I, as president, wish to thank everyone for doing a wonderful job of pulling Roc Day together, especially given the late changes in personnel. We will be discussing this event and its future at the upcoming meeting. It is important to keep this an open committee and event. When we discuss it I think we need to remember ALL the wonderful things that came out of Roc Day. The committee, many of whom had not done their jobs before and were having to make up their own personal way of getting the things done, worked long and hard. Yes, there were a few things that need changing and/or clarification, some as a result of last minute health issues, but overall it was a wonderful day, people had fun, the guild made new contacts, we ate well and even made a bit of money, some for us and some for the Lansing food pantry. I thought the yarn competition went very well for a first year and give great kudos to those who organized and pulled it off. I also think we need to give Mary Miller a big thanks for taking over the spindle class at the last minute, the feedback I heard from students was very positive. All in all I think we did the best job we could have given the varied and flexible demands on us and our time. Also, we need to start thinking about the future direction of the guild. Current terms of office end this May and we need to give serious thought to volunteering for the various jobs in the guild. If you are interested please contact me before the March meeting. Also, we will need to have volunteers for a nominating committee by that time. Please think if you could be on that or be willing to serve as an officer for the next two years.

Jim

Kelli and Becki Terwilliger will be leading a demonstration of a beaded spinning technique during the February meeting. Fiber, beads and threaders will be provided for anyone who would like to try their hand at spinning beads into their handspun singles.

Future Programs
March - Spin in
This ‘n That

Winter Retreat at Stella Maris in Skaneateles, NY on February 22nd and 23rd.
The retreat at Stella Maris is for the nights of Friday and Saturday, February 22nd & 23rd.

This will miss Valentine's Day and the guild meeting time in February. And if we are really lucky it will be the first, but not only, blizzard free winter retreat.

Please email me if you want to reserve a spot at ahfurman@yahoo.com

from Teresa P

As chair of the Roc Day committee, I'd like to thank all of the members who volunteered to help make the day possible, by setting up, demonstrating, cleaning, bringing food, teaching, running tables, contributing items to the raffle, and simply being present and engaged. Particularly deserving of thanks are Mary Miller, who stepped up to teach the beginning spindle spinning class on VERY short notice with great success; Jean Currie and Deb Miller for doing a wonderfully thorough job as skein competition judges; and the Roc Day committee for six months of hard and not-always-rewarding work.

I have had a couple of interesting conversations on Roc Day and in the two weeks since about what it was like in the past, what it's like now, and how it should be in the future. I'd love it if we could have this conversation as a guild at the February meeting. I've learned that some discussion about the future direction for Roc Day happened in 2006, but I also know that there are a lot of newer members (myself included!) who have ideas about what does and doesn't work. Pretty much all of the activities that happened this year (spin-in, vendors, classes, potluck, raffle, skein competition, demos) could be *either* expanded or reduced to some extent with the current space and people-power.

Another useful thing to think about would be the guild's primary goal for Roc Day--is it to make money? To recruit new guild members? To socialize with other guilds? To educate the public? None of those answers is wrong, but each one steers our space and energy a little differently. I'd love to hear lots of answers; I really think that everyone from the brand-new member to the long-standing one has something useful to say.

If you'd like to share something with the guild but are unable to attend the February meeting, or shy, or not great at extemporaneous opinion-giving, feel free to send me an email at tjporri@gmail.com. (I've already got a list going.)
Judges Deb Miller and Jean Currie were delighted that they had nearly 30 entries to review for the **first Roc Day skein competition**. There were entries in all five categories and the overall quality was great.

The winners were:
- **Proficiency of spin, 100% wool**: Sharon Gombas
- **Proficiency of spin in a blend or other fiber**: Sharon Gombas
- **Novelty yarn**: Libby Llop
- **Novice yarn**: Katie Marchetto
- **Project basket**: First equal, Sharon Gombas and Libby Llop
- **Best of Show**: Libby Llop for the novelty yarn and the project basket that showed how to make a cabled yarn and turn that into such horse tack as cinches/girths.

For those entering any skein competitions, here are some suggestions to make sure you are fairly judged:
- Follow all the instructions! If it says 2oz or X yards, that is what you should have. If it says provide information on the type of fiber, the processing, or how you spun it, provide that. If it asks for intended use, provide details such as a knitted hat or a crocheted jacket not just one word like weaving.
- A small swatch for the intended use can also be a good idea – it shows that you have thought carefully about the end use, and it gives an idea of whether the yarn will really work for whatever you intended.
- Come with the information requested in the format asked for. For our competition for instance, you were to provide the information on the outside of an envelope and your name on the inside, and the envelope should be tied to the skein. Most competitions will not accept a skein without the information already attached.
- Make sure your skeins are tied appropriately. Usually a figure 8 tie in 3-4 places is a good idea and if there are instructions about what sort of tie, follow those otherwise use the same yarn as the skein.
- Look at your skein and think carefully about what class it best fits. You might think proficiency of spin, but perhaps it looks more like a novelty yarn, or vice versa.

And last but not least, think about sending skeins and other items to the New York State Fair! The entries we saw would do well there in 2013. Thanks to everyone who participated – great job!

Jean Currie
Roc Day Photos taken by Wayne and Elizabeth KG
CHARKA WORKSHOP

Date: Sat. April 27

Where: Lansing at All Saints Parish Hall

Time: 9 am to 4 pm with a one hour lunch break (pack a lunch)

Cost: $65.00 includes workshop and materials fee

Come learn about spinning on a charka or perfect your charka skills. Our instructor, Glenna Chumtley is an experienced charka spinner. She not only spins cotton on the charka but is one of the few charka instructors who also spins wool and exotics on the charka. Glenna has written a booklet on charka spinning which will be included with your fiber for the workshop. If you do not have a charka but would like to try it out we have several which can be borrowed for the workshop. WORKSHOP LIMIT IS 10 PARTICIPANTS.

To sign up for the workshop please forward your check to:

Marjorie Inana 41 W. Court St., Cortland NY 13045. Make check out to Black Sheep Handspinners.

Name_____________________________________________

Phone Number _______________________________________

Email____________________________________________________

I have a charka for the workshop________

I need to borrow a charka for the workshop_______________
Please fill this out and either bring it to a meeting or mail it with your check for $20 to: Vickie Marsted, 29 Lincoln St, Cortland, NY 13045

Name:________________________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________

preferred email: PRINT NEATLY please ________________________________
preferred phone # ____________________________________________ birthday month (opt) _______
This info will be made available to the guild membership. If you wish to remain anonymous please let Char know.

Please list your wheel(s)

______________________________________________________________________________

We welcome spinners of all skill levels. How long have you been spinning? ______

Do you: Knit? Weave? Crochet? Dye - (Natural or chemical)?

Which of your skills might you be willing to share with a member or the group?
ie: teach beginning spindling or spinning or dyeing; teach a spinning / knitting / crocheting skill, etc

______________________________________________________________________________

If you raise any fiber animals, please list them here____________________________________

Which committee(s) are you interested in joining?
• Roc Day
• Membership
• Programming
• Charity Works
• Outreach including Events & Activities Schedule for non guild members
• Newsletter - advisory & review
• None

Would you be interested in chairing or co-chairing one of these groups? If yes, which one(s)?

Newsletters are sent via email. If you would prefer to get yours via snail mail please give 12 SASE envelopes to Sharon Gombas. Postage should be $2 per envelope.
Convert your Baynes hook flyer to a SLIDING PINCH HOOK FLYER for $32.00 including rebalancing. See Jim Johnson at a meeting or call 607-564-7178 or email hilltoppaddles@earthlink.net.

For Sale - Double wide Strauch Hand Crank Drum Carder. Great Condition. Purchased 2 yrs ago but barely used.

Originally $1050. Asking $800. Located in Horseheads. Contact Jennifer Ostrander 607-279-6617