



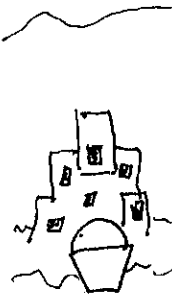
# BLACKSHEEP HANDSPINNERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

## JULY & AUGUST

### 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:

July meeting will be from 11:00 to 3:00 on Saturday, July 11th at Sharon Gombas's home.

You can get to Sharon's home either from Rt 13 by either going north on Triphammer Road or East Shore Drive (34) until you get to 34B. You carry on via 34B, west towards lake until you get to Lansing High School. Just before the school, turn right and go 1/2 mile into Ludlowville. Turn left and go 50 yards, turn right onto Salmon Creek road. Follow the creek about one and 3/4 miles until you get to a mailbox with "177" on it. Call Sharon if your lost or confused at 533-7390.

Be prepared to spin in Sharon's lovely garden.

The August meeting will be at the same time on Saturday, August 8th, at the home of Deb Miller, 94 West Dryden Road. Take 13-E to 366 on the way to Freeville, past Whyte's Coastal Gas. At gas station make a left on to Mills Street. Go to the end of Mills street. Take a left. House is first house on right. The house is cream with huge pine trees in front.

Bring some wool for a famous Debbie size pot or just come and spin.

*Kim Stick*

#### NEW YORK STATE FAIR NEWS:

Our day to spin at the state fair is Friday, August 28th from 10 - 4 at the wool booth. If you can stay later, that would be great. We need people to spin, dye, weave, card and any other process you wish using wool. It would be nice if we could develop a schedule and each person can change around a bit. It is a delightful day to spin and Nancy and the wool growers provide beautifully dyed dorset fleece. However, we are their to educate the public and we need to show a range of activities. Nancy would also like people to assist at a beginners corner at Miller's Court. You will be transported from the wool booth to Miller's Court in one of those nifty golf carts. If you are going to spin with the guild in the wool booth and have not signed up, please call Ellie May, 272-8224. If you are interested in spinning in Miller's Court, please call Nancy directly, 656-4737.

People signed up for State fair are, Debbie Benzer, Celia Radke (weave & spin, 10-1), Ellie May (spin, 10-1), Deb Miller, Nancy Demjanac (1-4), Valarie Rockney (indigo dye), Shelly Marino, Marion Wikoff, and Kay Stickane.

All names must be submitted by July 15.

## AN EXTRACT FROM AN ITINERARY FOR THE STATE FAIR:

### Section 13 - Classes 71-78

HANDSPUN YARN - Any fiber - each entry in classes 71, 72, and 73 must attach a white 3x5 card or paper indicating a plan for usage. Skeins should be approximately 2 ounces in weight (1 1/2 ounces for specialty yarns - silk, angora, cashmere, etc.)

Previously entered yarn is not acceptable.

### CLASS:

71. Proficiency of spin, 2-ply evenness of spin and evenness of ply color.

72. Yarns for clothing, 2-skeins for use in weaving, knitting, crocheting, macrame, etc.

73. Novelty yarns, 2 skeins for any use.

Classes 71 thru 73: 1st prize \$10, 2nd prize, \$5, 3rd prize, \$3, 4th prize \$2.

74. Garment for infant or child (1 or 2 piece) made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc).

75. Adult hat and scarf set or hat and mittens set made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc.)

Classes 74 thru 75: 1st prize, \$15, 2nd prize \$10, 3rd prize \$5 4th prize \$3.

76. Adult sweater, made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc).

77. Any other adult garment made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc.)

78. Any other non-wearable, functional or decorative article (wallhanging, afghan, laprobe, pillow, rug) made from handspun and dyed yarn.

Classes 76 thru 78: 1st prize, \$20, 2nd prize \$15, 3rd prize \$10 4th prize \$5.

### AUGUST WORKSHOP:

Shirley Browsky's felting workshop will be held on July 31st and August 1 and 2, at Jean Currie's home, 2873 Elmira Road, Newfield, NY. 564-9346. Take Rt 13 toward Elmira past Mazourek Farm Implements. It is a red farm house on left with sheep in the pasture. If you reach a beautiful big barn with date on its side and a craft shop sign out front, you've gone too far.

Cost is \$45 with a materials fee. Send \$25 by July 10, with balance due by July 31 to guarantee your spot. There are still openings.

Be sure and read her article in the summer issue of SPIN OFF, called WOOL/MOHAIR FELT, pg 87.

Shirley will teach fiber preparation and spinning technique but you will need to purchase her prepared fiber if you expect to finish a project. (\$8 a 100 gram ball). About \$16 for a hat, \$60 to 70 for a vest. (Note from Ellie, "I might just do the front and use fabric for back").

She is an enthusiastic lady and will spend time keeping each individual occupied.

Friday, July 31, 7:30 - 9: Get acquainted, get materials, see slides. Bring spinning equipment, carders and carding machines and a vest pattern if you are planning a vest.

Saturday, August 1, 9 - 4: Blend of spinning and knitting. Set up knitting machines. Felting if ready.

Sunday, August 2, 9 - ?: Felting and sewing. Bring sewing machine, lining and all binding if you are going to complete your vest.

Bring your lunch each day. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

### **ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT TO BRING:**

Circular knitting needles. (If you have the interchangeable kit, that would be perfect.)

Hat: She casts on 100 stitches with size 15 and then changes to 13. Ellie's note: "If you are buying needles, don't buy circular 15's. Either borrow them at the workshop, or cast on with two straight knitting needles of the same size, then use size 11 needles, either circular or four double pointed.")

Sounds as though you might need double pointed size 11's for crown. (Ellie's note: "I'll try to bring some double points and we can share").

Mittens: Need size 6, double pointed needles or very small circulars. You will be casting on only 48 stitches.

2. Garbage yarn for stitch holders.
3. One each small and medium crochet hook.
4. Tapestry needle.
5. Towel.
6. Wig or head stand if you have one.
7. Slippery yarn such as polyester or weaving thread.
8. Bulky knitting machine if you have one.
9. Don't forget spinning and carding materials.

### **SPINNERS MARKET DAY:**

It was a beautiful and busy day for both spinners and vendors. Raffle sales were \$160

and ticket winners were:

- 1: Melanie Moore
- 2: Celia Radke (again! Such luck.)

The Guild member winner for most sales was Nancy Wilson. Second prize of stationary was won by Shelly Marino.

There were 26 guild members in attendance.

Please get down your ideas and thoughts and lets have a critique at the September meeting. I think we need to decide on the goals of the day. I wonder if we are trying to do too much in the space allocated to us. Space for Guest spinners and demonstrations are very crowded and far away from guild booth.

### **GUILD NEWS:**

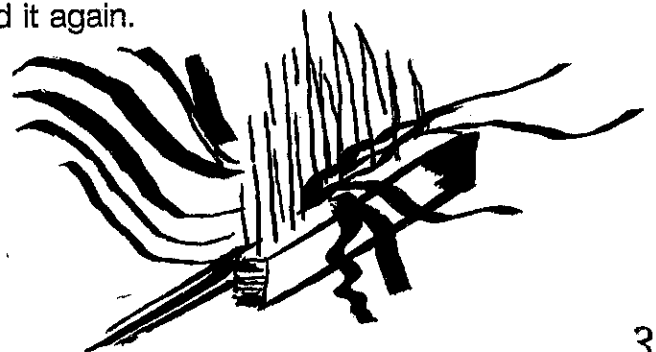
Michelle Knight and Alison Lovejoy will be new co-presidents of LAMB TO LOOM GUILD of Vestal/Binghamton. They will meet every other month in Vestal and in homes on alternate months.

Michelle is going to Woodland Wool Works in August. If you want something from there, call her, 754-3086.

Ann Furman is back! She gave us a little report on her wonderful adventures in France, Germany and England. She visited many schools and museums.

Vernice Church's mother is selling her (hand) carder. Does the guild want it?

Michelle Knight brought her new Viking combs and diz. She would buy fine pitch combs if she did it again.



## **THE BOOK CORNER:**

Some of the books recommended for the guild's library:

Marie Bryhan suggested SWEATERS BY HAND by Helene Rush and Racheal Emmons.

Sharon Gombas likes the A WEAVER GARDEN by Rita Buchanan.

Vernice Church donated NO IDLE HANDS.

Ellie suggested THE HANDKNITTERS HANDBOOK by Montse Stanley.

Vernice Church liked KNITTING AROUND.

Valorie Rockney recommended ART OF THE LOOM by Ann Hecht.

## **NOTES FROM THE PREZ:**

Congratulations to Hester Taylor and her husband Ron as well as Dora and Ed Swart. they have recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries. What a milestone!

Our thoughts and prayers are with Marion Wikoff whose husband Howard died in June.

Ontario Handspinners:

Jean Currie and I just returned from our annual trip to Ontario Handspinners Seminar. It is always a great learning experience and fun! The topic was blending. In my workshop with Shirley Browsky, we were given twelve dyed samples and were sent off to blend them in any combination we wanted. But she insisted we include a dreadful green-yellow. Well, to our surprise, it was a good addition to some combinations. I plan to continue the trials with the fleece I brought home. Thus far, I like the purple and red and pink combinations best. (So that's a surprise?) Shirley led a well organized

workshop and interacted with each participant. I don't think you will be disappointed if you attend her felting workshop.

The displays and fashion show were spectacular. Many of the people work towards a master spinner designation and the quality of their work shows this. My felted hat received a lot of nice comments.

Ellie May

## **FLAX SPINNING:**

If you would like to spin flax, come to the Bement-Billings Farmstead Museum on Sunday, July 12, from noon until (possibly) 4. Call Alison Lovejoy for details, 748-3525.

## **NOTE TO THOSE SPINNERS GOING TO COOPERSTOWN:**

Try to be there before 9 am if you want to drive onto grounds and unload. After 9, you will have to park along the road and carry your wheel and gear to the site.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

Ad Rates: 3-6 lines --- \$2 one time for 20 words or less and \$1 for additional 10 words or less.

**FOR SALE:** The Louet S39 Ultimate is here! Special guild price \$370 shipping included. Regular price is \$439. Louet yarn blocker and warping mill, \$100. Lisa Ann Merian, SPINNER'S HILL SHOP, RD#1, Box 118, Brackett Lake Road, Bainbridge, NY 13733, 843-6276.

**FOR SALE:** 44" GLIMAKRA countermarch/ counterbalance loom, 10 harnesses with opphempta attachment. Includes bench. \$1200. You can pay off in installments. Call Kay Ross, 257-4564.

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### COMING EVENTS

**CAPITAL CONVERGENCE:** July 23-26 1992. Information available in the library.

#### FIBER FOCUS II:

September 11-14, 1992 at Touchstone Center for Crafts, PO Box 2141 Uniontown PA 15401 (412-438-2811). Many workshops to participate in. A complete course description and registration information plus discount coupons will be available at the Guild library.

#### FARMERS MUSEUM SPECIAL EVENT:

August 9, Cooperstown NY. We are invited to come and spin for a day at a living museum of rural 1800 New York. Talk to Debbie Benzer for more information.

**Flax Demonstration & Spin-In:** July 12, 1-4 p.m. All spinners welcome. Bement Billings Farmstead Museum. Rte 38, Newark Valley, NY

**THE GATHERING:** At Lower Shaker Village, NH, Nov 6 to 8 in beautiful setting with great workshops. Contact Deb Gile, 154 Old Henniker Road, Hillsboro, NH 03244.

#### LODI FARMERS MARKET SPIN-IN:

August 15, 9 to 12. A good time and William Bartlett, Dryden weaver will be there! Call Shelly Marino for details.

#### TROY FAIR:

August 29. Call Anna-Marie Cole, 717-247-7264 for details. Great sheep to shawl and other wool and spinning related events.

### COMING EVENTS Cont.

#### TOUCHSTONE CENTER FOR CRAFTS:

Ongoing inexpensive weeklong workshops throughout the summer in fiber and other related arts. Write TOUCHSTONE CENTER FOR CRAFTS, PO Box 2141, Uniontown, PA, 15401 or call 412-438-2811 for more information.

#### NEW YORK SHEEP AND WOOL FESTIVAL:

October 17 - 18. Venders, sheepdog trials, lucrative sheep-to-shawl (\$500 prize money), dyeing demos, angora bunny shows. Call or write Pat Bownas, 28 Alda Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603, (914) 462-7007 for more information.

#### SPINNER'S CAMP:

July 19-22. Spin with Georgia Mommaerts in the Wisconsin wilderness. Good opportunity for beginner and intermediate spinners. Write to SPINNER'S CAMP, Dept. of Continuing Ed., U.W. Center-Richland, Hwy. 14, West, Richland Center, Wisconsin, 53581. Registration is past due but there's always next year.

#### THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR:

Aug. 27 thru Sept 7. New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY 13209. Call Nancy Morey for more details. 656-4737.

Have a happy Summer!

Woolie

