

# LORAIN COUNTY SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD



## Winter Term 2011

### From yarn to garment

By Betsy Bruce – Instructor

One can always say that the most recent whatever was the best.... Well, I have to admit, that this past winter term group project was just that: the best yet.

A 1,535 mile trip out East to Clinton NY, Lowell MA, Harrisville NH, Northampton MA and return started the term on a good note. Then ten college students and two other adults spent nearly a month together every weekday afternoon at FAVA executing their respective plans for a garment and then other projects.

The results were remarkably good, in fact, stunning. The Style Show on Sunday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, was fun! The participants seemed more relaxed than ever before and the spectators were appreciative. A slide show, runway and then exhibition opening were all part of the festivities that afternoon.

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## February Minutes and the December Board Meeting

Minutes from the February meeting (pg 3) have been submitted by Sara Twining and include all that happened at the meeting plus upcoming events such as:

March Meeting will be on Dye Gardens

April Will be our usual Dye Day

Also, the December Board Meeting are posted online at: <http://locoguild.com>

**Reminder...**The Eastern Great Lakes Fiber Conference is coming  
(Refer to the January Newsletter for the Info)

Black Swamp Fiber Fest - March 26 - Bowling Green Fairgrounds

Also, there are two upcoming **new fiber festivals in Ohio:**

The Crooked River Fiber Fling in Peninsula, August 4-7 website: [www.fibercafe.wordpress.com](http://www.fibercafe.wordpress.com)  
Mid-Ohio Fiber Fair in Newark, August 20-21 website: [www.midohiofiberfair.weebly.com](http://www.midohiofiberfair.weebly.com)

## *That'll Do - Invites You*

Andrea Wargo is a relatively new member to LOCO and wants to share what goes on at her place. There is plenty of information here for anyone who would like to join in on the fun! The farm is located at 34634 State Route 303 Grafton, OH 44044

Sit-N-Knit  
First Tuesday (10 a.m. - 1 p.m.) and last Saturday (10 a.m. - 1 p.m.) of every month

Sit-N-Hook (for rug hookers)  
First Monday (10 a.m. - 1 p.m.) and last Thursday (6 - 9 p.m.) of every month

Sit-N-Spin  
Last Monday (6 - 9 p.m.) of every month

All are free. Light refreshments are served. Please check the website [www.ThatllDoFarm.com](http://www.ThatllDoFarm.com) before coming out as dates do change due to fiber festivals, camps, etc.

For more information, contact Andrea Wargo at 440-829-3644 or [BrightonWool@aol.com](mailto:BrightonWool@aol.com)

## February Minutes submitted by Sara Twining

Lorain County Spinners & Weavers Guild

February 8, 2011

President Elizabeth Yasaki called the meeting to order with a plea for someone to replace Katie Farr as newsletter editor. Etta Rowe gave a summary of Katie's medical diagnosis, treatment and how she's doing.

The phone tree was discussed - see Board Meeting minutes. Treasurer Dee Martin wasn't present but sent word if anyone has outstanding LOCO bills mail them to her. We used the park's microphone for the meeting but need a better solution for our future meetings; volunteers should contact Elizabeth.

Program: March will be on Dye Gardens

April will be our usual Dye Day - see Newsletter for specific directions.

Library: Eboni is looking for suggestions - Email her or Donna Holmes with them.

Betsy Bruce brought books donated to our library. Go to the library at Ginko Gallery to check them out! As a LOCO member you can literally "check them out"!

Etta reported she sent five birthday cards and three get-well cards in January as Sunshine Chairwoman☺

Sheryl Billman asked us to sign up for refreshments. Julie Bragg & Ed Rowe showed our newest guild equipment, a Lady Bug Spinning Wheel. Various members at the meeting tested it. There was a Board Meeting December 28, 2010. The following discussions came from that meeting:

1. Brown bag-fiber challenge will need to start in March and be completed in November.
2. Committee-Dye Garden needs leader and 4-5 volunteers. Betsy Bruce explained the garden, its history and needs.

3. Elizabeth is willing to chair the Heifer projects. She had handouts for the mini-mentoring program ideas and FAQ for new members.
4. In 2012 we may need to review our constitution and boards and committees.
5. Would we like to start more sub-groups similar to Baskets on Tuesdays or Spinning at Huntington?
6. Guild sponsored workshop, trip research project?

Following those discussions Karen Long made a motion that we really do #7 (above) with these stipulations:

- Members research what kind of workshop or trip, etc.
- Budget the expenses for above, where to hold it, when is best.
- There will need to be a financial commitment from at least ten members to sponsor the event, which then can be open to non-guild members.

The motions was seconded by Pat Geisler and voted on. It passed unanimously. Sooo, get started to be able to present an idea in September with all the research done!

A reminder you can order LOCO logo shirts, bags, etc. through Patty McAndrew.

A thank you note was received from Well-Help Inc. for a Feed American donation. Meeting adjourned for “Clean Out Your Closet”.

Winter Term 2011

continued from page 1

Variety was the name of the game: one cloak, one cape, three jackets (one double breasted, one breasted, one hooded and one with a shawl collar), one vest and three dresses (including two origami dresses) were modeled in person. Fabrics were woven of wool, cotton, tencel and bamboo.

Some of the finishing touches admired by all were one warp that was hand-dyed, one cape was lined in silk, two garments had flannel lining and, a vest lined in flannel-backed satin, large buttons, a mother’s brooch and a fringed hem were some of the finishing touches admired by all.

Following the Show, five stations provided hands-on opportunities for guests to try weaving—paper hearts or fabric projects on a variety of looms including a two harness and a four harness table loom, a rigid harness table loom or a 4 harness floor loom.

Thanks to all who lent a hand or equipment, came to visit, enjoyed the show and/or stopped by the exhibit during the week following.

What will the “From Yarn to Garment XI” class accomplish next January to top this? year’s results?



Just cut the warp; Carlee Mahajan really has some work to be proud of!

**Some highlights of a few of the books in the LOCO Library at Ginko****The Twisted Sisters Sock Workbook: Dyeing, Painting, Spinning, Designing, Knitting** by [Lynne Vogel](#) (Interweave Press (2002), Paperback, 96 pages)

It seems that socks are very popular projects for knitters, both new and experienced. A quick Ravelry search reveals over 12,000 sock patterns to choose from, and [amazon.com](#) has several thousand sock knitting books available. The Twisted Sisters Sock Workbook, however, is about much more than just knitting socks. It takes you throughout the process of hand-dyeing fiber (approaching color, mixing color and different methods of dyeing), spinning fiber into yarn (prepping fiber, thinking about color in the spinning process, working with single and two-ply yarns, how to make 3-ply yarns) and knitting that yarn into wonderful socks. The beautiful, full-color photo illustrate the techniques that are described in the book, and boy was I ever ready to go dye up some fiber! There is a basic sock pattern included, with options for different heels (gusset, afterthought, afterthought wedge) and toes (round, wedge, thong), instructions on knitting socks flat and even step-by-step how to mend worn-out heels! If you like to knit socks and are interested in dyeing and spinning your own sock yarn, this book is worth checking out.

**Teach Yourself Visually Handspinning** by [Judith MacKenzie McCuin](#)  
**Visual (2007), Paperback, 224 pages**

Some things (for me, anyway) are better learned by seeing them done, rather than being told how they're done. If you want to learn to spin, this book is a close second having someone next to you showing how to spin yarn on a spindle or a wheel. The eleven chapters are set up in lessons, which are full of high-quality photos. The chapters and lessons take you through the various spinning tools and fibers, preparing fibers, spinning various types of fibers and novelty yarns, plying, and using your handspun yarn. There is even a short lesson on starting and caring for a fiber stash -- although I think that most of us are already experts in that area! As an added bonus, our guild copy of this book is signed by the author! I plan to buy my first wheel this year and I know this book will be a welcome help.

**e b o n i a . f r a n c i s , M . L . I . S .**

Librarian. Knitter. Crocheter. Spinner. Scrapbooker. Grade-A smartass.

All-around great person :-) And modest, too.

*We have a LibraryThing account!!!*

<http://www.librarything.com/>

name: LOCOLibrary      password: l0c0library (Those are zeroes)

Our book collection is still in the process of 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.

## A Great way to spend a Sunday...

Thanks to Ann Hauser here is a great recipe she shared so that we all can enjoy this dip; it sounds wonderful!

This past Sunday afternoon a few of us LOCO members met at the Huntington Twp Hall for an afternoon of spinning and knitting. We brought snacks and everyone liked my hummus dip. Here it is:

Ingredients: 2 - 3 cloves garlic, peeled  
1 can of chickpeas, drained and rinsed  
Zest & juice of one large lemon  
1/4 cup tahini (sesame seed butter)  
1/2 tsp sea salt  
1/2 tsp ground coriander  
1 & 1/2 tsp ground cumin  
1 tablespoon sour cream

In a food processor, mince the garlic. Scrape down the sides and add the drained chickpeas; whirl it until it is in small pieces. Add remaining ingredients except the sour cream and whirl until very smooth. Add sour cream and blend until incorporated. If desired, the garlic can be roasted first for a more mellow garlic flavor.

## A Note from the new Newsletter Person

It was a challenge to learn how to put this together but with wonderful assistance and guidance from Donna Holmes and input from members it happened.

I would also say that this Newsletter will only be as good as the input I receive from the members. I am so new to the guild and area that I don't know where to look. So, feel free to send me information by email or snail mail before/by the beginning of the month so I can try to include it when possible!

Thanks to everyone!  
Mary Carmosino

55 East College Street  
#307  
Oberlin, OH 44074

mmmcarmo@gmail.com

## LOCO Board Members

President: Elizabeth Yasaki  
(440)801-1734 [eyasaki@gmail.com](mailto:eyasaki@gmail.com)

Vice President: Karen Long  
(440)775-0201 [karen@oberlin.net](mailto:karen@oberlin.net)

Treasurer: Dee Martin  
(440)282-3740 [deemartin@aol.com](mailto:deemartin@aol.com)

Secretary: Sara Twining (440)647-2795  
and Linda Koch (440)225-9975  
[primitivetimes@ncwcom.com](mailto:primitivetimes@ncwcom.com)

Workshops and Fiber Samples: Beth  
Hines (440)458-4049  
[hinessheep@aol.com](mailto:hinessheep@aol.com)

Programs: Mary Beth Derikito  
(440)647-2590

Public Relations: Donna Holmes  
(440)775-1258 [donna@oberlin.net](mailto:donna@oberlin.net)

Library: Eboni Francis  
(614)625-7776 [eboni75@gmail.com](mailto:eboni75@gmail.com)

Demonstrations: Chris Streckely  
(330)416-8195 [cstrek49@yahoo.com](mailto:cstrek49@yahoo.com)

Membership: Lynne Kopinski  
(216)333-2942  
[lynnekopinski@gmail.com](mailto:lynnekopinski@gmail.com)

Sunshine: Etta Rowe  
(440)774-3210 [erowe1132@aol.com](mailto:erowe1132@aol.com)

Newsletter: Mary Carmosino  
(814)440-1090 [mmmcarmo@gmail.com](mailto:mmmcarmo@gmail.com)

Guild Equipment: Julie Bragg  
(440)647-2335 [jb76quilts@msn.com](mailto:jb76quilts@msn.com)

Refreshments: Sheryl Billman  
(440)926-3114 [sheran8@msn.com](mailto:sheran8@msn.com)

Historian: Sandra Lingler  
(440)365-9835 [sllingler@yahoo.com](mailto:sllingler@yahoo.com)

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