

LOCO News

COLOR US TERRIFIC!

January dye day

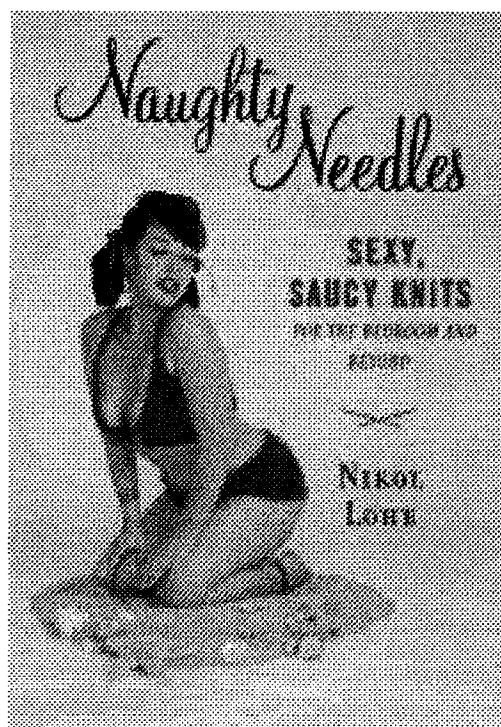
Bring your wool roving or yarn to the meeting Tuesday, Jan. 9, and give it a shot or two of color. We'll be back at our usual meeting place at the Nature Center on Diagonal Road south of Elyria at 7:30 p.m.

Beth Hines will bring some plastic bags, Elizabeth Yasaki will have table covers for us and Karen Long is coming with dye, sponge brushes and plastic cups for mixing. We'll use Procyon dye for animal (protein) fibers.

We could use 6 or 8 1-quart minimum jars for holding dye on various tables. Old glass or plastic containers work. But you will NOT be able to use these jars for non-dye purposes again so only bring disposable or unloved items.

We will have 6 to 8 colors to work with; two yellows, two reds, two blues, purple, green, and maybe another. You should be able to mix what you need from these. Karen Long will provide a brief instruction.

Bring up to 6 oz of wool, silk, {or other animal fiber} soaked overnight in water and a healthy glug of white vinegar; rubber gloves; plastic bags and/or bucket to carry wet wool home; paper towels or old towels for wiping up spills and old newspapers if you have any. Most importantly, remember to wear old clothes and shoes in case of splashes or spills. It will be fun!!!!



(WHAT TO DO WITH HAND SPUN YARN)...

Fast Women Knit and Bad Girls Purl

By Liesl Schillinger
New York Times Book Review
Published: December 17, 2006

NAUGHTY NEEDLES

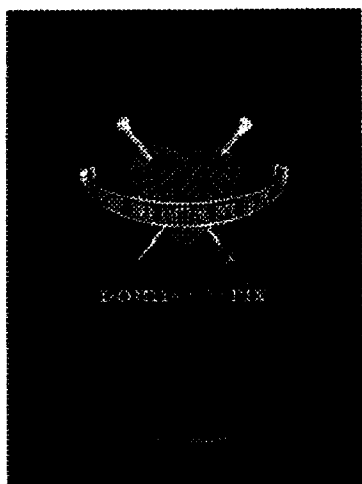
Sexy, Saucy Knits for the Bedroom and Beyond.

By Nikol Lohr.

144 pp. Potter Craft.

\$19.95.

(Turn to page 2)



DOMIKNITRIX

Whip Your Knitting into Shape.

By Jennifer Stafford.

256 pp. North Light Books.

\$19.99.

WHAT a shame that it is so difficult to find the knitwear you need in stores, catalogs or on the Internet. Sure, you can find prosaic items like hats, scarves, mittens, socks, sweaters, leggings, ponchos, baby blankets and sofa throws.

But where do you go for what you really crave — yarn bras, knitted heart-shaped pillows that read “Spank Me,” caps crested with lime-green faux Mohawks, and snow hats with devil’s horns? Wouldn’t you know — you have no recourse but to knit them yourself.

In her saucy how-to guide, “Domiknitrix,” the San Francisco needle queen Jennifer Stafford lays out a fuzzy array of delectable items for the nimble-fingered to create. Once, long ago, she writes, she herself was “just a plain bad crafter” who did not know knit from purl.

But time and effort turned her into what she calls a “domiknitrix” (plural: domiknitrices), “a woman who dominates her knitting.” She explains: “I discipline my yarn. I force it into the

form I want it to take. I am persistent, firm and commanding.” You can do the same, she insists: “Learn the rules or else.” Her tone is jokey; her purpose is serious.

Determined to deliver “astonishing” designs that can be replicated at home, Ms. Stafford tested each pattern thoroughly before publication, “wrecking” her body in the process, and requiring her to seek a physical therapist to soothe her stiff joints. To her, this was “delicious pain.”

“If you’re looking for easy, mindless knitting,” she writes, “you’re not made in the mold of a Domiknitrix.”

Still, she tries to simplify with illustrated step-by-step instructions, from basic stitches to join work and tricky fixes for snags and dropped stitches. Some photos show the author’s tattooed arms in black leather lace-up gauntlets, trailing hot-pink yarn.

One of her patterns, a spike-crowned Jughead hat, is so challenging that she had to enlist an aeronautical engineer to diagram it. “Domiknitrix” does not limit itself to accessories. The book also includes lovely practical garments — sleek zippered sweater coats, frisky hoodies and cleavage-baring vests and slinky tees that cling to the body’s curves. These are not your grandma’s afghans, she reminds her readers: “Remember, tight sweaters save yarn!”

NIKOL LOHR — a domiknitrix if there ever was one — has an even more effective way to save yarn. Don’t knit sweaters, knit skimpy red-hot bikinis, “kinderwhore” socks, “flapper-inspired” garter slips with peekaboo knitted lace panels (even less yarn!), bustiers and tap pants laced with satin ribbon, woolen handcuffs, fringed nighties and cunning stuffed animals to

throw among your bed pillows. "Parade around in your naughty clothes and you'll surely get a reward," she promises. If you spend the time it takes to create these intricate confections, you deserve one.

Ms. Lohr's beautifully illustrated and coyly annotated book, "Naughty Needles," could be a 50's pinup calendar for wool fetishists. The tableaux she presents are provocative in a retro way, mixing Betty Boop va-va-voom with Doris Day innocence. "There's something both comforting and surprisingly titillating about the aesthetic," she writes, explaining that many of her designs were inspired by "fresh-scrubbed" television sexpots like Samantha in "Bewitched," Jeannie in "I Dream of Jeannie," and Mary Ann from "Gilligan's Island."

"Maybe squeaky clean is the new dirty," she says, adding, "Cutie-pie sexy (unlike vamp sexy) is a cinch to pull off on a daily basis." Also, "if you fall on your face as a Mary Ann, you're still adorable." In one audacious full-page photo, which looks like a still from a Russ Meyer film, Ms. Lohr shows two models in mohair bikinis engaged in cavewoman-style combat on a rock. "Knitting is sexy. There, I said it," she writes.

Her meaning is subtler than may appear. For her, it's about much more than making angora tap pants: "It fuses vision and skill into a creative superpower," she writes.

It also demands a mental agility that might trip up a nuclear physicist. To make that cavegirl bikini top, you must decipher such runic instructions as: "Dec as above (ssk/k2tog with the 3,4d and 4th st in from either side) every other row until you hold 14 (17, 20, 23) sts."

Got that? No? Well, there's always J. Crew.



LOCO Library Corner

New in the LOCO Library at Ginko Gallery in Oberlin is Fiber and Bead Jewelry. The subtitle of this book by Helen and Sally Banes is "Beautiful Designs to Make and Wear." Here are not only pictures but also suggestions and patterns for tapestry necklaces, bead necklaces, woven pendants and creative uses of shells or buttons. Banes also shows how she has incorporated silver pieces, coins, dangles etc. in her jewelry.

Mary Louise VanDyke

No substitutes allowed

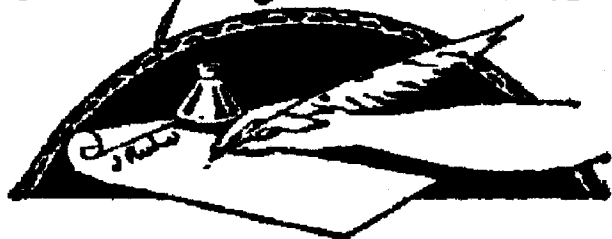
When spinning, weaving or knitting, be careful of the wool or cotton you're using and do not substitute something 'almost the same' for a project. You won't like what happens.

Different materials have subtly different colors. Sheep of the same breed are not interchangeable and it will show. A knitted or woven garment will have funny stripes in it or the dye won't 'take' the same look.

Cottons are even worse. Some will shrink when washed and some won't. Unless you like the look of 'collapsed fabric,' you'll be disappointed in the weaving.



New Year Resolutions



Calendar

Jan. 9: LOCO meeting

Jan. 13: Drop spindle workshop for Canton Spinners and Weavers at CMA by Grace Kitto. Bring spindle, roving and dish to share for potluck.

Jan. 23: Spinning at home of Beth Hines

Jan. 28: LOCO spinning at Huntington Township Hall, 1:30 p.m. Information: Ann Hauser 440-647-7195.

Feb. 9-March 21: Quilt Show at Lake Farm Park, Kirtland.

Feb. 24: Black Swamp Spinners and Weavers Learn to Spin 101 Workshop, Bowling Green. \$20. Information: Janice Ryan, 1844 Cherry Lane, Findlay, OH 45840, 419-424-0319 ryansedgyart@yahoo.com

March 4-30: Cuyahoga Weavers Guild show at Beachwood Library during regular hours.

March 17 and 18: Medina Guild's Scottish Tartan workshop with Melissa Dunning at Lafayette Town Hall. Cost \$120 for non-members. Reservations and check to: Rita Strube 19553 Idlewood Trail Strongsville, OH 44149-3133

March 23-24: Canton Spinners and Weavers workshop on Taking the Shadow out of Shadow Weave by Mimi Smith at CMA. \$50 for non-members. Registration to Stefanie Bauer, 10726 Johnsford Rd., SW, Beach City, OH 44608. \$2 materials fee.

March 31: Black Swamp Market Day, Wood County Fairgrounds, 10-4 p.m., Bowling Green.

April 28: Upper Valley Fiber Festival at Miami Fairgrounds in Troy. Information: <http://ewetopia.net/UpperValleyFiberFestival.htm>

May 26-27, Great Lakes Sheep and Wool Festival, Fairgrounds in Wooster.

June 17-20: Roots—Midwest Weavers Conference 2007, Lincoln, Nebraska. Contact Kitt Hamersky, 5431 Hamilton St., Omaha, NE 68132 or treadler@cox.net

June 23-24: Woolfest, formerly Fiberfest, at Lake Farmpark, Kirtland. For listing of workshop or art show entry forms or to be added to mailing list, call 440-256-2122 or 800 366-3276.

Through Aug. 12: Crazy Quilts and Figured and Fancy Coverlet exhibits at Kent State University Textile Museum.

Oct. 5-8: Eastern Great Lakes Fiber Conference Lewiston, NY. \$365 for 3 days workshop, room and board. Info: Phyllisvas@yahoo.com

New fiber show

The Upper Valley Fiber show in Troy on Saturday, April 28, will be a celebration of spinning, weaving, knitting, crochet, felting and all things fiber related.

It will be held at the Duke Building of the Miami County Fairgrounds, in Building 31, the Duke/Lungard building.

To reach The Miami County Fairgrounds, take I-75 to Exit 78 and travel south for 3 miles on County Road 25-A. The Fairgrounds will be on the right.

Information: Lori or David Judy at: <http://ewetopia.net/UpperValleyFiberFestival.htm>

Want ads

For Sale: Nilus LeClerc, 45", 4-harness, 6- treadle loom. Instruction book, bench with drawer, reeds, shuttles, bobbin winder and skein holder, Ashford spinning wheel, antique spinning wheel. Yarns, cotton, linens, wool, silk, gold, silver and cut cotton for rug weft. Books, some Swedish and Finnish. Loom 45" high by 30 "wide, suitable for Navajo-type rugs or hangings, Leash sticks, two warping boards 48" x 64" and 18" x 15". Jill Dixon, 216-229-3735

For Sale Alpaca farmer retiring to Florida is looking to sell his fleece at bargain prices. Very nice white, black and browns. Contact Russ Phillips @ 330-730-8518 or (H) 330-927-9555

For Sale: Kromski, Mazurka spinning wheel Comes with a distaff, 4 bobbins, and tensioned kate. \$325. Betty White 330-948-2767.

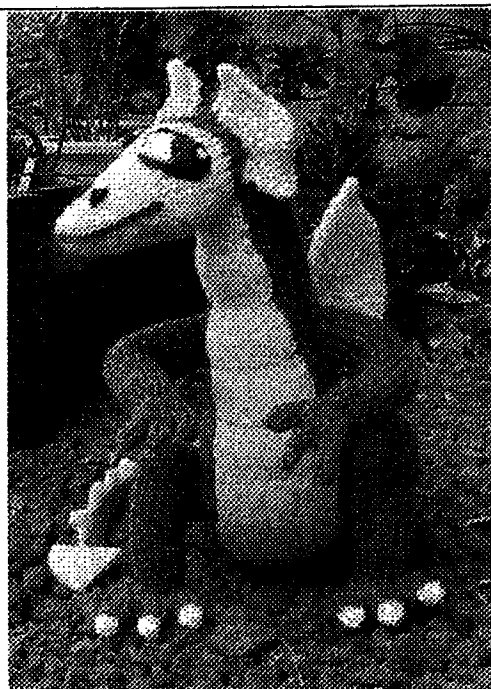
For Sale: Hard maple quilt floor frame with extensions for king size. Asking \$100. Information: Betsy Rush at 419-892-2055.

For sale: 32" 4-harness Brown loom, \$500. 18: Anliot Swedish floor loom, \$75 and warping wheel. Elly Rose, 216-381-0025.

Free: Needlework floor frame, tapestry loom frames. Elly Rose, 216-381-0025.

For sale: Macomber Add-a-Harness workshop loom with reed. Has 4 harnesses and 6 treadles, with room for 4 more harnesses. Newer heddles. Make offer. Ellen Rosen, 216-291-8433.

Wanted: Manual for 8-harness Mountain table loom from the late 19802. Betsy Tabac, 216-287-2919 or btabac@earthlink.net



From the internet

<http://home.alphalink.com.au/~woodsyl/>

A good website for patterns of creative toys to knit. There are dragons and fairies and princesses and trucks and aliens. Maybe next Christmas some gifts for the grandkids?

Weavers show

The Cuyahoga Weavers Guild will hold its 2007 show at the Beachwood Library March 4-30. The reception and demonstrations will be Sunday, March 4, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The show can be seen during regular hours at the library, Monday through Thursday from 9 to 9, Friday and Saturday 9 to 5:30 p.m. and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday.

Reminder: If you can receive your newsletter by e-mail, please notify Pat Geisler (spin9r@aol.com).

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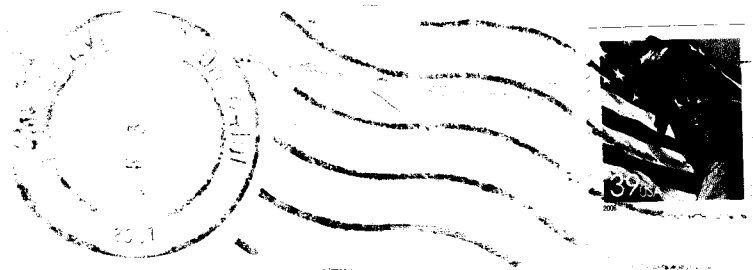
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