

April 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)

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Guild meeting information and Vice President's report:

APRIL MEETING and PROGRAM

Time: 10:00 a.m., on Saturday, March 13, 2024

Place: **Fredericksburg Library (CRRL)**, 1201 Caroline St., Fredericksburg. There is ample parking beside the library.

Hybrid meeting: You can attend the March meeting either in-person or on Zoom.

Zoom link for November Meeting : [click here](#)

Meeting ID: 828 0528 9112

Passcode: 047038

APRIL PROGRAM: How To Recycle/Reuse Yarn from Commercial Sweaters

Did you know you can take apart a commercial sweater and reuse the yarn for your own knitting, crocheting, weaving, or even spinning? Kara Pekar will explain how, while Mary Snellings demonstrates. (Thank you, Mary!)

This is more of a demo than a hands-on program because of the time required to take apart an entire sweater. But if you want to give it a try, you can bring a sweater and at least get started.

The thrift store is a good source of sweaters to recycle into yarn. When choosing a sweater:

- 1.) Make sure that all the seams have knitted edges, just like a handknit garment would. You don't want a sweater that has serged or overlocked seams, because that means the edges were actually cut from a larger piece of knitted fabric. You would end up with a lot of short pieces of yarn, too short to be of much use.
- 2) For your first attempt, pick a garment made from worsted or chunky yarn, not fine yarns. Try to choose something that won't be too difficult to unravel -- smooth yarn is better than anything with a lot of halo or texture. Save the smaller or fuzzier yarns for after you have some experience.
- 3) If you want to try this during the program, you will also need a seam ripper and a small pair of scissors. A niddy-noddy or skein winder could be helpful but isn't required at the taking-apart stage; you can just roll the yarn into a ball.

POST-MEETING CRAFT TIME

We have the library room until 3:00 PM, so feel free to bring a portable craft or just continue unraveling that sweater! There will be a snack between the meeting and the program, but if you're going to stay after the program, you may want to bring your lunch and a beverage.

CRAFT & CHAT

The next Craft & Chat evening will be Tuesday, April 16, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on Zoom. Bring a craft to work on, a snack or drink if you'd like, and come hang out with your fellow guild members from the comfort of your own home!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744721955?pwd=S3dyR2pOekRWVldldDNwbIFPTzRmZz09>

Meeting ID: 817 4472 1955

Passcode: 736194

UPCOMING EVENTS

Things to look forward to:

June 8, 2024: Worldwide Knit in Public Day – spend a few hours knitting in public with your fellow Guild members. (Locations and times to be determined.)

June 29 – July 21, 2024: Tour de Fleece – challenge yourself to spin every day for three weeks! We will have a Tour de Fleece "team" with virtual and in-person get-togethers and even a few randomly-awarded prizes for participants. Stay tuned for more information.

August or September meeting: annual picnic and "yard sale" (date, time, and location TBD, but probably following one of our meetings)

September 21, 2024: Worldwide Spin in Public Day – spend a few hours spinning in public with your fellow Guild members. (Locations and times to be determined.)

From the President's desk:

Happy April one and all!

As usual, time is moving swiftly by and there's always so much to do. That said, events and activities for the guild are gearing up as the spring season progresses. Later this month is the Earth Day Festival at Old Mill Park and our guild has been demonstrating fiber arts there for many years. As Keren states below, this a well-attended, family-oriented event that is a wonderful occasion to showcase the guild. May brings us the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival, practically on our doorstep! This festival is a feast for the eyes and an incredible opportunity to lighten your wallet. Again, family oriented! June features Knit in Public Day, and in July we can rev up for Tour de Fleece, a 3-week journey for all levels of spinners. So many opportunities!

Remember, the guild's theme for this year is "Involvement". Hopefully, each of you can avail yourselves of these events to participate. They are always loads of fun!

Education and Outreach (Keren Pritchett):

"Woven Histories: Textiles and Modern Abstraction" is at the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC from March 17 - July 28, 2024. This exhibit has "more than 160 paintings, weavings, basketry, netting, knotting and knitting to show how these woven items are intricately connected to modern art and to 20th c. society and politics."

Go to the NGA website to see examples of what's on view. There are many familiar names of textile artists--Anni Albers, Ed Rossbach, Lenore Tawney, Sheila Hicks, to name a few.

Field trip time??

Earth Day is almost here! It's on Saturday, April 20 from 11 - 4 pm. I attended the mandatory meeting on April 4th and have all the info needed for our participation this year. I will update everyone at our Guild meeting.

Upcoming events:

- Saturday, May 11 International Family Day at the James Monroe Museum
- Saturday, June 22 from 11 - 3pm at Bull Run Library Maker Faire, Manassas VA
- Thursday, July 4th at Port Royal at the St. Peter's Church from 10 - 2pm.
- Saturday, Sept. 21 disAbility Resource Center's Fall Family Festival at the FXBG Fairgrounds from 11 - 4pm.

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, April 11, at 6 PM.

Bring your current project!

Committee news:

Committee updates will be shared at Saturday's guild meeting.

Guild Engagement Committee

The next scheduled meeting is March 22nd 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=aHo2aUlwQXZTNDRhbmJKZnZIWEs5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 890 2835 6071

Passcode: 720624

All meeting dates can be found on the guild calendar

Library News (Denise Kash):

Guild member Sharon Adinolfi is officially the new library assistant!

MAFA updates (Georgette Champagne):

FREE events available:

April 16 - 7:30pm MAFA book group Unraveling by Peggy Orenstein
MAFA movie nights continue every second Wednesday of the month

MAFA online classes (MAFA charges a fee for these):

Digital Record Keeping with GoodNotes with Lisa Grave

Learn how to keep organized and efficient digital records on an iPad/tablet using the GoodNotes app. Always have access to all your records on all your devices!

Saturday, April 13, at 10 am ET

The Magic of Canva + Dissolvable Paper for Unique Embroidering with Jessica Kaufman

Modern technology at your fingertips, for pennies on the dollar! Watch and learn from a fiber and surface design artist - you'll see on screen how to use Canva's free services to create images and fonts that please you, and print them on water-soluble stick-on embroidery papers that work in a home printer.

Sunday, April 14, at 2 pm ET

Making Zipper Bags using Handwoven Fabric with Mary Mandarino and Ginny Hamilton

We know you all have containers of leftover handwoven fabric – just waiting for some inspiration. Learn how to make zipper bags using remnants of handwoven fabric with complementary lining material and a zipper!

Saturday, April 20, at 2 pm ET

Pin Loom Weaving From Scratch: 4x4" Squares with Florencia Campos

Learn the basics of weaving on a 4x4" pin loom, as well as how to design your own patterns, and use your woven squares.

Starts Saturday, April 27, at 2 pm ET

Cell Weaves on 8 Shafts with Martha Town

A simple repeat threading on paired shafts creates 4 "cells" which can be woven as Lace, Deflected Double Weave, Honeycomb, and Monks Belt! Weave a unique sampler that includes all these structures; play with bold color effects, and gain confidence in fabric design.

Starts Thursday, May 9, at 7 pm ET

Let's Look at Long Draw Spinning Part 1&2 - Fiber Prep with Michelle Boyd

The key to stress-free long draw spinning is preparing your fibres for effortless drafting. There are several ways we can prepare fibres for this style of spinning and this lecture/demonstration session will explain the pros and cons of each style of preparation.

Saturday, May 18, at 1 pm ET & Sunday, May 19, at 1 pm ET

If anyone would like to be part of the MAFA 2025 conference as an Ads and Donations Coordinator or Weekend Classes Coordinator, let Georgette know

Grants Committee is accepting grant or micro-grant applications. Please look at <https://mafafiber.org/grants/guild-grants/> or <http://mafafiber.org/grants/micro-grants/> 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 to receive reminder emails and the Zoom link for these movies.

Guild Lessons and Classes:

Inkle loom lessons with Bonny Davia will not be held this month.

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.

Rigid Heddle Weaving Classes:

Rigid Heddle Weaving Lessons are now available and are being taught by Fran Slaterbeck. Contact her at 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 for details. 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 1-2hours, and for some of that you would be on your own after you learn how to actually weave. Contact Georgette at silverknot67@gmail.com if you are interested in this opportunity to jump into the world of weaving!

Guild T-shirts and other Guild logo merchandise:

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!!!

Selling your work at Liberty Town:

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.

Membership and Dues:

As of 4/01 /2024, the guild has grown to 64 members.

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 (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

Leadership Information:

Leadership (executive board members)

President - Aileen Campbell 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 – Mary Collings membership@fswguild.org

Hospitality - Mary Snellings marysnellings@yahoo.com

Education/Outreach - Keren Pritchett kjpritchett11@gmail.com

Newsletter - Aileen Campbell specedt1@gmail.com

MAFA Rep - Georgette Champagne fswg_mafa_rep@fswguild.org

Liberty Town Liaison - Lynette Reed yarnlyn@aol.com

2024 Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations (subject to change)

4/13/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #2
5/11/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #1
6/8/2024	10:00AM – 2:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #1
7/13/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #1
8/10/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #1
9/14/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #2
10/12/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #2
11/9/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #2
12/14/2024	10:00AM – 3:30PM	Fredericksburg Library Meeting Room #1

We'll finish this newsletter with a sweet contribution from member Georgette Champagne.

Two Ply

inside a room
where fiddles
and wheels play
in your hands
my grandfather
now a brown fleece, still
sheepy, through your hands
then, on the bobbin
brown yarn
builds up
along the line
of hooks.

and as i play
the old tunes
you're teaching me
you set
my daughter
to a wheel
saying
This is the one for you
see, work your foot
pull back
pull back
Don't let the twist
get into the wool
That's the way.

Alice sits,
one foot working the thread
the other, dancing
to the beat of the fiddle
pull back
pull back
Don't let the twist
get into the wool.
That's the way.

and now, three skeins of yarn
two ply
one strand of her yarn
with one strand of yours.

-Lise Sinclair, Fair Islander (1971-2013)