
BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNERS GUILD
Ithaca, New York

NEWSLETTER #26 -- JUNE, 1979
Edited by Jean Warholic

As this newsletter gets written, the breezes are decidedly cool and one wonders at times with the crazy weather for the past week or so whether it is summer or fall! It is hard to believe that June is nearly over -- if seems as though it just arrived! Hope you are making good progress on your skeins for the State and County Fairs, as well as for the Hinckley exhibit, along with all your other activities...

WE HAD A GOOD TIME spinning cotton with Meridith Wood at the June Monday meeting, and it was fun to try the different kinds of cotton (thanks to all who brought them!) and see the cotton-related items that appeared, including the red cotton plant. I gather that the Saturday Group had a good meeting, too, with some extra special show-and-tells (one of the highlights of any meeting!). We hope that all who could not get to the meetings this past month will somehow do so in July -- they are fun and certainly never dull! We will try to have name tags at the meetings, but please don't be shy about asking or speaking up! (And, thank you, Meridith, for your program!!)

WE ARE HAVING TROUBLE keeping up with Guild members as they come and go in summertime. Please, if you will be gone or are moving for an extended time, let Jean Warholic know whether to change your address or hold your newsletters! Most of our newsletters are mailed Third Class, due to their weight, and that is not forwardable mail... A call or postal card would be appreciated and save us some postage!

Let's sail through the forthcoming meetings first, then important events/announcements...

JULY 7 MEETING. The July 9 meeting has been moved back to July 7 (Sat.) for our (annual?) LAMB BARBEQUE. Joan Koster will also give her SPINNING IN GREECE program, with slides! This should be a terrific day -- bring the family, your own table service, and a dish-to-pass (and something to drink?). We are hoping to see some of the Saturday Group at this, too -- the main reason for moving it back to Saturday! It will be held at Suzie Hokanson's home, near Marathon (directions follow). Chef Suzie Hokanson will preside over the barbeque, with the lamb coming from Libby Martin Llop. Other helping hands will be appreciated... Bring your drop spindle if you think you'll want to spin, and bring a chair (or chairs) for sitting...

Directions to Hokansons': From Ithaca and Dryden, go to Dryden on Rt. 13 and south on Rt. 38 to Harford. Left on Rt. 221. Go about 6-miles, turn left on Clarks Corners Road. If you get to Hunts Corners (community), you've missed it and gone too far. Suzie's is the first house on the right on Clarks Corners Road (three big silos and the Cricket Farm Holstein sign out front). From Slaterville Springs area, take Rt. 79 to Richford and turn left on Rt. 38. Take Rt. 220 at Harford Mills and turn right onto Rt. 221 at that intersection. Take 221 as above. From Marathon, Whitney Point and south, come up Rt. 11 to Marathon, turn left on Rt. 221 west, go through Hunts Corners community. Clarks Corners Road to Suzie's is about 6-miles from Marathon. (If you get really lost: 849-3345.) Hope we see you there...

AUGUST 13 MEETING. DYE POT 'pot to pass' and at a member's home. Details in the next newsletter...

SEPTEMBER 10 MEETING. PUTTING ON THE DOG with Alice Wood. Tin Can, Ithaca. If you can bring dog hair, please let Alice know (273-7191). We have a generous bag of Samoyd donated for this program, but more dog fibers will be needed. And bring those dog hair projects if you've done any...

SATURDAY GROUP. July 21 they go to Eileen Oldham's at Clifton Springs. Plans for the August meeting in the next newsletter.

THE HINCKLEY EXHIBIT. The show is up and the Hinckley Foundation (410 E. Seneca -- yellow house set back from street on the right) is open Tues-Thurs-Sat-Sunday from 1-4:30 p.m. The Tompkins County Quilters' Guild is featured new and has some lovely things up, Gretchen Sachse reports. (And many thanks to Gretchen for the long hours she put in on helping get the show together and up!) The Ithaca Textile Arts Guild opens next on July 7, from 1-4:30, and then WE BLACK SHEEP open on July 28, demonstrating from 1-4:30. Our program is titled "Straw into Gold" and while we won't be attempting that feat, we will need people to spin flax, cotton, silk, and wool at least! We hope to have a variety of fibers and techniques (different wheels, spindles?) represented. PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO PARTICIPATE -- it is our grand show! Also, Gretchen will need all skeins (2-oz of a spun fiber of your choice, labeled -- to be returned to you!) and other objects (tools, pictures, finished or unfinished projects, etc.) in hand no later than July 21. The earlier the better, of course! If you have skeins for sale, the Hinckley will handle the transaction for you for a 15% commission, which will benefit their future programs and insure their continuance. Label, label!

Do stop in -- it is a wonderful exhibit for anyone interested in fibers! Decide what fiber you want to spin and let our demonstrations committee (below) or Gretchen know for the 28th.

We now have a much-needed DEMONSTRATIONS COMMITTEE of two -- Marion Wikoff (387-5410) and Maria Steve (387-5559) -- to match demonstrators to events. When they call you, please accept the match. If you receive requests to demonstrate that you will not personally do, please tell them immediately so that they can try to find someone to fill the spot. If you are demonstrating at an event and need additional help, they may be able to help find someone. They will attempt to keep things within a reasonable driving distance, if not within your community. As an educational group (basically), demonstrating is a responsibility we all have. And besides, it is usually lots of fun and you often learn as much as your spectators!!! (This scheme of matching should work well with your support -- thanks to Marion and Maria for their efforts; this should lift quite a burden from many of us who've done it in the past and help it be more organized.)

TOMPKINS COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL. We voted to join at the June meeting (\$35 per year). It should provide us with some assistance in a variety of ways -- perhaps the most needed at this time is the possibility of aiding us in financial support for workshops or hunting for grant monies without having to go through the agonies of incorporating. We may also work out a joint newsletter scheme with the weavers and textile arts guilds. More about this in a newsletter soon...

JULY 21 -- A session to SIZE HANDSPUN WARP, 1:30 p.m. at 118 Lower Creek Road (raindate of August 11, same time and place); -Gretchen Sachse's (347-4396). Sizing will be provided free of charge thanks to Thistledown, for experimentation in weaving with handspun. Bring a short handspun warp (note what kind of wool, how prepared and spun), chained, and a plastic bag to take it home in. Kids are welcome. This should be a nice day and an interesting session for the weavers among us!

LOST at Masa's Japanese Braiding workshop earlier this year: Maria Steve's favorite scissors. They should have her name on them, but the tag may have come off. If you find a pair that are not yours, please bring them to the next meeting or give her a telephone call... She misses them!

(Did anyone ever get Gretchen Sachse's 1845 brainteaser in the May #24 Newsletter, p. 3??)

Susan Andrews' OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY is moving ahead. Gretchen received forms last week for us to indicate what type of programs we might provide and how often we would be willing to do them. All programs need not be the same. For instance, a demonstration of spinning, a demonstration which includes slides or hands-on experience, a slide show with commentary, or a lecture -- flexibility is built in, so tailor your program(s) to suit yourself. The Guild is committed for several programs a year (which, if you've noticed, we do already but not formally). Please be thinking of new ways you might like to participate. Gretchen is interested in putting together a slide show with some historical focus on the sheep-to-shawl process -- would anyone else like to help? There are a number of possibilities for us with this project, and it is directed at a most appreciative group as well... Let's talk about it and plan some things!

THE BLACK SHEEP at the N.Y. S. sheep sale at Cornell were a motley bunch. Their prices were far below the sales average and interest was slight. The auctioneer treated them as if they were a different species. The fleece quality was poor -- heavily karakul -- and Gretchen reminds us that as spinners we should be vocal about what fleece characteristics we value and not take a fleece just because it is colored. (Did anyone else get to the sale? Reactions? Were you disappointed too? Speak up!)

More STATE FAIR booklets are on their way. We'll have a batch at the July 7 meeting, but

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AD SECTION

UPHOLSTERING -- Experienced, reasonable rates. Free estimates. Large book of samples or can use your handwoven yardage! Call Lou Church, 257-3951. 1/3

THE CASSANDRA CAME! That is the Thought Products loom with the patented "counter-shed" harness action. And you are invited to weave a sample at THE TABBY SHOP where there are also available the Harrisville Designs loom kits, weaving equipment, and yarns. 49 German Crossroad, Ithaca, N.Y. (607/273-3308) 2/3

WE ARE GETTING MADDER AND MADDER! Yes, we now have good, established madder plants for sale. \$2.50 per plant; limit of two per customer. (No mail order.) If you come out to pick up, also ask to see how the red cotton plants are doing, as well as the weld, anchusa, and (real) indigo. Donald Warholic, 280 Ringwood Rd., Freeville. (539-7648, evenings.) 1/1

SILK FIBERS -- Beautiful white and tussah in combed and carded roving. Send SASE for free samples and price list. Cocoons, waste silk, silk hankies, spindles, and flicker-combs also. FALLBROOK HOUSE, RD #2 - Box 17, Troy, Pa. 16947. (717/297-2498) 4/9

GUILD ASHFORD SPINNING WHEEL, rent is \$8/mo. GUILD CARDING MACHINE (washed wool only), \$5/mo. You must be a member to use these. Call Marion Wikoff (607/387-5410) to sign up for either of these, or see her at the Monday Guild meetings. (BSHG ad)

CHEAP THRILLS are what you'll get when you see your ad in the Guild Newsletter. 50¢ per ad or 3 ads/\$1.00. Deadline is 2nd Monday of each month. For more information, contact Jean Warholic, 280 Ringwood Road, Freeville, N.Y. 13068 (607/539-7648, evenings).

FLEECES FOR SALE - Pure Rambouillet fleeces and Dorset cross fleeces. Clean, nice ones. Call or write: Gloria Alamo, 43 Ashley Road, Maine, N.Y. 13802. (607/862-9277) 1/3

if you can't get one at all, let Jean Warholic (539-7648) or Gretchen Sachse know and we will see that you do. Deadline for the State Fair entries (just entry blanks, not skeins) is August 1 and we will have someone driving up the entries during August 9-11, if you prefer not to mail them in.

COUNTY FAIR entries are as follows: (Arts and Crafts - Superintendent, Jean Warholic) Section 2, Crafts. (Weaving has two categories: traditional and modern.) Class 17 - Handspun Yarns - each entry must have a 3-5 card or paper attached, indicating a plan for usage. a. Proficiency of spin. b. Yarns for clothing. c. Heavy duty yarns. d. Adult garment from handspun. e. Child's garment from handspun. (Further details are in the fair book, available at Agway stores around the county and other businesses... Extra copies will be brought to meetings. Or contact Jean Warholic.) THE COUNTY FAIR IS AUGUST 7-11. Entry blanks are due in July 30; entries are to be brought to the fair by 5:30 p.m., Monday, August 7. They will be judged that evening. They may be picked up about 10:00 on Saturday night, Aug. 11. Costs for entering the Arts and Crafts Division are either a \$5 entry fee (which lets you into the fair anyday of the week at no charge as an exhibitor/member) or 50¢ per entry. (If you plan to enter one skein and not come to the fair until closing on Sat. night, that 50¢ is your way to go. However, if you want to come to any other functions at the fair without paying and/or want to enter a number of items, the \$5 exhibitor's ticket is for you.) We might also add that you do not have to be a resident of Tompkins County to enter its fair.

DO MAKE NOTE of the fact that if you enter something in, for example, the State Fair, you cannot enter the same item in the County Fair because the dates conflict.

The UPSTATE NEW YORK WOMEN'S HISTORY CONFERENCE, a group of historians that meets several times a year for informal discussion and papers, will be meeting October 5-7 in Coopers-town for a program on WORK. Pat Haines, the organizer of the group, is interested in putting together a demonstration of how housework used to be done. Spinning and weaving will be included. If anyone is interested in pursuing this, contact Gretchen Sachse. If you are interested in the UNYWHC or this program, contact Pat Haines at 273-5018.

We have a number of new spinners (thanks to Wool Day!) and a BEGINNING SPINNING WORKSHOP is being contemplated. August or September? Let's see what we can work out at the next meeting...

Surprise! No CRAFTFAIR ITHACA this year! And it had become such a tradition here... Angry? Worried? Want to do something about it? Find out more from Doris Brown, 273-6173. Undoubtedly, we will also talk more about it at the next meetings as well...

WOOL DAY SUGGESTIONS should be turned in to Kay and Linda at the Heritage Craft Shop or Jean Warholic as soon as you can. If they are not received by the end of July, we'll work with what we've got...

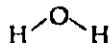
Received and will pass on to Marion and Maria: July 22 (Sunday) arts and crafts show and sale at the Seneca Falls Historical Society, 1-5 p.m. Register by July 13 by writing them (55 Cayuga Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148) and telling them your type of exhibit and whether or not you'll be demonstrating. Include telephone number (rain date is July 29). Demonstrators are encouraged and those that went last year had a good time!

THE NEXT THREE PAGES are not reprinted with Interweave's permission. Linda Ligon, the editor, was hesitant to give it as Interweave had only one time use and she is unable to locate the author now. And so, with fingers crossed, we hope that Anton Viditz-Ward will not mind, should his eyes fall upon this newsletter by some chance, for it is a most interesting article for all of us spinners...

if the dyestuff contains metals, these agents will change the shade of the dyestuff, very possibly reduce the fastness of same, and they may affect certain types of finishes depending on the fabric or fiber.

What other properties of water are important to the dyer?

When thinking of chemicals it is often overlooked that the most easily available chemical is water, frequently mentioned as the universal solvent. Chemically speaking, one molecule of water is made up of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. The preferred structure is



and not linear H-O-H. This type of structure builds into three dimensions, hence the formation of ice which is less densely packed compared to its liquid state as water. It is for this reason that frozen water will float in liquid water, the proverbial 3/10 of an iceberg that is visible. Another concept we have to familiarize ourselves with is surface tension. Water curves away from the sidewalls of vessels and also textile materials. We have all seen a glass of water filled so full that the liquid is slightly above the rim of the glass. The same condition holds true for fiber and fabric surfaces. It is not unusual to have fabrics take some time to wet out before sinking in a water bath. If the bath contains other chemicals, you desire its rapid and uniform wetting; otherwise the area first in contact with the bath will start dyeing ahead of other not-yet-soaked areas. To make water wetter we turn to soap, various forms of alcohols and detergents. If it weren't for the strong attractive forces within the water molecule we would not have been concerned with the above mentioned problems.

Introducing dyes into water we have to consider their solubility in water and further, their mobility from water to the textile fiber. We can make use of these properties by increasing or decreasing the exhaustion from the dyebath to the fiber. A very mobile exhausting type dye can conceivably dye a fabric too fast, which means uneven dyeing of the surface, or ring dyeing, and also cause dye shades to differ from exposed areas of textile material to protected areas such as creases and folds. To decrease rapid exhaustion we can lower the temperature of the dye bath or add selected chemicals that retard the dye, such as soap or similar products; or, we attempt to change the solubility of the dyestuff. To speed up exhaustion we add selected salts or acids, raise the dyebath temperature, decrease the amount of dyebath water (liquor ratio), and move the textile material more rapidly.

What is a good procedure for scouring?

A practical scouring formulation for wool, based on the weight of fiber, is listed here with some additional variations:

Liquor ratio 40:1.

Initial bath temperature 105 F - 125 F (32 C - 41 C).

Alkali: 1-2% ammonia (ammonium hydroxide)

Water conditioner: 2% trisodiumphosphate (TSP), also some Calgon if the water is very hard.

Soap: 1/2-1 1/2% neutral soap (such as Ivory).

The reason for the broad temperature spread is that goods containing lots of spinning oil, those that are tightly woven, and some worsted yarn will clean up better at higher temperatures. There is, however, an inherent danger that the fibers under these conditions will felt more easily. It's been found that at higher temperatures more ammonia would be liberated, consequently less alkalinity would be present in the scouring bath, therefore, also less damage to the wool scales. As usual, this is a standoff between good cleaning, less damage and retention of a soft wool hand or feel. An alternate formulation for the less experienced and for wool in the grease would be a standing bath (one that can be used several times over). Instead of basing the formulation on weight of fiber, we use a fixed ratio of a 5 gallon bath together with 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 ounces of soda ash (sodium carbonate, Na₂CO₃) along with 1 1/2 ounces of any one of hundreds of non-ionic agents such as Igepon T, or Triton X100. Soap also may be used, but there we have to contend with the possible scum from hard water. When a good soap is used, it is best to add 1/2 to 1 ounce of TSP and also 1/2 ounce of Calgon to insure non-interference from water hardeners. The interesting result from a

standing bath is that the older the bath, the better the wool will feel, but also the poorer the cleansing of the wool. Probably not more than 5 to 6 washings should be attempted from any standing bath.

How does cotton scouring differ from wool?

Cotton goods are frequently less soiled than wool, but in order to remove the natural waxes, pectins (yellowing and brown pigments), a de-sizing of sized warps in a fabric may be required, followed by a thorough boiling in an alkaline liquid. To desize a modified starch sizing, it becomes necessary to use enzymes, ferments, pancreas products or biological preparations. Such products digest the starch or modified starch (dextrines) contained in the sized warp. These are most often found in imported goods, of a coarse weave. Sizing formulations are frequently of a local nature, based on the best weaving results and least amount of shedding during weaving. Frequently waxes and fats are also added to the formulations. The first step is to wet out the material thoroughly. For this about 1/2% (of weight of goods) of a non-ionic detergent is best. Goods are wet out at 120 to 140° F (49-60° C) in this simple waterbath, for about half an hour, after which the goods are placed in a fresh bath at 158-176° (70-80° C) containing 1/4-1/2% of weight of goods of diastatic, biological, or other similar active products. Goods should be left if possible overnight in a cooling bath. The next day, or after some time, the material should be scoured. This scour is also suitable for cotton yarn which has not been sized. Formulation is as follows:

3-5% soda ash (Na₂CO₃) or 2-3% caustic soda (NaOH)

2% soap and/or 1% detergent (anionic or nonionic)

It should not be overlooked that sometimes it may be possible to get clean goods by just boiling in the wetting out bath. Since subsequent bleaching or dyeing may show the incomplete removal of the sizing as unsightly streaks, it is safest to boil vigorously for 3/4-1 1/2 hours.

All scouring operations are more successful if the rinsing following the scouring of either wool or cotton is from at least warm to hot, followed by a second rinse of cold water. The main reason for this is the possible re-deposition or shocking of the remaining scour liquor along with the already removed sizing back onto the textile fabric or fiber surface.

What is pH all about?

You really do not have to know much about the nature of ions to be able to measure the concentration of hydrogen ions in a water solution. We do, however, have to take a look at the theory in order to understand the reason for measuring and how we record the results.

All substance is made up of molecules, and molecules are the smallest amount of a substance that is identical in all properties of the whole. Molecules in turn are aggregates of atoms. If all atoms in a substance are the same, it is called an element. Examples would be sodium (Na), oxygen (O), chlorine (Cl), etc. When different atoms are together in a substance it becomes a compound, such as water (H₂O), sodium chloride (NaCl — common salt), sodium hydroxide (NaOH — caustic soda). Atoms are made up of positively charged units called protons and negative units described as electrons. During chemical reactions atoms lose from one to several electrons. The remaining part of the atom then becomes positively charged. Some atoms under other circumstances pick up electrons and become thereby more or less negatively charged. When one acid is added to water many of its molecules are split apart into positive and negative ions; this is described as *disassociation*. At any time in a solution you will find some molecules that are not disassociated; therefore, the original acid and disassociated positively charged hydrogen ions (H⁺) and negatively charged acid radicals (fundamental constituents of the compound) are simultaneously present. This disassociation and association continuously forms and reforms. The stronger the acid, the greater the number of disassociated hydrogen ions. This concept describes the degree of acidity compared to the total amount of acid present. So much for acid.

If we turn to bases ("alkaline" compounds), we find that in disassociation we end up not with hydrogen ions, but with hydroxyl

ions (OH-)* which are negatively charged. Just as above, we have molecules disassociated and molecules not yet disassociated. The stronger the base, the greater the disassociation.

It becomes necessary to describe how acid or alkaline a substance is, especially a diluted dye bath. Historically, in 1909 Sorenson developed this concept in his biochemical studies where he needed to know reactions taking place at mostly low concentrations of biological liquids. To get an understanding of the relative strength, the concept was formed that the concentrations of hydronium ions (HO₃+) and hydroxide ions (OH-) could be measured electrically and by use of test papers containing coloring matter that would change shade dramatically at various concentrations. Ironically, these coloring agents are dyestuffs that did not make it in the textile coloring field because of the very nature of their color change when going from one step of acidity or alkalinity to another step. These test papers, also called indicators, include MAUVEINE (Methyl Red, Methyl Violet, Diphenyl amino azo benzene), METANIL YELLOW (Meta Cresol Purple, Ethyl Orange), BENZO PURPURINE 4B, CONGO RED (Methyl Orange, Brom Phenol Red), ALIZARINE (also known as Madder Root), BRILLIANT RED (Phenol Red, Cyanin, Beta-Naphtholphtalein, Cresol Red, Thymol Blue), ALIZARINE YELLOW R, ALIZARINE YELLOW G and ALIZARINE BLUE S. You recognize on this list some very important dyestuffs from the past.

In any case, pH means p = power and H = Hydrogen ion. The definition is typically boring for the non-scientist but simply means it is the reciprocal inverted logarithm of the hydrogen ion concentration in a liquid (or medium). This brings us to logarithms. If you have ever seen logarithmic graph paper you will know those lines start far apart but bunch up toward one side. Also, the lined squares are in units of 10 lines which tells us that after each group of 10 lines, the next lines are ten times stronger or weaker, depending on the direction you are going. On a practical scale, going from pH 5 to 6, 6 is one-tenth as strong as 5 is, and 4 is 10 times stronger than 5 and 100 times stronger than 6 (10 x 10 = 100). Going alkaline, pH 8 is weakly alkaline, one-tenth as strong as pH 9, and pH 10 is thereby 100 times more alkaline than pH 8, but only 10 times stronger than pH 9.

Now to get a handle on the whole pH concept, consider that the pH scale goes from 0 to 14. What we now know is that neutral pH is 7.0; from pH 7 to pH 0 is acid, with pH 1 considered very acid. From pH 7 to pH 14 is alkaline, or basic, with pH 14 being considerably alkaline. As examples, drinking water will range from pH 6.5 to 8.0, grapefruit pH 3.0 to 3.3, oranges pH 3.0-4.0, eggs 7.6-8.0.

Controlling pH is important in dyeing. For instance, in using acid dyes on wool, the dyebath must be somewhat acid in order for the dye acids to be liberated and diffused onto the fiber. Using basic dyes, a slightly acid reaction is necessary to prevent the color bases from separating out. With mordant dyes, a partial precipitation of color will occur if the dye bath is basic. On the other hand, a too-acid dye bath, as well as too-high temperatures, accelerates the absorption of dye by the fibers, sometimes resulting in uneven dyeing. Thus Glauber's salt is sometimes used as a levelling agent, because it checks the rate of absorption by bringing the dye acid into solution as a sodium salt. Some dyestuffs give best results if you start the bath at an only faintly acid pH, adding more acid at a later stage.

What do dye recipes mean when they say "enough water"?

Let's get familiar with liquor ratios. This is a fixed relation between the material to be scoured or dyed and the water in which the process takes place. You will be concerned with ratios of one part of textile material to 25 or more parts of water. This is best expressed in ounces or pounds. So if we have one pound of fabric we will need twenty-five pounds of water. For easy figuring, one gallon of water weighs about 8 1/2 pounds which equals 3 gallons of water for 1

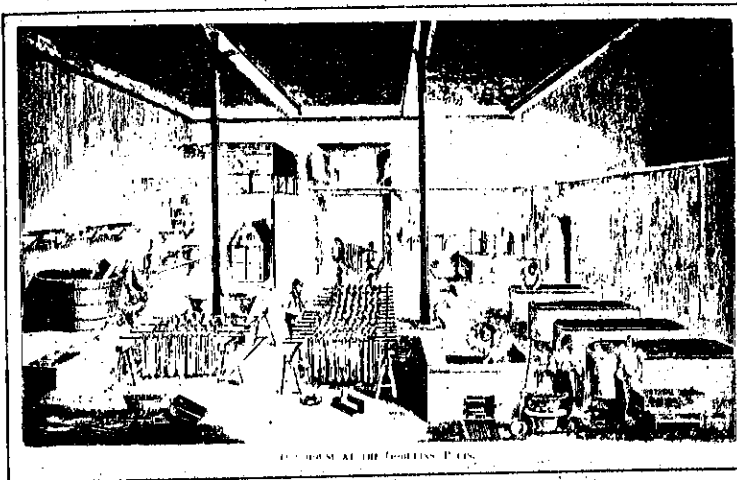
*Technically, the ions in question are hydronium (HO₃+) and hydroxide (OH-). The concept, however, is the same.

pound of textile material. Frequently a liquor ratio of 1:25 (1 pound fabric:25 pounds water) may be insufficient for appropriate level dyeing, and you may require a ratio of 1:30 or even as high as 1:50.

Weight of Textile Goods	Amount of Water (ratio)					
	1:25	1:30	1:35	1:40	1:50	1:75
1 oz.	1 1/2 pt.	1 1/4 pt.	1 qt.	1 qt. + 1/2 pt.	1 1/2 qt.	2 qt. + 1/2 pt.
2 oz.	1 1/2 qt.	1 1/4 qt.	2 qt.	2 qt. + 1/2 pt.	3 qt.	1 gal. + 1 pt.
4 oz.	3 qt.	3 qt. + 1 pt.	1 gal. + 1/2 pt.	1 gal. + 1 1/2 pt.	1 1/2 gal.	2 gal. + 1 qt.
8 oz.	1 1/2 gal.	1 1/4 gal.	2 gal. + 1/2 pt.	2 gal. + 1 1/2 pt.	3 gal.	4 1/2 gal.
1 lb.	3 gal.	3 1/2 gal.	4 gal. + 1 pt.	4 1/2 gal.	6 gal.	9 gal.
2 lbs.	6 gal.	7 gal.	8 1/2 gal.	9 1/2 gal.	12 gal.	18 gal.
5 lbs.	15 gal.	18 gal.	21 gal.	24 gal.	30 gal.	45 gal.

With dyestuffs and textile materials it is very important to maintain an exact ratio if you wish to accurately repeat a dye shade. The greater the volume of water, the lighter the depth of shade will be. The exception would be wool and protein fibers, where chemical bonding with the fiber takes place. Most all acid dyes used to dye such fibers do exhaust completely except for some very heavy shades. Wherever mordants are required, because of the dilution factor, it is advantageous to use as little water as possible to get the best results. Unfortunately, if insufficient water is used, the mordant may exhaust unevenly and subsequent dye results will also be uneven.

We have taken a quick look at some very complex matters that needed better understanding. Chemistry is a precise science that illuminates areas of crafts that have depended too much on word of mouth and opinions rather than facts. Although opinions are often helpful, facts are foolproof. Now that you see what chemistry can do for you, feel encouraged to apply some of these findings to your dyeing efforts and improve the success of your coloring endeavors.



Anton Viditz-Ward is a dyer's dream come true. Not only is he a master of the dance floor and scuba diving, but he knows fibers, dyes, and textiles as well as (or better than!) the rest of us know our own faces.

Anton is a graduate of the Textile Institute in Vienna, Austria, and has worked in the textile industry in bleacheries, printing plants, and dye houses. He has served as a laboratory and research chemist and colorist, and as manager of dye and bleach houses for such firms as Pepperell Mfg. Co., Blue Ridge Textile Co., and the Van Raalte Co.

AGAIN, that article was not reprinted with Interweave's permission. (Jean got restless and ran it prematurely with the permission noted, insuring that we would be able to read it soon. Bad Jean.)

WE MISSED THE DEADLINE to tell you about entering the Cortland Arts Council's 2nd Annual Summer Arts Festival -- August 11 and 12, Cortlandville Mall. But do go and have a good time and say hellos to any spinners you see about!

Sallie Sanderson sent us information as to how you might participate in the 18th Century living history displays this summer... (1) You can join the Brigade of the American Revolution, Quartermaster Corps. Dues are \$7.00/year. You must dress in authentic replica 18th century clothing and your equipment must be 200 years old or a very good facsimile and must be used in an 18th century manner. (Contact Sallie at 100 Fairview Square, #2G, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, 607/273-1604 or office, 256-7540, for details on clothing or to answer any questions concerning the following shows.

June 30-July 1 -- New Haven, Conn.

July 14-15 -- Norwalk, Conn.

July 21-22 -- Ft. Wellington, Prescott, Ontario

August 4-5 -- Genesee Village, Mumfords, N.Y.

August 11-12 -- Canojoharie, N.Y.

August 25-26 -- Newtown Battlefield, Lowman, N.Y.

Oct. 27-28 -- New Windsor Cantonment, N.Y.

Nov. 17-18 -- Ft. Lee, N.J.

(2) You can attend the following if you join the Brigade or if you join our local Chapter of the Brigade called the Susquehanna Valley Flintlocks. Dues are \$4/year for SVF. The same rules for equipment and clothing hold for SVF as do for BAR. Contact Sallie for details.

Sept. 2 -- Montour Falls, N.Y.

Sept. 8-9 -- Windsor, N.Y.

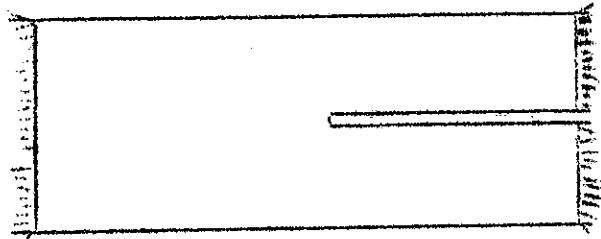
It is also Sallie's understanding that some crafts booths and commercial displays will be set up at Newtown (Aug. 25-26), near Elmira on Rt. 17. These will be completely separate from the Brigade living history display. If you want to display with equipment of any era other than the Revolution, any war, or if you want to sell yarn, please contact the Director of the Chemung County Historical Society, Elmira, N.Y., who is to Sallie's knowledge in charge of this other area.

(Note: Whether you plan to join or not, you would certainly enjoy a day spent at any of the displays above. It is an extremely interesting group of people and their displays/encampments are well worth the trip for the whole family to see!)

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS! The latest up-date of the membership list is with this newsletter. It is always a pleasure to meet people interested in spinning and in the Guild! We look forward to seeing you at meetings and workshops, and seeing what you've made and how you're doing...

WE DO HAVE extra sheets with the Gerber Investigative Method of dyeing as summarized by Gretchen Sachse for your information (and if you've misplaced the newsletter we included it in). With the dyeing season coming on, you might want to pick up an extra copy. Jean will have the Guild box of handouts, back issues of newsletters, etc. at the next few meetings so look for it, or let Jean Warholic (I keep forgetting how many Jeans we have in the Guild now!) know which one(s) you want. New members who join get a copy of everything in print from the Guild. Older members may want to replenish their supply, however!

CORRECTION and apologies to everyone, especially Ardeen Sprentall, for the goof on the diagram of the ruana in the last issue. I forgot to draw in the vertical lines! The corrected drawing (in case you couldn't guess it) is to the right. Ouch!



YOU MISSED a wonderful day with Doloria Chapin and her workshop on June 9. We did color-blending, boned up on color theory, and did some lovely dyepots. What a wealth of information she is!! Thank you, thank you, Doloria, for such a good day -- and thank you's to Kay and Linda at the Heritage Craft Shop for making it possible! And did anyone get to the basket workshop with John McQueen? Or to the Seneca Falls Women's Conference? We hear indirectly that both were quite successful and well-liked...

One last date you might want to make note of... The Cornell University EXCESS SHEEP SALE is this Saturday, June 30, starting at 1:00 p.m., at the sheep barns south of Dryden. They list Dorsets, Morlams, Finnsheep, Hampshires, and Corriedales (rams as well as ewes) for sale, with a complete listing on sale day. For more information, call Brian Magee (844-8367). (Thank you, Gretchen, for this information!)

REFRESHMENTS SIGN-UP. August meeting: Libby Llop, Doris Brown, and Linda Dickinson. September: Maria Steve, Jean Warholic. (Tobey Chambliss will be taking care of the coffee supplies over the summer months.)

Whew! Another fat newsletter... Hope we see you over the next few months -- there is a lot going on as if summer wasn't busy anyway!!

-- Jean Warholic

P.S. Deadline for next newsletter material is the 2nd Monday in July. (Mailing date for newsletter is July 30.)