

LOCO News

A FRIEND TO CUDDLE

Bring your bear

The competition to dress the best bear is on for Tuesday, Nov. 13, when the guild meets at the Carlisle Visitor Center on Diagonal Road at 7:30 p.m.

The best creation will win twice. First, it will get you a prize. Second, it will thrill some child at Christmas time. All the bears will be donated to the Not-Forgotten Box for the Salvation Army to distribute to the needy.

Come and share the fun. Didn't get your bear finished? Bring it and let us all see how your plans are coming.

Didn't (horrors!) even gets yours started? Aw, what the heck, come to the meeting anyway and see what your friends did with a bit of imagination and a stuffed animal. It will inspire you.

There will be plenty of laughter, fun and even refreshments. Don't forget the refreshments! Providing the goodies this month will be Jill Cooley and Stacy Allen. Bring your own cup and help save a tree.

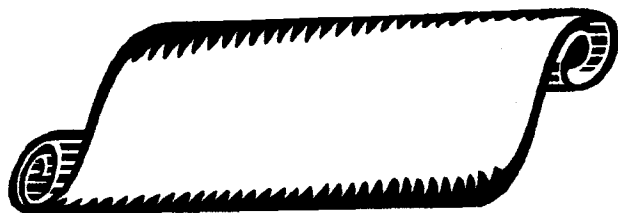
And remember to bring your show and tell.

It will also be elections for 2002. See you there!



Proposed slate of LOCO officers

President: Sara Twining
Vice president/programs: Elizabeth Yasaki
Secretary: Kay Griggs
Treasurer: Betty Roll
Newsletter: Pat Geisler
Demos: Kay Mangione
Librarian: Karen Morgan
Historian: Jo Babcock
Sunshine: Cindy Bush
Public relations: Elsie Wise
Refreshments: Rosie Hauff
Samples: Beth Hines
Workshops: Betsy Bruce



Calendar

Nov. 13: LOCO meeting.

Nov. 17: Weavers Guild of Miami Valley show Handspun-Handwoven at the John Bryan Center, 100 Dayton St., Yellow Springs, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Nov. 17: Algonquin Mill Spinning and Weaving Guild workshop on color in spinning by Pat Bullen.

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

Dec. 11: LOCO meeting. Christmas party.

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

January 17-18: Cuyahoga Weavers Guild Doll Workshop with Jennifer Gould. \$60.
Information: Janet Gibson, 8251 Litchfield Dr., Mentor, OH, 44060, (440) 255-0045

March 13-15: Cuyahoga Weavers Guild Vest workshop by Mimi Smith. \$80. Information: Uarda Taylor, 5632 New London Rd., Ashtabula, OH 44004 440-969-1890.

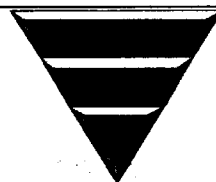
March 15-17: Northcoast Knitters retreat at Cedar Hill. Information: Sandy Hardy at (216) 433-2278.

April 27: Canton Weaving and Spinning Guild workshop by Pat Bullen. Canceled.

Tricks of the trade

To prevent mohair warp threads from clinging to each other, fill a mitt with talcum powder and dust the warp threads from the fell line to the front heddle and from the back heddle to the back beam. It will make an excellent shed and wash out easily during finishing.

Canton Weavers and Spinners Guild



LOCO OFFICERS

President: Elizabeth Yasaki, (440) 458-8767

Vice president/programs: Stacey Allen, (440) 835-4968, vsallen@core.com

Secretary/ Demos: Pat Harrison, (440) 458-5920

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

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

Librarian: Sarah Twining, (440) 647-3795

Historian: Jo Babcock, (440) 647-3968

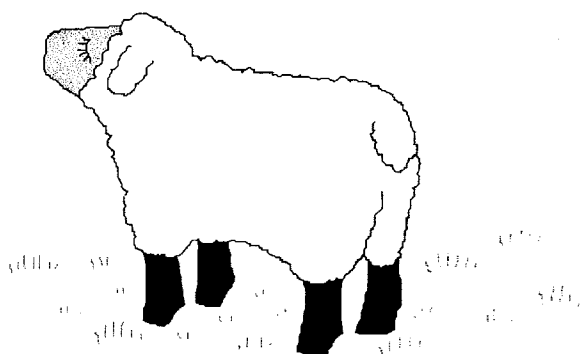
Sunshine: Rosie Hauff, (440) 934-5168, rhauff@stratos.com

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

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

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

Workshops: Betsy Bruce



Know your sheep

Exmoor Horn

Animal size: small

Fleece type: down

Numerical Count: 48s-54s

Micron Count:

Staple length: 3-5 inches

Fleece weight: 5-7 pounds

Breed origins: Exmoor Horns are at home on the bleak pastures of their native Exmoor in southwestern England.

Sheep characteristics: They are a compact, portly sheep. They are hardy and thrifty, producing acceptable meat as well as good fleece of medium to strong wool.

The Exmoor Horn sheep have white faces with short forelocks and black nostrils. Their legs are white and are covered with wool. Both ewes and rams are horned.

Fleece characteristics: Exmoor Horn fleece is similar to that of Cheviot and Welsh Mountain but a little stronger. It is dense and resilient with a full hand. It may have kemp but is free from colored fibers.

Commercially, the wool is used for hosiery, knitting yarns, tweeds, and felts. Handspinners

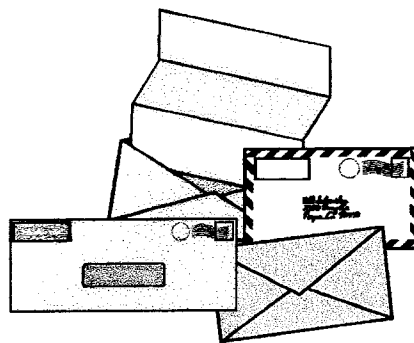
will find it useful for making thick, lofty, fulled fabrics and rugged, warm outerwear.

Spinning pointers: Spin and prepare as for Down type wool.

Sources: In Sheep's Clothing, A Handspinner's Guide to Wool, Nola Fournier and Jane Fournier, Interweave Press, 1995.

British Sheep & Wool, edited by: J. Elliot, D. E. Lord ATI, J. M. Williams FRAGS, The British Wool Marketing Board, Oak Mills, Clayton, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1463D, 1990.

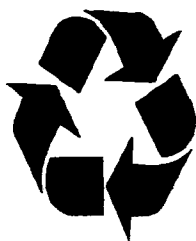
Compiled by: Roni Rospert, 1998.



From the mail bag

Northcoast Knitters will hold a retreat at Cedar Hill March 15-17, 2002. Cost is \$95 for the weekend, \$18.50 for Saturday with one meal or \$24 with two meals. Registration must be paid by Nov. 15. Mail checks payable to Sandy Hardy, 3271 W. 231st St., North Olmsted, OH, 44070. Call her for information at (216) 433-2278.

A new yarn shop has opened in Salem, Ohio, called Knit Wit Knits, according to the **Canton Weavers and Spinners Guild**.



OHIO WANT ADS

For sale: 26", 4 harness, 6 treadle, Harrisville loom. Bobbin winder, bobbins, sticks, and a reed. Bench included. \$500. email address: laura.a.j@juno.com

Yarn Sale: Former member of Western Reserve Guild Kay Marasaki is moving and reducing her stash of yarns which are mostly cotton, silk and wool. Contact her for information: 7681 Fairmount Rd., Novelty (Russell Township) or call (440) 338-5835.

For sale: Newcomb loom, 45 inch, 4 harnesses, 2 treadles, flying shuttle. Best offer. Call Carl (330) 824-2705.

Wanted: Macomber suitcase loom. 4 harness. Call Felicia (330) 856-3115.

For sale: Harrisville Jack loom, 8 shaft with plain and sectional back beam, 10 and 12 dent reeds. Tool compartment on top and a shuttle pocket across the front. \$650. Betty White, (330) 948-2767 or email agandbjw@aol.com.

For sale: 36' LeClerc Nilus 4 harness, 6-treadle counterbalance loom with bench, LeClerc book, 2 reeds, warping board and all new heddles. \$450. Debbie Hallett (330) 873-2505 or email debbiehallett@aol.com

For sale: 4-harness 8-treadle Harrisville Rug Loom, 46' width, with mahogany posts. Heavy (approx. 200 lbs.) loom for fine linens as well as carpets. Adjustable overhead beater with

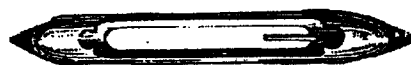
weights to be taken off or left on depending on weaving. Excellent shape. \$3,400 (half the cost of new). Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net.

For sale: Brand new Kromski Mazurka spinning wheel (dark stain, castle style). Both double drive and scotch tension, ratios 6, 8, 10, 12 to 1, 2 whorls included with threading hook and tensioned lazy kate. Asking \$325. Contact Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or email cspitzer@lek.net.

Maple Lane Alpacas offers 100% Alpaca yarn in 1 oz., 4 oz. and 8 oz. skeins - most of it 2-ply sportweight, some light sportweight in a wide assortment of natural colors: white, beige, silver gray, dark gray, light fawn, medium fawn, brown, dark brown, reddish brown and coal black. 1 oz. skein - \$3.50, 4 oz. skein - \$20, 8 oz. skein - \$40

In other colors dyed 100% superfine Alpaca yarn is offered in both variegated skeins of four or five colors in one skein and matching solid color skeins. Jewel tones such as deep ocean, sea mist (mint green), deep purple, rich teal green, etc. as well as some pretty pastels. 4 oz. skein - \$24, 8 oz. skein - \$48. 10% off for purchase of a pound or more of Alpaca yarn. 100% Alpaca rovings without added oils available in 1-lb. bags and some 1/2-lb. bags. Solid natural colors \$36 a pound. Brindle rovings of four to five different colors for \$39 a pound. Safari combines beige, light & dark fawn & deep brown; Stormy Night is light gray, dark gray, white and black; Dusty is a combination of fawns & browns.

For more information or to order, Phone 1-937-484-6006 or email sweller@nisource.com. Credit cards accepted.





Minutes of the meeting Oct. 9, 2001

The meeting was moved from Carlisle Visitor Center, which was locked, to the Fox Veterinary Center waiting room. Beth Hines hosted the move but we couldn't do the dye project we had scheduled.

President Elizabeth Yasaki reminded us to dress a teddy bear and bring it to the November meeting to be donated to a children's Christmas toy collection. Our December meeting will be the cookie and ornament exchange.

Members are asked to bring enough cookies to serve as refreshments and to exchange with others.

Plan to make or buy an ornament and bring it for the exchange.

Minutes were accepted. Treasurer Betty Roll listed a balance of \$1,128.76 in the treasury.

Betsy Bruce said she would be weaving at FAVA in Oberlin on Nov. 18.

The Guild will again donate to the International Heifer project at Christmas with the amount to be decided at the November meeting.

Lily Ortiz' husband has leukemia and a card would be welcome.

Beth Hines said she would bring two samples to the next meeting, one a blend of wool and hemp.

Betsy Bruce announced a possible workshop on felting with Holly Sterling. She requires a minimum of 10 and maximum of 12 participants. Betsy will host a weaving study group at her home Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Beth Hines will schedule a spinning/knitting workshop in November, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a potluck lunch.

Details will be announced.

Stacey Allen asked members to e-mail her for further information about a farm open house on Oct. 20.

A nominating committee is at work and will present a slate of officers at the November meeting. If you have not held an office or chaired a committee, please consider these jobs.

New members from Oberlin are Lynn Haessly and Marcie Stevenson. Marcie will be raising alpacas and has two so far.

In show and tell, Sara Twining showed a kitchen runner she wove in shades of green, black and white and said she is weaving a blanket for her son Patrick in shades of red. Laddy Rubright showed a silk shawl woven on an

8-harness loom. Betsy Bruce brought three woven baby blankets and five scarves woven on purple warp.

The meeting was adjourned. Refreshments included cider and pumpkin cake.

Secretary Pat Harrison

Horsehair tale

Antique horsehair fabrics were woven of the mane and tail hairs of wild horse, mostly in black. If they were white, the fabric could be dyed.

The hair was used only as weft since it was impossible to spin into yarn and warp was of linen, cotton or wool.

The weavers had boys on each side of the loom to hand them the hairs to be laid in one at a time. They were alternated with base ends at every other side since there is such a noticeable difference in width at each end of the hair.

The fabric was woven damp, then hot pressed and glazed to a polished finish.

When done, the fabric is much like nylon, very strong. It does not mat, mildew or attract insects. It retains a certain 'spring' and mice will not chew it.

The fabric's strength is best when it is stretched as it breaks easily when bent.

At one time horsehair was used to weave screening, sieves, interfacing, women's hat fabric, petticoat and bustle stays, braid trim and shirts for religious mortification. It also showed up in fishing lines, bow strings, violin bows, wigs and mattress stuffing.

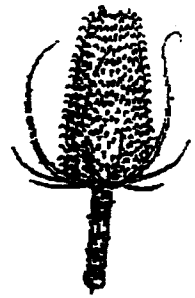
Horsehair cloth was only hand woven in England until 1861 when an invention in the U.S. made it possible to automatically feed the hair into power loom.

The Victorian fashion of using human hair designs in jewelry and decorations was the artistic end of what had once been a big industry.

Indy Weavers, Spinners and Dyers

THE TEASEL

**To many the teasel is a roadside weed...
to the weaver, it is a tool.**



From *The Textile Tools of Colonial Homes* (pp. 50-52)

by Marion Channing:

"During the Revolution, a young man went off to war supplied with a suit which was reportedly made in a day and a night by his mother and sisters. The whole process from the shearing of the sheep, carding, spinning and weaving were accomplished in this short time. If this were so, the cloth in his suit did not have time to be properly finished so that it would be soft and pliable. Straight from the loom, wool cloth is generally a bit dirty, greasy, and of a coarse and loose weave.

It is at this point that for the most part manufacture of woolen cloth left the home, and went to the fulling mill, the first process to be mechanized in the woolen industry. However, we do hear about some fulling being done in an unprofessional manner by foot in our outlying areas as late as the early 19th century. In the 1830's in Ohio the difficult job was turned into a jolly fulling bee where the amateur fullers sat in a circle kicking the saturated soapy cloth around from one to another with of all things—their bare feet!

The ancient Romans practiced fulling and by the 13th century fulling mills were in operation, and in the 13th century they were common in Europe, though resisted by those who feared losing their jobs. Undoubtedly some materials need more fulling than others, and so it takes a great deal of experience to do the job of fulling properly as the amount of fulling agent is important, as well as the water; the length of the process determines the correct felting and shrinking. Heat, moisture, and friction cause the wool fibers which have tiny scales to felt or interlock and cling together making a firmer material. This meant that the weaver had to weave his cloth wide and long enough to make up for shrinking, and loose enough so that it would not be stiff and board-like after fulling. The fuller's earth, a clay-like mineral, was mined in England and imported in America in the 19th century. It helped to absorb the last grease in the wool, and itself had to be finally washed out.

In 1643 the first American fulling mill was started in Rowley, Massachusetts, and was in business until 1809. They were often run by water power, and a wheel operated device which turned and beat the cloth until it reached the expected size, softness and pliancy. In 1810 there were 24 woolen factories and 1682 fulling mills. Around this time they added mechanical carding, spinning and power looms thus beginning the American woolen industry.

The next process which at least dates back to the Romans is napping. They used the dried seed pod of the teasel, and this method continued down through the ages. Their barbs are just strong enough to lift the fibers without tearing the cloth. Fulling and napping of wool is done when the weaving must be dense. This is mostly on blankets and coat materials. When done on cotton, the result is flannel.

It is not surprising to note that Leonardo da Vinci was also interested in a napping machine, and invented one about 1490...."

DYEING WITH KOOL-AIDKOOL-AID FLAVOR

Berry Blue
 Berry Blue over dyed with Black Cherry
 Berry Blue over dyed with Grape
 Berry Blue over dyed with Lemon Lime
 Black Cherry
 Black Cherry over dyed with Grape
 Black Cherry over dyed with Lemon Lime
 Cherry
 Grape
 Grape over dyed with Lemon Lime
 Great Bluedini
 Incrediberry
 Lemonade
 Lemon Lime
 Lemon Lime over dyed with Raspberry
 Orange
 Pine-Pineapple
 Pink Swimmingo
 PurpleSauruskex
 Raspberry
 Rockadile Red
 Sharkleberry Fin
 Strawberry
 Tropical Punch

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MOHAIR COLOR

Robin's Egg Blue
 Brownish-Purple
 True blue to Navy
 Bright Green Grass
 Burgundy; Cranberry
 Reddish browns, muddy
 Rich medium brown
 Christmas Red
 Purple
 Olive Green, brown
 Green
 Pinky Orange
 Pale Baby Yellow
 Bright Christmas green
 Rusty Brown
 Orange
 Bright Gold Yellow
 Coral Pink
 Lighter Purple
 Darker Purplish Pinks
 Fire Engine Red
 Pink
 Light Pink
 Deep Reds

General Directions:

Any yarn for dyeing has to be skeined VERY LOOSELY, and tied, so the dye will penetrate evenly and the yarn won't turn into a tangled mass. The yarn will have to be moved about gently in the dye pot during the dyeing process, to distribute the dye liquor throughout the yarn. Wear gloves when you do dyeing. Kool-Aid is supposed to be color fast, after you rinse out all the excess solution. Cotton and silk do not color well. Mohair and wool do very well. Adding some salt may help in even color distribution.

Microwave Dyeing

Put one quart of water in a Corning-ware casserole dish. Add Kool-Aid, then fiber, cover dish and microwave. Check it every 4 minutes or so until the fiber is the color you want. Eventually the water will go colorless, which means you have exhausted the dye. Let the fiber cool and then rinse it.

Stovetop Dyeing

Soak the material to be dyed in cold water for 15 minutes until thoroughly saturated. Pour cold water into a stainless steel or enamel pot. Add 1 packet of unsweetened Kool-Aid. Add the fiber and cover the pot. Set the pot on the stove on LOWEST AVAILABLE SETTING and slowly bring to a simmer. Check frequently. When the color has all been absorbed into the fiber (usually 15-20 minutes, or by the time it has reached a simmer) turn off the heat and allow to cool. Rinse thoroughly in water that is the same temperature to avoid shocking the wool, changing the rinse water until it is clear. Drape the wool and allow to dry.

(from Canton Weavers & Spinners Fleece Facts)