



# NEWS YOU CAN EWES

SCHACHT SPINDLE COMPANY | FALL 2009

THE CRICKET CLUB • THE BULKY PLYER FLYER • I MADE IT ON MY SCHACHT CONTEST

## SCHACHT NEWS

### Get Weaving with the Cricket Club



In the fall of 2008, we introduced a new rigid heddle loom called the Cricket Loom. As the smallest and most portable loom in the Schacht rigid heddle family, the Cricket quickly became a hit—not just with kids who'd been our initial target market, but with adults as well. The Cricket's compact size, ease of use, and cuteness factor all contribute to its popularity.

With a 10" weaving width we are often asked, "What can you weave on the Cricket besides scarves?" Enter *The Cricket Club*.

Last month, we formed The Cricket Club on Ravelry hosted by Melissa Ludden Hankens. Melissa writes and weaves Schacht's free monthly project posted on our website under Yearning to Weave. The Cricket Club can be found at <http://www.ravelry.com/groups/the-cricket-club>. All are welcome to join. The goal is to create a gathering place for Cricket Loom weavers to share their projects and ideas. Additionally, special projects are being designed by several Schacht Spindle Company employees including Jane Patrick to be released to Cricket Club members in the coming months.

### The Bulky Plyer Flyer Update

Yes, it's true. We have actually shipped the majority of the backlog of the maple Bulky Plyer Flyers we had on order. Now, we're ramping up for more—so if you've ordered from a dealer and haven't received yours yet, it should be along in a couple of weeks. The wait for Cherry Bulky Plyer Flyers will be a bit longer. Our hope is to have them in the mail to you after the first of the year.

#### What's the Bulky Plyer Flyer Anyway?

This handsome add-on is available for both our Matchless and Ladybug Spinning Wheels. It expands the plying and bulky yarn capabilities of your wheel. Features include a generously-sized 7/8" orifice, large capacity bobbin (about 8 ounces), sliding flyer hooks with incremental stops, and large round guide hooks. The Bulky Plyer Flyer comes with its own special front maiden, bulky flyer, and bulky bobbin. Pricing is below.



WS6505	Matchless Bulky Plyer Flyer Package	\$225.00
LB6602	Ladybug Bulky Plyer Flyer Package	\$225.00
WS6711	Bulky Bobbin	\$45.00
RPSW41	Matchless Bulky Front Maiden & Bearing	\$48.00
RPLB41	Ladybug Bulky Front Maiden & Bearing	\$48.00
WS6505C	Cherry Matchless Bulky Plyer Flyer	\$250.00
WS6711C	Cherry Bulky Bobbin	\$54.00

For those spinners with both a Matchless and a Ladybug, order the bulky package for one wheel and the bulky front maiden and bearing for the other wheel. The bulky flyer and bobbin can then be used on both wheels.

The bulky bobbins fit on the Ladybug Lazy Kate. On the Matchless Lazy Kate, you can use the two outside rods for bulky bobbins.

What are the spinning ratios of the Bulky Plyer Flyer? The ratios of your whorls and wheel do not change with the use of the Bulky Plyer Flyer.

## Schacht 40th Anniversary Bash

Despite the early snowfall, we had a wonderful turnout at our 40th party. We were glad we'd ordered a tent—and heaters—as we had quite a crowd that came to feast on roasted pig and fixin's. There were speeches—primarily good-humored roasts by long-time friend and founder of Interweave Press, Linda Ligon, Barry's brother Dan Schacht, and our own long-term



Barry Schacht with his 1970's hair

employee Glenn Hindley who created a special poem for the occasion. (Glenn grew up on the same street with Barry and has been working at Schacht for 38 years). The grand finale was the presentation of a giant 8 foot (that's right!) replica of Barry Schacht's very first spindle, reproduced by the woodworking brain trust at Schacht Spindle (primarily Cindy Lair and Filip Sokol). Thanks to everyone who came to help us celebrate—and for your continued support.

## I Made It On My Schacht Contest

If you can, do stop by to visit our fabulous show. It is exciting to see what people are weaving and spinning on their Schacht. We've announced the winners (see our

news and events section on the website). I'll be recording all of the entries and creating a web show of the exhibit. We've received great stories and photos—especially from kids—and plan to share them with you. The show's last day is December 1. It'll take a few weeks to sort it all out and get the slideshow published on the website.

## Retro Table Mats

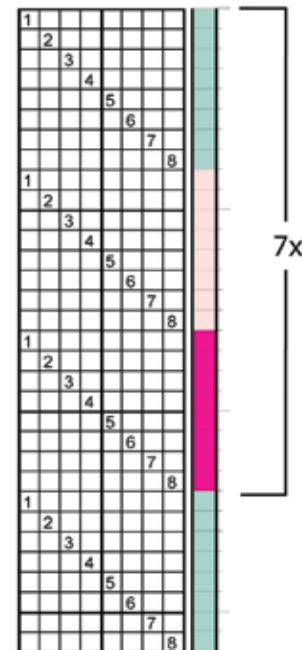
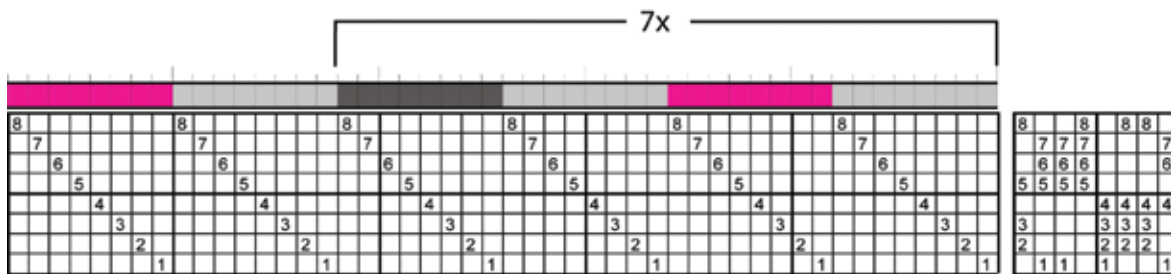
Designed and Woven by Angela Johnson



An eight-shaft table loom allows for a variety of complex weaves. On one threading you can try a variety of treadling without having to crawl under the loom and change the tie-ups. Table looms also create less loom waste.

For this project, I used five colors in the warp and weft. The traditional way of designing this weave structure is to use alternating light and dark colors every eight ends and picks to create solid blocks of color in a checkered formation. (See *A Weaver's Book of 8-Shaft Patterns*, edited by Carol Strickler, Interweave Press, Loveland, CO, 1991, page 21, draft #63.)

With this project I strived for a more modern look by using a mixture of bright and muted colors. To keep the fuchsia from overwhelming the project, I added more gray in the warp and wove with a light aqua and pink in addition to the fuchsia.



### ***Equipment***

- Schacht 20" weaving width, 8-shaft table loom
- 15 dent reed
- 1 to 3 boat shuttles
- Warping board or warping mill
- Tapestry needle

### ***Materials***

- Warp: 3/2 pearl cotton in charcoal, fuchsia and gray.
- Weft: 3/2 pearl cotton in fuchsia, cactus, and light pink.

### ***Warping***

- Warp Length: 2 yards (makes two 15" long mats)
- Warp Width: 16 inches
- Number of Ends: 120 gray, 64 fuchsia, 56 charcoal
- Warp ends per inch (e.p.i.): 15
- Weft picks per inch (p.p.i.): 14
- Wind the yarns in their respective color order (8 gray, 8 fuchsia, 8 gray, 8 charcoal) seven times. End with 8 ends gray followed by 8 ends fuchsia. There are a total of 30 stripes.

### ***Threading***

Thread in a straight draw in the color order indicated by the draft.

### ***Weaving***

You will begin and end each mat by hemstitching around 3 warp threads and over 3 weft threads. Before weaving each mat leave at least a 48" (three times the width) weft tail for hemstitching.

Weave a few picks of scrap yarn to spread the warp. Weave following the color order and treadling in the draft (8 picks cactus, 8 picks pink, 8 picks fuschia) 7 times. End with 8 picks cactus. Place a 4" spacer between each mat.

### ***Finishing***

Remove the mat from the loom. Cut the mats apart using sharp scissors or a self-healing mat and rotary cutter. Trim each fringe to 1/2". Hand or machine wash in the gentle cycle in lukewarm water using mild soap.

Finished width: 14 1/2"

Finished length: 12" with a 1/2" fringe



Angela Johnson designed and wove the Retro Table Mats, as well as preparing drafts and weaving samples for Jane's new book. Angela is a senior at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, majoring in Art with a concentration in fibers and pottery.

## **New Weaving Book Due Out Next Summer**

Jane Patrick is Schacht Spindle's Creative Director and editor of this newsletter. Her new book, *The Weaver's Idea Book*, will feature rigid heddle weaving using a variety of techniques. Pick-up patterns, finger-controlled weaves and two-heddle weaving including double weave are just some of the treats in store for anyone interested in rigid heddle weaving. *The Weaver's Idea Book* is due out in July 2010 from Interweave Press.

