Greetings all,
A glorious fall in the works, no frost to date, fiber festivals everywhere--who could ask for more? I hope you all had the pleasure of going to Hemlock. Working at the fleece booth was soooo tempting; I came home with half a lovely Romney cross fleece but convinced someone to purchase the gorgeous Wensleydale before I succumbed to it. And just viewing the competition entries is worth the entry price; they were that professional and inspiring. I will certainly volunteer again next year. The "are you interested" letters went out to prospective vendors for Roc Day. Yes, it is that time, and we will devote a portion of the October meeting to discussing the various aspects of the day and what we see as possible improvements. This is our party! Bring your great ideas and wonderful examples of your spinning/dyeing/knitting/weaving/felting etc. to share with us. We are a talented group.
Spin On! —Sharon

Flax processing workshop at Wayne’s Oct 18

By now, your flax should be soaking in a tub or lying on a lawn so that it will be nice and retted in time for our flax processing workshop at Wayne’s house, 11:00, Saturday October 18. The workshop is open to all who are interested. Even if you didn’t grow a flax patch, we will have plenty to go around, so you should come and take part in all the fun of scutching, breaking, and hackling flax stalks to turn them into spinnable fiber. The workshop will be held at 107 Burdge Hill Road in Newfield. Go south out of Ithaca on Route 13, past Lower Treman Park, Eddydale and the former Turbacks. Stay on 13 past the intersection with 34/96, and go up the hill for another mile past that intersection. Turn right on Millard Hill Road—the first right after the 34/96 intersection. Go up Millard Hill Road for a mile, and turn on Burdge Hill Road, the first left off Millard Hill Road. Go up Burdge Hill Road for another 1.1 miles or so. If you find yourself going downhill again you have probably passed us. 107 Burdge Hill Road is on the left side of the road. The street number is on a sign at the top of the (longish) driveway. Our phone number is 564-9328.

Roc Day Discussion, Show and Tell!
Come help decide what our Roc Day will be like.

President Sharon Gombas
Vice President Sue Quick
Secretary Lynne Anguish
Treasurer Vickie Marsted
Newsletter Wayne Harbert
Membership Marjorie Inana
Programming Audrey Lowes & Marjorie Inana
Webmaster Rosane Mordt

P.2 Fibery Events, Yarn Bombing, Spinning at Southworth
P. 3. September Meeting
P. 4 Beth Smith Workshop
PP. 5-6 Ads

The Black Sheep meet from 11am - 3pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month at All Saints Church Parish Hall, Route 34B, in Lansing, NY.
One of the upcoming newsletters will feature a report on what sorts of outreach activities (including but not limited to demonstrating, volunteering, mentoring, teaching, exhibiting, judging) the members of the Black Sheep guild have been engaged in over the last year or so, by way of highlighting our commitment to the future of our craft, and stressing the centrality of these activities to the mission of the guild. We would love to know about what activities each of you has participated in, and encourage you to send that information to Wayne.

Yarn Bombing—by Anne F.

Think of yarn bombing as knitting graffiti, uncommissioned public art or just something to make you smile.

The Philadelphia airport has an exhibit by Jessie Hemmons or ishknits.

I walked past this column twice before it registered with me, then I laughed. You can find an article on her, her work, and her thoughts about yarn bombing at ishknits.

Spinning at Southworth

Wayne, Sue Q. and Jean Tyler demonstrated spinning at the Dryden Harvest Festival on Saturday, Sept. 20. Sue spun flax, while Wayne and Jean took turns spinning wool on the fabulous Townley wheel in the Southworth Homestead.
As the highlight of our very pleasant September meeting, Marjorie treated the twenty-two of us gathered in Sharon’s parlor to a lecture on the Master Spinners’ Program run by the Ontario Handspinners and Weavers, in which she participated every summer for six years. The program is highly rigorous (participation dropped from 54 to 12 by the end), and developed experience with all types of fiber and advanced skills in a full range of spinning and plying techniques. She compared the OHS program with other similar programs in the US and Canada.
Beth Smith is so obsessed with fiber that she has fleece in every room of her house, including her bathroom. She teaches the whys and how-tos of preparing and spinning as many breeds as a spinner can in her classes taught all over the world and in articles written for Spin Off, Knittyspin and Entangled magazines. She also writes for Ply Magazine and serves as a member of the editorial advisory board. She is the previous owner of the world famous online shop, The Spinning Loft, renowned for its selection of raw wool, including rare breeds of sheep, available by the ounce (or more) for studying, sampling or just stashing. Her book, The Spinner’s Book of Fleece: A Breed-by-Breed Guide to Choosing and Spinning will be available in July 2014.

WORKSHOP: The workshop will demystify the what, why, and how of sheep breeds. We will spin 18 different breeds of sheep over 2 days. We will review the sheep breeds and their categories. We will wash raw wool to maintain lock structure in both small batches as well as washing lock by lock. We will try a variety of hand processing tools and learn what methods work best for particular breeds. We will spin using different techniques to create yarns for specific types of knitting.

EQUIPMENT TO BRING: Spinning wheel in good working order, pen, one empty bobbin, small plastic bags and paper for notes and labeling. If you have hand cards, a flicker and or hand held combs please bring. If you don’t have them, some will be available for you to use.

WHEN: Saturday, Nov 1 and Sunday Nov 2
WHERE: Country Inn and Suites, route 281, Cortland, New York
WORKSHOP TIME: 9 am to noon and 1pm to 4pm each day
COST: Guild Members $55 for two days. Non Guild individuals $125

NOTE: A $60 MATERIAL FEE IS DUE TO THE INSTRUCTOR AT THE TIME OF THE WORKSHOP

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SING ME UP FOR THE BETH SMITH WORKSHOP
NAME__________________________________________________
PHONE_________________________________________________
ADDRESS______________________________________________

Send your check to Marjorie Inana 41 W. Court St. Cortland, New York 13045 and make check out to Black Sheep Handspinners.
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: 1810 Great Wheel purchased from Bill Ralph. Miner’s head, spins beautifully. For further info and/or to give it a spin, please contact shelly@chezmyers.com

Wheels for sale. Contact Cathy Chesnut for more info if interested. 607-745-3163 – cchesnut@frontiernet.net
All wheels in great working order.

Ashford ST Traditional – older – dark finish – Scotch Tension 4 bobbins – Lazy Kate - $325.00. 3rd owner.
Ashford ST Joy – 3 bobbins – original model – Scotch Tension - $450.00 – new to me
Ashford DT Joy 2 – 3 bobbins – Scotch Tension - $565.00 – new to me
Ashford Kiwi – original model –mended reg. flyer - 3 bobbins – Scotch Tension lace whorl – jumbo flyer with 1 bobbin - $450.00 – 2nd owner
LADY BUG – DT – Scotch Tension – Can be Set up for double drive band –4 bobbins – onboard Kate – new to me - $575
CPW – original - maker unknown – 30 inch wheel – restored by William Ralph –Complete with 3 bobbins – Double Drive

In an effort to reduce my personal stash, I’d like to sell cotton warp, loop mohair, rug wools, fine wools, rayon and rayon chenille and other interesting stuff at prices ranging from low to ridiculous.  I also have a Hansen e-spinner with woolee winder, two bobbins and kate for sale.  Contact Karey Solomon at threads@empacc.net.

Spinning Great Wheels
-hand crafted solid oak
R Collins
197 Walsh Rd
Wellsburg, NY 14894
607-733-9880

For sale from my own happy sheep and rabbits in Trumansburg:
Navajo-Churro roving in a variety of natural colors
Angora rabbit wool in white
Contact Sharon Berger @607-592-4649 or saberger@twcny.rr.com

To place an ad

The cost for ads is $5.00 per month for non-members.  Current members may submit one business-card sized classified ad per month for free.  Send a check made out to BSHG to our treasurer, Vickie Marsted, 29 Lincoln Ave, Cortland, NY 13045.  Send the ad in digital form to the newsletter editor, newsletter@blacksheephandspinnersguild.com.  Black & white business cards are published free for current members.