



Genesee Valley Handspinners Guild

WWW.GVHG.ORG

EWE'S news

President's Message—Tina Turner

We had a very well attended June meeting. Over 50 members joined us and I'd like to welcome the new spinners that were able to join our group. There were many tasty treats to be found at the potluck table. It shows that we spinners are also very creative in the cooking arena!

We have sent our younger daughter, Yanni away for a month on a trip to China. Hopefully she will return with something wonderful, maybe silk?! Then our oldest daughter Natasha has graduated with honors from the School of the Arts in Rochester and will travel to Germany and Ireland during the month of July. Hopefully she'll remember her mother when she looks at the Irish wools! Now that my children will be away in July, I will have more spinning time, and time to re-acquaint myself with my husband. Should be an interesting July!

During our July meeting Linda Geiger will do us the honor of setting up some dye pots that we can use to dye yarn. She requests that you bring yarn because more fits in the dye pot than if it was roving. So quick, spin up some white or light grey this month so you are ready for those dye pots! Look in this newsletter to find out what sort of prep is necessary to do before you come to guild. Happy white spinning!

July 2008

Editor's Corner

I hope everyone is enjoying the lovely weather we are having! I can't believe that the festival is only 2 months away! If you have any stories about the festival, shopping strategies, or information on how to pick a good fleece please send it to me so I can put it in the newsletter. Also if you would like to switch from the paper to the e-mail version please email me at

alanna7181@hotmail.com

Thanks! -Alanna

Please welcome these new members to the guild!

Mary Ann Krupka, Diane York & Gretchen DiLuca

The next guild meeting is July 19th at the
Presbyterian Church 70 East Main Street, Victor, NY



Please switch from paper to electronic newsletter

Email alanna7181@hotmail.com if you would like to change your subscription today!

Linda's Zucchini Recipe

At our last guild meeting Linda gave me her Zucchini cake recipe as requested by guild members. Thank you Linda for sharing!

Cake Recipe

3 eggs
2 cups sugar
1 cup canola oil
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp baking powder
1 Tbsp. vanilla
1 Tbsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. baking soda
2 cups zucchini squash
3 cups flour

Using mixer blend eggs, sugar, salt, oil, baking powder, baking soda, vanilla, and cinnamon into a mixing bowl. Then add squash and flour. Grease and flour jelly roll pan and pour in batter.

Topping:

1 cup sugar
1 1/2 cups flour
2/3 cup room temperature margarine
Mix with pastry blender or fork until crumbly.
Sprinkle topping over batter in pan. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

Glaze:

1 Tbsp melted margarine
1 cup powdered sugar
Add enough water to make glaze thin enough to drizzle over cooled cake.



"Well, I'm addicted. ... Have you tried Carol's sheep dip?"

From the Farm Gate

By Linda Geiger

In our last newsletter, Alanna asked us to share our experiences at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. I have gone to this Festival for years and I can say there is something about the Festival that only a person who has attended can explain. Because it is the first Sheep Show of the season people start getting excited in March. People anxiously wait for the MSW Book. This book contains the programs that will be going on along with advertising, but most importantly on the front cover of the book is the design of what will be on the tee shirts. This will usually spark a great conversation with all my fiber friends about the pros and cons of the design. But no matter if the design is awesome or looked like an ameaba, people line up and wait HOURS to make their purchases. This year there was still a line of 70 people at 4:30 on Saturday waiting to buy tee shirts. It makes me wonder if my old Maryland tees might be priceless on eBay.

Even though the official opening time is 9 am for the show many people arrive earlier. I have witnessed people running into the show. It is a happy day for the vendors. The whole place becomes a buying frenzy, long lines, people waiting patiently to pay for their purchases. By noontime it is almost impossible to look inside vendors booths since it is so crowded. My recommendation is to plan on spending both Saturday and Sunday at the festival. Sunday is a much better shopping day because the attendance is not as huge as the day before. The only drawback is items can be picked over.

If you asked my husband Bob what his favorite part of the festival is, it would be the pit lamb sandwiches. There are probably 10 different lamb stands where you can get lamb cooked many different ways. This year we visited a micro brewery on Friday which would be Bob's second favorite thing.

I love going to see all my friends and checking out the new stuff along with looking at all the sheep. There are hundreds of sheep of all breeds.

Now for the bad news. At the last guild meeting I mentioned that I would bring in some dye pots and we could do some dyeing at the July meeting. Because of the crazy weather lately, I am figuring that wheat harvest will start that week which will probably require me to work that Saturday. I am sorry but I will dye with everyone at some point.

GVHG Board

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President	Tina Turner	585-473-1265	turner@frontiernet.net
Vice President	Joan Berner	585-352-0852	jskberner@eznet.net
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Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival 2008 Skein and Garment Competition Rules

We look forward to receiving your entries for our festival. Please review the rules and assure you send in your entries by September 3, 2008 as judging will take place on September 5, 2008.

1. Last year, we did not have a fixed class list. This worked out very well for judging as we could group items by what was actually entered. Please make sure that your item is described well and that junior (less than 18 years old) or novice (spinning less than 1 year) is stated on each tag.
2. Speaking of tags, please attach a tag to each item. On one side, print (or use an address sticker) your name, address, phone number. On the other side, include the following: Junior or novice entry, item name, description of item, fiber content (percentages, if known), breed of sheep (if known), description of technique(s) used, dyes used (also technique) and identify if fiber and/or yarn was commercially prepared in any way.
3. The judge reserves the right to change the entry class if he/she feels that the item should be in a different class for any reason.
4. There are no restrictions on the number of entries you may have in any one class.
5. Entries (except for fleeces) must be received by September 3, 2008
6. Entries will be available for pickup between 4 and 5PM, Sunday September 21, 2008.
7. The Festival Committee will make every effort to display and care for the pieces entered, but assumes no responsibility for damage or loss.
8. View the special awards list and indicate any category that would be appropriate to your work.
9. Unclaimed entries become the property of the Festival Committee.
10. Entries may be mailed (along with entry form, fees) to: Diane Seely, 800 Chili Avenue Extension, Churchville, NY 14428. You may also bring them to any guild meeting. Someone will be there to collect them.
11. Entry fees are \$2.00 per item.
If you want your entries shipped back to you, you must include return postage, via US Priority Mail, including insurance, with your entry fee.

Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival 2008

Skein and Garment Competition Rules Cont.

Categories

Please mark your entry if junior (less than 18 years old) or novice spinner (less than one year spinning).

This is a very general listing and will be modified to best judge entries. "Finished" items may be hand-knitted, machine-knitted, crocheted, woven, felted and so on. The categories are intentionally vague because there are so many creative people, who create fabulous projects that we do not want to restrict entries to a fixed list. Please describe your entry in detail on the tag so that we can place your item in the most appropriate class.

Skeins:

- Categories are wool, non-wool protein, plant, novelty.
- Further divisions may include separate classes for alpaca, llama, angora, silk, linen, soy, etc.
- In addition, each group may be divided by weight: Fine (20 or more wpi), Medium (10-19 wpi), Bulky (less than 10 wpi).
- Other divisions may be number of plies or other specific techniques used.
- All skeins are to be tied in at least 3 places.
- Fine grist skeins (20 or more wpi) must be a minimum of 40 yards in length. All of skeins shall be a minimum of 2 ounces.
- For the skein competition, please try to use a 2-yard (or close to it) niddy-noddy to wind your skeins. You may use a 1-yard niddy-noddy for fine grist skeins. This is to ease the judging process and to create a nice display at our Festival.
- Please indicate on tag if spun on a drop spindle or on a wheel, fiber content, breed, dyes used (if any), spinning techniques, plying techniques and any other information that describes your yarn.

Adult Clothing:

- To include sweaters, vests, hats, mittens, scarves, shawls, socks, slippers, accessories.
- If you have created a set, please enter each item separately.
- Please indicate if yarn is handspun or commercial

Please indicate pattern(s) used and give credit to designer and/or book.

Children's Clothing:

- Same as above, just littler.

Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival 2008

Skein and Garment Competition Rules Cont.

Domestic Items

Includes towels, pillows, blankets, afghans and other home accessories

Toys & Sculptures

Miscellaneous:

Items that do not fit into any of the above categories.

Handspinner's Yarn Basket, Part I

(natural or dyed, any fiber):

The first year of this entry is to include a minimum of one pound of spun yarn, description of fiber, spinning method, a swatch and a description (including sketch and copy of pattern, if known) of what you intend to make. You do not actually have to make what you originally planned; we understand that projects evolve over time. For example, you may have originally planned to make a throw from Part I's yarn, but changed your mind and made a sweater instead, which we really hope that you enter in Part II next year. This class will be judged on craftsmanship, consistency of yarn and creativity.

Handspinner's Yarn Basket, Part II

(natural or dyed):

Last time, you entered your baskets of yarn. This year, you enter your finished item. Please include the same information you included in Part I, plus additional information that pertains to how you created your finished item.



Mini Handspinner's Yarn Basket, Part I

(natural or dyed): Same as above, but weight is to be less than ½ pound.



Mini Handspinner's Yarn Basket, Part II

(natural or dyed): For 2009...same as above.

Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival 2008

Skein and Garment Competition Rules Cont.

Shepherd's Basket:

Basket to include a sampling from a shepherd's flock. A flock may include sheep, llamas, alpacas, rabbits, cats, dogs, silkworms, and/or any combination of critters, as long as those animals *are or have been owned by the shepherd.*

- Documentation for each sample shall include species, breed, color (example moorit, fawn, white, etc.), washing method, method of preparation (none, hand cards, drum carder, combs, etc.), spinning and plying techniques used.
- Sample skeins shall be at least one ounce and/or 40 yards in length. As will other skeins, tie them in at least 3 places.
- There may be only one sample per animal with the following exceptions:

--Any animal with a multi-colored fleece (such as Jacob sheep) or coat. You may separate the colors and label each accordingly.

--Any animal that has a "first shearing", for example hogget/lamb fleeces for sheep, kid for mohair. There may be 2 samples for those cases, please label accordingly.

--All samples shall be *spun and swatched by the shepherd.*

Special Awards

Check this space later. Award sponsors are being contacted and will be updated as needed.

Finger Lakes Fiber Festival 2008 Skein, Garment and Fleece Competition

Please complete this form and mail with your entries and fees by September 3, 2008 to: Diane Seely, 800 Chili Ave. Extension, Churchville, NY 14428

Name	
Address	
	Check here if junior entry

Class	Description of Item
Total Entry Fees (No. of Entries x \$2.00) =	

My entries will be picked up by: _____
(Name of person)

Entries must received by September 3, 2009.
Pick up from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, Sunday, September 21, 2008.

If you want your entries mailed back to you, please include postage for Priority Mail, insurance and shipping address.



Knox Farm Fiber Festival

Saturday September 27, 2008 10am-5pm

at

Knox Farm State Park
437 Buffalo Rd

East Aurora, NY 14052

Admission is \$4.00 (over age 8)

For more info:

www.KnoxFarmFiber.com

Call Victoria—716-652-3237

Lisa—716-662-4884

Sue—716-662-7685

Louise—716-681-3788

Ads and Other Events:

Come join us for an evening of spinning and knitting @ Keuka Coffee Co.!

The coffee house is an intimate location where spinners and knitters can get together, discuss their craft with friends over a cup of tea/coffee. It is an informal gathering of friends to enjoy fiber, good company and good eats. Come join us if you can!

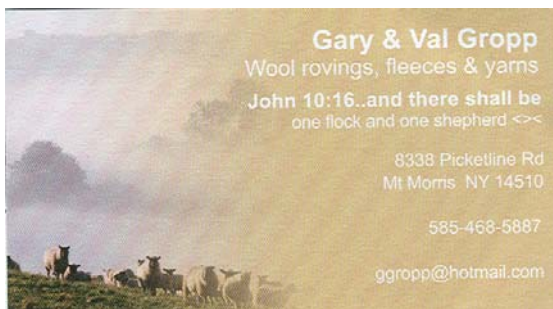
Where:

Keuka Coffee Company and Café located at:
616 A Pittsford Victor Rd., Pittsford 14534

When:

6:30-9:00 pm the 1st Monday evening of the month.

* The shop owner extends the café's hours just for us, so you patronage is appreciated but not necessary to participate*



Gary & Val Gropp
Wool rovings, fleeces & yarns
John 10:16..and there shall be one flock and one shepherd <><
8338 Picketline Rd
Mt Morris NY 14510
585-468-5887
ggropp@hotmail.com



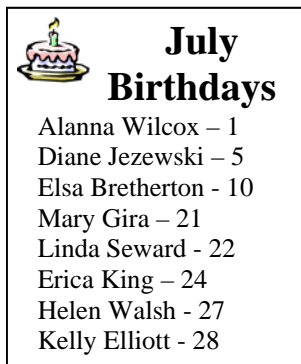
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July Birthdays
Alanna Wilcox - 1
Diane Jezewski - 5
Elsa Bretherton - 10
Mary Gira - 21
Linda Seward - 22
Erica King - 24
Helen Walsh - 27
Kelly Elliott - 28



Neko Farm
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nckofarm@aol.com
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Mount Morris, NY 14510

Spinning Tip:

Knowing when to stop

This past month I have been working on spinning wool to make a purse. In my haste to turn the wool into yarn so I could start knitting I tried, overzealously, to fill up my bobbins. I was being stubborn when my bobbin was full and decided to keep going instead of playing it safe and changing the bobbins. I decided to keep spinning because I had under 1 oz. of wool left. It was at that point that the bobbin and ball winder joined ranks to conspire against me. I continued spinning, convincing myself I could fill the bobbin even more. When I finished spinning my bobbin had less than a centimeter of space left between the yarn and the flyer hooks, I was triumphant. Or so I thought. I reached for my ball winder to take the yarn off the bobbin. I realized that the ball winder also has a maximum capacity, and wouldn't you know, it's pretty much the same as my bobbin. Like a careful fisherman not wanting to lose their catch, I tenderly wound the yarn, hoping it would not burst off the core. As the last few inches of yarn wrapped around the new ball, my heart leapt out like a gymnast sticking the landing of a difficult high bar routine. I was able to get the yarn off. There are those that say you should stop spinning when the yarn reaches the edge of your bobbin. While I agree with them, I like to live on the edge. Sometimes there is no better joy for me than knowing I beat the system.

Alanna: 1 - Bobbin/Ball Winder: 0. Aw Right



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