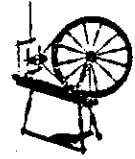




Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Newsletter

No. 125- December 1989

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UPCOMING MEETINGS *** Varna Community Center

December 9, noon: Dish to pass and small gift exchange. This was a lot of fun last year, so be sure to put it on your calendar! We'll also be able to sign up for Celia Quinn's workshops to be held next spring (see info below).

ROCK DAY! 11 a.m., January 13: We look forward to another gala event. Nancy Morey has mailed out info to potential vendors, and guild members from years past will be invited, so we hope to use the larger room to accommodate the crowd. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass and a table setting. We expect a fun-filled time with vendors, door prizes (if you have one to donate, that's great) and (for those who remember last year, or was it the year before?) HEAT. Librarian Debbie Miller plans to auction off BSHG's issues of magazines that are 5 + years old. Be prepared for some exciting surprise contests.

REPORT ON NOVEMBER MEETING ***

Lisa Merian provided gentle critiquing of an array of handmade yarns and wearables, both complete and in progress. To mention just a few, Celia Radke had 3 sweaters (see pattern below) and Debbie Serviente was finishing a woven, hooded jacket with knitted waistband.

Officers for 1990 were elected by unanimous acclaim. Once again it's an all-star lineup with president Sharon Gombas, vice president and program chairperson Debbie Benzer, secretary Jill Lott, treasurer Nancy Wilson and librarian Debbie Miller. Thanks to all of you, and to the nominating committee as well.

The rest of the meeting involved generating ideas and making plans for Rock Day. It was, as usual, a lively afternoon.

OUT AND ABOUT*** Nancy Morey

Jill, Amy and I participated in the Greene Elementary School 5th and 6th grade Thanksgiving program. Jill demonstrated weaving, Amy talked about and demonstrated spinning flax and cotton, and I brought in two lambs and Jill's bunny. The students got to try weaving and spinning - it was a busy one and a half hours! We were "rewarded" for our time with a complete Thanksgiving feast put on by the kids the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

TIME TO RENEW!!***

Yes, it's that time again. Attached you will find a colorful form to fill out and send to me or, better yet, bring to the December or January meeting. The new membership list and phone tree will be drawn up and planted early next year, so please try to get your info and check to me ASAP. Why not sit down right now...???

Please note that dues for inactive members are \$12, while active members pay \$10. An active member is expected to attend at least half of the meetings and participate in demonstrations and guild events. Secretary Nancy Morey has taken attendance for the last year and has found that there are more than a dozen "active" members who haven't managed to be as active as they had hoped. Even if you aren't able to attend a lot of meetings, there are still a lot of events that could use your "activity", so jump right in.

TREASURER'S REPORT***

BSHG congratulates treasurer Nancy Wilson on the birth of her new treasure, daughter Abigail June, born November 10th weighing 9lbs., 15 oz. So that's why you weren't at the last meeting...

MOONSHADOW'S CORNER *** Laura Michel

I strongly recommend using an intercom system between the barn and house to monitor your animals.

I started by using one of the baby monitor systems. The first one had terrible reception so when I returned it I decided to spend extra time to check system out in the store first. A friend came with me and she took one part of the system to the far end of the store and we proceeded to make BAA-ing noises at various distances from the receivers. Since my flock has altos, tenors, basses and sopranos we tried a whole range. I never saw so many salespeople appear at once to offer assistance! They were all amused that I wanted to use this in my barn. It took about 10 minutes to get a few sales clerks into the spirit of it and they were BAA-ing too! We did notice most of the customers leaving, though.

I wound up getting my system at Radio Shack, and amused their employees too. An intercom is a great (and cheap) investment that will save you time and energy. I used to get out of bed every two hours or sleep in the barn during lambing and kidding and I usually caught a cold afterwards. This year I hardly had to lose a night's sleep. I put the intercom up high in the animals' pen and the other half of the system in my bedroom. It took me a few nights to figure the volume level that I could still acknowledge while sleeping.

But, I'll tell you, you don't know your animals until you can spy on them with an intercom. They have certain schedules for waking and eating, playing, cud'chewing, and breeding. One night I heard their metal feed buckets crashing around. I went out to the barn and all the animals were lying quietly. Hmm... So, back to bed and soon the metal crashing again. This time I caught the culprit jumping in and out of the tubs, so now I use rubber tubs and sleep better!

One of my goats was a snorer and no matter where I hung the intercom she'd sleep directly beneath it so it would sound like chainsaws in my bedroom. I'd have to get up and move her each night. Then one night I was shocked out of a sound sleep by loud, horrible noises. I ran out to the barn to see a goat up on her hind legs chewing on the intercom!

My best revenge is reversing the "talk" mechanism. When the animals are fussing I press the button and say, "STOP THAT, YOU BAD BEASTS!" The first time I did that and ran out to the barn I found 35 animals lined up quietly staring up at the intercom trying to figure out how mommy fits in that six inch square box.

LEAKS IN THE LIBRARY ***

We're not talking about water leaking in, we're talking about our collection of books and periodicals leaking out. For those of us who thought we'd hold on to something for, say, another month or two, librarian Debbie Miller wants you to know that your time is up! The following is a list of overdue items. Please bring them to the December meeting, or make arrangements with Debbie (844-4348). If you know the whereabouts of these wanted items, or are in touch with any borrowers who may not receive this notice, please take action! Reward offered: a complete library.

<u>Spin Off</u>	<u>Date Out</u>	<u>Borrower</u>
Vol. 3, 1979	7/88	Joan Johnston
Vol. 8, 1983	1/85	Marcia Meigs
Vol. 9, 1985	1/86	Tina Fenn

Vol. 10, 1988	5/88	Eleanor May
Vol. 12, 1988	9/89	Ann Furman

<u>Sh. Sp. & Dye.</u>	<u>Date Out</u>	<u>Borrower</u>
Winter, 1981	2/83	C. Altmann
Winter, 1983	1/86	C. Whitted
Spring, 1984	1/89	E. May
Fall, 1985	4/88	T. Fenn
Fall, 1985	2/86	P. Randorf
Spring, 1986	9/88	D. Serviente
Fall, 1986	11/86	A. Brill

<u>Books. etc.</u>	<u>Date Out</u>	<u>Borrower</u>
Indigo and Antiquity	10/82	C. Matijas
Frame Loom Weaving	4/83	Ann Olsen
Step-by-Step Weaving	11/87	Bev Davenport
The Web, Aug.	11/82	M.A. Lynch
The Web, March	11/82	M.A. Lynch
Care and Feeding of Spinning Wheels	12/87	E.P. Case
101 Questions for Spinners	3/89	Dawn Orr
Spinning and Weaving with Wool	2/89	Y. LaMontagne
Spinning for Softness and Speed	2/89	A. Furman
Handspinning: Art and Technique	2/89	Y. LaMontagne
Handspinning Cotton	2/86	P. Randorf
The Complete Spinning Book	4/87	B. Lok
Feltmaking	12/87	E.P. Case
Color and Fiber	1/89	M.A. Lynch
Your Handspinning	??	M. Meier
British Sheep Fleece	12/87	E.P. Case
Spinning Wheel Building & Restoration	5/89	N. Demjanec

LIBRARY LOANS ***

Just to make sure that everyone understands the proper procedure for signing out books, Debbie Miller offers the following guidelines:

- 1) Take card from book or magazine.
- 2) Write your name, the month and the year.
- 3) Insert card into green library box
- 4) When you return the item, get the card from the box and write the return month and year
- 5) Put the card back into the book and magazine before reshelving the item.

Debbie stresses that you **must not** leave the card in the box - this creates confusion, and you might find yourself on our ten-most-wanted list (see above) when the item has actually been returned.

UPDATE ON SILK ORDER ***

The silk has arrived! Nancy Demjanec received the first shipment the day before November's meeting. Nancy Morey brought a scale and weighed it out at the meeting. The quality of the degumming varies, as N.M. noted. See the last newsletter for degumming instructions.

Thanks go to Nancy Demjanec for her diligence in organizing this huge silk order. She coordinated the order with Northwest Spinners & Weavers Guild (Pa.) and Genessee Valley, and has sent them their silk.

Those who ordered silk but were not present at the November meeting (Gail Fulkerson, Marian Smith and Ann Furman) should call Nancy.

CELIA QUINN WORKSHOP***

Celia Quinn's spring workshop is now definite. Nancy Morey, who is coordinating this workshop, will have registration forms at the December meeting. A deposit is required as space is limited. As for all workshops, there will be no refund if you fail to attend. In January the workshops will be opened to non-guild members on a first-come, first-served basis.

SWEATER PATTERN***

For those who missed the November meeting and didn't see Celia Radke's beautiful cable sweater, believe me that the drawing below doesn't begin to do it justice.

Celia was kind enough to forward the instructions. I'd like to make this a regular feature of the newsletter, so if you have a favorite item please send details - wouldn't it be great to share a new pattern each month?

The following is taken from *Family Circle Knitting*, vol. 13, no. 5. Celia used sizes 6 and 8 needles, and size 6 dp needles, as well as two buttons for the collar.

CABLE PULLOVER WITH COLLAR



GAUGE: Pat st on larger needles (slightly stretched): 6 sts = 1", 6 rows = 1". **NOTE:** This is a stretchy pat. St st on larger needles: 5 sts = 1". **TO SAVE TIME, TAKE TIME TO CHECK GAUGE.**

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS:

Sizes:	Small	Medium	Large
Bust:ap- prox	38 1/2"	42"	45"
back width at underarm:	19 1/4"	21"	22 1/2"
Sleeve width at upperarm:	18 3/4"	19 1/2"	20 1/4"

PAT I (6 st Cable): Rows 1 and 3 (right side): K6. Rows 2, 4 and 6: P6. Row 5: Sl 3 sts to a dpn, hold in front of work, k3, k3 off dpn. Rep these 6 rows for Pat I.

PAT II (12 st Braid Cable): Rows 1, 3, 7 and 9 (right side): K12. Rows 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12: P12. Row 5: K4, sl next 4 sts to a dpn, hold in back of work, k4, k4 off dpn. Row 11: Sl 4 sts to a dpn, hold in front of work, k4, k4 off dpn, k4. Rep these 12 rows for Pat II.

BACK: With smaller needles, cast on 91 (101-109) sts. Work in k1, p1 ribbing for 2", inc 29 sts evenly across last row -120 (130-138) sts.

Change to larger needles and pats. Row 1: P 3(2-6), Row 1 of Pat I over 0(6-6) sts, p 3, Row 1 of Pat II over 12 sts, p3, [Row 1 of Pat I over 6 sts, p3, Row 1 of Pat II over 12 sts, p3] 4 times, Row 1 of Pat I over 0(6-6) sts, p3 (2-6). Row 2: k3(2-6), Row 2 of Pat I over 0(6-6) sts, k3, Row 2 of Pat II over 12 sts, k3, [Row 2 of Pat I over 6 sts, k3, Row 2 of Pat II over 12 sts, k3] 4 times, Row 2 of Pat I over 0(6-6) sts, k3 (2-6). [Note: There are 4(6-6) Pat I cables and 5 Pat II cables across row]. Keeping sts between cable pats in Reverse St st (p side is right side), work in pats as established. Work to 23(23 1/2-24)" from beg, end with a right-side row. Dec Row: Keeping to pat, work across, dec 1 st at center of each Pat I cable and 2 sts evenly spaced across each Pat II cable -106(114-122)sts. Bind off all sts.

FRONT: As back to 20(20 1/2-21)" from beg, end with a right-side row -120(130-138)sts. **Shape Neck:** Dec Row: Keeping to pats, work to beg of 3rd Pat II cable, dec 2 sts evenly spaced across this cable, complete row -118(128-136)sts. Row 1: Keeping to pat, work 52(56-59)sts, join a 2nd ball of yarn, bind off center 14(16-18)sts, complete row. Working both sides at same time, dec 1 st at each neck edge every row 2 times, every other row 6 times -44(48-51)sts each side of neck. Work to length as back to Dec Row. Dec Row: Keeping to pat, dec 1 st at center of

each Pat I cable and 2 sts evenly spaced across each Pat II cable. Bind off all sts.

SLEEVES: With smaller needles, cast on 47(51-55)sts. Work in k1, p1 ribbing for 2". Change to larger needles and St st. Inc 1 st each end every 4th row 24 times -95(99-103)sts. Work to 19" from beg, or desired length. Bind off all sts.

FINISHING: Sew shoulder seams. **COLLAR:** From right side, beg 2 rows below front neck, bind off and starting at left edge of center Pat II cable, with dpn needles pick up and k 9 sts across cable, ending at neck edge [NOTE: This tapers right edge of collar]. Pick up and k 80(84-88) sts around neck edge, end at right edge of center Pat II cable -89(93-97)sts. Divide sts evenly between 3 dpn needles. Work back and forth as if working with 2 needles. Work in k1, p1 ribbing. Work 5 rows. Buttonhole Row 1: Rib 3 sts, bind off 2 sts, complete row. Row 2: Work to bound-off sts, cast on 2 sts, rib 3 sts. Work 6 rows. Rep Buttonhole Rows 1 and 2. Work 6 rows. Bind off loosely in ribbing. Match center top of sleeves to shoulder seams. Sew top of sleeves to front and back. Sew side and sleeve seams. Sew on buttons.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

February 10-11, 1990: Pre-Valentine's Day workshop on Japanese stand-and-bobbin braiding. Masa Kinoshita will teach participants to make "My Valentine Belt". For information call Masa Kinoshita, 257-0886.

Spring and Fall, 1990. Rowan tour to Scotland. Special knitting, weaving and spinning tours accompanied by famous mentors such as Alice Starmore and Ann Sutton. Visits to Scottish woolen mills, Edinburgh Tapestry Co., seminars with leading knitwear designers, knitting studios, folk craft centers, meeting with famous Scottish design and craft personalities, visit to Fair Isle Museum, demonstrations and workshops in a range

of Shetland crafts, including spinning, fine knitted lace, Fair Isle knitting and weaving. Organized in association with the Shetland Guild of Spinners, Dyers and Weavers. See Harris Tweed weavers and much more. The tour includes visits to Lerwick, Shetland Isles, Inverness, Scottish Highlands, Isle of Harris, west coast of Scotland, Isle of Skye and Edinburgh. This 14-day tour is offered in April and May, Sept. and Oct. with various mentors leading each one. For further information write The Fiber Studio, PO Box 637, Henniker, NH 03242, or phone 603/428-7830.

June 8-10, 1990: Ontario Handspinning Seminar. Toronto. See me for information. It should be a wonderful time. Wool will be the featured fiber.

June 15-17: Midwest Fiber Conference. Pittsburgh Hilton.

ESCA is working to relocate their Corning Fair to Syracuse. Did you know that they offer grants to NYS craft artists? The grants are in 6 categories, amounts to \$1,000. I have the newsletter.

ADVERTISEMENTS ***

Advertising rates:

1-3 lines: \$1 for one time, \$2 for three times.

4-12 lines: \$5 for one time

13 lines- 1/2 page: \$10 for one time

Drum carder for sale, \$90.00. Fricke (sells new for \$140) with coarse teeth, 8 inch drum. Debbie, 347-6631.(3/3)

Fleeces from my purebred & crossbred Border Leicesters. I have many to choose from & need to make room for upcoming shearing. They were \$2.00/lb, now \$1.50/lb. Mohair too at \$4.00/lb. Moonshadow Farm, 564-9223. (2/3)

For Sale: Purebred registered ram lamb born 2/1/89. Bottle raised twin. Beautiful fleece. Very tame. To good home only. Offers over \$100 considered. Moonshadow Farm, 564-9223 (2/3)

For Sale: Great wheel. Spins well, \$225. Also, white angora female bunny, 8 months old, breeding unknown, \$10. Call Amy Cook, 656-8626. (2/3)

Is your loom collecting dust? When was the last time you wove? I'm looking to buy a floor loom, 30 inches plus width. Call Debbie Benzer at 277-6830.

For Sale: Bred ewes. Border Leicesters and Leicester crosses, Targhee - Finn cross. Bred to purebred Leicester ram. \$75 and up. Moonshadow Farm, 564-9223.(1/3)

Harrisville Design floor loom with adjustable bench. 4-harness, 22 inch width. \$350.00. Jill Lott, 607/656-7537. (1/3)

Angora buck goat and bred angora does for sale. \$150 each. Moonshadow Farm, 564-9223. (1/3)

Schacht Wheel Special through 12/21/89: only \$375 at the shop or \$385 shipped to you! (Sugg. retail is \$435.) Also used Electronic knitting machine, excellent condition, \$850 (costs \$1,500 new). Call Marianne at The Woolery, Genoa. 315/497-1542.

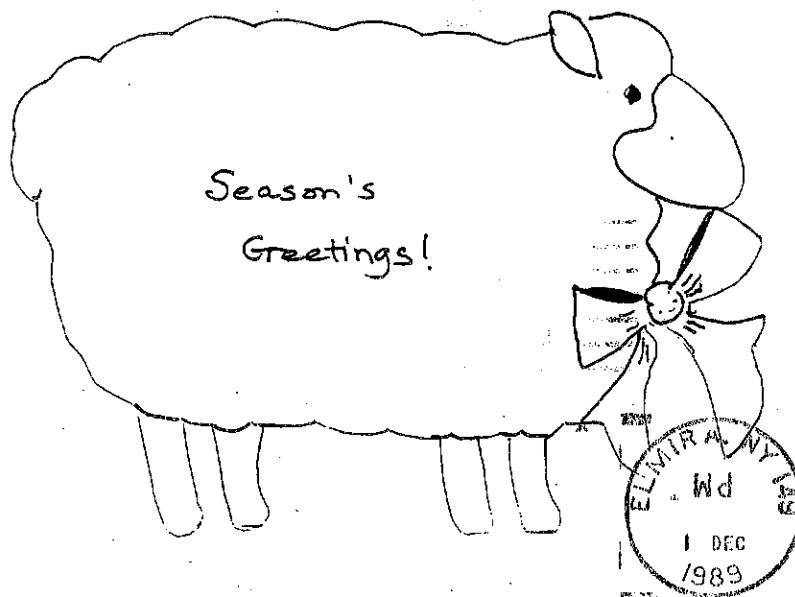
The Last Word***

Last month we received a combination newsletter and sales brochure from Aussie Yarns in Western Australia. In addition to a price list, it features commentary on

Allen Fannin's visit to Western Australia, lists of upcoming workshops and competitions (in Western Australia, of course), a trouble shooting guide to wheel problems, a sock pattern and even a recipe for scones (pronounced 'skons'). It's really worth a look, primarily because the style is so warm and friendly. I'll bring it to the December meeting.

LAST MINUTE REQUEST FROM SHARON:

Bring quick gift patterns to the December meeting!



Black Sheep Handspinners Guild

P.O. Box 6701
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Kay Stickane
64 Willow Creek Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

There will be NO newsletter in January. Submissions for February due by the beginning of the last week in January..