

Random Threads



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

May 2025
Volume 441

Monthly Gathering

Second Tuesday
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 9:00pm

Sundays

Noon to 3:00pm

*** July/Aug change
see Note this pg.

*Our Fibre Arts
Guild hosted
the 2019*

*Association of
Northwest
Weavers' Guilds
Conference*

President's Corner

This month a whole article was written by Grace, our president. Please see page 2!

As a teaser, here is the picture that goes along with her article:



*** NOTE: Drop In Hours Change during Summer ***

Summer drop in hours:

JULY: Thursdays 6-9pm and Sundays 12-3 (no drop in on Tues)

AUGUST: Tuesdays 6-9pm and Sundays 12-3 (no drop in on Thurs)

Article from Grace (Accompanying picture on page 1):

As host of the Thursday Drop-in, I sometimes find my fibre arts skills challenged. The Thursday group is a collection of knitters, spinners, felters, fibre preppers, even on occasion menders. As long as it is fibre it's all fair game and as you can imagine the mix creates interesting conversations.

Where I get into trouble is when a challenge is suggested and the idea of a summer top knit along is the latest. The knit along is very open, summer top + summer weight yarn, Fibre blend of your choice. You don't have to come to the Thursday drop in to take part but if you are having problems that may be the place to go if you run into trouble. There are no prizes or anything like that, but we would love to see your creation when it is done.

And so, my next knit will be the Herringbone Tank, an all-over textured pattern with no sleeves (critical point as I do not have enough yarn for a sleeved garment). Having done my gauge swatch in two different needle sizes I realize I can use the called for needle but will need to knit the Medium rather than XL to get a size that I will not be swimming in. My gauge is 17 stitched to 4 inches and the pattern calls for 22 in 4 inches, basically my yarn is bigger than recommended. As a hand spinner I am always working with a different yarn than the pattern recommends so I have learned through swatching how to adjust, and I am afraid I have also learned the blocking my swatch does matter.

My next challenge is getting the right number of stitches on the needle. For me gizmo's are required, when casting on 212 stitches I need to put a stitch marker every 25 stitches to ensure I have the right number (what did knitters of the past do without them?). As this is a knit in the round project the next challenge is joining without twisting my stitches. I lay my cable on a flat surface putting the bottom cast on edge into the center so I can see there is no twist, then when I pick up my needle to knit into the first stitch on the other side I hold onto those two stitches so they do not twist, knit a couple more stitches and lay it down to check. (like counting stitches this is when no one can talk to me as I am concentrating).

Setting up is a job to do when I am not tired or being interrupted. Here too I like to use stitch markers as speed bumps to remind me that I need to pay attention. On a complicated pattern I will even colour code them if needed, but it as simple as possible. My next problem is trusting the pattern, most patterns are tech edited which means they should be free of errors, learning to read a pattern is like learning a new language and I often need to read the section I am working on more than once. There are times when I only realize I have not understood until I get to the end of a row and have too many or too few stitches left. OPPSS.....But I know I have the right number of stitches, so where did I go wrong????? The stitch markers can help me find my errors and then I must decide whether to Tink back or start all over again, this is a personal preference. On this project I have done both, but I think I have it sorted now so hopefully I am off and knitting. Time will tell.

Grace Morrice



Moose Meadows Farm

A Weekend to Dye For 2025: June 27-29 (West of Quesnel)

We enjoyed the 2024 "Weekend to Dye For" (#Wkend2Dye4) and we had such GREAT feedback, we have decided to host one again in 2025.

We anticipate an event similar to 2024 with workshops on anything fibre related spanning the time from Friday to Sunday. Participants will be able to camp on-site and enjoy the ambiance of our farm and the atmosphere of the event.

This year we have a Needle Felting Soap workshop confirmed and are planning to offer Acid Dyeing and perhaps some dyeing with Natural products. Anything goes - crocheting, knitting, felting (wet or needle), rug hooking, dyeing, weaving, spinning, etc.

Link: [A Weekend to Dye For :: Moose Meadows Farm](https://www.moosemeadowsfarm.ca/events-and-activities/weekend-dye)

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Coming Soon

Sunday, May 4 - from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the regular drop-in, Kayla will be hosting a discussion on dyeing fibre/yarn (See picture, to the right). This will be an opportunity for Guild member interested in dyeing to come to come together and discuss techniques, materials, challenges, etc. Attendees are encouraged to bring any finished dye projects they would like to share with the group.



Ongoing: KAL (Knit-A-Long) during regular Thursday evening drop-in. This KAL is a summer top or T using plant-based yarns such as cotton, linen, bamboo, or blends thereof. Drop in with your pattern, yarn, and needles.

May 8: Dryer Ball Thursday... on the second Thursday of the month

Sunday, May 25 - during the regular drop-in from noon to 3:00 p.m. Weavers and those interested in weaving can join Laura Fry for an informal chat regarding the publication WEFT. Laura will bring the samples she wove for the two articles that are in the first issue of WEFT for people to take a look at 'in real life'. Laura will be willing to answer questions and would love to see what everyone has been working on.

Laura is still auto-immune compromised and would appreciate attendees wearing masks. There will be masks available to the right just inside the Guild room.



June 9-13: 1, 2, and 5-day Workshops, various topics

Brought to you by:

Vancouver Island Surface Design Association (VISDA)
and
BC Regional Surface Design Association

Location: Cowichan Community Centre, Duncan BC
Registration opens March 15 2025

Check out the Link: [Workshops](https://currentthreads.company.site)
(<https://currentthreads.company.site>)

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE:

- Braids and Cords for Embellishment with Shirley Berlin - June 9
- Book of Hand Stitches and Dyeing with Iris Bell & Rhonda Papiernik - June 9-13
- The Stitched Photograph with Jacqueline Pendergast - June 10-11
- Dye Workshop: Indigo, Kakishibu, Shibori with Edie Brown & Joan Bobyn - June 10-11
- Illuminated Wet Felt Bowl with Darrell Giraldeau - June 11
- Cat Ear Basket with Vera Lohse - June 11
- Little Pinch Pots: Exploring Textile Vessels with Susan Purney Mark - June 12-13
- Artful Journals: A Mixed Media Adventure with Nadine Wong - June 12-13
- Design Exploration with Lesley Turner - June 12-13

Happenings at the Guild:

On April 5 Jullie showed us how to make wet felted flower pins. It was a great session, and all participants were able to make two flowers. It was interesting to see the different colour combinations. By the time we were finished we had really clean hands (because of all the hot water and soap used in the process!). Here is a picture of the flowers, not quite dry and still needing the centres sewn in:



Permanent Sales Area (PSA)

A refresh of the permanent sales area is underway, taken on by Jullie A.

Some guidelines to share:

- ◆ Everyone can help by keeping their own items “fresh”, perhaps seasonal. Inventory is to be refreshed minimally every 6 months (i.e. all items removed, inventoried, and then a new inventory list for new items submitted). Responsibility for this now rests with the vendor, but it is to be done together with whomever is hosting the drop-in at the time, with the inventory sheet initiated by that person.
- ◆ Items for sale must be listed on a separate inventory sheet and must have an inventory tag.
- ◆ Adhere to previously established guidelines (eg, items in the PSA are NOT to be removed for inclusion in off-site sales without adjusting all applicable inventory sheets)

FYI: Farm & Fiber Knits

Reminder for any who missed it: There is a digital subscription that may interest our members. From their website: “*Farm & Fiber Knits* is a new project supported through Long Thread Media from a team wholly focused on fiber arts. The aim of Farm & Fiber Knits is to support knitters who are choosing yarns thoughtfully. Who are curious about fibers and farms and people. Who are passionate about natural fiber. And from the field to the sweater, they are on the journey with you.” Subscriptions start at \$5.99/month (likely USD) Details at: <https://farmfiberknits.com/>

BOOKS for SALE

Some recently acquired books (left over from a previous donation) are for sale in the guild room (located in a cardboard box on the table)

📖 Price list accompanies the books 📖

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 in 2025

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 Events

May 4, 1:30-3:00: Discussion on Dyeing Fibre/Yarn in the Guild Room.

May 25 noon to 3:00pm: Chat with Laura Fry on the Publication WEFT.

June 25 7pm: Business Meeting followed by Show and Tell.

Upcoming 2025 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 change to Dec 18, 2024)

'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.

Check out our Facebook page [PGFibreArts](#) and website pgfibrearts.ca for more details.

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

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

Tuesdays 6:00 ~ 9:00pm

Thursdays 1:00 ~ 4:00pm

Thursdays 6:00 ~ 9:00pm

Sundays Noon ~ 3:00pm

***** July/Aug change see Note page 1**

It takes a (Fibery) Village

Have you come across anything that might be of interest to other members? Or do you have a project you'd like to share?

Send any fibre-related links to websites, podcasts, descriptions of your projects (with pictures!), etc. for inclusion in our newsletters to: the newsletter editor, Belinda Larisch: belindalarisch@gmail.com

