

Cherry Valley Country Spinners & Fiber Artists



June 2024 Newsletter

**Next Meeting: Thursday June 13th, 2024, 10:00 AM
Springside Farm, Fabius, NY**

Sprinkle Dyeing Workshop

Note the change of location to Springside Farm in Fabius.

For the Sprinkle Dyeing Workshop there are a few things you should bring, but many others will be provided or shared. Remember to wear old clothes or an apron - Kool-Aid dyes are pretty permanent. We'll be sprinkling Kool-Aid directly on wetted yarn or yarn in a low immersion water bath.

Please bring:

- Yarn - 100% animal fiber. Wool is recommended, but you could try this with alpaca, mohair or other. No acrylic! Tie a skein **loosely** with multiple strings in a color you can identify as your skein. Remember that the liquid and dye should be able to reach all the yarn. If you buy a ball of yarn, you can make a skein over the back of a chair if you don't have a swift or niddy noddy. Yarn can be white or a pale shade if you want to experiment. Multiple small skeins would be fun.
- Wooden or other non-metal stirrers/spoons or tongs
- Gloves - yellow kitchen or other waterproof gloves
- Plastic basin or Tupperware for rinsing and transporting wet yarn. Zip Loc bags would be good for taking yarn home.
- Cards or a notebook for recording details of your results.

Things you may bring - but most will be provided:

- Crockpot
- Pans like turkey roasters or other enamel - if you have your own it will be possible to keep the fiber in there until it absorbs all the dye and cools.
- Plastic wrap for a non-immersion technique
- White vinegar
- Kool-Aid (generic is fine) in colors you prefer - we have lots!
- McCormick food coloring or Wilton food paste color (droppers will be provided)
- Hot plate

We'll start pre-soaking the yarn at 10:00am as soon as people arrive. The business meeting will start at 10:30am and once completed we'll start sprinkle dyeing yarn. Show and Tell can be held while we are awaiting the results of our dyeing efforts. If you are so inclined, bring a treat to share and your coffee mug.

MAY BUSINESS MEETING

Twelve members were present.

Committee Reports

Treasurer: balance of \$1,653.07. Marguerite Hickernell was added as a signatory to the bank account.

Membership: There are twenty-six members.

Newsletter: Chris Rudecoff will provide a Bio for the June newsletter.

Programs: The June program will be sprinkle dyeing at Paulie Drexler's Springside Farm in Fabius. The July guild picnic will also be at Springside Farm. Yet to be decided is if there will be an August meeting since we already demonstrate at the NYS Fair Wool Center in August.

The 50th anniversary celebration will be held at Springside Farm with a potluck luncheon, Breed Bingo with prizes, wine and cake. Sunny Bixby will be in attendance. For the October and November meetings we'll return to the Cazenovia Library. The November program may be "Fix, Frog or Forget" – what to do with stalled projects.

Jeanne Oliver emailed Stephanie Fessenger about a fee for her needle felting program at the October meeting and about a date in early November for a day long needle felting workshop at her home. Jeanne hasn't heard back yet.

Old Business

Demonstrators are needed for the guild's booth at the CNY Fiber Arts Festival June 8th and 9th in Bouckville. Shifts are 10:00am -1:00pm and 1:00 - 4:00pm both days with two volunteers per shift. Set up for the exhibit will be Saturday morning. A signup list was passed around. Marguerite handed out parking passes to those who signed up.

Details on the NYS Fair 2024 competitions are now available at <https://nysfair.ny.gov/competitions/how-to-enter>. Registration is open until July 29th.

New Business

Joyce passed around a sign up for Guild Day at the NYS Fair Wool Center Thursday August 22nd, 10:00am – 2:00pm. Demonstrators are provided with an entry ticket and parking pass.

Announcements

The NY Fiber Trail will have an informational booth at the [CNY Fiber Arts Festival](#). The Fiber Trail is a self-guided summer-long tour of yarn shops, fiber farms, studios and more. Participants pick up a passport at their first stop & get it stamped at every business you visit on the trail. At the end of the season, submit your passport to be entered into a drawing for a gift card to the shop of your choice.

MEMBER BIO: Chris Rudecoff

Member since January 2024

Favorite type of fiber art: Hard to pick a favorite fiber art. I'm probably best at crochet and sewing, but I'll take on knitting projects and am currently learning how to do Andean pebble weaving using a small rigid heddle loom. I'm enjoying having the time to explore new fiber arts now that I'm retired.

Favorite materials: My preferred materials really depend on the project - I'm currently crocheting with very fine linen to make a market bag and am learning to weave with cotton. Alpaca is up there when I want to knit or crochet a warm garment.

Favorite piece of equipment: For equipment, I recently learned about using circular knitting needles for all types of projects - a great revelation to me. For weaving, I'm not fully satisfied with the small rigid heddle loom I'm using and am planning to research other options. I've also made some attempts to learn how to use a drop spindle to spin wool. I haven't been persistent at practicing, so I haven't really gotten the hang of it yet. I'm hoping that, at some point in time, I might get some help from one of the Cherry Valley fiber artist members.

The first fiber art I remember doing was: My first fiber art was definitely sewing. I had one of those mini/toy singer sewing machines when I was a child. By the time I got to high school, I was making a lot of my own clothes. For needlework, I think it was crocheting that I taught myself first, knitting came later.

I learned to spin/knit/crochet/felt/weave/etc from: I learned to sew from a family friend and a childhood friend's mother; both women had dressmaking businesses. I taught myself to crochet and knit from books and pamphlets my mother had. There was a time in my life when I was living in towns in central Mexico or Peru while I was doing

archaeological field work. There wasn't a lot to do in the evenings, so I often took up knitting or crochet projects where I honed my skills.

The last item I completed was: I've been trying to use up yarn I've been carrying around for years. I had some bulky weight linen leftover from macrame projects way back when I was in college (made placemats for my mother). I recently completed a crocheted bag using a front- and back- post crochet pattern designed by Danish fiber artist Sidel Sanglid. I really like the botanical/organic patterns she creates. I had to make a few adjustments to the pattern to make it work for linen yarn, but I'm pleased with how the bag turned out. I've started working on another Sidsel Sanglid bag using fine linen yarn - also left over from my macrame era.

My inspiration comes from: I love textiles and beautiful fabric and am especially attracted to the ancient to current textiles made by the indigenous peoples of the Americas from Navajo rugs to Guatemalan and Andean textiles. Back in the 1980s, when I worked at the Wheelwright Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico, I curated an exhibit of a private collection of highland Mayan weavings. I felt so lucky to have had the opportunity to work with textiles from so many Mayan traditions.

In addition to fiber arts, some of my favorite things are: I enjoy being outside whether it's hiking, kayaking or gardening. I'm currently trying to establish a native plant garden to support pollinators.

I would like to add: I look forward to becoming a part of the Cherry Valley fiber artists' community, learning from the members' great depth and breadth of knowledge, and to making new friends.

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

June 8-9, 2024	CNY Fiber Arts Festival * , Bouckville, NY
August 24-25, 2024	Fiber Arts Weekend * at The Farmers' Museum, Cooperstown, NY
September 22, 2024	Rippletton School House Community Day * , Lorenzo State Historic Site, Cazenovia, NY
October 12, 2024	Little York Fiber Festival , Preble, 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	Knit and Crochet Magic
May 9, 2024	Envelope Stuffing for CNY Fiber Festival
June 13, 2024	Sprinkle Dyeing
July 11, 2024	Guild Picnic

August 8, 2024	Open Spin
August 22, 2024	Guild Day at the NYS Fair Wool Center
September 12, 2024	50 th Anniversary Celebration
October 10, 2024	Needle Felting with Stephanie Fessenger
November 14, 2024	Open Spin
December 12, 2024	Holiday Party

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