

## SACRAMENTO WEAVERS AND SPINNERS January 2015 Program and Workshops

### January 27, 2015 Meeting Program

#### The History of a Fantasy Fiber

Leslie Samson will present her research into the history of one of the most luxurious fibers ever known, Angora Rabbit Fiber. Join one of the authors of *Completely Angora*, as we learn about the rabbit under wool and how a simple mutation developed over 700 years into a lap-size fiber dynamo. The characteristics of angora fiber will be discussed as well as humane harvesting methods, and preparation and spinning methods. Samples and handouts included.

### January Workshops

#### FELTED BUBBLE SCARF WORKSHOP

Weds. January 28, 2015, 9 am to  
4 pm

Shepard Art and Garden Center  
Contact: Erin Maclean, Program  
Chair [emaclean3@me.com](mailto:emaclean3@me.com)  
916-452-1001



This class offers a fascinating technique for distinctive textures in felt. Because we will work with a premium angora / wool pre-felt, much of the basic work will be done for you. You will be able to spend all of your time focusing on manipulating the surface of your piece into a jaw-dropping scarf. The skills that you learn in this class can be applied to hats, purses, garments and sculptures.

We will use both needle and wet felting to create the scarves.

**Level:** No previous experience necessary

**Class Max:** 15

**Students will bring:** Nada - Everything will be provided

**Cost:** \$95, all materials included

## FELTED SCRIBBLE LACE SCARF WORKSHOP

Thursday, January 29, 2015, 9 am to 4 pm

Shepard Art and Garden Center

Contact: Erin Maclean, Program Chair [emaclean3@me.com](mailto:emaclean3@me.com)

916-452-1001



In this class we will felt beautiful lacy felted scarves. The halo of the angora will fill in lacy spaces to create a cozy and sensational accent for winter dressing. There are tricks for the best results. Using a premium product - 50/50 angora / merino pencil roving, participants will learn the easy way to lay out and felt a stylish accessory with an expensive look.

Free-styling applications of nuno, 3-Dimensional techniques, finishing and embellishment techniques will be covered.

**Level:** No previous experience necessary

**Class Max:** 15

**Students will bring:** Nada - Everything will be provided.

**Cost:** \$95, all materials are included.

## ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

Leslie Samson, Ontario Canada

Leslie holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Her area of specialization was metalsmithing and jewelry. Although a profitable endeavor, she found it to be an unhealthy occupation. She searched for an alternative medium of expression. Leslie rushed headlong into the fibre world when she bought her first pair of angora rabbits in 1980. Soon Leslie's life was full of rabbits and spinning wheels. She is the co-author of *Completely Angora*, a reference book on angora rabbit husbandry and fibre use that has sold in over 45 countries. While researching different applications for this unique fibre, Leslie came across felt making. Felting offered her the freedom of expression that she enjoyed. By applying a jeweler's sense of detail to this natural fibre medium, she continually challenges herself to create innovations of feltwork.

For the last 25 years, Leslie has taught felting and angora rabbit care classes across North America. She has taught in Germany and Japan. Her work has also been shown in North America, Scotland and France. She has been featured on a news program in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia as well as *Town and Country* Ontario and CBC radio. She has written for *Spin-Off Magazine* as well as many others. A founding member of the International Association of German Angora Rabbit Breeders (IAGARB), Leslie has kept herself busy developing a North American angora yarn co-op and a performance testing system for registration by merit. She works within her association to collect data which is used to improve management of angoras on this continent. When Leslie is not living out of a suitcase, she enjoys a peaceful life on a small farm outside a tiny village outside Brantford, Ontario.