

LOCO News

STRUT YOUR STUFF

Fashion Show

Bring your clothes, your accessories, your household creations and show them all off Tuesday, Nov. 14 at the regular monthly guild meeting. We'll be at the Carlisle Visitor Center on Diagonal Road at 7:30 p.m.

Sara Twining will be our mistress of ceremonies and she asks that you bring a neatly written description of each item you plan to show and anything interesting about it. If possible, pin the information to the item.

We also need models—preferably average size—to display the goods. If you fit the bill or you have a teenager who does (and that you can coax into doing the job) please speak up. You are needed!!



Reminders...

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

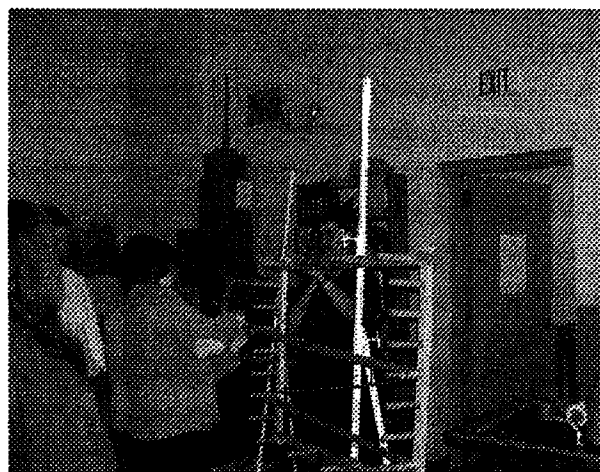
If Pat has your email address she can also forward any special notices between newsletters to you.



Making it happen

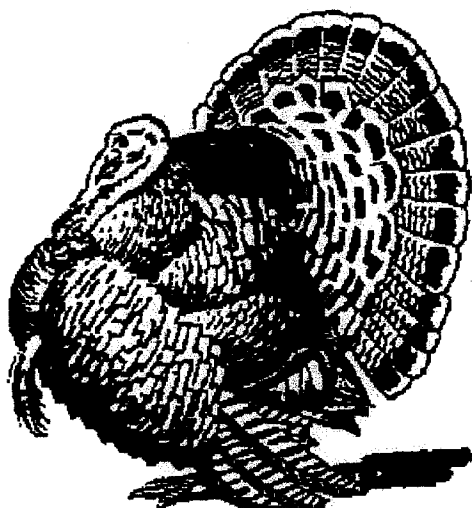
Beth Hines warps her loom at the LOCO Weaving Workshop taught by Betsy Bruce in Oberlin last month.

Photos by Betty Roll



Betsy Bruce gives tips on how to wind threads onto the warping board for the towels being made at the workshop.

Story on Page 7



Calendar

Nov. 8-10: Cuyahoga Weavers Guild workshop on Scandinavian Weaving. \$55. Sign-up deadline Oct. 15. Information: Leslie Alperin, 440-473-2244

Nov. 14: LOCO meeting annual fashion show.

Nov. 28: Spinning at home of Beth Hines

Dec. 13: LOCO Christmas party with ornament exchange and drawing for Heifer Project shawls. LOCATION CHANGE: La Porte Methodist Church, Grafton Road and Rt. 20.

Through Aug. 12, 2007: Crazy Quilts and Figured and Fancy Coverlet exhibits at Kent State University Textile Museum.

Fall open house

Open House will be held at Homespun Acres in Medina Saturday, Nov. 18, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Visitors can enjoy a hot cup of coffee or tea and see all of our beautiful fibers -- mohair and fine wool--available for sale. The farm is at 4691 Poe Road. From Medina, From Medina, take SR 3 south towards Seville to Poe Road. Turn left onto Poe. Farm is seventh drive on the left.

Want ads

FOR SALE: Alpaca fleece from farm in Gross Ile Mich. The fiber is brown, white and beige. Will send a sample. Fiber has not been washed so has a little plant matter and dust, but we can wash if you prefer. Pat and John Pesta, call 734-379-4346 or write Anglic1996@aol.com.

FOR SALE: White roving of 65% mohair, 25% merino and 10% baby alpaca. \$3 per ounce. 10% of sales will be donated to LOCO's Heiffer Project charity. Good for next-to-the-skin projects. Processed by Wooly Knob I can deliver to LOCO meetings or you can pick up at my farm in Huntington Twp. Ann Hauser 440-647-7195 or email meandruffy@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: Orco Loom Model 74, 4 harness, six treadle with friction take up. Designed for pattern weaving of rugs, curtains, novelties; also all two harness weaving. Weaves 36 inches or less with improved warping beam and rack. 44" wide, 41" from front to back, 33" high from floor to level of work. 140 pounds. Includes 6 shuttles, threading hook, weaving instruction book and large supply of warp thread. Asking price \$475. Money raised to be donated to Mennonite Central Committee world-wide relief fund.

ALSO available: Fraser Model 500-1 Cloth Slitting Clamp-on Machine. 5 lbs. Asking price \$125. Money raised to be donated to Mennonite Central Committee. Contact Jan Buerge, 816-898-4907 or E-mail at jbuerge@kc.rr.com. (Pat Geisler has pictures of this loom—email spin9r@aol.com and ask for them to be sent to you.)

FOR SALE : Functional skein winder with counter that pops. \$100. Also white kid mohair roving, \$22 lb. Julie Korn, 740-269-7395 or jkorns@tusco.net

FOR SALE: Barn loom. 150+ years old, assembled and warped. Very good condition. Included is an old yarn winder. Asking \$200. Sandy Cunningham, 330-852-2981

FOR SALE; LeClerc Nilus counterbalance loom. Excellent condition, quiet operation but unused. 4 shafts, 45" width. Both breast and back beams removable so weaver can thread heddles easily. Leash sticks, raddles. Nice piece of furniture. Asking \$500 or best offer. Lou Soles, 330-308-5547 after 5 pm weekdays or anytime weekends. louesoles@yahoo.com

FOR SALE; Two looms--#1 is a no-name table loom 19 1/2 inch width, 4 harness with 4 levers on upper right side. Asking \$125.

#2 is locally made x-frame 4 harness 4-treadle floor room with direct tie-up. Folds to approximately 14" deep. 38.5" wide. Has built-in drawer behind the castle and a great shed. Has denim cover made for it. Asking \$500. Penny Myers at 330-939-3537 or pennyatjoes@wmconnect.com.

FOR SALE: 15" Schacht 4 harness table loom. Includes storage bench and stand for loom. Like new: \$200. Also 18" Northwest 8 harness table loom with stand. \$400. Evelyn Hewett, 330-488-1161

Knitting tips

From Etta Rowe: If you find your finished knitting doesn't the soft, flexible, draping you prefer, you can "condition" your garment.

In my travels as a yarn addict, I've learned that if you wash your finished garments in a washing machine and add some hair conditioner — yes, hair conditioner, it softens up the fibers and texture of the yarn. Since yarn has a matrix of shafts as does hair, the conditioner penetrates the shafts and relaxes the yarn and makes it more relaxed. It affects the yarn as it does



hair. If your finished garment is too soft give it another whirl in a cold water wash to wash out some of the conditioner. It will still be soft but not as relaxed

If you're not sure whether the remaining yarn in your skein will be sufficient to complete your current row of plain knitting — always join a new skein of yarn at the end of a row — measure the tail to ensure it's at least three times the width of the row.

From Katy Farr for intermediate knitters: Instructions to "pick up and knit" are shorthand for working two rows. First, working on the right side, pick up *as if to knit* the required number of stitches for a border, neckline, placket or edging. Use needles two sizes smaller than the size used to knit the garment. Turn the work and purl the next row. Now, back on the right side, work the pattern stitch or simply knit with the larger needles.

I don't like to knit two socks at the same time so to make certain they end up the same size use this trick: After the top ribbing is finished knit 10 rounds and put a safety pin or some other removable marker through a stitch near the beginning of the row, knit 10 more rounds and insert another marker, etc. until reaching reach the needed measurement. Do the heel flap and gusset the same way. When knitting the second sock just count the rounds and duplicate the work every ten rows.



LOCO Guild Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2006

President: Betsy Bruce called the October meeting of the Lorain County Spinners & Weavers Guild, at the Lorain County Metro Parks Carlisle Nature Center on NicklePlate Diagonal Road, to order at 7:30 pm with 33 members and guests present.

Program for October: Hair Pin Lace Scarf – Loom, Crotchet Hook & Yarn

November – Fashion Show – please complete info card for presentation

December – Christmas party and ornament exchange. This meeting will be at the Methodist Church in LaPorte at the corner of Route 10 and Grafton Road.

Treasurer: Dee Martin announced the Guild's balance and the Heifer Fund balance is \$322.50.

Samples: Beth Hines brought in samples of Buffalo.

Newsletter: Pat Geisler requested pictures for the newsletter. She also reminded everyone to be sure to let her know if you're not receiving the newsletter. Be sure your email address is correct.

Librarian: Mary Louise VanDyke has been busy cataloging the items in a data base.

Sunshine: Etta Rowe sent 5 Sunshine Cards in September.

Guild Equipment: Etta Rowe has compiled a book with pictures and notes of the Guild's equipment list. Loaner time limits will be 3 months with some exceptions. Julie Bragg will store the equipment.

Old Business

The weaving workshop will be October 20, 21, & 22, 2006 at FAVA.

See Etta Rowe if you need additional Raffle tickets.

New Business

Sara Twining is organizing the Fashion Show and has index cards for information on the show entries. Kay Griggs has suggested the show be put to poetry. So please, write a short poem to go with your entry.

There was discussion regarding selling shawls out-right. Decision TBD.

Welcome Visitors: Judy Baron, Angela Gauinn-Rosaelp, Heather Durdill, Lori Summerville

Show/Tell: There were 11 entries in the book for September:

Nancy Kuhar – tote bag, Audrey Kolb – rug, Mary Louise VanDyke – hairpin lace shawl, Heather Durdill – 1st spun yarn, Sara Twining – dye day roving, felted, woven into rug, Elizabeth Yasaki – tatting,

Etta Rowe – dyed orange & yellow scarf and knitted shawl for Heifer, Beth Hines – 4 baskets made at weaver's weekend in OK with Jewel Judy Wossilik – rug, Donna Wascovich – felted tote, Kathy Wilson – rug made from llama & alpaca fiber.

The next LOCO meeting will be November 14, 2006.

Kathy Wilson, secretary



Wanna teach?

Workshops of all kinds are being lined up already for next year's Great Lakes Sheep and Wool Festival in Wooster. It will be May 26-7 in 2007, according to organizer Linda Reichert.

She is interested in lining up workshops on dyeing, wet felting, needle felting, braided rug making, drop spindling, knitting a side-to-side sweater and maybe some other knitting.

If you are interested in teaching a course, drop her a note at Don47linda@valkyrie.net

In her latest note she says spinning instructor Pat Maley from Cincinnati will offer a 6-hour class for advanced beginners to intermediate knitters called Fancy Fluffy Feathery Fun. It will teach the basics of making novelty yarns that twist, loop, coil and curl.

Three Fancy Mohair Yarns will be a 3 hour-class. Tips and Tricks for Spinning will be 5 hours and will include tricks for wheel adjustment, fiber prep, drafting and size control.

If you want to learn something, let her know.



LOCO Officers

President: Betsy Bruce 440-775-8519

betsy.bruce@oberlin.edu

Vice Pres: Katie Farr, 419-652-3257,

katy006@earthlink.net

Treasurer: Dee Martin 440-282-3740

Deelmartin@aol.com

new2ewe@comcast.net

Secretary: Kathy Wilson 440-926-9955

topknot@starband.net

Workshops: Beth Hines 440-458-5049

Hinessheep@aol.com

Programs: Katie Farr

Library: Mary Louise VanDyke 440-775-3437

Mary Louise Vandykek@Oberlin.edu

Demos: Kay Griggs, 440-949-7908

Newsletter: Pat Geisler 440-748-2623

spin9r@aol.com

Samples: Beth Hines

Sunshine: Etta Rowe 440-774-3210

Erowe132@aol.com

Guild Equipment: Etta Rowe

Refreshments: Audrey Kolb.

Short history of needles

Can you imagine a world without needles, even in this computer age?

Needles have been around since the caveman era about 17,000 years ago. Needles made of bone, wood and even thorns have been found in old excavated sites.

The Chinese were using fine metal and steel needles more than 2,000 years ago. The craft of making needles gradually spread through the Moslem world and eventually reached Europe.

The Roman Empire made needles of silver and gold. Bronze was used throughout the Middle Ages in Europe. Beautiful embroideries are a part of the historical evidence that the needle was in use.

Needles were also important to the sailor who had to mend the sails, so he had to take good care of his precious needles.

Until the mid 19th century, all needles were made by hand. When the Romans entered Britain they introduced the needle and embroidery methods to the people of the British Isles. The best iron for making needles is found in hematite and that was located in the Forest of Dean.

Thus, English needle making began in central England and needles made there are still regarded as high quality items.

Needlemaking was also done in Cologne and Lubeck, Germany. Those cities dominated the market until 1563 when England passed an importation act that banned the import of a number of items, including needles. After this time English needles set the standard.

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Needles....from page 5



Until needles were mass-produced, they were a very valuable item to own. Ladies might have kept them in their jewelry boxes, or worn them in cases around their necks or in the seams and hems of their dresses. They may have had the same needles all their lives.

We often read how pioneer women chose to take their needles and sewing supplies as they settled the western U.S.—sometimes in place of other necessary items.

Malabar Farm Guild newsletter

Bloopers

. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

--Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

--The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Magazine renewals

Interweave Press is offering a special price until the end of the year for its magazines, such as Spin-Off, Handwoven, Piece Work, Interweave Knits and Beadwork.

The guild price of \$19.95 for 6 issues—a full year, new or renewed—you may obtain by calling 800-433-6451 or writing to Interweave Press, 201 E. Fourth St., Loveland, Colo., 80537-5655 and mentioning the code DGLD6 to get the special rate. For information on other promotional offers, enter guild contact information at www.interweave.com/go/guilds

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Spencer OH 44275

Ph: (440) 647-5179, Fax (440) 647-5362

Minus8@core.com

It takes a whole guild to make a weaver

Many of the more experienced weaving members of LOCO showed up to help the newbies at the weaving workshop held at FAVA in Oberlin last month.

While Betsy Bruce deserves huge appreciation for her efforts in spending an entire weekend teaching guild members, she wasn't alone. A lot of the work was shared by Karen Long, and, at various times, by Sara Twining, Mary Louise Van Dyke, Elizabeth Yasaki., Etta Row and Beth Hines.

It helped that those who knew a little bit more were helping those who knew practically nothing. A workshop like that brings out the sharing urge and it was gratefully accepted.

A bonus was the great soup Betsy brought. The fresh bread and excellent dishes contributed by everyone made lunch time special.

Many outstanding warps were made for the towels, though some chose other projects. We'll be able to share the accomplishment of those in the group at the fashion show on Tuesday.

Everyone may not have finished their projects but there should be a good representation of skill to be seen at the fashion show.

Bring your camera. And be sure to bring your own goodies to show off, too.

Pat Geisler

Sewing tip

When sewing a heavy button onto a knitted garment or when sewing any button on a very light-weight garment, sew the button on with a little piece of felt on the back of the button band to balance the button and prevent it from just pulling through the stitches.



Housekeeping Hints

1. It is time to clean out the refrigerator when something closes the door from the inside.
2. If it walks out of your refrigerator, let it go!
3. The best mini-vac for an after meal clean up is the dog.
4. Keep it clean enough for healthy, dirty enough for happy.
5. Never make fried chicken in the nude.
6. Do not engage in unarmed combat with a dust bunny big enough to choke the vacuum cleaner.
7. You make the beds, you do the dishes, and six months later you have to start all over again.
8. If guys were suppose to hang clothes up, door knobs would be bigger.
9. My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.
10. Thou shalt not weigh more than thy refrigerator.
11. Simplify... hire a maid.