Greetings all,
They just don't make winter like they used to: remember trudging to school in three feet of snow, in your sneakers, up hill all the way? And carrying your brother? I still have hopes for a real snowstorm for this year.....

Our Roc Day celebration was a hit, as always. Many compliments were received, many friends came to spin and visit, many tickets sold for Ellie's auction. Special thanks go to Lois for her excellent and engaging demonstrations of spinning in other places and times. If you missed them, do view her on YouTube - missingspindle. Also kudos to the kitchen crew: Anne (with her new improved knee) and Kathy (who missed Roc Day last year due to a broken leg) who were on their feet all day--thank you! Thank you to all who worked to make it happen.

I am looking forward to trying out some new-to-me wheels at the February meeting. I have yet to use a Lendrum, and I know some who love them, or a Sidekick, Bliss, Kromski or Kiwi. Bring them on so that I can strike some from the wish list!

See you there!----Sharon
It is time for Musical Wheels at Black Sheep. The Spinsters will switch chairs, but the wheels will stand still! This activity was requested by a new spinner looking to try many wheels prior to making a purchase. Since we all know that we do not stop at just one wheel, this should be fun and enlightening for all of us. The idea is to give us the opportunity to experience some of the many spinning options available. Feel free to bring along a wheel that you wish to see go to a new home, your first and still favorite Louet (speaking from experience), or the new Ladybug you are currently in love with (also speaking from experience). Fiber will be provided.

Agenda for February meeting:
* Roc Day follow up: Please bring your ideas and opinions regarding the event. What could be improved? What should be changed, added, done without?
* The Dryden Historical Society has asked us to at their Homestead Wool Day next fall, and for our input on the date. We can discuss what we can do, and dates.
* Musical Wheels: Bring a wheel to share, if you wish. Fiber will be provided.

The guild DRUM CARDER is currently living with Sharon. If you wish to borrow it, give her a call at 607-280-8726 or by email. Otherwise she will try to remember to bring it to the meeting.

A sad note: Bill Bartlett, one of our own, passed away in January. “Not enough people like Bill walk this earth, so this is a loss” – Cathy Chestnut
“Bill was an extraordinary person, and will be very much missed in many circles” – Wayne Harbert

BSHG Meeting,
Sat. Feb. 13th, “A Musical Opportunity!”, Lansing NY-please bring a spinning wheel to share as we go from chair to chair and test them all out!

BSHG Spinning Retreat,

BSHG Meeting,
Sat. Mar. 12th, “Garage Sale” Have we got a sale for you!!!! Extra yarn, Unspun fiber, Spinning tools and wheels that are languishing unused? Bring them to rehome and make someone happy. NOTE: This is a Decrease/Increase Stash Event.

BSHG Meeting,
Sat. Apr. 9th, “Ice Cream Social” We make sheep happy, why not cows and humans?

BSHG Meeting,
Sat. May 14th, “Dyeing for Color”

NOTE: Membership DUES ARE DUE starting in January for 1 year. See signup sheet at back of newsletter. Or bring $20 to the next meeting.
Our ROC Day Celebration: The Chinese Auction

A HUGE thank you to every one who contributed an item to the auction. TWO Huge thank yous to people who submitted a hand spun item. They are always the most desirable. We had seventy-four items and our income was about $700 dollars. I do not remember exactly. Thank you also to the members of the guild who bought tickets to support the auction.

I should have bought a Power Ball ticket that week--I put in twelve tickets for my friend who prints the tickets. In all the years she has done it she won one baby sweater, and this year she won a scarf. Two people gave my name to pick up their winnings. One of them won a scarf, the other the felted mittens. I won two scarves and Marjorie’s lessons. I will give them to my granddaughter who has expressed a desire to spin. In addition I found a felted vest that I have looked for (at home) for a year.

We are always open to suggestions for improving the auction. People would like to know who did the knitting and spinning. Would you be willing to put your name on your entry? I wonder if we should use numbered tickets instead of having people sign each one. Would that be easier? – Ellie May

Our ROC Day Celebration: The Competitions

Winner of the Shawl competition: Karey Solomon

The winners of the yarn competition were:
1st class (wool proficiency spinning) - Alison Treaster,
2nd class (wool blend proficiency spinning) - S Gombas
3rd class (novelty yarn) - Alison Treaster,
4th (novice) - Abby Thomas,
5th (project basket) - Alison Treaster
Looking back: January ROC Day

Wayne encouraged visiting spinsters to sit, but they had to spin on his patented accelerating wheel while they rested their legs.
Spinning back thru Time – missingspindle and her protector.

Two Hand knit hats from Ravelry free pattern by Susan Sarabasha. (search for 'Jasper Toque' in Ravelry patterns)
The multi-colored hat Louise made (left) is made from many short ends of handspun yarn.
Membership Form

Please type or print

Date: ____________________________

Name:__________________________________________

Address:__________________________________________

____________________________________________________

Preferred email: PRINT NEATLY __________________________________________________________

Phone # ________________________________________________

This information will be shared with registered guild members. If you wish to remain anonymous, please let Vicki Marsted know.

Please list your wheel(s) ________________________________________________________________

Do you spindle spin? Yes or No (circle)

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

Would you be willing to share your skills with other members (ie: teach beginners, present a meeting topic, demo to the public, etc?)

If you raise fiber animals, please list them here ______________________________________________

We need your help on committee(s). If you would like to volunteer, let Sharon Gombas, our president know!!!

• Roc Day
• Programming
• Newsletter
• Membership
• Website
• Outreach
• Treasurer

Our newsletter is distributed electronically. If this is a problem, please contact Sharon Gombas.

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
For Sale: Kromsky Spinning Wheel. If interested Contact Tammy Fazzi (welder62 AT yahoo.com)

Robin Nistock is looking for a used wheel to teach on: would prefer a Louet but would take any modern brand with a single drive and Scotch/Irish tension. The simpler the better. :-) Would prefer good working order but damage can be fixed so if anyone has a neglected modern wheel <robin@NistockFarms.com>

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 woolee 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 sabberger@twcny.rr.com

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**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.