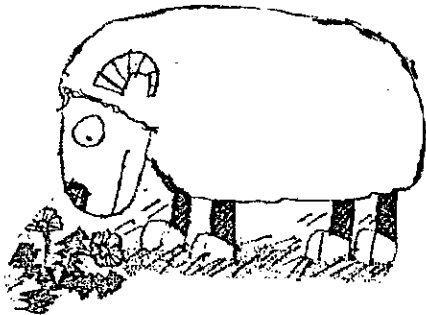


BLACKSHEEP HANDSPINNERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

MAY 1992



The Blacksheep Handspinners Guild meets 2nd Saturday of each month from 11-3 at the Varna Community Center on Rt 366. If your coming North on 13, take a left at the sign just past NYSEG and if your coming South on 13, take a right at the sign about 3 miles past Triphammer Mall at the Treeforms Furniture Store. If coming from Center Ithaca, the community center is about a mile past the vet school on the right.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Meeting will be from 11:00 to 3:00 on Saturday, May 7th at the Varna Community Center.

YOU TOO CAN KNIT A LACE SHAWL:

KARY SOLOMAN AND DAUGHTER JANNA WILL HIGHLIGHT THIS MONTHS MEETING DEMONSTRATING LACE TECHNIQUES:

Kary Solomon will be on hand to help the handspinners learn how to incorporate lacemaking techniques into their homespun craft.

Kary will be talking about continuous thread laces such as tatting, knitted lace and needlelace.

As an added feature, Janna will demonstrate bobbin lace for those of you who are interested.

For the shawl, bring along four double-pointed needles. Size 10 1/2 is preferred but size 8, 9 or 10 can be substituted. We will be learning how to knit a lace shawl from a pattern. (You can also make a doily if you don't feel like tackling a shawl).

Bring fingering or sport weight yarn for the shawl.

You will need 12 to 16 ounces yarn for the shawl. The doily will require less.

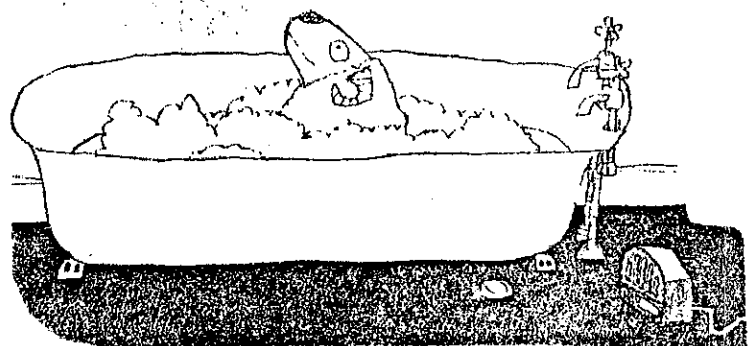
Deb Miller looked up Mabel Ross's knitting chart for fingering to sport weight yarns and submitted the following chart:

	3/ply	4/ply	Thin BK
Threads/Inch (wraps/inch)	35	37	25
Twists/Inch (med soft yrn)	5	4	4
Med Knit	7	6	5

Also, bring along any old lace patterns you may have to share. If you have any continuous thread lace items (not bobbin lace) to show or you would like Kary to analyze, bring them along.

MARKET DAY REMINDER:

If you haven't signed up and are planning to come, please contact Celia Radke (749-2711) ASAP.



GUILD PINS:

They are in. Bring \$5 to cover the printing cost.

MABEL ROSS VIDEO:

The handspinning video is available at the guild.

CLASSIFIEDS:

All classified adds will now be \$2 minimum for each run (20 words or less). \$1 extra for additional 10 or less words.

NOTES ON APRIL'S BSGH BUSINESS MEETING:

Nametags: If you want one and are not already on the list, contact Ellie. A multitude of colors are available. The cost is \$5.

the night before the meeting, a couple of people met a Debbie Benzer's to indigo dye wool for the afghans.

Ellie is in love...with Ann Furman's Magnus Drudick wheel. Ellie is babysitting the wheel while Ann is in France. Celia has ordered one, due in 1996, but is switching places in the queue with Lisa Merion, who has her second one ordered for 1994.

Market day: Nancy Wilson has paid the deposit to the Farmers Market. Raffle tickets and posters are ready. We need a tarp and poles to raise a roof for a covered area to provide shade/shelter. Anyone have one? If we can't find one within the group, we'll need to rent one.

Ithaca Festival: Will we participate this year??

Genesee County Museum: May 17: Ellie has the application.

Kathy Halton, Marian Wykoff, Debbie Benzer

and Shelly Marino participated in a spinning demo at Center Ithaca at the end of March. The lace guild was there as well. Many people stopped by with their children to watch the spinners and lace makers.

The retreat committee (Celia, Kathy H. and Shelly) will meet soon to make plans for the next retreat.

Doris Brown sent a thank your card for the condolence card we sent her.

BSHG will again provide handspinning awards for 4-H spinners participating in the Cortland County Fair. The prizes will be \$5 for the best yarn and \$10 for the best handspun item.

Nancy Wilson brought a brochure from Harrisville Designs on their weaving courses. Two are particularly appealing: "color inspirations" with Nell Znamieroski (sp?), August 10-14, "designing and drafting for weaving" with Rabbit Goody, October 23-25. Contact Nancy if you're interested. The courses come highly recommended and New Hampshire is a great place to get away to.

Ontario Handspinning Seminar: Ellie and Jean Currie are definitely going. Call them for information on carpooling.

Fall Workshop: The Canadian lady who makes felted fabric from knitted pieces can come the first weekend in August. The cost of a weekend workshop would be approximately \$60/person. Ellie was kind enough to suggest we hold it at Jean Currie's house since there would be easy access to a washer for the felting. (You see, Jean, it's dangerous to miss a meeting - heaven only knows what you'll be volunteered for!)

Farmer's Museum Spinners and Dyers Day: August 9, in Cooperstown. Interested? Get on the sign-up list at the next meeting.

Ellie wants to draw up a budget for the Guild, so we can figure out where we stand and what we need and have available for the newsletter, books, workshops, etc. Ellie, Nancy Wilson, Vernice and Shelly will draft it.

Show and Tell news:

Ellie is working on an oddball sweater out of odds and ends for the Ontario Handspinning Seminar. When a colleague seemed appalled that Ellie was knitting away without a pattern, without a draft, just doing what she wanted, Ellie amazed her by announcing, "Well, you know, there really are no knitting police!" Thank you Arlene Mintzer!

Sharon is working on socks that fit.

Vernice had a knitted swatch, as well as a sweatshirt with a knitted, handspun yoke courtesy of her mom.

Nancy Demjanec is knitting cotton. She reminds us to send in our questionnaires.

Kathy Halton brought wool-cotton skeins, and a gorgeous sweater in natural colors with a pattern knit with both hands.

Michelle Knight brought knitted samples.

Alison Lovejoy is putting together new member packets.

Pam Goddard had woven several pieces using some of Schaeffer's painted yarn for weft.

Elaine Case is crocheting a doll's dress that uses three pounds of yarn.

Nancy Wilson is knitting handspun indigo-dyed cotton using ideas from THREADS - Knitting into the back of stitches for flexibility. Nancy also passed around stripped mittens she had knitted.

Celia Radke brought her latest project: A carpet

coat a la **Glorious Knits**. She's using a sumptuous combination of Schaeffer painted yarns and chenilles.

(Thanks again Shelly, the editor)

GENESEE COUNTY MUSEUM SPIN-IN:

Genesee Country Museum
Flint Hill Rd.
Mumford, NY 14511
'92 Spin-In
Sunday, May 17th

The following names were sent to the museum for the spin-in:

Valorie Rockney, Sharon Gombas, Kathy Halton, Kim Slack, Nancy Wilson, Hester Taylor, Elaine Case and Celia Radke.

The spin-in will be at the Exhibition Hall. You must be there and ready to greet the public by 10 a.m. I am not sure if they will mail us our passes or they will be at the door when we arrive.

I asked if we could sell raffle tickets for our Market Day afghan. If we can, we might want to bring an afghan with us.

If anyone wants to sell items you must have the written approval of the Executive Director. If you need further information call Ann C. Salter at 716-538-6822.

I did not send the names in for Cooperstown, in case anyone changes their mind. We do not have to respond for at least another month.

Celia Radke