



# Genesee Valley Handspinners Guild

WWW.GVHG.ORG

## EWE'S news

### President's Message—Tina Turner

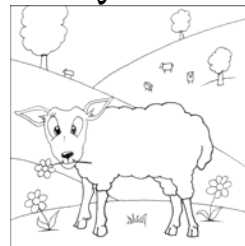
Our May meeting was filled with luxury. Chair massages, Yoga, and even Mary Kay facials. I hope everyone went home as soothed as I was after the meeting. I think we have an official May theme from now on!

The topic for the June meeting will be “how to prep a skein for competition”. So anyone that is entering a skein for our Fiber Festival, simple changes to your skein can make it an award winner if you just know what the judges are looking for. Along with that we will also have a pot-luck and spin in for the rest of the meeting time.

Don't forget the **Shepherd's Wool Market on May 31 from 9-5:30**, at the Rush United Methodist Church. Many of our guild members will be vending there, plus we can view the church for a possible future guild meeting site.

Hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day!  
Happy Spinning!

### May 2008



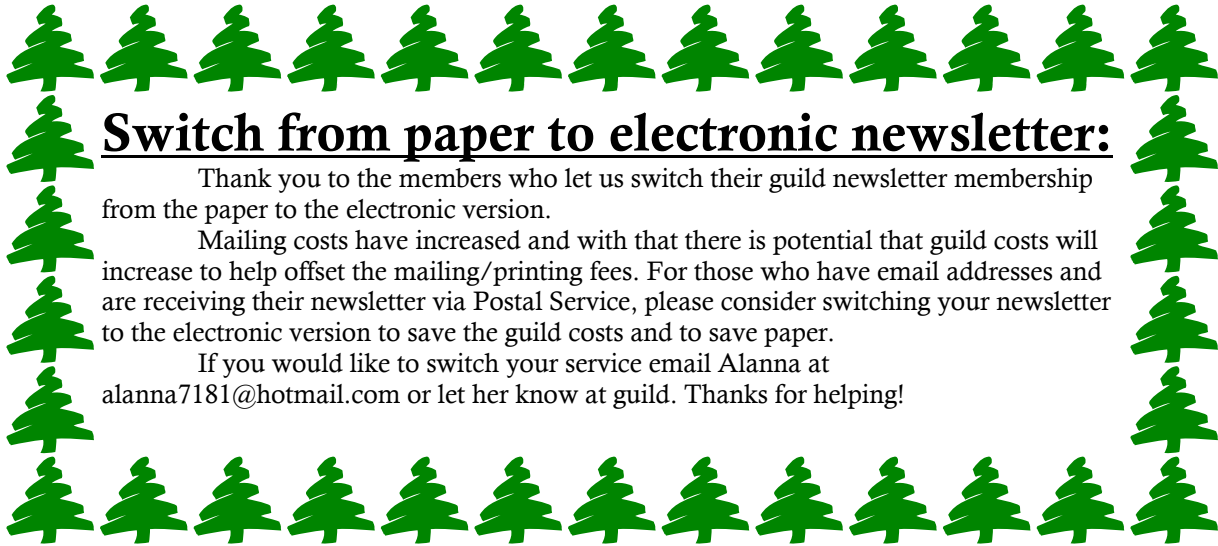
#### Editor's Corner

I hope all those that attended the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival are enjoying their newly acquired stash! If you have any stories from the festival you wish to share, or any other spinning news, information, tips, etc. please feel free to email me at [alanna7181@hotmail.com](mailto:alanna7181@hotmail.com) or bring your article to guild. Thanks!  
-Alanna

**Please welcome this new members to the guild!**

Chris Frayda

The next guild meeting is June 21st at the  
Presbyterian Church 70 East Main Street, Victor, NY



## Switch from paper to electronic newsletter:

Thank you to the members who let us switch their guild newsletter membership from the paper to the electronic version.

Mailing costs have increased and with that there is potential that guild costs will increase to help offset the mailing/printing fees. For those who have email addresses and are receiving their newsletter via Postal Service, please consider switching your newsletter to the electronic version to save the guild costs and to save paper.

If you would like to switch your service email Alanna at [alanna7181@hotmail.com](mailto:alanna7181@hotmail.com) or let her know at guild. Thanks for helping!

## From the Farm Gate

By Linda Geiger



Lambing is over which gives us mix emotions. It is nice to have it over but you have to wait a whole year to lamb again. Lambs are so much fun I could park my chair out in the yard and watch them every night. We had a beautifully marked fleckett ewe lamb born, with Shetlands you never know what your going to get.

Some of my many favorite things are hot fudge brownie sundaes, listening to the peepers in the Spring and going to Stella Maris with Guild. What is better than getting to know people in the guild. Here are the some things I learned about our guild members last month.

Mary Ann Young's husband is a great handyman and can do anything around the house.

Beth McVittie composts with worms.

Joan Berner is on a kick on spinning bulky yarn

Steph and Val Eckert are two sisters that really love each other.

Val Gropp loves coffee.

Pat Bernhard belongs to a rowing team.

Karla Kates is an excellent knitter and loves spinning colored roving.

Ann Marie Graham went on a wild vacation a couple of months ago.

Tina Turner is such a good guild president...thank you Tina!!!

Kris Shanhan can make a great Pinā Colada!!

Karen Miskell has stories about what it was like to spin 30+ years ago.

We think that Ron Tyler moonlights as a bellman at local hotels.

Not only did we have a great time but a lot of spinning got done. We were quite the busy bees. Counting the days till the November Retreat!!!!

# 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, 2006.

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 Arts Festival is only 3 months away!

We need you to **volunteer** to make the festival run smoothly.  
Sign up today to get your favorite time slot.

Remember you not only **get in free** that day, you are also entered for ***Fest Bucks***. For every 2 hour slot you volunteer, your name goes in that day for 2 drawings of \$25 each.

Contact Wendy @ 585-398-3079 or [largewhitedogs@aol.com](mailto:largewhitedogs@aol.com)

## 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.





## Neko Farm

*Specializing in Natural Dyeing  
Fleece and Roving from our flock*

Crik Christophel

585.468.2135  
nekoFarm@aol.com

8405 Picket Line Road  
Mount Morris, NY 14510



**Pollywogs**  
Retail Sale of Yarn & Fiber

7 Bush Ave.  
Wayland, NY 14572  
(585)728-5667  
www.mypollywogs.com  
orders@mypollywogs.com

This month Diane Seely had a lot of items for sale. Here is your chance to make her unwanted items into your must haves! If you are interested in any of these items please contact her at [dseely@frontiernet.net](mailto:dseely@frontiernet.net) or call 889-3562

Davidson Drum Carder:

Medium cloth, belt driven (new belt), plywood frame, main drum 8" wide x 7-1/2" diameter.

Overall dimensions are 19" long x 9" high x 10-3/4" wide + 5 inches for handle. Asking \$225.



Antique Yarn Winder: Nice antique yarn winder of mixed hardwoods, probably circa Free to a good home: 5 pair of worn out jeans...suitable for rag rugs or other craft project. Can bring to next guild meeting if interested.



## 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 your patronage is appreciated but not necessary to participate\*

**KnoxFarmFiber@**

Knox Farm State Park

Judith Bunn  
84 Morningside Lane  
Buffalo, NY 14221  
716-480-0086



[www.knoxfarmfiber.com](http://www.knoxfarmfiber.com)



## June Birthdays

Karla Kates – 1  
 Libby Llop - 11  
 Diane Seely – 14  
 Kristin Welsh – 14  
 Lisa Weston - 14  
 Julie Lovejoy – 18  
 Lauren O'Hearn - 19  
 Marilyn Aldrich – 20  
 Deb Santolla - 22  
 Dana Rae Tucker - 25

## Some Interesting Articles for your Reading Pleasure -Alanna Wilcox

- Serena Rachels sent me the following link to an article about a program created in North Dakota that is encouraging North Dakota residents between the ages of 10 to 18 years old to participate in a free sheep program. The article discusses the purpose of the program and what the youth will need to do to acquire the sheep.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/18/us/18sheep.html?\\_r=1&scp=1&sq=shepherds+%2BNorth+Dakota&st=nyt&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/18/us/18sheep.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=shepherds+%2BNorth+Dakota&st=nyt&oref=slogin)

- While procrastinating and perusing discussions on Ravelry I stumbled across a conversation about what was the weirdest knitted object people have ever seen. Some people argued that a knitted brain (<http://harbaugh.uoregon.edu/Brain/>) was intriguing or perhaps it was the enormous 200 foot long bunny that now lives on a hill in Italy that can be seen from space (<http://www.show.me.uk/site/news/STO1166.html>) but I had to agree hands down for me it was the four body suits that do nned a mother, father, son and daughter that created the illusion that they were still naked. ([http://www.stretcher.org/archives/r6\\_a/2004\\_02\\_11\\_r6\\_archive.php](http://www.stretcher.org/archives/r6_a/2004_02_11_r6_archive.php)) It was an interesting use of mo-hair at best ☺

Have you seen any odd/interesting use of fiber in the newspaper or on the web? Please send any newsletter contributions to [alanna7181@hotmail.com](mailto:alanna7181@hotmail.com) so I can share your findings with the guild!

## Update on New Guild Home:

Thank you to all those that have voted on your preferences for what you want in a guild home. There are several places the board is considering with your preferences in mind. When we have more information about a potential venue and their features it will be posted in the newsletter.

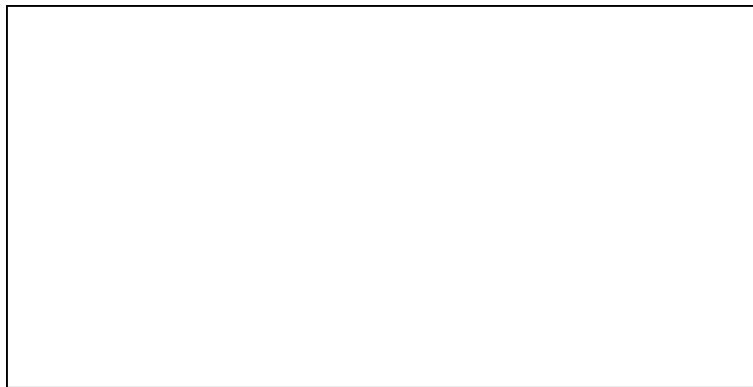
## GVHG Board

Position	Member	Phone	Email
President	Tina Turner	585-473-1265	<a href="mailto:turner@frontiernet.net">turner@frontiernet.net</a>
Vice President	Joan Berner	585-352-0852	<a href="mailto:jskberner@eznet.net">jskberner@eznet.net</a>
Secretary	Denise Syed	585-935-7121	<a href="mailto:denisesyed@yahoo.com">denisesyed@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Pat Bernhard	585-624-5429	<a href="mailto:pbernar@libraryweb.org">pbernar@libraryweb.org</a>
Church Liaison	Wendy Caffee	585-398-3079	<a href="mailto:largewhitedogs@aol.com">largewhitedogs@aol.com</a>
Fiber Festival	Anne Marie Graham	585-323-9556	<a href="mailto:aricci1@rochester.rr.com">aricci1@rochester.rr.com</a>
Educational Coordinator	Stefanie Ecker	716-432-0397	<a href="mailto:lotus585@cs.com">lotus585@cs.com</a>
Website & Library Coordinator	Carolyn Rivello	585-381-4309	<a href="mailto:daverivello@earthlink.net">daverivello@earthlink.net</a>
School Age Education	Susan Sommers	585-352-5132	<a href="mailto:susan.sommers@juno.com">susan.sommers@juno.com</a>
Membership	Diane Seely	585-889-3562	<a href="mailto:dseely@frontiernet.net">dseely@frontiernet.net</a>
Warm Extremities	Jen Adams	585-624-4156	<a href="mailto:adamsclan@localnet.com">adamsclan@localnet.com</a>
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Demonstrations	Kristen O'Hearn	585-723-5996	<a href="mailto:kjzohearn@aol.com">kjzohearn@aol.com</a>
Fleece Study (author/contact)	Linda W. Hodgkins	585-377-0588	<a href="mailto:lobstahcook@yahoo.com">lobstahcook@yahoo.com</a>

## Spinning Tip:

### Quarantining Wool: Like Martha says, It's a Good Thing!

With guild members returning from fiber festivals and the weather heating up I thought I would offer up a tip on how to introduce new fiber to old fiber. While it may seem like throwing your freshly purchased fibers in the same bin/bag/closet/garage/warehouse/etc. with your stash might be an easy way to contain your fibers in one location I find mixing the old with the new right away can expose your treasure trove to treasure hunters. Last year I purchased some wool from a vendor (whose identity is concealed to protect the innocent just in case it was a neighboring vendor's creepy crawlies ) that had wool moths. I decided that after returning the old wool with moths for new wool I would keep it in a plastic bin in a separate room from my fiber room just in case. My instincts were right and sure enough there was an adult moth wandering around almost 2 weeks later. I was happy that I didn't leave the bag of fiber in my fiber room to air out or mix it in with my other fibers to expose my fiber stash to an infestation! Instead I used several small plastic bins to sort out my purchases and waited. I know there are those out there that have remedies for treasure hunting moths, like freezing or microwaving the wool, but call me crazy I would rather pick out hay and poop from fiber than dead moths, although wool with no additives always satiates my fiber appetite.



GVHG Newsletter  
30 Hanson Circle  
Henrietta, NY 14467