

October 2015 LOCO News



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**Next Meeting: October 13th
Tuesday 6:30pm (Early meeting!)
Wellington Reservation**

Feed America potluck to start at 6:30PM. Please bring a dish to share, your table service, and donation to be given to a local food bank.

We will also be having Show and Tell. Let's see what everybody is making for Christmas presents, along with all the other wonderful things we create.



Meeting Minutes / September 8, 2015

Opening

The regular meeting of the LOCO spinning/weaving guild was called to order at 7:03pm on 9/8/15 at Carlisle Reservation by President Elizabeth Yasaki

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve August minutes: Chris Strekely , 2nd by Karen Long. Correction noted by Missy Merrill: Country Harvest of the Arts (Birmingham) is on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 9am-4pm, and Sunday, Oct 4 from 10:30am-4pm. Minutes approved with the correction

Reports

- VP: Karen forgot to send newsletters by postal mail for those who prefer to receive them that way; she handed them out at the meeting
- Treasurer: We've received money for participating in recent demos -- \$200 from Cuyahoga County Fair, \$50 from Mill Hollow, and \$100 from Lorain County Fair.
- Workshops:
 - Andrea Wong Portuguese knitting workshop will be on Nov. 21 from 9am-4pm and will include lunch. Fee is \$50 – pay by Sept 15. Workshop will be opened up to other guilds on that date and is expected to fill up. Ed will ask Andrea if participants can work on different projects rather than the beret that is advertised.
 - Bobbie Irwin workshop on iridescent weaving will open early in 2016, and will be held on April 23-24. Projected fee is \$100 plus material costs which will be between \$15-\$30.
- Programs:
 - Next month we are meeting at Wellington Reservation, starting at 6:30pm (rather than our usual 7pm start time). Bring donations to support Harvest for Hunger. This is a potluck!!
- Public relations: none
- Librarian: Eboni brought recent issues of several magazines; feel free to sign them out if you'd like to borrow them!
- Demos:
 - Pioneer Days @ Mill Hollow – Sept. 15 and Sept. 16 from 9am-1:30pm
 - Country Harvest of the Arts (Birmingham) is on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 9am-4pm, and Sunday, Oct 4 from 10:30am-4pm
 - Smith's Oct 8 from 12-2pm
 - If you demo at events, BE SURE to add yourself to the book so that you can be eligible for the scholarship drawing!
- Service Committee
 - Elizabeth has updated the flyer to include more information about guild activities, projects, library, etc.
- Membership
 - 47 members renewed, 1 new member joined today
 - PDF directory will be sent out later this week

(Minutes cont.)

- Sunshine
 - 1 sympathy card and 5 birthday cards were sent out
- Newsletter
 - Gina needs names of folks who are submitting items to be sold at Birmingham. Remember that all proceeds will support our SEPA scholarship winner (more info below)
- Equipment
 - Julie has the Ladybug wheel for anyone who wants to borrow it. Call or email her to make arrangements for anything you want to borrow.
- Refreshments
 - Ann thanks everyone for signing up, particularly those who pitched in to help this month.
- Service project followup (Guatemala high school scholarship)
 - the winner is Celestina Ramirez Moldonado. She is a 34 year old single mother of 2 children. She is finishing up 8th grade. Betsy showed a beautiful slide show, showing Celestina's home (she and her children live together with her parents), her weaving, and her lifestyle.

Old business

- LOCO t-shirt info – we need a better, higher quality image to take to a couple of local t-shirt makers. More info to follow.
- Basket workshop at Beth Hines' home on Thursday, Oct. 6 from 9am-3pm. Prices range from \$25-\$40. Lunch price is \$5. Beth also announced a shoebox quilt challenge, where you can only use materials from your stash (with the exception of batting, which may be purchased). Let her know if you want to participate.
- Pioneer Days @ Lyme Village – Sunday Sept. 12 and Sunday Sept. 13 in Bellvue, OH. There will be demos for spinning, weaving candlemaking, etc. Also historical impersonators. Sign up with Chris if you want to demo.
- BNCC Pioneer Harvest Fall Festival (Bronson Norwalk Conservation Club) – Sept 26 from 10am-5pm and Sept 27 from 11am-4pm

New business

- Betsy and Gina are collecting items to sell at Birmingham. All proceeds will support our Guatemala scholarship recipient.
- Medina guild partnership with The Woolery: every time guild members purchase from the Woolery (via a special internet link), guild gets 5% back. Elizabeth will check into this and see if it is a possibility for us.
- Also, Medina guild is resuming their monthly meetings after a summer hiatus. They meet the 1st Tuesday of each month. Check their website (<https://medinaspinweave.wordpress.com/>) for more information on their activities, and to read/sign up for the newsletter.
- Western Reserve Herb Society is hosting a one-day herb fair on October 10 from 10am-3pm at Cleveland Botanical Garden

Show & Tell / Program – sign the book!

Adjournment - Adjourned by Elizabeth Yasaki

Minutes submitted by: eboni johnson

How We Spent Our Summer Weaving - A Loom Swap

by Mary Carmosino and Barb Enos

In the fall of 2014, Marcos Bautista a weaver from Oaxaca, Mexico and part of the Mayan Hand Co-op, visited Oberlin and demonstrated his weaving techniques; a tradition passed down to him by his parents. He shared his expertise on the dyeing process and the weaving structure he uses to make traditional Zapotec weavings of fine rugs and tapestry. Mary Carmosino purchased a rug made by Marcos and Barb Enos purchased a purse from the Mayan Hands Co-op.

Mary's interest in rug weaving was reignited. In the spring of 2015, She purchased a pattern for an Optical Twill Rug by Jason Collingwood because she was intrigued by how the reversal of the pattern happened during weaving it on a 4-harness loom. Her Harrisville 24" loom was not wide enough to do the project.

Barb, a novice to the weaving world, was interested in learning how to weave a more intricate design using an 8 harness loom, but her four harness loom was not conducive to the patterns. After a LOCO (Lorain County Spinners and Weavers) meeting, Mary and Barb decided to do a loom swap. Mary's 8 harness Harrisville and Barb's 36" Harrisville looms were a perfect swap.

For Mary, beginning the weaving with the wool fiber and learning how to pack it into place immediately brought back the experience of watching Marcos demonstrate his skills months earlier. Mary's reverse pattern wasn't anywhere near as intricate as Marco's but it did challenge her with planning the design and making it work for the fibers she had to use. Because of the design contrast with the reversal of the 2/2 twill some of her natural Juggerspun wool was hand dyed for the lighter color she needed to contrast with a dark brown purchased wool.

Completing the rug in record time and having more warp to work with, Mary experimented with more colors of wool fiber she had and altering the design. Having so much fun with this, the swap was extended for long enough to do another rug for her daughter living in Oregon. Mary's daughter chose the colors from Collingwood Wool online and they worked together long distance to decide how to use them in a similar twill design without the reversals. The final result was a 25x35 wool rug that is now on its way to Portland, Oregon where she lives.

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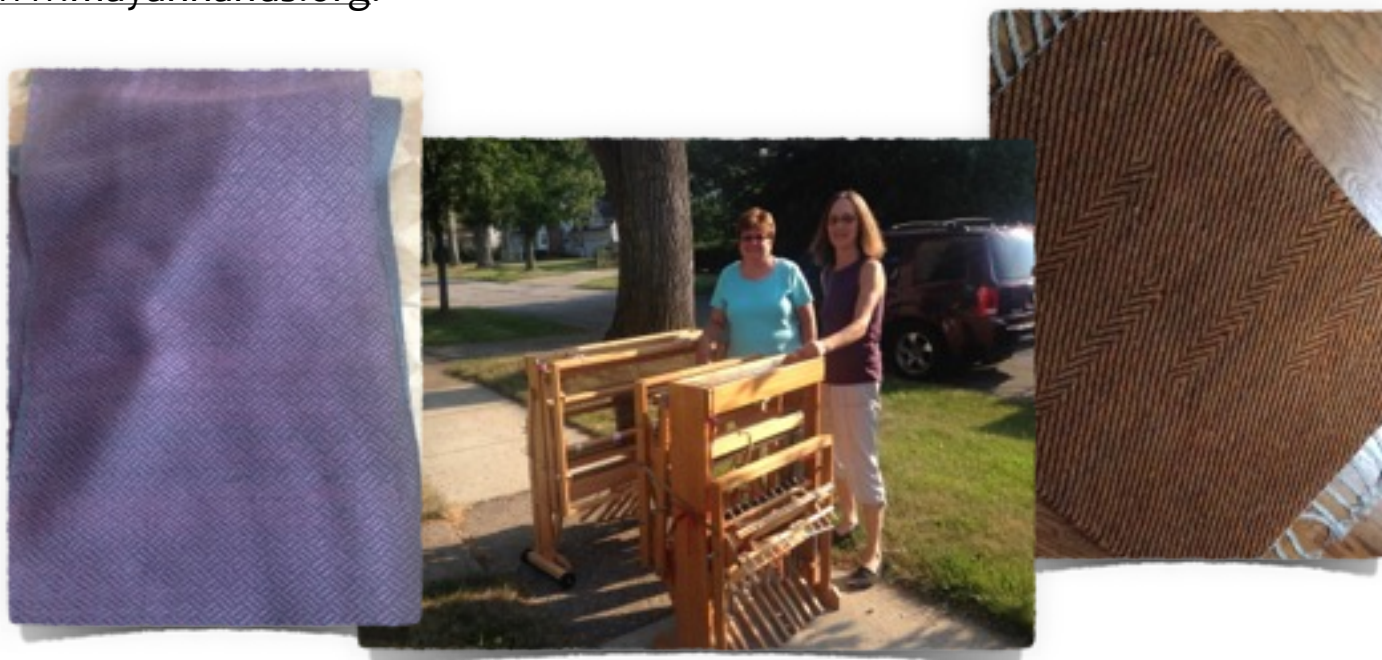
(How We Spent Our Summer Weaving - A Loom Swap - cont.)

With the help of Betsy Bruce, Barb's mentor, and a borrowed copy of Carol Strickler's *A Weaver's Book of 8-Shaft Patterns*, Barb chose to weave two scarves with a plaited twill pattern using all eight harnesses. The warp for both scarves was an 8/2 tencel Grey Blue. The weft was 8/2 tencel Hummingbird for one scarf and 8/2 tencel Gold for the second. It was a little tricky getting the treadles attached to the appropriate heddle frames but once set up and the loom dressed the weaving began. Like any other weaving project, once the weaving got underway she was confident in the weaving process. As Betsy would say, "Make your feet dance!" Barb would go to bed to the rhythm of 3-1-4-2-5-1-6-2-7-1-8-2.....

After two vacations, three family gatherings and the Lorain County Fair week, Barb finally finished her two scarves. The scarves have a beautiful braided pattern and the color combinations shimmer.

During the summer loom swap Mary learned new weaving techniques and how to have fun with color and design. Some of her experiments at the end of a warp are what moves her into her next project to try something new again, or perfect an idea that just sprouted during the process.

Barb was delighted that Mary approached her with this adventure. She hopes she can encourage others to exchange looms or spinning wheels or other forms of art so that they may have a positive new experience. The swap was worth the experience. Note: You can find out more about Mayan Hands by visiting the [Note: You can find out more about Mayan Hands by visiting the website at www.mayanhands.org](http://www.mayanhands.org).



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EVENTS

AUTUMN FIBER FESTIVAL

October 17, 9-5, Ashland County Fairgrounds

Local fiber producers, craftsmen and artists will be brought together to display and sell their wares, demonstrate their skills and educate the visiting public about natural fibers and their importance to our community and culture. Ashland County Fairgrounds, Mozelle Hall, 2042 Claremont Ave., Ashland, Ohio. Free admission and free parking.

autumnfiberfestival.com

SPINNING AND WEAVING CLASSES

Susan Conover has listed her Autumn 2015 &

Winter 2016 class schedule. These are at Conover Workshop in Parkman, OH. Most of the workshops make use of her equipment.

- 8-Shaft Twill - 121 examples - 3 days • Basic Spinning - 4 consecutive weeks for 2-1/2hrs
- Comprehensive Basic Weaving - 5 days • Double-Width Weave - 2 days
- Rag Rugs Swedish Style - 3 days

Spinning Classes - note from Gina - Whenever I am on a demo and someone asks me where to go to learn to spin, I tell them that the guild is a great place to ask questions and for advice, but for one on one lessons go to Black Locust Farm yarn shop in Lodi.



Mill Hollow Pioneer Days



Birmingham Fall Festival



LOCO Board for 2015-2016

President: Elizabeth Yasaki (440)463-8553
eyasaki@gmail.com

Vice President: Karen Long 440-775-0201
karen@oberlin.net

Treasurer: Betsy Bruce 440-774-7036
bbruce@oberlin.edu

Secretary: Carolyn Borsini 440-773-5713
carolynborsini@gmail.com
 Eboni Johnson 614-625-7776
Eboni75@gmail.com

Workshops: Beth Hines 440-458-4049
hinesssheep@windstream.net
 Ed Rowe 216-269-5413
Rowe132@aol.com

Programs: Kathy Webb 419-577-7899
Kwebb31579@gmail.com
 Lynn Kopinski 216-333-2942
lynnekopinski@hotmail.com
 Linnea Satterfield 440-308-1092
naesatt@netscape.net
 Ed Rowe 216-269-5413
Rowe132@aol.com

Public Relations: Paige Funkhouser 609-802-7580
Pfunkhou@oberlin.edu

Library: Eboni Johnson 614-625-7776
Eboni75@gmail.com

Demonstrations: Chris Strekely 330-416-8195
Cjstrek1949@yahoo.com

Membership: Cheryl Lesure 330-635-0338
cherldi@hotmail.com

Sunshine: Christine Bruce 440-458-8092
christybspinall@yahoo.com

Guild Equipment: Julie Bragg 440-647-2335
jb76quilts@msn.com

Refreshments: Ann Hauser 440-476-4675
Historian: Nancy Kuhar 419-315-1550 nancyjk52@gmail.com

Fiber Samples: Kathy Webb 419-684-7056
kwebb31579@gmail.com

Newsletter: Gina Talandis 505-250-9431
darzas@juno.com

Ed the Wheel Healer

Maker of Great Wheels
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 45485 Hughes Rd.
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