

SHEPHERD'S CROSS SHEEP TO SHAWL TEAM @ WOOLLY WEEKEND

*2020 Sheep to Shawl for Woolly Weekend at Shepherd's Cross
Curbside Drop Off & Pick Up
Community Fun at Home During 2020 COVID Challenge
Thursday, Friday, Saturday April 23, 24, 25*

Pick up & Drop Off Schedule - Curbside Pick up in Front of the Tour Barn. Your Name will be on the bag that you need to pick up. Please return in the same bag when dropping off.

Please coordinate with Dr. D. pick up & drop off – text 918.231.6947

Spinners Pick Up	Spinners Drop Off	Knit/Crochet Pick Up	Knit Crochet Drop	Finisher Pick up	Finisher Drop Off
Th 9:30 am	Th 4:30 pm	Th 5:00 pm	Sat 9:00 am		
Th 4:30 pm	Fri 8:30 am	Fri 10: 00 am	Sat 9:00 am		
Fri 8:30 am	Fri 2:00 pm	Fri 3:00 pm	Sat 12::00 pm		
				Sat 1:00 pm	Sat 4:30 pm

Thank you so much for taking the time and energy to make this experience a part of your life. I can assure you that you will learn a lot, have bountiful opportunities to teach folks with an interest in fiber arts, and build a unique memory and shawl, or shawls, that will mark a time in history and culture.

The Sheep to Shawl experience at Shepherd's Cross is unique, and may well be the only one of its kind in our nation. The cornerstone of meeting this objective is to encourage historical and nomadic cultural fiber arts. The objective of this event is education, the reenactment and encouragement of historical fiber arts and encouragement of participating artisans. In performing these tasks together, we tap into the history of the ages, passed down to each of us, through the generations, and then passed forward to future generations. We see the history of the generations woven in the finished tapestry of the artisans that participate. We will not personally see the future generations, but they will see us in the tapestry we leave them as an inheritance.

Our objective is completely different from any other sheep to shawl event that we are aware of. There are few sheep to shawl experiences in the world, and those that exist have a different focus than ours; that being quality and speed.

The work we do is a bit challenging because it involves some interesting factors:

1. We will be working together as a team, with team members you may never even meet.
 - a. This is a difficult but rewarding opportunity to build something together, that alone could not be accomplished.
 - b. We demonstrate the artfulness of each participant, and enable the memory of fiber artists from historical cultures to live on through to the future.
 - c. There will be around 30 team members this year
 - d. Team members are assigned to a particular area: spinning (warp, weft or for knit & crochet), weaving, felting, needle felting, washing, tumbling, skirting, carding, picking, dyeing, knitting and crocheting.
2. We encourage novice and experienced fiber artists to participate.
3. There is a strict time factor, in that the shawl must be made with the first shorn fleeces from Thursday

morning (approx. 9:00 am)

- a. Completely and totally (no pre-processed fiber is allowed)
 - b. All shawls are to be completed by 4:30 pm on Saturday April 25
4. We will be making at least 2 shawls this year.
 5. This project involves using greased fleece for spinning, weaving, felting, knitting and crocheting. In our culture, we tend to be less experienced in working with greased fleece. Many cultures around the world still work with greased fleeces today. We simply do not have enough time to wash all of the fleece, and then begin spinning and making the shawls.

Most sheep to shawl teams are small. Our team is growing in number. We want to spread the work load out, so that we can have a wonderful time teaching the public what we are doing, and a wonderful time working together. We anticipate approximately 30 Sheep to Shawl Team Members. Thanks for helping us recruit. It makes the work a joy. Joy is the overture for this event. We want to joyfully work, joyfully give, joyfully live and joyfully teach. Yes, even when we find a cocklebur in our yarn! And we don't know what to do with it! Even when the grease fleece leaves a stain on our own garments we will smile with joy and remember when we worked together for the greater good.

We want to joyfully impact as many lives as we can to promote and share historical and nomadic fiber arts. The nomadic and historical fiber arts section in the Farm Museum is growing. Be sure to visit this section while you are at the farm.

We will make two finished shawls this year, within the three days of Woolly Weekend

We do not use fiber that has been previously processed. We strictly adhere to using the fleece shorn during the course of the weekend event.

Shawl Descriptions & Time Frames

1. Wet Felted – Rolling Machine

- a. Picked & carded on Thursday afternoon
 - b. Rolled on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning
- Location: wet wool mill

2. Knit Block Shawl & Crochet Block Shawl

- a. Blocks of 12 inch square knit or crochet with each square made by a different artist
- c. Minimum of 6 blocks long
- d. If enough participants, then one crocheted shawl & one knit shawl
- e. Blocks must have square edges
- f. Any stitch may be used in the artists design of their square
- g. Recommend larger needles and hooks because of the larger yarn size (sport to bulky weight)
- h. Recommend plastic or metal needles and hooks due to lanolin in the grease fiber
- i. Made with greased fleece hand spun – begin Thursday morning
- j. Some washed and dyed hand spun will be available by Thursday afternoon for some of blocks
- k. Spun fiber made throughout the course of the 3 days

Completion & Pictures

When the shawls are complete, we will take a picture and post on facebook

Please text pictures of yourself working on the shawl to Dr. D. at 918.231.6947. We will post to our Shepherd's Cross Business FB Page or you may post your own pictures there under Visitor Posts.

Shepherd's Cross Onsite Assignments

Wool Skirting

- Fleece will be heavily skirted
- Take off the dirtier parts of each fleece (retain only the prime backline for the Sheep to Shawl event) and place in a labelled bag, in the wool washroom, in a box labelled Sheep to Shawl fleeces – Extra
- After heavily skirting & removing dirtier parts of the fleece
 - Tumble all of one fleece for washing.
 - **White Fleece** for spinning – to be washed & dyed and then given to spinners for spinning for the knit/crochet shawl. To be available by 2:00 on Thursday
 - **White fleece** for wet felting – to be washed & dyed by 4:30 on Thursday
 - Place each in a well labelled bag in the wool wash room until needed.

The team participants will be workers from Shepherd's Cross

Wool Washing

- All fleeces will be washed, except for a portion that will be spun in the grease
- Dry in the drying machine; lay thin on drying racks.
- The team participants will be workers from Shepherd's Cross

Wool Dying

- A major portion of the washed fleeces will be dyed immediately after washing.
- Two colors – (blue and red)
- The team participants will be workers from Shepherd's Cross

Pickers

- Picking begins as soon as some fleece has been washed and spun to dry.
- All Picked fleece will be carded
- All washed and dyed fleece will be picked when ready – Thursday afternoon at the latest
 - All washed and dyed fleece will finish being picked on Thursday
- Pickers and carders will be located downstairs in the dry wool mill
- As wool is picked **BE SURE TO LABEL THE BIN** with what it is
- The team participants will be workers from Shepherd's Cross

Carders

- All picked fleece will be carded
- Carding equipment will be in the dry wool mill downstairs
 - Use electric carder or hand carder
- Weigh picked fiber before carding; standard 2.5 oz per batt
- As wool is carded **BE SURE TO LABEL THE BIN** with what it is
- The team participants will be workers from Shepherd's Cross

Spinners

- Each spinner is asked to make at least one bobbin full of yarn. This can be readily accomplished in a single 5 hour shift.
- **Spinners – you will be asked to make the following yarn**
 - Knit or Crochet Thread – Objective: sport weight yarn – single ply or 2 ply

- 2 plied
- Spinning in the grease requires a different skill set. Be patient and enduring
- Please pick out debris as you go
- There will be a minimum of 7 spinners on the team

Knitters/Crocheters

- Blocks of 12 inch square knit or crochet with each square made by a different artist
- If enough participants, then one crocheted shawl & one knit shawl
- Blocks must have square edges
- Any stitch may be used in the artists design of their square
- Recommend larger needles and hooks because of the larger yarn size (sport to bulky weight)
- Recommend plastic or metal needles and hooks due to lanolin in the grease fiber
- Made with greased fleece hand spun – available on Friday morning
- Some washed and dyed hand spun will be available by Friday morning or early afternoon

Wet Felters

- Base for the wet felt shawl will be from white
- Shawl width is the width of a batt
- Shawl length – the length of two batts
- Thickness – the same as mulch mats
- The team participants will be workers from Shepherd’s Cross
- Batts will be ready to make this shawl on Friday afternoon
- Shawl complete on Friday Afternoon

Time Table for Completion of Shawls

Friday Morning complete Washing & Dyeing & Drying
Friday Early Afternoon – complete all spinning
Friday Afternoon and Saturday morning Complete Wet Felt Shawl
Saturday Afternoon Complete Knit/Crochet & Woven Shawl

Exodus 28 talks about those who worked with “skilled hands” to spin and weave fabric for the priests garments. Thank you for giving of your talent today. May your labor be blessed.

I am so looking forward to working with each and every one of you. Thank you for the privilege of spending time together in community during this difficult season in America’s history. We are privileged to pass down a heritage to future generations. Friends that do fiber arts together are woven together in the tapestry of life. Let us weave a beautiful tapestry for the flock.

Spinning for The Great Shepherd,
 Dr. Diane Dickinson
 Sheep to Shawl Coordinator & Team Leader,