

Founded in Mobile, Alabama, May 4, 1987

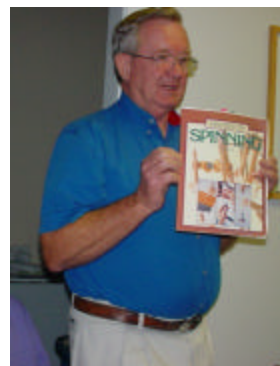
Spinning a Yarn

Mary McFatter was born and raised in Pensacola, Florida. Her husband Mac is from Rotan, Texas. Mary has been spinning for about four years and Mac about 14 months. However, she has been working at it for about six years. Mary says she got a bad start with the Reeves



Wheel. She taught herself to spin using the Lee Raven's book Hands on Spinning and the Patsy Zawistoski video Spinning Wool -Basics & Beyond . Mary taught Mac to spin after she had been spinning for a few years.

Spinning wheels are very interesting to talk about. New ones come in all price



ranges from less than \$200 to upwards of \$4000. Most spinning wheels hold their value well and certain makers may appreciate over the years as they become famous and scarce. Mary and Mac have a Reeves Saxony, Louet S51, and a Kromski Minstrel. A spinner's choice of wheels depends on the individual, their experience and preferences. Once the yarn has been made into a skein, no one can tell whether it came off a used cheap

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Upcoming Meetings

There will be a Red, White, and Blue tatted bookmark exchange at the July meeting. It can be any type of bookmark made with any red, white and blue threads.

Next Meeting:

Monday, July 5th, 7:00 p.m. at Heidi's YarnHaus, 251-342-0088

The **Knitter's Guild of Mobile** meets the 4th Monday of each month at the home of Janine Stebbins: 1056 Government Street, 251-433-3875. Next Meeting: July 26th.

July 2004

Visit us online:
www.graci.org/tatting/

Just like Norm of "The New Yankee Workshop" says,

"Let's review the basics".

- ☺ Always work in good light.
- ☺ Always work in a comfortable location with proper back support.
- ☺ Always use the right tools for the job:
- ☺ Proper shuttle and thread size for the project.
- ☺ Always work with clean hands to keep that tatted thread beautiful.

Adapted from:

<http://www.chartart.com/HTML/musings.html>

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Spinning a yarn

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wheel or the most expensive one ever made.

According to Mary, enough yarn for a project can be spun in a few

hours depending on how fine you are spinning your fiber. Some of you may remember a shop called "Stitchery Station" that was located at the corner of Old Shell and I -65 in Mobile. Mary was one



of the partners in that endeavor which closed after

"Once the yarn has been made into a skein, no one can tell whether it came off a used cheap wheel or the most expensive one ever made."

the other two partners relocated out of town.

Although Mary taught all three of their children to macramé, needle point, and cross stitch, neither of the sons have pursued any fiber related hobbies. Their daughter who lives in Tallahassee is an expert cross stitcher. (Meaning the front and back of her projects look the same.) She has not taught lessons to any one other than Mac. Mary is a wonderful home maker and Mac is retired from IBM and now works as an inspector of export goods.

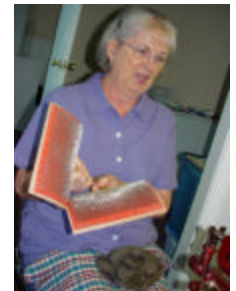


Cathy Hayes tried her hand at spinning

An Overview of the Process



Starting with the raw wool,



it is combed into fine strands...



..which can be spun into yarn.



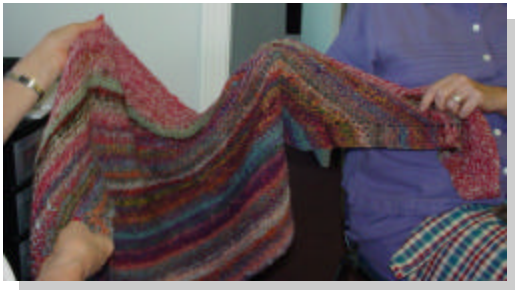
Mary demonstrates spinning techniques.



Mac shows us the finished product.



Spinning wheel designs vary but the function is the same.



These two shawls were made using the McFatters' hand-made yarn.

A Tatter's Spotlight



This month the Tatter's Spotlight is shining on Sue Reed. Sue is famous in the guild for tatting beautiful

trims and creating a one of a kind heirloom dress for her granddaughter and the beautiful nightgown shown in our Show & Tell feature this month.

With the projects that Sue has completed, it is hard to believe that she has only been tatting for two years. She learned to tat

from her sister, Lynn McAleer, using a "huge" red shuttle and size 10 yellow thread. After Lynn piqued Sue's interest with tatting, she attended the beginning Tatting Class at Heidi's Yarnhaus. Sue's favorite shuttle is a two and a half inch Koa with a point loaded with white size 50 thread. The only tool that she uses other than her shuttle is a regular sewing needle.



Sue spends her time being very creative. She says that

"learning a new task increases neural pathways in your brain and tatting is excellent for this because there is so much to learn. I hope each new pattern increases my neurons as I need this very badly."

She also states that she tats everywhere and she loves it.

Sue is married to a "huge Irish teddy bear" with three children—Becky, 40—who has two girls ages 8 and 10; Kim, 36—who has 19 month old twins; and Paul, 29—who is single and handsome!!!! She also has three step-children, Jeff, Teri, and Dawn—who are all adults.

Show & Tell



Sue Reed made this French heirloom night gown with the tatted edging.

The gown fabric is pale pink batiste

with the white tatted yoke in size 80 thread. It is absolutely beautiful—a true keepsake.



The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn.

Isaiah 61:1



Elizabeth Birmingham tatted the Celtic bookmark and the cat. She used bobbin lace to make the snake—very nice.

Birthdays

These are the birthday gifts that were won at the June meeting.



Very nice! Lots of wonderful tating things.

If you have a birthday during the month of July, please remember to bring your birthday present for the drawing. It is so much fun to win.



Show & Tell

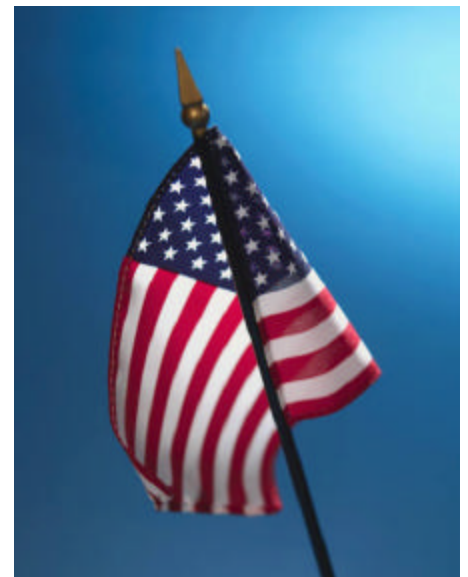


Cathy Hayes submitted this picture of embroidered pillowcases that had been transformed into sundresses for these two adorable girls. What a wonderful idea for vintage pillowcases when there is only one good case.

FYI:

Atlanta Lace Workshop 2005
March 12-13, 2005
International Old Lacers, Inc.
Contact: Liz Redford,
Workshop Coordinator
B06EFR@FDS.com

Happy 4th of July!



Our Constitution was made for a
moral and religious people; it is
wholly inadequate for any other.
John Adams

Patterns of the Month

This month we have Round 7 of the Friendship Doily, the letter "H" and a reprint of the Three Square Corner Insertion, part of which was accidentally left out of last month's issue.

2004 Friendship Doily

Round 7

Attach thread to any p on Rnd 6,

***Ch: 5ds, p, 5ds, j to next p.**

Rep from * around, joining last Ch to base of first Ch. Cut threads and tie ends.

"H" is for Heavenly



*(Alphabet designed
by Heidi Sunday)*

In size 20 thread, the letters
measure 2" wide by 3" tall.

Start on either side, with 2 shuttles, wound continuously.

Ring 1: 5 - 2 - 2 - 5, close ring, reverse work

Ring 2: 5 - 5 - 10, reverse work

Chain 1: 7 - 7, shuttle join to picot 2 of previous ring (be sure to compress the chain before joining), reverse work

Continue as above, using the chain shuttle (#2 or "ball" shuttle) to make the next ring, so the chain changes sides and the pieces will lie straight, until there are 4 rings and 2 chains, including the small starting ring.

Chain 3: 7 ds, then using shuttle #2:R 10 - 10, then complete chain with 7 ds

Use shuttle #2 to make next ring to continue working until there are 7 rings, including the "thrown off" ring from chain 3. Make a small Ring 1 for the bottom.

Repeat for other side, connecting the "thrown off" ring to the one on the other side.

Three Square Corner Insertion (corrected)

As modernized by Heidi Sunday
(bikesun@aol.com)
and Paula Nevison
(pnevison@radicalanswers.com)

A Guild member brought us this antique hanky to see if we could write out the pattern. Fortunately, it looks very simple. A small ring, with 8 picots, then a round of Rings & Chains makes up the squares, and then two more squares are joined as they are worked. The corner of the hanky was cut to fit the tatting, then single-crochet finishes off the edges, with picots spaced a few single crochets apart. The lace was either sewn in after the crochet, or attached to the crocheted edge as it was tatted.

The original version of the pattern may have been written as follows:

Center R: 2 ds, 8 picots separated by 2 ds, close ring, cut & tie

Using ball & shuttle:

Large R: 3 ds, 7 picots, separated by 3 ds, 3 ds, close ring, reverse

Ch: 3 ds, join to any picot on center ring, 3 ds, reverse

Small R: 3 ds, join to last picot of previous large ring, 3 ds, 2 picots separated by 3 ds, 3 ds, close ring, reverse work



Continue around, alternating small and large rings, until there are 4 large and 4 small rings surrounding the center ring. The final ring will be joined on both sides.

To avoid some of the ends, start with 2 shuttles, continuously wound. Start with any of the rings, then, in the middle of the first chain,

make the center ring-using shuttle #2. Make only 7 picots, and leave a small space at the base of this

“thrown off” ring (a false picot), then finish off the chain with 3 more double stitches.

The final chain is a little tricky to work in, joining to the center ring, but it is well worth making the square with just one set of ends to be woven in. Join the squares as they are worked.



Paula Nevison, our fearless Guild president, has worked out a way to make the 3 squares without cutting, but it is a little more complicated and involves starting with a chain, some split rings and other fancy tricks. If you want to find out how, just contact Paula.

End Notes

A Special Request

Please tat one item to be placed in the Tatter's Guild box to be used for Thank you, Thinking of you, Congratulations, etc., or any other type of special occasion that a special tatted item would be ideal to send inside a card.



AKC Emilly Grace Fancy Cakes,
recent Obedience School graduate.
Cap & Gown designed by J.B. Locke

The Editor's Yorkie furr-baby, Graci, graduated recently from *PetSmart's* Obedience School. She learned a great deal. Many friends asked who was being trained, Graci or her parents? I think the parents—we were trained on how to (attempt to) get her to do what we wanted. Ha! Ha!

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July 2004

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