



BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNERS GUILD NEWSLETTER
Number 89 - May 1986

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NEXT MEETING

May 10 at Varna 12 NOON

This meeting's program is a continuation of the discussion on personal colors from information given us in April by Natalie Emler. Bring your favorite and unfavorite clothing/colors. We will be trying things out on each other. This is the do-it-yourself lab following the lecture the month before. Should be lots of fun.

SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS

June 14 - at Varna. We will all be pitching in to make nifty little dinwidges to sell at Spinners Market Day. If you have any ideas at all for some small item that can be made quickly by a group of willing hands to be sold for a small price, but at a profit - WE NEED IDEAS!! There will be an organizational meeting at Daisy's house sometime prior to this meeting to figure out just what to make and how to make it. If you have any suggestions at all, please call Daisy 272-4552, Mary Ann 257-5754, or Joan 272-2697. We need all the help we can get. The Guild needs to make some money and we are trying this out for the first time. Please come and help.

SPINNERS MARKET DAY

Our chairman, Mary Ann Sumner reports that plans are proceeding smoothly. We still need volunteers to help with set up. If you can be there early, please call her. 257-5754. The flyers are included with this newsletter. Please get some more from Mary Ann to post around. They will be available at the May meeting too.

There is a move for a sheep-to-KNITTED-shawl demonstration. Joann Schaff has agreed to organize this. She needs spinners, a shearer, and a sheep to be shorn. Please call her if you can help. 347-4817. Included with this newsletter are a sheet of raffle tickets. Please cut them apart and sell them for 50 cents each. More can be had from Joann, Mary Ann, or Daisy. Send the money from the ticket sales to Joann.

STATE FAIR

August 29 is the tentative date for the BSHG to demonstrate in the wool booth. Wool and wheels are provided AND you get to keep what you spin. There is a loom, too if you want to weave, again you get to keep it. Free admission too. The more the merrier. Plan to carpool. Call Marty McGee 607/243-5282 or Helen Kiker 273-3124 if you can come.

COMING EVENTS

Apr 12 - May 3 Mannings National Handweavers' Show, 2 entries handwoven within the last year. \$5 entry fee per piece. Cash prizes. Deadline Mar 29. 1132 Green Ridge Rd., East Berlin, PA 17316. 1-800-233-7166.

May 2 - 10 Fiber Arts Exhibit and Competition. Lewisburg Council on the Arts. Box 26, Winfield PA 17889. Not juried, judged for cash awards. Jane Peterson 717/743-2211.

May 15 - deadline for member's discount on Nancy Morey Workshop.

May 17 and 18 - Wool Pool at Venture Vineyards Warehouse. Contact Barbara Gates, 2861 Lodi Road, Interlaken, NY 14847 607/532-4206

May 25 - Genesee Country Museum, Mumford, NY. SPIN-IN. Free admission with advance registration by May 16. Lynn Bellufcio, Genesee Country Museum, Flint Hill Rd., Mumford, NY 14511. 716/538-6822. Helen Kiker has forms for registration.

June 5 - Cherry Valley Country Spinners Spin-In and Auction. 10-3 at Bixby Sheep Farm, Liberty Ridge, Greenway-Lowell Rd., Verona, NY (1 mile form Rt. 365). 315/337-7217.

June 29 Spinners Market Day at 4-H Acres. Mary Ann Sumner coordinator.

June 30 DEADLINE - Upstate Crafts Fair Aug. 7-10. For more information send stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Upstate Crafts, PO Box 173, Ithaca, NY 14851, or call 257-4618 or 273-4783.

August 23 - Workshop with Nancy Morey at Helen Kiker's house. Call Helen for details and registration. 273-3124.

October 18 & 19 - Central New York Handspinners Seminar. Theme "Design - From Fiber to Finish", Minnie Bloehm, Guest Speaker, "A Weaver - Enchanting Designer - Who can put it all together and teach us the possibilities of designing for handspun yarns." Also Sue Beevers on "Color in Handspinning", Susan Manes on Mohair, and Dora Swart on "Fables, Foibles, and Fumblings with Fleece". For registration: Cherry Valley Spinners Guild, Mrs. Shirley Howe, 5507 Mt. Pleasant Drive, Cazenovia, NY 13035. 315/655-8883.

CORRECTION

The membership list has our Secretary as Virginia Lance, not Vernice Church. Vernice is our secretary now, NOT Ginny. Your editor slipped a cog. Apologies. Please correct your lists.

THE BELL WETHER:



A new column designed to give our readers and supporters educational information to assist them, whether they be sheep raisers or wool users. Please feel free to reprint this material, as long as the Navajo Sheep Project of the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences is given credit for its synthesis.

NOTE: "Bell Wether" is an age old American Sheep Industry term. A wether is a castrated male sheep and a sheep bell is suspended from his neck by a leather strap. Historically the large bands (1,000 + head of ewes) of range sheep in the western United States used to recruit sound, mature wethers of peaceful temperament, as lead sheep for the entire band. The bell wether was looked to with trust and in good faith that he would not lead the band of ewes and/or their lambs into unsafe range pastures. He led them to better feed and security at night fall. The bell wether's leadership was never questioned by the sheep that followed because of his experience in traversing the range pastures year after year; it was assumed that he knew the territory. The bell was sound and unique and by the rhythm of its sound the sheep knew whether it was safe to continue on, stop and bed down, or to flee from danger. The bell wether's advise was solid.

So with this in mind, the Navajo Sheep Project feels it's appropriate to title our educational section in the newsletter, "The Bell Wether". We want to provide sound and factual information that you can rely on for your involvement with sheep and their fibers.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising Rates: 1-3 lines, \$1 for one time, \$2 for 3 times; 4-12 lines, \$5 for one time; 13 lines to 1/2 page, \$10 for one time.

Time to change some of our floor models: a chance for you to save money on looms and knitting machines!

- New 27" 4-harness Glimakra table loom with stand and 8-dent reed, all assembled, \$325 (20% off suggested retail!)
- New (still in box) 36" Leclerc Inca 4-harness counterbalance loom with 12-dent reed, \$369 (18% off and no shipping charges!)

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MORE ADVERTISEMENTS

BLACKSHIRE: 2, 7/8 Tunis ram lambs, 1 red, 1 black. Known for wool quality, hardiness & temperament. For breeding, pets or wool, not meat. Virginia M. Barker, 960 Snyder Hill Rd., Ithaca 539-6514.3/3

New spinners, try a Louet wheel for \$5 (limit one month) and let this superior wheel convince you. Call HOMEWOOLS 607/243-5282. Delivery to Ithaca area can be arranged. 3/3

FOR SALE: Colored and white ewe lambs & ewes, part Border Leicester or Finn. Also several gorgeous grey & black ram lambs from our triplet silver Lincoln and one beautiful Finn quad ram lamb. WOOLERY FARM, RD 1, Genoa, NY 13071. 315/497-1542. 1/1

Grey Finn X ewe with her grey lamb - \$140. Also some very nice, large ram lambs of all colors, reasonable prices. Kathie Garnsey 315/364-8889. 1/1

For Sale: Knitting books including the new Fibers to Fabrics by Hazel Clark. Most books discounted 15%. Kathie Garnsey, Indian Field Woolens. 315/364-8889. 1/1

Registered Border Leicester Ram - white triplet w/ black-factor, throws brown and silver lambs from black ewes. 2 yrs. \$250 or trade. Also many colored fleeces still left from my Leicester, Finn, Lincoln and Romney sheep. \$2-5/lb. Mary Munson, 6460 Fisher Hill Road, Canadaigua, NY 14424 716/657-7752 1/3

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