

fiber forum 2015

Bimonthly e-Newsletter September 2013 Issue 09

www.sefiberforum.org/



Icelandic Sheep

The Icelandic sheep is one of the world's oldest and purest breeds of sheep. Throughout its 1100 years of history, the Icelandic breed has been truly triple-purpose, treasured for its meat, fiber and milk.

The Icelandic breed is in the North European short-tailed group of sheep, which exhibits a fluke-shaped, naturally short tail. Conformation is generally short legged and stocky. The face and legs are free of wool. The fleece is dual-coated and comes in white as well as a range of browns, grays and blacks.

The most eye-catching aspect of the breed is the variation of colors and patterns. Genetically, Icelandics have one of two base colors, either black or moorit (brown). They exhibit 5 pattern combinations: white, gray, badgerface, mouflon and solid. Individual sheep may also display various shades of these colors/patterns, ranging from white, cream, light gray, tan, caramel, milk chocolate, silver, dark chocolate, dark gray, to jet black. A spotting gene adds even more combinations with many recognized and named patterns of white markings.

President's Note

Dear Fiber Friends,

Well, the rain finally let up so I was able to complete my durable felt project AND the sun peeked out enough for me to go outside and experiment with hand painted roving. Like most people, I tend to use the colors I love over and over again but this time I decided to try something different. I used twelve colors, most of which I wouldn't normally use, and it surprised me by turning out quite nice!

A week or so ago I went to Black Mountain, NC for the Fiber Swap and Sale and it was the perfect fiber event for the end of summer. Tables were overflowing with yarn, patterns, shuttles, spinning wheels, fleece and a bit of something for everyone. And in the middle of all of that were many fiber friends I hadn't seen since Arrowmont last spring. It was a great day and just thinking about the friends I ran into and the fiber deals I brought home, makes me smile. If you haven't been to it before, you should go. It's the end of August and you won't be sorry!

Over the last few months your board has been busy laying the groundwork for Fiber Forum 2015. The bulk of conference planning is done by SEFFA who is our host guild. Suzi and her group have reached out to some incredible instructors and we should see the final list by the end of this year.

Don't forget to check our calendar for upcoming fiber events and again, if you know of any others in the Southeast region, please let us know.

Enjoy the newsletter!

Kristen Nicholas
President

Southeast Fiber Forum Association 2013 - 2015

New Mailing Address!

Southeast Fiber Forum Association (or SFFA)
PO Box 241243
Memphis, TN 38124-1243

Chair Notes

Wow! Over 70 workshop proposals for Fiber Forum 2015 came in by the deadline. Just imagine how much fun it has been to read them all and how hard it has been to narrow down the choices - some weaving, some spinning, some dyeing, some felting, some surprises, some for beginners, some for those with more experience, some on-loom, and some off-loom.

Crafting a good mix is definitely a balancing act! But, we are getting close, and notifications will have been sent to everyone who applied by the time you receive this newsletter.

We'll introduce your Fiber Forum 2015 instructors once we have signed contracts in hand, and then you'll have plenty of time to ponder your choices and make plans to be at Arrowmont April 16-19, 2015.

Suzi
Southeast Fiber Arts Alliance
SFFA 2015 Host Organization

Southeast Fiber Forum Association Bi-Annual Conference

April 16 - 19, 2015

Registration begins:

October 1 2014 for members

October 15, 2014 for non-members

website: www.sefiberforum.org for information and download forms

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

556 Parkway, Gatlinburg, TN 37738

<http://www.arrowmont.org/>

865-436-5860

Contact Arrowmont directly later in 2014 for room reservations

SFFA Scholarships 2015

Scholarships will be available! Please be sure to also complete an application for classes and send with the scholarship form.

This is an exciting and rich opportunity for any student in the Fiber Arts. Thirteen scholarships for class tuition, room and board and Fiber Forum membership will be awarded. The students will be assistants to the instructors.

Questions? contact:

Michaela McIntosh at michaela9749@att.net

Southeast Fiber Forum Association 2013-2015 Board of Directors

President: Kristen Nicholas
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Treasurer: Angela Schneider
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2015 Conference Chair: Suzi Gough
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Past President: Judi Jetson
judi@judijetson.com

Webmaster: Maurice Blackburn
webster@sefiberforum.org

Editor's Notes and Call for Articles

Alice and Bruce Schlein took a trip to Iceland earlier this year. As most all of us do, they took many pictures. (I have rarely seen Bruce without his camera.) Alice took our front page shot of a pair of Icelandic Sheep in their natural habitat. Thank You, Alice.

The little bit of information I got from the Icelandic Sheep Breeders of North America web page:
www.isbona.com.

Go there for more information.

As we are well over a year away from the 2015 forum at Arrowmont, I would like to request articles from you members sharing some aspects concerning the 'growing', 'harvesting', processing, spinning, and using of various plant and animal fibers. Along the way, possibly others may get the 'bug' to expand their world of fiber. A page or two is all that you need to think about. I can help edit if you wish. Images can be used also.

I try to get the newsletter out every two months with a deadline of the 25th of the previous month. (i.e. June 25th for the July issue)

-Walt Turpening, editor (walt.turpening@att.net)

SFFA Website

After being the Webmaster for SFFA 2013, I had originally decided to step down with the completion of Piedmont Fiber Guild's work on SFFA 2013. However later in April, withdrawal symptoms started to set in and I decided to continue as Webmaster, but with the intention of completely redesigning the Website. If you have checked the website recently <http://sefiberforum.org/> you will see that it now looks different. I still have some more changes to make, but they will be along similar lines. I hope that you like the new format. If you have any comments, problems or suggestion, please e-mail me at webster@sefiberforum.org.

At SFFA2013, I requested that you send me pictures you had taken while you were there, so that I could post them on the website. So far the response has been underwhelming! Other than pictures from our own Guild members, I have only had one other response so far. At the present time, I have only used SFFA pictures in the slide show on the "Home"page, but in due course I will also put then on the Gallery page.

Maurice Blackburn, SFFA Webmaster

Upcoming Events in the Region

Arkansas

Diamond State Fiber Festival

Greenwood, AR

October 4-5, 2013

diamondsheepfarm.com/diamond-state-fiber-festival.php

Arkansas Fiber Arts Extravaganza

Hot Springs, AR

December 6-7, 2013

arfiberartsextravaganza.com

Florida

Florida Fiber In

Orlando, FL

September 20-22, 2013

floridafiberin.org

Georgia

Georgia Alpaca Fest

Pine Mountain, GA

September 13-15, 2013

gafiberfest.com

Kentucky

Kentucky Wool Festival

Frankfort, KY

October 5-7, 2013

kywoolfest.org

North Carolina

Craft Fair of Southern Highlands

Asheville, NC

October 17-20

southernhighlandguild.org

Southeast Animal Fiber Fair

October 25-27, 2013

Asheville, NC,

saffsite.org

Knit & Crochet Show

Charlotte, NC

October 2-6, 2013

knitandcrochetshow.com

South Carolina

Palmetto Fiberarts Guild

Special program, Sept 21, 2013

“Traveling Exhibit of Gullah Traditions”

www.palmettofiberartsguild

First Annual Fiber Fair

Oct. 12, 2013

Walterboro, SC

contact Jill Chadwick

jchadwick@colletoncounty.org

Tennessee

Smoky Mountains Fiber Arts Festival

Townsend, TN

April 11-12, 2014

smokymountainfiberartsfestival.org

Texas

Kid 'n Ewe & Lamas Too

Boerne, TX

November 8-10, 2013

kidnewe.com

Virginia

Fall Fiber Festival

Montpelier, VA

October 5-6, 2013

fallfiberfestival.org

Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival

Boyce, VA

September 28-29, 2013

shenandoahvalleyfiberfestival.com/

West Virginia

West Virginia Fiber Festival

Reedsville, WV

September 7-8, 2013

wvfiberfest.com/