We had a very nice snack!

The following people have signed up for March:

Food - Dick Kistler and Carol Serwint

Drink - Pam Durrett

Opportunity - Paula Simpson

If anyone will be unable to bring what they signed up for, please remember to contact Peggy Hood, our hospitality coordinator.

Please remember to return library books and videos, and bring charity items.

Thank you!

Presidents letter:

March comes in like a lion, goes out like a lamb...

I hope the saying holds true. The up and down temperatures in first two weeks of March just about killed my sinuses. And all those gray days were so drab. Bring on Spring! I'm ready for flowers of all different colors, the many shades of green leaves. I tend to let the seasons inspire my color choices, so I guess it's appropriate to have a program on Dyeing through the Seasons for our March meeting. I hope you'll all be there for some great color inspiration. - Sue

Piedmont Fiber Guild - General Membership Meeting

Arts on Main

February 18th, 2018 at 2pm

President, Sue Helmken welcomed everyone to the meeting. She noted that we had light attendance due to the CABO event happening on the same day.

Immediate Past President, Gail Boyles not present.

Equipment Manager, Vivian Brenner not present.

Treasurer, Maurice Blackburn not present.

Account Balance - \$4442.83 in the checking account
\$2990.74 in the savings account

- Income \$256 (membership and workshop fees)
- Expenditures \$104.95 (AoM, Web fee and instructor fees)

Programs Coordinator, Chris Dunlap.

Feb Vicky Glover will present how to fit crocheted garments utilizing the Get Squared Method
Mar Marsha Kummerle from GoodFibrations.com will discuss how she pulls inspirations from the colors of nature
Apr Tatting, Broomstick, Bobbin and Knitted lace panel

Secretary, Julie Hogan no report.

Newsletter Editor, Sallie Olson requested that newsletter updates be provided 2 weeks prior to the meeting – Sunday, March 4th.

Charity, Julia Roskamp

Shelby Cancer Treatment Center Hat Tree – All hats welcomed. Fleece, knitted and crocheted are all appreciated. Fort Bragg care packages for newborns – 708 baby hats made. Only 40 are left.

Webmaster, Maria Derner not present.

Membership Chair, Dick Kistler provide updated membership lists.

Continued next page

February minutes continued:

Librarian, Susan Haney no report.

Hospitality thanked the members that provided the goodies for the day.

Workshops Chair, Shirley Young not present. Sue mentioned she will be offering Basic and Block Drafting at her studio in March and April.

Publicity Chair, Lori Smith no report.

Marketing/PFG Booth Coordinator, Gail Boyles not present.

Program – Get Squared Method presented by Vicky Glover. Vicky has been a member of the guild for 2 years. She has been a fiber enthusiast since her first knitting lessons at 4 years old. She has been a yarn representative for 6 years. She is self-taught in crocheting. Before learning the Get Squared method, she had made crocheted garments, blankets, dolls and toys. While attending the National Needle Arts Association, she saw a request looking to certify instructors in the Jenny King Get Squared program. There are 9 instructors across the country. It is a top down formula for making garments that fit every time. There are online classes that provide 5 patterns for making items. Vicky offers in person classes that are in addition to the online information.

- submitted by Julie Hogan, secretary

Weaving Study Group

The next meeting will be held at the Blackburn's on March 28th. All are welcome. Please e-mail us if you plan to attend

Maurice Blackburn

News from Carolina Handspinners

The next regular meeting of Carolina Handspinners will take place on Tuesday, March 13th 2-4pm at Lowell Community Center, 501 West First Street, Lowell, NC. This meeting is open to the public so please invite all fiber-interested friends to attend.

Our next Bimonthly Saturday meeting will take place on Saturday, March 31, 10am-4pm in Charlotte at the Clubhouse at the Catawba Yacht Club on Lake Wylie, 19809 W Youngblood Rd, Charlotte, 28278. Jan Smiley has kindly secured this location for us that includes a kitchen, restrooms and a generous seating area and porch where we can gather.

Please contact Jan directly (janbsmiley@gmail.com) if you would like to take part in this event and be sure to let her know what you will bring to share for potluck lunch. We thank Jan for hosting this event that allows those who can't take part in our weekday meetings to enjoy the fun of Carolina Handspinners. Note: Jan asks that while the kitchen has working appliances, serving utensils and flatware are probably not available so please plan to bring what you will need to serve your dish.

- submitted by Chris Dunlap

Upcoming Programs:

The March 18th PFG meeting will feature the stories and products of Marcia Kummerle of Good Fibrations of Weaverville, NC. Marcia will talk to us about her mohair goats, the fiber they supply and her dyeing process and the creation of her colorways. Marcia speaks poetically about these subjects and her energy is inspiring. She will also be bringing products for sale to the Guild.

Our April 15th meeting will feature Lace In All Its Many Forms, a sharing by PFG members of the many forms of lace from bobbin lace, to woven lace, filet crochet, knitted lace and shuttle/needle tatting. Members will share their creations and speak about what caused their addiction to this fiber art form.

We hope to see lots of members at an upcoming meeting to share in these exciting programs

Christine Dunlap

Programs Coordinator, PFG

Weaving and drafting classes:

Since I've had many requests for classes on weaving and pattern drafting, I put together a schedule for the spring. I have class descriptions and the schedule out on my website www.barefootweaver.com. Please let me know if you're interested or have any questions. If you would like a class on dressing the loom, I'd be glad to work on that, too.

Sue Helmken

barefootweaver@earthlink.net

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Guild Board Elections

- It's time to get in your nominations for the 2018/2019 Piedmont Fiber Guild.
- Sue Helmken and Gail Boyles are your contacts if you want to nominate yourself or another member who might be a good candidate for a position. We will be voting at May's meeting so it's important to let Sue or Gail know very soon. Please send your nomination information to either gboyles44@gmail.com or barefootweaver@earthlink.net.
- Being on the board is a great opportunity for a member to get to know the workings of the guild and be a part of helping shape the guild for the future. Many of the current board members started their board positions shortly after becoming active members.
- All job descriptions are listed on the Yahoo Chat Group page in the files section or you can contact a current board member to see what their position entails. One really good thing about the board is that you get a lot of help from other board members.
- Below are the current 2017/2018 positions - if you're interested in a position, please contact the current position holder and ask them about the duties. Some of these board members are stepping down - an update will be given at our March 18 meeting. We need to fill the open spaces by May's meeting. (continued)

Guild Board Elections, continued:

- President: Sue Helmken
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- Treasurer: Maurice Blackburn
- Programs: Chris Dunlap
- Secretary: Julie Hogan
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Quilts for Kids Silent Auction at March’s meeting.

The Quilts for Kids project that started in February, 2017 is still underway. To recap, the guild received quilt toppers from member Carol Wertz in honor of her mother, member Ann Brinkhous. The goal for these toppers was for them to be made into quilts and donated to Quilts for Kids, an organization that donates quilts to kids who need comfort in stressful situations. (<http://www.quiltsforkids.org/>)

Some of the toppers were the correct size and members made them into blankets for Quilts for Kids. The biggest quilt topper was taken by member Ursula Blackburn and quilted into a beautiful double size quilt. Last fall, the guild raffled off this quilt and the money raised is being held in the PFG account.

There are a number of toppers that were not the correct size to send to Quilts for Kids. Since these toppers were too nice to cut into smaller sections, a decision was made for them to be finished into blankets and put up for silent auction to guild members. The proceeds from the sale of these quilts will be combined with the money raised from the quilt raffle and donated to Quilts for Kids in memory of Ann Brinkhous.

These quilts will be on display at our March meeting and the goal is they all find new homes this Sunday. Starting bids range from \$50 to \$100 depending on the size of the quilts. Checks and cold hard cash are accepted for your bids.

from the Southern Alpaca Celebration:

Congratulations to two of our favorite Pams who won blue ribbons at the 2018 Southern Alpaca Show in the fiber arts competition! What great talent these ladies have!.

Pam Durrett & Pam Rumney



Upcoming Events from Gail

- April 21, 2018- Catawba River Artisans' Show
 - 10am – 4pm Cramerton, NC.
 - **Coordinator Needed!!!** (Gail will be demonstrating at The Loch Norman Games on the same day – send an email to gboyles44@gmail.com if you'd be willing to oversee this event)
 - The Catawba River Artisans have invited PFG members to demonstrate in downtown Cramerton. The guild participated at their 2017 Christmas show – it was a great time getting to know these very talented artisans.
 - More information: <http://www.catawbariverartisans.com/upcoming-events.html>
- April 28, 2018 - Belmont Historical Society Living History Day
 - 9am – 3pm. 40 Catawba St Belmont, NC.
 - Coordinator for this event: Gail Boyles (gboyles44@gmail.com)
 - PFG has participated in this event for many years. Although this is a historical event, you can wear your regular clothes.
 - You can bring your own lunch or purchase one from a restaurant in downtown Belmont.
- June 9, 2018 - World Wide Knit in Public Day
 - More information to follow.
- October 13 & 14, 2018 - Cotton Ginning Days Dallas, NC
 - Coordinator for this event: Gail Boyles (gboyles44@gmail.com)
 - Biggerstaff Park Dallas, NC
 - This is a drop in event - more information to follow

and more Upcoming Events from Chris

Carolina Fiber Frolic: March 15-18 in Sapphire, NC. This is a fun-filled all fiber event hosted by our own Jan Smiley and her sweet husband. Classes, vendors, fellowship, fashion show, the fiber fun never ends! Here's a link to the event site for more information: <https://carolinafiberfrolic.wordpress.com/>.

Carolina Fiber Fest: March 23-24, State Fair Grounds, Raleigh NC. Here's a link to their site for more information: <http://www.carolinafiberfest.org/>.

Alpaca Shearing Day at Awesome Alpaca, Monroe, NC: Saturday, April 7th 10am: A few members attended this event last year at this gorgeous farm where a large flock of alpacas are carefully bred for specialty colors and award-winning fleece quality. Here's a link to their site to learn more about them: <http://www.awesomealpacas.com/>. If you would like to attend this event, please contact me (chrisdmom98@gmail.com) for more information.

Spinning Saturday at Fibre Studio at Yarns to Dye For - April 7, 10a - 4p. Bring your own lunch.

Chris has heard of a weekly fiber event at the Polk Site in Pineville called Fiber and Phun. Coordinated by Laura Bain, this event hopes to bring fiber artists of all types together for fellowship and exchange of ideas. Meetings are each Wed. 10am-1pm and the last Thursday of each month 6-8pm. Please contact Laura (phunknits@gmail.com) for more information.

Terms for Guild Equipment Rental

From our Equipment Manager, Vivian Brenner

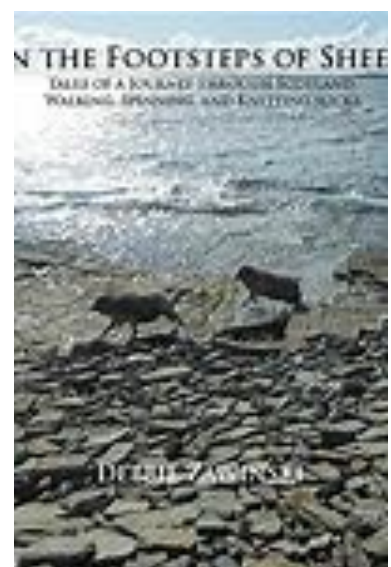
The Guild has equipment to rent to members in good standing (dues paid for at least one year). If you would like to rent any of this equipment on a month-to-month basis, please contact the Equipment Manager, Vivian Brenner, at 704-841-1624. There is a brief contract you will sign at the time of the rental. Deposit plus first month's rent is due when the equipment is rented. If the equipment is kept over one month, additional rental fees are due.

If you have any fiber equipment you would like to donate, please contact Vivian or the Guild President.

Equipment	Rental Fee	Security Deposit
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 in. 4-Shaft Folding Loom	\$50/month	\$100

Book Review: In The Footsteps of Sheep by Debbie Zawinski

Part travelogue, part sock pattern book, Ms. Zawinski takes us along on a series of walking trips she took through the Scottish Islands one summer. Her stories are totally engrossing, the photography is stunning, the print size and page quality are superb, and the sock patterns, each reflective of the breed specific wool used and the local knitting traditions of the area being visited are diverse and beautiful. Part of the challenge the author set herself was to pick up wool shed by local sheep at each of her stops on her walking tours. She carries simple tools in her rucksack and spins, plies and knits a pair of socks reflective of each of the different breeds she visits. If you ever wished you could visit Scotland and its many islands, this book will give you hours of reading pleasure plus many more hours of knitting fun.



- Christine Dunlap

More photos from the Southern Alpaca Celebration in Concord, NC at the Cabarrus Arena.



Fleece to shawl competition:

left, first place team: Jennifer Floyd (member of Carolina Handspinners), Sue Clover, and Dawn von Brown.

right, second place team: Gail Boyles (elephant), Maria Derner (cat), and Sue Helmken (ringmaster).



The 'Lord Mayor's Household' team from Rowan County. Weaver is Nancy Gaines, a member of PFG.