

# ***Cherry Valley Country Spinners & Fiber Artists***

## ***February 2024 Newsletter***

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**Next Meeting: Thursday February 8th, 2024, 10:00 AM**  
**Cazenovia Library, Cazenovia, NY**

### **Spindles with Dan Tracy**

We gather at 10:00am and start the business meeting at 10:30am. Woodworker Dan Tracy of [Dan Tracy Designs](#) will show us how to spin using his spindles, in particular, how to use a supported spindle with his Spinners De'lite lap support bowl. He'll also bring other wooden fiber tools for us to purchase so remember to bring money.

### **Membership Dues**

Dues for 2024 are \$20 and are being collected now. To maintain your active member status, bring your payment to the guild meeting or mail a check made out to Raquel Huckans to the Membership Coordinator:

Joyce Lock  
212 Hurlburt Rd  
Syracuse, NY 13224

### **JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING**

President Marguerite Hickernell called the meeting to order, ten members were in attendance. We welcomed new officers, Marguerite and Julie Knighton and thanked outgoing officers Kirsten Weyter and Raquel Huckans for their years of service.

**Treasurer's Report** - balance of \$1347.40. Past Treasurer Raquel Huckans gave her final report for 2023. She and new Treasure Julie Knighton will visit the bank to transfer the guild account into Julie's name.

### **Committee Reports**

**Program:** Woodworker Dan Tracy will demonstrate spinning with his spindles at the February 2024 meeting at the Cazenovia Library. The March program will be on Wheel Maintenance. There was much discussion on suggestions for future programs. The Program Committee (Jeanne Oliver, Joan Peters and Judy Larter) will convene to plan programs for 2024. Gwen will reserve the Community Room at the library though March.

**Newsletter:** Candace Cain will provide a Bio for the February newsletter.

**Membership:** Eleven members have paid their 2024 dues as of the January meeting.

## **Old Business**

Gwen reported the hats and cowls guild members made from Jayshri Prasad's handspun yarn "flew off" the shelves at [Caz Cares](#). Judy will collect items year-round to take to Caz Cares.

## **New Business**

## **Announcements**

### **MEMBER BIO: Candace Cain**

I was a pretty lucky kid growing up with a grandmother who was accomplished in numerous needle arts. I was also very fortunate that she wanted to share her talents with me. With my short attention span and inability to sit for very long, I'm sure I was a challenge. She exposed me to knitting, crochet, embroidery, and sewing. By the end of grade school I was trying my hand at it all. She would sit me down and go over the basics. Then I would put my spin on it, much to her horror I'm sure. It was the early 70's and there were peace signs to embroider and blue jeans to be patched. I knitted super long "Dr Who" scarves and I sewed psychedelic material in my bell bottom legs. No matter what I did she always encouraged me. My poor father had to put up with me dismantling his fishing lures turning them into dangling earrings. I must admit the crochet bikini was a bit of a disaster when wet. It basically slid off my body. My Grandmother helped me sew peasant tops and maxi dresses. Mostly she fixed them after I screwed them up. It was during those countless hours we spent together that I fell in love with it all. The "busy work" helped me stay focused.

By the time I was in my 20's I was married and had a newborn baby. Most of my projects then were crochet baby sweaters, hats, and blankets. An occasional macrame plant hanger or camera strap. Then I met a neighbor down the street and she gave me actual knitting lessons sitting on her front porch. My grandmother had taught me the basics but now I was learning the different stitches and reading patterns. This opened up a whole new world for me. I still have that very first child's hat pattern she gave me. Knitting became the "the thing" I wanted to do.

In the 80's I met very few knitters my age. I referred to myself as a closet knitter before it became cool. Although I took years of metalsmithing classes and dabbled with other crafts I always had several things on my needles.

Sometime in the 90's I saw this amazing bulky yarn at a craft show. I spoke with the vendor about it and she explained that it was her hand spun. I asked if she gave lessons. She said no but she was looking for people to spin for her. We met up a few days later, she gave me a quick demo and sent me home with a big bag of roving and a brand-new Ashford Country Spinner. This was the beginning of spinning for Kristen Thomas and I loved it. I also took a hat felting class from Jakobine Cordes and then Nuno felting classes from Lisa Merian. It was clear I had found my people.

I am not sure when I joined CVCS, but it was a few years before I retired from the day job. I was encouraged to join a guild and once I joined I understood why. This group has been a wealth of knowledge and support.

I am so grateful to my grandmother for not giving up on me when I had the attention span of a gnat. The woman had the patience of a saint. I am also grateful to Kristen, Jakobine and Lisa for encouraging me to explore this wonderful fiber world. Fiber people are the most generous and interesting people I have ever met. Be careful though, before you know it you too could end up with a spinners flock of sheep.

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

February 18, 2024	<a href="#">Tina Turner Knits Fiber Arts Festival</a> , Henrietta, NY
April 20, 2024	<a href="#">Fiber Frolic at Beaver Lake Nature Center</a> , Baldwinsville NY
April 27, 2024	<a href="#">Connecticut Sheep &amp; Wool Fiber Festival</a> , North Haven, CT
May 4, 2024	<a href="#">Syracuse Maker Faire</a> , NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY
May 4-5, 2014	<a href="#">Maryland Sheep &amp; Wool Festival</a> , West Friendship, MD
May 11, 2024	<a href="#">Shepherd's Wool Market</a> , Rush, NY
May 11-12, 2024	<a href="#">New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival</a> , Deerfield, NH
May 18-19, 2024	<a href="#">Central Pennsylvania Fiber Festival</a> , Hughesville, PA
May 25-26, 2024	<a href="#">Massachusetts Sheep &amp; Wool Show</a> , Cummington, Ma
June 8-9, 2024	<a href="#">CNY Fiber Arts Festival*</a> , Bouckville, NY

### **2024 Guild Calendar and Programs**

January 11, 2024	Roc Day Celebration
February 8, 2024	Spindles with Dan Tracy
March 14, 2024	Wheel Maintenance
April 11, 2024	Open Spin
May 9, 2024	Envelope Stuffing for CNY Fiber Festival
June 13, 2024	Guild Picnic
July 11, 2024	Open Spin
August 8, 2024	Open Spin
August 22, 2024	Guild Day at the NYS Fair Wool Center
September 12, 2024	Open Spin
October 10, 2024	Open Spin
November 14, 2024	Open Spin
December 12, 2024	Holiday Party

Newsletter Editor: Joyce Lock ([joycelock3@gmail.com](mailto:joycelock3@gmail.com))

Ravelry Group: <https://www.ravelry.com/groups/cherry-valley-country-spinners-guild>

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

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Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/cvcsguild>

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