

June 2013

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THE WOOLPACK WATCH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE WASATCH WOOLPACK HANDSPINNERS

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President's Message

Can you believe how time flies? Here we are to springtime already. Now I really have to be earnest about finishing up projects from challenges I'm involved in and start thinking about what to put in the county and state fair. Have you given any thought to what you might enter this year? I am hoping to see lots of participation.

Do you have a pile of WIPs (Work In Progress) that never seems to shrink? Maybe you hate finishing work or need to frog something and don't have the heart to do it yourself. Maybe the pattern is too boring or too hard or you just don't want to make or spin it anymore, or have no room to block it but you would like to see the finished project. Maybe there is a project you would like to do but just don't have the time? On the other hand, perhaps you love finishing work, love to spin difficult or boring fiber, need a challenging or mindless project or have no problem unraveling work not your own. I thought it might be fun to have a service project meeting for June where we have a chance to help each other out. Consider some of these suggestions or think of your own and bring your WIPs and willing attitude to our June meeting. We'll give you a chance to explain your WIP or project and what you would like done and those who are willing can volunteer to help where they can. It will be a swap with WIPs and in the end you'll have a finished project. If nothing else, the group can offer help and suggestions. We have lots of talented people in our guild who may be willing to help. We will also be having a drop and swap table. Bring your fiber related items from your spring cleaning to swap and share. Or you can just come to the meeting and enjoy some spinning time. We would love to see everyone.

Keep the following on your calendar and plan to attend as much as you can:

Sat, June 15- Anzula fiber trunk show at Unraveled Sheep. As I understand it, there will be yarns and spinning fibers from Anzula not usually available in stores.

June 19 - WIP swap meeting at PCH 6:30 socializing, 7:00 meeting

June 29 - Spinning Saturday at Kathleen Fisher's. She will be making a large salad. Bring a chair and food to share. Spinning outside on the deck/lawn. Sun and shade are both available.

July 17 - meeting at PCH 6:30

July 25-28 -Park City retreat

Aug 9-11 - Natural dyeing fieldtrip to Encampment, WY

NOTE: Did you know Unraveled Sheep now carries spinning fibers and spindles, in addition to yarn, including some from local favorites like Greenwood Fiberworks and Greensleeves Spindles? Knittin' Pretty also carries spinning fibers so if you are missing Three Wishes already, there are still local places to go to get your fiber fix.

Hope you are enjoying happy spinning!

-Jill Tew

MAY Meeting Notes

Announcements:

- The Sheep & Wool Fest at Thanksgiving Point was great. At least 13 of us showed up to demo. The public watched us spin many different fibers.
- Knowltons was well attended this year.
- Look for upcoming information from Judy Jackson on the Highland Games and Park City WWH Retreat.

June 29 Spinning Saturday at Kathleen Fisher's in Park City. Come spin outside on the deck and lawn. Shade and sun available.

July 3-6 Utah Colonial Heritage Fest demo opportunity. They want to represent the whole process. In costume (they might have some clothes to lend). You may sell your wares with all proceeds going to you, but you need to handle your own taxes. Orem, UT 10 am- dusk

July 24: pioneer museum 1-4 pm need 2 people to demo contact Cathie. No costume, refreshments, lace in museum

July 25-28 WWH Retreat is coming! Watch for an email from Judy Jackson!

Aug 9-11 dyeing field trip to Encampment, WY to visit Carol Lee for a natural dying workshop! Signups due at the June meeting.

\$25 fee includes dying and a place to sleep - need to provide our own food, sleeping gear and stuff to dye.

First Timers - Melissa. Found us on the web. She's been spinning for 3 months and has alpacas, sheep and German angora bunnies

-Tess. Rebecca's friend. She's a new spinner who's waiting for her new wheel to arrive.

She's also getting French angora rabbits

May is Challenge Reveal month:

Jill T: pure bamboo. Very slippery to spin. Once she got the hang of it, it was ok, but she will spin it blended next time. She also knit continental method which is new for her. Carolyn noted that louet's bamboo is different from everyone else's.

Wendy R: shawl of cotton, linen and milk silk

Robin: was unable to attend but showed us her beautiful linen tea towel last meeting

Kathleen: flax spun on a bobbin that is destined to be a crochet grocery bag

Charlotte: ramie top. It was challenging to spin. She tried s and z, neither was easy. Then she tried it wet. It was better but it's hard on the hands

Brenda: cotton linen mixture half on wheel and half on chakra

Cyndi: She got cotton at the Fiber Outlaw Retreat, it was really dry there and the cotton spun really nicely. She knit it into a mini shawl

Carolyn Chen: no but did make her first thing from her handspun, a bracelet

Carolyn F: She learned different things than she expected. She likes to spin non-wool on her spindle with blending. She has a new wheel that she isn't good at (her opinion). She spun bamboo,

(3" short) then dyed it, added silk and linen, then mixed them all together. Eventually she made a crochet flower. She learned she hated the process. She did not like spinning it on her wheel, but she didn't want to be quitter, and that won out. And she'll do it again.

Melanie: 100% bamboo. Dyed first with fiber reactive dye and knit into a shawl. It was time consuming to spin. She also showed off a scarf made out of acrylic yarn

Julie D: She tried to spin cotton, but it went everywhere, so she gave up. She started again with milk-silk which spun very nicely.

Shawn: Spun rayon and made it into necklaces. It was really slippery and then it grips which made it a challenge to spin.

Cheryl: made a large skein of cotton. She has decided it looks like a deck mop (disappointed) and she's looking for ideas. Carolyn suggests boiling again and again and then dyeing it. Claimed it will transform the yarn.

Show 'n Tell:

David showed off a knitting pottery bowl he made in a class he took.

Charlotte spun up some fiber Danielle had carded. She plied it with silk thread for a beautiful result.

Cyndi showed off her new Dr. Who inspired needle gauge

Rebecca showed off her fractal spinning results. She said her fiber kept spinning up muddy until she did fractal spinning and she loves the results

Melanie passed around her 2 skeins of falkland in happy colors. The falkland island has organic sheep because they don't have the bugs and stuff. The wool is lovely.

Jill showed off her first pair of hand knit socks with cables. She knit them with the 2 socks on one circular needle method and she matching the colors as she went.

Reveal Awards:

Carolyn: most unique - bracelet

Charlotte: most useful - wash cloth

Shawn: smallest - necklaces

Kathleen: "A" for effort - bobbin of flax

Wendy: most fiber types in one project - shawl

Prize Bag:

Louise won the bag this month. Cheryl had filled it with a stuffed sheep she had made (which happens to match the one Louise has at home) and a skein of BFL.

—Kathleen Fisher

New Members:

Kathryn Nicholls
1254 West 1045 South
Clearfield, Utah 84015

Jodie McDougall
698 West 3800 South
Bountiful, Utah 84010
glasswhimz@yahoo.com

Carolyn Chen
7291 S. Viansa Court
Midvale, Utah 84047
carolyn.chen@earthlink.net



June Birthdays!!!

6-1 Rebecca Thomas Maurer



Park City Retreat 2013 – 25th Edition

The dates for this year are July 25th thru July 28th. All set up, camping, parking, etc. will be the same (you may set up on Wednesday the 24th after noon).

For newbies, here is basic information: there are two main camping areas. One is on the North lawn by the house and the other one on the North end of the forest between the stream and the meadow (this is right next to the trail also, so might be noisy). There are also spots available to the east of the barn and animal fencing. There is a large mowed parking area North of the house (the pasture) where you can use your vehicles to camp. Ask someone when you get there to get more directions.

I need lots of volunteers once again to facilitate the smooth operation of retreat.

I need 4 one day meal Executive chefs. This job involves planning the meals for approximately 40 spinners on Thurs or Fri or Sat. or Sun brunch. It also will pay your way to retreat except on Sunday when salary is \$30 for one meal. This is to include approximately 8 vegetarians.

I also need 2 gophers for the weekend which will make runs to the store or to exchange propane tanks if needed.

I need many pottie sloshers. This involves pushing/rocking the porta-potties to make sure the solids are under the liquids. This controls the smells and the flies (**especially if the lids are shut every time someone uses them**). With a couple of people, this is usually easy except for the disabled/changing room unit. We will have to decide what to do there.

I need someone to remind all the spinners when mini-workshops are about to begin.

I also need 2 people to be our greeters and take care of signing spinners up to help with meals (helping with one meal is mandatory) and handing out any goodies donated. Of course I need help with the prize tent, but the queen and princesses are usually grandmothered in (Cathie D has already volunteered for the queen position).

There are a few rules that have stood the test of time.

No cell phones or computers making noises in the meadow. We are all very happy to be totally away from interruptions while we are busy having fun. You can use them in the parking area, tents, vehicles, etc.

Recycling. We will have garbage cans and sometimes boxes set up for recycling. Please make sure you are throwing things into the correct container.

No children. If you are not sure what we mean here, please email me. I can explain. Also, no visitors please.

If you would love to show us a new technique or share an old one, this can be a mini-workshop! We can make time for one on Thursday afternoon, Friday morning, Friday afternoon and then one on Sunday morning. Saturday's are way too busy to schedule one.

Saturday includes a show and tell from your personal projects, also show and tell from last years

exchange (ask if you can't remember who or what was going on). If anyone has an idea and would like to be in charge of this/next year's exchange, let me know!

Registration info:

You can cut and paste this registration info into the comments box at Paypal or reply to me here and send your check or copy this part and send it to me with your check.

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Vegetarian? We cook with dairy and eggs.

Plan meals for one day? Which day?

Volunteer for one or more of the positions mentioned above?

Volunteer to present a mini-workshop? Subject? Materials to bring?

Weekend \$85 Saturday only \$30

Send to:

Judy Jackson
7642 S 2880 W
West Jordan UT 84084

or

judyspinning@yahoo.com for Paypal (Paypal is an online bank that allows you to use your credit card or funds from your bank)

questions? judyspinning@hotmail.com 801-561-8855 leave a message, I will get back with you. woohoo!!!!

Northern Utah Fiber Artisans (NUFA)

Tues, June 11, 11am - Solar Dyeing at Kay Wandersee's, 820 Three Point Ave, Logan.
Ph: 435-753-3085. Bring a 3.5 to 4oz skein of yarn, or roving to dye, and a pot luck dish to share.

Sun, June 30, 1pm - Space Dyeing at the home of Peg Neuber, 184 East 200 South in Logan.
Ph: 435-232-2774. Bring a skein of white yarn to dye and \$2 to cover the cost of the dyes. Also, bring a pot luck dish to share.



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