Check this out!

A calendar that unravels from the bottom up.

“To mark the days, simply pull a loose string to unravel its number. You’ll move through the months by collecting a loose nest of yarn. A modern twist on timely tapestry for 2012.”

http://www.uncommongoods.com/product/ gregor-knitted-scroll-calendar

July 14 Meeting

This month will be a day for spinning and visiting, finishing projects for the fair. Next month we will have a program, which will be discussed at the July meeting. There was some talk last month about trying to balance the desire for both visiting, and learning, by alternating a month of one with a month featuring a program.

Sharon

From the President

July - Scottish Games, State Fair entry deadline, Troy Fair and heat are a few things coming soon. I hope those of you planning to enter the State Fair are doing better than I am, I have not finished my spinning yet and don’t think I will make the entry deadline that is coming SOON. After a small meeting in June (yes I heard even if I was away) let us fill All Saints with enthusiastic spinners and good conversation. Maybe some of us will be able to show off the items planned for the fair entry or for entry into the Troy Fair.

There is going to be a Roc Day meeting this month to get things organized and set directions for our public party next January. Please be thinking about your participation in the committee, the event is only as good as our preparation.

Also please consider setting up or closing down the meeting.

Jim

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The Black Sheep meet from 11am - 3pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month at All Saints Church Parish Hall, Route 34B, in Lansing, New York
from *Teresa P*

Wayne Harbert has been going through some papers that Kay Ross, the first BSHG president, has generously shared with him. He has equally generously scanned many pages' worth of notes, articles, newsletters, dye swatches, etc. etc. and has passed them on to me to put up on the website. I am in the middle of organizing this information into a new "Education" section on the guild website. I would like to solicit similar materials from anyone else in the guild who is willing to share. As one example, Wayne created a "Spinning Basics" article for new members several years ago that I will include.

Items that are already in electronic format are easiest, but I have access to a scanner, and if you're willing to part with your treasures between guild meetings, I'd be happy to scan them for you. (write to me at the email link above) I'd be particularly interested in guild newsletters from before 2008, which is the earliest that I have (aside from one from 1982 that Wayne scanned).

There should be a skeletal form of this page accessible through the Black Sheep website [http://www.blacksheephandspinnersguild.org/education.html](http://www.blacksheephandspinnersguild.org/education.html) by the time this newsletter goes out, so feel free to peruse this wealth of information. I have already been looking through some of the references listed in the articles to find out which of them are available through the Cornell or Tompkins County library systems.

****************************

Invitation from the Interlaken Historical Society for participation in their **Plowing Day on 9/22**. I have gone as a demonstrator in past years and it is a lot of fun and very interesting. The barn on the Brook Farm is a wonder!!

Interested? Contact *Jean Currie*

****************************

Ellie May's instructive and informative talk and demo, at our last meeting, hopefully sparked interest in some of you to enter your hand spun skeins &/or hand knit items into the **NYS Fair**.

The Arts & Crafts Rules and deadlines are [here](http://www.blacksheephandspinnersguild.org/education.html).

---

**Wool Day at the Troy Fair**

Wed, July 25, 9am - 4pm
Troy, PA

**Endless Mtns Fiber Fest**

Sat & Sun, Sept 8 & 9
Hartford Fairgrounds, PA

**Finger Lakes Fiber Fest**

Sat & Sun, Sept 15 & 16
Hemlock, NY

**S Adirondack Fiber Fest**

Sat & Sun, Sept 22 & 23
Greenwich, NY

**Fiber Fallout Retreat**

Sat & Sun, Sept 28 & 29
North Country Spinners, NJ

**Bel Canto Farm Fest**

Sat, Oct 6, 11am - 5pm
Trumansburg, NY
BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNERS HOSTING ABBY FRANQUEMONT

Nov. 3 and 4  Country Inn and Suites, 3707 State Route 281, Cortland NY

Four half-day workshops will be offered. There are 16 seats available for each session. Each workshop is $45 for guild members and $55 others. The workshop fee must be paid at registration and is non refundable. Material fees (in parenthesis) will be collected at the door on the day of your class. Guild member registration began at the May meeting and will run through the August meeting. After that the remaining spaces will be offered to the public.

NOTE: ALL WORKSHOPS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WHEEL MECHANICS CAN BE TAKEN WITH A DROP SPINDLE

Saturday, Nov 3, 9am to noon  Getting More Done With Spindles ($25 mtls)
For those who already spin with spindles a little or a lot, for wheel spinners who want to know how to make the spindle more productive. This class is just your ticket. Learn where your personal bottlenecks are, learn techniques to speed up various spindle tasks, learn to spin various kinds of yarn and different fibers. Bring a spindle you love or one you hate. A basic low whorl spindle and fiber will be provided.

Saturday, Nov 3, 1-4pm, Wheel Mechanics ($30 mtls)
Learn about drive systems, tensioning mechanisms, ratios, treadle systems, flyer design, and how all these things affect your wheel’s performance and the yarn you produce. How, when, and why would you choose one system over another, or make setup changes? How can you troubleshoot mechanical problems? How can you change settings on your wheel to change the yarn you are spinning? Fiber will be supplied and wheels with multiple drive systems will be present but you should bring your own wheel.

Sunday, Nov 4, 9am-noon  Drafting: The Long and Short of It ($30 mtls)
What is the difference between long draw and short draw? Does it matter? Why should you choose one or the other? What difference does it make in your finished yarn? Are some fibers or preparations more suited to one or the other? We will talk about these subjects, learn to execute a range of drafting methods with a variety of fibers. Bring a wheel or spindle and fiber will be supplied.

Sunday, Nov 4, noon to 4pm  Plying Basics ($20 mtls)
Often overlooked, plying is actually its own whole skill set. There are many plying structures which bring different benefits to your yarn, and this class will help you decide which you’d like to use and make sure you can get that done. We’ll cover the differences between singles, 2 ply, 3 ply, more than 3 ply, cabled yarn and crepe yarn. Participants should bring a wheel in good working order and or a spindle they like, a lazy kate with at least 4 bobbins. Optional: niddy noddy, skeiner, ball winder or nostepinne. Fiber will be supplied.

REGISTRATION

NAME______________________________________________________________

ADDRESS_________________________________________________________

PHONE ___________________________ EACH WORKSHOP IS $45 FOR GUILD MEMBERS AND $55 FOR ALL OTHERS

SIGN ME UP FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS

Getting More Done With Spindles__________ ($25 material fee)  Wheel Mechanics__________ ($30 material fee)

Drafting : The Long and Short Of It__________ ($30 material fee)  Plying Basics__________ ($20 material fee)

TOTAL ENCLOSED___________ Make out checks to Black Sheep Handspinners and mail registration form and check to Marjorie Inana, 41 W. Court St., Cortland, NY, 13045

Plan on bringing your own bag lunch or go out to eat. Coffee, tea, and water are provided. Soda machines are available but there is no food served at the hotel.
I’ve often heard a knitter blithely state that “a pair of socks takes as many stitches to knit as a sweater!” I never gave this statement much thought until recently. While on vacation, I knitted one entire sock while my husband drove to the Connecticut shore and back, and it took many hours. I realized there were far more stitches in a sock than I had ever thought (probably because I was so focused, and not doing much else for those several days, in between sightseeing and eating.) So I decided to do a little research:

Women’s **Medium** Sock:
Fingering weight yarn
Size 1 needles
Gauge: 8 stitches and 11 rows per inch
Cast on 64 stitches and knit in the round. Here are the calculations:

- 64 x 11 = 704 stitches. This is one inch of knitting.
- 6 inches of cuff and 7 inches of foot = 13 total inches of sock.
- 704 x 13 = 9, 152. Two socks would take **18, 304** stitches!

(I didn't include extra stitches for a heel or decreases for toes, figuring they would approximately cancel each other out; this would essentially be a tube sock.)

Women’s **Small** Sweater:
(Garter Rows Pullover - from an online Lion Brand pattern.)
Note, this sweater is 17 inches long from the bottom edge of the body to the underarm, and the same 17 inch sleeve measurement to the underarm, so it is a long sweater. You could subtract some rows for shorter folks, I suppose.

Worsted weight yarn, size 7 & 9 needles (7 for collar, 9 for sweater body)
Gauge: 4 ¼ stitches and 8 rows per inch.
Back: Directions are to cast on 94 stitches and knit 12 rows, then decrease 4 stitches on the next row. Continue knitting every row, decreasing 4 stitches every 14th row until there are 78 sts. Continue for a total of 17 inches, which totals 136 rows. Here is the math:
- 94 stitches x 12 rows (lower border) = 1128
- Decrease Row - to 90 sts 90 K 13 rows 1170
- Decrease Row - to 86 sts 86 K 13 rows 1118
- Decrease Row - to 82 sts 82 K 13 rows 1066
- Decrease Row - to 78 sts 78 K 81 more rows 6138

Shape armhole by binding off 6 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows:
- First bind-off row 72
- Second bind-off row 66

Then place stitches on hold. This is just the back, as far as the beginning of the armholes, and there have been 11, 092 stitches already! Add the front to this point, which is knitted identically to the back, and you may count 22, 184 stitches thus far.

The sleeves are knitted from cuff to yoke also, and placed on stitch holders. (5,892 stitches per sleeve to this point = 11,784 for both.

Then all 4 pieces are placed on a long circular needle and the yoke of the sweater is knitted, then the collar. The yoke starts with 206 stitches in the first row, and decreases periodically down to the neckline, then the collar, at 70 stitches around, is knitted in ribbing for 4 inches.

I’ll spare you the rest of the calculations, but the yoke took 7,060 stitches and the collar 2,240. That’s a lot of garter stitch.

This entire sweater totaled **43,268** stitches.

Socks and sweaters an equal task? Nope. It would take over 5 and a half socks to equal the number of stitches in this sweater. By comparison, socks are a shoeless “walk in the park”.

---

**Socks vs Sweaters - The Worsted Case Scenario**

*by Ruth Allen*
Ontario Handspinners’ Seminar Report
from Anne Furman

The Ontario Handspinners’ Seminar from June 15th to June 17th was on silk. As usual it was a wonderful event. Time to meet with spinners who have become friends, time to learn something new, time to browse the vendors, time to buy some wonderful fiber that will find a niche in my collection.

Spinners do seem to be able to fill every available moment with fiber in their hands. Here are pictures from the morning of the last day where there were few idle hands even during the break when I was able to sneak around and take photos.

Dryden Dairy Day Celebration -
from Wayne H

This is a picture of Mary Ann Sumner, a former member of our guild, demonstrating on the Townley wheel at the Dryden Historical Society during the Dryden Dairy Day celebration, June 9. (I demonstrated on it, too.) The Historical Society also has a very nice display about the Heritage Craft Shop that was established in Dryden by the first president of the guild, Kay Ross, and another founding member, Linda Olds. Some of the newspaper articles (of which I made copies) talk about the early years of the guild. I'll be citing them in my upcoming series of little pieces about how the guild got started.
Ithaca Scottish Games
June 30th & July 1, Stewart Park, Ithaca, NY
photos by Wayne H


<-Lois S working on a reproduction medieval Icelandic warp-weighted loom.

< Wayne H

Sue Q ->

Audrey L and Joan J (a member from the 1970's)
Membership Form

Please type or print

Date: __________

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

preferred email: PRINT NEATLY please ____________________________________________

preferred phone # ___________________ birthday month (opt) ______

This info will be made available to the guild membership. If you wish to remain anonymous please let Char know.

Please list your wheel(s)

__________________________________________________________

We welcome spinners of all skill levels. How long have you been spinning? ______

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

Which of your skills might you be willing to share with a member or the group?

ie: teach beginning spindling or spinning or dyeing; teach a spinning / knitting / crocheting skill, etc

__________________________________________________________

If you raise any fiber animals, please list them here ____________________________________________

Which committee(s) are you interested in joining?

• Roc Day   ° Library
• Membership ° Education
• Programming ° Website
• Charity Works ° Nominating Committee (occasional)
• Outreach including Events & Activities Schedule for non guild members
• Newsletter - advisory & review
• None

Would you be interested in chairing or co-chairing one of these groups? If yes, which one(s)?

Newsletters are sent via email. If you would prefer to get yours via snail mail please give 12 SASE envelopes to Sharon Gombas. Postage should be $2 per envelope.
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:
36 inch 4 harness Leclerc Fanny Loom: includes bench, wire heddles, #6,8,10,12,15, inch Reeds, Beam Sticks, Bobbin rack, Holds all, Raddle, Boat Shuttles, Flat Shuttles, many bobbins and weaving books.
Would prefer to sell as package for $1000.00, but would consider selling individual items. Price list for these items new can be found on the Leclerc web site.

Contact Kay Ross
607-319-0899
kayross30@gmail.com

To place an ad
A check for $5.00 made to BSHG for an ad to run three times for members; $5/month for non members should be sent to our treasurer: Vickie Marsted, 29 Lincoln Ave. Cortland, NY 13045.
Send the ad to the newsletter editor, Susan S, sarabasha@earthlink.net
If you have a question for her or others, you can email us through the links on page 1.
B&W Business card ads are free for Current members.
Chemung Valley Fiber Arts Guild

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http://chemungvalleyguild.wordpress.com/

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