Caught by surprise once again! July simply disappeared underfoot, amid visits from family and friends and a teaching trip to Minnesota (on my return from which I was greeted by days and days of rain). I looked up from all of that to find that August is almost upon us. The closest I’ve been to fiber this past month was during a visit to the history museum in St. Paul, where my nephew works, where Somali traditional weaving was on display. More on that elsewhere in this newsletter. In the meantime, my flax patch continues apace, sporting little golden ornaments now, as well as flowers, and the Japanese indigo in patio pots continue to tower over the ones I planted in the dyers’ garden. They definitely respond to coddling. Hope to see you all in August.

Best,

Wayne
Invitation to Spin at a Farm to Fiber Event September 22nd

Dear The Black Sheep Handspinners Guild,

I hope this email finds you well. I am currently organizing a Farm to Fiber Day event at Remembrance Farm in Trumansburg NY on September 22nd. Remembrance has a small herd of Icelandic sheep, and I am growing an array of natural dye plants there (Indigo, Hopi Sunflower, coreopsis, etc). Jose Buenaventura will also be there displaying his rugs and talking about his work.

Our idea is to showcase each step of the Farm to Fiber process, and would love to have some spinners there! Is there anyone from your group who would be interested in setting up a wheel and spinning for a few hours that day? The time is waiting to be confirmed, but we are planning on 11 - 4pm.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Would love to have your group represented there! :)

Thanks so much,
Sarah (lunafiberstudio@gmail.com)

Cotton spinners sought for Family Learning Event on September 30th

My name is Raylene Ludgate and my job at Cornell Botanic Gardens is to get kids and their families excited about plants! We hold a big event A family Learning Festival called Judy’s Day this fall on Sunday, Sept 30th, 2018 from 1 to 5pm. The event is outside under tents in the FR Newman Arboretum. This year the theme is Plants Have Families too so the tents are arranged by family! We are featuring the Malvaceae Family in which cotton is a member. So we were wondering if any of your guild members might be interested in spinning cotton as a demonstration at the Festival and talking to people about Cotton.

Raylene Ludgate, Youth Education Coordinator (rgl3@cornell.edu)
Guild Members in the Internet

Our treasurer, Louise Henry, was featured as Maker of the Months on the LocalFiberNY Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/localfiber.ny/photos/a.129230151100532.1073741828.128871661136381/194981697858710/?type=3&theater

Rosane Mordt, our Web mistress, was featured in June:

https://www.facebook.com/localfiber.ny/photos/a.129230151100532.1073741828.128871661136381/179273002762913/?type=3&theater

Renata Brenner suggested we might follow that idea and feature guild members and their history in the fiber arts in our newsletter as well. Volunteers, both to be interviewed or to do the interviewing are very welcome.

Trip to NY State Sheep and Wool Festival

Suzanne Schwartz is thinking of renting a minivan to go with guild members and friends to the NY State Sheep and Wool Festival on Saturday, October 20th. If you would like to join in the trip, please contact Suzanne soon. (choonja43@gmail.com)
A Somali Weaving Exhibit

Wayne Harbert

While I was in Minnesota last week, my nephew took me to the history museum in St. Paul, where he works. Featured there was an exhibit on the large and thriving Somali community of Minnesota from both historical and contemporary perspectives. It included a display of woven pieces made from naturally dyed cotton, for which Somali weavers are famous, as well as one of the traditional looms on which such pieces are made.
Name__________________________________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
Preferred email:  PRINT NEATLY ___________________________________________________
Phone # ____________________________________________________
This information will be shared with registered guild members. If you wish to remain anonymous, please let Louise Henrie 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 our president, Wayne Harbert, know!!!
Roc Day
Programming
Newsletter
Membership
Website
Outreach
Treasurer
Our newsletter is distributed electronically. If this is a problem, please contact Angelika St.Laurent. Please fill this out and either bring it to a meeting or mail it with your check for $20 to: Louise Henrie, 417 2nd Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
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, Louise Henrie, 417 2nd Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. Send the ad in digital form to the newsletter editor, angelika@simonstl.com. Business cards are published free for current members.