

**Welcome to the latest edition of the AVL Looms e-Shuttle!
Volume 9 #1**

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1. Introduction to Production

It’s back! AVL’s most famous sale has made a re-appearance and the savings are better than ever. Free Sectional Beams. Free Automatic Cloth Advances. Reduced software prices and more! Check it out all the details at: <http://www.avlusa.com/index/new/sale/>.

2. Product Announcement by Bob Kruger

With this edition of the eShuttle, AVL has *three* great announcements. We’ve spent the recent months field-testing improvements for our 40 harness looms. Our initial forty-harness design was very good, but we saw that having so many shafts increased the chance for fouling: if a stick warped slightly, if the harnesses moved forward when the cloth advanced, the likelihood that shafts might tangle increased – the clearances were that close. Based on input from weavers who reported this problem, we set about improving the design. We built a number of prototypes and asked the same customers to field-test them for us. The results were impressive, and conclusive: no more hanging harnesses. *Voila* – the inevitable next and better version! For those who have been waiting to buy a 40 harness A-Series, there’s no better time. Call us today at 800-626-9615 ext. 233 or 230, or contact us via [email](#).

Announcement number two ... AVL is happy to announce improvements to the Compu-Dobby® III. Some customers with earlier generation Compu-Dobby IIIs have had difficulty finding or maintaining the correct adjustment. The tolerances in this system are very close and misalignments inevitably result in missed picks. Now there’s a simple and inexpensive after-market fix: the Compu-Dobby III *Calibrator*. It’s easy to install and guaranteed to correct the problem. If you have consistent pick problems with your CDIII,

we encourage you to call 530-893-4915 ext. 237 and speak to Sue Luna in Customer Service, who will help you determine if this aide is the appropriate remedy for you.

Lastly, AVL has brought an old, but good concept back to life – The Compu-Dobby Loaner and Rental Program. When your Compu-Dobby needs to come-in for repair or regular maintenance, we can very likely provide you a loaner so you can stay in production until your unit is repaired and returned. This is just another way in which AVL strives to provide service that is a cut above. If you would like to take advantage of the Compu-Dobby loaner or rental program, please contact AVL Customer Service or Sales Representative at 800-626-9615 ext. 233 or 230, or contact us via [email](#).

3. Discover the NEW AVL Web Site

If you haven't visited it yet, then by all means take a quick trip over to the AVL Web Site (www.avlusa.com). It has a new look and new format that make it easier to navigate than ever before, but that's not all. There are new areas for you to discover.

Click on over to the FAQs, <http://www.avlusa.com/index/resources/support/faq/>, where some of your most vexing problems just might be answered. Or check out the new section on AVL Technology, <http://www.avlusa.com/index/resources/support/tips/>, where you just might learn something new about your AVL loom. Don't miss our expanded education section, <http://www.avlusa.com/index/workshop/>, where there are new classes and ideas for you to consider. And for something truly innovative, we've developed an on-line forum for AVL users only, <http://www.avlusa.com/index/resources/forum/>, get registered and get connected!

4. Newsletter Specials – Some Things Old, Some Things New

The response to our used equipment offers has been nothing short of tremendous, so we'll carry on until the cupboards are bare. Besides, rummaging through our old parts vault is always an adventure – though sometimes I feel like Indiana Jones in the Temple of Loom – the spiders, the cobwebs, the ancient dust, and ominous sense that something might flatten me. But the exercise has its rewards and I often turn up a treasure or two. This time it's REEDS: not the kind Egyptians used in boat-making, the kind weavers use in warping. We have tons of old reeds, a pharaoh's fortune in reeds; many, many more than we'll ever use in the AVL studio: stainless steel and carbon steel reeds, all pitch-bound and sized to weave on 48", 60", and 72" looms. They aren't always pretty, but each has been inspected, given a light dusting, and is certain to provide years of reliable service. Here's a great opportunity for you to pick-up an essential studio tool for the price of a few sheaves of wheat.



**REEDS SOLD BY THE INCH: \$.75/in. for carbon steel
and \$1.00/in. for stainless steel.**

Call for sizes and availability:

Best call today – the reed you need may be gone tomorrow!

But there's more! When I was loading-out reeds, I chanced upon (okay, tripped over) a barrel chock-full of PIRNS! They too are used, but they're still very usable. (As you'll recall, our pins are manufactured in Germany from a material called Duraplast-Super, which has approximately the half-life of old tires or plutonium.) Can you have too many pins? Better grab-and-go; these will sell out fast.



USED PIRNS: \$9.50/set of 6

And one final offering from the Temple: SHUTTLES, specifically thin-yarn shuttles. We bought a slug of these years ago and at some point put them in a place where the sun don't shine, then of course, forgot about them. I say, "Bring them to the altar of commerce; let them be sold!" The best part of this deal is they're BRAND SPANKING NEW, as in *never used*. If you weave with thinner yarns, you'll want to take advantage of this deal – it's so good they'll be tut-tut-tutting all the way back in Cairo. Makes a great gift item.



THIN-YARN FLYSHUTTLES (NEW): \$114.00.
15-1/4", top-loading, made from persimmon wood and fitted
with steel tips both ends.

The Usual Terms Apply, of course: All sales final, items subject to stock-on-hand, ready for immediate shipment.

Hope you find a gem! I'll keep digging . . .

Ken

5. Weaving Around the World

One of AVL's great old friends is Carol Cassidy, who is surely one of the most courageous and dedicated weavers the world has ever seen. 2006 marks the twentieth anniversary of Carol's first visit to Chico. Today, her work as a UN Textile Expert, after taking her throughout the Middle East and Southern Africa has landed in Laos, where she is one of the only westerners with a business in the capitol city of Vientiane.



Now a private entrepreneur, her Lao Textiles, <http://www.laotextiles.com/>, is so much more than "just" a business. It has become a way of life for many of the over 50 women who weave for Lao Textiles and the dozens of others involved in other aspects of the trade. Plus there are hundreds of farmers engaged in sericulture throughout the country.

And, lest we forget, the resulting textiles, all silk, are exquisite. They are displayed and sold all over the world and are available through the Lao Textiles Web Site.

6. Weaving Tips

Here’s a note from the Course Work in the one of the AVL Workshops.

If you are going to be using a Flyshuttle, are planning a narrow warp, then you need to offset the warp at least four inches or so to the right instead of centering it to ensure even selvages.

“Narrow” warp is considered anything narrower than half of the working width of your loom. For example, if you have a 40” loom, for a warp 20” or narrower, you need to offset your warp. (Remember, “the right” means the right side of the loom as you are seeing it from the weaving position at the loom bench.).

Please note the above assumes a 12” end-feed shuttle and that the yarn will be coming out the front of the shuttle. If you prefer to have the yarn come out facing the reed, then the directions should be reversed.

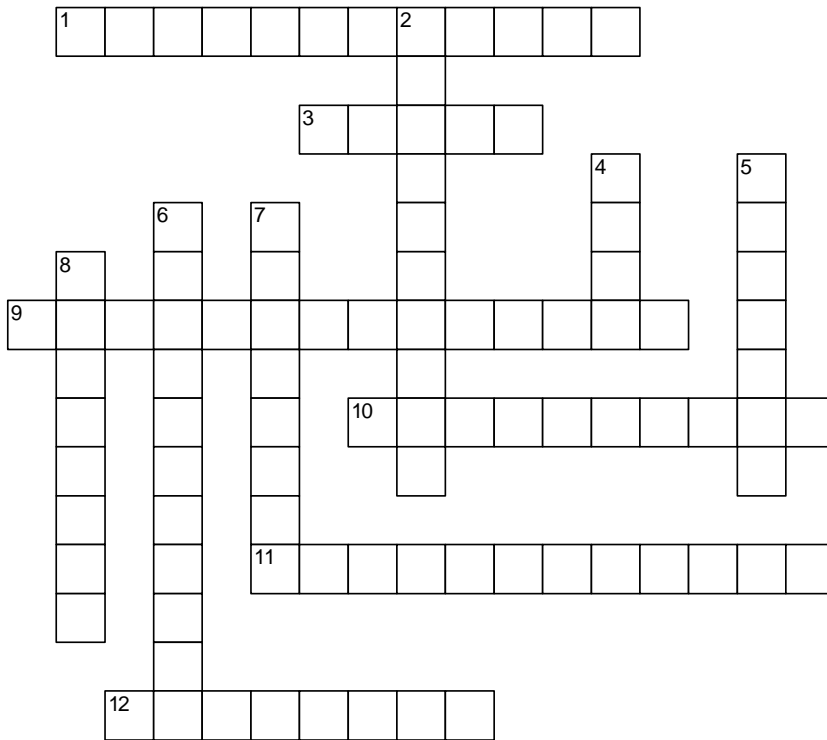
Also, a longer shuttle might necessitate a slighter greater offset.

7. AVL Calendar

Hurry and sign up for your class! March has a few openings. From the fertile mind of the great Jannie Taylor comes a new three-day course – Basically *WeavePoint*. This class is all about maximizing your skills in designing in *WeavePoint*. Give us a call at 800-626-9615 ext. 233 to reserve your spot!

<u>AVL Calendar</u>	Mar.	Apr.	May.
Basically AVL course at AVL	20 th - 21 st		15 th - 16 th
Basically Structure course at AVL	22 nd - 24 th		
NEW! Basically <i>WeavePoint</i> course at AVL			17 th - 19 th
Holidays - AVL will be closed			29 th (Memorial Day)

8. Weaver’s Cross by Ken Devol



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

Across

- 1 A trademark of Cotton Inc.
- 3 Brightly striped cotton cloth made in W. Africa
- 9 Nun's Cotton
- 10 Raw cotton
- 11 A quilted cotton muslin
- 12 Cotton fabric used to make bedding

Down

- 2 Cotton with a strong natural twist, excellent for yarn making
- 4 Type of Egyptian cotton grown in U.S.
- 5 Span for cotton
- 6 Thick japanned cotton cloth
- 7 STAR Short staple cotton common to Texas
- 8 Cotton grade on which market quotes based

Look for the answers in the next e-Shuttle. Or if you really can't wait, contact [Ken](#). Here is the solution to last eShuttle's Weaver's Cross.

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