



Williamsburg Spinners & Weavers Guild

P.O. Box 2086
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<http://williamsburgspinweave.org>

February Newsletter 2026
Next Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2026
King of Glory Lutheran Church
Williamsburg, VA
10:00-12:00
9:30 Set-up



Williamsburg Spinners and Weavers Guild

February 9, 2026

King of Glory Lutheran Church

Attendees: Sara McCourt, David Plunkett, Elizabeth Bunch, Janet Matthews, Janie Lembke, Kathy Kuhn, Janet Andersen, Claudia Melgaard, Doreen Parkansky, Kris Wessler, Ingrid Kross, Ginger Flynn, Tina Chrisensen-Parman, Lisa Draper, Catherine Bond, Caron Veynar, Linda Coppinger, Cindy French, Liz Vonasek, Sandy Voll, Goodie Kiel-Bullock, Kate Swanson, Dee Smith, and Sandy Zuri (new member). Via Zoom: Janet Griffin, Karen Clancy, and new member Kristi Greenstein.

The meeting was called to order by Sara at 9:59

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was put forth by Tina and seconded by Caron.

Treasurer's Report: The guild has a balance of \$11098.31. Approximately 60% of members paid their dues. Kathy will reach out to those who have not. The price of dues will go up to \$30 at the end of February.

The program for today is Branch Weaving. Tina is in contact with John Marshal regarding indigo dying. Cindy has asked those who are interested in the inkle weaving study group to gather after the program. A sign up for the Inkle breakout was passed around. A call for other breakouts was made and will be addressed in the future.

MAFA Report: Linda Coppinger is filling in as our representative under Sandy Petty, but that will need to be resolved by October. Linda will send out a notice for March programs. Reps are planning a meeting at Maryland Sheep and Wool which is the first weekend in May. MAFA sponsors a book club, usually non-fiction, this time it is the mystery novel "Three Bags Full" which is going to movie coming out in May. The discussion will be April 28th.

Sunshine Report: Seven Birthdays! Linda A, Karen C, Goodie, Ingrid, Tina, Cindy, and Micki.

Old Business:

Chippokes Conference Center is reserved for the April 20 meeting from 9:30 to 3:30. Since the guild is paying to use the conference center individuals will not be charged the \$7.00 entrance fee. This will be a potluck. A discussion of what programs would be offered ensued, and it was decided that Tina will offer a Beginner Wet Felting project and Kate will offer a program on the no sew woven hat. A motion was made for the guild to pay up to \$100.00 toward felting supplies by Janet A and seconded by Liz V. Kate will send out info regarding the hat, a pre warped rigid heddle being necessary to weave about 25 inches of fabric. Sara will bring spinning tools and help those who want to improve spinning techniques.

As part of this discussion, it was decided that Kate and Liz V. would present a program on finishing weaving for the March meeting. A sign-up sheet was sent around for people to sign up for wet felting and or the hat. It may be one in the morning/ one in the afternoon.

New Business:

Possible Breakout programs in Advanced Wet Felting and Mushroom dying were discussed.

Challenge Ideas: Liz B suggested a photo inspiration challenge focusing on Home. Tina suggested an alternate weaving challenge. Catherine Bond suggested black and/or white challenge, and Kate suggested a team up challenge between disciplines. Sara will send out a survey and report back next month.

Lisa brought up the recent loss of an entire barn of ewes which were close to lambing at Ross Farm. Ross Farm is a breeder of heritage breeds. Shearing equipment was also lost. A motion was made to donate from the guild by Linda C. and seconded by Claudia for \$100.00. The motion carried. Lisa will send a link to Kathy and to be added to the newsletter.

Cindy told us that the Beginner rigid heddle class will be held at the end of February/beginning of March and the textures and lace rigid heddle class will be in April or May.

Kate reported that guild member sales from Arts on Main that were earmarked for the guild was \$120.00.

King of Glory Lutheran Email;

The Williamsburg Library would like demos, presentations and maybe an Info booth from us for their Kids Literature fair on Saturday May 9 from 12:30 to 4. Possibly cardboard looms. A sign-up sheet will be passed next meeting. Motion by Kathy K and seconded by Tina.

A snack sign-up sheet was presented. Lisa will bring the sweet for March and Caron will bring the savory.

Show and Tell commenced, followed by a break, and then Tina and Goodie got us started on Branch Weaving.

Here is a blurb about the fire from Fibre Space, a yarn shop in Old Town Alexandria;

This week our fibre community suffered a [devastating loss](#). A fire destroyed the historic barn and entire heritage rare-breed sheep flock at Ross Farm. Ross Farm is owned by a dear friend (and former neighbor to my own family farm), Amy Ross Manko. Her family farm in Washington County, PA is on the National Registry of Historic Places. For over 30 years, her family has raised and saved several rare breeds of sheep from threatened or endangered status. The fire claimed 152 animals, many due to lamb in just a few weeks. While insurance will help rebuild the foundation of the barn, it does not cover the replacement value of this historic barn or the precious rare breed sheep inside. Please consider [making a donation](#) to help them rebuild if you can, or purchase yarn or fiber directly from their site while there is still supply from these now perished animals!

Show and Tell Jewels:

Janie shared the handspun yarn of alpaca and mystery fiber roving from our member Jane Gustafson. (heart) Amazing!

Ingrid brought in a hand spun scarf and remarkable yarn! Oh so Touchable!



Kathy gained inspiration from an airline snafu, and challenges everyone to weave with textured yarn, like mohair or boucle!! Seductive! Lisa modeled a dazzling sweater and charming mittens! Luscious!





Tina flaunted a necklace knotted on a Lucet tool. Awesome! We loved the woven branches that Tina and Goodie showed at our February meeting! Catherine presented a Climate Change challenge from the Contemporary Gallery of Art in Williamsburg. Stunning!



Catherine also presented an environmental impact challenge work... A felted monster that eats nature and poops-out buildings. Incredible! Kate's labor of love featured woven circles with yarn from Natalie Canfield. Wonderful!



Cindy showed her current Inkle project, and her latest tea towel from Pam Howard and Natalie Canfield 's STASH! Memorable! Liz presented Piecework's Magazine! Our own Karen Clancy was featured on two pages.





WOW from Goodie! She presented a one-of-a-kind bag with handles and lining, with the outside woven from zoom loom squares!! Amazing! And we have a remarkable new book.



Checkbook covers made by Dee for Claudia, Sashiko stitches on dyed cloth. Lovely! Janet G. builds a felt painting in honour of the St. Louis Cathedral in News Orleans. Why? The Handweavers of America Convergence is there in August! Wouldn't that be magical to be part of their show?

