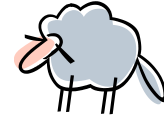


WOOL GATHERINGS...



The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Fleece Spinners' Society

The mission of the Society is to preserve and perpetuate the art of hand spinning; to promote interest in spinning by educating the public through demonstrations, lectures, displays, and news/social media; and to provide instruction and social life in spinning for its members.

Next Meeting: Saturday, December 19, 2020, 10:00 AM

Holiday Party via Zoom

While not our standard Holiday Party, look for an email from Val Bechtler or Angela Mann before the Saturday meeting giving the details of how to join via Zoom. If you haven't joined our virtual meetings yet because you aren't comfortable using Zoom, contact Angela or Val for a trial run. You can even participate in the Zoom meeting on your landline phone with just audio.

Guild Charity Donations

Traditionally, we have voted on our annual monetary donations at the November meeting. Last year we donated \$300 to the church for use of the space, and \$250 to Heifer International. The officers have had conversations with regards to the donation to the church in light of the fact that we haven't been able to use that space since the February meeting. Consensus is that we should continue the donation to the church at last year's level. It's not the fault of the church that we can't use the space, they do continue to store our valuables, and they continue to have heating and lighting expenses, both of which benefit our stored items. Not to mention the fact that our bank account can afford it. Since we can't gather to vote on these donations, please register your vote in the emailed survey by Thursday December 17th.

Additionally, we collected \$255 from those of you who paid the normal membership dues of \$20 instead of the COVID reduced fee of \$15. At the Zoom guild meeting we will discuss a charity to receive these funds with a vote to follow at a later date. Angela Mann created a list of charities that her company Oracle will match our donation, these are noted with an asterisk. Please review this list prior to the December guild meeting and come up with your own suggestions.

Fiber Related:

- **Wool-Aid*** (Belleville, Illinois) <http://wool-aid.org> is a community of knitters and crocheters who create warm woolen garments for children who live in the coldest climates and have the least access to resources. Our mission is to provide the very neediest children with wool socks, sweaters, vests, mittens, hats, and blankets. We work with organizations that put the human imperative first; that provide aid regardless of the race, creed, or nationality of the recipients; and that do not use aid to further a particular political or religious viewpoint. Priority is given to helping populations where washable items are not required, since items are likely to be washed in cold water by hand. Wool-Aid ships internationally to remote locations where children are in extreme need. Financial contributions cover shipping supplies and the cost of shipping itself.
- **Musk Ox Development Corporation (MODC)*** (Palmer, Alaska) <http://www.muskoxfarm.org> is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is dedicated to the domestication of the musk ox and to the promotion of qiviut production as a gentle and sustainable agricultural practice in the Far North, with a focus on public education and providing additional income opportunities to Alaska Natives.
- **Project Knitwell*** (Arlington, Virginia) <http://www.projectknitwell.org> provides a proven wellness tool that helps people cope with stressful situations in hospital and community settings. Project Knitwell is a recognized leader in therapeutic knitting, has participated in research on the benefits of knitting for oncology nurses, and has been featured in The Washington Post, U.S. News, Vogue Knitting Magazine, and other publications. In conjunction with Lion Brand Yarn Company, we published The Comfort of Knitting in 2015.
- **Navajo Sheep Project** (Richmond, Utah) <https://www.navajosheepproject.org> is an organization working to preserve and breed back the Navajo Churro sheep. " It is the mission of the Navajo Sheep Project to preserve and breed back Navajo-Churro sheep so they can return to their historic place and purpose among the Navajo and Hispanic cultures. It is the further mission of the Project to see that the return of the Churro benefits the people to whom it has historic and cultural importance. Through the return of the Churro, the Project encourages a revival of authentic Navajo and Rio Grande weaving styles, which will improve the economic well being of those who raise Churro and weave wool."
- **Livestock Conservancy Shave 'Em to Save 'Em Project** (Pittsboro, NC) <https://livestockconservancy.org> saves Heritage Breeds, half of which are unique to the North American continent. We may be able to designate the donation to this specific project within the Livestock Conservancy, there is a space on the donation page for comments, and we could request that it be dedicated to this particular program.

Local:

- **Operation Northern Comfort*** (Syracuse, NY) <http://www.operationnc.org/> is a non-profit organization based in Central New York that is committed to serving the surrounding communities by providing labor, donations, and support in any time of need. Whether it is delivering donated furniture, painting a room or organizing a fundraiser the volunteers at ONC will do whatever they can to help. Our current project is Desks for Kids. Due to the pandemic, many Central New York kids are attending class, studying or doing their homework on kitchen tables, living room floors, beds etc. We want to change that - planning to make 500 desks to begin.
- **North Area Meals on Wheels*** (North Syracuse, NY) <http://www.namow.org> provides home delivered meals and well checks to seniors in Northern Onondaga County
- **Food Bank of Central New York*** (Syracuse, NY) <http://foodbankcny.org> is a not-for-profit organization working to eliminate hunger through nutritious food distribution, education and advocacy in cooperation with the community. We partner with 261 emergency food programs in the counties of Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and St. Lawrence.

Knit and Crochet Charity Donations

If you have knit and crochet cold weather donations for Christina Tartaro to distribute to Vera House and the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Twisted Stitches knitting guild is providing three geographically spaced places to drop off your charity donations. They are:

December 12, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. - Ceaira will be collecting donations in the parking lot of Grace Episcopal Church in **Baldwinsville**

December 12, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Christina will be collecting donations in the parking lot (back near the outbuilding/barn) at NOPL Cicero on Route 11 in **Cicero**

December 13, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Christina will be collecting donations in the parking lot at the Hobby Lobby on East Genesee Street in **DeWitt** (located before the merge of Lyndon corners where Routes 5 and 92 split off towards Fayetteville and Manlius, near the "Big" Wegmans)

If anyone has a need to drop off somewhere else or at another time, please let Christina know to make other arrangements.

Membership

Along with this newsletter you will receive a list of the current 2020-2021 guild members. Contact Joyce Lock for any corrections. Thank you to the guild member who donated a membership in addition to renewing her own.

Future Programs

Vickie Marchand shared some information from her California guild with us on connecting with nationally known fiber people who are willing to do Zoom instructional classes for far less money than we would have to pay to have someone come here in person. Vice President Nicole Massenzio is looking into the possible offerings. Stay tuned for updates!

NOVEMBER MEETING

There was no November business meeting.

Treasurer's Report \$5,839.97 balance

Events for your Calendar (* indicates events we provide spinning demonstrations)

None at this time

2020-2021 Calendar and Programs (at the church unless otherwise noted)

September 19, 2020	Welcome to New Members at Onondaga Lake Park
October 17, 2020	Heritage Breed Study: Make & More, Warners, NY
November 21, 2020	Charity Knit and Crochet via Zoom
December 19, 2020	Holiday Party via Zoom
January 16, 2021	Roc Day Celebration
February 20, 2021	TBD
March 20, 2021	Guild Auction
April TBD, 2021	Fiber Frolic at Beaver Lake Nature Center
April TBD, 2021	TBD
May 15, 2021	Basket Making
June 19, 2021	Guild Picnic
July 17, 2021	Open Spin, Onondaga Lake Park
August 21, 2021	Open Spin, Onondaga Lake Park
August TBD, 2021	Guild Weekend at NYS Fair Wool Center

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