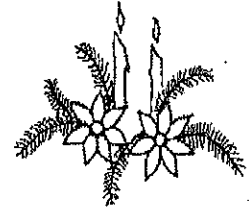


Dec 92

Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Newsletter



Editor, Shelly Marino
631 Hudson St
Ithaca, NY 14850
256-1458



Upcoming Meetings

Note: All meetings are held on Saturdays
at 11 a.m. at the Varna Community Center.

Next meeting:

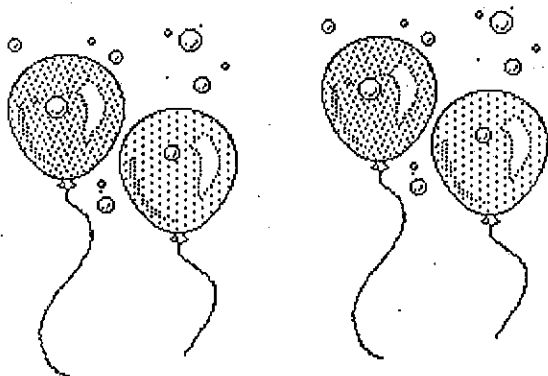
Saturday, December 12, 11am

Don't forget your cup, and how about some goodies and snacks for a pre-holiday treat?

Please remember that we need to leave the hall spotless, so if you must leave early how about putting away your own chair and doing what you can for clean-up?

ROCK DAY 1993!!

We'll start off 1993 right with the annual Rock Day celebration on Saturday, January 9 in Varna.



Be prepared for a good time! For details on what to bring besides your own table service, a dish to pass, spinning equipment and an urge to create, come to the December meeting.

Afghan Options

Celia Radke

The guild owns two fleeces which should be enough for two afghans. Ann Furman has washed them and I will take them to The Woolery to be carded. We would like your opinion on the following options at the next meeting. If you will not be attending let us know what your opinion is.

1. Guild Raffle

Each person will take a portion of fleece, spin it and knit a section of an afghan. The afghan will be knitted in one piece and passed on to each person to knit their section. The afghan would be raffled off to members only at \$10 per ticket, and we must sell 20 tickets, or if you like it could be \$5 per ticket and we must sell 40.

2. Market Day Afghan

If some of you are willing to spin some fleece for an afghan to be raffled off at Market Day I would be willing to weave it.

3. Fleece to Shawl

We could do a fleece to shawl demonstration at Market Day and sell raffle tickets for the shawl.

So let us know what you think or if you have any other ideas.

Report on the November Meeting

Beginners' Workshop

This was one well-attended meeting! There was a profusion of BSHGers and 14 beginners chompin' at the bit to learn the art of spinning. The veteran spinners must be great teachers, because it looked like every beginner left with some real handspun yarn, and I don't mean rope!

Market Day 1993

We had a lively discussion of the pros and cons of holding Market Day at the Neward Valley homestead. We were fortunate in that a representative of the farmstead was present at the meeting to give us a thorough description of the place, and answer our questions. They are offering us the use of a 12' x 25' barn and two 12' x 20' spaces, with electricity available, portable johns, an open fireplace and an outdoor woodstove.

The farmstead has already listed our event in the Finger Lakes Calendar based on our prior commitment, so we agreed that since the commitment had been made we would commence planning for it. Alison Lovejoy will coordinate Market Day with the help of Michelle Knight and Marion Smith. They will contact Nancy Morey and ask for her help with the vendors.

During the course of the discussion members raised several philosophical issues with regard to Market Day, and these should perhaps be addressed at future meetings: Should BSHG and/or Market Day be Ithaca-centered? Should we also hold a Market Day at 4-H Acres in the future, and participate in the farmstead fiber day as well?

Shirley Browsky Workshop

We selected February 12-13 (or possibly later) as the best dates for Shirley Browsky's workshop, which we'd postponed from August.

Celia pointed out errors in the last newsletter concerning her proposal for the next afghan(s). Please see page 1 for the corrected version.

New Officers Elected

The nominating committee is pleased to announce the new slate of officers. Their election was unanimous among those present at the November meeting. Serving the Guild in 1993 will be:

Eleanor May, returning for a second year as President;

Celia Radke and **Anne Furman**, sharing the Vice Presidency and responsibility for programs;

Sharon Gombas, replacing long-time treasurer Nancy Wilson;

Kay Stickane, continuing her outstanding work in the library;

Rickie McClure, who volunteered on the spot to take on the duties of Secretary;

Shelly Marino will be editing the newsletter.

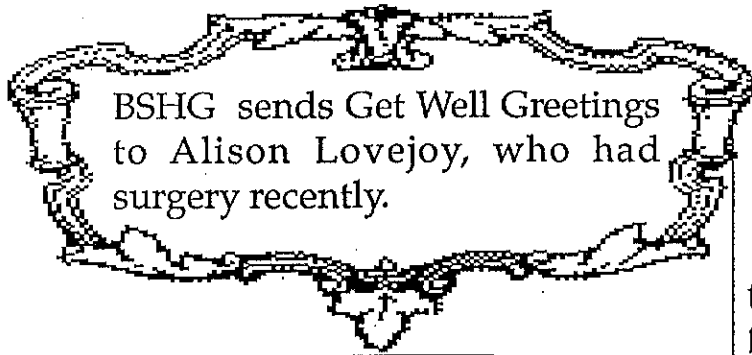
Show and Tell

Show and Tell was brief because we were getting short on time. Here are some highlights:

Kathy Halton passed around yarn she'd already spun from fiber she bought from Jean at the last meeting, and a sweater she knitted using a Penny Straker pattern and yarn she spun from ready to spin fiber (for the first time).

Marie Bryhan showed her 3-ply skeins, green overdyed on the famous Ranger's natural silver gray.

Nancy Wilson displayed two sheep-to-shawls, one from State Fair and one in fall leaf colors from Rhinebeck.



BSHG sends Get Well Greetings to Alison Lovejoy, who had surgery recently.

Foray to the Farmstead

Ellie May

On a damp and windy Saturday morning Debbie Benzer, Michelle Knight, Celia Radke and I drove over to the Bement-Billings Farmstead to meet Linda Chatfield and her husband.

Even in that weather it was not hard to imagine what a nice spot that will be for Market Day. There is an empty barn with a 18' x 40' tarp attached to one side. There is a great spot off to the side of that tent for an additional vendors' tent and space in front of it for demonstrators. (We might want to borrow more tents like the one Vernice Church has since it's better to be prepared for rain and not need it. The Museum has one 15' x 15' tent.)

Linda thinks the minimum number of people who will come is 200. There is no charge for everything going on outside the homestead; there is a charge for the museum interpreter's guided tour of the house.

We thought we would use the inside side of the barn and outside its doors for demonstrating and the rented tent and tent attached to the barn for vendors, guild tables, etc. They can set us a butchers wood stove for dye pots. We will need to bring or rent tables and chairs.

P.S. If you are out for a drive and would like to see for yourself, take route 38 to Endicott. It's on the right hand side of the road before you reach Neward Valley, a dark green house with a sign on it.

Market Day Date Change
Market Day will be JUNE 20, 1993,
from 10-3.

Ellie May

Nancy Morey pointed out to us that the Mid Atlantic Fiber Conference preconference workshops will be held June 23-25, with the Conference itself being held June 25-27. Since many people were planning to attend it seemed appropriate to change the date. The day has been advertised in I Love NY and Finger Lakes materials.

Please come to a Planning Meeting at 9:30am on December 12 (before our regular meeting).

BSHG Retreat Update:

Last count shows 18 sign-ups for the March 5-7 retreat at the Watson Homestead. This is our limit. However, since active members take precedence over inactive, if you are an active member and don't mind bumping an inactive member off the list, you have until December 12 to do so. After that time, you will be wait-listed. Contact Nancy Wilson to get on the list.

New Member:

We're happy to welcome our newest active member, **Sandra Thomas**, who lives at 136 Browntown Rd., Lindley, NY, 14858. Her phone no. is 524-6780.

Coming Attractions

Jan 14-April 18, 1993: Weaver's Choice:

Patterns in American Coverlets, Rochester Museum and Science Center, 657 East Ave., PO Box 1480, Rochester, NY 14603-1480

Would you be interested in a group trip?

June 23-27, 1993: "Gathering":

Mid Atlantic Fiber Conference, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA. Preconference workshops, June 23-25, main conference June 25-27. For further information, contact Marsha Herr, Reigstrar, 3316 Woodside Ave, Baltimore, MD 21234.

July 23-25, 1993. Eastern Great Lakes Fiber Conference, SUNY Geneseo. For information, write to EGLFC Registrar, 906 DeWitt Rd, Webster, NY 14580.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising rates:

3-6 lines: \$1 for one time, \$2 for 3 times.

7-24 lines: \$5 for one time

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

For Sale: Valois Romney Fleeces and Skins, and Breeding Stock. Michael Boggs, evenings, 546-2436.

For Sale: Ashford wheel, like new, \$150. Pat Amato, 277-4049 or 277-0157.

Black Sheep Handspinners Guild

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Submissions for February newsletter are due by January 22.

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