

LORAIN COUNTY SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD



Getting Ready for Dye Day

By Betsy Bruce, Karen Long and Donna Holmes

What to Wear: Old clothes that can get stained with dye.

What to Dye: You can dye animal fiber – wool, alpaca, silk, angora, mohair, or plant fiber – cotton, tencel, linen, and maybe a few rayons, bamboo or soysilk. But no acrylic or polyester.

What To Bring: *Latex gloves* to protect your hands, *rubber bands* for tie-dyeing, *plastic bags* to carry home your dyed yarn and other items, and *old newspapers* for helping cover the tables to protect them. If you have *an extra roll of paper towels*, please bring them to help clean up spills – it's better to have too many than too few.

When To Arrive: Karen Long will be arriving at 6:30 to begin setting up – the sooner we're set up, the sooner we can start, so if you can come early to help, please do.

December Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Sara Twining, Guild Secretary

We started the meeting with all the wonderful goodies the members brought for our Christmas Party.

The meeting was called to order by President Elizabeth Yasaki. Remember, January's meeting will be a dye evening. We'll keep the meeting short to have plenty of time. If you want to come early, Karen Long will be at the Carlisle center around 6:30 to set up. Come help. Directions for

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How to Prepare: Tie your yarn or warp chains loosely to avoid a tangled mess, but don't tie the chokes so tightly that the dye can't penetrate to the item underneath – that will create white stripes like tie-dyeing. Rinse the items you plan to dye (yarn, t-shirts, socks, silk hankies or whatever) in warm water and mild soap to remove any dirt or sizing, then rinse them again and *soak them overnight* in cold water. Wring out the excess before bringing them to dye day, where they'll soak in an activator solution for 30 minutes.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.locoguild.com

dye day should be in the January newsletter about fiber types, supplies, etc. Beth Hines and Sara Twining volunteered to dye the warps for the 2011 Heifer projects.

Equipment: Julie Bragg will not be at the meeting in January. Call if you want something from our stash before February's meeting.

Refreshments: Sheryl Billman is taking signups for next year.

Please see *Minutes* on page 3



Members Julie Bragg, Patti McAndrews, Lynne Kopinski and Kathy Wilson enjoy the roaring fire and holiday decorations at the Wellington Reservation Visitors Center. Photo by guild historian Sandra Lingler

Recipe Corner: From the Holiday Party

By Betty Roll

These "Lemon Butter Snowbars" were printed inside a Land O Lakes butter package.

Preheat oven to 350.

Combine 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, 1-1/3 cups flour, 1/4 cup sugar and mix on low speed until blended. Pat FIRMLY (otherwise your crust will disintegrate) into 8" square greased baking pan.

Bake near center of oven for 15 to 20 minutes or

until brown on edges.

Meanwhile, mix 2 eggs, 3/4 cup sugar, 2 tablespoons flour, 1/4 teaspoon baking powder and 3 tablespoons lemon juice (about one fresh lemon). Pour filling over partially baked crust.

Return to oven for 18 to 20 minutes or until set. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Cool. Yield: about 16 bars.

Did you bring a tasty snack to our Guild meeting? Share the recipe here! E-mail donna@oberlin.net

Refreshments are always appreciated at our monthly meetings – e-mail Sheryl Billman at sheran8@msn.com to sign up

Minutes from page 1

Old Business: Beth Hines has been looking for a replacement for the Guild's Babe spinning wheel. Cathy Kaltenbach suggested the Schact Ladybug which she has in stock for \$575 (the price includes a lazy Kate and three bobbins). A jumbo flyer could also be purchased for it. Karen Long made a motion that the Guild purchase the wheel; it was seconded by Patty McAndrews. The vote was 11 to 3; the motion carried. Beth will pick up the wheel; we'll wait to decide about the jumbo flyer.

Also under Old business, there were 12 weaving workshop attendees; 2 have purchased used looms since the workshop.

Elizabeth Yasaki has the order forms for magazine discounts.

Dee Martin gave the Treasurer's report: the beginning balance as \$3778.19 with \$455 of that designated for Heifer. \$118.50 was donated at our Feed America dinner in November. This year, the funds went to the Well-Help Food Bank in the Wellington area. The ending balance for the month was \$3914.87 with \$484 in Heifer funds. After the evening's ticket money was handed in, we had \$747; we added \$3 to make it \$750. Thank you Guild members for your work on the projects, for selling and buying tickets and for supporting the project each year.

President Yasaki pointed out that our healthy treasury would allow us to sponsor workshops; please think of workshops we could sponsor.

Ann Hauser announced that Lynne Kopinski will handle membership details as Ann can't always be at the meetings due to her work schedule.

Drawing for the Heifer project resulted in four winners: Chris Morgan (blue shawl), Lenore Ancypa (blue shawl), Betty Roll (white shawl), Bill Barlow (hat and scarf).

Demonstration drawing winners were Sheryl Billman and Chris Strekely. Each won \$150 as a scholarship to use for workshop fees, books and supplies. They will report back to the Guild in the next year on how they used their winnings.

Ornament exchange went well. Meeting adjourned.

The Eastern Great Lakes Fiber Conference is Coming

Get ready for a weekend full of learning just a few hours away. The EGLF conference will take place October 7-11, 2011 in Chautauqua, NY - the theme is "Handmade/Remade" with instructors

Sarah Fortin - Garment Construction

Nancy Arthur Hoskins - Weaving

Kathe Todd-Hooker - Tapestry

Judy Dominic - Mud Cloth

Lisa Klakulak - Felting

Jacey Boggs - Spinning

Visit <http://eglf.com> for more details

What workshops should the guild sponsor in 2011? Your input welcome - talk to Beth Hines or Elizabeth Yasaki

Library Highlights: What we're reading now

By Eboni Francis, Guild Librarian

Here are some brief highlights of a few of the books in the LOCO library. Look for this feature to appear regularly in the newsletter!

African Textiles (Icon Editions) [John Picton](#) Icon (Harper) (1989), Paperback, 224 pages

Discusses textiles made "from the hands of spinners, weavers and dyers ... working ... within the traditions of pre-colonial origin that continue to be of cultural and social relevance ... " Individual chapters talk about raw materials, the loom (and separate chapters talk about single- and double-heddle looms), weaving in Madagascar, applique and related techniques and embroidery. An extensive bibliography offers resources for further reading and research and the book is illustrated with color and black & white photos.

The Alden Amos Big Book of Handspinning: Being a Compendium of Information, Advice, and Opinion on the Noble Art and Craft [Alden Amos](#) Interweave Press (2001), Hardcover, 480 pages

Amos, in his opinionated, humorous way, takes us step by step through examining the origins of spinning, the basic concepts behind fiber, determining character of yarn, fiber character and preparation, spinners'

tools, wheel mechanics ... pretty much everything from A to Z of spinning. The book is useful and understandable to anyone interested in "the ancient and honorable craft of handspinning." (I can't wait to get this one for my own personal library!)

We have a LibraryThing account! Visit <http://www.librarything.com/>

to see our collection name: LOCOlibrary password: l0c0library (Those are zeroes)

Our book collection is still being added to LibraryThing. Keep in mind that the site will only let you know whether the guild OWNS an item, not whether it is available to be borrowed.

Color Works: The Crafter's Guide to Color [Deb Menz](#) Interweave Press (2004), Spiral-bound, 152 pages

This book is about color and color relationships. Distills a great deal of color information gleaned over the years into a

few basic principles or concepts, that, once understood, will allow you to master color control in your medium of choice, whether it be knitting, weaving, sewing, spinning, painting, beading, etc. Lots of photos of color watches illustrate the concepts. A set of tear-out color tools at the back of the book will help you choose colors for your design (but please don't tear them out of the guild copy!)

Knitting in America: Patterns, Profiles, & Stories of America's Leading Artisans [Melanie Falick](#) Artisan (1996), Edition: 1st, Hardcover, 224 pages

This is a wonderful book that profiles "knitters, spinners, dyers and breeders of fiber-producing animals." The profiles include some "grandes dames" of the art and craft of knitting, such as Meg Swansen, Debora Newton, Nicky Epstein, Barbara Walker and Mary Walker Phillips as well as features of locations around the country like a musk-oxen farm in Montana and a school in Detroit where children learn to knit before they learn to read (how cool!). More than thirty patterns ranging from basic to advanced, traditional to contemporary, are included as well.

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