

LOCO News

CLOSET TREASURES...

Lost and found

It's time for stash re-arranging, people.

You know those duplicate knitting needles in the basket? And the roving with the color you decided you didn't really like? And the fleece you washed and never got dyed?

How about the stack of knitting books you never look at any more? Or the books on spinning, dyeing or weaving you don't use?

What to do?

Bring them to the guild meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11 for Clean Out Your Closet Day.

There you will find tons of things you absolutely must have at cheap prices. Rearrange the stash!

ALSO—This is the month that ALL books, videos, magazines, etc. borrowed from the library must be returned. Sara Twining will be thrilled to take them home with her. Bring them in.

Refreshments will be from Jo Babcock and Elsie Wise.

Bring your own cup and help save a tree. And remember your show and tell!



EARN GUILD GOODIES

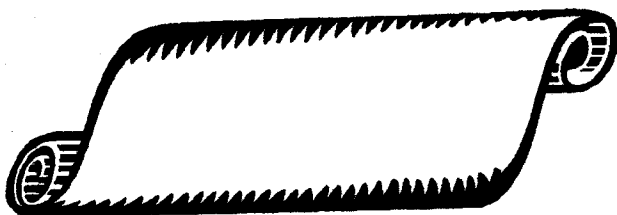
Interweave offer

If you subscribe to any of the Interweave magazines, Beadwork, Handwoven, Interweave Knits, Piece Work or Spin-Off, it's time to renew through LOCO Guild.

The company gives us a bonus for saving them time by including a lot of renewals at once: a freebie subscription for our library.

Bring your magazine address label and check to a meeting and give to Treasurer Betty Roll.





Calendar

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.

Through Sept. 23: Southern Appalachian coverlet show at the Kentucky Folk Art Museum. Details at <http://www.kyfolkart.org>.

Sept. 25: Spinning at Beth Hines home canceled.

Sept. 29: Country Living Field Day, Kenwood Farms, Carroll County 10 a.m. -5 p.m.

Sept. 29: Western Reserve Guild's West Coast Rags workshop with Jamie Fish at Lake Farmpark. 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

Sept. 29-30: Vermont Wool Festival at Snowshed Base Lodge in Killington, VT.

Oct. 6-7: Wool Festival at Taos, NM

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 Japanese weft weaving and dyeing, Crazy over Kasuri by Jennie Hutchings at the Lodi Recreation Center. Information: Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or Cost \$29. Information: Chris Spitzer, (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net

Oct. 9: LOCO meeting

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

Nov. 13: LOCO meeting

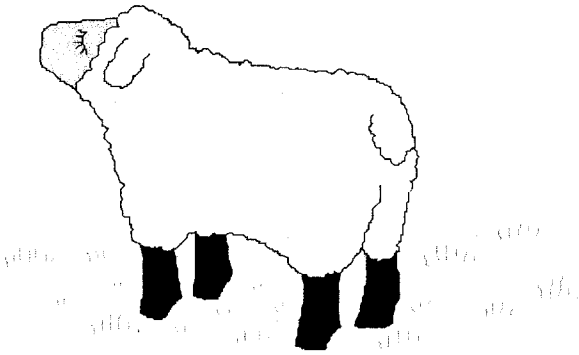
Nov. 17-18: Medina Guild workshop on Wearable Rags by Johanna Erickson. Information: Chris Spitzer (330) 668-2414 or cspitzer@lek.net

Dec. 11: LOCO meeting

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.



Know your sheep

White Face Dartmoor or Dartmoor

Fleece type: Longwool

Numerical Count: 36s-40s (40+ μ -36 μ)

Staple length: 6-8 inches (10-15 cm)

Fleece Weight: 13 to 17 ½ pounds (6kg-8kg)

Breed origins: The Romans are responsible for the introduction into Britain of the large, long-wooled breeds. Among these is the Dartmoor Greyface. The breed originated in southwestern England. The Whitefaced Dartmoor has been known to exist on the moors since earliest records.

Sheep characteristics: A native longwool breed with black or gray spots on nose. Their heads and legs are woolled, and both sexes are polled.

It is among the hardiest of the long-wool breeds; able to withstand the harsh conditions of the moorland pastures of southwest England.

The Dartmoor has a close relative, the White Face Dartmoor, which may be distinguished by its white wool-less face. The rams may be horned. It, too, thrives on exposed moorlands and has the same type and quality of fleece as the original Dartmoor.

Fleece characteristics: Dartmoor wool is curly and lustrous, and is one of the strongest of the longwools. It is most suitable for making hard-wearing carpet and rug yarns. Dartmoors are often shorn as lambs for their valuable first coat of warm curly lamb's wool.

Spinning pointers: Selecting the best long-wool or cross bred fleece for a project depends to a large extent on the amount of loft and durability that you require in a finished product. Although preparation and spinning method play important parts in making the most of loft, choice of fleece is the paramount factor.

A yarn's capacity to wear well is related to both a coarse fiber diameter and a high degree of resilience in the fleece. Although wear resistance is important for any textile, it is particularly significant for upholstery and rug or carpet yarns. Crossbred or longwool type fleeces are eminently suitable for this use.

Longwool requires a little extra care to ensure that it stays unmatted when it is washed. Long-wool fleeces may compress during washing, so gently lift and turn the wet fleece occasionally to allow the air to circulate and encourage fast, even drying.

All methods of fiber preparation are suitable for long-wool and crossbreeds. Staple length and cleanliness, along with intended use, will help determine which method to use.

Flick-carding is ideal for fast preparation of clean fleeces, whereas combing will take advantage of strength and enhance luster. Spend a little extra time to prepare the staples for drumcarding by cleaning and separating clumped tip and butt ends with either your fingers or a flick carder. This will prevent fibers from tangling and jamming the machine.

Breed Association: Dartmoor Sheep Breeders Association, Mr. Wilson Mitchell, The Old

Rectory, Clannaborough, Crediton EX17 6DA,
phone 01363 84256.

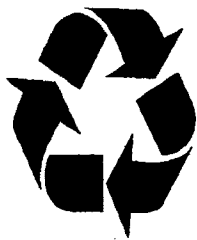
Source: Conservation of rare sheep breeds,
Barbara L. Anderson, *Sheep! Magazine*,
November 1993.

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

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, 1996

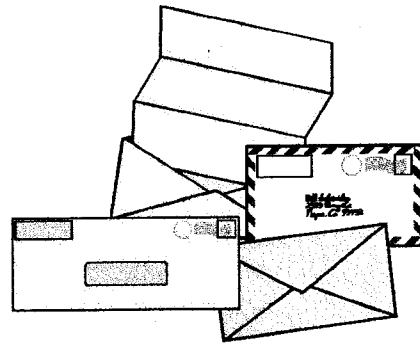


Ohio Classified ads

Wanted: Someone to make a blanket from
Briard hair. Contact Lin Spodak at
wspodak@aol.com

For Sale: Berga Ullman "Contra 12" loom,
Swedish, 45" countermarch type. Excellent
condition \$400. Lis Ryan (440) 892-8606

Weaver's moving sale: Much yarn, coned and
balled, wool, cotton, linen, etc. Stick shuttles.
Carolyn McMickle, (216) 767-0160

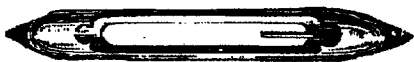


From the mailbox

Cuyahoga Weaver's Guild will hold a doll-
making workshop by doll maker Jennifer Gould.
The dolls are made using leftovers of
handwoven fabric from the loom ends. It will be
Thursday and Friday, January 17 and 18 at
Church of the Savior. Basic sewing machine
skills and a sewing machine needed. Supply
lists will be sent on registrations. Fee: \$60
Information and registration to Janet Gibson,
8251 Litchfield Dr., Mentor, OH, 44060.
Phone: 440-255-0045.

Cuyahoga Weaver's Guild will sponsor a vest
workshop Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
March 13, 14 and 15 with Mimi Smith at the
Lynhurst Community Center, 1341 Parkview,
Lyndhurst. The workshop will focus on sewing
and finish techniques as well as weave
structures, measurements and pattern designs.
\$80 plus \$4 materials fee. Information and
registration: Uarda Taylor, 5632 New London
Road, Ashtabula, OH, 44004. Phone: 440-969-
1890.





Calling all weavers (and weaver wanna-bes)

Betsy Bruce will form a weaving interest/study group to meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at her home, 517 W. College St., Oberlin. It would start on Tuesday, September 25 but would not meet on Christmas Day '01.

The plan will be up to those involved, and could include such things as investigating a particular weave structure and sampling or setting a yearly challenge. It might involve problem solving the projects of each individual, or include garment design and construction.

Those intrigued by the possibilities should contact Betsy via email at betsy.bruce@oberlin.edu or phone in the evening: (440) 774-7036.

We've got answers!

Concerning the Workshop questionnaire handed out at the August meeting: please accept my apologies for using terms unknown to several members. I hope the following definitions are helpful. If there is time at the September meeting, I will give a short description with samples for those wanting to know more. I really do want your input while pulling together workshops of interest to LOCO guild members.

If you did not attend the August meeting, please complete the questionnaire included in this newsletter and either mail to me, Betsy Bruce, 517 W. College St., Oberlin, or return to me at the September meeting. Thanks in advance.

Terms:

Ikat Dyeing - Japanese technique using wrapping for a resist. Often one dyes stripes in the warp by wrapping small groups of warp threads prior to dyeing from light to dark.

Discharging Color - surface design technique where one removes color from yarn or fabric using a variety of chemicals. One of the newer trends of designing these days.

Summmer/Winter - A weave structure with the pattern threads tied down by every fourth warp thread. Has incredible potential and can be woven on four harnesses

Color Gamp - often using the same sized yarn from one manufacturer, designing and weaving a plaid color sample to investigate colors mixed with one another

Kasuri - Japanese technique using wrapping for a resist-- often for weft threads thus resulting in a very controlled design element.

Krogbrod - a Scandanavian weft faced weave structure - can be donw on as few as 3 harnesses, often used for rugs.

Repsimatta - (also called Rep weave) - a Scandanavian warp faced weave structure for rugs, placemats, hot pads and the like.

Musical Looms - a workshop format where folks can try out different looms while sampling. For example, with ten participants, one weaves on ten looms and then returns home with ten different samples of the particular weave structure of study.

Nuno-Felting - felting with wool through a very finely woven fabric for a lightweight felt that drapes.

One down, two to go!

It's demonstration time.

Pioneer Days: Saturday, Sunday, Sept. 15-16
Birmingham: Saturday, Sunday Oct. 6-7

The first pays for our meeting room. To get to Mill Hollow Park: Take Route 2 west to the exit near Sunnyside Road. Go south to Jerusalem Road., west to Vermilian Road into the park. Or take Baumhart Road to North Ridge Road down into the park.

If you come early, you can drive to the house where we will spin and leave your equipment before going to park. A shuttle will bring you back. Otherwise you will have to bring your equipment on the shuttle.

Those who have signed up for the Birmingham Festival can drive right to the assigned spot with their equipment and bring their cars back in at 5 p.m. to load up to go home. This is one of our "paid" appearances and is a terrific festival to attend and shop besides. Food is yummy, too.

At the fair

Thank you everyone who came to the Lorain County Fair. The weather was cool and breezy. The rain started just when our demonstration ended.

The noise from the race track seemed louder this year but I'm told it was the same. The dust wasn't bad. We had many visitors and friends stop by. Everyone had a chance to check out the fair and eat the food because enough people came.

This year we had a weaving demonstration as well as spinning. Betsy Bruce had a very portable 4 harness Dorset loom. Her warp was a space dyed (what else?) cotton with enough warp to make 5 scarves (72" long x 10" wide on

the loom). The colors were great. They started with blues/purples and when I looked over next



had changed to reds/oranges. She finished 2, maybe 3. Everyone was interested in the loom.

Beth and Tom Hines, as always, did a great job of reserving parking for all of us. Something I appreciate more every year. Beth had some great wool related material to hand out. Betsy had some eye-catching bright pink guild information flyers.

Everyone had something different to spin. Beth was plying some light grey 80% columbia/20% alpaca which felt wonderful. She also worked on her sherbert Easter egg dyed vest. Karen Morgan finished spinning and plying her wool/mohair blend of brown, deep purples and lavender. She completed all of it at the fair and brought 2 wheels to make sure she would finish: 1 to spin and 1 to ply. A completed project is a wonderful thing!

Elsie Wise had some lovely white roving from a fleece she received from a neighbor. Pat Geisler had some mystery brown wool that was wonderful to spin. She also worked on another oversized, soon to be washed and shrunk, hat. This one was a blend of pinks, reds and even some orange. Those of you who did the Kaffe Fassett Persian poppy sweater may recognize some of those colors.

It was good to see our own giggly girls, Pamela Tallos and Carrie Gladyszewski, there. Pam had some wonderful black merino (a previous Kirkland farm purchase). Whereas, Carrie was spinning some roving from a local Jacob fleece. The black and white blended together to make a beautiful gray yarn with lots of depth. Despite their different types of wool they were amazingly enough, spinning in tandem.

Sara Twining managed to come. She had some very nice forest green from one of those prize packages.

One of the sheep people donated a corriedale fleece for the demonstration, of which I spun some. I could tell it was a show sheep because even straight from the sheep, I could spin it without flicking or carding.

Of course, now I am hoping everyone will want to see this wonderful stuff. See you at the next meeting and after that at Pioneer Days.

Elizabeth Yasaki

Tips on life

- Wear out, don't rust out.
- Be kinder than necessary.
- Laugh a lot. A good sense of humor cures almost all of life's ills.
- Understand that happiness is not based on possessions, power or prestige, but on relationships with people you love who love you back.
- Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, , Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, Albert Einstein and Louis Pasteur.

Spinning canceled

No spinning at home of Beth Hines on Sept. 25.

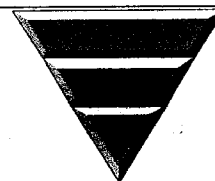


Sarah's milk can

Sarah Twining painted a milk can for the 4-H auction at the Lorain County Fair last month.

It sold for—brace yourselves, folks--\$1,200! Sarah and her husband have a farm south of Wellington.

Is Sarah in the wrong business?



LOCO OFFICERS

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Public relations: Elsie Wise, (330) 625-2992
Refreshments: Karen Morgan, (440) 236-8025, No1cook@msn.com
Samples: Beth Hines, hinesssheep@aol.com, and (440) 458-4049
Workshops: Betsy Bruce

2-ply, 3-ply, 4-ply?

What is the difference between 2-ply, 3-ply, and 4-ply yarns? Actually the term "ply" specifically refers to the number of individual spun fiber bundles or strands twisted together to form a yarn, not to its weight. 4-ply has 4 fiber bundles spun together, 3-ply has 3, and 2-ply has 2. Take a small piece of yarn and untwist it. Count the strands twisted together. That number is the ply of the yarn. Therefore, a sport weight yarn can be 4-ply or 3-ply, and a worsted weight yarn can be 2-ply or 4-ply. The number of plies often affects the way a yarn looks, but not the weight.

How are yarn weights defined then? Knitters are often familiar with the terms fingering, sport, worsted, and bulky, which are based on the gauge of the yarn. Sport yarns are often used for lighter sweaters and baby things, worsted for heavier sweaters, and bulky for even heavier outdoor garments.

But there are other ways to define a yarn's size, such as yards-per-pound and wraps-per-inch. Yards-per-pound (yds/lb) is exactly that, the number of yards there are in a pound of the yarn. It is only accurate when comparing wool yarn with wool, or cotton with cotton, but then it is very accurate. The yards-per-pound method can help you if you want to substitute one brand of yarn for another in a pattern.

Wraps-per-inch (wpi) is the number of times you can wrap a yarn around one inch of a ruler—not too loosely and not too tightly, with each wrap gently touching the next. Weavers often use this method to help them plan their projects, and it's an easy way to check that left over yarn in your knitting basket, or the beautiful handspun you just finished.

Then you can refer to the chart below to help you choose how to use it.

Take a moment and look at the chart below. I think it will find it interesting and informative. And remember, we are always here to help you with your yarn selections and calculations.

Yarn	Needle Size	Est. Gauge	WPI	Est. Yds/lb-wool
Fingering	1-3	7+ sts/inch	19-22 WPI	1700-2300 yards/lb
Sport	4-6	5 ½ to 6 ½ sts/inch	14-19 WPI	1200-1600 yards/lb
DK*	6-7	4 ½ to 5 ½ sts/inch	12-14 WPI	1100-1200 yards/lb
Worsted	7-9I	4 to 5 st./inch	10-14 WP	850-1100 yards/lb
Bulky	10-11	3 to 3 ½ st./inch	8-10 WPI	500-900 yards/lb

*DK is a British term for a light worsted weight yarn