



BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNERS' GUILD
P.O. Box 6701
Ithaca, N.Y. 14851

Newsletter 64 - Oct. 83
Editor: Marianne Horchler
R.D. # 1, GENOA, NY 13071

NOVEMBER MEETING

Please note that our November meeting will be held Saturday, Nov. 12, from 11AM to 3PM at Varna. Bring a dish-to-pass (something new and exciting!) and a project you have made during the year. Edith Johnston has agreed to follow up on her October talk by critiquing your projects from a sales point of view. Bring something, whether it is a garment, skeins or whatever and find out if it is marketable. This is an excellent opportunity to find out how well you are doing - items need not have your name on them if you want them to be anonymous! It is not a competition, just a chance to have your work reviewed and get ideas for new or better ways to do things.

1984 Officers

The Nominating Committee (Helen Kiker, Linda Dickinson & Marianne Horchler) is proposing the following slate of officers for election at the November meeting:

President: Virginia Lance
Vice President: Linda Dickinson
Secretary: Joann Schaff
Librarian: Kathie Garnsey

The Treasurer (Mary Ann Sumner) and Newsletter Editor have agreed to stand again.

STUDY GROUPS

Two study groups are being set up within the Guild; they will give members an opportunity to study some spinning topics in greater depth than we can usually do in programs.

Mary Ann Sumner will lead one group on working with fleeces from a variety of sheep breeds. Daisy Kirkpatrick will lead the other group in a study of color.

These groups will meet regularly at a time set up by the group leader (not necessarily the same day as the Guild's meeting) and for an extended period of time (perhaps 6 months or a year), and will study the topic both in theory and practice.

Please contact Mary Ann (607/257-5754) or Daisy (607/539-7941) if you are interested or could help with suggestions, etc.

Other topics for future study include different fibres, different equipment, spinning for design.

It is expected that each group will develop samples for themselves as well as notebooks or samples for the Guild, and make displays for use in demonstrations.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

December 10 at noon, Varna firehouse. Program on natural dyeing presented by Mary Ann Sumner.

Rock Day: January 7 at Varna, 11AM. Bring a dish-to-pass (especially a hot soup!)

OCTOBER MONDAY MEETING

Minutes 10/10/83

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by the president, Jean Currie, at the Varna Community Center with nineteen members and 1 guest present. Various local craft shows with selling opportunities were discussed. It was decided to rent space at Cornell's 13th Annual Holiday Craft Fair to be held December 8, 9 and 10 from 10 to 6 at the Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room. Cost of the space will be shared by the Guild and Guild members who sell through their own business organizations. The share paid for by the Guild will be for individual members to offer for sale a small number of items. This is a juried event, so details must be worked out to meet this requirement and also to jury our own items submitted. Help from members will be needed these three days.

Mary Ann Sumner proposed the formation of small study groups so that members may go beyond the basic skills and knowledge they now have to more advanced skills and greater knowledge. Mary Ann will lead one such group in a study of various breeds of sheep, possible using one breed for a month in a study which might last 6 months to a year. A group to study color will be led by Daisy Kirkpatrick. If you are interested in either of these two areas of expertise, contact Mary Ann or Daisy. Other ideas should be discussed with Jean Currie.

A show of hands indicated an interest in another workshop by Brother Kim Malloy later in the year on spinning for specific purposes.

Our guest speaker today was Edith Johnston from Trumansburg, a member of the Ithaca Textile Guild and a crafter of patchwork. Edith spoke to us of marketing a hand crafted product giving us a fine guide to becoming a seller of our work. Some of the points follow:

You grow into your craft through the support of your group and its members.

To sell in local markets, your product must be well done, functional and affordable to almost everyone.

Be realistic about what you charge, can you afford to sell and someone to buy?

Your label becomes your image in the market. It must contain;

Your name

Your address and/or phone (repeat orders)

Fibre content (this is a law)

Care information

Bedding must have a label for which the seller has a NYS license.

Displays should allow some items to be at eye level and allow the customer to touch, which is especially important for fibre items.

When you've made a sale, don't forget to provide a way to package the item conveniently and attractively.

Have and use a tax number.

Finally, learn to keep good records, both for your use (returning customers are a large part of local sales) and for local and state government regulations

Some of the local craft outlets include:

Upstate Craft Fair - August

Trumansburg Craft Fair - filled at present

Pottery Guild - week before Christmas

Farmers' Market

Woodcutters Show

15 Steps (consignment)

Spring Fever

Handiwork (consignment)

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Lance, Secretary

CORNELL CRAFT FAIR

This will be held December 8, 9 & 10 from 10AM to 6PM (see Minutes of October meeting for more details). If you wish to participate and submit items to be sold bring them to the November meeting and they will be collected then. Remember to tag each item with your name, address or telephone number and washing or care instructions and fibre content. Items can be anything you want with a handspun connection. Also, remember to price them!

MEMBERSHIP IN THE GUILD - ACTIVE OR INACTIVE?

It will soon be time to renew your membership; the following should help you determine whether to renew as an active or inactive member:

ARE YOU AN ACTIVE GUILD MEMBER ? DO YOU

1. Attend at least half of the monthly meetings?
2. Work in at least one workshop/demonstration?
3. Have a workable knowledge of handspinning?
4. Make at least one item of your own handspun to show to the membership or participate in an agreed-upon service project?

IF YOU CANNOT ANSWER YES TO ALL THESE YOU DO NOT QUALIFY ACCORDING TO THE GUILD CONSTITUTION.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please note that rates for ads will be going up as of January 1, 1984. Present rates are: 50¢ for one run and \$1.00 for 3 runs; after January 1: \$1.00 for one run and \$2.00 for 3. Make your check payable to Black Sheep Handspinners Guild and send it along with your ad to: Marianne Horchler, R.D. # 1, Genoa, N.Y. 13071.

Open House November 12, 1983 from 1-5PM. Come help me celebrate having more space for the Shop. The carpenters are supposed to be finished by then. Mildred Scudder, The Tabby Shop, 49 German Cross-road, Ithaca. Tel. 607/273-3308. 1/1

Not too late to change bloodlines for April lambing. Black rams available: 1. Border Leicester, Romney X Finn Karakul. A twin. 2. Border Leicester, Romney X Corriedale. Some black ewe lambs are left too. Also sheep and cow manure available by the truckload. 607/594-3708. 1/1

Still good drying days ahead. Get your wool carded now for winter spinning. And remember in washing wool:

1. USE HOT WATER (at least 150 F)
2. USE JOY (or DAWN)
3. DON'T STIR OR AGITATE.

Woolworks, 1025 Bostwick Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607/272-2697. Call ahead. 1/2

FOR SALE: Registered Lincoln and Registered Romney Sheep. Also for sale, crosses of these two breeds plus crosses with Border Leicester in Grey, charcoal Brown and Black.
Gloria Scannell, Weavercroft Farm, R.D. # 1, Schodack Landing, N.Y. 12156. 518/732-2916. 1/9

WOOL PICKER FOR RENT. 35¢ per pound in my home or take the picker home for a day \$2.00 or a weekend \$5. Call Cindy Putman Neugebauer 677-9430. Lafayette. 1/3

WOOLWORKS urges you to be creative in carding your wool - it's more fun to spin! Dye some to mix with white or black. Blend with angora, mohair, silk or dog hair. We also carry dyed wool in lovely colors for varying your fleece at 75¢/ounce and golden Tussah silk at \$2.00/ounce (or \$7/4½ ounces). Just a little makes a big difference. You can do it; I can help. Call ahead. Joan Johnston, 1025 Bostwick Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. 607/272-2697. 1/3

FOR SALE: Registered Suffolk ewe, 18 months old. \$75 or will barter. Paul Buck, 607/533-7616. 2/3

TRY NEW FIBRES: Tussah silk sliver, honey color, \$3.85/2 oz., vicuna down (Llama family, beige color, very fine & soft) \$5.25/3 oz., chocolate brown alpaca top, \$4.50/4 oz., mohair top, off-white, \$4/4 oz., lustrous grey, \$4.50/4 oz., Ramie top, lustrous white, \$2.50/4 oz., carded cotton, very soft, \$3/lb. Also clean skirted fleeces - just sheared some lovely purebred colored Finn lambs! Many new books: "British Sheep Breeds", glossy photographs, \$8.95, Ron Parker's "The Sheep Book", \$19.95. Several spinning wheels to choose from, Studio knitting machines, drum carders, wool & cotton handcarders, the "Support Spindle" & more. Also one used Traditional Ashford wheel in very good condition, \$110. Free delivery to Ithaca. THE WOOLERY, R.D. # 1, Genoa, N.Y. 13071, or call Marianne Horchler 315/497-1542. 2/3

Mohair Adult \$5, Spring Kid \$6.50, Fall Kid \$8 per pound. Washed and picked \$2 extra per pound. Drop spindles \$10. You pay shipping. The Dragon Farm, P.O. Box 431, Elgin, Texas 78621. 3/3

INDIGO DYING SUPPLIES to keep you in the blue! Natural indigo patties, synthetic indigo paste, and Spectralite. Will bring to Saturday group meetings, or call or write for prices and information. Jean Warholc, 260 Ringwood Road, Freeville, N.Y. 13069. (607/539-7618) 8/6

Handspinning Fleeces - Romney's - white and black - some crosses (Tunis, Finn-Ramb., etc.) - Purebred Romney lambs, white & black, rams & ewes. 607/562-8875 or leave message try 607-733-0184). Ezra Wolcott, Deering Hill Farm, Sing Sing Rd., Box 456, Big Flats, NY 14814. 7/12

One charcoal grey ewe lamb for sale. Finn with Targhee and Romney. Fine soft fleece. A twin from an excellent mother. \$95. Joan Johnston, 272-2697.

3/3

Way Station Yarns & Fibers, Greene Depot, Greene, N.Y. Imported and Domestic Yarns & Fibers for knitting and spinning. Louet spinning wheels. Accessories, tools, dyes, books, quilting supplies, including 100% cotton prints and broadcloth. Classes in knitting, spinning and quilting. 607/656-7669. Open Mon.-Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-3.

3/3

NEW SURVEY

There have been rumblings again about the times we have meetings so we are having a survey! Please answer these questions and return the survey. The majority of the responses will determine the times we meet. If you don't respond, we'll assume you don't care and will accept changes if they are indicated.

1. My level of spinning is:

beginning _____ intermediate _____ advanced _____

2. Leave the meeting times as is (2nd Monday and last Saturday of the Month): Monday: Yes _____ No _____

Saturday: Yes _____ No _____

3. I prefer to come to meetings on:

Saturday _____ Sunday _____ Weekday _____

evenings _____ other _____

4. I want programs at my meeting choice:

Yes _____ No _____

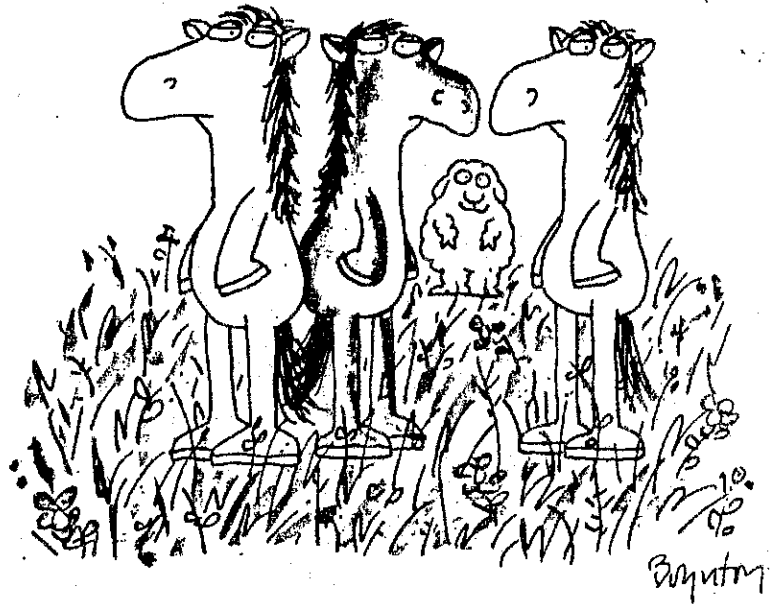
Name: _____

Please return to : Jean Currie, 2873 Elmira Rd., Newfield, NY 14867.

Seen on an anniversary card.
(Sent by Joan Johnston)

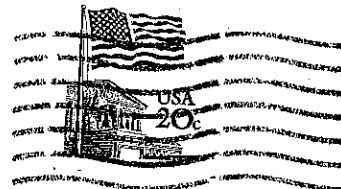
Late Notice:

The Finger Lakes Directory of
Arts & Crafts (in which BSHG
is listed) should appear in local
bookstores any day now - look for
it!



Behind the nag, nag, nag, there's
a constant loving ewe

BSHG
P.O. Box 6701
Ithaca, NY 14851



Kay Riddell,
~~2763 Slaterville Rd.,~~
~~P.O. Box 84,~~
~~Slaterville Springs, NY 14881~~

486 Hayter Rd.
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850