

'I weave the traditional Navajo Way"

### Quarterly Newsletter of Ashtl'ó Weaving Guild

Volume 21, Number 1 February, 2004

# KATHLEEN'S KORNER



This morning it was still 30 degrees in Felton at 7:00 a.m., but right now the sun is shining brightly and it is warm, not freezing. I think Spring is peeking around the corner and I'm saying, "Don't be shy! Don't be shy!" I love this time of year when bulbs are stretching up out of the ground, and trees and bushes are sprouting their first buds. The flowering quince is in full bloom and the cats are spending more and more time sleeping on top of the rabbit hutch, which must be why the jays are no longer stealing rabbit food. The garden is coming alive yet there is still time to prune and weed and . . .

Wait a minute. This is a <u>weaving</u> newsletter. And as much as I am listening to the garden siren's song, I am also being called to my loom. There is a new warping just waiting for the first row of color to begin on a little 18" x 22" rug for CNCH 2004. I hope I am not the only Ashtl'o member who has started a weaving for the Unified Guild Display. If you warp up now, you have plenty to time to finish a small rug by the end of April. Does your memory need a bit of refreshing? We'll have more on that later.

This edition of our newsletter is full of correspondence from members who graciously responded to my plea for news. I can't tell you what a relief it is to know that I don't have to fill pages with my blather. It is soooooo much more interesting to read about someone else, to learn about what they are doing in their part of the world, to reflect on their thoughts about weaving and spinning, to laugh at their stories, and to know that the Ashtl'o newsletter reaches out to all our members across the many miles and differing terrain, and connects us every so often with news of our fiber related activities and dreams. A BIG THANK YOU to our contributing writers!

Please see KORNER continued -->

# FROM THE FOOTHILLS



by Marilyn Greaves

[This column appears in Ashtl'o Quarterly Newsletters with contributions from Marilyn, Mel Silva and other weavers in the Sacramento valley and nearby foothills -- Ed]

Hello Weavers: Well we hope you all had a wonderful, safe holiday season. We, here in the foothills, have had a good deal of wet, dreary weather.!!It hasn't dampened our weaving enthusiasm, however. We have been meeting approximately monthly just to!hang out!and encourage and keep our flock weaving.

In November, Anni Redding hosted a dying day at her home in Greenwood.!!Anni is our Native Dye Guru. She had pots of indigo, madder and walnut. They also experimented with some tomato vines. Anni has a wonderful outdoor "kitchen" and always produces some amazing and beautiful colors with her formulas. I recently purchased a 1930's "Crystal" rug at local "Native American Arts Auction." It is woven with vegetal colors and in beautiful condition except for one little corner!about 1-1/2" square that is missing. I gave Anni a snip of the varn (a!shade of taupe) and she matched it almost perfectly, using some very light walnut and other secret ingredients. I haven't completed the repair yet, but will do so soon, and I think when the yarns are interwoven, you will hardly be able to notice. Thanks Anni!

Please see FOOTHILLS continued --

# Coming Events

### KATHLEEN'S KORNER... continued

#### **CNCH 2004**

Ashtl'o will be part of the Unified Guild Display so please warp up and weave a 18"x22", 22"x36", or 44"x72" rug. These will hang vertically and back to back. Each should have a sleeve on the back with a \_" dowel inserted so that \_" extends beyond each edge of the cloth. By March 27th, please send a copy of the Exhibit Entry Form at the center of your registration booklet, noting the size of your piece, to Nancy Duncan, 177 Oak Shadow Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Entries are due at the exhibition hall by 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2004. Hannelore and I have the identifying tags that must be secured to each piece, so contact one of us when you are finished with your weaving.

Ashtl'o will have a booth at CNCH this year from April 30th - May 2nd. We will set up on Thursday, April 29th a.m. We need volunteers for set up, to demonstrate weaving, carding, and/or spinning during the conference, and to take-down our display on the afternoon of May 2nd. Please contact me at <a href="mailto:vernonst@pacbell.net">vernonst@pacbell.net</a> or Hannelore Cole at <a href="mailto:webemit@sbcglobal.net">webemit@sbcglobal.net</a> if you are able to help.

#### **ASHTL'O DUES**

At the meeting on February 8th it was decided that it is time to raise the Ashtl'o dues. Despite price hikes in postage, copy paper, and printing costs, Ashtl'o has never, to my recollection, raised its dues. Membership dues are now \$10 for members not wishing to join CNCH (Conference of Northern California Handweavers) and \$14 for Ashtl'o/CNCH members. Ashtl'o sends \$1 for every Ashtl'o only member and \$5 for every Ashtl'o/CNCH member to CNCH each year to help defray the costs associated with putting on the conference. CNCH members who belong to more than one guild need only pay CNCH dues through one quild.

When you receive this month's newsletter, check your address label. The date on the bottom of the label indicates when your dues should have been or should be paid. If you owe for both 2003 AND 2004, pay \$6 or \$10 for 2003 and \$10 or \$14 for 2004 depending on your CNCH status. Are you totally confused? Contact me if you need clarification. If you owe dues for as far back as

2002 your name has been removed from the membership roster and you need to contact me to be reinstated, which I will be happy to do.

And thank you for checking your mailing label and sending in your dues. I know how easy it is to overlook this itty bitty payment each year and sometimes all it takes is a little reminder. I appreciate the response to my last appeal.

May you weave in beauty, -- Kathleen

#### **ASHTL'O MEETINGS**

March 14<sup>th</sup> at Kitty Thoresen's home in Emerald Hills. We will be preparing for CNCH, specifically trying to figure out how to assemble the ladder framework built by Jim Brandon to display rugs.

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** at Kitty Thoresen's home in Emerald Hills. We will be finalizing the volunteer schedule for CNCH, collecting weavings for display, and doing anything else that needs to be done.

May 8<sup>th</sup>, SATURDAY: Special swap-and-sell meeting at Marilyn and Jim Brandon's home in Scotts Valley. Marilyn and Jim are downsizing and will "sell" various weaving/southwest items for a "donation" to Ashtl'o. All members are welcome to bring items for sale or trade, but must take home whatever is left by end of meeting.

June 13<sup>th</sup>: ... open at this time...

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** at Bruce and Pati Belknap's home in the Del Monte Forest of Pebble Beach.

**August 8<sup>th</sup>**: We usually skip August meeting in favor of attending the Monterey County Wool Auction on August 18th.

These Sunday meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. followed by a potluck lunch at noon or whenever we decide to eat. We generally end around 3:00.-.4:00 p.m.

Kitty Thoresen is our meeting coordinator and announcement sender so look for an email about a week before each meeting with directions to the host's house.

# Email from members

Ashtl'o welcomes the following new members: Dean Crook, Amy Kropitz, Kari Oulton, Debra Greer, Ruth Ann Craig, and Penny Thayer.

Dean Crook from Gilbertsville, KY writes:

I have had an interest and fascination in Navajo weaving since elementary school when we did a weaving project and study of American Indians. That was about 60 years ago!

Since retiring and a couple visits to Taos and Santa Fe, my interest has greatly expanded. Through reading and study I have developed a sincere admiration for the Navajo people and their culture.

I plan to weave a "Navajo" rug. I have watched the video and read enough books that I think I can do it. I saw that Carol Leigh has a Beginning Navajo Weaving workshop that is not far from where I live in Kentucky. I also discovered the Table Mesa Navajo Weaving Workshop with Sarah Natani --- that would be the ultimate experience.

Kari Oulton from Gunnison, CO writes:

Besides the Navajo weavings being beautiful and many having a daily living purpose, I find the meanings within the weavings themselves fascinating. I also like the fact that many weavers have a strong value for the land and animals that produce the fibers needed.

Penny Thayer from Kent, WA writes:

I have taken Sarah Natani's weaving class with "Couperville Arts." Visited Sarah at her farm with a photo class and bought a churro fleece from her. I constructed a "Navajo" loom using

processing them to use in my Navajo weaving in progress.

Over many years I have held a deep interest in Navajo's and their continuing history thru arts and crafts. I am interested in continuing to learn about historical native uses of fibers and weaving.

From: "craig watson" <spacelodge@earthlink.net>

Hi Kathleen and Bruce

Yes Kathleen, you are right, I'm dyeing huge amounts of Churro yarns now for weavers I'm working with and designing rugs with them. These weavers like to use special colors and wools, being great artists,! and I am making up some good rug designs! with them.

The collaboration in designing is absolutely wonderful. All these weavers give every weaving spontaneous creative touches once the weaving gets underway.

The blues are! indigo and the reds are dyed! with aniline, cochineal and madder, all! were mailed to Albert and Susie Jackson in Red Valley today. I gave them a whole lot of natural flavors of this 4-strand Churro when they visited up here a! few days ago to plan this rug.

They are weaving us a 5' wide x 4' high (approx) rug which will say on it: "NAVAJO RUGS", for shows, or to sell to someone sometime. We are using a 4-strand Churro sourced from Ingrid Painter's Puddleduck Farm in Oregon. It is a hefty Churro yarn, so it'll be good for big rugs. The weavers are! using a strong plied wool warp I gave them for this one.

[See photos of Craig's yarns and a Yei rug being woven for him on the Ashtl'o website -- Ed.]

#### **WEAVING WORKSHOPS**

Sarah Natani will be giving a class on Navajo Weaving in Ponca City, Oklahoma, June 7-11, 2004. All levels of experience are welcome, but some familiarity with Navajo weaving would be helpful.

The class will be \$250 with a \$30 materials fee. There will be a welcoming meal on Sunday evening. Lunch will be provided throughout the week.

Class space is limited to a total of 10 students--and is filling up fast. The class reservations are on a "first come, first served" basis. A confirmed reservation requires a deposit of \$125. You may withdraw from the class anytime up until the 15th of April with a full refund. However, after April 15th, the deposit is non-refundable.

Ponca City is conveniently located midway between the Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Wichita airports. It is about one hour's drive from each location through the beautiful rolling hills of the plains of eastern Oklahoma. Transportation from the airports can be arranged for a small additional charge.

An information packet will be sent upon receipt of deposit. If you need more information please do not hesitate to contact me at:

Gloria Galasso Tres Hermanas Wool Works 1608 Donald Ave Ponca City, OK 74604-1411 (580) 762-2532 or e-mail at treshermanas@cableone.net

### SARAH NATANI 2004 NAVAJO WEAVING SCHEDULE

May 3-7, 2004: Judy Ness; at Tablemesa or in Shiprock

May 10-14, 2004: Eugene, Oregon

May 17-28, 2004: Taos Institute of Arts, Taos, NM

June 7-11, 2004: Gloria Galasso

1608 Donald Ave. Ponca City, OK

Sept. 27-Oct.1, 2004: Tablemesa

Kathleen Burnham, 155 Oak Ave. Felton, CA

Nov. 15-19, 2004: Hillcreek Fiber Studio

Carol Leigh, 7001 Hillcreek Road, Columbia, MO

### FOOTHILLS ... continued

On January 27, I braved a downpour and drove to Nevada City where I had been asked to speak to the Foothills Fiber Guild about Navajo weaving. I shared experiences at Sarah's and passed on information about weaving with Sarah on the Reservation, as well as introducing the group to "Ashtl'o."

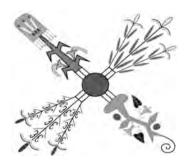
Don't forget our local guild's open house. The Sacramento Weavers and Spinners Guild!event will take place the weekend of March 13/14. We would love to see some of you come. It is held at the Shephard!Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. Saturday, 10 - 5; Sunday, 12 - 5. There are many weaving demonstrations of all types occurring, a shopping room with many beautiful, hand-made items!and a raffle including one of my small weavings. It is a lot of fun and we hope you will join us. Mel and I will have a demonstration booth there.

One our weavers, Sarah Egan, is undertaking a large rug, approximately 57" x !72".!!She has been weaving for!two or three!years.!!She is to be commended on such a large project. I have seen her progress and it is going to be a beautiful Two Grey Hills consisting of a lot of her own handspun, which she produced on the Navajo Spindle.!!My hat is off to her for that.!!I have asked Sarah to!share some words of wisdom on the subject. Her title says it all, "THE LOOM OF DOOM".

Keep on weaving! Hope to see you at our open house.

Ya ta hey, Marilyn Greaves

[Read Sarah Egan's story on the Ashtl'o website. -- Ed.]



# RE: Thoughts on Weaving the Navajo Way by Deb Greer

Weaving Weaving Weaving... I dream it. In my dreams, the warp sings like wheat ready for harvest. It is a siren song that draws me back to the loom to spend precious moments and hours when I "should" be doing something else. The song of the warp is filled with potential and magic, drawing my fingers and mind to unlock its promise. It is a pathway to things beyond this physical plane, to understanding the relationships of all things, to the Weaving that is Life.

I've wondered what people truly want when they seek out a cultural immersion workshop like Sarah Natani's, close to Shiprock, NM. My observation is that many of us are seeking a transformational experience, beyond the mechanics of the method. The trick to the transformation we seek is already here, within each of us. See, it's not REALLY the teacher or the location, or even the observable lifestyle. It's the heart and soul connection to a higher way of thinking/feeling/connecting that we yearn for. If attending a workshop in the heart of Navajo Land helps us access that part of ourselves, that is wonderful! But if we neglect that newly discovered Pathway once we've left the place, we will remain unsatisfied. I think the key is to remember where we've been and where we wish to go, and stick to the Path once we've returned to our "normal lives". This is a very hard thing to do, yet we will reward ourselves immeasurably if we try. The Warp and Weft of Existence is all around us and through us, connecting each being in something Higher and more Shining than the individual strands that make up the Fabric of Life.

On this plane- I have two projects on looms, and another ready to tie up on the back of the big loom so I can work at the front OR back of the big loom. Also, while the warping process is once more fresh in my menopausal brain, set up a permanent system to make the perfect length warp for that little loom and get something on it immediately. Then I'll have 4 weavings to play with and learn on!

I am still mystified that my vertical joints look beautiful on the back of the weaving, while they are fairly hideous on the front! I am beginning to think I understand why some weavers at Sarah's chose to go with diagonal designs for their workshop projects - diagonals are fairly easy to make pretty. (Their weavings were superb, by the way!) The joints kind of disappear. Verticals, at least for me, are much harder to perfect. So of course, that will continue be the emphasis on 3 of the 4 projects. I think the key to good vertical joints has to be balance within the weaver....and lots of practice!

The one on the back of the big loom will become a fuzzy blanket - actually a small fuzzy "sit-upon" (remember Girl Scouts?) to pad my bony old butt while I weave. Apparently the weaving goes pretty fast on the fuzzy blanket, so it will be a source of hope and comfort when it seems like everything else will still be on a loom with inches to go a year from now!

Sarah's daughter Tah Ni Baa told me that her Mom only let her weave stripes for years. She said that she thought it was boring at the time, and couldn't understand why she had to do the same old thing time after time. She also said that she is glad now that her Mom was so tough about the stripes, because it gave her a good understanding of the fabric. All that practice was evidently well taken, as Tah Ni Baa's current weavings are of a quality and artistry beyond my wildest aspirations! (as are those of her beautiful and talented Mom). I look forward to the next time I am privileged enough to tread the Path of the Navajo Weaving Way in the company of Sarah Natani and her family.

In the meantime.....

"Asht'lo"

-- Deb Greer

#### Learning to Spin The Navajo Way by Juliana Goehry

Being a new member of Ashtl'o, I was asked to introduce myself a little and talk about our situation over here.

Well, what can I tell you? It all started when I was several years old and I went with my grandmother into the two-storied attic. There was a thing standing which drew my attention. Asking my grandmother what that was she replied that it was a spinning wheel. I asked her if she could spin on it and she said no. I was very disappointed as I wanted to learn it. Years went by and I got interested in fibre-related things such as crocheting, knitting, tatting, bobbin lace etc. and tried to learn those things (but do not think that I am an expert in any of those) but still having in my mind that I wanted to learn how to spin and how to weave. There was no possibility to learn both until around the year 1997, I think. After a short weekend's workshop I was left alone with all my spinning problems. But I got to know "Spin Off" magazine which helped me guite a lot through those years. In the meanwhile I took weaving classes in Germany (and am still learning). Finding other people to share spinning experience is a nice thing so I started looking for other people who had spinning groups when it was the fashion years ago.

In the meanwhile there were other "Spin Off" readers who thought that it would be nice to get in touch with each other and to organize a Spin Off gathering with German handspinners. Well, last year we had our fourth spinning gathering in Germany. And in the meanwhile we are discussing creating a spinning association for German handspinners as the number of handspinners seems to be increasing and we want to promote handspinning. Another fact is that wool has lost worth and shearing sheep is more expensive than the sheep owner receives for his wool. The only worth sheep still have is their meat. Scientists try to produce sheep which loose their wool. We like to keep an old tradition alive which otherwise gets lost as people cannot live on handspinning nowadays; it is even difficult to live on hand-weaving today.

About a year ago I created together with another handspinner a monthly local spinning gathering. Actually, we are about seven persons and one guest and the number seems to be increasing. I joined (www.schwarzwaelder-spinnstube.de) which was anotheer spinning group created around the same time. That group does some spin-out work. On two days of the year they show the wool processing from shearing to spinning in the known Black Forest open air museum (where you can find old Black Forest houses/farms) at Gutach (www.vogtsbauernhof.org).

That is an interesting experience as people come from all over the world. Another reason why handspinners do spin is that they often have a job which stresses them and to relax from that they like to spin.

Well, what has this to do with Ashtl'o? As a handspinner and interested in other cultures as well, I bought a back issue of "Spin Off" magazine in which was an article on Navaio spindle spinning which I had not heard of before. I tried to figure out how that spindle does work and I did not understand it and thought what a pity that I cannot meet that lady as she is living so far away. But as we say here "One (a person) thinks, God leads." I was not too astounded when during a sheep exhibition where I wanted to meet a woman who had a booth with lots of wool from churro sheep (which I was interested in). Suddenly she told me that she wants to organize a Navajo weaving workshop and I was very astonished to read Sarah Natani's name as I remembered that she was the lady mentioned in the article. Still interested in this spinning technique I thought maybe that would be my only chance to get to know this technique and so went to the workshop which finally took place in Rome, Italy. Actually this was my first encounter with Native American people so I was very impressed as a lot was very different to our culture and also by Sarah Natani's knowledge and patience.

A final word about tradition: through industrialization a lot of our tradition got lost or is in danger of getting lost. We do not know exactly what will come in the future and I personally think that it is good to save or to revive those old traditions and not just rely on industry and their products. There are other people who think the same and this is one of the reasons I would like to have an association to make public old traditions like handspinning to a broader public who maybe still think that what we are doing is nonsense and not worthwhile though they ignore that it has a satisfactory and productive effect as you have something in your hands while with other works you do not see any results. The German word for "spinning" is synonymous to "being crazy" so people like to joke on that which worsens matters as there is no spin-out day without any such comment.

[Juliana Goehry is an Ashtl'o member who lives in Alsace, which has a large German population in France. She was kind enough to submit this article for our Newsletter. We're glad that Asht'o is a guild where we can all be "crazy" together! -- Ed]

## A Sheep Tale

by Claudia McBride

Dee Ann called one morning, so excited she was barely coherent.

"There's a woman in Colorado who is having to sell a bunch of her Navajo-Churros because she's moving back east and can't take them all. She's selling some really cheap and even giving some away! You need to email her and see what she has; I'm buying some. I need to use your trailer. Will you go with me?"

A flurry of phone calls, emails and faxes later, Dee Ann shows up at my place after she gets off work at midnight. At daylight, we're hooking her old turquoise van that's been about 600,000 miles to my old red stock trailer that has certainly covered it's share of miles. And we're off from eastern Oklahoma to buy sheep in Colorado in January. We have a fine day, rocketing along, stopping a yarn shop in Wichita, checking out a few other places. Even I-70 across Kansas, the most boring I've-died-and-this-is-hell stretch of road ever created isn't too bad. We laugh and talk and tell stories. But the day wears on. It starts to get dark. We are finding less to talk about. Dee Ann has insisted on driving all the way and is now exhausted as we near Colorado Springs. Finally we reach our destination, but it's much too late to load sheep, so we drive on to a motel, me poking and prodding Dee Ann to keep her awake.

Next morning, we're alive again and bouncing. We grab breakfast and head out to get our new sheep. A thought strikes me.

"I suppose they will have our sheep caught up and ready since they know we're coming."

Long silence.

"Oh, surely." says Dee Ann.

More silence.

"Surelv"

We don't find much more to say on the trip out to the sheep farm.

No, the sheep are not ready for loading. They aren't in the barn, or even a corral. They're all out in the big pasture and one look at the van and trailer sends them to the far end of the field. Dee Ann and I look at each other. It's going to be a long morning.

"Oh, they'll come right up for feed." says the daughter of the woman from whom we're to buy them. "But let's catch the ram first."

The ram in question is in a separate pasture. There's a small catch pen where theoretically he will come for grain and can easily be driven into the trailer. Yeah, right! An hour later we manage to chase him into the pen. Even the daughter is puffing and she's skinny and accustomed to the altitude. Dee Ann and I sound like steam kettles.

Dee Ann backs the trailer into position and I open the

door. "I'll just shoo him in." says the daughter, hopping over the fence. A moment later she hops right back out. I sigh and enter the pen. Diego, the ram, is the biggest damn Churro I've ever seen with a rack of horns a bighorn sheep would be proud of. He looks me in the eye and dares me to put him in the trailer.

"Oh, shit," I hear Dee Ann say softly.

Then the ram and I are locked in mortal combat. He's determined he's leaving the catch pen; I'm determined he's only leaving it if he goes into the trailer. Finally, I've got him on the run. He's headed for the trailer; at the last minute he makes a wild leap and is half over the fence, me clinging desperately. For a moment it's touch and go, then Dee Ann arrives and shoves him back over the fence. With a last desperate heave, I steer him into the trailer and slam the door.

I lie on the frozen ground and gasp for air. Dee Ann and the daughter, dance around me, discussing if CPR is needed. Finally, I heave myself to my feet. One down. Six to go.

"You need to shoo him to the front of the trailer and shut the partition so we can get the others in." Dee Ann comments helpfully.

Muttering I climb in the trailer to discuss riding arrangements with Diego.

Two hours later, we've all had brisk exercise, the ewes are loaded and paid for and Dee Ann and I are headed back to Oklahoma.

Perhaps it's the exhaustion, but the drive back isn't nearly as much fun.

I-70 has once again become the main road to hell. Now we just want to get home. Wichita has been moved east about 2000 miles but we at last find it. We stop here for food and gas and I make a wonderful discovery. The plug for the trailer lights has come loose and been dragged all the way across Kansas. It's totally destroyed. Night is coming on; we have to have lights on the trailer.

So there we are, in the parking lot of a truck stop. I'm lying on my back under the hitch, stripping wires with an eighteen inch hunting knife. It's getting darker and the only flashlight we have would make a glowworm sneer. My fingers are freezing and I'm afraid I'll cut myself with that pig-sticker and not even notice until I bleed to death. Finally the wires are spliced.

"Try that" I tell Dee Ann.

She switches on the lights and a fuse promptly blows. All the lights on the van and trailer go out.

"Oops." says I, "Guess I crossed the wires."

Please see A Sheep Tale continued -->

### A Sheep Tale ... continued

Since by now, I'm frozen to the pavement, Dee Ann finds a replacement, while a I redo the wiring. And we have lights! YeeHaa! Off we go again. Last leg.

About 80 miles from home Dee Ann confesses she has a bit of a sleep disorder--not quite narcolepsy but......zzzzz! So now it's after midnight; I've wrestled sheep, endured I-70, done emergency repairs and now I'm driving a strange van pulling a load of sheep and the van doesn't like me one little bit. It's a wrestling match all the rest of the way.

At 3 a.m. I pull thru the gate in front of our barn and back the trailer up to the barn. My partner comes down sleepily from her apartment.

"Are we unloading tonight." she yawns. "Not on your life." I reply.

POSTSCRIPT: One year later: Dee Ann just called. She says there's a great sale down in central Oklahoma we really should go to. No telling what we might find!

[Both Claudia and Dee Ann live in Oklahoma and attended Sarah's workshop in 2002 and 2003 --Ed]

#### LATEST EMAIL FROM LEO NATANI

Ah' ha' he, for keeping in touch. All is fine here at the ranch and the family are all fine and in good health.

Sarah is planing to go on a trip down to South American with the "Sheep is Life" group sometimes in June. Tah Ni Bah can not go as she has the Little baby now but she has plenty to do. She is getting ready for Heard Musuem in Phx in the near future. Her little one is teething now and wants to bite everything in sight. We want her to be a weaver so her name is "Winter Rose", the Weaver. Sarah is also baby sitting our grandson Eliyah, Sharon's 3 years old boy. He's picking up the Navajo Langauge at his early age. Once he learns that I can start teaching him the Dine Values. The rest of our grand children are picking up their second language but it's hard for them.

We still need some rain but we're praying it will come when it's ready. Bye, Leo.

# SPECIAL MESSAGE TO ALL ASHTL'O GUILD MEMBERS

This is your "**Printed Edition**" of our February, 2004, Ashtl'o Newsletter.

Paid-up-to-date Ashtl'o Guild members who receive this printed copy of the Newsletter are invited to see the "Supplemental Pages" posted on our Ashtl'o Guild Web site at:

www.coastalwebweaver.com/ashtlo/ newsletters.html

The password for this month is "warmerdays" (lower case, no space)

When on-line, follow instructions on the ".../newsletters.html" page. In the address line of your browser very carefully replace the word "newsletters" with the "password". Your new browser address line will look like this: http://www.coastalwebweaver.com/ashtlo/warmerdays.html

We would especially like you to share color photographs of your weaving on our Web site. Send us your digital photos by e-mail or duplicates by surface mail. Thank you!

The Ashtl'ó Guild Newsletters are usually printed quarterly with supplemental pages online. President: Hannelore Cole, (650) 967-0831 <webemit@sbcglobal.net> Membership Dues are \$14.00 annually for CNCH participants, \$10.00 for non-local members. (Membership expiration date is on your mailing label.) Please make checks payable to Kathleen Burnham, Treasurer, 155 Oak Ave. Felton, CA Conference & Program Coordinator: Diana Corbin (415) 643-6813. Managing Editor: Kathleen Burnham. Publisher: Bruce Belknap, (831)373-5717, <Bruce@CoastalWebWeaver.com>. Visit our Ashtl'o Website for weaving resources, links, members' color photo gallery and additionally interesting supplemental pages: www.coastalwebweaver.com/ashtlo .html. Ashtl'ó Guild is a member of the Handweavers Guild of America participates in the Conference of Northern California Handweavers.