

Loco News

OLDEST AND WILDEST WANTED

Bring your stories

There will be a prize for the best one about your oldest project, or the one that gave you the most grief, or the wildest and craziest thing you ever tried. Don't forget to bring the project to show us.

Come to the meeting Tuesday Aug. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Beaver Creek Center and share it.

Ordinary show and tell welcome, too.

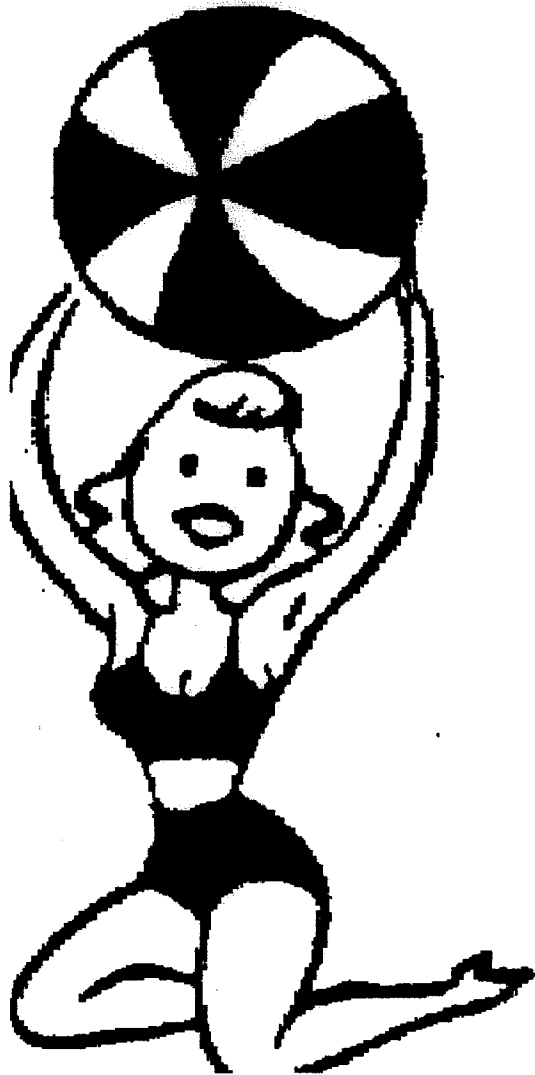
And, oh, yes, if you want something from the library, call Karen Morgan, 236-8025.

Note

This is our third and final meeting at the Amherst Beaver Creek facility. Here's how to get there if you missed the last two meetings. Take Rt. 2 west to the Oak Point Road exit. Go south about ¼ miles to the Beaver Creek Center which is next to the Police Department. The September meeting will be back in refurbished the Nature Center on Diagonal Road.

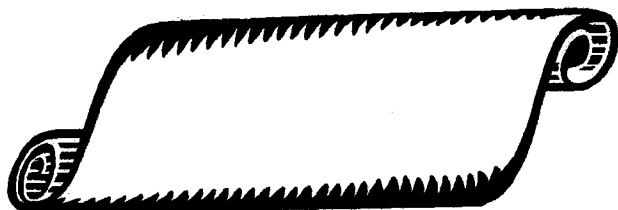
Honor roll

Cindy Bush won a first place and third place in the Knit & Crochet Wearable categories at Fiberfest in June. Congratulations, Cindy!



Summer time

The guild will demonstrate at the Lorain County Fair on Sunday, August 25. This is one of our annual fund-raisers and a chance to show the public what our craft is all about. Come in blue jeans and bring yarn or finished projects to show. Details at the meeting.



Calendar

Through Aug. 18: Ohio State Fair, Columbus.

Aug. 10: Toledo Area Weavers Guild workshop on Batik by Beverly Domalski, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Aug. 13: LOCO meeting at Beaver Creek Center in Amherst

Aug. 17-18: Michigan Fiber Festival, Allegan County Fairgrounds, Allegan, MI. Information: www.michiganfiberfestival.org

Aug. 22-28: Midwest Stitches 2002 at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL. Information on classes: www.knittinguniverse.com

Aug. 23, 24 and 25: LOCO will co-sponsor a lecture/slide show and workshops on felting at the Cleveland Museum of Art by Peggy Stirling

Aug. 24: Canton Weavers & Spinners workshop on knitting and felting with roving hat or mittens by Louise MacIntyre. Information: Lynn Carnes, (330) 735-2923 or jlcarnes@eohio.net

Aug. 24 and Sept. 14: Krazy over Kasuri workshop by Medina Guild. Richfield UCC, Rte. 303. \$60 non-members. Information, Becky Monegan 330-920-1448 or summitbluebird@aol.com.

Aug. 25: LOCO spinning demonstration at Lorain County Fair.

Sept. 10: LOCO meeting at Carlisle Visitor Center, Diagonal Road, Elyria.

Sept. 21-22: Wool gathering, at Youngs' Dairy, US 68 N, Yellow Springs, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: www.awoolgathering.com

Oct. 5: All-Ohio spin- in at The Gathering in the Big Barn at Malabar Farm State Park, Mansfield, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors, prizes, classes. Bring wheel, sack lunch and spinning chair. Information: Sally Rickel, (419) 589-2321 or srickel@webtv.net

Oct. 5: Toledo Area Weavers Guild Charm basket workshop by Millie Mannik, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Maumee Valley Country Day School, 1715 Reynolds Rd., in Toledo. Fee \$26 includes materials. Send check (to TAWG) to Wayne Anthony 427 E. Broadway, Maumee, OH 43537 by Sept. 5.

Oct. 5-6: LOCO spinning demo at Birmingham.

Oct. 10-13: Stitches East Needlework show, Valley Forge, Pa.

Oct. 18-20: New York Sheep and Wool Festival, Dutchess County Fair Grounds, Rhinebeck, NY.

Oct. 19: Luxury American Fibers workshop by Patsy Zawistowski for the Central Ohio Weavers Guild at Kirk House, 1885 Cassady Ave., Columbus. \$60 for intermediate spinners. Location may change. Information: www.geocities.com/twoply.geo

Oct. 25-26: Algonquin Spinners and Weavers workshop on weaving software by Ingrid Boesel at Algonquin Mill schoolhouse 4 miles south of Carrollton. \$100. Information: Lynn Carnes, (330) 735-2923 or jlcarnes@eohio.net

Oct. 26-27: LOCO workshops by Celia Quinn, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Spinning to Specifications (Saturday) and Novelty Yarns (Sunday). Information, Betsy Bruce, (440) 774-7036 or besty.bruce@oberlin.edu

Nov. 23: Handspun-Handwoven show and sale at the John Bryan Center, 100 Dayton St., Yellow Springs, OH. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 7-9: Cuyahoga Weavers Guild workshop on Handwoven Clothing.

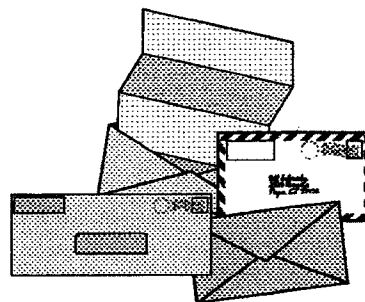
June 22-29: 2003: Midwest Weavers Conference, "Fiber Fantasia" at Southern Illinois University. Edwardsville, Ill. Information: Amy Norris, 8742 Teasdale Ave., St. Louis, MO, 63124-1926 or email at midwest2003@aol.com. The web site is www.siu.edu/wgsl/html/MWC2003.htm

From the mailbox

From **Jonelle Raffino**, wirelesshr@cox.net comes an introduction to her work, **THE SPINNERS NOTEBOOK** (www.spinnersnotebook.com)

The Spinners Notebook is a collection of information about 40 different breeds of sheep with samples of each wool. It is in a 3 ring binder, allowing the reader to add more pages to create a personal sample book. The collection includes 10 rare and endangered breeds, and wool from US shepherds as well as from the UK, Australia, New Zealand and the Falkland Islands.

Notes can be added to remember project ideas and purchases. The book also includes information on where the wools can be purchased from shepherds who have provided the samples for The Spinners Notebook. Information: email the author.



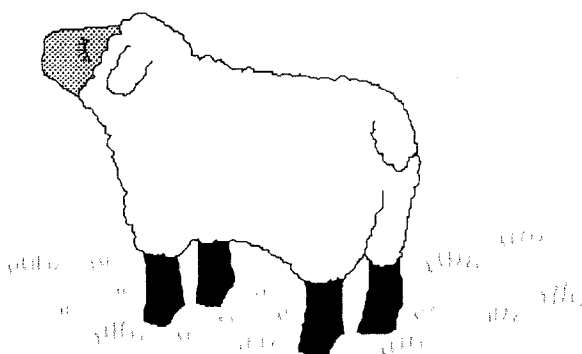
Wearing Wool, a 2003 calendar celebrating the ancient art of spinning and the ageless beauty of women, is available for \$15 U.S. Made in Maine by Maine women photographed in the buff against the beauty of the Maine coast. Call toll free: 1-866-201-3641 or write to calendar@wearingwool.com or www.wearingwool.com.

Advance orders are being taken for a new book on rug hooking by artist **Mary Sheppard Burton**, "A Passion for the Creative Life: Textiles that Lift the Spirit." The hardcover art book will include many color plates of work by fiber artists in quilting, weaving, embroidery and vintage fabrics in addition to the work by Burton. \$39.95. Available September. Mary Ellen Cooper, Sign of the Hook Books, 1065 Curtin Hollow Road, Howard, Pa., 16841 or merctoo@aol.com

Triangle loom expert and teacher **Carol Leigh's Hillcreek Fiber Studio**, has a web site, www.HillcreekFiberStudio.com for those interested in triangle looms or fiber supplies.

Ohio want ads

For sale: Yarns, looms and weaving equipment from Mary Lou Giffels, a life member of the Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers Guild. Yarns good quality, some still sealed in original bags. Carpet warp, cottons and blends. Call Nancy Hart (440) 286-2181 to see.



Know your sheep
Border Leicester

This is a repeat of an earlier discussion on this breed, which is commonly raised, in northern Ohio.

Animal Size: Rams 200-225 pounds;
 ewes 150-175 pounds

Fleece weight: 8 to 15 pounds

Numerical count: 40s-50s

Micron Count: 38.5-30 microns

Staple length: 6" to 12"

Yield: 65-80 %

Breed Origin: The Border Leicester originated in the border country of England and Scotland from the English Leicester and Cheviot. Sheep with long lustrous wool have been in Leicestershire, England since the earliest recorded history of the British Isles and are responsible for the improvement of the Leicester sheep. The English geneticist Robert Bakewell's improvement to the English Leicester in the 1700s also had an influence on the Border Leicester breed.

The Border Leicester breed was founded in 1767 by George and Matthew Culley. They were friends of Bakewell and had access to his improved Leicesters. Some feel that the Culley Brothers developed the Border Leicester by crossing Bakewell's improved Leicester rams

with Teeswater ewes. Others argue the Cheviot blood was introduced. Perhaps both are correct. In any case the breed was firmly established in England by 1850 and Border Leicesters have now surpassed the old English Leicester in popularity in the British Isles and in other countries.

The English Leicester is said to have been introduced into the United States by George Washington, who kept a small purebred flock of Leicesters and used the rams extensively in his flock of 800 head at Mount Vernon. It is not known when the first sheep of the Border Leicester type arrived in North America but the 1920 census lists 767 purebred Border Leicesters in the United States.

The American Border Leicester Association was established in the United States in 1973.

Sheep characteristics: This is a dual-purpose breed mostly used for creating crossbred ewes. The Border Leicesters rank third in size among the longwool breeds. A ram at maturity should weigh 200-225 pounds and stand about 32 inches at the shoulder. A ewe will usually weigh 150-175 pounds. Border Leicesters have long, coarse lustrous wool with a spinning count of 40s-50s. (Their lamb production is 110 to 130 percent)

The entire head and ears are covered with white hair, the wool not growing beyond the back of the head. The ears are large but thin, and are usually carried in an erect position. The nostrils are black, the nose is somewhat prominent and the eye bold and attractive. The Leicester has a full, wide breast, broad flat back, wide rump and fair leg of mutton. The body form is broad rather than deep, and sometimes these sheep appear long of leg. They fatten rapidly. As mutton producers they are not popular, because they lay on too much fat.

Noted for its high fertility and good mothering qualities, today the Border Leicester is used to increase fertility of commercial Romney and Corriedale flocks. It has been used to develop the Border-Romney cross (Coopworth) and the Border-Corriedale cross (Borderdale).

Choosing a fleece: Some fleeces are on the coarse side with broad-locked wavy staples. These are mostly in commercial or imported flocks. Handspinners prefer the sheep that have finer fleeces with greater sheen and a silkier hand. Many of these have narrower staple, and the locks exhibit a special corkscrew format.

Both types of fleece should be selected from free-flowing, easily separated locks. Longer fleeces may be prone to cotting, so double-check that you can easily separate the locks from tip to root. Look for uniformity of locks from the front to the rear of the animal and a lack of britch wool.

Spinning pointers: Border Leicester fleeces are good for learning to spin, especially when the wool runs in the 6" to 8" range. This length is easy to prepare and quick to spin. Because the yolk content is low, this wool is a good choice for spinning in the grease and there is little weight loss from washing. Spin from the lock, or prepare by flicking, carding, or combing. You may need to open tight lock formations by picking or hackling before you card or comb. (To hackle, clamp a course hand card onto a table. Grasp a lock by its tip and "flick" the shorn end against the card, pulling the wool toward you. Repeat the process while holding the lock by the shorn end.)

If you want a plied yarn, spin firmly and ply lightly. Knitters will find this wool good for long-wearing, medium-to-heavy garments. It is also an excellent choice for dyeing and blending, and makes a good embroidery yarn. The washed, unspun locks can be woven into a

plain-weave base fabric to make a pile blanket or rug.

Breed Association: American Border Leicester Breeders' Association, Kris Savage, Secretary, Rt. 4 Box 138, and Taylorsville, NC 28681, Phone 704-632-6529.

Know Your Sheep Breeds Border Leicester, Linda Berry Walker, *Spin-Off Magazine*, September 1990, Interweave Press.

The Black Sheep Newsletter Winter 1985, Border Leicester, The New Zealand Wool Board, *Black Sheep Newsletter*, Winter, 1985

The American Border Leicester, Beverly Tiffany Stehilik, *Sheep and Farm Life*, January/February, 1983.

Compiled by Roni Rospert 1996

2002 LOCO OFFICERS

President: Sarah Twining (440) 647-3795

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kroll@apk.net

Newsletter: Pat Geisler (440) 748-2623

spin9r@aol.com

Demos: Kay Mangione

Librarian: Karen Morgan, (440) 236-8025

No1cook@msn.com

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Sunshine: Cindy Bush

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Refreshments: Rosie Hauff (440) 934-5168

rhauff@stratos.com

Samples: Beth Hines (440) 458-4049,

hinesssheep@aol.com

Workshops: Betsy Bruce (440) 775-8519

Lorain County Spinners & Weavers Guild
presents--

Two One-day

WORKSHOPS by CELIA QUINN

Spinning to Specification Saturday, October 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Novelty Yarns Sunday, October 27, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OSU Extension-Lorain Co. Agricultural Building, 42110 Russia Rd.
(just east of Lorain Co. Regional Airport northeast of Oberlin)

\$45 to LOCO members includes materials fee

\$60 for non-LOCO members includes materials fee and 1-year membership

Spinning to Specification

Learn to monitor the diameter and twist of your yarns in simple ways to develop greater consistency. Practice expanding your skills by spinning yarns of widely different sizes and twists. Exercises include making a successful singles warp yarn, a balanced 2-ply, a gossamer yarn, spinning for specific knitting gauge, and discussing margin of error between skeins in the same project.

Novelty Yarns

Expand your repertoire of handspun yarns by learning to produce various novelties that are attractive complements to simpler yarns. At day's end, your bobbins will hold an intriguing array of colorful, textured, looped, fuzzy and flecked yarns. Our sampling includes boucle, seed yarn, knickerbocker yarn, mohair halo yarn, eyelash yarn, Navajo 3-ply and garnetted yarn.

For further information, contact Betsy Bruce, LOCO Workshop Chair at (440) 775-8504

(work) or (440) 774-7036 (home) or
betsy.bruce@oberlin.edu

Mail postmarked by September 15th both registration form and payment (check payable to LOCO) to Betsy L. Bruce, 517 W. College St., Oberlin OH 44074.

No refund of fee due to cancellation after October 15th.

After September 15th, registration will be open to non-members.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____
email _____

_____ Saturday, October 26, 2002 Spinning to
Specification \$45 \$60

_____ Sunday, October 27, 2002 Novelty
Yarns \$45 \$60

The 'sniff' test

A silk garment can have an odd odor if, during the manufacturing process, the silk was not boiled properly to remove all the sericin or gum in the fiber.

According to the International Fabricare Institute there is nothing one can do once it has been made into a garment. Even a dry cleaner cannot remove this odor without damaging the color or fabric.

Return it to the seller and get your money back. Before you buy a silk garment, give it the "sniff" test.

From the Algonquin Mill Spinning and Weaving Guild newsletter.



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Loco Guild meeting July 9, 2002 was called to order by Elizabeth Yasaki, vice-president.

Treasurer Betty Roll reported a balance of \$665.33 after expenses voted on during the June meeting.

Demonstration chairman Kay Mangione requested volunteers sign up for guild demonstrations: Pioneer Days needs spinners for Sept. 7 & 8 and Birmingham Antiques Festival needs them for October 5 & 6.

Librarian Karen Morgan stated that no library holdings had been requested. If you would like Karen to bring something for you, just call her in advance of the meeting.

There was no need for "sunshine" as everyone seems to be in good health.

Workshops on felting and quilting have been set up. The July newsletter contained sign-up forms and information regarding both of them.

Samples chairman Beth Hines said she is looking for more samples.

August's program will be finished projects with a history. Prizes are to be awarded to the voters' choice, the ugliest, the one with the best history, the one with the oldest history and perhaps another category, according to program chairman Elizabeth Yasaki.

In old business, members are asked to sell tickets for the guild shawl, which will be raffled

off on Nov. 12. It was one of the sheep-to-shawl efforts by the guild team.

Show and Tell was as exciting and varied as usual.

Karen Long showed spun silk. A woven Jacket challenge was made by Betsy Bruce and weavings from Ecuador were donated to interested members by Gen Esger. Jill Cooley showed a felt bowl finished with a sander and Cindy Bush had two pigs. Cindy reported that Fiberfest was well run this year and the classes were wonderful. She brought her samples of marbling on silk and felting. Kay Mangione showed her embroidered and Kay Griggs showed two baby sweaters and her weaving sample, also from Fiberfest.

The meeting adjourned, followed by a program on knitting projects from Sue Crow and attendees made tiny sweaters to decorate the Christmas tree.

Kay Griggs, Secretary



Ohio want ads

Estate sale: (owner died) Looms. 4-harness, 42-inch Weaver's Delight, made in Iowa, sectional warp beam. \$600; 4-harness folding loom made in Wilmington, OH. 42", includes bench and tension box. Sectional warp beam. \$400; 2 harness maple Union loom, 45" with sectional warp beam. Refinished, excellent condition, \$400; 36" Orko pine loom, made in Lima, Oh, excellent condition, sectional warp beam, \$350; New copy of Union loom made to take to craft shows. No breakdowns, 24" width, warped, \$425. Call Judy Cabbell, 314 John St., Hillsboro, OH, (937) 393-9611 day or (937) 393-3706 night (leave message).