

April 2012  
Volume 29, Issue



## THE WOOLPACK WATCH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE WASATCH WOOLPACK HANDSPINNERS

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Guild meeting: Singles Yarn

April 18  
Pioneer Craft House  
6:30 Meet 'n Greet  
7:00 meeting

#### Earth Day Celebration

April 21, at the Ogden  
Nature Center –  
spinning  
demonstrators  
needed.

**Craft Supplies Sale**  
– at the Pioneer Craft  
House April 21

## President's Message

Our meeting this month is about SINGLES. No, not people. (I know, some of you were disappointed.) I've often thought about using singles in my projects, because two-ply yarn takes about two-and-a-half times longer to spin and ply. Because I don't want to turn this beautiful hand-dyed roving into barber pole, nor do I want to spin a three-ply yarn. Because the stitch definition of singles yarn is phenomenal, and especially beautiful in crochet. Because for lustrous fibers (like silk and Wensleydale), I like the look of singles more than two-ply. Because you can make your knitting bias, and that's a cool design element.

But then the questions come up. Can I block out the bias? (because you don't want that in every project.) Won't fine wools pill badly as singles? What if I have short-staple fibers--do I have to spin fine because a fatter yarn wouldn't hold up? What if I want puffy, soft yarn? Would any of these three issues be taken care of if I felt the singles? How much is enough twist? How much is too much? Does it ever matter whether you use S or Z twist? What do I need to consider when spinning a singles warp for weaving? What will this project look like after it's been worn a while?

Then there are more questions about finishing. Do you *need* to set the twist? I really don't want to just drop it into the water and let it corkscrew. You can steam it--what are some easy ways to do that? How do you felt it without felting it to itself?

Our meeting is just going to be a discussion amongst ourselves. If you have singles yarn, or any projects made with unplied singles, please bring them. If you can take some time to spin, swatch, or research before the meeting, that would be wonderful. If you aren't able to come to the meeting, share your singles experience with the Woolpack's e-mail list.

Happy spinning!  
Danielle Jones

**Spinning challenge reminder** - Keep working on your drop spindle project. Learn a new spindle technique and use the spindle to make the yarn, and make a finished project from it. Good luck and happy spinning!!

## Announcements for WWH meeting March 21, 2012

- **Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild's Fiber Festival**  
Friday and Saturday, April 13 - 14 at the Pioneer Craft House with featured guests Joanne Tellarovic and Becky Menlove. Registration is open to all fiber enthusiasts not just guild members, and there's still room to sign up. Contact Mimi Rhodes at 801-619-6888 for more info. on the Fiber Festival.
- Our spinner's guild has been invited to participate in the **Earth Day celebration to be held at the Ogden Nature Center** on April 21 from noon until 4 pm. There will be a sheep shearing demonstration and the organizers would love to have some spinners on hand. Last year there were nearly 2,000 attendees to the event. If you are interested, you can email me at [slneill@xmission.com](mailto:slneill@xmission.com) or call me on my cell at [801-698-5034](tel:801-698-5034). I'm hoping we can have a good turnout at this fun event. Sara Lee Neill
- April 21<sup>st</sup> is also the **Craft Supply Sale at Pioneer Craft House**. Please contact Bhakti Banning for more information about how you can sell too. Her number is: 801-323-1742
- The **Salt Lake Knitting Guild is having a Spring Workshop April 28-29 with instructor Melissa Leapman**. A prolific designer in both knitting and crochet, Melissa is the author of the recent "Stashbuster Knits", as well as "Cables Untangled" and "Continuous Cables". She will present the following classes over the weekend of April 28-29: Basic Pattern Drafting, Celtic Cables, Two-Color Double Knitting, and Mosaic Knitting. COSTS: Guild Members — \$30 for the first class, \$25 for each additional class — \$100 for all four! Other Knitters — \$35 for the first class, \$30 for each additional class — \$110 for all four! For more information on class descriptions and registration contact Susan Littlefield at [susan@stream-search.com](mailto:susan@stream-search.com)
- **Notlwonk Springs Wool Trek** – Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
4420 West 14300 North, Cornish, UT  
Fred & Jo Knowlton 435-258-5539 [ffknowlton@msn.com](mailto:ffknowlton@msn.com)  
fleece, roving, yarn, spinning and fun available.
- **Snake River Fiber Festival** – May 19-20, 2012  
at the Eastern Idaho Technical College in Idaho Falls, ID  
For more information on the festival including classes, shopping and vendors, go to [http://www.srfiberarts.org/fiber\\_arts\\_fair\\_2012](http://www.srfiberarts.org/fiber_arts_fair_2012)
- **Thanksgiving Point Sheep & Wool Festival** – Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Spinners needed to demonstrate from 10:00am – 4:00pm at the farm. Can be in or outdoors. You can also sell your fiber related items. Please contact Paige at Thanksgiving Point 801-592-9120 if interested.
- The electric spinner has now been purchased and is available for use at monthly meetings and for rent a month at a time. If you choose to take it home, there is a \$250 deposit and a rental fee that must be paid. Please contact Danielle if you wish to sign up for a month.
- In April's meeting we will talk about singles. Please bring any singles you have – good or bad – and anything you may have made from singles. Of course, there will be show and tell so be sure to bring things to share. Just a gentle reminder that the meeting in May is when your challenge project will (hopefully) be unveiled. It should be something you've spun on a new kind of spindle or using a new technique. Bring your project in whatever stage it's in to share with the group.

Our meeting in March was one of my favorites – DYE EXCHANGE. Thanks to everyone who participated and to those who just came to see what everyone else dyed. With orange as our theme color, we had a great variety of shades to share. Now, what to do with it all?

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## Spinning Saturday:

This month we will be meeting at Sonya Campana's home on Saturday, **April 21** from 10 a.m. to whenever I say you have to go home. My address is 8407 Dynasty Way, Cottonwood Heights, 801-733-5888. Call if you'd like more explicit directions – or I can post it to the Woolpack before that Saturday. Bring a snack to share. If it's nice we'll go outside on the deck. Throw in a folding chair in case we get adventurous and go down in the yard... I'm looking forward to seeing you all and laughing! -Sonya



Some Pictures from the March 2012 Dye exchange

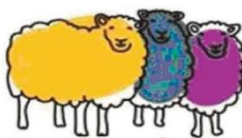




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