

WESTERN RESERVE SPINNERS & WEAVERS GUILD

Since 1975

Member of the Handweaver's Guild of America



Volume 46 Issue 1

<http://wrspinweave.org/>

February/March 2018

Monthly Meetings

Fourth Tuesday of each month
(unless otherwise noted)

6pm - Casual work time for
your current fiber project

6:45pm - Show & Tell

7pm - Business Meeting

Program will Follow

Lake Metroparks Farmpark
8800 Euclid Chardon Rd
(Route 6)
Kirtland, OH 44094

2018 Membership Anniversaries

5yr LeAnn Morgan
Norma O'Connor

10yr Nancy Curtiss
Sally Vourlojianis

President's Message

Happy New Year to All! I hope that 2017 treated you well, and that you found time to nurture your creative side. Through the Guild I continue to be inspired and have expanded my skills through the monthly programs, workshops and SIGs. Looking at the programming for 2018, I can already see that my list of project ideas will continue to grow.

There has been a long stretch between our last meeting of 2017 and the first meeting of 2018 and I hope to see you on February 27th! Once again we will be starting off the year with an activity that will enable us to get to know other guild members a little better.

At this same meeting we will also be sharing the results of the President's Challenge to use alternative materials to create something. I just completed mine, and it has sparked other ideas for creativity; I am hoping to complete a second project as well. Unfortunately, I now see 'alternative materials' in places that I had never before looked. However, I have convinced myself that these do not constitute additions to my supply of stash. Those attending the meeting will be the first to hear of the Challenge for next year, which will be something I don't think we have ever done before

For those of you who may be interested in a variety of fiber crafts, presentations will be offered throughout the year on each SIG. These will be a great opportunities to ask questions and learn about these crafts. If you are interested in joining one, be sure to check out the [SIG schedules](#) on our website.

May you all have a happy, healthy and creative 2018!

JoEllen Salkin, President



SPIN INS 6 - 8 pm

Coordinated by Lisa Davis

1st Thursday - Burton Library

3rd Thursday - Sharon James

Winery



Cafe Press

You can order items with our logo: T-shirts, tote bags, caps, aprons, etc which are all suitable to wear at future volunteer functions. Contact Tammy Howell if you wish additional items to be added at 216.219.1604 or tamara_64@msn.com. As a bonus, the guild will receive a small commission for selling items.

Click [here](#) to order.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for the April/May newsletter is March 15.

Please submit articles, items of interest, pictures, suggestions to SallyV at svjanis@oh.rr.com.

Message from Linda Christopher WRSW Show Chairperson

Thank you to all guild members who loaned their fiber work to the upcoming WRSW members' display at Royce Hall on the Lake Erie College campus! Rabbit Run's production of the musical "Quilters" opens on Friday, February 9 and runs through Sunday, March 4. For a map to Royce Hall & to buy a ticket - visit www.rabbitrunonline.org/events/quilters. Individual or group tickets must be purchased in advance and are not available at the door.

Lake County History Center will have a display of early to mid-18th century coverlets (quilts), spinning and weaving tools used by the pioneers who settled in Lake County. These are all items from Lake county residents that have been donated to the History Center. WRSW Guild was invited to display modern 20/21st century fiber items in the gallery as well - to promote & exemplify modern day spinners, weavers and felters.





L—>R
 Uarda Taylor
 Linda Christopher
 Sheri Gittinger
 Nora Eason
 Nancy Curtiss
 Mo Doerner
 JoEllen Salkin
 Missing: Jean
 Breitzmann,

Jumpstart Vest Workshop

October 21 & 22, 2017

Presenter: Daryl Lancaster

On a beautiful sunny weekend 15 women gathered together to learn how to make a “Daryl” vest. Jan Gibson was our able coordinator. Nancy Curtiss documented with her camera.

We were all in place 10 minutes early, so we got an early start. We gathered in front of the full length mirror to try on vests that Daryl brought to determine our size and make any adjustments. Then we moved to our respective tables to trace our own pattern. I traced between the red and green outlines.

The next step was to lay the pieces of our own pattern on our own fabric. I was in trouble. Having woven from my own stash of yarn I did not have enough fabric for the project. I declared that I would just audit, observe, and listen. Daryl said “No” there would be a way. So shave a little off the seam allowance, nip into it, and piece. I didn’t believe it – but we did it. Then Daryl told me to become a teacher and help others to not give up, but work it out.

Daryl called us together for an illustrated lecture. She emphasized the necessity of transferring the match points and using them. All handwoven fabric is cut one piece at a time, then the pattern is flipped. Make sure the warp and weft are at right angles. The grain line must be aligned with the warp. Also check frequently that the weft is at a right angle. Stay stitching around the back and front edge and shoulder is important. Sew with the grain from wide to narrow and bottom to top.

Sunday we sewed. Even though we worked hard, when it was time to stop and get ready to leave, no one had a finished vest. We put on what we had and posed for group pictures and special views of backs and details.

For me this was a good learning experience. I have a new vest pattern, learned not to give up and reviewed the correct procedures to sew handwovens.

Jamie Fish

**JUMPSTART
VEST
WORKSHOP
Jamie Fish
October 2017**



**Jamie
Piecing!
Piecing!
Piecing!**



FUTURE MEETINGS

February - Are you new to the guild, or has it been a while since you've come to a meeting? Our meeting on February 27th will be a fun time of getting to know each other a little better, thanks to an icebreaker with Programs Committee members, Cheryl Laufer and Roberta McAlister. We'll also see the inventive creations of those who accepted the President's Challenge to work with alternative materials. Join us at 6:45 for an informal member's show-n-tell - and come prepared to show us what you've been working on over the last couple of months.

March - Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are relatively new to our guild, but are proving to be a great opportunity to get some in-depth discussion and hands-on in our chosen artistic disciplines. This year we're taking the time to get introduced to each of our SIGs - to discover what our members have been learning, and how the SIG program has been a benefit to their knowledge. Come and support your Spinning SIG group in March and see and hear what they've been learning. If you have a non-guild friend who's interested in spinning this is a great opportunity to invite them. All our other SIGs will also be featured this year. Come and be a part of our vibrant fiber community - everyone likes an audience when they're talking about what they love!

2018 PROGRAMS

Click [2018 PROGRAMS](#) for more information.



William Morris: Designing an Earthly Paradise
Through November 11, 2018
Cleveland Museum of Art

Review of Book from the Guild Library Submitted by Lisa Davis

Respect the Spindle, by Abby Franquemont

This is the definitive book on using the drop spindle. It is ideal, whether you are a novice spinner beginning to explore spinning and wish to do so on a budget, or if you are an experienced spinner wanting to refine your spindling skills. Abby has been spinning with spindles since she was 5 years old. She grew up in an Andean village, where she was taught spinning by the locals, and was felt to be coming to the skills late because she hadn't started spinning as soon as she could walk. Just as with the local children, the spindle became an important part of everyday life for her and almost became an extension of her body. She is the expert!

For newbies wanting to check out spinning on a budget or a production spinner who wants to add or refine their spindling skills, this is the book to use. Spindle spinning has often been dismissed in the past, particularly by those with spinning wheels, as a quaint novelty, but this is no longer true, and spindles are being taken much more seriously than they have in the past. In general spindles are considered slower by the hour, but faster by the day. The wheel is a wonderful tool, and if you are at home with time on your hands it is wonderful. The spindle, on the other hand, is an eminently portable tool that can be carried in a purse or bag. This means that whenever you find yourself with 3 minutes to spare, you can pull the spindle out and get some spinning done. At first it won't seem like much, but the amount of yarn produced accumulates quickly, and the calming influence of the fiber and yarn can help bring sanity to your day. More and more spinners are regularly carrying their spindles and using them!

Abby begins by thoroughly explaining the different types of spindles: supported vs. suspended (drop); high whorl vs. low whorl; heavy vs. light; small vs. large; etc. She then gives clear and concise instructions on how to create a consistent yarn. She then goes on to explain woolen vs. worsted techniques as well as yarn characteristics like twists per inch and twist angle. Instructions are augmented with clear photographs, including many beautiful spindles.

One of the things that I love about this book is that Abby presents you with multiple ways of doing various steps and then encourages you to practice them and see which works for you. The emphasis is that there is no "right way" and "wrong way." It is a question of which techniques work best for an individual, and that these techniques will often be different with different spindles even for the same spinner. It is all about what feels and works best for you.

FIBER EVENTS

WILD AND WOOLLY FIBER

February 10, 2018. 11am - 4pm
Cuyahoga Fairgrounds, Berea OH

Shopping. Socializing. Stitching. River Colors Studio, Icemelon's Stash, Chasing Acorns, Long Tails Knits, Whistler's Glen Alpacas, Esmeralda Designs and more will be on site for shopping.
\$5 Admission. Email Stacey Allen at sma@clevelandmetroparks.com or call 216-206-1000.

NUNO FELTING WORKSHOP

March 10, 2018, 10am - 3pm
Medina Guild - Instructor Carol Thombs

In this workshop you will use basic needle felting techniques to apply hand-dyed wool and silk onto silk gauze to make a beautiful scarf.

Richfield United Church of Christ, 4340 W. Streetsboro Rd. Richfield, OH 44286

\$30.00 Medina Guild Member \$55.00 Non-Member

\$20.00 materials fee payable to Instructor

Brown Bag Lunch

Participants will need to bring: 2 small dish tubs-sized to hold wet scarf, 2 old towels, apron, plastic bag to take home scarf

Registration Deadline: February 15, 2018

Send Registration Fee to: Claire Bourguet, 3615 Oak Road, Stow, Ohio 44224

MARKET DAY & FIBER FAIR

March 24, 2018
www.blackswampspinnersguild.org

Black Swamp Spinners Guild will be showcasing Great Lakes vendors. Admission: \$1
Location: Junior Fair Building, Wood County Fair Grounds, Bowling Green, Ohio

PLY AWAY

March 27-31, 2018
Kansas City MO
<http://www.plyaway.com>

YARN FEST

April 12-15, 2018
Loveland CO
<http://interweaveyarnfest.com>

JOHN C CAMPBELL FOLK SCHOOL

2018 class list can be found at <https://www.folkschool.org>
Brasstown NC

DOUBLE WEAVE WORKSHOP

April 13-15, 2018

FAVA, Oberlin OH

Learn to easily weave two layers of cloth on a 4-shaft loom in a variety of techniques: tube, side opening, center opening, double wide, pocket, stuffed or not and more. Weave a 9" wide sampler and then a wall hanging for your shuttles and other small weaving equipment in a weekend. This workshop is designed to help adv. beginner and intermediate weavers learn how a simple threading and tie-up makes weaving double weave a dream. And FAVA will be available during the following week for open studio hours.

Instructors Betsy Bruce and Mary Carmosino. Friday 6:00-9:00pm, Saturday 9:00a-5:00pm, Sunday 9:00-3:00pm. \$150/\$165 for non-FAVA members, plus \$40 materials fee.

More info: favaweaving@gmail.com.

fava.jumbula.com

MARYLAND SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL

May 5-6, 2018

W Friendship MD

<http://sheepandwool.org>

Overnight bus trip to the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival. \$225 includes bus and shared double hotel room. Meals and festival admission not included. You must be registered by April 1st. Contact Stacy Allen at 216-206-1000 or sma@clevelandmetroparks.com

GREAT LAKES FIBER SHOW

May 26-27, 2018

Wooster OH

<http://www.greatlakesfibershow.com>

Class registration opens 3/1/18

Enter the skein competition!

MID-OHIO FIBER FAIR

June 2-3, 2018

Worthington OH

<http://www.ohiofestivalsguide.com>

PARK & STITCH

Park & Stitch is held the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Everyone is welcome. It is held at the CanalWay Center of Cleveland Metroparks at 4524 E 49th Cuyahoga Hts. 44125 from 6-8 p.m. News is shared by an email list, the Ravelry group *Cleveland Metroparks Wild & Woolly* and word of mouth. The idea is to help fiber art people find each other, to work on projects together and to let people who want to go on our bus trips get to know each other. Its usually 8-15 people. Gatherings are casual, so if you can't make it right at 6 that is not a problem. We are tucked back in the park behind Charter Steel.

Email Stacey Allen at sma@clevelandmetroparks.com or call 216-206-1000 for information.

Thank You!!!!

Thanks to all the members who made 2017 so successful. With all of us working together, we have accomplished the following:

- a year of fine programming that allowed us to get to know each other a little better
- a budget
- a financial audit---covering the last 7 years
- a survey of members to help guide us with programming
- the Reimbursement Award for Active Membership
- two shows featuring our work
- two well attended events at lake Farmpark
- more monies from the stash relocation sale
- a form for showing off our creations
- more books for the library----many of them free
- newsletters to keep the members informed---including articles by 4 members (Deb Henry, Patti Zebrowski, Cindy Kolcacz, & Cheryl Laufer) who have attended workshops via the Anniversary Reimbursements
- new informational cards and signs to promote the guild
- two successful workshops to fund RAAM
- a public Facebook page to promote the guild
- a new SIG—Rigid Heddle
- an improved logo
- Café Press is back

Do you have ideas or skills to share? You know what they say, "Many hands make light work." Why just have a few members in on all the fun? As you are helping to build and strengthen the Guild, you will also be getting to know your fellow members a bit better. Please send me an email at joellenks@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions or some time to share.

SPECIAL THANKS to Cheryl Laufer, who for the last three years, has been Editor of the Guild's monthly newsletter. For 15 issues she encouraged (and reminded) us to submit announcements, articles and photos to be included for publication. She then artfully pieced them together to give all of us the latest information about members and activities. Please join me in welcoming Sally Vourlojanis as she takes over the Newsletter Editor duties this month.

MORE THANKS go to Susan Conover, who created and led the Weaving SIG for the past three years. She graciously opened up her Conover Workshop studio and shared her vast knowledge with many weavers of the guild. We have all improved our skills and confidence and it shows in the many weavings you see the members show & tell. We welcome the Jean & Tammy as new SIG leaders, and are glad to know that Susan will still be joining us and will be the Facilitator of all the guild's SIGs, as well as so-leader of the Spinning SIG.

ANOTHER THANK YOU to Jan Gibson who has led the Felting SIG and shared her knowledge with the guild's members. This is our most active SIG and I am in awe of all the lovely creations by these members. Jan has stepped down from her leadership role but will be continuing as a member as the SIG is led by Cheryl Laufer.

JoEllen Salkin, President

Support our Guild by shopping at THE WOOLERY.

Support our Guild by shopping at HALCYON YARN, Mention our Guild name when placing your order by phone or add it to the comments in your online order.



Show Off Your President's Challenge at the February 27 Meeting

There is still a month left to create something out of 'alternative materials.' Consider recycling or up-cycling something you have never used.

Special Interest Groups (aka SIGs)

Special Interest Groups provide supplementary areas of specialized, focused studies for Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers guild members. **SIGs are not a replacement of the guild general meetings.** Contact the facilitator(s) directly if interested in joining a particular group.

If you would like to suggest a SIG topic please do so by contacting Susan Conover, Chairperson of SIGs at szc@conoverworkshops.com or 440/346-5702.

WEAVING SIG

Co-Facilitators: Tammy Howell tamara_64@msn.com 216/219-1604
Jean Mackenzie jeanniegoat@yahoo.com 440/226-0772

Our first meeting of 2018 will be held Saturday, February 10th at Parkside Church in Bainbridge from 1-4pm. Susan Conover will be teaching drafting (handouts provided for a low fee), and discussing how and why drafts are read differently in North America than in Europe. She will also talk about the importance of note-taking and record keeping for all weaving projects. Members need to RSVP the facilitators for this over-the-top presentation. A map and list of supplies will be sent once confirmed.

The remainder of our 2018 meetings will be as follows:

Sunday, April 22nd from 2-4pm. (home of Bob and Jean Breitzmann): Bob and Uarda Taylor will be presenting. The focus is on gamps.

Sunday, September 16th from 2-?pm: The group will be doing a loom crawl, starting at the home of Nancy Curtiss and progressing to the Breitzmanns' home.

Sunday, November 4th from 2-4pm at the home of Jean Mackenzie. Jean and JoEllen Salkin will be presenting. The topic is double weave.

FOCUS ON FELT SIG

Facilitator: Cheryl Laufer cherylaufer@gmail.com 216/978-5331

The Felting SIG met on January 25th at Cheryl Laufer's to learn how to wet felt flowers to be used in the display at Lake Erie College. Some were very realistic, such as Sue Ingrassia's daffodil, and others took on a fantasy appearance with the embellishment of beads. Cindy Kolacz used her old floral skills and wrapped stems on all of them.

Our next two meetings will be at Cheryl Laufer's, starting at 11am.

Tuesday, February 13th – Presenters Linda Christopher and Jan Gibbons will share their knowledge of silk fusion.

Tuesday, March 13th - Presenter Patty Zebrowski will teach us how to emboss felt.

Unless otherwise noted, all of our projects are suited for beginners, so don't be afraid to join us!

RIGID HEDDLE SIG

Co-Facilitators: Linda Christopher linda102@twc.com 440/781-2046
JoEllen Salkin joellenks@sbcglobal.net 440/498-1930

The WRSW Rigid Heddle SIG is focusing its' 2018 schedule on some of the basics of using the loom. The goal will be to have all members become comfortable with the use of color and texture in order to gain the maximum benefit for planning their final project for the year. We plan to follow *the weaver's idea book, creative cloth on a rigid heddle loom* by Jane Patrick, and also to utilize her demonstrations from the DVD Weaving On A Rigid Heddle Loom, which parallels this book. It is not a requirement that SIG members purchase this book as copies will be made available for review.

Our first meeting was held on January 14th and we explored color with plain weave.

The remainder of our 2018 meetings have yet to be scheduled but the topics are as follows:

April/May* Exploring Texture, pages 16-23 *the weaver's idea book, creative cloth on a rigid heddle loom* by Jane Patrick

September* Planning the year-end project, and October presentation

April/May* Exploring Texture, pages 16-23 *the weaver's idea book, creative cloth on a rigid heddle loom* by Jane Patrick

September* Planning the year-end project, and October presentation

November* Year End Review and instructions for next year's first project

*All meetings are held 2-4pm at the Solon Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 34125 Portz Parkway, Solon. Not all dates currently available because we can only schedule six months in advance. Check the WRSW Calendar for more information.

SPINNING SIG

Co-Facilitators: Susan Conover szc@conoverworkshops.com 440/346-5702
Nancy Curtiss ncurtiss@truthforlife.org 330/330/995-3811

The 2018 edition of the WRSW Spinning SIG is fast approaching! Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are a fun way to challenge your skill set, and this year the Spinning SIG has some great meetings focused on items of interest to our members. Right now in the spinning world it's all about color and texture, so we're looking at ways to work with yarns in our stash in new and exciting ways. And as always, we're all about learning new skills and improving the old ones. If you're a spinner who is already competent to spin a continuous thread on either a wheel or a spindle, then you're warmly invited to join us for this year's adventure. To find out more about the Spinning SIG, or to join the group, please contact co-facilitators Nancy Curtiss or Susan Conover.

Our schedule for 2018 is as follows:

Saturday, March 10th from 2-4pm – Two Ways to Work with Handpainted Roving

Saturday, June 2th from 2-4pm – Creating Gradient Batts

Saturday, October 6th – Field Trip to the Stramba Mini Mill in Wampum, PA

Saturday, December 8 from 2-4pm – Spinning Silk

Please note that if you'd like to learn how to spin, we can suggest both formal and informal settings. Contact a facilitator for more information.

The 2018 SIG Schedule is available on the [Members'](#) site.

WESTERN RESERVE SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD

President	JoEllen Salkin	440.498.1930	joellenks@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Nancy Curtiss	330.995.3811	nancy@truthforlife.org
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Librarian	Cindy Kolacz	440.285.7982	cindy63@windstream.net
Newsletter	Sally Vourlojianis	440.452.2136	svjanis@oh.rr.com

WRSW COMMITTEES

Programs and Workshops

	Nancy Curtiss	330.995.3811	nancy@truthforlife.org
Shows	Linda Christopher	440-781-2046	linda102@twc.com
Publicity	Sheri Gittinger	216-337-3450	beemerquilter@yahoo.com
Reimbursement	Nancy Curtiss	330.995.3811	nancy@truthforlife.org
Hospitality	Sue Ingrassia	440-478-3462	sue.ingrassia@gmail.com

To become a member of the Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers Guild, please send the form below with your check to:

Nora Eason, 11483 Robin Wood Lane, Auburn Two., OH 44023

Individual Membership \$25

Additional family members \$10 each

Name _____

Address _____

Email address _____ Phone number _____

The newsletter is available on the Guild website and will be emailed.
Please let us know if you are not able to receive it in this format.

