



Fall Spinning Retreat

Saturday, September 17, 2011
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Graves Mountain Lodge in Madison County, VA

As the days lengthen and a hint of fall color begins sneaking onto the nearby mountainsides, what could be better than spending a relaxing day at a country lodge with good food, good friends, and gorgeous spinning fibers?

Please join us for some Spinnin' in the Mountains on Saturday, September 17, 2011 at Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria, Virginia at the first annual Dog House Yarns Fall Spinning Retreat. The Lodge is nestled at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the shadow of Shenandoah National Park and it's the perfect place to unwind, make new friends, and learn new things. The lodge is known throughout the region for its bountiful food, beautiful scenery, and relaxed atmosphere.



MORNING

Registration: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Look for us downstairs in the main building. Check in, make some friends, spin, and enjoy the scenery until the morning program begins. **Note: pre-registration is required.**

9 a.m. - Vendor booths open. In addition to Misty Mountain Farm/Blue Ridge Yarns we have invited several other local vendors and will post a list of those attending soon.

9:30 to 11 a.m. Linda Witt of Misty Mountain Farm is our featured speaker at the retreat. Linda's morning program will cover the ***Basics and Beyond of Fiber Blending*** -- Learn how to make fabulous art batts by blending fibers and colors on your way to creating designer yarns. Linda's program will include the use of fiber blending tools such as drum carders, wool combs, hand carders, etc. and how to choose fibers to blend together. Linda will bring various fibers including locks and glitz and silk and show you how to blend them in creative ways. Hands on assistance is available following Linda's presentation.



Linda raises Finn sheep and an assortment of other fiber animals at her farm in Rappahannock County. Her daughter, Leanna, is the artist behind the beautiful Blue Ridge Yarns found at our shop and in other fine yarn shops across the country. Many of you know them from their Misty Mountain Farm booth at local fiber festivals. Linda also teaches spinning and weaving at her farm studio and she is the beginner wheel spinning instructor at our shop. Later this fall she will be teaching at the Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival and she is a past instructor at the Fall Fiber Festival at Montpelier.

11 to 11:30 a.m. Break.

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Mary Kearney from the **Central Virginia Fiber Mill** will walk us through what happens at a fiber mill from the time a fleece or fiber arrives at a mill until it becomes

yarn, roving, batts, or felted fabric. She will also offer tips on how to best select and prepare your fiber for shipment to a mill and she'll then introduce us to her Central Virginia Fiber Mill and let us know what it can do for us.



Lunch: 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be the great, family-style, all-you-can-eat meal that Graves Mountain Lodge is known for. You can visit the vendors before and after lunch.

1:30 to 2 p.m. Show and Tell. Show off some of the great yarns you have spun or items you have made from them.

Vendor booths in the small room close at 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON

Group I - Instructor Linda Witt

2 to 4:30 p.m. Spinning Designer Yarns -- If you can spin a continuous thread you can make designer yarns. Try your hand at boucles, knot yarns, and blended yarns. Linda will also demonstrate spinning from silk caps. Supplies for spinning the art yarns will be provided and you can buy even more to take home from the Misty Mountain Farm booth.

Group II - Knitwear designer and veteran spinner Sue Hansen will teach two sessions designed with the beginner in mind.

2 to 3:15 p.m. Beginner Wheel Spinning. If you have your own wheel Sue will help you with your technique and answer questions about wheel care and wheel mechanics. If you don't have a wheel, several will be available for your use.



3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Drop Spindle Spinning. We will provide participants with practice spindles and Sue will help you learn how to produce beautiful yarns with this very old and highly portable spinning method.

Note: Anyone selecting the Designer Yarn session who would like to join the drop spindle group may do so but please register for this class so that we will have enough drop spindles. Beginner

Wheel Spinning participants who would like to continue working with their wheels may do so and we will have another instructor available while Sue is working with the drop spindle group.

5 p.m. Time to say goodbye.

Registration fee: \$50 includes morning and afternoon sessions, all you can eat Graves Mountain Lodge lunch, morning/afternoon beverages, door prizes, and an opportunity to sit and spin with new friends and old.

Overnight accommodations: If you would like to remain for dinner Saturday night or stay overnight, please make reservations directly with Graves Mountain Lodge 540-923-4231

Directions and Registration Form: Please visit our website for directions and the form.

www.DogHouseYarns.com