

Cherry Valley Country Spinners & Fiber Artists

April 2022 Newsletter

Next Meeting: **Thursday April 14th, 2022, 10:00 AM**
 Springside Farm, Fabius, NY

Hop Into Spring: Angora Rabbits with Joan Hastings

Guild meetings will be held at Paulie Drexler's [Springside Farm](#) in the large room behind the gift shop until further notice. We will gather at 10:00am and start the business meeting at 10:30am. Paulie generously supplies us with coffee, remember to **bring your own mug** and treats if you are so inclined. If you have a name tag, please wear it at the meeting so new members and visitors know who we are, thanks!

Nationally known Angora rabbit expert, Joan Hastings, will lead an informative program on how to raise beautiful fiber-producing bunnies and spin their gently plucked or combed fur into luxury yarns. She will also have angora rabbit fur for sale.

MARCH BUSINESS MEETING

President Kirsten Weyter called the meeting to order, eight members were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report – no treasurer's report

Committee Reports

Program: The April program will be Joan Hastings on Angora rabbits; we will have no business meeting. The May meeting will be stuffing envelopes for the CNY Fiber Arts Festival followed by Open Spin.

Public Outreach / Demonstrations: no definite opportunities yet for demonstrations, demonstrating at Lorenzo is unlikely due to the regulations of being a state historic site.

Old Business

Judy had picked up fiber-related donations from Kathy Pratt, Irene Libby's daughter. There is a lot more to pick up and Judy and Gwen volunteered. Where to store and how to decide what is worth keeping was discussed. Members took what fiber they wanted. There were some nice books for the guild library.

Guild Afghan: Members brought in eight more squares for the afghan, we now have enough. Jayshri will work on it when she returns from India.

Meeting Location: Gwen reports the Cazenovia Library is still not ready for meetings in their Community Room.

Guild Bookmarks: Judy brought guild bookmarks designed by Joyce Lock and printed by Judy's daughter, 100/\$25 on glossy paper. Members who have an appropriate place to leave them took some. Cheaper to print on card stock (not in budget).

New Business

Judy Larter has the DVD *Alfred and Jakobine*, starring past guild member Jakobine Cordes and offered to play it for guild members at her house Friday March 19th at 3:00pm.

Roxanne Roberts is managing the Wheel Corral for the CNY Fiber Arts Festival in June and would like help/advice. Suggestion was to find donated wheels and demonstrators by asking our members, seeking out lenders from the festival committee, and other guilds.

Announcements

Sarah Lamanna informed us that local alpaca breeders will be shearing in May and will have fiber for sale after that.

Member Bio: President Kirsten Anna Weyter-Fukazawa

I am 53 years old and joined the Cherry Valley Country Spinners Guild in 2017. At my first CVCS meeting I felt like I met my tribe and I've been hooked ever since!

How I started spinning: I met Jane Hough selling gourd art in the Hamilton farmers market and subsequently found out that she had a shop in Sherburne called Mill Artisans where she sold yarn, fiber tools and other materials. I visited her shop and we chatted. I told her I was having trouble with a knitting pattern, so she invited me to come knit with some gals on Friday afternoons. As I got to know Jane, I realized that she was incredibly knowledgeable about textiles, dyes and all kinds of fiber art. My best friend Catherine had started spinning so I mentioned it to Jane, and she told me that she was also a spinner. Then Jane generously offered to teach me, so I became her apprentice. I started with her eSpinner and then her single pedal wheel. After instruction once a week for two months Jane told me I was ready to buy my own wheel! At that point, my friend Catherine invited me to come to a CVCS meeting. Then she encouraged me to join so I could borrow a guild loaner wheel until I could buy one of my own. I did and now I'm ever so grateful to CVCS for encouraging me!

My favorite type of fiber art is anything tactile because I'm the kind of person that must touch everything - I've been thrown out of a few museum exhibits!

Favorite piece of equipment: I don't really have a favorite piece of equipment; I just enjoy trying different things.

The first fiber art I remember doing: At age seven my babysitter taught me how to knit after school. I learned macramé at summer crafts where I made several plant pot hangers. My mother taught me hand sewing, embroidery and basic machine sewing by age nine. In grade school I joined 4H where we sewed on machines in the home economics room. I was proud that I completed a pair of denim gauchos with a matching vest but was laughed at in school the first day I wore them. I was mortified by the experience, but somehow, I managed to keep machine sewing and wear what I made all the way through college. The worst thing I ever machine sewed was a bathing suit.

In junior high school I started knitting my own sweaters without a pattern, just doing whatever I wanted to do, all the way through college. I don't know, but for some reason I have trouble following knitting patterns. However, I still enjoy doing both of those things.

My inspiration comes from all different sources. For example, the African Yoruba tribal beaded masks at the Brooklyn Museum of Art left a long-lasting impression on me among many other things. Oh, and I absolutely love the New York City Museum of Textiles, the Metropolitan Museum of Arts fashion exhibits and the fashion library/gallery at the Fashion Institute of Technology.

I'm most proud of any project I complete because I have way too many UFOs, LOL!

In addition to fiber arts some of my favorite things are drawing, painting, cooking, writing, going to fine art exhibits, theater, movies, dancing, practicing and teaching yoga, meditating, making stained glass, taking day trips, planting flowers and harvesting herbs.

A helpful hint I would like to offer is to do what you love and don't ever say you don't have time. If you love something, then make it a priority because time waits for no one.

I would like to add that you should make the effort to try new things no matter how foolish you feel or inept you are because you may surprise yourself by being good at something you never would've done otherwise, and because it is good for your brain.

On a final note, I have learned so much from everyone in our guild and in other guilds that I've been involved with. I just absolutely love everyone I've met that is a fiber person because it's like a soul sister thing and you know it!

Events for your Calendar (* indicates events we provide spinning demonstrations)

April 30, 2022 Fiber Frolic at Beaver Lake Nature Center
June 11-12, 2022 CNY Fiber Festival, Bouckville, NY*

2021-2022 Guild Calendar and Programs

December 9, 2021 Holiday Party
January 13, 2022 Roc Day Celebration
February 10, 2022 Wool Carding
March 10, 2022 Throwback Thursday
April 14, 2022 Angora Rabbits with Joan Hastings
May 12, 2022 Envelope Stuffing for CNY Fiber Festival
June 9, 2022 Guild Picnic
July 14, 2022 Open Spin
August 11, 2022 Open Spin
August 25, 2022 Guild Day at the NYS Fair Wool Center
September 8, 2022 TBD
October 13, 2022 TBD
November 10, 2022 Design Using a Fibonacci Sequence

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