



BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNERS NEWSLETTER
Number 101 - July 1987

Editor:
Debbie Serviente
63 Neimi Rd
Freeville, NY 13068
607/347-6631

UPCOMING MEETINGS***

July 11, Noon at Mary Ann Sumner's. From Ithaca, take Rt 13N past the airport, turn left on Hanshaw Rd, take third right onto Neimi Rd, second driveway on left. Her phone # 257-5754. She'll have a big fire going under the maple sugar shed, so bring your dye pots. And of course, your wheels and lunch.

August 15 (third Sat this month!) Noon, at Joan Johnston's. Joan has a large carding machine, so bring your fleeces, if desired, cleaned and ready for the carder. Joan lives at 1025 Bostwick Rd, Ithaca. Directions to follow in next newsletter.

WORKSHOPS*** Yes, there's still time to plan a workshop for this year. And it takes your involvement--your input on whom to arrange for, your help in organizing if time, energy and enthusiasm move you, and your participation in the workshop itself. It's important to know whether you'd be interested in taking a particular workshop before the Guild commits itself. So please, take the time to look over the possibilities and to add your own ideas and send the form on the back page of this newsletter or call me (347-6631) no later than the July 11 meeting when we'll make a decision on a workshop to sponsor. Unfortunately, Jean Case has been ill and will not be giving silk workshops for some time. For those of you not familiar with Guild workshops, they are quite different from the meeting programs. They can run anywhere from one day to a full weekend, vary in cost depending on the workshop leader's fee, and are usually limited in number of participants.

Ithaca Festival, June Meeting, Items of Interest*** What happened to the June meeting anyway?! Well, it went like this -- the sun was shining on the Ithaca Commons where the Guild officers were demonstrating spinning to a very interested audience of passers by at the Ithaca Festival. The gaeity, the sunshine, the afghan on display and selling tickets--it was a unanimous and spontaneous decision to stay outside and educate the public. To anyone who went to the Varna Community Building, saw our note, and did not come down to the Commons, our apologies for sending you out of your way. The demonstrating was a delight;

we were pleased at the enthusiasm of the crowd. Several people tried their hands at the spinning wheels and drop spindle. We were deluged with onlookers the whole 4 hours. Look for the program on cotton at another meeting this year.

There is a large bag of Lincoln fleece a woman donated to the Guild at the festival. I'll bring the fleece (it's already washed) to the July meeting for anyone whose interested in spinning some of it. Another woman stopped by, wondering about trading some Angora hair she hasn't gotten around to spinning herself: "Angora hair (combed ,not plucked) light grey, quite a bit. I would like to trade for some nice handspun and give the Angora a chance to find a good home. Sarah 273-0563." Also, a woman involved with the Thomas Homestead Festival, a music weekend in Savona ,NY, stopped by to invite the Guild to demonstrate during the festival which runs July 24-26. I'm writing her a note for more details --which day they'd want demonstrators, would we get free admission, free camping, how far from parking would one have to carry equipment, etc. If you're interested, and I've heard it's a wonderful festival, give me a call for more information, directions, etc.

Lots of things happening this summer. Here's some things you might want to check out.

Member Nancy Morey just published a book! Congratulations! Rainbow Dyeing, A Multi-Color Approach to Dyeing starts with dyeing grease wool and acid dyes, and goes through "dyeing clean wools, exotic fibers, rovings, yarns, and what can only be called 'the whole thing'"

New York State Fair Booklets are in. Michelle Kurz has a stack of them, if anyone is interested in entering items to the fair this year. Don't think your handspun and handspun sweaters or what have you have to be of highly professional quality to be entered. Even beginners should be encouraged to enter their work to the fair. If nothing else, you will get an outside, objective critique of your spinning, and you may be surprised with a cash prize, who knows.

The Farmers' Museum in Cooperstown, NY is having their 4th annual day "just for all of us to get together to spin, dye, and visit." The date is Aug. 15, Sat. from 9:30- 5:30 with a pot luck meal in the carriage shed after the museum closes to the public. They will provide a spot to dye so bring your dye pots as well as your wheels. They also have fleece they need spun for museum projects. So you can either bring your own fleeces or spin for them. Admittance to the museum is free for all spinners and dyers. There will also be demonstrations of the vertical spinner, the pendulum wheel, plus several other unusual wheels from their collection, as well as a reading from some letters and journals from 1795-1825.

To register ahead of time contact Rabbit Goody, Supervisor of Domestic Arts, The Farmers' Museum, Lake Rd, PO Box 800, Cooperstown, NY 13326.

The Troy Fair Crafts Committee is having its 16th annual Wool Day on July 29. There will be a handspuns Contest judged by Dora Swart. The categories are 2-ply wool, garments and/or accessories made form handspun yarns, and best of show, polled by the public. Demonstrators are highly encouraged to participate. Vendors are asked for a donation of \$10 or 10% of sales, whichever is lower. Applications due by July 6:Dawn Landis, RD#1, Box 279D, Monroeton, Pa 18832. 265-7356.

Upstate Crafts Fair which runs July30- Aug 1, needs volunteer helpers. If you can spare some time for this wonderful event, send a postcard indicating the times and day you can help out. Include your address and phone number. You will be contacted if there is a scheduling conflict, otherwise you should assume that the dates you chose are fine. They will send you a reminder shortly before the fair. Send to Sally Grub, Upstate Crafts Fair, PO Box 173, Ithaca, NY 14851.

Beginners Informal Gathering**** Kathy Halton is inviting everyone--beginners and experienced spinners (come and share what you know with us all!)--to her home to sit and spin, Sat, July 18 from Noon til around 3-ish. It will be a very informal day in which many basic things can be gone over such as skirting, washing, carding, teasing, or what-have-you. She's promised to save a fleece from Market Day to skirt and sort together. And the setting sounds lovely--a screened in porch, and the view of a creek out back. Bring a bag lunch and call ahead to let her know if you are coming so she'll have some idea of how many people to expect. 273-0533. She lives at 2505 Danby Rd. Take 96 B out of Ithaca, past Ithaca College, about 9 miles from Ithaca, on the left. For reference, her driveway (you can not see the house from the road) is about 3 miles past the Benjamin One Stop garage and the Danby Church.

New Addresses, New Members***** Welcome! Please add the following to your 1987 membership list. A few people have asked for a list after I sent them out. Perhaps I missed sending them to several people more? Please let me know if you have not received one and I'll include it in your next newsletter.

Jeanne Lawless (A)
506 VRT
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
273-0216

G.E. McCarthy
2564 Rt 14A
Penn Yan, NY 14527
315-536-8955

Bill Ralph
RD1 Box 141 A
Rome, Pa 18837
717-247-7175

Mary A Lynch
31 Rotary Ave
Binghamton, NY 13905
607-797-4257

Market Day*****Despite the precarious looking weather, it was a lovely day and quite successful for the Guild. Not all the expenses have been tallied yet, but Kathy says it looks like the Guild cleared roughly \$100!! Thanks to everyone's hard work and participation. Kay, thanks for the terrific job coordinating the whole affair. The afghan was a huge success. Special thanks to Handworks downtown for the use of their window for two weeks (for displaying the afghan and to Joan and Kathy for the beautiful display they did. Handworks also sold raffle tickets for us. For those who did not last through the drawing, Jean Currie won the afghan. The Beginners' Corner was also very successful. Kathy, Michelle, and Barbara were busy the whole day. Kathy already has ideas for next year--expanding the beginners' area to include dyeing and providing a special kids' corner, perhaps separated off by the same partitions used for the booths in the pavillion. It might be a good idea to get any suggestions down on paper now while they are still fresh. They can be added to whatever materials Kay has to pass along to next years coordinator. More to add to this next newsletter when everyone has had a chance to go over the day.

Next Newsletter*****The next newsletter will be for August and September. If you have information for Sept, I'll need it for the August newsletter. The deadline is Sat, Aug 1. Thanks to everyone for all the great contributions to the newsletters! If you have any information, views, experiences, mailings, or anything else like cartoons, poems, or drawings that other Guild members might like to know about, please send them my way.

Advertisements*****

For Sale: Brother Bulky Eight Knitting Machine. \$150 in good condition.
Call Debbie 277-6830 2/3

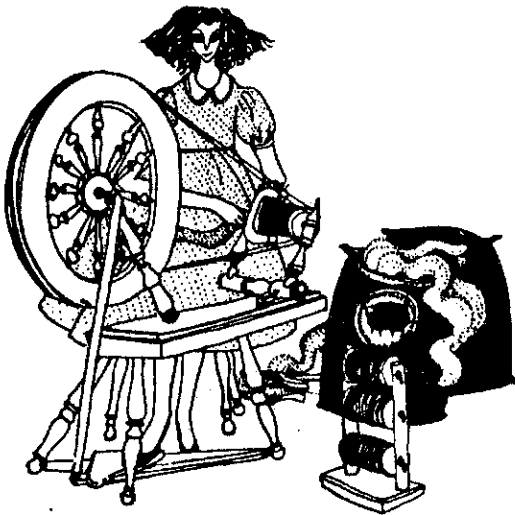
Custom Carding. Bring those fresh, washed fleeces to be well carded for easy spinning -- still only \$2/pound. Dyed and natural wool, mohair and silk for mixing or spinning alone. Joan Johnston, 1025 Bostwick Rd, Ithaca. 272-2697. 2/3

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

"The hands are like a tap to turn on the creative stream that connects
the heart and the head."

Mary Crovatt Hambridge (1885-1973)

*****UPCOMING EVENTS*****



July 11 Aurorafest '87, "hist-Aurara-Cal..Remember When" Displays and vending welcome. \$5. Contact Sally Krueger, Rt 34B, Scipio Center, NY 13147. 315-364-7998.

July 13-17 and 27-31 Georgian College Master Spinner Program under the auspices of the School for Continuous Learning. The candidate must complete 6 levels of course work and an in-depth study of at least 20 pages on a spinning related topic. Levels I, II and III will cover all the basics, all fibers and all techniques. Levels IV, V, and VI will cover the same thing in more detail, with more comprehensive documentation of each method and topic, more depth of knowledge, more refinement of spinning skills and sharper analytical and communication skills. The first two levels will be offered this summer. Fees are minimal. For registration info, Georgian College, School of Continuous Learning, One Georgian Drive, Barrie, Ontario L4M 3X9. 705/722-1544.

July 24-26 Thomas Homestead Festival, Gathering '87. in Savona, NY just beyond Watkins Glen. They are interested in demonstrators of spinning. See main body of newsletter for more.

July 25 Connecticut Agricultural Sheep-to-Shawl Contest. Jill Roby, 59 John Hand Drive, Coventry, Ct 06238. 203/742-1201.

July 29 Troy Fair Wool Day Demonstrators welcome and encouraged (spinning, weaving, fiber preparation, etc). Vendors \$10 or 10% of sales, whichever is less. Handspun Contest judged by Dora Swart. Contact Dawn Landis, RD 1, Box 279D, Monroeton, Pa 18832. 265-7356. Application deadline, July 6.

July 30-Aug 1 Upstate Crafts Fair. Juried crafts show. Demonstrations. Deadline without a late fee is June 30. They are looking for volunteers through the fair. See body of newsletter for more details. Upstate Crafts, PO Box 173, Ithaca, NY 14851.

August 1 Deadline for submissions to the State Fair in Syracuse. Michelle Kurz has the entry booklets. There are prizes in the handspun category and it is a fun day.

Aug 15 The Farmers' Museum spinning/dyeing/visitting day. See body of newsletter.

Sept 26 21st Annual Octagon Fair. \$30 fee for displays/vendors. They are expecting thousands of people. Apply by Sept 11 without late fee of \$5, Octagon Fair, Office of Alumni Affairs, Elmira College, Elmira, NY 14901. 607/734-3911.

Oct 10 7th Annual Lace Day sponsored by the Finger Lakes Lace Guild of Ithaca. Exhibits, supplies, mini-workshops. Speaker, Pat Earnshaw from England, on "Lace in Fashion" Women's Community Building, 100 W Seneca St, Ithaca, NY 11 AM-4:30 PM For info, Holly Van Sciver 277-0498 or Jean Warholic 539-7648.

Oct 11 Lace Identification Workshop. Fee. For info see above.

Oct 17-18 Central NY Handspinners Seminar, Cazenovia NY. Registration limited.

WORKSHOP INPUT*****Please fill out and send in to Debbie Serviente, 63 Neimi Rd, Freeville, NY 13068 or call 607/347-6631 by the July 11 th meeting. Best yet, come to the meeting at Mary Ann's to discuss and decide on workshop possibilities for this year.

<u>Areas of Interest to you:</u>	_____ Spinning	_____ Knitting
What would you be willing to take a workshop on?	_____ Silk	_____ Felting
What do you want to learn more about?	_____ Linen	_____ Dyeing
	_____ Other Fiber	_____ Other (What??)

Specific Workshops

Who would you like to take a workshop with?

_____ Allen Fannin, spinning.

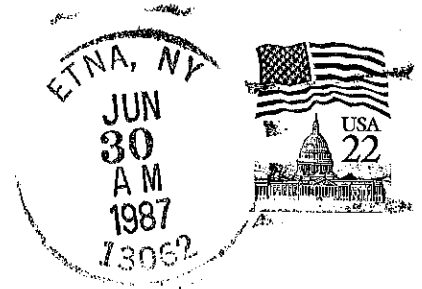
_____ Arlene Mintzer, specialty yarns, knitting, crocheting

_____ Sue Beavers, spinning weekend, other workshops available

_____ Anne Kreckel, Yarn Design, 2½ days.

_____ Others ?? Who??

BLACKSHEEP HAND SPINNERS GUILD
PO BOX 6701
Ithaca, NY 14851



Kay R. Stickane
64 Willow Creek Road
Ithaca, NY 14850