

Maine Spinners' Registry Sheep-to-Shawl Competition at the Maine Fiber Frolic 2009

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Maine Spinners' Registry, we will be sponsoring a Sheep-to-Shawl Competition at the Maine Fiber Frolic in Windsor, Maine on June 6, 2009. The shawls will be raffled off on Sunday, June 7th with the proceeds going to sponsor a walker in the Susan G. Komen 3-Day Walk for the Cure on July 24-26, 2009.

The competition will be limited to 5 teams. Registration will be accepted beginning April 1, 2009. Please send team name, members' names (indicate the captain or responsible person), address, contact phone number, email (if available) to: Kathy Chase, Maine Spinner's Registry, 67 Pleasant St, Oakland, ME 04963.

Process: Woven wool shawl.

Size: At least 1440 square inches. (This is equal to approximately 20" x72", minus any fringe.) It can be larger. Warp is to be spun by members of the team or its group beforehand.

Fiber: Teams will supply their own fleece. Fleece can be washed and dyed before the competition. No other fiber preparation should be done beforehand.

Yarns: For the sake of demonstration, yarns are to be plied. This also aids in the look and feel of a "fresh" shawl (one that has not yet been washed).

Team: Five members: one weaver, four spinners. All team members can help with fiber preparation and tying fringe at any time.

Equipment: Loom may be pre-warped. You may use only four harnesses or less. Spinning wheels, related equipment, drum carders may be used for carding the weft yarns (only one drum carder allowed per team). Teams may also use hand cards or wool combs, if desired.

Time: Teams will set up between 8:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M. Cars must be off the fairgrounds by 8:30. The competition will start at 10:00 A.M. Saturday, June 6, 2009. First team done wins! There will be prizes for first and second places.