

# Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Newsletter

September 2008

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The Black Sheep meet from 11am-3pm on the second Saturday of the month at the Varna Community Center Route 366 in Varna, New York. Exceptions are the months of December, June, July, and August when we meet in member's homes.

**September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is a Garage Sale.** We are meeting at the Varna Community Center from 11AM to 3PM. Bring your fiber and fiber related items in to sell. **Dues are \$20.00** and will be collected. Either cash or checks are good.

## Troy Fair from Carol LaBoire

Troy PA Fair Wool Day was lots of fun. There was a sheep-to-shawl competition, and despite the rain, many people toured the Wool Barn to learn how fiber becomes yarn. Local handspinners, crocheters, weavers, and knitters entered their work to be judged by Black Sheep members and judging panel Ellie, Shelley, and Deb. You'll see that Ellie is testing a hat, scarf, and muff set for comfort while showing and commenting on all of the entries at the end of the day. I've included a shot of the spinning contest in which Jim Johnson competed. But first, here's a photo of "Jersey Girl" shopping for fiber at the Susan's Spinning Bunny Booth.





Ellie's wearability test in action



Spinning contest with Jim on the left

## Demonstrating spinning from Anne Furman

We all seem to be doing a lot of spinning demonstrations. Charlotte Sharkey said she was really busy at the Farm City day in Lansing. She brought a carder and taught a boy to use it which freed her up to show off her bunnies and let visitors handle them. If we are willing, this can be an annual event for us. Please give feedback at the next meeting as to how it went, so we will know whether or not to participate next year.



Audrey Lowes invited me to her department's annual picnic at Myers' Point catered by Hope's Way. It was the catering that hooked me into it, that and her calling up to remind me I said I would show up with a spinning wheel and help with the teaching. The day was beautiful, the food was delicious, and the wool called to everyone. Audrey brought in a lot of computer disk drop spindles and sent the spindles together with wool/mohair roving home with eager, new spinners.

On the left is one of the more determined and successful spinners.

Vernice spinning on the great wheel in the Farm Museum at the New York State Fair

Jean Currie, Charlotte Sharkey, and I plan to be spinning at the Interlaken Farm Day the end of September.



## New York State Fair 2008

There were so many winners from our guild that only the first prizes are pictured. Please bring in all those other winners to a meeting, so we can “oo and ha” over them.



Linda Helms - an adult garment made of handspun yarn



Vernice Church – an infant's sweater



Linda Helms – novelty yarn



Sharon Gombas – felting non-wearable item

## Upcoming

**Guild meetings:**  
September 13, 2008  
Garage Sale

October 11, 2008

**Finger Lakes Fiber Arts and Crafts Festival**  
September 20 & 21  
Hemlock Fairgrounds, Hemlock, NY  
<http://www.qvhg.org/fest.html>

**Fiber Fallout**  
Johsonburg, NJ  
September 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
<http://www.northcountryspinners.org/retreat.html>

**New York State Sheep and Wool Festival** Rheinbeck,  
New York  
October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>  
<http://www.sheepandwool.com>



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WHEELS, ACCESSORIES, SPINDLES, PATTERNS

### To place an ad

A check for \$5.00 made to BSHG for an ad to run three times (a year is \$15) should be sent to the current treasurer, Eleanor May, 1360 Slaterville Road, Ithaca, NY. 14850. Send the ad to the newsletter editor, Anne Furman at: [ahf@fltg.net](mailto:ahf@fltg.net). If you have a question for her or others, you can email us through the links at the top of the newsletter.



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