

# Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

P.O. Box 2086  
Williamsburg, VA 23187  
<http://Williamsburgspinweave.org>

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May 2011

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## May Meeting

Monday 5/16/11

10:00 a.m. (9:30 a.m. social time) to 1:00 p.m.  
Room C, James City County Recreation Center  
5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg

### Program

#### Spin-In

Join in the fun — bring your wheel or spindle.

The Outreach Education Committee report due.

Bill Kay will give a book report.

Six Slick Silks Workshop Show & Tell

### Refreshments

Savory - Ingrid Kross  
Sweet - Linda Adamchak

### Bash

There will not be a bash in May.

## Minutes for April 18, 2011

The April meeting of the WSWG took place at Whitcomb Lodge at Beaverdam Park in Gloucester, VA.

Vice-President Sandi Petty called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Sandi welcomed guests Bev Sabelhaus, Peggy Truett and Penelope Mace, who were attending the silk reeling workshop following the meeting.

**Minutes** for the March meeting were approved as published in the April newsletter.

**Treasurer:** Ingrid Kross reports \$4916.25 in the checking account.

**Librarian:** Mary Lou Birns was not present.

**Newsletter:** Nothing to report

**Historian:** Nothing to report

**Programming:** April – Michael Cook will present “Moth to Cloth” as the morning program. His silk reeling workshop, “Six Slick Silks”, will begin Monday afternoon after the meeting, and will continue all day Tuesday and Wednesday.

May - Another spin-in day. The Outreach Education Committee report is due. Bill Kay is signed up to give a book report.

June – Potluck Picnic at Rosalie’s. Bernadette Marquez is signed up to give a book report.

July - View and discuss Madelyn Van der Hoogt’s DVD “Warping your loom”. Jerry Smith is signed up to do a book report.

August: ?

September - Doubleweave workshop with Jennifer Moore, September 19-21. Price and venue have not been set, yet. It will be round-robin. Marsha Rehkamp is signed up to do a book report.

October - No program as of yet. Linda Adamchuk is signed up to do a book report.

November: No program as of yet. Judy Mooers is signed up to do a book report.

December – Potluck luncheon and an exchange. It was decided that participants will each create one fiber-related 3 dimensional object to give away.

March, 2012: Robin Russo will do a three-day workshop March 19-21

**Book Report:** None this month. Bill Kay will give one at the May meeting.

**Snacks :** May: Linda, sweet; Ingrid, savory

**Bash:** No bash in May. A sign-up list for the remainder of the year will be sent around at the May meeting.

**New Business:** Ingrid has the Guild loom at her house and needs to find it new living quarters. It is a table loom with a stand.

Ingrid is storing several of the Guild’s display

shawls. She suggested that the Guild needs new ones and the older ones should be retired. Disposal of the shawls will be discussed at the May meeting.

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival will be May 7 & 8.

Cathy Sterling visited the American Textile History Museum in Lowell, MA. She suggested that the Guild support their efforts in some way. This will be discussed at the May meeting.

### **Old Business:**

Other Guilds workshops:

Fredericksburg Spinners & Weavers Guild - “Just Our Yarn” second weekend in November. (Judy has details.)

Clotho’s Handspinners: Celia Wheeler, Friday, Nov. 1. (Judy has details.)

Four farms in Mathews will be hosting a sustainable farming festival at Rosalie’s on May 28.

### **Show & Tell:**

Virginia — a project on the loom.

Cathy Sterling — flyers and information from the American Textile History Museum.

Marsha Rehkamp — notebook from Mannings’ workshop on lace weaves, along with several samples

Barbara Frey — Hitchhiker scarf (as in *Hitchhiker’s Guide To The Galaxy*, because it has 42 points) scarf #3 and knitted lace cowl.

Ingrid Kross — several colorful rag rugs made with her finds at the Pendleton Wool Mill Outlet.

Judy Moore — working on a lace shawl with fine spun merino wool

**Today’s program:** Michael Cook presents “Moth to Cloth.”

Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Rehkamp  
Secretary

Members in attendance:

Virginia Banks, Rosalie Brown, Barbara Frey, Ingrid Kross, Penelope Mace, Bernadette Marquez, Judy Mooers, Sandi Petty, Marsha Rehkamp, Frankie Snipes, Cathy Sterling.

**One of the advantages of being disorderly is that one is constantly making exciting discoveries.**

**A. A. Milne**

# March 19, 20 & 21, 2012, Workshop with Fiber Enthusiast, Master Spinner, and Teacher Robin Russo

Robin lives in Bradford, VT where she teaches spinning, felting, dyeing, and working with exotic fibers. She has taught at numerous gatherings of spinners, weavers, knitters and historical societies. Robin has been a fiber enthusiast for more than thirty-eight years and takes every opportunity to explore its potential.

Below is a listing of Robin's classes. Look them over and be ready to let Sandi know which ones interest you.

## The Silk Experience

Understanding silk from the egg to the final product. This class covers everything about silk from raising silkworms to spinning every form of silk available to spinners. This class involves a little science, geography, history and lots of spinning. We examine silk fabrics, threads and fibers with magnification devices; reel cocoons; stretch cocoons over frames (hankies); and blend silk with other fibers to create luxurious yarns.

## Exotic Fibers

This is a spinning class that covers cashmere, yak, camel, qiviut, llama, alpaca, mohair, pygora, angora and silk. We discuss each animal's geography, history and fiber properties. We also spin from raw fibers, commercially prepared fiber and our own fiber preparations. We cover wheel adjustments, spinning techniques and fiber preparation. This is a very good introduction class for spinners who have been afraid to explore some of the luxury fibers.

## Wool Combing

This class teaches the use of both hand-held (Viking style) combs and table-mounted (English style) combs. Participants will spin what they comb to help improve their combing skills. This class becomes an education about fiber, breeds of sheep, spinning techniques, wheel adjustment and fiber preparation. This class is good for both intermediate and beginner spinners.

## Kumihimo

This class introduces you to the ancient Japanese art of braiding on a maru dai. Participants will learn how to wind the bobbins and how to do a round, square, flat and spiral braid on eight bobbins. No previous experience is required.

## Explore the World of Goat Fibers

This spinning class teaches participants about Angora, Pygora, Cashgora and cashmere goats. We

discuss the history, geography, industrial uses and fiber properties of each of these animals. We will card, comb and spin samples of each fiber in their natural colors and dyed. We will also experiment with blending and creating novelty yarns to make the best use of the special properties of these luxurious fibers.

## Silk Paper

Also called silk fusion or silk felt, it has been a very popular technique for some years and the final products have been used in many different ways. My silk paper class teaches how to make the paper and allows participants to explore this technique in their own way. Participants can be very creative in this class with the use of color and surface embellishment.

## Novelty Yarns

In this spinning class we will examine the construction of yarns, the use of novelty techniques, color and a variety of fibers to create unusual yarns. We will use many different types of fibers and drum carders to prepare batts for the spinning of novelty, exotic and unique yarns. This class covers: 1) some color theory, 2) yarn construction techniques, 3) the properties and characteristics of both wool and exotic fibers, 4) novelty yarn techniques, and 5) the use of a drum carder. This class is good for both beginner and more advanced spinners.

## Felting

I also offer a variety of "wet" felting classes.

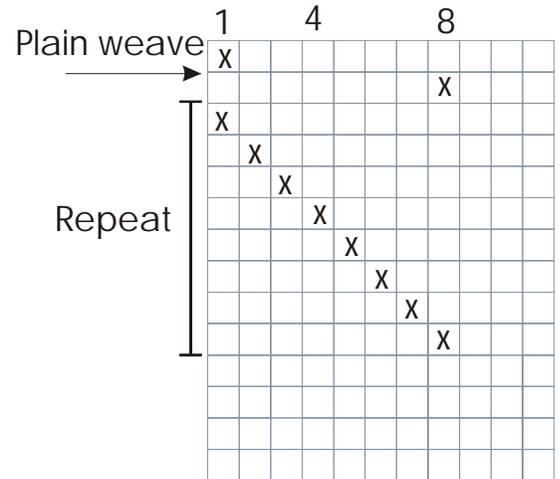
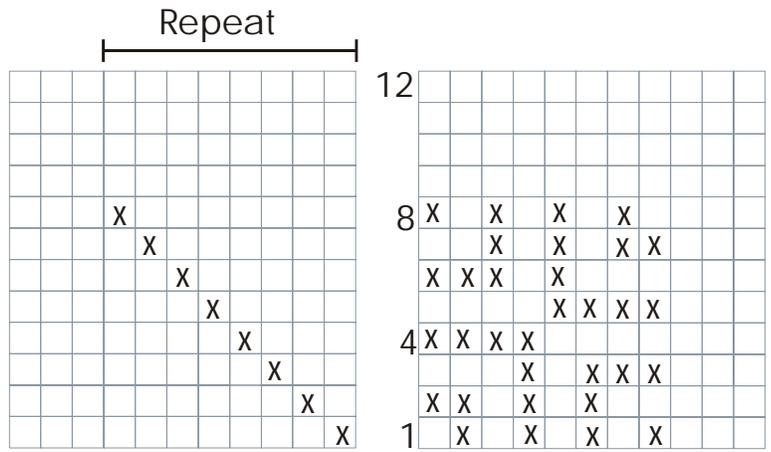
## Intermediate Spinning

This is an in-depth class covering fibers; fiber preparation (including carding and combing) for woolen and worsted; spinning technique; wheel adjustments and ratios; and finishing your skeins for a professional look. This class will help participants to fine-tune their spinning skills and put to use some of the techniques they may have read about but not explored.

# James River Weavers

The Stray Lamm Newsletter, March 2011

**Woven by:** Hilary Ely  
**Project/use:** Dish Towel Sample  
**Pattern:** Crepe Weave  
**Source:** *Handwoven*, Sept/Oct 2003, p. 55  
**Technique:** Crepe Weave



**Warp:** 8/2 cotton  
**Weft:** 8/2 cotton  
**Tabby:**  
**Reed:** 12 dent      **Sley:** 2 per dent      **Sett:** 24 epi      **Woven:** 18 ppi  
**Finishing:** machine wash and dry, permanent press cycles  
**Comments:** It shrank a little more than anticipated.

## Officers

**President** Beth Palmer  
**Vice President** Sandi Petty  
**Treasurer** Ingrid Kross  
**Secretary** Marsha Rehkamp

**Birthdays**  
 Rosalie Brown  
 Judy Mooers  
 Selma Moore  
 Dee Smith