

Random Threads



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

March 2024
Volume 435

Monthly Gathering

**Second Tuesday
at 7:00 pm.**

Show & Tell

Zoom Meetings

Tuesdays

6:00 to 9:00pm

Movie night last

Tuesday

Thursday 1-4

Sundays

11:30am to

3:30pm

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

President's Corner



March is here and there have been things happening.

Some recent donations have arrived, such as two boxes of books from the family of Allison Morrow, some pieces of small equipment, and a loom from another.

We have sorted through Allison's books, and some will go into the library, some will be by donation, some will be sold on eBay if we can find a volunteer to take that job on.

Doug Fry is repairing a donated loom, and it will be offered for sale when it is ready. There may be another coming later in the spring.

Our March Business Meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, March 18th at 7:00pm. Join us for an update of what is happening and what the future plans are. Bring your Show & Tell, enjoy some treats and socialize with other Guild members.

As ever, many thanks to all of our volunteers who step up to the plate when needed.
Laura



**SPRING
IS
COMING
SOON**



Happy Saint Patrick's Day



*May your troubles be less and your blessing be more.
And nothing but happiness come through your door.*

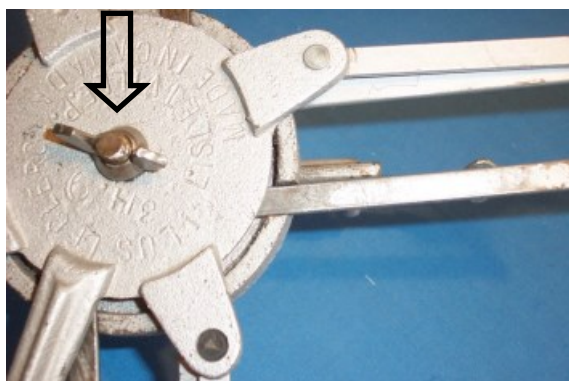
The Guild now has several ball winders which will be available in the Guild Room, one of which is capable of winding very large balls/cones (it's also electric). There is also a Leclerc metal skein winder/swift, which has received some maintenance. The instructions for use are below and will be posted in the Guild Room. This winder/swift is especially useful to turn yarn into skeins for dyeing. It won't take very large skeins for winding off, but will do small skeins very nicely.

We thank the Morrow family for their generosity in donating the books and tools for the Guild members to use.

Check out our Guild Library as we have an extensive collection of books and magazines. If you are looking for an older magazines, we also have the Textile Index so you can look up a subject and probably find the old magazine right there in the Guild Room!

Thanks to the Morrow family for donating Allison's books. Some of her books have been kept to go into the Guild Library, and some are for sale. Check the 'for sale by donation' pile, and the book listings with prices on page 3 of this newsletter.

The Guild has received a donation of a 48" weaving width Leclerc loom. It is being maintained and repaired and will be available for purchase as soon as it has been re-assembled. This would make a great starter loom for someone as we will be putting a very reasonable price on it when it is ready. Stay tuned for more information, hopefully next month.



Leclerc metal skein winder/swift.

It attaches to the edge of a table (not one of the large plastic top tables). The secret to successfully using this tool is to NOT loosen the screw 'too much'. Try a half turn on the wingnut and gently pull/push the 'arms' to extend or decrease the size of the winder. If you loosen the screw 'too much', the arms will pop out of the channels. If that happens, notify someone immediately so that it can be put back together properly.

A Dyer's Garden

Dyeing your own wool, yarns and fabrics can be fun. To create dyes from flowers, herbs, seeds and bark you usually add a mordant. A mordant is an ingredient that binds the dye to the material you are dyeing. Different mordants produce different colors using the same plant materials so your range of colors differs based on which one you choose. Some mordants are alum, iron, tin and vinegar. For example dandelion root turns wool magenta when alum is used as the mordant. Using tin and vinegar mordant results in purple wool and yellow when no mordant is added. The flowers also yield a yellow dye. Also different natural fibers (cotton, wool, linen or silk) will react differently with different dyes, so experiment with an assortment of plants and fibers.

Listed below are just some of the plants you can grow, collect or buy to produce various colours.

Yellow - marigolds, St. John's Wort, goldenrod, daffodils, onions, yarrow, sunflowers, alder, saffron, dandelion

Blue - blue hyacinth, dyer's knotweed (*polygonum tinctorum*) black raspberries, woad

Purple and **violet** - blueberries, purple grapes, coneflowers, dark purple iris, alder

Pink - roses, lavender, dandelion

Red - sumac berries, rosehips, beets, St. John's Wort, madder, crabapple bark, red daylilies, chokecherry

Orange - carrots, bloodroot, some lichens, lilac twigs, coreopsis

Green - artemesia, spinach, red pine needles, lilac flowers, stinging nettle, red onions, snapdragons, paintbrush

Brown - juniper berries, hollyhocks, fennel, elderberry, white birch bark, tea bags, coffee grounds

Black and **grays** - black walnut, sumac, lupine

It is a good idea to read more about dyeing and making your own dyes or if possible taking a natural dyeing class. There will be time to do that while your dyer's garden is growing!

Books for Sale:

(There are some books in the 'purchase by donation' pile in the room. These have a price tag attached to them.)

The following books are being offered for sale to Guild members first. If they do not sell locally, we will explore online sales or hosting an eBay auction. The prices listed below with the titles are the upset price if we do an auction, and if someone wants to purchase, and doesn't live locally to pick it up from the Guild Room, add \$20 for shipping.

The complete **Master Weaver** series by Zilinski, edited by Robert Leclerc. Sold as complete collection only, \$200.

Handloom Weaving Technology ~ Allen Fannin \$30 (two copies)

The Magic of Linen ~ Linda Heinrich \$30

A Weaver's Memoir ~ Jack Lenor Larsen \$15

Navaho Weaving ~ Charles Avery Amsden \$20

The Techniques of Rug Weaving ~ (signed) Peter Collingwood \$30

Shinto Weaving ~ Lintero and Baizerman \$15

Sewing Ultra Suede Brand Fabrics ~ Alto, Palmer, Weiland \$15

Clothing From the Hands that Weave ~ Anita Luvera Mayer \$10 (coilback)

Fiberworks Source Books ~ Bobbi A McRae \$10

No Common Thread ~ Moes and Heggteit \$50 (coilback with woven samples)

Designing with Thread ~ Irene Waller \$10

Contact laura@laurafry.com to purchase



Upcoming Workshops and Classes

Please check our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for the latest workshops and classes.



Weaving with Upcycled Materials (rescheduled from May)

Dates: September 20, 21 and 22, 2024

Time: (Friday 7-9 pm, Saturday 9 am - 4 pm, Sunday 1-4 pm)

Place: Jack Bryan Room at Studio 2880, 2880 – 15th Avenue.

Fee: \$300 members or \$350 non-members plus GST

Material Fee: \$20 paid to the instructor. Maximum number of students will be 12, so register early to ensure a spot.

Weavers are great recyclers, and this workshop will look at various ways to create new textiles from 'old' materials.

Experience level - Beginner Plus. Weavers should know how to dress their loom. (If you need help, guild members will be able to assist.) The guild has a number of table looms available to rent for this workshop.

Cheryl Peebles is an artist, working creatively for 40 years. She is curious, always wanting to know more, taking every opportunity to learn. Eventually she took the Olds Master Weaver Certificate, achieving the level of Master Weaver in 2022 with an in-depth study in Rag Weaving for Garments.



Whether you are experienced or a novice, Cheryl will guide you through using materials in new ways.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED (on-line at <https://pgfibrearts.ca/workshops>). Deposit of \$50 required by the August 1st, 2024, balance at the workshop. For more information, please contact Laura at laurafry@telus.net.

Cheryl also owns a shop for weavers and spinners and will have a pop-up shop - hours to be announced.

Out of town weavers, there are a number of motels/restaurants within 5 minutes drive of the Studio 2880 buildings.

Buy & Sell

Looking for fibre equipment, check out [Buy & Sell](#). If you have items you would like to list online please contact Birthe at info@pgfibrearts.ca with description, price, contact information and photo if possible.

'Back to Basics' Guild Meetings and Events 2023/24

The main focus of 'Back to the Basics' this year will be starting at the beginning. Check our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for updates.

Upcoming Workshops and Classes

Fair Isle Knitting ~ March 13th

Inkle Weaving for Beginners ~ March 16th or April 13th

Introduction to Spinning with a Spindle ~ March 20th

Weaving with Upcycled Materials ~ September 20th ~ 22nd

Upcoming Events

BC Northern Exhibition ~ TBA, August

Great Northwest Fibre Fest ~ Sunday, September 8th

Studio Fair ~ TBA, November

Guild Sale ~ Saturdays in December

Upcoming 2023/24 Guild Meetings

Show & Tell the 2nd Tuesday of each month. No meetings held in July and August.

Guild Business Meetings are held quarterly on the 2nd Wednesday of March, June, September and December. **NOTE:** March 2024 meeting has been moved to Monday, March 18th.

'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.

Support the Canadian fibre industry!

Fibre Arts Sources

Please visit and support our friends for your fibre, yarn, patterns, kits, dyes, equipment and so much more.

Check out the many BC vendors, something special for everyone.

[fibre-arts-source](#)

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

Drop-Ins have resumed for Guild Members and the public.

Social distancing, masks are required at this time.

Tuesdays 6:00 ~ 9:00pm

Zoom Meetings for Guild Members Only.

Thursdays 1:00 ~ 4:00pm

Zoom Meetings for Guild Members Only.

Thursdays 6:00 ~ 9:00pm

Guild Members and the public.

Sundays 11:30am ~ 3:30pm

Zoom Meetings for Guild Members Only.

'Back to the Basics' Movie Night ~ March 25th 7:00pm in Guild Room

Learn to Crochet (for real this time) (45 minutes)

SLOW Step-By-Step How to Crochet Tutorial

Ready to truly master crochet? This tutorial is tailored for absolute beginners. Dive in as we cover the essentials: from preparing your yarn and making a slip knot to holding your hook correctly. By the end, you'll be equipped with foundational techniques to kickstart your crochet journey. Crochet needles and yarn available in Guild Room.



The Thirteenth Annual FIBRES WEST

Friday, March 29th and Saturday, 30th, 2024.

Cloverdale Agriplex, 17763 62 Ave, Surrey, BC.

Interested in spinning, weaving, felting, knitting, rug hooking, lace making, dyeing, tapestry, basket weaving and other related fibre crafts? Come and check us out. We promote local, Canadian fibre producers, fibre shops, independent artists, equipment producers, non-profit groups and weaving and spinning guilds. We hire Canadian teachers and we invite vendors from BC, Alberta, Washington and beyond to join us. For more information see <https://www.fibreswest.com>

