



Maude, This way to our new meeting place.
WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING, ITHACA.

February Meeting Where?

We are now meeting at the Women's Community Building on the corner of North Cayuga St. and Seneca St., Ithaca, NY. Map enclosed. The second Saturday of each month. We start at 11:00 end at 3:00. Bring lunch a cup too.

Minutes January Meeting

Our Rock Day celebration was right on time this year, Jan. 7th the day after 12th night. In earlier times workers had holiday between Christmas and 12th Night. The maids or "Rocken" (which means distaff) resumed their duties of spinning the next day. The ploughmen, however, had an extra day, in which they spent their time playing impish pranks on the spinners. Rock Day has been special to spinners throughout the years and this year was no exception. There were 5 vendors set up for us to patronize. A mini-contest of a skein of yarn less than 2 oz. of unusual fibre unusually/artfully displayed. Debbie Miller won a kniddy knoddy for 1st place, displaying the skein wound around an antler. Vernice Church won a beautiful sheep pin for her basket of yarn and knitting needle display. There were several other skeins but were not considered because of their lack of display quality. Charlette reminded us of the necessity of adhering to the rules when entering competition. (Let's have another mini-contest to help us prepare for entry into State Fair). Pot luck luncheon provided soups, salads, baked miti, homemade breads, cookies, fruit, um-m-m-wonderful. Sandy Yahner fiber and metal artist extraordinaire displayed jewelry she made and gave a slide lecture. Sandy wanted to major in Art at Cortland State but found there was no art per se so went into metals instead. She went on to Syracuse U. for her Masters and became a teacher. She expanded into

fibers via tapestry. Tapestry was not on market and the price of gold became prohibitive so Sandy apprenticed to Lucretia Davey, a tapestry weaver. She became involved with shows and sold mini-tapestries made in embroidery hoops. Sandy was commissioned by St Anthony's Church in Cortland to make several pieces, including a 6 foot by 6 foot tapestry and a confessional screen. She became involved with juried craft shows and had to submit slides of her work, hence the beautiful slides shown at the meeting. For a time she wove and used the punched roving method to make hand puppets. Sandy started felting and incorporated the felt into her jewelry. Several of the necklaces and pendants become sculptures when not being worn. Ingenious. A great program. The discussion of meeting places continued. The motion and successful vote was to use the Women's Community Building in downtown Ithaca, for 6 months. The same day and hours will be adhered to - 2nd Sat of each month from 11:00 to 3:00. After the six month trial we will assess our needs and how well they were met. Several rooms will be reserved for Rhinebeck in October. Some of the members will try sheep to shawl contest. The escape weekend to the (Dude Ranch) Watson Homestead in Corning is coming up. Get your reservations and money to the treasurer. The first weekend in March - spinning - eating - spinning - chatting - spinning - swimming - spinning - skiing. Got the picture - no cooking - no cleaning - no dishes Amen. The afghan we made for Market Day last year was such a success we are making another. It has started the rounds. If it hasn't reached you yet pick it up at the meeting. The final size is to be 55" x 75". Happy knitting.

Dues are Due

If there is a red dot on your mailing label you are tardy with the renewal of your membership. Due to postage and printing rate increases deletions to our membership list is forced upon us. If you want to re-join or become a new member mail your check for \$15.00 to either, yours truly, newsletter chairman or Rickie McClure treasurer, Box 178, Prble, NY 13068.

For Sale

Ashford double drive traveller spinning wheel scotch tension option. Includes 4 regular bobbins with ratios of 6.7:1, 8.8:1 and 13.5:1 plus four high speed bobbins with ratios of 14:1, 17:1 and 25:1. Like new, rarely used. \$225.00
 Contact Gelia Radke, 254-1359 work 749-2711 home 607-260cornell.edu (e-mail).

Cashmere-cleaned and processed for sale. Very reasonably priced. Also, taking orders for this spring's Australian cashmere goat kids.
 Contact Stephen Maybee 607-387-5467 (evenings)



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Black Sheep Handspinners Guild

Leona N. Buerkle
4030 Carr Hill Rd.
Cortland, NY 13045



Kay Stickane
6341 Willow Creek Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

Did you realize?

Sheep have provided wool for spinning and weaving and felting; skins for tents and coverings; leather for clothes, bags and things; parchment for writing; tallow for candles; milk, cheese and meat for food. Even their bones were used by the shepherds to make handspindles. Spin Spin Spin

Directions to Women's Community Building

From Varna, stay on rt 366 west (towards Ithaca). This becomes Mitchell St, which in turn merges with State St. At base of State St hill, bear right onto Seneca St. You will see the commons one block ahead. At third traffic light is the Women's Cmty Bldg. (on right, other side of intersection)

Calendar

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|-----------------|-------------------------|
| March 11 | BSHG regular meeting |
| April 8 | BSHG regular meeting |
| May 13 | BSHG regular meeting |
| June 10 | BSHG regular meeting |
| July and August | to be announced |
| September 9 | BSHG regular meeting |
| October 14 | BSHG regular meeting |
| November 11 | BSHG regular meeting |
| December 9 | BSHG Christmas Luncheon |

Additional happenings and programs printed as received. Deadline for newsletter items is the 25th of each month.

