

Cherry Valley Country Spinners & Fiber Artists

July 2023 Newsletter

Next Meeting: **Thursday July 13th, 2023, 10:00 AM**
 Springside Farm, Fabius, NY

Guild Picnic

We gather at 10:00am and start the business meeting at 10:30am. For the picnic, bring a dish to pass and your own place setting. If you have a name tag, please wear it at the meeting so new members and visitors know who we are.

Library and Equipment: If you have a guild loan of either a book or wheel and have had it for three months, please bring it to the meeting.

JUNE BUSINESS MEETING

President Kirsten Weyter called the meeting to order, 12 people were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report - balance of \$1211.08.

Committee Reports

Program: The July meeting will be the annual guild picnic at Springside Farm. Future program ideas are a crochet class by Jeanne Oliver and a presentation on how to use [Ravelry](#) led by Marguerite.

Since the guild will be demonstrating at the NYS State Fair Wool Center in August the guild voted not to hold an August meeting. Gwen will verify meeting dates with the Cazenovia Library, she can only reserve four months in advance.

Newsletter: Jean Sutton will provide a Bio for the July newsletter.

Library: Please return books if you've had them for over three months.

Demonstrations: Joyce passed around a signup sheet for guild members to demonstrate spinning and related fiber arts in our guild booth at the CNY Fiber Arts Festival. Discussion was held on setting up the guild booth. Raquel and Kirsten will set up the booth on Friday June 9th. Kirsten collected fiber items from guild members to display in the booth.

Joyce will mail tickets and parking passes once she receives them from Linda Miller for those signed up to demonstrate at Guild Day at the NYS Fair Wool Center, Thursday August 24th. If you'd like to demonstrate on other days, contact Linda Miller linda@rainbowacrefiberfarm.com.

Guild Equipment: Paulie will purchase the guild spinning wheel that is NOT for beginners.

Fiber Competitions: The NYS Fair competition rules and entry forms can be found at <https://nysfair.ny.gov/competitions/how-to-enter/>.

Old Business

New Business

Announcements

Claddagh Farms is hosting classes on Natural Fiber Needle Felting and making a Barn Quilt June 17th and 25th respectively. Contact Sarah Lamanna for more information.

MEMBER BIO: Jean Sutton

I'm not sure how long I've been a member. I remember going to the Lorenzo Cottage for meetings as a member in the 1980's when I had little children and took up spinning. Spinning created a space in my day for "me time" when I couldn't get away. My husband worked ALL the time, days for a paycheck and evenings and weekends for his parents' business. We had five children in eight years, a very tough time for me. Spinning helped save my sanity. I was not a member during the kid transporting years. After eleven years of teaching middle school mainly, I rejoined. I remembered everyone so fondly and what an inspiring group you all were, especially Irene Libby.

Favorite type of fiber art: Mostly, I sew and teach sewing both in the community and as a Family and Consumer Science teacher at the Junior High and High School level. I didn't much enjoy knitting. I needed to turn out a finished product more quickly. Crocheting was pretty fast, but I wanted something else. Crocheting was taking up yarn too quickly. I wanted to learn to weave, which I did, but the supplies were outrageously expensive, and it took me forever to warp a loom. Thus, I settled on spinning. I know my thought process makes no sense but that's what it was. Spinning gave me a respite every time I would get out the wheel which was nearly daily. I could think, pray or just be. That was a pleasant surprise I didn't have access to at the time.

Favorite materials: Wool, of course, but anything new and different. When my mind is overloaded, which still happens too often, I generally choose a nice roving from the CNY Fiber Arts Festival. I spun donkey once. I had to brush the donkey to get the hair. It was incredibly coarse and had to be mixed with wool to spin, but it worked! I love to try anything new that looks impossible. We owned angora rabbits and angora goats. I love spinning those as well.

Favorite piece of equipment: I have two spinning wheels. My grandmother died and left me \$200. It was enough to purchase not just one but two spinning wheel kits from Chrystal Palace Yarns. I finished the wood and assembled them myself. I have an Ashford Traveler which I currently spin on and an Ashford

Elizabeth (original and double string) but it's out of round currently and I need to figure that out. Spins like a charm when in good shape and I prefer it over the Traveler, but the Traveler is easy to carry around. I have an Ashford Rigid Heddle Loom which I love and a 5-foot loom that I have a love hate relationship with, not a major brand name.

As for sewing machines, I love machines that you can repair forever thus, three Berninas, two Singers (Rocketeer and one equal to a red eye) and a Gammill. I'm sure I have more but I won't keep going.

First fiber art I remember doing: I've been sewing since I was on my mother's lap. Weaving started on my aunt's lap. I'm Swedish so the table runners and placemats were everywhere.

My first spinning project: I bought a black fleece that someone had added golden tussah silk to when it was carded. I loved spinning that and made enough for a sweater. My mom knit the sweater for me because I just couldn't get into knitting. It was lovely even though I hated the pattern she knitted. Buttons were deer horn buttons. If you have a dog, don't bother with deer horn buttons.

I learned to spin/knit/crochet/felt/weave/etc from: Carol Crittenden from Oxford taught me to spin in an afternoon. We had a great time. She was so full of knowledge and a great teacher. I also learn from this spinners guild every time I come.

Last item I completed: I like little projects that I can see the end of. The last completed project was a BSJ sweater jacket I spun and dyed the wool for. I even knitted it. I'm thinking I might try to weave something again. The way things shrink up when woven drives me nuts. I do like to weave on my Rigid Heddle though. Scarves and Towels are what I've done most. They are gifted and seem to be really appreciated.

We get dye time in at the campground sometimes as an activity. Ice dying is a favorite of mine. Tie dying is always great when I have helpers.

My inspiration comes from: Nature mostly, and the colors and textures I see. I have visions of a sweater with the colors from Egmont Key off Tampa Bay last year. I have about half of the roving already. I expect it will be knit since I'm much better now but do have visions of weaving the fabric on my ridged heddle.

I am most proud of: I guess I don't look for things I'm proud of. I can't think of a single thing. I get my satisfaction in creating something. It's a lot about the journey. It's also about helping others along the way.

In addition to fiber arts, some of my favorite things are: Our family owns a campground and I love being a part of making a peaceful, healing place in the woods for hurting or sick people to come. I'm the face they see and the voice on the phone. It's a good place to be. Fiber Arts fits well. We are starting up our

craft day again this year. I've divided up the store so it will be a studio (sort of) in the back area. We have a couple of vintage, fully restored sewing machines for me to teach with, an old Gammill that purrs so nicely and will be up and running in a week or so, and of course my spinning wheel and rigid heddle. Nothing leaves here but can be used under my supervision. Beginning this year, all new sweatshirts will be embroidered by me. The last few years have been HTV (heat transfer vinyl) by me and embroidered by other companies.

A helpful hint that I would like to offer: Enjoy the journey and bring someone along who needs a new place to focus. I believe that part of being created in God's image means that we were also made to create things. It's really good for feeling accomplished at the end of the day.

I would like to add: Don't think that your creative time is your leisure time. It's imperative you find time to create every day you possibly can, even if it's only five minutes. Your mental health will thank you!

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

August 26-27, 2023	Fiber Arts Weekend at Farmers Museum, Cooperstown, NY
October 1, 2023	Community Day at Lorenzo State Historic Site*
October 14-15, 2023	Fall Fiber Arts Festival , Preble, NY

2022-2023 Guild Calendar and Programs

January 12, 2023	Roc Day Celebration
February 9, 2023	Open Spin
March 9, 2023	<i>Three Bags Full</i> DVD
April 13, 2023	Silk with Nancy Morey
May 11, 2023	Envelope Stuffing for CNY Fiber Festival
June 8, 2023	Open Spin
July 13, 2023	Guild Picnic
August 24, 2023	Guild Day at the NYS Fair Wool Center*
September 14, 2023	TBD
October 12, 2023	TBD
November 9, 2023	TBD
December 14, 2023	Holiday Party

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Website: <http://cherryvalleycountryspinners.org/>

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