

Black Sheep Handspinners Guild
Ithaca, New York

NEWSLETTER #27 -- July 1979
Edited by Jean Warholie

You missed a good lamb barbeque earlier this month -- and we missed YOU (not many got to the meeting/picnic)!! Many thanks, though, to Suzie Hokanson and the others who made that nice day possible!! Even the weather cooperated...

Apparently, the Post Office did not, however, as reports have it that the Newsletters mailed out on June 26 did not reach a fair number of Guild members in the area until well after July 7. Two-and-a-half weeks to go from Ithaca to Trumansburg, for example, is OUTRAGEOUS. If yours took that long, please let Jean Warholie know about it by July 28 -- we will be writing a letter about the matter... Henceforth, we will attempt to make the Newsletters shorter and mail them First Class (which should cut delivery time), with enclosures or articles grouped and mailed independently of the newsletters where deadlines aren't involved. (Sound better?)

HINCKLEY SHOW -- if you haven't seen it, DO!!! It has a wonderful series of things for everyone to enjoy -- hours, again, are Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays from 1:00-4:30 p.m. 410 East Seneca St., about two blocks up the hill from Aurora St. -- yellow house set back from street, righthand side.

JULY 28 -- we hope to see you there spinning! YES, spinning "Straw into Gold" -- bring your favorite fiber and spin all afternoon. Flax spinning needed in particular. BEFORE JULY 28, we need your contributions (chiefly SKEINS of your handspun favorite fiber, but any other completed projects or items for our Big Show in the main gallery). You may leave them at the Hinckley during normal hours, or call Gretchen Sachse (before 8 a.m., please), or leave with Heritage Craft Shop. Emphasis of the main exhibit is how differently people spin. We are featuring all fibers, from raw state to finished product and examples are needed, as well as tools specific to each fiber and its "working."

Demonstrators will need to bring a chair and whatever other items they will need for spinning. WHO HAS THE GUILD BANNER? Please call Gretchen Sachse or Jean Warholie -- we will need it by July 28 if not sooner. The spinning area at the Hinckley is cool and comfortable. Please be set up and ready to go by 1:00 p.m. *Hope to see you there* -- it promises to be an extra special day for us!!!

AUGUST 13 MEETING. Our annual "Pot-to-Pass" dye session!! And this year with something of added attraction: a swimming pool! (So bring your suit, in addition to your lunch and chair.) To simplify matters, particularly for beginning dyers, we will do in-pot alum mordanting. For this meeting, everyone is to bring a DYE POT with natural dye material in it ready to go. Bring skeins for dyeing (small skeins, please, tagged with your name -- need not be wool or handspun, in fact the more variation of fiber, the more interesting). Skeins should be thoroughly washed. Enamel pots for dyeing preferred. We will have the Guild mordant supplies for afterbaths, etc. Bring an interested friend -- this is always a crazy, FUN day... *Coleman (camp) stoves desperately needed--BRING YOURS!*

The meeting will be at Laura Hunt's (607/749-2941), near Cortland -- you may want to call other Guild members and car-pool it. Directions to Laura's: From Ithaca/Dryden, take Rt. 13 to South Cortland where Rt. 281 starts. Take 281 to the Rusty Nail restaurant (on left) and turn left. This is Kinney Gulf Road. Go 4 miles to the yellow house on the right with the swimming pool in the back yard. (You are THERE!) From the west and northwest, take Rt. 90 east/southeast. Kinney Gulf Road turns to the right about 6 miles east of Locke. Laura's is the first house on the left. From the north and northwest, take Rt. 90 west from Homer. Kinney Gulf Road is 4 miles from Homer. Turn left and it is the first house on the left. (When in doubt, also look for a group of familiar [spinners'] cars!)

Laura reports that she has plenty of room inside and out, in case of rain. Given the usual hot weather, let's forego the coffee -- How about several bringing some iced

tea or lemonade in thermos jugs? Refreshments people (Libby Llop, Doris Brown, and Linda Dickinson), how about you bringing these? (Less work for Laura, too!) And we can all go swimming while the pots simmer... (Ahhhhhh!!)

AUGUST 25. The Saturday Group will probably be meeting at Eleanor May's, noon to 4:00 p.m. or so. (Directions to Eleanor's are in your May Newsletter, or call 272-8224.) More info. in the next Newsletter...

DEMONSTRATIONS. We have three requests to date for the month of August. Please look them over and see what you can get to...

August 10-12 -- UPSTATE CRAFTS, Northeast School, Ithaca. Three days, all day (or in shifts?) + children's workshop area (a do-it-yourself area where parents can also leave kids while they look and shop). Sign up with Marion Wikoff (who has more info.), or with Pat Novarr (273-5567). (More on the Fair itself below.)

August 11,12 -- Cortlandville Mall, Cortland. All day; can sell too. They are paying 15¢/mile or \$50/two days. Call Marion for more info. and to sign up.

August 11 -- Canandaigua Steam Show, 5 miles east of Canandaigua on Rt. 20. All day; can sell too. They are paying \$25/person. Car-pool is forming and there is one space left -- call Marion Wikoff.

Again, Marion Wikoff (387-5410) and Maria Steve (387-5559) are our trusty DEMONSTRATIONS COMMITTEE and are making our lives much easier. Please get them any requests you get and cannot fill as soon as possible. And please also make an effort to accept a request when they call you for help. Education through public demonstrating of spinning/dyeing/weaving is an important function of this Guild. It is also FUN! Please cooperate -- none of us seem to be getting any less busy these days, either...

UPSTATE CRAFTS (superceding the NYS CRAFTFAIR ITHACA) sent out announcement/information letters several weeks ago. You should have yours as they used our mailing list. The Fair is coming along well! More hands are needed (what else is new?) and if you can help in any way, please contact the following people: volunteers chairman, Kathryn Aitken (273-9127); memberships, Elinor Bly (273-7793); publicity, Doris Brown (273-6173); general coordinator, Edith Delavan (532-8304). Organizational meetings are Tuesdays, call Doris Brown for more info. There are still spaces available for merchants in the Tradesfair section (but are going fast, act now!). A large mailing was made several weeks ago (when you received your letter), but we may have missed some active craftsmen who'd like to participate. If you have any bright ideas, please check with Doris Brown. (Lists from previous years were consulted too, but we'd hate to miss anyone.)

If you can join as a member, every \$\$ helps! The group is full of organizers who have worked in previous years with Craftfair Ithaca (and were disenchanted) and it shows every sign of continuing as a better, dependable organization. If you wish to participate as a craftsman, the exhibit information was in the last letter but if this is news to you, please call Elinor Bly.

See you at the Fair!!! (August 10,11,12 - Northeast School, off Warren Road.)

WELCOME to a new member! Mary C. Rungay, Valley View Trailer Park #9, Groton, N.Y. 13073. (Inactive member.) (Knitter, crocheter.)

GET THOSE SKEINS READY for the fairs! For the STATE FAIR, Jean Warholic has volunteered to drive the entries up to the State Fair on August 9. You must get her your entries before that date -- call Jean at 539-7648, evenings, to make arrangements. (Remember, too, that the deadline for entry forms is August 1; they then send you tags and stuff

