

Major Workshop

Silk Spinning With Celia Quinn

Immerse yourself in luxurious silk, as we spin many forms of the fiber from smooth and lustrous top, and the exotic blends with other fibers, to the extremely long caps and hankies, as well as the textured carded silks, and the shortest form, silk noil. Expand cocoons to make squares of silk called Mawata, traditionally used for batting in Japan. Dye silk caps and hankies for different color effects. Experience the wonder of reeling a sheer thread from cocoons. Lectures include fiber properties, sericulture, care of silk, and spider silk.

Celia has taught workshops extensively across the U.S. since 1983. She knits, weaves and crochets, with an emphasis on garments and household textiles. She has spun everything from rope to sub-sewing thread, and still holds Spin-Off Magazine's fine spinning record for cotton, at approximately 83,000 yards per pound. Her thoughts on spinning can be found in many back issues of Spin-Off. She calls Alaska home.

We will begin our exploration into silk spinning with Celia Quinn at Table Rock Llamas where we will jump into dyeing silk caps and hankies (spinning this day too). The next two days will find spinning us at the beautiful Penrose House nested at the base of Cheyenne Mountain.

The workshop is scheduled for March 30, 31, and April 1, 2010. The estimated cost for the workshop is \$175 plus \$30-materials fee. We are limited to 20 people in this workshop and a \$60 deposit will hold your spot. This workshop is now open to guilds outside of PPWG. If you know of anyone that would be interested, please let him or her know. Please contact Heidi Bates (babyweave@msn.com) or 719-392-4522.

November Dyeing Sample by Bev Weaver

I wound the warp in groups of 40 ends. I assumed that I would use the dyed yarn alternated with another yarn and that 40 ends would provide 4 inches of width for a rep weave rug with a sett of 20 e.p.i. (10 ends of dyed warp and 10 ends of commercial warp) I made 6 warp chains (240 ends) to allow for a rug of 24 inches in width and then made one more chain with only 8 ends to be used if a warp was broken.

The 12/6 cotton warp yarns were scoured with soda ash dissolved in hot water and then with Synthrapol and hot water to prepare them for dyeing. I calculated the amount of soda ash based on the weight of the warp (14 5/8 oz). For the Synthrapol, I just used a very small amount – maybe a teaspoon – in a large amount of hot water. The damp yarns were laid out on a shower curtain and painted with Procion MX dye using a sponge. I used multiple blue and green dyes. The yarns were batched overnight by folding up the shower curtain and placing in a plastic bag. The next day they were rinsed and dried.

When I decided that I wanted to weave rugs, I wound additional warp chains in a commercially dyed light green to alternate with the hand-dyed yarns.

