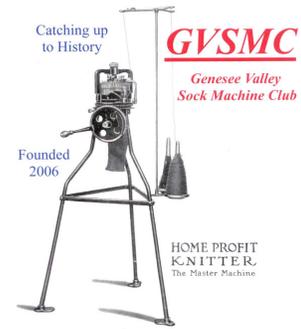


# The Circular



*A Newsletter for the Genesee Valley Sock Machine Club  
Volume 1, Issue 1 January-February, 2006*

*1866 Lamb Flatbed Knitting Machine, Class 1, SN 1683  
Owned by Fred Hauck, Rochester, NY*



*This Lamb Flatbed was found by inquiring for  
knitting machines at a roadside flea market.*

*Next Issue March-April  
Copy Due February 15th  
<http://interprizez.org/GVSMC>*

## From the Editor

Now is the time to organize a sock machine club for the region surrounding the Genesee Valley, more or less that area within about 70 miles of Rochester, NY. In that area there are at least a dozen sock machine owners, and very likely, many more people interested in becoming owners.

An organized club is a proper tool to bring together people having a common interest in the antique sock machines that were manufactured over one hundred years ago.

As a sock machine collector and hobbyist, I have taken the liberty to plan for such a club.

The region of activity is likely to be around the Genesee River Valley. Hence, the name GVSMC (Genesee Valley Sock Machine Club) is suggested. By-laws have been drafted, a Web site is under development, and a concept for an on-line newsletter is about to surface. The Web site and Club Library will serve as a container for many topics of interest to members. **“The Circular”** is the name suggested for the newsletter. This happens to be the first issue.

The members who come together and accept the proposed Bylaws at a meeting to be held (hopefully) no later than May 1, 2006, shall be the “Founding Members”.

Much needs to be done to establish this Club. A logo featuring a Home Profit Master Machine, manufactured in Rochester, NY, seems appropriate. The suggested logo is to the right. **“Catching up to History”** is the slogan.

In this issue of **The Circular**, an effort will be made to explain some of the suggested ideas. As the Club becomes established, members will be able to change the Bylaws, modify procedures and make any changes considered to be in the interest of it’s members.

p2

## The Circular

### Editor

Frederic D. Hauck  
2428 English Road  
Rochester, NY 14616

**Cover Photo  
by Fred Hauck**

## Upcoming Events; 2006

April; Date to be set. Dinner meeting at the Village Inn, Childs, NY. Dates open April 8, 9, 22, 23, and 29. See agenda.

### **April 30, 2006 Old Fashion Days , Calidonia, NY**

**Old Fashion Farm Days**, Babcock Museum, Somerset, NY. By Town of Somerset Historical Society, 57 Haight Road, PO Box 366, Barker, NY 14012

In 2005, The festival was on May 29.

This year it should be on Sunday, May 28.

They are looking for artisan's who would be willing to demonstrate their talent of bygone days to the public approximately from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### **September 16 & 17, 2006 12th Annual Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival**

We are now planning the 2006 festival.

We will keep you updated as next year's festival takes shape. Check these sites.

Fest@gvhg.org

<http://www.gvhg.org/festcontacts.html>

<http://www.gvhg.org/fest.html>

## Making Scarves

Stella Robison (left) and Jean Stisser (right) Wear old fashioned garments as they knit scarves at the Somerset Old Fashioned Farm Festival, which is held annually at the Babcock House Museum, Somerset, New York.



### Introducing Stella Robinson and Jean Stisser.

A few years ago, I learned from friends that there was a knitting machine at the Babcock House Museum in Somerset, NY. There was a sign attached to the machine, "What is this?". My friends knew what it was and knew that I had sock machines like it. That winter, I offered to help the Museum put the machine into service. A video tape was made while I set up the machine and operated it. It was in excellent condition and worked immediately. It was my first experience with a Home Profit Master Machine. I marveled at the smooth action resulting from the brass cylinder, and was not expecting to find a sock machine manufactured in Rochester, NY.

Before long, Stella Robinson and Jean Stisser were operating the machine and making scarves. They began a routine of making scarves at Easter and Christmas events at the Museum.

After seeing the Master Machine at the Babcock House Museum, I began looking for one for my collection. I purchased a Master Machine from Murray Clark of North Woodstock, NH. I have a high regard for the design of the machine, and continue to be impressed by its ease of operation.

This year Stella purchased a Master Machine of her own.

*By Fred Hauck*

**Dues:** A viable financial structure early in the life of a club is desirable. A way to establish an account quickly is to levy an initiation fee to new members. The initiation fee could cover membership dues for the first year. Thereafter, the dues could be a lower amount, based on anticipated expenses. An initiation fee of twenty dollars for the first year and dues beginning in the second year of ten dollars per year would be a reasonable place to start.

A slight modification of that plan would have dues based on membership in CSMSA. Current members of CSMSA could pay dues of four dollars per year, beginning with the second year, and nonmembers dues of ten dollars per year. The reason for this suggestion is to strongly encourage GVSMC members to hold CSMSA membership. The CSMSA, in its present form also encourages the founding of smaller local groups. These local groups need not be controlled by CSMSA and would be free to work independently from CSMSA. At the same time, the local group could support CSMSA by planning CSMSA Conferences and bidding on hosting a Conference in our area.

As the CSMSA Conferences are on the east coast only once every three years, there is a void to fill regarding activities for sock machine owners who cannot afford to travel long distances to the annual Conferences. A local club would fill that void.

Financial strength would enable our Club to rent space for special occasions and to take on projects of importance to our Club goals.

Expenses for the GVSMC could be held to a very low level by maximizing use of e-mail, telephone, and Internet for our communications. There are places where we could meet at no cost. Often, fiber arts festivals provide space at no charge to groups that demonstrate fiber related activities. Some expenses would be incurred to send hard copy of newsletters and mail to those not on line.

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## **GVSMC Financial Account**

Until a bank account is opened for the Club, every new member shall serve as a depository of a portion of Club income. This concept is probably unusual and will need a bit of explanation.

As a means of reducing financial risk to members in the initial stages of organization, before a Financial Officer is elected, each member shall retain in their control, that portion of dues owed by them for membership dues. For example, upon declaring a desire to be a Club member, an individual shall be the depository of the dues or initiation fee as prescribed for membership. This information shall be made known to the Treasurer or Acting Treasurer, and shall be recorded as Club account funds. The Treasurer may now call in funds as needed to meet expenses when approved by the members. If the Treasurer needs sixty dollars to meet an expense, the necessary number of members may be contacted to submit that amount. No member will be required to remit more than owed to the Club in the form of dues or other owed remittances. The Treasurer must keep an accurate record of all such transactions.

This technique for storing funds will place no member at risk. There are no anticipated Club expenses at this time. Any dinner meetings, events or activities planned by the Club must be self supporting until such time as the Club approves an operating budget which specifies how funds may be used for those expenses.

After a Treasurer has been elected to office, and a Club account has been opened, funds may then be collected from the members and deposited in that account.

## The Circular

*The Circular* is a newsletter published by and for the GVSMC (Genesee Valley Sock Machine Club). The purpose of *The Circular* is to inform the Club about new events, current plans, and those bits of news typically of interest to the membership. *The Circular* may include historical or current knitting machine related articles that extend the knowledge of members.

Introduction of *The Circular* will be the January-February, 2006, issue, with a total of six issues per year, published bi-monthly.

*The Circular* may be published and distributed by regular mail, e-mail or posted on a web site, at the discretion of the members.

## Membership Number

New members shall be assigned a membership number according to their date of joining. This number shall be assigned by the Club Treasurer upon receiving the decision to join, proclaimed personally by the prospective new member. This communication may be made by mail, telephone or e-mail. Membership number 1 has been assigned to Fred Hauck.

## Interim Management

Until such time as the Club nominates and elects officers, pursuant to The Bylaws, I, Frederic D. Hauck, shall assume the responsibilities of the officers. The nomination and election of said officers should be done as soon as practical.

[GVSMC Home Page](#) [Circular](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#)

Dates: June 18, 19, and 20 (21 optional) Sunday, Monday & Tuesday, (Wednesday-optional)

Sunday: Vendor set-up, early check-in, informal evening get-together

Monday: Sign-in and introductory meeting, classes, lunch, more classes, annual banquet.

Tuesday: classes, business meeting, lunch, more classes, fleece to feet contest.

Wednesday (optional)-a chance to visit and explore the beautiful areas close to Eagle.

Location: Eagle, Colorado - approx. 140 miles west of Denver on Interstate

70 - approx. 128 miles east of Grand Junction on Interstate 70

Conference Facility: Eagle County Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall Conference

Host Hotel: AmericInn Lodge & Suites Eagle, Colorado.

Other Optional accommodations: Best Western Hotel Eagle, Colorado

Comfort Inns Eagle, Colorado Full Service RV Park 10 miles from Eagle

Camping 15 miles from Eagle four Electric hook-up only. Eagle County

Fairgrounds (no water or sewer) several spaces at the Eagle County Fairgrounds with no facilities.

Signed Co-Chairs: Lorraine Everman and Carole Kramer

### **How to Join the CSMSA**

Anyone may become a member of the CSMSA by paying an annual membership fee of \$16.00. for mailing addresses within the U.S. or \$18.00 for foreign. All membership fees paid through PayPal is \$17.00 USD. This fee includes a copy of the organization's By-Laws and current information plus a one year subscription to the SockMachine Knitting newsletter.

To become a member send the appropriate fees to:

Bonnie Smola, Treasurer  
Yellow River Station  
304 Scott Hollow Rd.  
Monona, IA 52159

In 1999 at the first Conference in Freeport, Illinois, a small group of attendees discussed the possibility of forming an organization for owners of antique sock machines. When the 2001 CSMSA Conference was held in Clearfield, Pa., Bylaws had been drafted and a proposed logo was ready to be approved by the members.

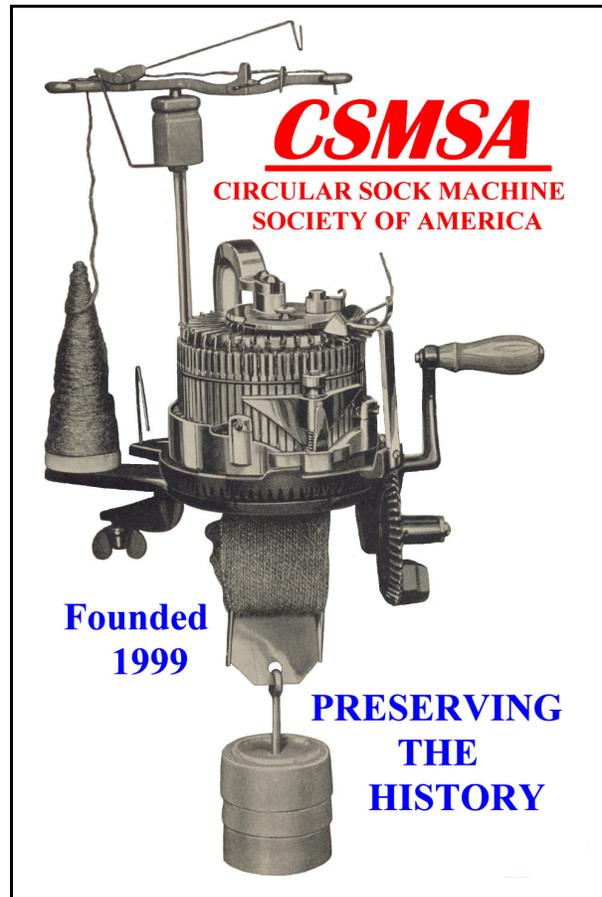
I volunteered to design the logo incorporating the Gearhart Knitter, and through consultation with Bonnie Smola, Donna Story, Deb Oswald, and Elsie McCarthy, designed the logo as seen here. I wanted to have a logo featuring a Gearhart Knitting Machine for a couple reasons. My mother gave me the Gearhart machine she purchased in 1923, and the Gearhart factory was located just 9 miles from my home. I was very pleased when the logo was accepted as the official logo for CSMSA.

The logo was incorporated into name tags for at least two of the CSMSA Conferences.

Logos are displayed with great pride by large companies and organizations. They are guarded against unlawful use and often become the subject of court cases when used without consent by the owners. Hopefully, the CSMSA logo will receive the same respect and protection.

For a complete understanding about CSMSA and its purposes and history, visit the excellent Web site that follows.

<http://www.csmsa.org/MainFrame.php>



## **The CSMSA and GVSMC**

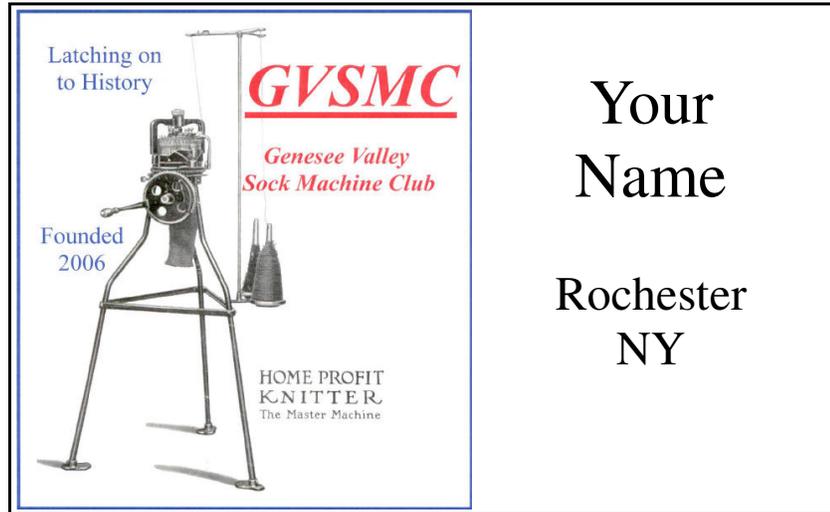
The GVSMC (Genesee Valley Sock Machine Club) now on the threshold of reality, is being organized as a sock machine club, independent from the CSMSA or any other formal group. It is desirable that GVSMC work energetically in support of CSMSA, as many of the GVSMC members will be members of both groups, and both groups have very similar purposes. The GVSMC will serve local sock machine owners during the years CSMSA is conducting Annual Conferences around the United States.

The GVSMC has the opportunity to grow in stature in the area surrounding Rochester, NY, by joining people from the fiber arts community in a common hobby. Activities involving the use of antique sock knitting machines at local festivals, fiber arts shows and general Club meetings will bring rewarding hours of relaxation and productivity. Meanwhile, the Club will support individual members as they acquire and learn to restore and operate sock machines.

## GVSMC Name Tags

The first generation of GVSMC name tags are in the oven. The name tags incorporate the Club logo, which features the Home Profit Master Machine, manufactured in Rochester, NY, from about 1920 to 1924. The Master Machine is non-typical, as it has a brass cylinder and dial. The brass material is ideal for a bearing surface and results in very smooth and quiet operation. It is appropriate to highlight a machine manufactured locally as we launch our sock machine club.

The name tags will be printed and laminated, then punched for a neck string. Members joining now will receive tags free of charge.



# Officers

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Editor e-mail; knit1@mindspring.com**

The *Genesee Valley Sock Machine Club*, (GVSMC) was founded in January 2006.

The purposes of this club shall be:

**SECTION 1** To provide an organization for owners and operators of antique knitting machines or sock machines.

**SECTION 2** To encourage the preservation, restoration, and use of antique knitting machines.

**SECTION 3** To aid in the education of members and the public about the history of antique knitting machines through shared teaching experiences and demonstrations at various fiber arts shows and festivals or at regular meetings planned by the members.

**SECTION 4** The club shall be non-commercial, non-sectarian, and non-partisan.

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## The Circular

Fred Hauck  
2428 English Road  
Rochester, NY 14616

Address Correction Requested

**GVSMC  
Logo**

