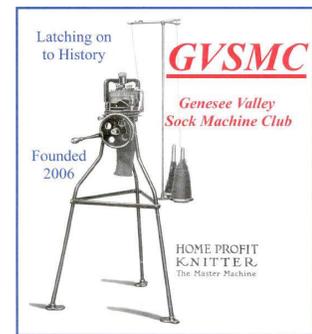


# The Circular



*A Newsletter for the Genesee Valley Sock Machine Club  
Volume 11, Issue 5 September-October, 2016*

## **Editor**

Frederic D. Hauck  
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Rochester, NY 14616

<http://sockknittingmachineenterprises.org/>

<http://interprizez.org/GVSMC/>

## **Cover Photo**

*By Fred Hauck*

***GVSMC Demonstration at Babcock Museum***  
Lea Hauck and Stella Robison at Old Fashion Farm Days



## *From the Editor*



Greetings to All,

For the past three years I have neglected the newsletter and web site while concentrating on CSKMS. This year, my position on the Board as a voting member has been replaced by the past President and my status is now the same as a regular CSKMS member. This gives me plenty of time to focus on the needs of the GVSMC.

This will not follow the usual plan for a newsletter. No new photos or articles are available for publication. However, there are some things the club can do to revitalize our meetings and possibly increase our membership.

Recent meetings have been short on attendees. Part of that is due to a very hot and dry summer. Hopefully, the cooler weather will help the attendance problem.

The Board is planning to meet this fall to consider initiatives that may upgrade the newsletters, improve the web site and encourage member participation in meetings. Help the Board by adding your voice to the discussion. It is hard for the Board to plan successful events and meetings without input from the members.

I will ask the Board to review our Bylaws, establish a publications committee, critique the web site and make a few changes in our procedures. Some of the ideas I promote may not be in keeping with the thoughts of all the people in the club. I get too ambitious and sometimes over promote my own ideas. The way to prevent that is to have members speak up and offer suggestions, critique ideas that have no appeal, and form a plan for growth that will restore the enthusiasm we had when the club was founded.

Look for more details on the following pages.

## Upcoming Events; 2016

**Regular Club meetings are on the second Saturday of the month. Meetings are sometimes hosted by members, and are frequently held at the Mile Post School in Pittsford, NY.**

September 17 & 18, 2016  
Hemlock Fairgrounds, Hemlock, NY  
Saturday 10 AM-5 PM + Sunday 10 AM-4 PM  
\$7 per person, 12 and under free

September 24 Saturday  
EastWest Alpaca Ranch Open House  
10:00am - 6:00pm.  
691 Brownsville Rd Victor NY 14564  
(585)734-6140 (Kristi)

September 18  
Babcock House Museum  
10:00am to 4:00pm.  
Somerset Old Fashion Farm Festival  
at the Cobblestone Barn.  
Come and experience period demonstrations, plowing with horses, horse drawn wagon rides, antique vehicles and equipment, refreshments.

## Renovating GVSMC

Now is a good time to evaluate the status of the GVSMC and consider ways to make the club more inviting for member participation.

Reviewing the Bylaws is a good place to start. I suggest it would be better to give each membership one vote, while retaining spouses as non voting members. Some people prefer that for the sake of fairness, and also prefer that spouses are not members. There may be other Bylaws sections open to change. Bylaws are very important to nonprofit organizations. Bylaws, meeting minutes and a Board of Directors are required to gain nonprofit and tax exempt status.

A publications committee is needed for our Club. That committee would be responsible for the newsletter, web site, advertising, name tags and membership cards.

Websites are now vital for individuals as well as social organizations and businesses. Society is quickly adapting to the presence of the Internet. People are constantly searching the Internet for machines and information about the sock machine hobby. Our web site is reaching out to those people.

Many of our current and former members have fleece producing animals, textile goods for sale, and a need for advertising at a reasonable cost. Our newsletter and web site is a free means of advertising for all our members.

We have the woman power and opportunity to host cranking events and sock machine conferences. Both events are a way to raise money, which would support our club by paying for meeting space, lunches at our meetings and advertising. Social clubs are often asked to donate money or provide services to charitable causes. I have found

that many people are firmly against using club funds for charitable purposes. Individuals who donate to charity usually have a favorite cause they want to support, but the club name and logo should not be used to promote a specific charity. Our Bylaws should include a ruling on donations to outside concerns.

My thoughts on renovating the GVSMC are brought on by the apparent decline in interest shown by our members. We have not had a significant increase in membership, and very little has been done to stimulate growth. Many of our past members have dropped out.

There are 750,000 people living in Monroe County. With a population of about 1,000,000 people close enough to attend our local meetings, there are surely enough to swell our ranks. We can launch an advertising campaign by publicizing our club in local papers and television. Our publications committee and membership committee could combine efforts to bring this about.

Now, I know that an effort of this magnitude will make work for Board members and volunteers who are willing to help. This is our tenth year. A little bit of well organized management can assure that the club can last another ten.

This is not a project I can do alone, and it can not be dumped on the Board. It will require a little bit from a lot of members. Simply drafting your business ad for the newsletter and web site would be a contribution to this program.

So here is your unusual newsletter for September-October, 2016. Are you ready to help?

*Fred Hauck*  
*Editor*

# Officers

President	Donna German	585-266-1358
Vice President	Dara Wagner	585-388-5961
Secretary	Sue Hodge	315-986-1294
Treasurer	Fred Hauck	585-225-3215

**Editor e-mail; fredhauck@copper.net**

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.

<http://interpretz.org/GVSMC>

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Address Correction Requested