

Guild Newsletter May 2021

Treasurer's Report: Raquel was unable to attend the meeting, but she emailed her report to me. The current balance is \$907.19. The report from last month was incorrectly reported, but that has been corrected.

Old Business:

- Kirsten sent out a survey which generated 10 responses. She called around and received several more. If you haven't filled out the survey and haven't spoken with Kirsten please do. It will help us plan for the future of the guild.
- A reminder that Gordon and Stephanie will be leaving the guild in January 2022. A new president and secretary will need to be chosen by Roc Day.

New Business:

- We will have our next meeting at Pauli's farm on June 10th starting at 10:00 AM.
- At the April meeting several questions were brought up after Stephanie and Gordon had left. Kirsten sent them an email and here are the responses:
 - Do you have all the guild library books? If so, we need to transfer them to another guild member and it would be helpful to know how many feet of shelf space will be needed. *We have the guild library and a list of what we have has been entered into an excel spreadsheet and is posted on the Librarything website. Pauli Drexler has a bookcase we can use to store the books at her farm, the same place where the Guild equipment is.*
 - Do you have all the guild paperwork, including the guild history? *Yes, we have some in hard copy, but more is on a thumb drive, which will be passed on to the next secretary.*
 - Is there a guild banner? If so, who has it? *Yes, there is a guild banner. It is currently at the Fesenger house.*
 - Did the tables that we used in the past for the guild displays at Bouckville belong to the guild or to a particular individual? *Two of the tables belong to the Fesenger's. The other one is Raquel's and she has it at her house.*
 - Was there some sort of display rack that the guild used at a previous festival? *Gwen borrows them from the Caz Library.*
 - Do we have a guild constitution and/or by-laws? If so, do you know who has a copy? *Yes, there is a constitution and by-laws. There is a copy on the thumb drive and a copy has been sent to Joyce to post on the Guild web page.*
 - What equipment does the guild own and where is it located? *We have a list of guild equipment, 3 spinning wheels and a drum carder. They are stored at Pauli's farm and*

available for check out. Please let the Secretary know if you check anything out and when you return it.

- Can you share the Facebook and Ravelry passwords so that they can be maintained once you leave the guild? *Gordon will add additional administrators to the Facebook pages. There are no shared passwords on Ravelry. Anyone who wants to get on Ravelry just needs to create an account and then they can move freely around the web site.*
- Is there a possibility of Stephanie holding a Silk Fusion workshop before she departs the guild. *She would be happy to do a workshop. See the end of the newsletter for more details and a list of materials (some materials can be purchased at the Bouckville CNY Fiber Festival on June 12 – 13).*

- There was a discussion about having a designated guild librarian and also a historian. If anyone is interested in volunteering for either (or both) please let us know. The library has already been created, it just needs to be maintained. The Guild history needs work, but there is plenty of material.
- Joyce discussed the feasibility of a web site to promote the guild. The cost is approximately \$70 per year. The member present unanimously approved the site. Joyce will go ahead and pay for the site and the guild will reimburse her. Joyce has since launched the site, please check it out and send Joyce any suggestions. <https://cherryvalleycountryspinners.org/>
- CNY Fiber Festival discussion:
 - The festival will be held on June 12 and 13. It will be open from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
 - There will be no Wheel Corral this year.
 - Due to COVID restrictions there can only be 2 people manning the guild booth at one time. A roster will be sent out in a separate email. Passes are available for members manning the booth. They can be picked up at the June 10th meeting at Pauli's farm.
 - Please bring any items you would like to display at the festival to the June meeting. Give them to Kirsten and she will bring them to the booth. Don't forget to put your name on them, so you can get them back in a timely manner.
 - The guild booth will be in a different place then it has been the last few years. It will be in tent "B", space "2".
 - **Masks are required**, even if you have been fully vaccinated against COVID or have already had the disease.

Silk Fusion Workshop:

Silk fusion takes hours to do so this will be an all-day workshop. Plan on being there at least 5 hours. It is also messy so we would be doing it in Fesenger's garage rather than indoors. Most of the materials that you will need are probably ones you already have. Most of the others you should be able to find at the fiber festival or at a craft store.

You will need:

- Textile Medium (It's kind of a glue. It's commonly used to make acrylic paints adhere to fabrics, even when laundered). My favorite is So Sonjan's which you might be able to find at the festival or you can get it on line at several places including Amazon.com or Tweenway Silks (<https://www.treenwaysilks.com/index.php>). It costs about \$6.50 for an 8 oz. bottle. You can find less expensive brands at the craft stores where they have the stuff for decorating t-shirts.
- Dyed silk roving or sliver, Bombex or Tussah. Solid colors or rainbow dyed. There should be some at the festival or Treenway silks has some gorgeous colors.
- Tussah roving or sliver (optional). The fusion will require 3 layers. The tussah can be used as the center layer since it won't show and it's less expensive than the dyed roving.
- Nylon screen, the same that is used for windows. You can get this at any hardware store. **Do not** use metal screening. It can cause your silk to discolor, not to mention it usually has tiny burrs that the fibers will catch on.
- A new paint brush, 1 ½' – 2 " wide. I don't recommend using one of those cheap foam ones because the silk fibers can snag on it and the finished item will be fuzzy with little to no sheen.
- A plastic dish pan to move the wet fibers around it. The ones at the dollar stores work just fine and you don't have to worry about getting the textile medium out of it once it dries. It can take days for the fibers to dry and believe me you don't want it dripping all over the inside of your vehicle or on your floors.
- A small bucket, like what ice cream comes in (darn, you may have to eat some ice cream!) or a 4 cup sized measuring cup.
- A large clean sponge. Get a cheap one because it will probably be ruined.
- A cheap cookie sheet with raised sides or an oil drip pan from and auto parts store. You need something with sides to keep the liquids from getting all over the place, but shallow enough for you to easily lay out the silk fibers.
- One lemon. The juice from the lemon will smooth out your hands so the silk fibers won't catch on them. The bottled lemon juice doesn't work nearly as well as a fresh lemon.

Workshop participants could share the costs of some of the materials. A 4 oz natural tussah silk roving or sliver would be enough for 2 people and a 6 – 8 oz of the dyed silk would also be enough for 2 people if their items were not too large. A roll of nylon screen would be enough for 2 or 3 people.

The date of the workshop is still TBD, but it will most likely be on a Saturday in late June or early July.

Stephanie