

March 2012  
Volume 28, Issue 8



## THE WOOLPACK WATCH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE WASATCH WOOLPACK HANDSPINNERS

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Guild meeting

#### Dye Exchange – Orange!!!

Mar. 21  
Pioneer Craft House  
6:30 Meet 'n Greet  
7:00 meeting

#### Spinning Saturday

To be announced...

## President's Message

### Dye Exchange!

I love Dye Exchange! It's the best meeting of the year. It's even better than the Christmas gift exchange party, because you get to keep some of *everything*. And to think, there were a couple of years where I didn't participate. I still came to the meeting, though, and got to see all the wonderful colors.

Remember to pull the fiber apart into one-ounce sections, and include a label with your name, type of fiber, and dye method.

After much positive input and deliberation, we have decided to purchase a (barely) used Hansen electric mini-Spinner for the guild. (<http://hansencrafts.com/index.htm>) It's basically a bobbin and flyer, with an electric motor instead of a wheel and treadle. It's very compact, and ours has a Woolee Winder and three bobbins with it, purported to hold 10 oz. of yarn each. (Wow!) Jill Tew fell in love with it for plying. It's also very beautiful, made of blood wood and maple. It can be plugged into the wall or a cigarette lighter, and later we can consider buying a battery for it. It will be brought to every regular monthly meeting, and of course it will be at Retreat. It can also be rented by Woolpack members.

Remember to get your singles ready for our discussion next month, and keep working on your Spindle Challenge.

Happy Spinning!  
Danielle Jones

# Report of March Meeting

Meeting Minutes for WWH  
February 15, 2012

## Announcements:

- Pioneer Memorial Museum is looking for volunteers to demonstrate on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am-4pm. Contact Danielle if interested.
- Thanksgiving Point Sheep and Wool Festival is also looking for volunteers to demonstrate spinning and/or show/sell wool related items on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm. Contact Jill or you can call Paige at Thanksgiving Point 801-592-9120 is interested.
- Dye Exchange is the meeting for March. If you want to participate, please bring 2 lbs. of dyed fiber, separated in 1 oz amounts (pull apart, do not cut roving). The color is orange. Please be sure to label each one with your name, type of fiber, and a little about the process you used. We will also have show and tell, so bring your fun things to share.
- Heads up for future meetings – April we will be talking about singles and how they can be used in projects. Please bring any finished items you may have using singles. May is when your spinning challenge is due. You should be spinning on a spindle using a new method (or in my case a new kind of spindle) and hopefully making something with it. There is still time to participate, so get out those spindles and get busy.
- If you haven't received your 2012 Member Directory, please see Sonya.
- FYI to those who are interested - The Weavers Guild is having a Fiber Festival at Pioneer Craffthouse April 13-14 and also workshops on April 16-18. Contact Sonya for additional information or see the guild website.
- Julie Davies is selling an Ashford Joy wheel. Please contact her if you are interested in purchasing.

February's meeting was about picking and was presented by Luli Josephson and Sonya Campana. They each brought their swing pickers – a Pat Green Triple picker and a John Meck mini picker to show us and gave demonstrations on how they worked. A few members also tried it themselves. Although they look pretty dangerous and do require you to be very careful and safe as you work, both pickers did a great job of quickly picking even felted fiber. We learned there are a few different types of pickers besides the swing picker like a bench picker or more automated pickers like the Carolina Specialty and the prices range from \$140-\$800 for general pickers. I'm sure, like anything else, pickers can also be a lot more so shop around and look for features you like. Luli and Sonya also said we are welcome to come use their pickers anytime.

## Some tips they gave us were:

- pickers are great for mixing fibers and colors.
- you can also pick fiber while it's still wet, but you should be careful with delicate fibers
- some dehairing can occur while picking, but it is not better than anything else on the market
- pickers are great for pulling apart felted fibers
- if you are having trouble with static buildup, rub a dryer sheet on your hands to reduce static
- to condition your fiber after picking, spray with 1:1 mixture of conditioner and water or 1 part water, 1 part olive oil & ½ part ammonia

Some Pictures from February's meeting



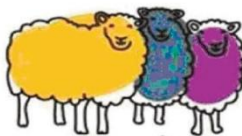




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