

# Piedmont Fiber Guild Newsletter

March, 2017

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## Today We Make . . .

The Guild's Recent Moccasin Workshop

*From Chris Dunlap*

On a chilly Sunday morning in March, twelve PFG members gathered at our regular meeting location to meet with Jeff Delvecchio and PFG member Deb Jung to learn how to make flat deer-tanned cow hide into custom moccasins fitted to each of our feet.

We began by tracing our own feet and creating a pattern, then cut out our "feet" and began the process of sewing and shaping the leather into custom-made moccasins. We all finished one creation and were sent home with all we needed to make our left moc. One member finished the day with both her moccasins completed. Any guess who these gorgeous feet belong to?



Up next? Belts to hold – what else? – fiber tools. Thanks so much to Jeff and Deb for a wonderful day and much great learning. Stay tuned for more to come!

# A Note from Our President

Gail Boyles

*News from our meeting location, Arts on Main . . .*

For 5-½ years, the old Citizens National Bank has been home to Arts on Main (which is part of the Gaston Arts Guild). For most of that time, it has also been the home base of The Piedmont Fiber Guild. The 30,000 square foot building has been maintained by the City of Gastonia and, at the same time, always been for sale.

In February, Jim Morasso and Tom Cox, long time developers of downtown Gastonia, put in a bid to buy the building Arts on Main is currently housed in. Both gentlemen have been successful turning Webb Theater into Webb Custom Kitchen, as well as renovating the building across from Arts on Main and the Standard Hardware building. They have formed a three person investment team, CNB1924, to acquire the old Citizens National Bank from the City of Gastonia.

The economic development agreement regarding Arts on Main currently resembles one that was used when Jim Morasso purchased Webb Theater. This property was bought below tax value but Mr. Morasso committed to investing more money to improve the building's interior & exterior. The city says that Mr. Morasso has met every expectation of that deal.

CNB1924 has offered to buy the building for \$214,800 with a firm guarantee to invest nearly 1.9 million in renovating over the next five years. This offer to buy will be formally presented to the Gastonia City Council at their April meeting.

The developer's proposed plan for the first floor (which currently houses Arts on Main) might involve something similar to The Common Market in Charlotte "which is like an eclectic hybrid of a general store and a grocery store that also is host to live music from time to time".

The old Citizens National Bank has 4 levels, including a basement. In the deal, Arts on Main will be allowed to occupy the first floor for at least three more years. Afterwards, the plan is to move everything upstairs.

The purchase plan was presented to the Arts on Main board in early February. They are pleased that the potential developers are willing to put money into the building. There have been continuous issues with the HVAC system and many repairs need to be made on the outside as well as the inside of the building.

Currently, there are no plans for Piedmont Fiber Guild to leave Arts on Main. We are a member of The Gaston Arts Guild and rent booth space at Arts on Main. If, within the next three years, Piedmont Fiber Guild continues as an active member and rents booth space, we should also be able to move upstairs.

As more information is released, I will continue to update the Guild.

~ Gail

*(Facts and figures courtesy of Gaston Gazette articles from 2/27/17 & 3/1/17)*

# Piedmont Fiber Guild Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2017

\*Opportunities & Refreshments: Thanks to Vivian Brenner, Julie Hogan, Pam Durett, Chris Dunlap and Genie Greenlaw for providing this month's refreshments and opportunities.

\*Program: The president of Arts on Main, Susan Walker, spoke with us about our very own Gaston County Art Guild. Founded in 1965, the Gaston County Arts Guild provides support for painters, jewelry artists, photographers, furniture makers as well as fiber artists by providing affordable studio space and hosting events. They host eight juried art shows a year in addition to welcoming neighboring art guilds and artists to show in their beautiful space. Be sure to bring a chair and enjoy the outdoor concerts every other Thursday in the pavilion behind Arts on Main. There is a \$25 membership fee to join the Guild and they are always looking for friendly folks to volunteer. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Susan so she can add you to her email list.

\*Break for refreshments and Opportunities.

\*Treasurer: Tammy Diener reported \$2854.10 in checking and \$2854.15 in savings for a total of \$5755.33

\*Library: Please visit our new and improved library. New cabinets have been installed and Chris Dunlap has organized the library for easy viewing.

\*Charity: Julia Roskamp gave updates on this year's charity projects and discussed handwork days for completing baby hats for families serving at Fort Bragg and small blankets for Mothers of Angels.

\*Hospitality: March's refreshments and opportunities will be provided by Ursula Blackburn, Beth Nathan, Gail Boyles, and Peggy Hood

\*Workshops: Shirley Young has multiple classes in the works. A tatting workshop taught by Vivian Brenner, a basic sock making class taught by Maria Derner and a Twinning class taught by Paul DeRosiers are all being discussed. Please email Shirley Young directly with any questions or interests, so that she can coordinate the workshops effectively.

\*Upcoming Events: Carolina Fiber Frolic with Jan Smiley in Sapphire, N.C. will be March 24th -26th. Please book your spot for these spring classes and retreat at [carolinafiberfrolic.wordpress.com](http://carolinafiberfrolic.wordpress.com).

Carolina Fiber Fest 2017 will be March 24th-25th at the state fairgrounds in Raleigh, N.C. For more information, please go to [Carolinafiberfest.org](http://Carolinafiberfest.org)

Raffle tickets for the beautiful Ann Brinkhous Quilt top (completed by Ursula Blackburn) are in. Tickets are \$5 a piece or 5 for \$20. All proceeds will benefit Quilts for Kids. Please sign out all tickets with Gail Boyles or Chris Dunlap.

\*Member Show and Tell

## The PFG Board

For the convenience of Guild members, we include in each issue of this newsletter a list of the members of our Board, including contact information. The editors would like to thank each Board member for volunteering their time and efforts to the Guild.

**President:** Gail Boyles

[E-mail: [gboyles44@gmail.com](mailto:gboyles44@gmail.com) ]

**Immediate Past President:** Sara Munday

[E-mail: [sarat11970@gmail.com](mailto:sarat11970@gmail.com) ]

**Treasurer:** Tammy Diener

[E-mail: [tdiener27265@yahoo.com](mailto:tdiener27265@yahoo.com) ]

**Secretary:** Sue Helmken and Beth Nathan

[E-mail (Sue): [barefootweaver@earthlink.net](mailto:barefootweaver@earthlink.net) ]

[Beth: [falafee2222@gmail.com](mailto:falafee2222@gmail.com) ]

**Newsletter:** Beth and Will Dunlap

[E-mail: [erdunlap112@gmail.com](mailto:erdunlap112@gmail.com) ]

**Charity:** Julia Roskamp

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**Webmaster:** Maurice Blackburn

[E-mail: [mblackburn1@carolina.rr.com](mailto:mblackburn1@carolina.rr.com) ]

**Membership:** Dick Kistler

[E-mail: [dickkist@hotmail.com](mailto:dickkist@hotmail.com) ]

**Library:** Christine Dunlap

[E-mail: [dunlap\\_b@bellsouth.net](mailto:dunlap_b@bellsouth.net) ]

**Hospitality:** Lorene Lovell and Janet Kaufman

[E-mail (Lorene): [stargazerstudio@hotmail.com](mailto:stargazerstudio@hotmail.com) ]

[Janet: [janet.kaufman.littlejohn@gmail.com](mailto:janet.kaufman.littlejohn@gmail.com) ]

**Workshops:** Shirley Young

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**Publicity, Social Media:** Lori Smith

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**Publicity, Marketing:**

[Please contact Gail Boyles or Chris Dunlap]

**Equipment Manager:** Vivian Brenner

[E-mail: [SockLady@aol.com](mailto:SockLady@aol.com) ]

## This Year's Guild Meetings

- March 19, 2017
- April 23, 2017
- May 21, 2017

**All regular meetings 2-4 pm at Arts on Main, 212 West Main Avenue, Gastonia, 28052. Visitors are welcome.**

## A Note on the Upcoming Meeting

We would like to thank Ursula Blackburn, Beth Nathan, and Gail Boyles for volunteering to bring refreshments for this month's meeting, along with Peggy Hood for providing Opportunity items. If you have any questions concerning the charity arrangements for the upcoming Guild meetings, please contact our Hospitality chairpersons Janet Kaufman or Lorene Lovell.

This month's program, entitled "A Creative Path", comes from Sue Helmken. We have all hit our version of "Writers' Block" whether we're spinning, weaving, dyeing, or knitting. Sometimes the ideas are just not there. Sue will present us with a few ways to get back in the game - a new approach or new attitude.

We hope you will join us for this month's meeting on Sunday, March 19 at Arts on Main in Gastonia. Guests are always welcome.

## DFG Library News

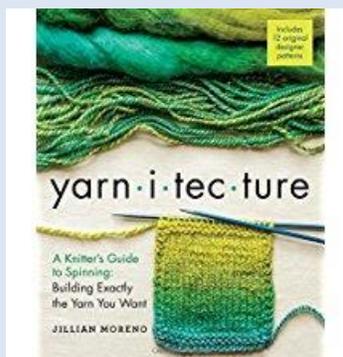
From our Librarian, Chris Dunlap

New to our PFG Library, *Yarn.i.tec.ture* by Jillian Moreno is a great resource for anyone wanting to see the making of yarn in a fresh and new way. Jillian sees the making of yarn like the construction of a building from Foundation to Painting and Decorating. This concept makes many of the concepts of spinning more concrete and accessible. Augmented with beautiful photography and Jillian's very no-nonsense approach, this is a wonderful resource for any spinner.

This and all PFG Library selections are available for loan to all members. Please see me if you have questions about the check-out process or need help with locating a selection.

Happy Reading!

~ Christine Dunlap, PFG Librarian



### **A Reminder of Current Charity Projects**

From our Charity chair, Julia Roskamp

Please bring to our next meeting any baby hats you have finished for the Ft. Bragg project, the quilts you have finished for the Quilts for Kids charity, completed blankets for Project Linus, and any knitted or crocheted knockers you've made for cancer patients. I'd like to collect all of your contributions to these projects before the final meeting of the Guild year on May 21st so there are no charity UFO's haunting you over the summer!

~ Julia

### **DFG Weaving Study Group Upcoming Meeting**

From Maurice Blackburn

The Weaving Study Group will meet at the Blackburns' home at 1:00pm on Wednesday, March 29th. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

~ Maurice

## 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.

If you have any fiber equipment you would like to donate, please contact Vivian or Gail, 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
Cleme & Cleme Spinning Wheel	\$25/month	\$100
Ashford Spinning Wheel	\$25/month	\$100
Sabina 32 in. 4-Shaft Folding Loom	\$50/month	\$100

### A Note on the April Meeting and Upcoming Newsletter

From Beth Dunlap, Newsletter Editor

Please remember that next month's Guild meeting (following the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting) will *not* be held on the third Sunday of the month as usual, due to the Easter holiday. Instead, the April meeting has been moved to Sunday, April 23. As a result, the deadline for submissions for the April newsletter has been postponed to Friday, April 14, for publication on Wednesday, April 19. Stay tuned to the Yahoo chat group to receive our regular reminder a bit closer to the submission deadline.

**Another important update:** The e-mail address to which newsletter content has previously been directed is changing, so the easiest way to get your submissions to me for subsequent newsletters will be through my personal e-mail ([erdunlap112@gmail.com](mailto:erdunlap112@gmail.com)). Although I will be stepping down from the Board in May, this address will be valid for newsletter submissions through the end of this Guild year.

### Naalbound Fingerless Mitten

By Stephanie Ray

Below is my fingerless mitten, naalbound from hand spun wool. I've started on its mate.



## Some Current Projects

By Pam Perkins

I have just finished a test knit on a hat, "Sollux", by Maria Zilakou, which is now available on Ravelry [See photo on left]. I used some of my handspun undyed yarn, and red and pink yarns from Stephanie's Aunt Sue (who spun and dyed them from her own sheep). I have also been knitting on several different shawls, including Winter's Whisper Mystery Knit Along with beads, which I'm almost finished with [See photo on right]. I also started a MKAL sock with the SolidSock group on Ravelry, am knitting a shawl designed by Maria, "Heal the World", and have five or six shawls to block yet.



## DFG at the Gaston Main Library

From Chris Dunlap

Thanks to all those who loaned items to be included in the PFG display in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor case at Gaston Main Library. There was lots of excitement even while we were loading in. Thanks to Ellen McCrea for her help with creating this display.

As it happened, there was no February display for this case, so I shamelessly offered spinning equipment, fiber and finished objects for this display. Yep, fiber in that case 2 months in a row. The feedback from Library staff was very encouraging. Thanks go out to Will Dunlap for helping me create the February display.

I hope to have PFG at the Main Library again in the Fall, and perhaps at a different location as well. If you'd be willing to contact your local Branch librarian about their display policy, we'd be happy to have a display of fiber arts at another library. The current display runs until March 31. Loaned items will be available for pick-up at the April meeting.

Thanks to all who made these gorgeous displays such a great success.



## **A Local Sculpture Show in Kings Mountain**

From Pam Perkins

I know this is not a fiber event, but for those who came to the reception for my husband Rudy's sculpture show at the Depot in Kings Mountain, thank you so much. For those who missed it, it is up until the end of March. Here is a photo of a piece of his work that is currently on exhibit in an outdoor show in Oxford, Mississippi. There are 39 works in Kings Mountain, including some wall pieces and others ranging from 14 inches or so (table top) to a bit over 6 ft. Most of the freestanding sculptures are architectural in design, excepting some of the wall pieces. If you get a chance to go to Kings Mountain, it is worth the stop at the Depot.



## **Ashford Spinning Wheel for Sale**

From Tammy Diener

I am selling my Ashford Joy. It's about 7 yrs old, in good shape and travels well. It is a double treadle with scotch tension and does have the traveling bag. Asking about \$600. Please email for pics.

~ Tammy

