

# Random Threads

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**Prince George Fibre Arts Guild**  
2880 - 15th Ave., Prince George, B.C. V2M 1T1

November 2019  
Volume 420

## Monthly Gathering

**November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 7:00 pm.**

### Show & Tell

Join us for  
Drop-Ins on  
Tuesdays  
6:00 to 9:00pm  
Thursdays  
1:00 to 4:00pm  
6:00 to 8:00pm  
Saturdays  
10:00am to  
1:00pm

**Please bring  
a snack  
to share.**

**Our Fibre  
Arts Guild  
hosted  
the 2019  
Association of  
Northwest  
Weavers' Guilds  
Conference**



# Fibre Arts

*Handmade*  
spinning, knitting, weaving,  
felting and more!

## Annual Sale

Fibre Arts Guild Room  
at Studio 2880  
2880-15th Avenue, 2nd floor

**Nov 30 & Dec 1**  
**10 'til 4**

Join us for a cup of tea and  
a relaxed shopping experience!



Prince George  
Fibre Arts Guild

Handmade Christmas stockings, left to right:  
Debra Lesiak, Elizabeth Gibbs, Margaret Tayl,  
Grace Monrice, Marie Claire Caron



## Felting back by request, just in time for Christmas giving:

'Back to the Basics' Movie Night ~ October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

***Felt It: Make Mini Gnomes (0:47 minutes)***



Sisters Jennifer and Melissa Vansant as they teach you how to create adorable miniature gnomes

How to construct the body for a male or a female gnome

How to create leg definition

How to create the arms and hands

How to felt the hat

How to add face and hair

**Materials needed:** Bring what you have, some supplies available from Guild

- Different colors of wool to use to make the gnome (the coarser, the better) Some curly fiber that can be used for a beard/hair
- An image of a gnome to use for inspiration
- Needle felting supplies (needles, foam block, etc.)
- Scissors
- Sewing needle and thread
- Embroidery floss to use for details



***The Guild has felting kits for sale at the Guild Sale and at Drop-Ins.***

## Dual Purpose Sheep: Suffolk and Lincoln



The Suffolk is one of our oldest, domestic British breeds and has been in existence since the late 1700's. The Suffolk evolved from the mating of Norfolk Horn ewes with Southdown rams and were known as Southdown Norfolks, or locally, as "Black faces." The breed came to Canada in 1888 and interest in the breed grew rapidly after 1920. More than eighty years later it is still one of the dominant breeds in the Canadian industry. Because Suffolk lambs exceed all other breeds in rate of gain, and respond well to confinement, they offer excellent economic returns and continue to dominate the heavy lamb market in Canada. They contain medium wool with black legs and face. Micron count 28 - 33 and staple length 8 - 10cm.



Possibly the original longwool breed of England, the Lincoln sheep is the largest of the traditional British breeds and was established in 1796. They have large, lean and well-muscled carcass. Animals were brought to Canada in the mid 19th century. Because they are a genetically pure sheep, they have been widely used to improve and develop modern breeds such as the Columbia, Corriedale and Panama. This sheep breed remains popular worldwide for its lovely and finest wool and fleece, which is demanded all over the world for weaving and designing. They may be completely white or colored, including shades of black, charcoal, gray and silver. Fleece of the Lincoln is carried in heavy locks that are often twisted into a spiral near the end. Micron count 33.5 - 41 and staple length 18 - 25cm.

### ***Quotes by Stephanie Pearl-McPhee***

- When you are knitting socks and sweaters and scarves, you aren't just knitting. You are assigning a value to human effort. You are holding back time. You are preserving the simple unchanging act of handwork.
- The only difference between an experienced knitter and new knitter is that the experienced knitter makes bigger mistakes faster. Be bold; there are no terrible consequences in knitting.
- The chances of running out of yarn on a project are directly related to the difficulty that you will have getting more.





## Natural Dye Class with Mary Lessman ~ January 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

For most of time colors in textiles came from the everyday plants and animals that surrounded people. the colors that have mellowed over the years give the wall hangings of the Middle Ages their warm, earthy look. Today we can make bright yarns in the colors of the rainbow. Each dye pot will give 25 samples using different mordants and combinations. You can mix and match the dyestuffs to produce a more extensive palette. Learn how to make reproducible colors that play well together. Students will go home with sample cards of all the colors we produce.

All dye materials and yarns will be provided. Supply fee \$45 CAD included in price.

**Time:** 9:30 am - 4:30 pm - bring a lunch, beverages (coffee/tea) supplied

**Place:** Prince George Fibre Arts Guild Room, upstairs at 2880 – 15th Avenue

**Fee:** \$225 members or \$250 non-members plus GST - materials supplied

To register or for more information please contact Birthe at 250-964-6454 or [birthe\\_miller@telus.net](mailto:birthe_miller@telus.net). Deposit of \$50 by the **December 1<sup>st</sup>**, balance at the workshop.

Billeting may be available for out of town students.

## Introduction to Floor Loom Weaving Workshop with Laura Fry ~ February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

In this two day workshop, students will be introduced to weaving on a floor loom by instructor Laura Fry. Looms will be prepared ahead of time with a sampler warp and students will learn the vocabulary of weaving, how a loom works, and given instruction on to hold and throw a shuttle, read a draft, and hints and tips on how to weave their sampler. The guild has looms and materials will be provided.

**Time:** 9:30 am - 4:30 pm - bring a lunch, beverages (coffee/tea) supplied

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## 'Back to Basics' Guild Meetings and Events 2019/20

The main focus of 'Back to the Basics' this year will be starting at the beginning.

### Upcoming Workshops

January 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Natural Dyeing Workshop

February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Beginner's Weaving Workshop

Early Spring ~ Beginner's Spinning Workshop

### Upcoming Events

November 30<sup>th</sup> & December 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Guild Sale

### Upcoming 2019/20 Guild Meetings

Guild meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month. No meetings held in July and August.

November 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Meeting

November 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Free Felting Mini Gnome Workshop

December 10<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Social

### 'Back to Basics' Movie Nights

The last Tuesday Drop-In of each month. Learn from the Masters. Workshop videos will be shown on carding, spinning, plying, design, natural dyeing, felting, wheel mechanics and much more so join us for an informative evening. Upcoming videos will be listed in the newsletter.



## Learn to Spin, Knit, Crochet and Finish your Project Drop-In

Saturdays 10:00am ~ 1:00pm

Tuesdays 6:00 ~ 9:00pm

Thursdays 1:00 ~ 4:00pm and 6:00 ~ 8:00pm

in our Guild Room, bring a snack.

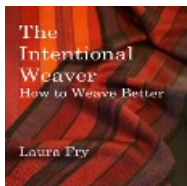
Free to members and a \$5.00 drop-in fee for non-members.



## Buy & Sell

If you have items you would like to list please contact Birthe at [birthe\\_miller@telus.net](mailto:birthe_miller@telus.net)

**For Sale ~ Spinning wheels, carders and other fibre arts related equipment. Check them out in the Guild Room.**



**For Sale ~ The Intentional Weaver; How to Weave Better by Laura Fry.**  
<http://www.blurb.ca/my/store> or search for the title on the [blurb.ca](http://www.blurb.ca) website.

**For Sale ~ Magic in the Water: wet finishing handwovens by Laura Fry.**  
<http://www.blurb.ca/b/8516297-magic-in-the-water>

**For Sale ~** Barely used, fab felter by "Sewing with Nancy". Holds 5 needles, has tool compartment, and comes with wheeled storage/ travelling suitcase. \$75.00 Contact: Gail by texting 250-617-3397 or email [gail\\_stevenson@telus.net](mailto:gail_stevenson@telus.net)

## Christmas Social and Gift Exchange:

To celebrate the season, we will exchange handmade, fibre-related, Christmas gifts. For our new members, the rule is: you give, you get. So, don't feel pressure that you "have to", but it is always great seeing and sharing our creations with each other. As always, the party begins with food so bring some appies or dessert finger food to share. We will be starting early at 6:00pm Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

Every year we collect hand-made items: hats, scarves, mitts, etc. for women and children. We also collect best-before non-perishable food and new unopened personal hygiene products such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soaps, shampoo, etc. These will be given to the Phoenix Transition Society for distribution.

Does anybody else here have a voice in their head that repeats  
"One more row!  
"One more row!  
"One more row!"  
No? Just me?  
Hmmm. Odd.