

Loco News

'...BY ANY OTHER NAME'

Coming up roses

Kay Griggs has a delightful thing to teach us to make just in time for holiday gift planning: Bullion roses.

Her technique of embroidering the roses will enable us to decorate clothing or Christmas ornaments by using bits and pieces of our lush hand-dyed wool yarns. It's also great for birthdays, wedding favors, or other elegant gift needs.

She will furnish all the materials we need at the meeting Tuesday, Aug. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Carlisle Visitor Center on Diagonal Road.

Kay has been a member of our guild for a long time and occasionally shows off some smashing idea she has pulled off in her spare time. Remember that beautiful black jacket she embellished with yarn from the indigo dye workshop?

Bring your coffee cup and save a tree. Pat Harrison will bring the refreshments.



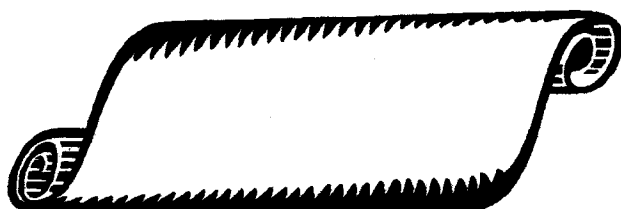
Coming attractions

Demo season is upon us and soon we will begin our annual effort to show the public what we do and keep our fiber traditions alive for a new generation.

No matter what your level of skill is, a demonstration needs you. If all you can do is card some wool, that will fascinate someone.

Sign up and share the load. The whole guild benefits from the income.

Lorain County Fair: Sunday, Aug. 26
Pioneer Days: Saturday, Sunday, Sept. 15-16
Birmingham: Saturday, Sunday Oct. 6-7



Calendar

Aug. 3-19: Ohio State Fair, Columbus.

Aug. 6-12: Cuyahoga County Fair, Berea

Aug. 11: Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers Guild Basket necklace workshop with Lynn Hill at Headlands State Park. \$21. Information elsewhere in newsletter

Aug. 11: Malabar Farm Guild Penny Rug workshop at Malabar Farm. Information elsewhere in newsletter.

Aug. 12-18: Traditional rug hooking week at Sauder Village near Toledo. Retreat, rug exhibition and weekend workshops.

Aug. 14: LOCO meeting

Aug. 16-26: Kentucky State Fair.

Aug. 17-19: Sew Many Pieces Quilt show at Canton Masonic Temple, 836 Market Ave., N., Canton. Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday 12-4 p.m. AQS Certified quilt appraiser will be available.

Aug. 20-26: Lorain County Fair. LOCO demo Sunday, Aug. 26 at pavilion near sheep barn.

Aug. 21-Sept. 3: Michigan State Fair.

Through Sept. 2: A Korean wearable art exhibit "The Air of the East" in Rockwell Hall at the Kent State University Museum in Kent.

Sept. 8: Cook Forest Fiber Festival, Franklin, Pa., at Venango County's Two Mile Run Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. by Northwest Pennsylvania Spinners and Weavers. Information: Donna (814) 694-2422 or sewsew@velocity.net

Sept. 8-9, 15-16, 22-23: Yankee Peddler Festival at Clay's Park Resort, Canal Fulton, OH, 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily. Crafts, music, old-time food, vendors and demonstrations. No pets. \$8 for adults, \$2.50 for children 6-11. \$7 for seniors. Park off Rt. 21 on SR. 93. Free parking.

Sept. 11: LOCO meeting

September 15-16: Pioneer Days Festival, Vermilion. LOCO spinning demo.

Sept. 29: Western Reserve Guild's West Coast Rags workshop with Jamie Fish at Lake Farmpark. \$15 plus your fabric and warp material. Information elsewhere in newsletter.

Oct. 6-7: LOCO spinning demo at Birmingham Antiques Festival.

Oct. 6: The Gathering statewide spin-in at Malabar Farm State Park, Mansfield, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors will be available. Bring sack lunch, wheel and handwork. Information: 419-892-2784 or 419-589-2321.

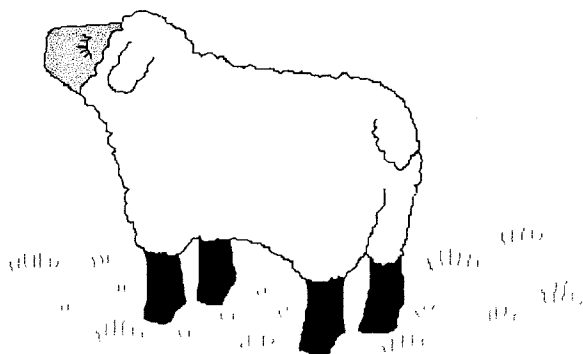
Oct. 6 and 13: Medina Guild workshop Krazy over Kasuri by Jennie Hutchings. Information: Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net

Oct. 25-27: Canton Guild workshop: Banish White Warps, Crackle with Color by Lucy McTeer.

Nov. 17-18: Medina Guild workshop on Wearable Rags by Johanna Erickson. Information: Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net

Jan. 12-13: Medina Guild workshop on Theo Morman techniques by Nadine Sanders. Information: Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net





Know your sheep

Galway Sheep

(U.K.) Listed by RBST as endangered.

Animal size: Ewes 163 pounds (74 kg);

Fleece type: fine

Numerical Count: 48s-56s

Staple length: 4 ½ - 7 ½ inches

Breed origins: This breed was developed during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries when long-wooled Irish Sheep were bred to Dishley Leicester rams. A large proportion of the wool in Ireland is produced by Galway sheep

Although they are almost unknown outside the country, there are approximately 200,000 ewes in Ireland. Flocks are found mainly in Counties Galway, Roscommon, Mayo, Clare, Westmeath, and Offaly.

Sheep characteristics: Galway sheep are a hornless, lowland breed, characterized by a large frame, clean white face, and a woolly, "bob" on the forehead. The chest is wide, deep, and full. The legs are medium length with good bone and are covered with wool to the knees and hocks

Galway ewes don't reproduce at the prolific rates of sheep of some other breeds; they average 1.4 offspring per breeding, but a good ram can raise that statistic to 1.8. Galways have a tremendous potential for crossbreeding. The

ram is an excellent choice for crossing with Hill breeds for production of ewes. The Galway ewe makes an excellent fat lamb mother and is often bred with down types and Texel rams.

The ewe is easily managed and its docility makes it ideal for both large and small sheep operations. Galway ewes are noted for their hardiness and can adapt readily to changing climatic conditions, although they do not like waterlogged ground and do best at low altitudes. The temperate climate in the west of Ireland suits the breed well.

Fleece characteristics: The moderately long fleece is close and fine in texture with a broad staple and nice crimp (6-7) per inch. The white semi-lustrous wool is an excellent choice for the handspinner. About 80% of the fleeces grade as either Super/Select (50s-54s) or Pick and Super (54s-56s) quality; the staple length varies between 4 ½" and 7 ½" (11-19cm) and it is free of kemp. The average fleece weighs 6 to 8 pounds; some weigh more than 12 pounds.

The breed standard says fleece "should be white and moderately long, the fiber wavy and of fine texture, staple broad, closely set and free from tips. Fiber texture should be as uniform as possible throughout the fleece."

Spinning pointers: The fleece contains a moderate amount of oil which can be left on the wool for spinning in the grease, or partially or completely removed by scouring. If stains are a problem, soaking the fleece in cold water for 12 to 24 hours before a hot scouring will soften the stains. Usually sort out very dirty parts of the fleece, remove vegetable contamination, and then soak the whole fleece overnight in cold water. Some like to spin with some of the natural oils remaining on the fibers, if so wash the wool gently in lukewarm water and detergent and rinse well. Be careful to dry the

fleece away from direct sunlight, as this yellows the fibers.

The wool should be teased and any second cuts removed before carding. If the wool is to be used for garments, only the softer parts of the fleece should be selected.

Galway wool has no kemp, but as in all fleeces, there are some parts that are coarser than others. Sort the wool by touch into one heap to spin into soft yarn and a smaller pile to be used for the next floor rug. Use either a drum carder or hand cards. Make rolags for spinning with a long draw.

This preparation and technique result in a soft, strong yarn. For a short draw, prepare the fibers by flicking them with a hand carder or by carding them and using the batts lengthwise. This gives a slicker but less bouncy yarn. Galway wool may be spun into fine, slightly lustrous yarn, but it will also make a medium to thick yarn.

After spinning and plying, wash the hanks and hang them to dry. Blocking is not necessary. The yarn is smooth and relaxed.

Breed Association: The Galway Sheep Breeders' Society, c/o Mr. T. Sic (Hon. Sec.), Boyhill, Athenry, Co., Galway, Ireland, or Mr. D. McNamara, B. Ag. Sc. (Hon. Sec.), Tuam Rd., Athenry, Co. Galway, Ireland. Phone 00353 91 844162

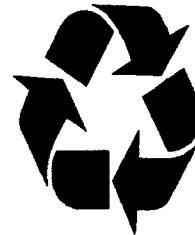
Source:

Galway Sheep, Anne-Marie Moroney, *Spin-Off Magazine*, September 1990.
Irish Department of Agriculture, Dublin.
'The Galway Breed,' a leaflet produced by the Galway Sheep Breeders' Association; ACOT leaflets 40 and 42
'Sheep Production,' published by An Foras Talluntas (The Agricultural Institute).

Irish stamps honor exotic breeds, *Sheep! Magazine*, July, 1992.

Rare Wools, From Rare Sheep, Part 1: A focused tour of breeds and Fiber, Deborah Robson, *Spinoff Magazine*, Winter 1998.

Collected by Roni Rospert, 1999



Ohio classified ads

For sale: 36" Harrisville loom; 4 harness, 6 treadle, with bench, some shuttles, bobbin winder, and raddle. Used twice. \$500
Contact Laura Jones at laura.a.j.@juno.com

Special sale: 70's grade white Merino Top Regularly \$18.50/lb on sale at \$14.80/lb plus shipping.

Manx Loghtan top from England. (Manx are a rare breed) Rusty color. Unlike many moorit products it has little if any gray fiber. \$21.00/lb plus shipping. Price good only on email or mail orders and will not be honored at shows or festivals. Retail customers only. Contact Little Barn Inc., 173 McKee Rd., Harvest AL 35749, or www.littlebarninc.com

Selling all weaving and spinning supplies: Sept. 7-9, from 1-7 p.m. 60" 12-harness Finnish countermarche loom with bench, extra reeds, second beam, \$2,200. 60" Glimakra tapestry/rug loom: \$2,000. Also 4H Schacht table loom, large Navajo rug loom, LeClerc warping board, new wooden swift and other small equipment. Antique & modern spinning wheels and yarn winders. Antique quilting frame, self-focusing slide projector and screen.

15 years of Cross Country weaving samples, Books, weaving memorabilia, collectible textiles and lots of yarn: Manos, Jagger Spun, Lily Fawcett, Harrisville and more. Silk for spinning. Information and directions: Katie Schmitt, 108 Montrose Ave., Delaware, OH, 43015 or call (740) 362-1303.

For sale: Two 2-harness rug looms (Union Jack and Orco). Both sturdy and in good working condition. Sectional warp beam on back. Easy to warp and use. Both have instruction manual, shuttles, etc. \$400 for either one or best offer. (740) 537-5402 or email Robertsconsultant@aol.com

For sale: Pygora goats, crossbred lambs, crossbred fleece in white and natural colors. Hollie Carter, (330) 627-7540 or (330) 627-4061.

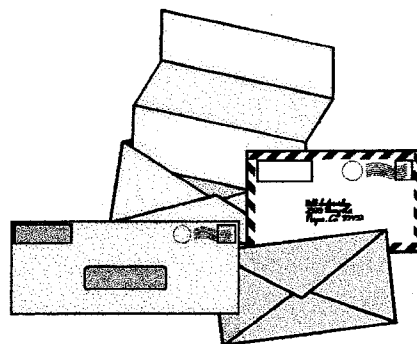
For sale: Shetland lambs, male and female, registered or not. The smallest breed can be kept in back yard. Beautiful spinning fiber. Roseanne Bailey (330) 735-2134 or Kathie Thompson at CLTHOM@raex.com

Workshops: Conover workshops taught by Susan Conover in Parkman, OH, offer a complete program for the beginning weaving or spinning student. Workshops on spinning are scheduled in October and November and weaving studies in October and November. Information, prices and schedule: (440) 548-3491 or email info@conoverworkshops.com

A word about samples

Samples are a good thing. We rarely get any for the newsletter. If you have a neat bit of spinning or weaving you would like to share with your friends in the guild, run, do not walk, to my house with it.

Pat Geisler



From the mailbox

The **Wool Festival at Taos** will be held Oct. 6 and 7, with workshops Oct. 1-5 and Oct. 8-10. It is considered the largest wool festival west of the Mississippi and features many Navajo-Churro wool projects in themes from the American Southwest. Spinning, weaving and felting workshops are scheduled. For more information on this 18th annual festival in New Mexico call toll-free 1-888-909-WOOL or email to info@taoswoolfestival.org

Malabar Farm Guild will hold a penny rug workshop Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the work area at Malabar Farm near Mansfield. The project will be a round rug with oak leaves and acorns in autumn colors. Fee \$10 and all materials will be furnished except floss or pearl cotton for blanket stitch finishing. Bring scissors, crewel or tapestry needles and straight pins. Information and sign-up: Carol Rahall at (419) 756-2344.

Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers will hold a basket necklace workshop 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with Lyn Hill on Aug. 11 at Headlands State Park. Picnic lunch, noon to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$21 per person, with materials furnished. Bring any additional decorative doodads you wish. Registration and information: Roberta Jones Shafer, 1001 Beachview Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094 or call (440) 942-5287.

Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers will hold a West Coast Rags Workshop with Jamie Fish on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Lake Farmpark. Jamie Fish will also lecture at the Sept. 25 guild meeting on her secrets of transforming strips of fabric into glorious handwovens. Loom needed for workshop. Cost is \$15 plus materials and warp. Information and registration to Roberta Jones Shafer, 1001 Beachview Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094 or call (440) 942-5287.

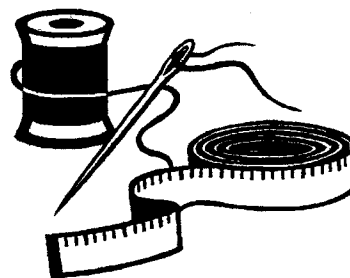
Anybody going to Vermont in September? **The Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival** will be held at Snowshed Base Lodge in Killington, VT from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 29 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 30. Information: Kat Smith, 136 Jack Perry Rd., Wallingford, VT, 05772-9350 or phone (802) 446-3325. Email: katsmith@vermontel.net

Sharing: Chris Spitzer of the Medina Guild would love to find another guild in Ohio that would like to schedule Johanna Erickson somewhere right before November 17-20th workshop the guild has scheduled on Wearable Rags and that would split the cost of her airfare. Johanna Erickson is a professional designer and weaver with a BA in art and an MA in art education, has lectured and taught many workshops throughout the U.S. Her work has appeared in fiber and interiors publications, and she has produced a booklet called "Rag Weaving Gimmicks and Tricks."

Contact Chris at: cspitzer@lek.net or phone at (330) 668-2414

Medina Guild will sponsor a two-day workshop Oct. 6 and 13 by Jenny Hutchings, Krazy over Kasuri. The dyeing will be done at home and the weaving at the Lodi recreation center 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the two Saturdays. Cost \$29. Information: Chris Spitzer, (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net.

Traveling show: Now through Sept. 23 the Kentucky Folk Art Museum is hosting a traveling Southern Appalachian coverlet show from the New England Textile Museum. Open daily, the museum is only a few miles off I-64 between Lexington and the WV line. The museum has had good signs installed so there is little chance of getting lost. Details at <http://www.kyfolkart.org>.



Fabrics

Batik: Hand-printed material colored by dipping the fabric into dye

Brocade: Originally heavy silk with an elaborate pattern in gold or silver threads. Has an embossed appearance.

Chenille: From the French word for "caterpillar" because the chenille yarns are plush and fuzzy.

Damask: Named for the ancient city where elaborate floral designs were woven in silk. Damask is flatter than brocade and reversible. The pattern changes color on the reverse side.

Jacquard: Damasks, tapestries, brocades, matelasse and all cloths with elaborate figures woven on a Jacquard loom.

Matelasse: Refers to fabric with a quilted surface produced on the loom. A figured or brocaded cloth with a raised pattern.

Moire: Fabric, particularly silk, with a watered or wavy pattern.

Ticking: Strong cotton fabric used to cover mattresses.

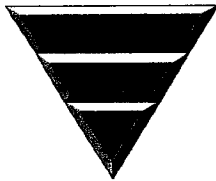
Toile: Sheer cotton or linen.

From Algonquin Guild newsletter

Fooled ya

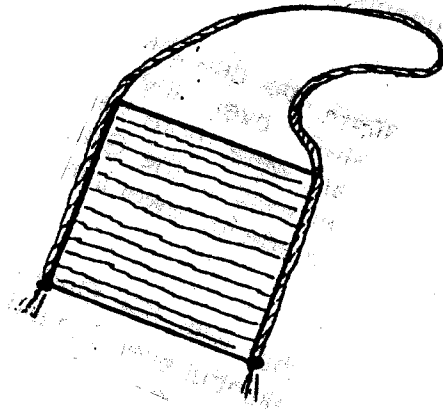
Last month I used what I thought was a very funny graphic of a woman spinning in her high heels on wool she was drawing off from some weird place in the general location of her wheel. It was on the front page of your newsletter. I thought everybody would catch the joke. Guess you were all being polite about my using such a weird spinning graphic or you just plain missed it. If you didn't notice it, take a peak. You just know the artist never saw a real spinner.

Pat Geisler
Newsletter editor



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Workshops: Betsy Bruce



Make a water bottle jacket

This pattern comes from the Algonquin Spinners and Weavers for those who carry drinking water in those plastic and somewhat slippery bottles.

Gauge: 3 stitches = 1 inch

4 ridges in garter stitch = 1 inch

Needles: 10 ½

This is a good project for leftovers. Use similar yarns to knit a 12 x 12-inch cover.

Cast on 36 stitches and knit in garter stitch until piece measures 24 inches. Fold in half and join side seams.

(NOTE: This can be done on circular needles by casting on 72 stitches and working around in garter stitch until piece measures 12 inches.) Join bottom seam.

To finish you can do one of two things. The sample was washed in the washing machine for two minutes to felt it, which makes it stronger and less elastic. (Be sure not to leave in washer longer than 2 minutes or you'll have something much smaller than you anticipate.)

Or, you can line the bag by folding lining fabric in half and sewing up the side seam. Turn the top edges down and press. Fit into the bag and stitch the top of the lining to the top of the bag. Make a twisted, plaited, I-cord or crocheted cord and attach to the bag, beginning at one bottom corner, going up the side and far enough to go over your shoulder and then down the other side, ending at the other bottom corner.