

Loco News

NOTE: NEW MEETING PLACE

On the farm

There's a right way and a wrong way to buy the fleece you want to spin into soft, luscious yarn. Speaker Fae Evans of the Medina Spinners and Weavers Guild will talk about what to look for and how to find a top fleece at a farm near you.

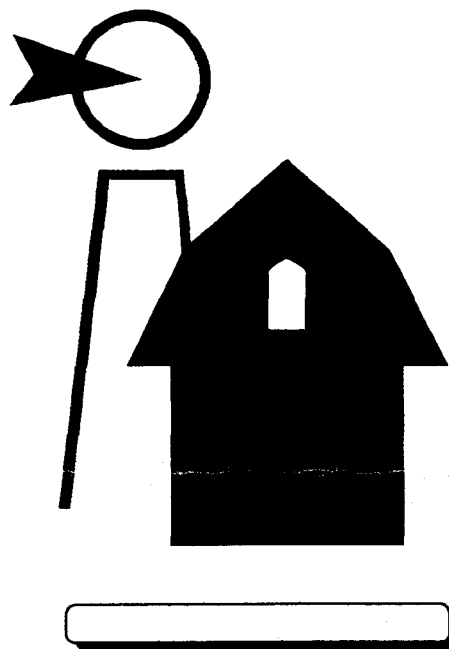
Supporting a local farmer is the best way to insure a good supply for the future, according to Fae.

Fae is an outstanding area spinning and weaving teacher and craftswoman. She has also been a prizewinning sheep and alpaca shearer as well as a judge of spinning and weaving competitions at the state level and has a wealth of information to share.

This program is an outstanding one for beginning spinners and offers the experienced spinner lots of good tips.

The meeting at 7:30 p.m. March 14 will be at the LaPorte Methodist Church, at the Grafton Road exit off Rt. 20 (one exit east of the usual one for our meetings at the Carlisle Visitor Center).

Be sure to bring your show and tell.



Workshop

A spinning workshop for LOCO members will be held Saturday March 18 at the Agricultural Extension office on Russia Road, 19 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bring your dish for pot luck and table service and we will have a wonderful lunch, too.

Beth Hines will bring a Columbia fleece, half in the grease and half clean for us to try. Spinning in the grease is a technique that yields a different kind of yarn than spinning clean wool and one has to do it to believe it.

Oh—you can bring knitting or other stuff, too.



March 7: Spinning at Rosie Hauff's

March 14: LOCO meeting, 7:30 p.m.

March 15-17: Annual retreat by Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers and North Coast Knitting Guild at Cedar Hills Camp in Painesville.

March 16-18: Cuyahoga Weavers Guild workshop by Connie Enzmann-Forneris on Blockweave Rugs. Ph: Jane Bode (216) 321-4306.

March 18: LOCO workshop at Agricultural Center on Russia Rod., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Beth Hines will bring a Columbia fleece, half in the grease and half washed, for members to try. Pot luck.

March 28: Spinning at Beth Hines' home.

April 8: Black Swamp Guild Market Day and Fiber Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Center Twp. Fire hall in Bowling Green.

April 8: "A Knitter's Fantasy," by Western Reserve Knitting Guild of Canfield at the Trumbull County VoTech School in Warren. Information: Mary Lou Katsas, (330)392-5602 or Jo Reiter, (330) 759-9716.

April 11: LOCO meeting, 7:30 p.m., Lorain County Nature Center, Diagonal Road.

April 22: Needle punch workshop by Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers Guild, 9-3.

April 25: 7 p.m. Spinning at Beth Hines home.

May 9: LOCO meeting, 7:30 p.m. Lorain County Nature Center, Diagonal Road.

May 17-18: Medina Spinning and Weaving Guild workshop on yarn design by Jane Fournier. Information: Vicky Bryg, (330) 659-2406 or brygv@ferro.com

May 27-28: Great Lakes Fiber Show in Wooster at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.. 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission free, food available. Workshop information and registration: Linda Reichert 2474 N. Firestone Rd., Wooster, 44601-9219. Ph: (330) 264-9665, e-mail don47linda@valkyrie.net

June 13: LOCO meeting

June 14-18: Fiberfest at Lake Farmpark, Kirtland, OH

June 21-25: Convergence 2000 in Cincinnati.

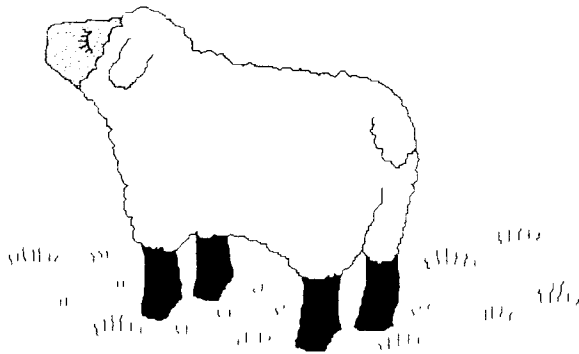
July 7-8: Mansfield Quilters Guild show, Masonic Temple, 1250 Middle Belleville Rd., Mansfield, noon-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$2 admission. Quilt appraisal expert will do appraisals for \$25. The show will include vintage textiles, contemporary quilts and quilted wearables.

July 11: LOCO meeting

July 13-18, 2001: Midwest Weavers Conference.

A good source

You can buy good rug yarn at incredible savings from The McGirr Marketing Service, Inc., 2147 State Rt. 83, Holmesville, Oh. Call them at (330) 279-4737 or email to ncofca@bright.net for prices and availability.



Know your breeds

Mouflon

Animal size: Smallest feral sheep
Breed origins: Mouflons are the original feral sheep of the northern hemisphere and may have been the second animal to be domesticated by man after the dog. Hence all sheep breeds may claim a distant relationship to them. Still extant in the wild, the Mouflon of Corsica and Sardinia have the same coloration as the Soay, the oldest domesticated breed.

Sheep Characteristics: Mouflons are small animals which shed their colored wool in the spring. They are wild and wary. They are quiet, which means that they don't baa very often. They can jump six feet high from a dead stop.

The rams have massive spiral horns and use them to fight during breeding season. The ewes lamb twice a year. The lambs are small, from four to six pounds and are born with short tails that do not need to be docked. The meat is flavorful and healthy, being low in fat.

Fleece characteristics: The fleece naturally release their fiber annually. They have the same coloration as the Soay.

Source: Conservation of rare sheep breeds, Barbara L. Anderson, Sheep! Magazine, November 1993.

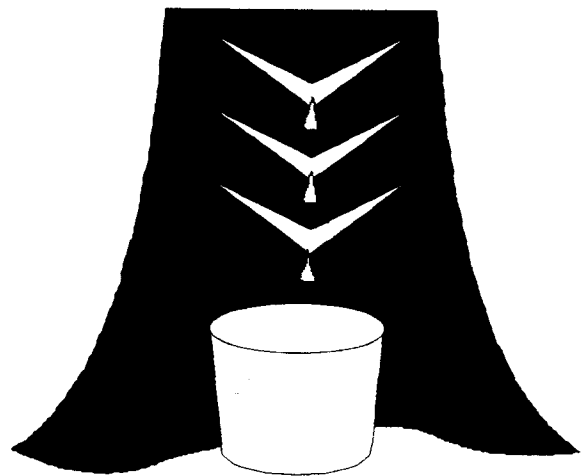
Self shearing sheep: not a myth, C. J. Prince, Sheep! Magazine March 1997.

Compiled by: Roni Rospert 1999

Internet info

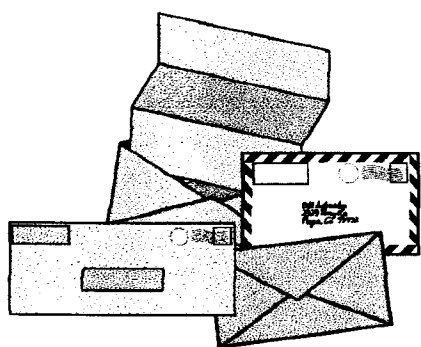
Roni offers this bit of stress relief for those who are online:

<http://www.swt.edu/~ba08/>



Tips

A spindle can be as small or as large as you want it to be. The larger ones work better for thick yarns, however.



From the mailbag

Jeannette Roberts, of Toronto, OH, has English angora rabbits for sale in black, chocolate and tortoiseshell, pedigreed, \$40, each. She also has some German giant angora bunnies (S. Wiley bloodlines) in white, \$100 each. Fiber for sale, \$5 oz., postpaid. Call (740) 5378-5402.

The **Western Reserve Knitting Guild** of Canfield, OH, will hold "A Knitter's Fantasy" April 8 at the Trumbull County Joint Vocational School on Educational Highway off Mahoning Ave., (behind the Trumbull Campus of Kent State U.), from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fee of \$30 includes catered lunch, a knitter's market, raffles, Caps for Kids contest, a "swap" table, style show and door prizes. 26 different classes for all level knitters are scheduled. They include: How to turn a heel, Knitted pansies, Finishing, Knitted lace, Needle tatting, Crochet trims, Knitting with your stash, Beginning crochet, Sideways socks, entrelac, Cables, Aran afghans, shoulder seams, Sweater linings and much more. For more information and reservations, Candy Kratsas, 217 Central Parkway, SE., Warren, OH, 44483.

Western Reserve Spinners and Weavers Guild will have a needle punch workshop 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 22. Information: Susan Davison, 5110 Sabrina Lane, Warren, OH, 44483

The newsletter of the **Indy Weavers, Spinners & Dyers**, quotes an article published by TWA for its in-flight magazine, *Ambassador*, in which the Author Glen Martin lists the top 10 technologies in the evolution of civilization. He lists the spinning wheel as number 1.

He wrote, "A pair of designer jeans seems like a pretty prosaic thing these days, but keeping one's body clothed was a laborious affair before 1300 or so. 'Distaff,' an adjective used to describe feminine or maternal characteristics, stems from this period and refers to the simple spindle or distaff that every girl and woman employed during leisure hours to produce the yarn necessary for making household garments.

Spinning wheels showed up first in India sometime after 1000 and were in wide use in Europe by the 13th century. Women did not necessarily find their workload lightened by the spinning wheel, but it vastly increased their productivity. The result: Families had more and better clothes and the general quality of life significantly improved.

Basically, the device incorporated the simple hand spindle into a horizontal frame. A band passed from the spindle to a large wheel: by rotating the wheel by hand thread could be pulled... at a greatly accelerated rate."

The other top 10 were the blast furnace, the telescope and accurate clocks, the microscope, steam engine, airfoils, the telegraph, air conditioning and vacuum tubes.



Minutes of the meeting

Betty Roll, president, called the meeting to order of LOCO Spinners & Weavers Feb. 8 at the Carlisle Visitor Center, and introduced her guest, June Waldron, from "Our Place Alpaca Farm" in Oberlin.

Minutes for November, December and January meeting were distributed and no corrections were given.

Treasurer Rosie Hauff gave the balance in the treasure of \$1,477.71 to date.

Program Chairman Elizabeth Yasaki announced that tonight's program will be on preparing fleece to spin by Barb Getty. The March meeting will be on fleeces, "Buy It on the Farm,"

by Fae Evans of Medina. On March 14 the meeting will be at the LaPorte United Methodist Church, exit from Route 20 at Grafton Road, one exit farther east than the LaGrange Road exit.

Karen Long will present the April program on different methods of playing and in May, Beth Hines will give a program on dye processes. In June, Cindy Bush will discuss and show how to handle fiber samples in a collection.

The fleece for tonight's meeting on preparation for spinning is from the Twining farm, a Romney sheep. Everyone will take home a sample with the idea that the wool will be prepared, spun, perhaps dyed and knitted or woven into something to be judged at our November meeting. More information about this later.

The group discussed the possibility of having a long term project in which we share, trade or do our own work. NO decision.

Workshop chairman Beth Hines has scheduled a spin-in at the Agricultural Extension office on Russia Road for March 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with pot luck lunch. She said there will be a workshop in October, tentatively Oct. 11, on Spinning Wheel Tune-up. More information will come.

Newsletter chairman Pat Geisler had some extra newsletters but no additional news. She brought news letters from other guilds and flyers about events displayed on a table.

Librarian Sara Twining is asking people to return any materials from the library in reasonable time. The group discussed making a list of what we have and a copy for each member. Additions could be made and everyone would have a better grasp of what is here to use and what we need to add to the collection.

Anyone who has wool to spin or yarn made for the Twining Memorial Shawl is urged to give it to Karen Long for the weaving. The heifer program money was mentioned and it was assumed that Treasurer Kay Mangione sent it in before she left for Florida. Two other members also sent donations privately.

It was announced that the Medina Guild can buy rug yarns at a savings but prefers to buy in large quantities. Ask Betty Roll.

Lisa Larson Novak, who helped found LOCO, has moved to Utah. Christ Bruce said she had the address and phone numbers. Chris also had materials and wool Lisa gave her to give away.

Show and tell included bleached-dyed patchwork, a felted bodice for a jumper, and pink cotton lace knitted socks.

Refreshments were served.

Submitted by Secretary Pat Harrison