



## Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

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

### **Guild Newsletter for April 19,2021**

#### **Next Monthly Meeting**

Monday, May 17, 2021

Social Time: 9:50-10:00 am

ZOOM Business Meeting: **10:00**

*Program: SPRANG!*

*An exciting ancient form of weaving*



## WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS & WEAVERS GUILD

APRIL 19, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING

10:00 AM on ZOOM video call. Special Thanks to MAFA for making the ZOOM program available to its member guilds. Meeting brought to order by President (and ZOOM guru) Dave Banks.

Attendees: Dave, Cindy, Liz V, Sandi, Rosemary, Goodie, Linda, Tina, Ingrid, Claudia, Janet G., Judy, Marsha, Debbie, Jaime, Pamela, Dee, Kathy, Lisa

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MINUTES: Accepted.

TREASURERS REPORT:

We have \$4,390.57 in the treasury, and 44 Paid Members! 2020 Taxes have been filed.

Remember that several Fiber Supply Shops, like The Woolery, will give our guild a financial bonus if you identify our guild when you order!

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS:

We're looking forward to Tina's program on SPRANG next month! This is a unique method of weaving. We're also excited about Dee's June Program on Dyeing, and July's program will be hearing from everyone who went to MAFA.

The current list of the rest of the programs

is at the end of the minutes. Also, check the end of the minutes for a list of Workshops being offered online by the Central Virginia Fiberarts Guild! If you have any ideas for future programs or workshops, please let Cindy know.

Our treasury is flush enough to pay for workshops on a myriad of topics. Many fabulous teachers have developed ZOOM workshops, so we can learn from the comfort and safety of our home. (Some, like Darryl Lancaster, only teach online, now!) If you know of any teachers, topics or ideas that would be interesting, please let Cindy know, or bring them up during the next meetings. Also, Kris Wessler has volunteered to help Cindy research Workshop ideas. Maybe we can schedule some on weekends or weeknights so those who work 9-5 can enjoy them, too. They are hoping to schedule workshops on all our fiber arts, including knitting, crocheting, spinning, felting, dying, weaving, ... so many possibilities!

WEBSITE:

Dave has been updating the website with the newsletters and the Spin-In meetings. He will look into posting videos of our Zoom Meetings and Programs on the website, for members who can't attend live. I've written up a description of a new loaner Spinning Wheel that was donated to the Guild, for Dave to put onto our Loaner Library Descriptions.

OLD BUSINESS:

MAFA: Early Registration opened April 10 at 9AM for the MAFA 2021 Virtual Conference, June 24-27, 2021. Members of our guild are eligible for Early Registration. Just identify our guild in the registration process. Go to their website [mafafiber.org](http://mafafiber.org) for information on the many, many classes, contests, and events they will be having online during this summer event. Don't forget to enter the contests. I know our members are producing great fiber art that would be very competitive in the MAFA contests. Looks like it will be great fun!

NEW BUSINESS:

We have had no new invites for events or demonstrations for 2021, yet. Hopefully, with the vaccines getting widespread, in-person events and demos will come back soon.

We discussed the future of our meetings. More than half of us at this meeting have our vaccines started.

More and more people are getting vaccines. Other groups and guilds have started meeting in person. We discussed that we might want to start meeting in person, too. But the Zoom meetings have been great, too, especially for those of us who live out of town. We discussed that we might continue to use Zoom, but also meet together in person perhaps every quarter or every other month. We might also include Zoom with our live meetings. Our In-person meetings would be good for some of the programs that would be nice to do interactively, hands-on. We might start recording & posting our meetings and/or programs on our website. Kathryn will explore our old haunts to see which are available and

have fast Wi-Fi. Cindy will extend our Zoom meetings through December. Dave had the foresight to buy a wi-fi camera(/microphone?) for us to use at our in-person meetings for our Zoom attendees. It will be like the camera that Cindy uses to allow close-up projections at the meeting programs, but for our Zoom folks! Aren't we the Thoroughly Modern Millie's (and Maxes)! 22 Skidoo and the Cat's Meow!

We received a very kind and generous donation to the guild of a Lendrum Double Treadle Spinning Wheel. Ingrid is going to give it a "tune-up!" – replacing the poly drive band, footman connectors, etc., and Dave will store the Wheel at his house when not in use. This wheel has a generous set of flyers and bobbins: Regular, Very Fast (for Lace), Plying, and a WooLee Winder! Plus, there is a Lazy Kate to hold bobbins while plying. This will be a helpful addition to our loaner library. Not only will it be good to loan to new spinners for learning and testing, but experienced spinners might want to try the different Flyers, or experience the magic of a WooLee Winder Flyer. This wheel folds easily for portability, so it might be good for us to use at demos, if a member doesn't want to carry their own wheel. The Regular Flyer and several bobbins would be good for new spinners (Ratios: 6:1, 8:1, 10:1). It is an easy wheel to use, and the tilt of the flyer makes it easy to see what you are doing. The Very Fast Flyer ratios are 26:1, 30:1, 36:1 & 44:1, great for spinning laceweight, cottons, and fine furs.

The Plying Flyer (Ratios: 5:1, 7:1, 9:1) has large bobbins, which makes it fun to ply two regular bobbins to one jumbo bobbin without breaking the yarn. It is also very useful for making & plying bulky and art yarns! Boucles, Coils and Locks would fly through the large orifice (7/8"! ) on this flyer. Experienced spinners may want to borrow this wheel & flyer to try making art yarns that your own wheel might not be able handle, or to make & ply bulky yarns that wouldn't fit on your normal wheel. Also, it has a WooLee Winder and 6 special bobbins. This is a custom flyer unit that has an automatic winding system with no hooks! No more stopping your SpinZen to move the yarn along the bobbin! No more slumpy, lumpy bobbins that are hard to unwind. If you have ever wanted to try one of these, you are welcome to borrow the wheel, flyer & bobbins to test it out. WooLee Winders are expensive, so it is great to try one out before buying one for your wheel. Many find that it helps you spin a more consistent yarn, pack the bobbin more efficiently, unwind the bobbins more easily, spin and ply much faster, and stay in your SpinZen Mood longer, but others have found the tension is too high to spin delicate lace yarns. It is very easy to switch the flyers to try these different options. Great tool for our Loaner Library!

### SHOW AND TELL

Please remember to send pictures to Janet G before or just after each meeting, so she can post it in the next newsletter, so we can all enjoy the fruits of your labors! As she says, the pictures are my favorite part!

Lisa D. dropped in (during a break from teaching her own classes!) to show us an incredible patterned Yoke sweater she had knit using KnitPicks City Tweed. Impressive, Lisa!

Marsha showed us a neat twist on the Color & Weave Sampler, using Twill! The difference was surprising, and lovely. She also displayed a Looong sampler of Canvas Weave Structures, like basketweave, pre-lace/pre-huck. Many of the structures looked like inset "framed pictures" of the interesting weave patterns. She also did a very colorful framed Origami sampler that looked like a Quilting Sampler, based on a 19<sup>th</sup> Century kindergarten course, using many colors of 6" square papers. What Fun!

Rosemary finished her Color and Weave Gamp as a Table Runner, with Yellow & Blue and red, and continued to make Color and Weave towels! That program really inspired us!

Dee showed off her Color and Weave Sampler, long enough to be a lovely table runner, too. She really enjoyed the weaving process of changing patterns to explore all the effects. Dee also started using a new eWheel from Dreaming Robots. It is bigger than her prior (much enjoyed) Nano from Dreaming Robots, and it is more powerful, and has lots of controls, and a foot pedal that comes with it. Goodie stayed in the Color and Weave theme, and showed off her intricate Log Cabin Purple Magenta Shawl from an 18<sup>th</sup> Century Pattern. (We also re-admired the shawl she was wearing!)

Sandi showed a lovely Gauzy Summer Top that she wove and sewed from a nice variegated cotton. Just in time for the hot weather!

Judy has been busy, using handspun yarns to make a Lace Shawl with Merino & silk, handspun Tricolor Shawl, handwoven towels in an M&W Twill, handwoven Spring colored towels, and handwoven scarves to sell at the Tavern. Wow!

Janet “felt” inspired by Goodie’s & Tina’s felted animals, and she needle-felted a cute Blue Bird, a happy Bunny head, and a colorful Gnome out of many colors of Corriedale wool (and other accent fibers). Janet, Goodie, & Tina shared some tips for making very firm 3-D items and to make them smooth. (Roll the wool tight, and needle-felt as you go!)

Tina showed the cutest teeny-tiny needle-felted chicken. I still haven’t figured out how she can do that without many finger-stabbings! She did recommend heavy wools for needle felting, and finer wools for wet felting.

Debbie already received her Maryland Sheep & Wool t-shirt! Order your bling now! She has admitted that she has “regressed” and been enjoying weaving with Loops. Yep, like the little potholders we used to make as kids! She joined a “Keep On Looping” monthly club (Acorn & Twigs) in March, and receives monthly kits with loops & patterns to use on her 10” square loop loom. The colors and patterns look surprisingly intricate! See, Color and Weave works on these looms, too!

Liz showed some Easter Baskets she wove with regular and eyelash yarns. One was on a cardboard box, another was on a round plastic take-out salad bowl. Tip: if you weave with eyelash yarn, pull out the fringe with every pass of the weft, or you’ll be pulling the fluffies out with tweezers! Boring!

Cindy showed some pretty double-weave projects from a class she & Kathy took Before Covid (BC? Oops - Nope.) (She had to finish those class weaving projects to free up the looms to explore more Color & Weave!) Cindy summed up our Color and Weave experiments and explorations with several of her own! She showed a couple of intricate Log Cabin variations, one using a variegated yarn – interesting! She also showed an amazing double weave overshot table runner and 6 placemats using the Cat Tracks and Snails Trails patterns from Marguerite Davidson, done on a 4-harness loom, stunning. And, ....I know I’m missing something, I kept drooling on my notes ‘cause they were all so pretty! Finally, Cindy admitted she also regressed, and indulged in weaving with loops to make large potholders with hand dyed loops. (Looks like this would be a great way to test a Color & Weave pattern?!?)

#### PROGRAM: COLOR AND WEAVE DESIGNING

Sandi held another very informative program on Color and Weave, a weaving technique that uses color to simulate intricate woven patterns. Sandi showed us several more inspiring and beautiful examples. Now that we’ve now seen many of the possibilities of Color and Weave, she showed us some ideas on how to design and plan our own projects. So much to consider:

Project: Size, shape, usability (washable, durable ...)

Color: contrast, same color repeat as warp vs. all one-color weft, vs. different color repeats)

Pattern: Loom, size of the project vs. size of the repeat of the pattern, balanced or offset borders and blocks, Warp plan, Weft plan

Yarns: Sett & thickness of the yarns (maybe mixing sizes of yarn), stash vs. buy, how

Much Graph paper: Use to draw out and test transitions (or lined notepaper, sideways!)



Thanks so much to Cindy and Sandi for putting so much thought, effort, research and planning into this series of presentations! I've learned so much - they really showed how easy it is to make a complicated looking amazing weave with just color changes, on the simplest of looms. We're so lucky to have such talented, giving people in our guild!

### WSWG CALENDAR:

#### MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Every Month on the third Monday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Programs are subject to change. We are so thankful to have so many volunteers to teach us new and inspiring ideas!

ZOOM Meeting ID: 821 7387 9085 Passcode: 445227

MAY 17 Program: Spring into Sprang! with Tina. Sprang is a fascinating method of weaving with your fingers without a fancy loom. You just won't believe it 'till you see it!

JUNE 21 Program: Dee's Dye Pot! Dee will show us how she makes her wonderful dyed fibers and yarns using various food dyes that everyone can easily obtain and use on your own fabrics, fibers and yarns.

JULY 19 Program: MAFA Show and Tell: We can Show & Tell with our purchased goodies, and tips & stories from our classes and seminars from MAFA! Fun!

AUGUST 16 Program: Finishing Yarns: Liz will discuss and demonstrate Whacking and Snapping and Sizing (Oh My!), and other ways of washing & finishing your handspun yarns to match your project.

SEPTEMBER 20 Program: Beginning Card Weaving! Linda will show us how Everyone can weave beautiful sturdy tapes (ribbons) with an inexpensive deck of Weaving Cards.

OCTOBER 18 Program: Indigo Dye Pot with Tina. Hopefully we'll all have our shots by then to be able to work with Tina's Magic Indigo Dye Pot, and see effects on different fibers.

NOVEMBER 15 Program: Cookie Cutter Needle Felting: Goodie with show us how to use everyday cookie cutters to felt various shapes, and to embellish them to make beautiful decorations, ornaments or gifts. Perfect Timing for Christmas!

DECEMBER 20 Program: Holiday Party and Challenge Projects: Our Challenge this year is "Disasters and "Resurrections in the Pandemic." What have you made that demonstrates how the Pandemic has affected your Artwork? (Have you made more things? Fewer things? Gloomier? Cheerier? Any project disasters that epitomize how you feel? ...?)

2022: We are excited about upcoming topics, like Indian Pebble Weave, Color and Weave with other Fabric structures, Spinning for Knitting (or Knitting with handspun!), More on Card Weaving, Supplemental Warps, Shadow Weaves, so many possibilities! Please contact Cindy if you have any ideas that you would like to see in our Programs. She would love more Knitting, Crocheting, Spinning, Felting and non-weaving ideas for those of us who don't weave (Yet!).

#### EVENING SIP AND CHATS:

Every Month on the last Wednesday, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting ID: 850 3868 2137 Passcode: 029615

2021: Mar 31; Apr 28; May 26; Jun 30; Jul 28; Aug 25; Sep 29; Oct 27; Nov 24; Dec 29

#### AFTERNOON SIP AND CHATS:

Every Month on the second Tuesday, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting ID: 810 0687 1327, Passcode: 180174

2021: Apr 13; May 11; Jun 8; Jul 13; Aug 10; Sep 14; Oct 12; Nov 9; Dec 14

#### SPIN-IN ZOOM:

Every Month on the second Wednesday, 1:00 PM,

ZOOM Meeting ID: 834 369 9744, Passcode: 1Tujh6, look for emails from Dee S for direct link.

2021: Apr 14; May 12; Jun 9; Jul 14; Aug 11; Sep 8; Oct 13; Nov 10; Dec 8.

### UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS:

Due to the pandemic, many upcoming festivals and demos are still in planning. But if there is a distant festival that you have always wanted to attend, look them up now! So many groups are holding their festivals online or virtually. Now's the time to try them out!

#### MAFA

will be holding its 2021 Conference virtually this year, June 24-27, 2021! Go to their website for information on the many, many classes, contests, and events they will be having online during this summer event. Looks like it will be great fun! [mafafiber.org](http://mafafiber.org) Make sure to identify our guild if you register. (\*NOTE: You can register early if you are a member of our guild! Registration starts at 9 AM on April 10, just identify our guild in the registration process.

Over 526 people signed up by this Apr. 19, and it will open to the general public Apr 26, so hurry!)

The MAFA Catalog for their 2021 MAFA Conference (June 24-27) was posted on 2/19/21. Check it out for many opportunities! Unlike previous years, most of the classes are only a few hours, so you can take advantage of many selections. Please consider looking at the website to see what contests you might be interested in entering. I'm sure that our members have many winners among their recent accomplishments! They need entries for the "Fiber Arts" and "Fashion" contests, and I know we have numerous items, even just from the last meeting, that would be appreciated (and very competitive). I don't think you even have to ship them to the organizers - so cool! Check the MAFA website [mafafiber.org](http://mafafiber.org) for details.

#### HGA

2022 Convergence, July 15-21: The Handweavers Guild Association will be holding its 2022 Convergence at the Knoxville Convention Center, Tennessee in the lovely Smoky Mountains. Check out information at [weavespindye.org](http://weavespindye.org).

#### SEFF

2021

Southeast Fiber Forum Festival April 15-18 has been postponed until April 2023. Check out [sefiberforum.org](http://sefiberforum.org) for more details.

#### ONLINE WORKSHOPS:

Central Virginia FiberArts Guild invites us to share this class info with our guild members! Sign-ups for several online ZOOM workshops are available. Cindy sent an email on Feb 18 with clickable links to sign up for these classes, or go to the CVFG website, [cvfg.org](http://cvfg.org). Email [programs@cvfg.org](mailto:programs@cvfg.org) for more information.

5/8/21: Saturday 1 - 3 pm Spinning: Copying a Commercial Yarn with Alanna Wilcox

9/11/21: Weaving Doup Leno with Daryl Lancaster

10/9/21: Double-faced Weaves Lecture with Robyn Spady

10/23/21: Pattern Draft Your Own Lounge Pants with Cal Patch

#### Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild Membership:

If you would like to join our happy guild, please check our website for a membership form, [www.williamsburgspinweave.org](http://www.williamsburgspinweave.org) and mail it with your dues to:

Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild, PO BOX 2086, Williamsburg, VA 23187-2086

Sorry, we have no PayPal, online or credit card options at this time.

Thanks to Ingrid for sharing her color and weave designs (with program notes). Kudos to Tina on her Sprang inspiration (front photo).



Show and Tell Photos....



Lisa amazes with her "Goldwing" Pattern!



Goodies' adventure with Log Cabin!



Debbie works hard at her weaving!



Tina loves her chickens!



Cat Tracks and Snail Trail!

Cindy enjoying her Log Cabin and



Tina working on a Rectangle Loom. Wonder if that is an idea for a program?









