

LOCO News

March 2004



The Care and Feeding of your Spinning Wheel.

Join us Tuesday, March 9 at 7:30 in the Lorain County MetroParks Carlisle Nature Center and tune up your spinning wheel.

Ed Rowe is our resident guru for spinning and weaving equipment. Bring your wheel and see how it is working. Ed also crafts parts for a fee.

Refreshments – Besty Bruce & Karen Long

GUILD COMMITMENTS FOR MARCH

Spinning and weaving demonstration Sunday, March 21st from 1-5PM at the Carriage House in the Mill Hollow reservation in Vermilion.

Current volunteers include Rosie, Laddie, Beth, and Pat doing spinning and weaving demonstrations.

LOCO GUILD MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 9, 2004

Leslie Mueheim for D. Uhl

January's minutes approved.

Elizabeth-reviewed 2004 program schedule:

March bring wheels in for Ed to repair.

April clean out your closet

May no definite plans, but maybe those going to Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival could present their experiences and purchases.

June no definite plans, but there was a suggestion for eyelash scarves from Stacy

July no definite plans

August making CD's into drop spindles by Gerkie

September dye day finished products

October Inca loom by Peggy Strang

November I have nothing in my meeting notes, but did we talk about ornaments?

December Christmas

Treasurer's report - Rosie Hauff:

\$26.74 and \$16.65 spent and \$1,508.68 ending balance

Newsletter - Laddie-Rubright:

Has notebook of old issues of other guilds newsletters to give to library.

Has list of names, add your e-mail address and whether you want the newsletter e-mailed to you.

President - Betsy Bruce:

Brought binder with information with mailings, fliers, postcards, announcements of events and programs, guild addresses, calender, etc.

Historian - Karen Morgan:

Historian has few pictures, still working on material.

Refreshments - Sara Twinning:

Circulated sign up list full for each month's refreshments.

Old Business-

Beth has fleece and bags for shawls to raffle.

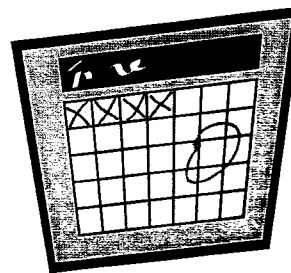
Has cards with information of what is needed; center pull ball or skein, etc.

Library:

A request for "Knitting From The Top" will be passed on to the Librarian.

New Business-

Shawls for raffles questions; How many? Dyed? Colors? Hand spun? Pattern? Suggestions; Weave structure should be decision for the weavers. Alpaca warp and weft for higher priced raffle tickets.



Announcements:

Silk Screening with LOCO logo is missing. Does anyone know where the drawings went? Does anyone have silk screening expertise? Ed & Etta and Pam & Carrie have supplies. Call Sara Twinning.

Sara has brochures for AVL looms and Penland School of Crafts

Sunday 2/22 before 5PM is the last day to see Betsy's class projects at FAVA 39 S Main Oberlin.

Shibori Class at Oberlin College, see Betsy.

Rosie has a Thank you from the Heffer Foundation

Carriage House at Mill Hollow March 21st 1-5PM spinner volunteers needed. Rosie, Laddie, Beth, Pat doing demonstrations

Ohio Knitting Mills final days 10-4PM February 12, 13 & 14

Medina town square ice sculpture next weekend

Happy Birthday to Elsie Wise! - 80 years young!

Show & Tell

Jill - felt vessels

Mary Beth Derikito's angora mittens and reversible woolen hat were proudly shown off by friend Anne

Pat - silk & angora scarf and angora hat
Elsie & Vernona mentioned the alpaca comforters they have made

Katie - red white & blue quilt squares for quilts going to those who lost someone in Iraq

Karen - making fleece blankets

Jim - brought Judy's sister's prize winning felted alpaca hat with feathers.

Elizabeth - gloves and mittens

Program: polar fleece socks

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

MARCH 9, 2004

Next LOCO meeting held at the Lorain Co. MetroParks Carlisle Nature Center, 7:30 p.m.

MARCH 20, 2004

The Fiber Arts Guild of Wayne & Holmes County is hosting a Knitting Workshop from 10 to 4pm. Learn a new garter stitch / slipstitch pattern that can be embellished with color. At the end of the day you will have a sampler that could be made into a small purse. Mary Hal Davis is an accomplished spinner, knitter and designer and an enthusiastic teacher. She will supply Koigu yarn, but you will need short needles (no longer than 10") or double pointed needles with a stopper for the ends in sizes 4, 5, and 6. Contact Nancy Lilburn, 2443 McCoy Road, Wooster, OH 44691 (330-262-5699).

MARCH 27 - ANNUAL MARKET DAY AND FIBER FAIR

The Black Swamp Spinners' Guild of NW Ohio 19th Annual Market Day and Fiber Fair, 9a.m.-4p.m at St. Marks Lutheran Church Family Life Center, 315 S. College Dr. (off Wooster), (I-75 to exit 181, west to College or Crim), Bowling Green, Ohio. Free admission. For more information: Susan at caytonsj@juno.com or Margaret at 1-800-554-7973

APRIL 15-17 - WEAVING WORKSHOP

Cuyahoga Weavers Guild is hosting a three-day workshop "Pushing the Plain out of Plain Weave" presented by Donna Lee Adams. 9:30 - 3:30, cost \$85. Deadline was early Feb. Contact Ele Richardson, 20910 Watson, Maple Hts, Oh, 44137. to inquire about last minute openings

APRIL 24, 2004 – DEMONSTRATION – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Sheep Shearing Day at the Cleveland Zoo between the hours of 11-4. They would like as many volunteers as possible. For more information, see Stacy Allen.

APRIL 24 - DOUBLE WEAVE WORKSHOP

Hosted by the Medina Spinning and Weaving Guild will be held Saturday, April 24th, 9-4 p.m. at the Medina Presbyterian Church, Burgundy Bay Blvd. off Rt. 18, Medina 44256. Contact: BECKY MONEGAN, SUMMITBLUEBIRD@AOL.COM OR 330-920-1448.

APRIL 24, 2004

Mid-Ohio Fiber Gathering in DeGraff, Ohio. Held in the Winner Barn and Conference Center from 9:30 – 4:30 p.m., 1 mile east of Rte 47 and Rte 235 intersection. Door prizes & a raffle. Contact Susie Smithers, Rollicking Hills Fiber Design 937.585.5161.

APRIL 30 -, MAY 2 – KNITTERS GETAWAY

Join other knitters at Punderson Lodge in Newbury, Ohio. Activities include a visit to n alpaca farm, River Color Studio and workshops. For information and cost visit the WWW.SISTERSOFTHEskein.com, or contact Connie Laux: ctlaux@earthlink.net.

MAY 29-30

Great Lakes Fiber Show, Wooster. Information: don47linda@valkrie.net

JUNE 4

A coverlet display opens at the Shaker Heights Library Gallery celebrating the Youngstown Area Weavers Guild's 50th year. Display runs through August. Library hours: 9 – 9 pm M – Th, 9 – 6 p.m. Sat., 1 – 4 p.m. Sunday.

JUNE - WEAVING WORKSHOPS AT KENT STATE

Part of the BLOSSOM PROGRAM IN TEXTILE ART 2004. Two separate weaving workshops. (Workshops may be taken for 2 credits each or 3 credits for both.)

June 7 through June 12

"Handpicked Imagery in Weaving: Damask, Double Cloth and Lampas" with Bhakti Ziek. Participants will have an opportunity to explore these weaving processes on floor looms and

computer assisted looms.

Artist lecture: From Backstrap to Digital Jacquard: The Weaving of Bhakti Ziek Tuesday June 8, 7:00 pm.

June 14 through June 19

"Texture and Transparency, Digitally Designed Cloth" with Pauline Verbeek-Cowart
Participants will have an opportunity to work with 16 and 24 harness computer assisted dobby looms, as well as, a state of the art digital jacquard loom.

Artist lecture: Pauline Verbeek-Cowart: Woven Work Thursday June 17 7:00 pm.

Rhyme Reason Repeat: New Work in Fiber School of Art Gallery, Kent State University
Exhibition dates: June 2 through June 30
Receptions: June 8, 8:00-9:00 and June 17, 8:00-9:00 pm. For Additional Information Contact: Janice Lessman-Moss, jlessman@kent.edu, 330-672-2158

Applications: Rebecca Summers, School of Art, RSUMMERS@KENT.EDU, 330-672-2192 Gallery Hours: 330-672-7853 or 330-672-1379

Lectures are free and open to the public. They are held in the School of Art building Room202.

JUNE 19

Focus on Fiber Arts at Sauder Historic Village. For more information contact Ann Lux 800.590.9755 x3063 or alux@saudervillage.org.

JUNE 24-27

Fiberfest at Lake Farmpark, Mentor. Information: Andrea at apasquale@lakefarmparks.com

JUNE 27-JULY 3

Handweavers Guild of America Convergence in Denver, CO. "Fiber with an Attitude: Connecting People, Connecting Time." HGA website: www.weavespindye.org

JULY 17 FIBER ARTS FESTIVAL

Hosted by Malabar Farm Guild inside the Big Barn by Big House. Learn about fibers, their content and how to use them. Demonstrations, hands-on activities, alpacas and sheep on display. No Admission

AUG. 13-15 - WORKSHOP

Hosted by Northwest Pennsylvania Spinners & Weavers Guild. A spinner's retreat with Patsy Zawistoski on luxury fibers at Sandy Lake, Pa. Information: Donna Wellman, 21116 Taylorstrand Rd., Centerville, Pa., 16404

2004 CONOVER WORKSHOP SCHEDULE will be available at the Guild meetings. Workshops vary from woodworking to spinning & weaving. Prices range from reasonable to moderately expensive.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: 2 H rug loom \$300. Call Joanna Sharpe 330-948-3450

For Sale: 15.5" 8H Schacht table loom with stand and buyer's choice of 10d or 1222d reed. Great workshop loom, \$325. Call Peggy Strand 440.934.1236.

For Sale: 36" 2H Union loom with manual. A workhorse of a rug loom, \$300. Call Peggy Strand 440.934.1236.

Book Review

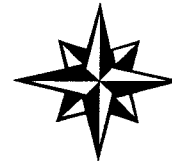
Indigo Dying

By Susan Wittig Albert

If you like mysteries with smart interesting women, you will enjoy the series of books, which includes *Indigo Dying*. China Bayles is a former attorney from Houston who escapes the rat race and her career in criminal law to open a shop called Thyme and Seasons in a small town in Texas.

This book, like all of Susan's books, includes quotations, hints, recipes, historical references and resources.

-Excerpted from Joan Brassaemie's review in the Medina Guild newsletter



LOCO OFFICERS

President – Betsy Bruce betsy.bruce@oberlin.edu

Vice President -Elizabeth Yasaki
EAYASAKI@aol.com

Treasurer – Rosie Hauff RHAUFF@eriecoast.com

Secretary – Donna Uhl new2ewe@aol.com

Workshops – Beth Hines Hinessheep@aol.com

Library –Mary Louise VanDyke

Demonstrations –Kay Griggs

Newsletter Editor – Laddie Rubright
greeneyedi@hotmail.com

Samples – Beth Hines

Historian – Karen Morgan

Refreshments – Sarah Twining

Sushine – Cindy Bush

Deadline for April newsletter is March 24, 2004

Future Programs & Hostesses

April	Clear out the Closet	G. Esgar J. Keske
May	Xmas in the Summer	K. Mangione H. Hines
June	Making Eyelash Scarves	

Know Your Breeds



Alpaca

Alpacas were a cherished treasure of the ancient Incan civilization and played a central role in the Incan culture that was located on the high Andean Plateau and mountains of South America.

Alpacas were first imported to the United States in 1984. Alpacas are now being successfully raised and enjoyed throughout North America and abroad. There are two types of alpacas - the Huacaya and the Suri. The lifespan of the alpaca is about 20 years and gestation is 11.5 months. Alpacas eat grasses and chew a cud. Adult alpacas are about 36" tall at the withers and generally weigh between 100 and 200 pounds. They are gentle and easy to handle. Alpacas don't have incisors, horns, hooves or claws.

Alpacas produce one of the world's finest and most luxurious natural fibers. It is clipped from the animal without causing it injury. Soft as cashmere and warmer, lighter and stronger than wool, it comes in more colors than any other fiber producing animal (approximately 22 basic colors with many variations and blends). Spinners and weavers around the world now enjoy this cashmere-like fleece, once reserved for Incan royalty.

A Brief History of Alpacas

Alpacas have coexisted with humankind for thousands of years. The Incan civilization of the Andes Mountains in Peru elevated the alpaca to a central place in their society. The imperial Incas clothed themselves in garments made from alpaca and many of their religious ceremonies involved the animal. Museums throughout the Americas display textiles made from alpaca fiber.

The Spanish conquistadors failed to see the value of alpaca fiber, preferring the merino sheep of

their native Spain. For a time, alpaca fiber was a well-kept secret. In the middle 1800's, Sir Titus Salt of London, England rediscovered alpaca. The newly industrialized English textile industry was at its zenith when Sir Titus began studying the unique properties of alpaca fleece. He discovered, for instance, that alpaca fiber was stronger than sheep's wool and that its strength did not diminish with fineness of staple. The alpaca textiles he fashioned from the raw fleece were soft, lustrous, and they soon began making their mark across Europe. Today, the center of the alpaca textile industry is in Arequipa, Peru; yarn and other products made from alpaca are sold primarily in Japan and Europe.

Outside of their native South America, the number of alpacas found in other countries is extremely limited. In fact, 99 percent of the world's approximately three million alpacas are found in Peru, Bolivia, and Chile.

The Earth-Friendly Alpaca

Alpacas have been domesticated for more than 5,000 years. They are one of Mother Nature's favorite farm animals. They are sensitive to their environment in every respect. The following physical attributes allow alpacas to maintain their harmony with our Mother Earth.

- The alpaca's feet are padded and they leave even the most delicate terrain undamaged as it browses on native grasses.
- The alpaca is a modified ruminant with a three-compartment stomach. It converts grass and hay to energy very efficiently, eating less than other farm animals.
- Its camelid ancestry allows the alpaca to thrive without consuming very much water, although an abundant, fresh water supply is necessary.
- The alpaca does not usually eat or destroy trees, preferring tender grasses, which it does not pull up by the roots.
- South American Indians use alpaca dung for fuel and gardeners find the alpaca's rich fertilizer perfect for growing fruits and vegetables.
- An alpaca produces enough fleece each year to create several soft, warm sweaters for its owners comfort.

Picture and information from the website of The Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA)