



Lorain County Spinners & Weavers Guild Monthly Newsletter

We have a new look for the New Year!

January 2026 Newsletter



Shawl drawing winners for 2025

Next Meeting: January 13, 2026 (Carlisle Reservation)

January 13, 2026: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30-7 pm: Weaving focus group (Warping back to front-Betsy), 7 pm: Program- Presidential business review. This is everyone's chance to hear about the health of our organization and to give input to create a strong, healthy environment for our creativity to flourish. Show and tell.

Snack schedule for 2026:

We need you! Everyone loves snacks. Maryann will continue to make sure we have our snacking supplies like plates, napkins and such. We have a rotating snack assignment based on everyone's last name in the alphabet. Everyone will have a chance to bring in a shareable twice a year. Here is the schedule by month so you can put it on your calendar for 2026. Thank you for taking a turn!

Name Starts with:	First Month:	Second Month:
A-B-C	January	July
D-E-F-G	February	August
H-I-J-K-L-M	March	September
N-O-P-Q-R	April	October
S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z	June	November

May and December are our Potluck months.

Demonstrations for 2026: (Watch here for listings to come)

by [Betsy B.](#)

Calendar for 2026: All meetings start at 7 pm unless otherwise noted.

Carlisle Reservation (12882 Diagonal Rd., Lagrange, OH)

Wellington Reservation (535 Jones Rd., Wellington, OH)

January 13, 2026: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30-7pm Weaving focus group (Warping back to front-Betsy), 7pm Business meeting, Program: Presidential review and guild sharing. Show and tell.

February: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30-7 pm Weaving focus group (Warping front to back-Gina & Karen), 7 pm Business meeting, Program: To be determined*. Show and tell.

March: (Location-Carlisle Reservation)

April: (Location-Carlisle Reservation)

May: (Location-TBD)

June: (Location-TBD)

July: (Location-TBD)

August: (Location-TBD)

September: (Location-TBD)

October: (Location-TBD)

November: (Location-TBD)

December: (Location-TBD)

*The topics for our monthly meetings will be determined after the January 13,2026 meeting. The program committee plans to meet and set our course for 2026 after receiving membership feedback.

December 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

by [Carole D.](#) on December 9, 2025

6:30 Potluck - delicious

7:30pm - Business Meeting

- Jean C. Welcomed everyone
- No Guests
- Minutes of previous meeting with a correction that the Rhinebeck trip cost includes bus and room. With no more changes or corrections, a motion was made by Kathryn and seconded by Vicky to accept. Motion passed.
- Thank you to everyone in the guild, especially volunteers and officers, for making this guild the great one that it is. Our guild is no greater than the people in it.

• Officers:

President - Jean C.

Vice President - Sara T.

Treasurer & Membership - Missy M.

Secretary - Carole D.

Committee Reports:

- Vice President - Sara T. - No report
- Treasurer & Membership - Missy M. - No report
- Programs - Karen L. - December is the Shawl Drawing, Scholarship winners and presentations will take place in early 2026, January program will be looking for member ideas.
- Workshops - Barb E. - Spinning Flax into Linen workshop fliers are out tonight for a March 28, 2026 workshop, from 8:30 am- 4:30 pm, at United Church of Huntington.
October 16 & 17, Susan will return to teach Weaving with Your Hand Spun Linen (or Swedish Linen). More workshops will be discussed.
- Sunshine - Mary Ann K. - 4 December birthdays
- Equipment - Julie B. - Call for equipment to be picked up or brought to the January meeting.
- Refreshments - Mary Ann K. - Thank you to everyone who donated plates, silverware and food.
- Newsletter - Ann K. - No report
- Library - Barb E. - Bring in checked out items in January. Looking for book recommendations. Over 70 items were checked out in 2025.
- Historians - Ann H & Ben K. - No report

- Service Projects - Karen L. & Elizabeth Y. - No report
- Medina News - Jean C. - Dec. meeting is a Make & Take, Jan 3rd is a ROC Day with gifts, food and projects.
- Demos - Betsy B. - Looking for people to demo drop spindles and carding for "Old Days in Bethlehem" program on Dec. 17, from 6 - 8pm (show up at 5:30 with costumes?) at John Knox Presbyterian Church.

Old Business:

- A list of charities that we have donated to or considered donating our raffle monies to will be listed in the newsletter. We will vote on these and/or new suggestions in January.
- Chain Reaction project - Barb E. - 3 teams and 2 are ready, 1 is almost ready.

New Business:

- Carole D., Secretary has asked to step down and Nancy P., with Barb E. as backup when needed, will take over. Karen made a motion to accept, Missy seconded and the motion passed.
- Phone tree discussion not to update, people will be notified by email if a meeting is cancelled due to weather. Ann K. also brought up that people should use their own judgement as to attending a meeting. Be safe first.
- Ornament exchange - so many interesting items!
- Shawl Raffle - Raised \$369. Margaret and Dee won the two service project shawls and Kathy W. won the fair "fleece to shawl" shawl.

Show & Tell

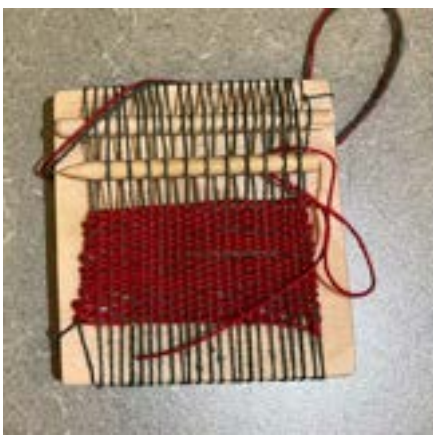
- Ben K. - towels and potholders
- Vicki B. - Cross stitch ornament, recycled sweatshirt
- Heidi C. - Sweater & Stocking
- Betsy - Kitty quilt with bunny stitching

List of Possible Charitable Organizations:

This is the list that we have of possible charitable organizations that the guild will vote on at the January meeting regarding guild monetary donations:

1. Second Harvest Food Bank of Lorain County: Regional non-profit committed to fighting hunger. Second Harvest helps feed tens of thousands of people throughout Crawford, Erie, Huron and Lorain Counties. For every \$1 donated they can provide 5 meals to those at risk for hunger.
2. Santa Elena Project of Accompaniment is a non-profit organization maintained entirely by volunteers. All donations made to SEPA are fully tax deductible. 91.7% of the money raised goes to Guatemala supporting two Mayan villages and funds go to: teacher salaries and education, scholarships, building a community kitchen and health clinic and much more. The women of Copal AA earn money for their children's schooling through weaving.
3. Livestock Conservancy: Mission is to protect America's endangered livestock and poultry breeds from extinction. Heritage breed conservation retains animals well suited for sustainable, grass-based systems, which gives some small farms a competitive edge. By securing genetic diversity they enable healthy agriculture development while preserving heritage, history and culture.
4. Adopt a Native American Elder: Serves to help reduce extreme poverty and hardships facing traditional Elders living on the Navajo Reservation. A trusted humanitarian organization focusing on food, medical supplies, firewood and other forms of Elder support. They also help keep the Navajo weavers supplied with yarn bundles to weave rugs.
5. Heifer International: Provides farming families, especially women, around the world with the tools and resources they need to thrive. Work with families in need to create long-term solutions to hunger and poverty. Some programs include: Send a Girl to School; Teach People How to Start a Business; Garden Seeds; Clean Water; Sheep for wool.
6. Lorain County Metropark (we do donate to Carlisle for the Raptor program listed on our budget)
7. Nome Schoolhouse, Nome, ND – Fiber Arts Retreat
8. The Good Knights (Lorain County) who build youth beds and provide bedding. Housed in Lorain County.

December 9, 2025 Picture Highlights:



Library News:

by Barb E.

Please think about how the library can enhance your fiber experiences. We will be looking for any ideas you may have during the January meeting.

Workshop Committee Updates:

by Barb E. on December 9, 2025

Coming on March 28th, 2026 Spinning With Flax with instructor Susan Conover.

October 16/17, 2026 Weaving With Your Spun Flax (or linen for non-spinners), with Susan Conover.

Susan Conover began spinning and weaving in 1980 and spent the next four plus decades studying under numerous international teachers. Her focus has always been on the historic aspects of the craft. Her expertise has included being Operations Manager at Vävstuga Weaving School in Shelburne Falls, MA for five years. She specializes in lectures and hands-on workshops for guilds and craft schools throughout North America.

The LOCO Guild is awesome!

A special note from [Shelly S.](#) on January 3, 2026

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all of the love and support that the guild and guild members have heaped on Precious and myself over the past year. She will be one year old on February 19! She has been cleared by her heart doctor and is up to date on all her shots. She has 2 teeth on the top and 2 on the bottom. If she goes in for a hug, watch out, she's likely to bite! She is exploring everything with her hands (the sign of a good fiber person). She loves feeling the furry rabbit in a book that Betsy B. gave her and if she likes a blanket she quickly grabs on with 2 hands. She is crawling so it won't be long before walking follows. I have 3 sheep in the shed right now and continue to work with the "help me grow program" in Lorain so that I get the support I need to be the best grandma I can be for Precious. Thank you to all you wonderful people!

LOCO Challenges 2026:

by [Barb E.](#)

Fiber Bingo: Hard copy available from Barb E.

There are 24 activities you can participate in during the year: Use two different kinds of fiber; dye some fiber; create something that makes you happy; Design a project using monochromatic colors; Design a holiday piece are some of the ideas on the card.

Choose as many squares as you want during the year. Any fiber craft is appropriate for the challenge. When you finish a project bring it in for show and tell or wait until April 2026 when you bring in your fiber bingo card.

OR

Chain Reaction: We have brought back the Chain Reaction Challenge. Chain reaction is when 4 or 5 members make a team. The first member of each team receives an inspiration item and makes something using that item. (weaving, spinning, baskets, crochet, knit, beading) Then that item gets passed to the next person and that person is inspired by the project received. And so on and so on. We have the teams set at this point. Each member has 3 months to complete the project. Notify Barb E. (benos@oberlin.net) if you have questions.

Rustbelt Fibershed Symposium:

by [Ann K.](#)

January 24, 2026 is the 3rd annual Rustbelt Fibershed Symposium, at the 78th Street studios in Cleveland. I went the first year and it was an interesting day that actually changed how I look at what I do in the fiber world.

“Experience a day filled with creativity, inspiration, and community with place-based textiles as the entry-point. You'll hear from experts within our community as they discuss collaboration, how we can work with plants, animals (and fungi!) to repair the past and bring about a better future worth making.

Along with our panel of **guest speakers** in the morning & our **One Year, One Outfit fashion show**, we'll also offer some **light lunch bites** this year and time for **dreaming things up & connecting (new this year!)**. Then we'll head upstairs to get **hands-on + shop** awesome fiber, clothes, accessories, and more from the producers and creators who resonate with our message.

There will also be a **clothing swap**-- so bring your duds! And a **seed swap**-- so bring your seeds! (you can also swap any dried dyestuffs, fiber tools, etc.!)

Whether you're a textile enthusiast, designer, farmer, gardener, culture

shifter, climate advocate, clothes wearer (we know you are!), or someone who sees the connections between all of our living systems, this event is a must-attend.

Just like the importance of the local farm-to-table movement, don't miss out on this inspiring opportunity to connect in the foundational work of bringing back a place-based, regional textile system in a responsible way...a way that boasts joy, connection, purpose, and makes our place in the Rust Belt Region one where we can thrive (yes, through our fiber & textiles)!"

Go to: <https://rustbeltfibershed.com/2026-symposium> to find out more and to register.

Medina Guild News: (<https://medinaspinweave.wordpress.com/>)

by **Nancy P.**

January 20, our meeting will be about BORO - a Japanese mending technique. Please bring your handmade scraps or leftovers of projects. Melissa will show how to make them into works of art. All Scraps have to be homemade, no commercially made scraps.

Officers & Appointed Positions 2025-2026:

President: Jean C

Vice President: Sara T

Treasurer: Missy M

Secretary: Nancy P. (Barb E. alternate)

Workshops: Sheri Z, Barb E, Jean C. Heidi C.

Programs: Ann K, Jean O, Karen L, Gina T, Sheri Z, Vicki B, Heidi C.

Library: Barb E & Jean O

Demonstrations: Betsy B.

Membership: Missy M

Sunshine: Maryann K.

Guild Equipment: Julie B

Refreshments: Vicki B supplies

Historian: Ann H, Ben K

Newsletter/Website: Ann K

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