



Year 18 – Issue 10 – October 2008

www.malabarguild.com

President: Donna Ardito Gower
8830 SR 83
Holmesville, Ohio 44633-9727
330-279-2079

Editor: Marianne Privette
10 Cambridge Ct.
Lexington, Ohio 44904
419-884-3532
R46821@aol.com

Contact Person: Sally Rickel
1217 Michael Drive
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419-589-2321
srickel@netzero.com

Contact Person: Betsy Rush
1833 Middle Bellville Rd. Apt. 7
Mansfield, Ohio 44904
419-571-0197

Treasurer: Jack Heichel
58 North Walker Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419-589-3625
jheichel4@neo.rr.com

The President's Corner

Our September meeting was well attended. We surprised everyone with an impromptu program by Fae Evans and myself all about weaving.

(Our September speaker was too ill to attend.)

We showed several samples of very different techniques of weaving, from fabric to clothing to rugs. Everyone seemed to stay awake and enjoy the program. Our different styles allowed everyone to see the endless possibilities when creating woven goods.

Our October meeting will be our annual "Show and Tell" and I can't wait to see all of your fiber art goodies. So bring lots of wonderful samples with you to show. See you then!

Donna

October Meeting

The October meeting will be held on October 7th, 7:00 pm at the Visitor's Center. It will be our annual "Show and Tell". Everyone needs to either wear or bring something to share that you have made. It should be a wonderfully creative night.

Members who signed up to bring refreshments are: Lynn Reimer, Michelle Whisler, Wanda Flor, Brenda McCammon, Joann Williams, Bonnie Baker, Jerry & Susan Donovan, Sally Rickel, and Gloria Reichert.

October Birthdays

October 2nd – Kermit Richert

October 3rd – Betsy Rush

October 8th – Ron Rahall

October 16th – Betty White

October 20th – Don Yockey

October 21st – Jim Reed

October 23rd – Neal Springer

Happy Birthday!

October Calendar

October 4th - The Gathering – 10:00 – 4:00

October 7th – Guild Meeting – 7:00 pm

October 8th & 9th – School Days

October 11th – Pride of the Andes demo

October 13th – Board Meeting – 1:00 pm

October 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th – work area – 11:00 – 4:00

October 25th – Donna's auction (household & yarn shop items)

Malabar October Events

**Hayrides/Moonlight tours – tractor drawn hayrides through the farm – every Saturday in October – 12:00 – 8:00 pm, fee - Hayrides \$3.00 and house tours \$5.00

**October 4th – The Gathering – Spinning and weaving – 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

**October 11th – 10:00 am - Fall Color Walk – a walk through Ohio's colorful forests

**October 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 18th, 19th – Historical Dinner Theater – enjoy BBQ dinner, see and hear local legends of history come alive – 5:00 pm – cost \$30.00

**October 25th – Harvest Barn Dance – live music and caller, beginners welcome – 7:00 pm



Spinning Group

The spinning group will meet on October 12th at the work area from 1:30 until 4:00 pm.

Upcoming Events

**June 25th – 27th, 2009 – Midwest Weavers Conference, Grinnell, Iowa

Directory Additions & Changes

Barbara Estrin
2451 Woodbury Rd.
Bellville, Ohio 44813
419-886-1943
Interests: all fibers

Elizabeth Jensen
911 Greenfield Drive
Mansfield, Ohio 44904
419-756-2007
Ejensen970@aol.com

For Sale

**Malabar sheep roving is for sale from the work area for \$8.00 a bag (8 oz). Contact Donna if interested.

**Wool fleeces are available at the work area. See a board member on Mondays if interested.

**Alpaca fleeces are available for sale – contact Shelly Kavanaugh at 419-756-6224 if interested or check the fleeces available at the work area.

**Drop spindles are available at the work area for \$10.00

**Betsy Rush has Louis Bromfield books for sale and you can contact her at 419-571-0197 if interested.

Mishler Mill

All Historical Society buildings will be open from 1:30 until 4:00 on October 10th & 26th. Members are welcome to go to Mishler Mill on Wednesdays to help weave. You can call Fae Evans at 330-723-1895 to make arrangements to attend.



The Gathering

Join the spinners of Malabar Spinning and Weaving Guild for an "All Ohio Spin-in" on Saturday, October 4th at Malabar State Park from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. You are invited to our annual celebration of "spinners week" where spinners will meet and spin at the Big Barn across from the "Big House," a famous landmark where Bogie and Bacall were married. You can also enjoy a visit to the new park store and education center. Refreshments will be provided by the Guild, but please bring your own sack lunch.

Malabar Farm is easy to find. From north or south take I-71 to Mansfield Exit #169 (SR 13) and follow the signs to the farm. You can also take SR 95 south from Wooster (SR 30). The park is located off of SR 603 on Pleasant Valley Rd. in Lucas, Ohio. The event will be held "rain or shine". The big barn will keep us dry, but if cold, dress accordingly. Don't forget to bring your favorite spinning chair.

Overnight accommodations are available at the Hostel located on the Farm for a modest fee. For information or reservations call 419-892-2055.

There will be a vendor market between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. If you have questions or if you have an interest in being a vendor, contact Annie Rozell at 740-392-9242 or Donna A. Gower at 330-279-2079.

Thank Ewe

**Thank ewe to Jack Heichel for transforming our flower area around the work area to the fall season. It looks beautiful.

**Thank ewe to all members who helped tag our socks so that we can sell them at Heritage Days.

**Thank ewe to members who were able to help out with cleaning day at the work area to get ready for Heritage Days.

MALA-BAA Socks Are Here!!

The Guild will be selling socks made from the fleece from our own flock of sheep at Malabar. The socks cost \$16.00 a pair and are available at the work area. See any board member if you would like to purchase a pair. They will make wonderful Christmas gifts. The socks are a cream color and are available in men's sizes (9 – 13) and women's sizes (7 – 9). They are made in the U.S.A. This is one of our Guild's biggest projects, so we hope you will all help out and buy, buy, buy! Tell all your friends about them.

Mondays at the Work Area

**I hope everyone got to visit with Anne Presterl on this past Monday at the work area. Anne is a former member and was passing through on her way to Alabama. It was really great to see her.

**Of course the main topic of conversation with everyone was how long each of us was without power the previous week. It surely was a stressful time. We can only imagine how bad it was for the people who really lived down where the hurricane hit, probably at least 10 times worse than what we had if not more.

**The work area was overflowing with members. Several members busied themselves in the basement tagging the socks that had arrived.

Malabar Spinning & Weaving Guild Scholarship

Members need to be thinking about classes they might want to attend next year and if you would like to apply for a scholarship from the Guild. The deadline for next year's scholarship will be the end of February. Members who won this year will not be eligible to apply again for three years. You must submit a 100-word essay stating what class you would like to attend. More details will be coming next year but we wanted to give members plenty of time to consider classes.

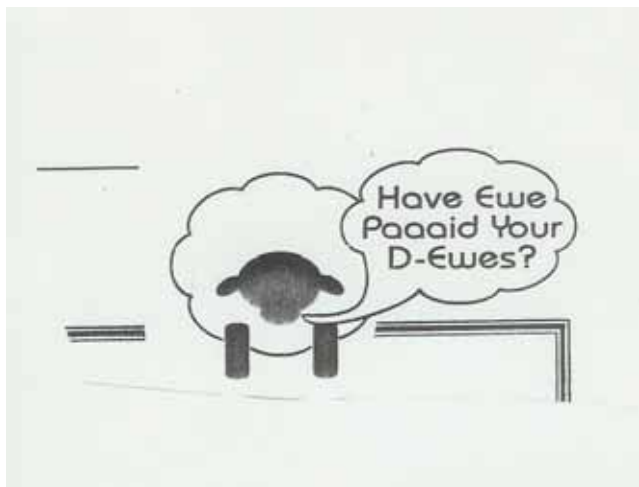
Care Quilts

This year our Care Quilts were given to Cranks Creek in Kentucky. This is the group we reported on in our April newsletter. The Guild has been collecting items to be given to the people down there. Brenda Gotter has been taking care of getting these items down there. There is great need down there and Betsy and I are sure that the quilts will be greatly appreciated. Thank you once again to our members who helped make the quilts this year.

Membership

It's that time again, hard to believe. Membership forms are in this newsletter and will be in the November and December newsletters for your convenience. The deadline for membership is December 31st and no member will be put in the directory if his or her membership form is not received before that. Membership is \$15.00 for a family and that is a real bargain. If you receive your newsletter by Internet you can download the membership form on the first page of the web site, which is www.malabarguild.com Membership forms **MUST be filled out completely.** Please do not write on the form "same as last year." I compile many lists from these membership forms and if I don't have the information I need I have to go back to a directory from last year. I do not keep the membership forms from last year. I know this

sounds harsh but please help make my job a little easier. Thanks.
Marianne



Malabar Campers

Last weekend Linda, Rachel, and Elaine Nowakowski, Lynn Reimer, Kay Smith, Betsy Rush, and Marianne Privette went camping at Charles Mill's Eagle Point campground. It was a really great weekend with great weather. There was a lot of knitting going on there. Linda and Kay both started on new projects and I can't wait to see them completed. Lynn tries to plan this weekend once a year and she does great work planning. There was lots of great food there too. The greatest sight was at night around the campfire looking at Lynn with her spotlight from her forehead so that she can knit and Kay had lighted knitting needles. We don't let the nighttime stop us from knitting! Oh, and the other cute thing was Lynn brought this ball (I don't know what it is called but you can ask her if you are interested in buying one) that you put liquids in and roll it down and down and down the hill and it will make slushies or ice cream. Lynn, Rachel, and Elaine had a great time making those treats!

A Contribution From Jean Zeigler

The first Blanket – Adapted from Navaho Folklore
The Navahos preserve in chants and legends the traditional story of their origin and the acquisition and development of the skills, which make them unique among the natives of the Southwest. A strange creature called the Spider

Woman, with both human and animal attributes, appears in many of these legends. The following is an adaptation of the many Navaho stories of the first blanket.

"Many, many winters ago there lived a lonely Kisani girl who wandered sadly among the hohrans of the Navahos. Fair was her face, and her spirit gentle, yet no man looked upon her with favor, nor wished her for his wife, and so she went about, earning her living as best she could grinding corn.

"One day she set out alone across the Great Prairie and no one noticed her going nor longed for her return. On the second morning she came upon a hole in the earth and there was the Spider Woman, who invited the girl down into her house where she was weaving something. Quietly the Kisani girl sat beside the old woman and watched her threading a long stick like a great needle in and out among some other threads, making what she called the "Black Design", and this was the very first kind of blanket.

"After she had finished the black design blanket, the Spider Woman went up to the top of the ground and pulled the sun low. Then she asked the girl to stay with her that night. Four days the Kisani girl remained with the Spider Woman and watched her as she wove four blankets, each one of a different design. On the fifth day the girl went back to the hohrans of the Navahos. She asked them to bring her yellow, black and white cotton and when they had done so, she set up a loom and began a blanket. The men and women who had never looked at the Kisani girl before, came and stood about her loom all that day, watching her skillful fingers ply the shuttle in and out, blending colors to make a picture of a bird on both sides of the blanket. For the first time in her life the Kisani girl smiled as she worked and her heart was light.

"The Navaho men and women watched her every day and then went off to weave beautiful blankets for themselves. One day the Kisani girl set forth again across the prairie, and this time the people talked among themselves eagerly of when she would return. When she came home once more, she taught them how to make carrying blankets and water jars. But one word of warning she spoke to her people: "Remember: our hearts are grateful to the Spider Woman and for this reason, we shall leave the center of every blanket a hole just as she does. Through this hole the evil spirits will escape; a weaver who does not leave the opening will bring ill fortune upon herself, and cobwebs will spin themselves in her head until she shall lose her mind.

And thereafter, the blankets of the Navahos were always made with a hole in the center, like the hole in the middle of the spider web.

An interest and appreciation for the skills of the Indian, as well as for his respect for nature and the principles of conservation can be an example and an inspiration. Weaving has many values as a hobby for families for here they find expression for the creative urge and the relaxation and stimulus of a leisure time hobby.