



The Great Apron Exchange Project

Our latest endeavor is The Great Apron Exchange, which has each of us supplying an apron to be passed among the other members of the Guild and creatively added to at each stop. Marlene has submitted a proposal for the aprons to then be displayed as an exhibit around Mother's Day in May 2010. If you are participating please have your apron ready to pass on at the September 13th meeting.

Congratulations Marlene!

During the month of August, Marlene was featured in an exhibit at the French Art Colony. Her hats were wonderful and paired well with the painter who was also featured in their "Whimsical" exhibit.



A Quilting We Will Go

After having lunch at Abrios Brick Oven Pizza, the group drove to the Dairy Barn and spent the afternoon viewing a wide variety of Art Quilts that make up Quilt National 09. This was the 16th biennial juried exhibition of contemporary art quilts. This exhibition was juried by Sue Benner, Katie Pasquini Masopust, and Ned Wert. *Quilt National 09* is a collection of 85 quilts by artists from 25 states and 13 foreign countries. In this exhibition 51 percent of the exhibitors are first time *Quilt National* artists.

Upcoming Events

- *September 13th: Guild Meeting*
- *September 19- 20: A Wool Gathering, Youngs Dairy*
- *October 4th: Guild Meeting*
- *November 15th: Guild Meeting*
- *December 20th: Holiday Guild Meeting (tentative)*

The History of Aprons

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few, it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables.
After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron,
And the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool.

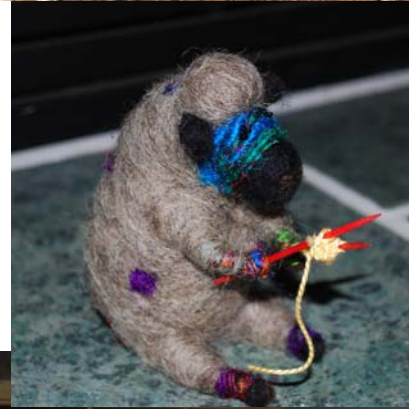
Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.

* I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron. *

Adventures in Fiber Bliss

The 1st Ever AOFG Fiber Retreat was a huge success! The adventures of just getting to the house will be told for a long time... :) There was fiber goodness everywhere you turned. We were blessed by many donations from small businesses as well as corporations. Sheep were felted, a farm was visited and studios inspired. Thank you to everyone who participated and made the event the wonderful weekend that it was. Plans have already begun for next year's event which will be held the same 4th weekend in June. Let Suzy know if you have any suggestions for next year.



For More Information

If you are interested in see what the Appalachian Fiber Guild is all about, please contact Marlene Gruetter at marlene@feltingmadness.com .