Aurora Colony Handweavers Guild Report

https://auroracolonyhandspinners.com/

WeGo Report for the period May to October 2026

Mission: The Aurora Colony Handspinners strives to be a welcoming venue for all who attend and participate in our guild and its events. Our mission is to promote awareness of the art and craft of hand spinning in the community at large, and to give spinners an opportunity to share, learn, educate and study. We will accomplish this mission with a caring attitude, and we expect and encourage everyone to be kind and respectful in their intentions with each other.

Meetings: The guild meets monthly on the 4th Thursday except for June, July, November and December. Guild meetings are being temporarily held at the Canby Adult Center at 1250 SOUTH Ivy St, in the dining room. 1520 N Holly St in Canby, OR. Meetings run from 7pm to 9pm, with a business meeting generally preceding a guest speaker or other activity. The space is open at 6:30 for spinning and socializing.

Library: The guild maintains a lending library for members. We've built up a nice library over the years and members use it frequently.

Membership Meetings

May – May was the Fiber Challenge reveal. 2026 Fiber Challenge – Embracing Texture in January there was a demo on making textured yarn, and everyone was encouraged to dig in their stash to make yarn with texture.

What a success! There were more than 30 textured yarn and project entries! Everyone is so creative.



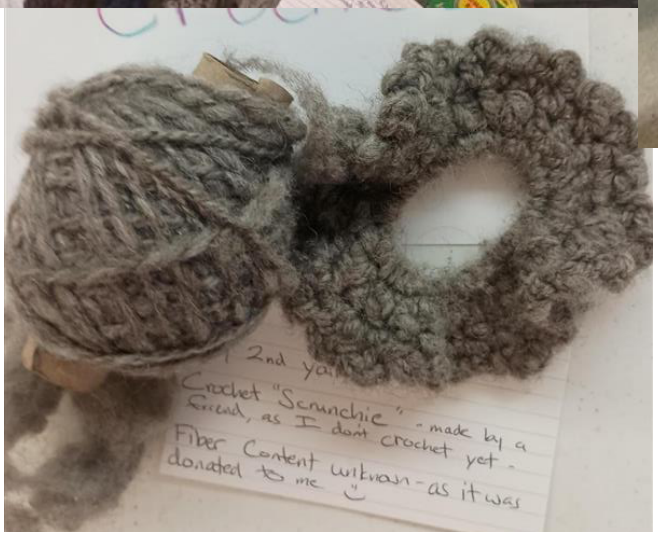
The annual guild Fiber Challenge kickoff took place at our January 22nd meeting. This year the focus is on creating texture in your handspun yarns.

There were five categories with entries this year: Crochet, Knitting, Weaving, Skeins and Other.

Angela Calchera won the Knitting Category with her fingerless mitts from the pattern Reading Mitts



designed by Susie Rogers. ↓



← **Ann Palmer** won the Crochet Category. She spun her yarn from donated mystery fiber, and a friend crocheted her a scrunchy.



← **Rachel Grow** and **GB Burgin** tied to win the Skeins Category. Rachel spun a thick and thin chunky skein. GB spun a pretty boucle' from instructions from a new book.

Deb Ellis won the Other Category with her tasseled hat. **Diane McKinnon** won the Weaving Category with spun, dyed and woven Cotswold wool. ↓



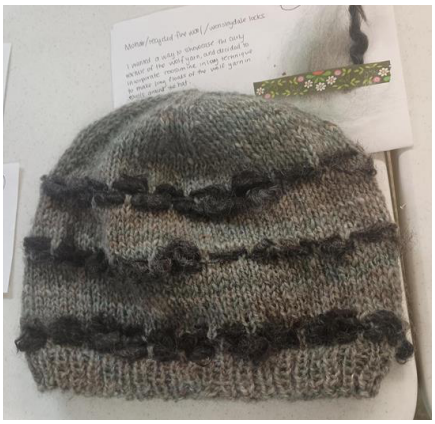


Suzanne Campbell in her first sweater!



← Jacob skeins.

Wolf yarn is the accent in this knitted hat.→



June – We had a spin-in and potluck at a member's home. It was a beautiful day and there was a covered patio and baby alpacas to look at.

July – There is no meeting in July.

August - **Sharon Roemmel presented on her Weaver's Wheel 9-month program.** If you missed it, she submitted a really interesting article in February's newsletter. The program was a part of **ReWild Portland**. It began in April 2025 and met one weekend a month for nine months. The program included paper making using invasive plants; basket making; spinning with a drop spindle, planting, tending, and harvesting flax and dye plants; processing wool, flax, and silk fiber; and a lot of natural dyeing. Something for everyone!

September – Elections were held to vote in our new slate of officers. Spinning from a Distaff, by Abby Thorne. Abby Thorne presented on the ancient art of spinning from a distaff! What is it? Why were distaffs used for so long and so widely? And, of course, how can you try it for yourself? We'll go over the history of the craft and dig into the nitty-gritty of the tools and techniques. This was a really interesting presentation.

October – We use this meeting to celebrate our volunteers.



Special Interest Groups

Sheep to Shawl - The sheep to Shawl Team is going strong this year. **Sheep-to-Shawl (STS) Group –** A Sheep-To-Shawl event is a demonstration or a competition where a group of spinners and a weaver start with a fleece, and card it, spin it, ply it and weave it into a shawl.

Our Sheep to Shawl group kicked off our 4th year with an introduction meeting for new members. Our 25-member group has had an eventful spring so far! In March we were at the Antiques Spinning Wheel Showcase, then in April we were at the Oregon Convention Center as part of the Gathering of the Guilds, and In May we headed to Salem for a demo at the Willamette Heritage Center.

The competition at the Black Sheep Gathering. We had two teams competing representing ACHG! Teams will have 5 hours to create a 20" x 70" shawl. The team members in this event are Angela Calchera, Arlyn Roller, Rosalie Linse, GB Burgin, Candy Riopelle, Jim Crabtree, Leanne Meer, Marci Pippin, Sandy Silver, Sara Buse, Janet Potter, Glenda Franich, and Chris Thomas-Flitcroft. Come cheer us on!

Our shawls are available for purchase for $95 each to support the S2S group as we continue our educational outreach. We share information about our guild, what we are all about, and the opportunities available to our members.

Knitting/Spinning Study Group – Over the summer, the knitting study group met at members homes, gardens and studios, and even a winery!

Events

Guild Promotion -
We have had a presence at many fairs and events. The Sheep to Shawl team has flyers and information at their events, and we have had booths at both Black Sheep Gathering and Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival (OFFF). We sell raffle tickets for an antique spinning wheel and promote our guild.

Fall Workshops – This year the Fall Workshops were held in September. We had quite a few classes and a spinning circle.