

Loco News

NEW MEETING PLACE

Our summer place

LOCO Guild will meet Tuesday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lorain Metroparks Beaver Creek Center in Amherst.

Program chairman Elizabeth Yasaki says her June program is still on uncertain status but if we all bring our spinning wheels and knitting we'll certainly have an evening gabfest. A good way to start the summer, right?

To get there take Rt. 2 west from Elyria to Oak Point Road exit. Turn left and go a quarter of a mile to the Beaver Creek Center on Lake Street next to the Police Department.

The change of venue will enable the Parks to do some work on the Carlisle Visitor Center so that when we go back in September we'll have a nice surprise waiting for us.

Remember to bring your cup and help save a tree.

Show and tell items are always a plus.



Joke for the day

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter. "What are you doing?" she asked.

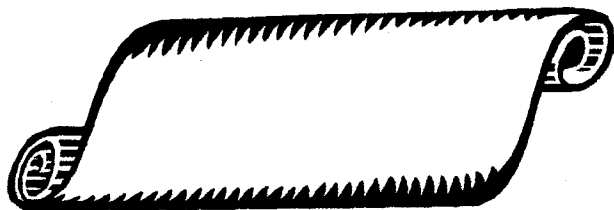
"Hunting flies," he responded.

"Oh! Killing any?" she asked.

"Yep, 3 males, 2 females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked, "How can you tell?"

"3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."



Calendar

June 11: LOCO meeting

June 12-30: Lake Metroparks Fiberfest Art show competition winners will be on display at Lake Farmpark, Kirtland.

June 21-23: Michigan League of Handweavers workshops. Information: Cathy McCarthy, 6886 Springbrook Lane, Kalamazoo, MI, 49004.

June 22: Downtown craft show in Berea. Live history lessons. Information: Dennis Selby (440) 234-7998.

June 27-30: Canal Fulton Heritage Festival.

June 27-30: Fiberfest classes. Classes Thursday and Friday June 27-28 at Lakeland Community College. Classes Saturday and Sunday June 29-30 at Lake Farmpark, 8800 Chardon Rd., Kirtland.

June 29-30: Fiberfest at Lake Farmpark, 8800 Chardon Rd., Kirtland.

July 30-Aug. 4: Convergence International Weavers & Fiber Artists Conference and Pre-Conference, Vancouver, BC.

Aug. 10: Toledo Area Weavers Guild workshop on Batik by Beverly Domalski, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Place to be announced later. Demonstration of batik doll construction and slide presentation on embellishments included.

Fee \$30. Send reservation check to Wayne Anthony, 427 E. Broadway, Maumee, 43537.

Aug. 15-18: Michigan Fiber Festival, Allegan County Fairgrounds, Allegan, MI.

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

Aug. 24 and Sept. 14: Krazy over Kasuri workshop by Medina Guild. Information, Becky Monegan 330-920-1448 or summitbluebird@aol.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 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 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. 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: Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair at the Western NC Agriculture Center south of Asheville, NC. www.saff.org

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

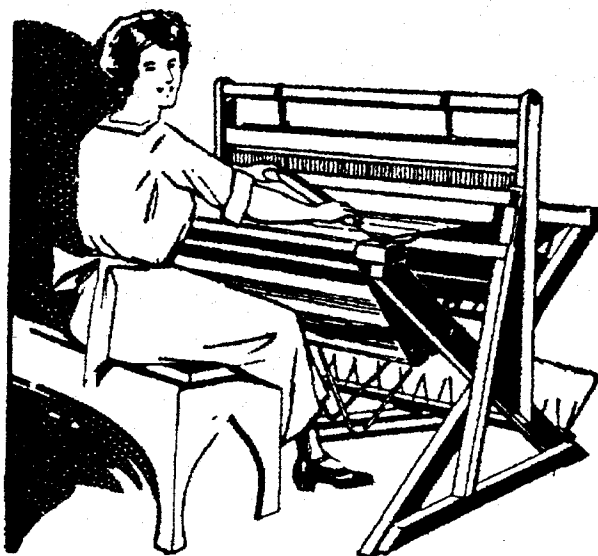
June 22-29: 2003: Midwest Weavers Conference, Edwardsville, Ill.



Ohio Want Ads

For sale: Union Loom #36, maple in good condition. Two harness, two treadles, 36". \$150. Call Don or Sandie Brochak, (216) 289-8430.

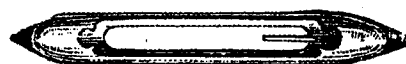
For sale: Schacht 15 inch 4 harness table loom with 6-treadle stand. Warped and ready to weave. \$190. Diane Geiger, 3630 Martindale Rd., NE, Canton, OH 44714 or email dggeiger@new.rr.com

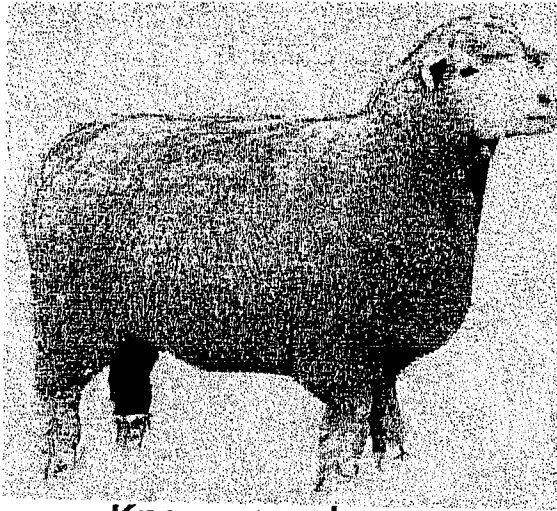


Rug weaver's rules

- 1) If anything can go wrong with the warp, it will.
- 2) No matter what the draft is, there is always someone eager to misinterpret it.
- 3) Even if it is difficult to come up with a wrong threading, still, a way will be found to do it.
- 4) Any error will not show up until picks are thrown.
- 5) No matter what the design is it will be out of fashion as soon as the fringe is tied.
- 6) No matter what the tie-up is, there's probably a better one.
- 7) When the fell smiles the weaver does not.
- 8) There are never too many treadles or bobbins.
- 9) Only your best shuttle will hit the floor
- 10) In any set of notes, the parts that are obviously correct beyond all need of checking ... are the mistake.

From Handweavers Guild of Wooster





Know your sheep

Columbia

Animal size: ram 225-300 lbs.; ewe 150-225 lbs.

Fleece type: Fine

Fleece Weight: 10 to 16 pounds, occasionally 20 pounds

Numerical Count: 50s and 60s

Blood System: 1/4 to 1/2

Micron: 31.0-24.0

Staple Length: 2 1/2 to 4 inches

Uniformity of Grade: Three grades permitted: 1/2, 3/8, 1/4 blood. Not more than two grades in one fleece. Free of hair and kemp. Soft, elastic, white and clean.

Breed Origin: The Columbia breed of sheep was developed by the United States Department of Agriculture as a true breeding type to replace cross breeding on the range. In 1918 Lincoln rams were crossed with high quality Rambouillet ewes to produce large ewes yielding more pounds of wool and more pounds of lamb.

While they were originally developed for range conditions, they have proved admirably adaptable to the lush green grasses and farm flocks. Their heavy wool clip, hardy, fast growing lambs, "open faces," and ease of handling are characteristics appreciated by all practical sheep men.

Sheep Characteristics: The Columbia is a large sheep, symmetrical in outline, head erect, legs squarely placed. Rams are distinctly masculine, and ewes are strong but feminine. The head is hornless and free from wool blindness, with moderately long ears that have an even covering of white hair or very short wool.

Hair in the face and ears should be white, with occasional black spots being permitted on the ears. Small spots of colored pigment are permitted on the nose.

The open white face has a pol covering not to exceed two inches below the eyes or to impair vision, even in full fleece.

The neck is medium length, neatly attached and full, free from wrinkles and folds. The back is level, long and strong with thick muscle. Shoulders are wide, meaty, and tightly laid on top and even with the back line. The chest is wide and deep, with forelegs set well apart. The ribs are well sprung, wide and deep. The legs are set squarely under the sheep, heavily boned and covered with white hair below the wool line. Thighs are thickly muscled and well fitted in the twist. Hooves may be either white or black.

Fleece is dense, long staple, with uniform fiber quality from shoulder to thigh and carrying with uniformity to underline with heavy yield of clean wool. The Columbia Fleece has retained more of the Rambouillet than the Lincoln fleece characteristics. The staple is generally blocky in shape with short, blunt tips. The crimp is very pronounced and slightly irregular, giving the fleece extraordinary loft and bounce.

The wool has a full hand, a slightly crisp feel, and almost no luster. Look for a fleece with fine crimp, good resilience, and as long a staple

as possible. Western fleeces may contain a considerable quantity of dust or sand, but this usually washes out fairly easily.

Spinning Tips: Columbia fleece is suitable for all methods of preparation, but the short staple length usually makes hand carding and drum carding the most practical. If you have a longer fleece combing makes for a smooth yarn with no loss of bounce or loft.

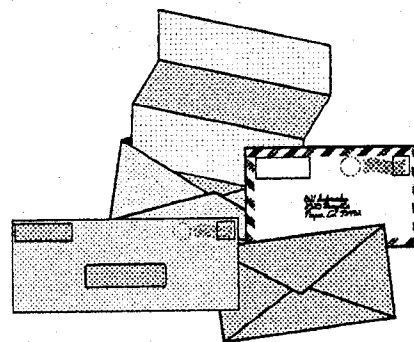
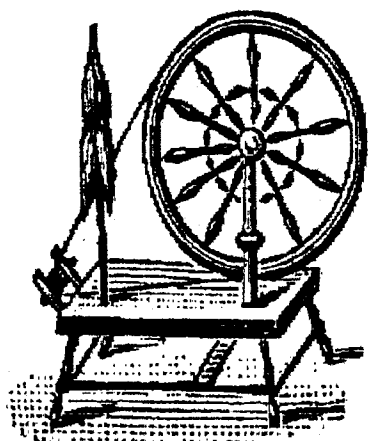
Breed Association: Columbia Sheep Breeders Association, Richard L. Gerber, Secty., PO Box 272, Upper Sandusky, Oh 43351, Ph 614-482-2608.

Sources: Columbia Breeders Association Handbook USDA bulletins, charts and posters. The Shepherd Magazine, Sheep! Magazine, Fiber Basics: Columbia, Jane Fournier, Spin-Off Magazine, Winter 1993.

Columbia Sheep, Richard L. Gerber, Executive Secretary, Sheep and Farm Life, May/June, 1982.

The Wonders of Sheep, by Lavine and Scuro, The Shepherds Guidebook, by Bradbury.

Compiled by Roni Rospert 1996.
(reprinted from LOCO New, June of 1999)



From the mailbox

Deadline for entries in the fiber arts competitions at the Ohio State Fair is June 20. There will be no sheep-to-shawl competition. Entry fees are \$10.

There are five spinning classes: 1) For sport weight yarn or finer in 2 or 3 ply (no balls) skeins of wool or animal fiber.

2) Worsted weight yarn or heavier, any ply skein in wool or other animal fiber.

3) Skeins of any other fiber, any ply (cotton, silk, linen, etc.).

4) Novelty yarn, open class.

All these classes pay cash prizes of \$15, 12, 10 and 8.

5) Any item made from handspun.

Awards here are \$20, 15, 12 and 8.

Best of show receives a \$25 cash award and a sock and sweater kit, courtesy of Wolfe Fiber Arts of Columbus.

In the weaving category, there will be three classes:

1) Fashion—jackets, vests, capes, etc. (prizes of \$25, 20, 15 and 10)

2) Kitchen accessories—towels, placements, napkins. (\$20, 15, 10, 8)

3) Home accessories—rugs, curtains, pillows. (\$25, 20, 15 and 10)

Best of Show will receive a \$25 award.

There will also be a special tapestry class.

To get a copy of the exhibit Handbook contact the Ohio Expo Center, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH, 43211-2698.



Minutes of the meeting

April 9, 2002: Program chairman Elizabeth Yasaki announced that the May meeting would take place at the Ginko Gallery in Oberlin and that August would be the month to bring our oldest finished projects.

Treasurer Betty Roll announced a balance of \$1,399.27.

Secretary Kay Griggs distributed the minutes from the March meeting which were accepted. She announced that the guild received a thank you from Cindy Bush to members who had demonstrated spinning and weaving at her school, Lake Ridge Academy.

Sample chairman Beth Hines provided a sample of Manx sheep fiber to members to spin.

In old business President Sara Twining brought an extra shawl from the 1998 Sheep to Shawl contest at Lake Farm Park. The guild owns two of these. After some discussion it was decided to raffle this shawl at \$1 per ticket. It will be shown at demos in Wooster in May, at Pioneer Days in September, At Fiberfest and at the Birmingham Antique Show in October. The raffle will continue until November and the proceeds will be used to benefit the Heifer Project.

Under new business Betty Roll reported on the Western Reserve Spinning and Weaving Retreat where she learned the technique of knitting with two circular needles.

It was reported that the Fine Points yarn store had relocated to Shaker Square. It was announced that the website www.craftsreport.com was available for members who might like to sell their wares on line.

In show and tell, Elsie Wise brought one of her handmade mattress pads to show. Pam Tillis

sold some of her blown-out goose eggs. Pat Geisler had an unfinished afghan and story and Charlotte Doslak brought a three-generation rug project. Beth Hines had an unfinished sweater and a story to tell. There had been an error in the newsletter on the program topic and the stories of the unfinished projects were brought to share.

Chris Bruce brought some yarn spun at the school demon on which she had done Navajo plying and presented it to Cindy to be given to the students. Jill Cooley modeled a ruana of handspun mohair she had woven and also felted bookshelf rocks and needle felted toads. Sara Twining wore the jacket she had made from the hand-woven fabric she had shown the guild last month.

Speaker for the evening was Sara Ann Overs from The Posey Depot in Grafton, who discussed plants for dyeing.

2002 LOCO OFFICERS

President: Sarah Twining, (440) 647-3795

Vice president/programs: Elizabeth Yasaki, (440) 458-8767

Secretary: Kay Griggs, (440) 949-7908

Treasurer: Betty Roll, (440) 774-2114, kroll@apk.net

Newsletter: Pat Geisler, (440) 748-2623, spin9r@aol.com

Demos: Kay Mangione

Librarian: Karen Morgan, (440) 236-8025, No1cook@msn.com

Historian: Jo Babcock, (440) 647-3968

Sunshine: Cindy Bush

Public relations: Elsie Wise, (330) 625-2992

Refreshments: Rosie Hauff, (440) 934-5168, rhaufr@stratos.com

Samples: Beth Hines, (440) 458-4049, hinessheep@aol.com

Workshops: Betsy Bruce. (440) 775-8519

Workshop on Kasuri

Medina Spinning and Weaving Guild Workshop
Krazy over Kasuri by Jennie Hutchings will be held on Saturday, August 24 and Saturday, Sept. 14.

It will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Richfield United Church of Christ Rt. 303, Richfield
Cost: guild members: \$50 non-members: \$60.

It will be open to non-members as of July 1.

Individuals must have at least a two harness or rigid heddle loom. Learn how to calculate weft yarns, tie, dye, and then weave a variety of patterns based on traditional Japanese methods and invent some of your own for your 3-4 yard sample warp. This can be made into clothing, bags, runners or wall hangings.

The first day, see slides of student work; tie your weft yarns with compulsory and original patterns. Students will then finish tying and dyeing all their wefts at home.

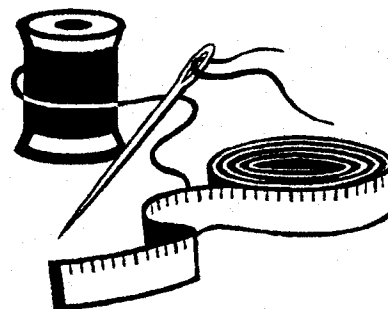
The class will meet again on the Sept. 14 with their looms warped and the dyed wefts ready to weave.

Complete instructions will be sent out upon receiving the payment for the class.

For more information, contact Becky Monegan 330-920-1448 or summitbluebird@aol.com

Please remember all workshops are fragrance free.

Make checks payable to Medina Spinning and Weaving Guild. Send check and registration form to: Rosanna Ludwig, 7323 Kennard Rd. Seville, Ohio 44273



Tencel

Tencel, a registered trademark, is a relatively new addition to the fiber family. It is the brand name for lyocell, a fiber made from wood pulp, which combines the best qualities of cotton and rayon.

It is washable, druable, dyes readily, has very low shrinkage and does not wrinkle as easily as rayon. It is environmentally friendly since its process creates less waste and pollution than other fibers.

It is soft and washable and can go in the dryer.

Tencel is available from Textura Trading Company (1- 877-TEXTURA). Halcyon distributes both yarn and the fiber for spinning. Hand-dyed colorways of Tencel are available from Heritage Yarns and Dye Service (www.heritageyarns.com or phone 601-956-1478) and Yarns Plus (www.yarnsplus.com, phone 877-448-4544).

Hints for weaving: Has little shrinkage and does not bloom when washed. Make the sett closer than normal. 28epi is a recommended starting place for 10/2. It has little elasticity so use light tension on the warp. Double the four selvedge ends in the heddles but not in the reed. Plan on a hem finish rather than a fringe and give the fabric a hard pressing after wet finishing.

From Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers