



Lorain County Spinners & Weavers Guild Monthly Newsletter

February 2026 Newsletter



Weaving Focus Group: Back to Front Warping (Betsy Bruce)

Next Meeting: February 10, 2026 (Carlisle Reservation)

February 10, 2026: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30-7 pm LOCO lesson: Warping your Loom Front to Back with Gina T.; 7 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Program: Movie Night! Respect the Spindle (Abby Franquemont) "How spinning works and how to spin on a simple stick, How to spin a lot of excellent yarn in an amazingly short time..." and more!

Snack schedule for 2026:

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	May	November

June and December are our Potluck months this year

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

The schedule is subject to change so make sure you check this section month to month! Carlisle Reservation (12882 Diagonal Rd., Lagrange, OH) Wellington Reservation (535 Jones Rd., Wellington, OH)

March: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) No Loco Lesson; 7 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Program: Learn about Linen (before the March workshop) Gina T.

April: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 7:00 pm Dye Day, no loco lesson or business meeting.

May: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30 Loco Lesson: TBD; 7 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Program: Sewing with handwoven fabrics part 2 by Vilija D.

June: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) No Loco Lesson; 6:30 start time for POTLUCK! Business meeting, Show and Tell; Scholarship drawing and Scholarship Presentations from Ben K., Betsy B., Elizabeth Y. Special show and tell to share the Bingo Challenge.

July: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30 pm Loco Lesson: Possibly Knitting based; 7 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Program TBD

August: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) No Loco Lesson, Business meeting or show and tell; 7 pm Program: Basket Raffle

September: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) 5:30 Loco Lesson: Crocheting basics with Missy M; 7:00 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Fair Show and Tell & Our first Loco Fashion Show it/Wear it

October: (Location-Wellington Reservation) No Loco Lesson; 7:00 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Make it-take it Project with Gina T.

November: (Location-Carlisle Reservation) No Loco Lesson; 7:00 pm Business meeting, Show and Tell; Program TBD

December: (Location-Wellington Reservation) No Loco lesson; 6:30 start time for POTLUCK! Business meeting, Show and Tell, Shawl Drawing

Library News:

by Barb E.

The library suitcase will not be available in February. Bring any books or magazines in March. Thank you.

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.

We still have room in the March 28 th Spinning workshop. See Jean C., Heidi or Sheri for details.

We will be opening the workshop to other guilds on February 11 th .

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

by **Betsy B.**

February 14, 2026 Wild & Wooly Festival (Cuyahoga Fairgrounds, \$5 admission)

Late May Colonial ReEnactment Day (Lake Ridge Academy, N. Ridgeville)

Sat-Sun, May 23-24, 2026 Great Lakes Fiber Show (Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster)

June 9, 2026 Summer Reading Program Herrick Public Library (Wellington) Fiber Prep, Spindle Spinning

June 10, 2026 Summer Reading Program Herrick Public Library (Wellington) Wheel Spinning and Kool aid Dyeing

June 11, 2026 Summer Reading Program Herrick Public Library (Wellington) Small looms hands on project

August Medina County Fair

August Cuyahoga County Fair

August Lorain County Fair

September Lyme Village (Belleville)

September Oberlin Historical Society

September National Alpaca Day (Majestic Meadows, North Coast Alpacas)

September National Spinning and Weaving Week in front of Ben Franklin (Oberlin)

Additional demonstration opportunities are available through the Medina's guild website.

LOCO Challenges 2026:

by **Barb E.**

Fiber Bingo: Hard copy available from Barb E. Bingo challenge is due in April. Fill it out. You will be surprised as to how many squares you can cross off on the card. Bring the card to the April meeting. Bring some of your projects to share.

OR

Chain Reaction: Notify Barb E. (benos@oberlin.net) if you have questions. Next pass off will be at the March meeting.

January 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes Carlisle Nature Center

By Nancy P.

7:00p.m. Business Meeting

Meeting was open at 7:03p.m., by Vice President Sara T

Everyone was welcomed. There were 2 visitors, Carolyn and Molly, who are the livestock managers for Bullworth farms.

Minutes of the December 2025 meeting. With no corrections, the Motion was made for approval by Vicky B and seconded by Jean O. Motion was approved by all.

Reports

Congratulations to the winners of the shawl raffle, Dee, Margaret and Kathy.

The Raffle netted \$369.00. We will vote tonight to decide which charities to support this year.

Welcome to Nancy P as new secretary and tonight's meeting is our business meeting to chart for the 2026 year. Please take the time to walk around the tables and write your ideas on the sheets provided.

Treasurer and Membership-Missy M: We collected \$409.00 from the shawl raffle, combined with \$700.00 which totaled \$1109.00, It was decided to round up to \$1200.00. This amount will be divided amongst the four charities selected by vote. The motion to increase the amount was made by Karen L, seconded by Missy M. Membership year will start in May and finish in June.

Budget Vote-Missy M. Missy went over the posted budget for next year. Jean O made a motion to approve the proposed budget, seconded by Ben K. Membership approved.

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

Please list ideas on the program sheet, our committee will meet next week.

Workshops-Barb E, Sheri Z, Heidi C, Jean C. There are 5 signed up for the Flax Workshop with Susan Conover in March. Lunch is a brown bag, and observers are welcome. In October we will have a workshop on "What to do with the Linen" Cotton Warp and using the linen for the weft.

Sunshine and Refreshments-MaryAnn K. There were 4 birthday card sent out

Equipment-Julie B was not present at the meeting

Demonstrations-Betsy B. Wild & Woolly February 14, 11-4 There is a shared booth with the Medina Guild., Wellington Library, would like to have a Craft demonstration to kick off the summer reading program June 12, 13, & 14. Suggested crafts, spinning, carding, Kool-aid dyeing. Letter was sent to the Lorain Fair Board detailing what we demonstrate and thanking them for the monetary support they show the guild.

Newsletter-Ann K. Please write on the program committee sheet what you like or dislike, updates will be made to the site, along with changing the password for access to members personal information.

Library-Barb E, Jean O. Please write down titles you would like to see in our library.

Historian-Ann H, Ben K. Nothing new to report, All past newsletters have been scanned into the website.

Service Project-Karen L, Elizebeth Y. Please get all the yarn back to Karen or Elizabeth in February, we will be dyeing it in March. Write down on the program committee sheet your color choices.

Medina News-Nancy P. Next meeting is a presentation on Boro Stitching. Please join us at Wild & Woolly let me know if you are coming.

Old Business-

Barb E.-Chain Reaction is going well

Ann H.-Placemats, please follow guidelines for the size of placemats

Charities Proposed for our raffle money. A few members spoke up on various charities to clarify the organization. Ballots were handed out, please vote for 4 organizations. Choices are: Second Harvest Food Bank of Lorain County, SEPA - Santa Elana Project of Accompaniment, Lorain County Metroparks, Livestock Conservancy Nome Schoolhouse - Nome ND, Adopt A Native American Elder, Heifer International, The Good Knight. Winners will be announced at the February meeting

New Business-

Ann K-Rust Belt Symposium January 24, 2026, 8:30a.m. Cost \$60.00

Barb E- Shiny Dime is offering Tencel in bulk, sizes 5/2 or 8/2. Barb and Karen have the information. You must buy 5 pounds or split it with someone.

Show & Tell

Ann H- Inkle loom strap

Ben K-Spun Alpaca with new e-spinner

Kathy A- Book on Fiber Craft, Some items from 1820(s), crochet and had stitched garments.

Budget Vote-Missy Merrill

Program - Annual Business Meeting

Committee heads read through items listed on the sheets; They did ask for clarification on various items

Service Program - Colors chosen: Fall, Birds, Rainbow.

Name Tag Drawing Winner of the Tape Ruler - SARA T

Meeting Closed 8:30p.m.

From our membership: A review and a link!

by Elaine J.

This book is sometimes referred to as "Becker's Pattern and Loom" or simply "Becker" for those familiar with this publication. And, if you're serious about weaving, you need to check it out. For many years it was one of the most sought after weaving books around because the original printings were limited in number and the depth of content on topics from gauze weaves (e.g., leno) and taqueté/samitum to Beiderwand/lampas and double cloth, etc. is excellent. (Heads up . . . this is not a book for beginning weavers. In fact, this book takes a lot of chutzpah to absorb.) John Becker passed away in 1986 . . . not long after his book was released. Upon his death, his wife inherited the copyright to the book. The limited number of copies that were available became highly sought after and prices for used copies escalated. When she passed away in 2003 Donald P Wagner, Becker's collaborator, inherited the copyright and made it available in 2009 online as a download . . . FOR FREE!

He also found a publisher to reprint it (in case you would prefer a printed version). In the 2nd edition, published in 2014, he has edited the typesetting and adjusted illustrations so the content is in better placement to the text. The second edition print version of this book is 429 pages and available through Amazon. If you download this book and feel overwhelmed . . . at least at first . . . welcome to the club. "Pattern and Loom" is more of a marathon than a sprint to digest. Enjoy!

<http://donwagner.dk/Pattern-and-Loom.pdf>

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

by Nancy P.

Our January meeting was canceled due to bad weather. So for those of you that wanted to see the program on Boro Stitching (sorry I couldn't remember what it was called at the meeting) It is going to be presented at the February meeting.

Also I have reserved a booth for both Medina and LOCO to share at Wild & Woolly February 14 at the Cuyahoga/Brera Fairgrounds. I will be there at about 8:00 to set up. The show opens at 11:00 to 4:00. Let me know if you need a table, bring your own chair. You can drive up to the parking lot in front of the building to unload.

Please let me know if you are coming.

The Website Has been Updated:

by **Ann K.**

The website has been updated recently including the following:

- Functionality was checked across devices (tabletop, laptop, mobile devices)
- Plug ins, themes etc were all updated
- I did look into how easy it was to find our website using a variety of search terms across several different browsers. Lorain County Spinners and Weavers Guild was within the first 5 sites listed across all the browsers EXCEPT FOR BING & MICROSOFT EDGE. If you are using these browsers you may want to go to our website and set it as a “favorite” on your device versus using a search.
- The Member only access Password has been changed. The new password was sent out in a separate email. Please let Ann K. know if you have any difficulty signing into the members only section of the website.
- Each of the pages were reviewed and updated. (Calendar, Directory, Library, Equipment Library, Artist Pages)
- The “PHOTO PAGE” was removed since we are putting pictures within the newsletters, this page would have been redundant and would have taken time to keep up to date.

Rust Belt Fibershed Symposium January 24,2026:

by **Ann K.**

I had the pleasure of attending the RBF Symposium “Close to Home Collaborations: A Textile Future Worth Making” Imagine being in a room with around 300 like minded people that collaborated to create a room full of optimism, tenacity, inspiration, energy, excitement, education/learning, curiosity, sharing, focus, empowerment, connection to each other, connection to the earth, valuing, trying new things and learning from it, strength, heart, vision, harmony, and people be peopling. I learned that farmers raising sheep and shearers of sheep pay attention closely to the land and food that sheep eat to get the best fibers, that there are new ways of taking the cast offs of the sheeps wool being processed into fertilizer and weed mats, that there is a group of people in PA that are working to bring the processing of flax to scale and that there are people that are looking at using the growing of flax to take the heavy metals out of industrially polluted ground. I learned about how fungi are being used to grow furniture and building products for homes and made a strand of algae yarn.

We were all encouraged to think about the “what ifs” of working with fiber...what if we upcycled our clothing, what if we bought our fiber locally, what if we found ways to connect with other makers to work collaboratively. It was a wonderful way to spend a cold January Saturday and I walked away with a thread...a fiber of hope and a much lighter step.



Free U.S. shipping for orders of \$140 or more!

Kick Off Wild & Woolly Early!

Join us for the 2026 Wild & Woolly event at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds! The fun kicks off on Friday, February 13, from 6 to 8 PM with the Presale Shopping Event. Then, the festivities continue on Saturday, February 14, from 11 AM to 4 PM, featuring a full day of fiber-filled activities.

Friday Night Presale – February 13, 6–8 PM

\$20

Early access to shopping & vendors

Entry into drawings for up to \$100 in Friday shopping credit

Includes Saturday admission

Friday night tickets at the door: \$20 cash only (no raffles or Saturday admission).

Saturday Event – February 14, 11 AM–4 PM

Saturday-only tickets: \$5 cash at the door

Entry into the door prize raffle drawings

56 vendors, guild demos, and space for crafting & socializing

Get Your Presale Ticket

<https://rivercolors.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b10540bffa268e3673259bd93&id=a5259ac41b&e=41727c1070>

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

Please remember to shop at the Woolery thru the icon on our homepage,

<http://locoguild.com>

Thank You to Our Advertisers:

Firelands Association for the Visual Arts



Art Education for Everyone!

Firelands Association for the Visual Arts connects the community with art classes, exhibitions & community events!

See the full list of our current offerings at our website or follow the QR code below. www.favagallery.org

CLASSES, GALLERIES & EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



Visit our website to see all upcoming classes, events, and exhibitions.

39 S Main St, Oberlin, OH
(440) 774-7158

Tue - Sat: 11am - 5pm
Sun: 1 - 5pm



BARBARA DITTMER

OWNER

-  @BADKNITS
-  @BADCATFIBERARTS
-  BAD CAT FIBER ARTS
-  BADCATFIBERARTS@GMAIL.COM
-  PO BOX 13 NORWALK OH 44857
-  WWW.BADCATFIBERARTS.COM

Ed The Wheel Healer

*Maker of Great Wheels
Mender of All Things Spinning*

Ed Rowe

45485 Hughes Rd
Oberlin, OH 44074
Cell 216.269.5413
erowe132@aol.com



Pearl's Girls Knit & Stitch

**Specialty Fibers and Yarns
Needles, Notions, Classes
Vintage Aprons, Hankies, Jewelry
440-309-7304**