

Atlantic Spinners & Handweavers

2022 - 2023 Annual Reports

President

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of The Atlantic Spinners and Handweavers since September 2020. Starting the roll during the covid lockdown probably wasn't the best circumstances but I would like to think we weathered the storm together.

This last year has seen some exciting events and changes. After a few delays we were finally able to hold a successful fibre art exhibit in the Chase Gallery at the NS Archives.

Our monthly meetings were changed to Saturday mornings at Scott Manor House. In fact, after a very successful survey, members agreed to continue to hold monthly meetings from 9:30-11:30 at Scott Manor House.

A change in our meeting format has two additional members joining the executive (members at large). The executive committee tries to meet for a business meeting prior to the general meeting. This method allows for the business to take place with a focused group, allowing the general meeting to stay fun and informative.

A library night was started at the rental facility in Bayers Lake. This allows members to visit and browse the large selection in person. It also allows for a convenient drop off and pick up venue for rental equipment.

Last, but certainly no least, our Memo of Association was updated with the Registry of Joint Stocks.

Many hands make light work. None of the above items could be achieved without the dedication and hard work of our membership. The executive committee I have had the honor of working with this past year were outstanding and I thank them all.

Respectively Submitted

Donna Haverstock



Fibre Days

On September 10, 2023, we began again, in-person Fibre Days at Scott Manor House in Bedford. Fibre Days occur on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. In-person numbers have been increasing since September, as ASH members have been getting back into the habit of meeting face to face after the past COVID restrictions. Inactive members during COVID have been slowly returning to Fibre Days as well as

the participation of new members. During COVID, when we exclusively had Virtual Fibre Days via ZOOM, we had attracted some new ASH members from outside the HRM. Many have continued their memberships and attend virtual monthly meetings and Fibre Days. We decided we would continue with the Virtual/In-person Fibre Day model so more members would be able to have access and participate.

We averaged per meeting, six participants for the in-person group and three participants from the ZOOM group. We collected \$144.23 after expenses from the in-person participants to contribute to room rental, tea, and coffee. (We allow prospective ASH members to attend one Fibre Day without a \$2 fee.) We did not collect a fee for the December 10th meeting. One in-person meeting was cancelled because of hurricane conditions in the HRM; one other in-person meeting was cancelled because of the ASH show at the Nova Scotia Archives. Two ZOOM meetings were cancelled because of the ASH Show at the Nova Scotia Archives.

During in-person/virtual Fibre Days, ASH members chat, get constructive advice and discuss what they are currently working on. Participants have been weaving, spinning, knitting, warping, threading, rug hooking, etc. At the April meeting, we held a Spinning Wheel Spa Day where participants could give their spinning wheels a spring cleaning and tune-up. We shared lots of ideas on wheel maintenance. Thank you to Ruth Davidson Fulks for stepping up as an alternate to open/close Scott Manor House when I was not available. Fibre Days provide our members with a way to stay in touch with each other and share their knowledge and enthusiasm. Fibre Days are open to all ASH members, and we encourage our members to participate.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Thorne3



Breed Study Groups

ASH spinning members were able to participate in two Breed studies this past year. Breed studies were self directed depending upon the individual spinner's area of interest, time available, and spinning level. Supported by email, Facebook, other members of the breed study, and three online meetings via ZOOM, participants studied and experimented with different breeds of sheep. Our ZOOM meetings were recorded and posted on the ASH website for viewing later. Members who have been involved in past breed studies say that doing a breed study pushes them out of their spinning comfort zone by spinning fibres new to them, trying new techniques, and taking the time to explore and experiment with a new fibre. Spinning with a group of spinners also provides support and lots of new ideas.

Our first breed study was called Stash Busting Atlantic, where members dove into their own fibre stashes and chose something to study that was grown in Atlantic Canada. Some of the breeds included Cotswold, Romney Lincoln cross, Southdown Cotswold cross, Romney, and Shetland. The group also started a list of Atlantic Canadian shepherds on the Facebook Breed Study page for future reference. There were 13 people who registered for the Stash busting Atlantic Breed study. The second breed

study focused on Southdown sheep. Twenty-one members registered for this one. It is our intention to continue breed/fibre studies in the upcoming year. We encourage spinners in ASH to participate and explore the world of spinning fibres.

Respectfully Submitted Heather Thorne



Web Site Annual Report

Although we have begun to meet in person, we also continue to offer the option of connecting via Zoom and the forum component still allows us to share our Show and Tell items before the meetings. Our Hands-on coordinator has begun to use the event registration function and this has made it much easier to control the number of attendees and gather their fees beforehand.

We have made extensive use of our GDrive for video recordings of our programs and the Breed Study group meetings which take place via Zoom.

Unfortunately, another change made by Google to their Analytics function meant that our usage statistics continued to be uncollected. This has now hopefully been fixed and statistics will be recorded for future years.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Nowakowski



Exhibit Annual Report

After postponement in 2021 due to Covid, the exhibit took place in the Chase Room at the Nova Scotia Archives during the month of November 2022. There were 96 submissions from 24 members in 13 categories. We had 3 special displays - Celebrating our 50th anniversary, tea towel exchange and skein challenge. Our hours were Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 and Saturday 10 - 4 with a total of 27 shifts each staffed by 2 members. Expenses including van and room rental = \$551.25 and income = \$288. My sincere thanks to the many volunteers who helped with setup, take down and staffing the shifts.

Respectfully submitted by Fran Nowakowski, Coordinator

ASH TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT - for fiscal year April 1, 2022- March 31, 2023

This is the annual financial report for the past year's activities. As of the end of March, our active membership was 115.

Our membership levels and revenues and equipment revenues have remained strong despite the fee increases implemented last year to help cover our storage costs. Unfortunately, our advertising revenue has fallen drastically, partly due to the resignation of the PR chairperson. And the exhibition, while very satisfying in many ways, lost more than expected.

The cost of meeting venues has been somewhat reduced this year due to shifting our regular meetings from the Museum to Scott Manor House. Our online Zoom meetings promote strong participation from members, not only for regular meetings but also for fibre days, executive and other committee meetings; the annual Zoom expense is clearly worthwhile.

Transaction fees for online purchases increased significantly, partly in proportion to the increased membership and equipment fees, but also due to an unanticipated annual financial fee imposed by the finance company.

We also had not budgeted for two bursaries approved this year, and we did not achieve the additional fund-raising that had been proposed. As a result, we incurred a total deficit of \$1090.77 for the fiscal year. Despite that, our bank balance and petty cash remains healthy, at \$14723.62.

I suggest that we re-allocate the remaining Mary E Black Conservation funds to the Mary E Black Bursary fund, which has no current revenue stream.

Report respectfully submitted by Wendy Landry, Treasurer

Balance Sheet	April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023
Assets:	
Cash (Bank account)	\$ 14,612.24
Petty Cash	\$ 111.38
Library	\$ 24,185.71
Weaving/Spinning Equipment	\$ 11,535.14
Prepaid Web (Wild Apricot-2yr)	\$ 212.82
Prepaid Web (GoDaddy-2yr)	\$ 27.48
Accounts Receivable	\$ 0.00
Office Equipment	\$ 46.62
Investments	\$ 0.00
Total Assets	\$ 50,731.39
Liabilities:	\$ 0.00
ASH Equity	\$ 50,731.39

Atlantic Spinners & Handweavers - Income Statement
April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023

Revenues:

Memberships	\$	4,280.00
Fiber Day	\$	100.23
Hands On Day	\$	134.00
Equipment Rental	\$	630.50
Advertising	\$	90.00
Lib & Equipment Sales	\$	-
Special Projects - Exhibition	\$	265.00
Misc. Revenue	\$	-
Total Revenues	\$	5,499.73

Expenses

General Administration	\$	3,203.91
Bank Fees	\$	48.00
Wild Apricot / Affinipay Fees	\$	278.73
Web Site Expenses	\$	924.86
Meetings	\$	777.50
Hospitality	\$	-
Programmes	\$	-
External Memberships	\$	70.00
Mary Black Bursary	\$	600.00
Library / Equipment Management	\$	151.24
Special Projects (Exhibition)	\$	536.26
Donations	\$	-
Miscellaneous	\$	-
Total Expenses	\$	6,590.50
Net Deficit	-\$	1,090.77

Asset Expenditures

Library books	\$	-
Equipment for rental	\$	-
Office equipment & furnishings	\$	-
Total Asset Expenditures	\$	-

NET DEFICIT \$ (1,090.77)

Retained Operating Funds:

Bank Balance	\$	14,612.24
Petty Cash/Float	\$	111.38
Total	\$	14,723.62

Pre-paid assets for upcoming year

Wild Apricot	\$	212.82
GoDaddy	\$	27.48
Total	\$	240.30

Reserved Funds:

Mary Black Bursary Fund	\$	4,862.00
Mary Black Conservation Fund	\$	452.16
Educational Reserve Fund	\$	1,728.92
Total	\$	7,043.08

FIXED ASSETS:

Library	\$	24,726.00	previous year's purchase + \$207.72
3% Depreciation	\$	748.01	\$24,933.72
Subtotal	\$	23,977.99	\$24,185.71
Rental Equipment	\$	11,891.90	
3% Depreciation	\$	356.76	
Subtotal	\$	11,535.14	
Office Equipment & Furnishings	\$	48.06	
3% Depreciation	\$	1.44	
Subtotal	\$	46.62	
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	\$	35,559.75	\$35,767.47

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 50,283.37 \$ 50,491.09

EXHIBITION 2022

Entry Fees Total Revenue	\$	265.00
Total Expenses	\$	536.26
Net Deficit	\$	(271.26)

