October 2015

A Message from the President

Greetings, all!
I love this time of year, with the cooler weather and more time available for fiber and books. The fiber festival in Hemlock was great fun, including the time Laurie and I spent flagging traffic in the parking lot--another skill to add to the resume, perhaps?

This time of year also means that we need to discuss details regarding Roc Day. The following areas each need an organizer: the kitchen, volunteers, demonstrations, the competitions, raffle, publicity, brochures and posters, and vendors. Last-year’s organizers will be contacted in case they would like to continue in that post; otherwise we will be looking for new people. All thoughts are welcome, so come prepared to devote a bit of time to planning.....

.....and to a fun spinning circle, with show and tell to include any "goofs" you would like to share with fellow fiberholics. You may come away with a solution, or several, to turning that goof into what you intended. See you there!

Sharon

President  Sharon Gombas  Vice President  Sue Quick
Secretary  Angelika St. Laurent  Treasurer  Vickie Marsted
Newsletter  Lois Swales  Membership  Marjorie Inana
Programming  Audrey Lowes *  Webmaster  Marjorie Inana
Roc Day Coordinator  Sharon Gombas

p. 1 Pres. Message
p. 2 Review of Sheepdog presentation
p. 3-5 Pixs of Us in Action, September

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. Exceptions are possible—see location changes in the latest newsletter!
Sheep and Sheepdogs
What we learned from
Jack & Dawn Cymerman
of
Stoneleigh Farm & Kennel
at the September Meeting

Thanks to Angelika for the notes below.

Our Group skipped the official meeting to allow the dog-presentation first, since the dogs were restless.

Border Collies are very intelligent working dogs. They get restless, if not given enough attention and tasks to perform. They often care more about doing a particular task like fetching the bag of treats out of the car than receiving a reward.

Dogs' sheep herding builds on the natural instincts of the dogs to drive prey to the pack leader to kill. Based on their instinctive behavior border collies learn easier to drive the herd towards the shepherd than to drive a herd away from the shepherd. The way a herding dog watches the flock, lying down attentively resembles the way predators watch a herd of prey, before they attack. Many behaviors shown during sheep herding are instinctive, such as the dog on the opposite side of the herd moving the opposite direction as the human shepherd. Based on their instinctive behavior border collies learn more easily to drive the herd towards the shepherd than to drive a herd away from the shepherd.

In training a dog, the first thing is to observe the dogs natural behavior in the field. Young female dogs can start training at six months of age. Males usually start training at two years of age. Younger males tend to be too easily distracted for herding training. General obedience training starts earlier.
Busy Busy Busy
What our members were up to in September! They Demo’d at the NY State Fair, Waulked 12 yards of handwoven wool at the Home Textile Tool Museum in Orwell, PA, Learned about Sheep Dogs, Viewed NYS Fair fiber entries, and spun spun spun. See if you can guess where they are and who they are with! below.
Many thanks to Wayne H, Angelica L and Sue Q for the wonderful pictures to share.
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

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 woollee winder, two bobbins and kate for sale. Contact Karey Solomon at threads@empacc.net.

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 sabarger@twcny.rr.com

Spindles & Whorls from Lois & Laurie
handmade medieval & viking inspired drop spindles with interchangeable artisan glass or pottery whorls
www.missingspindle.etsy.com
www.glassbead.etsy.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.