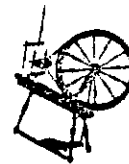


# Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Newsletter



No. 128 - April, 1990

Editor, Shelly Reif  
4360 McIntyre Rd.  
Trumansburg, NY 14886  
387-6760



## Upcoming Meetings

**April 14, noon, Varna:** Jean Nowak on bobblemania, sweater design, and yarn for sweaters. Jean has invited us to bring our design problems and questions so she can help us troubleshoot.

In addition, be sure to bring your completed, washed, and blocked rectangles for the natural colored afghan. The colored ones are due by the May meeting.

**May 12:** Susie Hokanson will share info on textiles from her trip to Japan.

## March Meeting Focus on Market Day

The March meeting featured a lot of discussion about Market Day, as well as a whole lot of delicious baked goods.

Anne Furman, who is in charge of the dyed afghan to be raffled at Market Day, brought a huge amount of beautifully dyed wool as well as samples spun from various blends of the colors. Those who wanted to contribute to the dyed afghan took home about 2 oz. of wool in colors of their choosing. Call Anne for wool and info on design specifications.

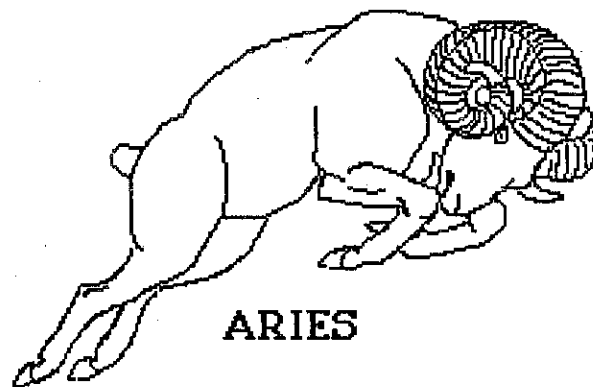
Jill Lott brought in the winning (and only) logo for the guild T-shirts. It was drawn by a friend of Jill's, and pictures a caricature of a half-shorn, black sheep. See page 5.

Many plans were made. Alison Lovejoy will manage the beginner's corner, with activities for children and adults. Felting and Kool-Aid dying were suggested. Bring your suggestions (and offers to spend time helping) to Alison.

The guild table will be coordinated by

Nancy Morey and Nancy Wilson. Yvonne suggested we all bring handspun skeins and items to sell, with the guild collecting a commission.

With all this effort, it might seem as though every hatch were already battered down for Market Day. Not so! YOUR help is still needed. See page 3 for details.



## Out and About

On March 7 my loaded car and I made our annual appearance at Dewitt Middle School in order to participate in Homespun Days. This time I led a record-breaking nine 20-minute classes through the history and techniques of handspinning. By the time the day was over I could barely whisper. It really makes me appreciate the efforts of all those classroom teachers. I don't know how they do it.

While I was teaching spinning, Mildred Scudder (morning) and Katie Thompson (afternoon) were demonstrating weaving on Mildred's Baby Wolf loom. I've never seen any loom as portable and yet totally functional. It folds and rolls. Look out, Elvis.

# SOAR info

I've lifted most of this from *Spin Off*.

This year the Spin Off Autumn Retreat and Workshops will be held at the Silver Bay Association, a YMCA conference center on the shores of Lake George, 90 minutes north of Albany. Room and board is \$44/person/night.

The workshops, Sept. 24-26, are limited to 15 students each, and feature the following: Yarn Construction with Ted Carson, Choosing the Right Fleece with Jane Fournier, Cotton Spinning with Stephenie Gaustad, Creating Multi-colored Yarns with Deb Menz, and Spinning Merino with Margaret Stove. Workshop tuition is \$175 + supplies.

The retreat, Sept. 27-30, is limited to 150 participants, and features the following mentors: Ted Carson, project planning; Patricia Emerick, luxury blends; Deb Menz, multi-colored yarns; Jane Fournier, choosing a fleece; Stephenie Gaustad, cotton spinning; Beth Beede, feltmaking; Rita Buchanan, using all that handspun; Priscilla Gibson-Roberts, spin to knit; Ann Matlock, silk and silk blends; and Margaret Stove, spinning merino. Retreat tuition is \$215. Tuition for attendance at both workshops and retreat is \$360.

For info, send a business-size SASE with \$.45 postage to SOAR '90, Interweave Press, 306 N. Washington Ave., Loveland, CO 80537. Registrations must be postmarked after May 6, and will be accepted on a first-come basis.

## Northeast Spinners "Gathering"

Nancy Morey sent in detailed information on this event (listed in the Calendar), which will be held from November 2-4 at Lower Shaker Village in Enfield, NH. The class format is good - a 3-hour workshop in the morning and a 1 1/2-hour class/lecture in the afternoon; workshops are on Saturday and Sunday.

### Mentors:

- 1) Sue Beevers - workshop: drumcarder blending; class: unusual dye effects with yarn design.
- 2) Rita Buchanan - workshop: wool preparation; class: designing, planning, making a handspun project.
- 3) Karen Casseiman - workshop: lichen identification and dyeing; class: outside field

trip and armchair travelling.

- 4) Rachel Emmons - workshop: multiplying - is it worth all that treading?; class: angora rabbits.
- 5) Nancy Morey - workshop: rainbow dyeing on grease wool and mohair; class: rainbow dyeing on silk.
- 6) Faith Wight - workshop: luxury fiber spinning; class: purpose and value of jurying - the COE experience.

There will also be commercial sales booths.

## Harris Tweed

My employer, Barbara Bedford, was in Scotland last year, and stopped on the Isle of Lewis, where she purchased some real Harris tweed. Pleased with the beautiful fabric as well as the reasonable price, she wrote to Beatrice Schulz, the proprietor of the Callanish Stones Tearoom and Craftshop about obtaining more for herself and other people interested in helping preserve this craft. Anyone interested?

We will be able to get some samples to choose from, but because range of tweeds available changes, Mrs. Schulz would need "the liberty to send you, say the third choice of five, as specified by you when I do no longer have choices one or two..." If any of you are interested in buying yardage of handwoven, Harris tweed, please contact me.

## Plans for the Future

-Nancy Morey

It's time to start thinking about workshop(s) for next year. Do you want them? Whom would you like to have? Now is the time to contribute your ideas for specific instructors and topics.

One person people wanted (according to the last survey) was Erica Lynne teaching exotic fiber spinning. How about Rita Buchanan? Stanley Bulbach? Priscilla Gibson-Roberts? Rachel Emmons?

I'm sure there are lots of other people out there with whom we might enjoy a workshop. We are getting bargain-basement prices on workshops, you know, as we don't have to worry about making a profit on the workshops. Let's get motivated to do things and have workshops!

# Pattern of the Month

Note: Meg Swanson does Entrelac by knitting backwards rather than turning the work.

## KNIT ENTRELACS BABY BUNTING Page 64

**SIZE:** Birth to six months.

**MATERIALS:** Columbia-Minerva "Nantuk Heather", 4-oz. skeins, 3 of Rice (MC) and 2 of Sea Foam (CC). No. 8 and No. 9 knitting needles OR SIZE TO OBTAIN GIVEN GAUGE. No. 6 crochet hook. Zipper to fit.

**GAUGE:** 9 sts = 2" on No. 9 needles.

**NOTE:** Bunting is knitted in one piece.

With MC and No. 9 needles, cast on 110 sts. Work first row of triangles same as for first row of triangles on mother's interlock sweater. Change to CC and work same as for first rectangle row on sweater. Continue in pat. same as on sweater, alternating MC and CC until 6 rows of the fifth CC rectangle are completed. **Next Row—Triangle Row:** With MC, work same as for sweater. With MC and No. 8 needles, with right side facing, pick up and k 111 sts across last row. Work in k 1, p 1 ribbing. Work 1 row. **SHAPE ARMHOLES:** Work in ribbing across first 26 sts of right front; bind off 3 sts; work in ribbing across 53 sts for back; bind off next 3 sts; work in ribbing across rem 26 sts for left front. Break off yarn. **Next Row—wrong side:** Attach MC to center 53 back sts. Work 1 row even. Dec 1 st each end of next row; 51 sts. Work even until armholes are 4" from bound-off sts. **SHAPE SHOULDERS:** Bind off 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows; then 6 sts at beg of next 2 rows; 29 sts. Sl these sts on holder to be worked later as part of the hood.

**LEFT FRONT:** With wrong side facing, attach yarn to left front sts at front edge. Work in ribbing. Dec 1 st at arm edge once; 25 sts. Work even until armhole is 3½" from bind-off, end on wrong side. **SHAPE NECK:** Work across 15 sts; sl last 10 sts on holder to be worked later as part of hood. Dec 1 st every row at neck edge 4 times; 11 sts. Work until armhole is same length as back to shoulder, end at arm edge. **SHAPE SHOULDER:** At arm edge, bind off every other row 5 sts once; then 6 sts.

**RIGHT FRONT:** Work to correspond to left front, reversing shaping.

**SLEEVES:** With MC and No. 8 needles, cast on 29 sts. Work in ribbing throughout. Work even for ½". Inc 1 st each end every 1" 5 times; 39 sts. Work until 6" from beg. **SHAPE CAP:** Bind off 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows. Dec 1 st each end every other row 7 times. Bind off rem 19 sts in ribbing.

**HOOD:** Sew shoulder seams. With MC and No. 8 needles, with right side facing, work in ribbing across 10 sts on right front holder; pick up and k 11 sts along neck edge; work across 29 sts of back; pick up and k 11 sts along left front neck edge; work in ribbing across 10 sts of left front holder; 71 sts. Continue in ribbing for 6". **SHAPE TOP:** Bind off 20 sts at beg of next 2 rows; 31 sts. Work on these 31 sts until piece measures same length as bound-off edge. Bind off loosely in ribbing.

**FINISHING:** Sew top hood seams tog. **RIGHT FRONT EDGING:** Row 1: With right side facing and CC, beg at lower edge of right front, work 1 row sc along edge, around hood and down left front edge to lower edge. End off. Row 2: With MC, working in hdc, work edging as on row 1.

Row 3: With CC, rpt row 1. End off. **SLEEVE EDGING:** With right side facing, work as for front edging. Sew in sleeves. Sew lower edges of bunting tog. Sew center edging tog from lower edge for 2½". Sew in zipper.



### First Row of Triangles:

\* P 2, turn, k these 2 sts; turn, p 3, turn, k 3; turn, p 4, turn, k 4; turn. Continue to work in this manner until there are 10 sts on right hand needle. Do not break yarn. Rpt from \* across next 10 sts. 5 times more (all sts are now worked and these 6 triangles are the base for the first row of rectangles). **First Rectangle Row:** With MC, \* k 2, turn, p 2, turn, inc 1 st in first st, sl, k and pass (SKP), turn, p 3; turn, inc 1 st in first st, k 1, SKP, turn, p 4; turn. Continue to work in this manner until you have 10 MC sts on right hand needle; with MC, pick up and k 10 sts along left side edge of first triangle, turn and p these 10 sts, turn, k 9, SKP (the sl st is the last of the 10 picked up sts and the k st is the first of the following triangle), turn, p 10, turn; k 9, SKP, turn, p 10, turn; continue in this manner until you have worked all the sts of the next triangle in MC, rpt from \* 4 times more, picking up the 10 sts along left edge of the next 4 triangles; with MC, pick up and k 10 sts along left edge of last triangle. Turn, p 2 tog, p 8, turn, k 9; turn, p 2 tog, p 7, turn, k 8; turn. Continue in this manner until 1 st remains (first rectangle row is completed). **2nd Rectangle Row:** With C, k the last rem st, turn, pick up and p 9 sts along straight edge of triangle just completed, turn, \* k 10, turn, p 9, p 2 tog (using the last st of the picked up sts and the first st of the next rectangle), turn, k 10; turn, p 9, p 2 tog, turn. Continue in this manner until all 10 sts in MC are worked. With C, pick up and k 10 sts along edge of next rectangle; rpt from \* 5 times more.

### 3rd Rectangle Row:

With MC, rpt first rectangle row. **4th Rectangle Row:** With D, rpt 2nd rectangle row. Continue to rpt first and 2nd rectangle rows, working in MC, E, MC, B, MC and C. Work 6 rows of rectangle in MC. **Next Row—Triangle Row:** With D, \* pick up and p 9 sts along side edge of last triangle, turn, k 10; turn, p 2 tog, p 7, p 2 tog (using the last st on needle and the first st of the following rectangle), turn, k 9; turn, p 2 tog, p 6, p 2 tog, turn, k 8; turn, p 2 tog, p 5, p 2 tog, turn, k 7; turn, p 2 tog, p 4, p 2 tog, turn, k 6; turn, p 2 tog, p 3, p 2 tog, turn, k 5; turn, p 2 tog, p 2, p 2 tog, turn, k 4; turn, p 2 tog, p 1, p 2 tog, turn, k 3; turn, p 2 tog, p 2 tog, turn, k 2; turn, p 2 tog, p 2 tog, turn, k 2; turn, p 2 tog (1 st remains); rpt from \* 5 times more. Break off D.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**March 4 through August 3:** MATH (Museum of American Textile History, N. Andover, Mass) exhibit opening: Hand Spinning in the Industrial Age: Patented Progress. This exhibit focuses on patented spinning wheels from the US in the mid-19th century and features the Museum's collection of hand tools and implements. MATH is also offering numerous lectures and workshops. See me for details.

**April 6-8:** Spinning Seminars with Celia Quinn. at Varna Community Center. Friday: Spinning to Specification; Saturday: Playing with Plies; Sunday: Cotton Spinning. *There are still openings!* Call Nancy Morey for details.

**May 5 & 6:** Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, West Friendship, MD.

**May 12 & 13:** New Hampshire Sheep & Wool Festival, New Boston, NH.

**May 20:** MATH Annual Sheep Shearing Festival. N. Andover, Mass.

**June 8-10:** Ontario Handspinning Seminar. Toronto. See me for information. It should be a wonderful time. Wool will be the featured fiber.

**June 15-17:** Midwest Weavers Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

**July 12-15:** Convergence, San Jose, CA.

**August 24-September 3:** New York State Fair.

**September 15-16:** Natural Colored Wool Growers Association National Show. Altamont Fairgrounds, Altamont, NY (near Albany). Features a sheep show, fleece competition and skein competition, as well as commercial booths. Contact Mary Williams, Box 89, Route 32, Greenville, NY 12083, 518-966-8944.

**September 22:** Fiberfest at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds, sponsored by the Schohairie County Sheep Producers Assn.

**September 23-30:** SOAR, Silver Bay (Lake George), NY.

**November 2-4:** North East Handspinners "Gathering", Lower Shaker Village, Enfield, NH.

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### From the Editor's Desk:

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Saturday night (March 31): Latest news from the Celia Quinn Comprehensive Handspinning Workshop:

After two days of spinning, the group is going strong. Every hour brings new information, new ways of doing things, new frustrations, new triumphs. We're working hard and loving every minute of it.

Celia has provided a mind-boggling array of fibers, everything from the finest merino and cashmere, to the coarsest horse hair. Her easy-going, comfortable style of teaching has put us all at ease, and hard at work as well. With her help, we've been able to tackle new techniques and fibers, and learn a lot about their care and history as well.

One delightful addition to our repertoire is spinning with a hooked stick. Made from a coat hanger, this amazing device breaks spinning down into its composite parts, and makes it possible to see each step and troubleshoot any drafting or twisting problems.

Tomorrow we plan to share a pot luck lunch while we continue to tackle down fibers and move on to silk.

Sharon Gombas has taken pictures. Be sure to check out Debbie Serviente's spinning bowl, and Monty May's sheep and holes!

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### GOOD NEWS

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Amy Cook's new baby arrived a bit early (two months early, in fact!), but Clark Elliot Cook is doing fine.

We all wish you the best, Amy, and look forward to seeing you both.

## Selling Our Stuff - Market Day

Nancy Wilson

This year the Guild has decided to market our guild members' handspun yarns, things made from handspun yarn, and fleeces. If you have items you'd like to sell, you need to label and inventory these items and have them ready on or before the June meeting.

The items must be labeled as to fiber content, price, weight, and approximate yardage for handspun yarns. The inventory sheet should have your name, address, phone number, the item description, and its selling price. If you don't have your name on the individual tag for the article, a number will be assigned to your inventory sheet and then put on the tag for the item. When pricing the item please remember that the Guild will keep 10% of the price it sells for; 7% is sales tax we pay, and the remaining 3% will cover any unforeseen costs and otherwise go back into the Guild treasury.

When you turn in your items please have them all in a plastic bag to protect them from the weather and so that it will be easy to return unsold items.

If you have a difficult time pricing anything, we can discuss that at the June meeting. We're hoping the public has an interest in purchasing our handspun wares...So let's get busy!

## Volunteer for Market Day!

Yvonne LaMontagne

Volunteers are needed for Market Day! If you are interested in lending your time and talent on June 24 please consider the following:

1. Beginning Spinning Corner: contact Alison Lovejoy, 1-748-3525, if you are interested in helping here.
2. Parking
3. Large pavilion coordinator
4. Small pavilion coordinator
5. Raffle ticket sales and drawing
6. Volunteers and suggestions for short contests, exhibitions, etc.
7. Volunteers to bring animals for exhibits and for children to pet.
8. Signs and banner

Please contact Yvonne LaMontagne at 272-3204 to volunteer for above.

## BSHG T-SHIRTS - Nancy Wilson

I've looked into getting our T-shirts made. The two places that have basically the same prices are Alternative School-Ithaca and The Alternative Shirt Co. The T-shirts will be heavy wt. 100% cotton and although there aren't any actual color samples, the Alternative School does the shirts for Greenstar Coop, so you can get an idea of colors. If you'd like a shirt, fill out the order form and get it to me by April 30 so we can get our shirts by Market Day. Because when we order the shirts we must order by the dozen of a certain color and size, please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd color choices. Also fill out a separate order form for each shirt so it will be easier for me to sort out the orders.

Return to Nancy Wilson, 167 Ridge Rd., Lansing, NY 14882, 533-7992

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose payment with order.

\_\_\_\_ Short sleeve, \$6.50

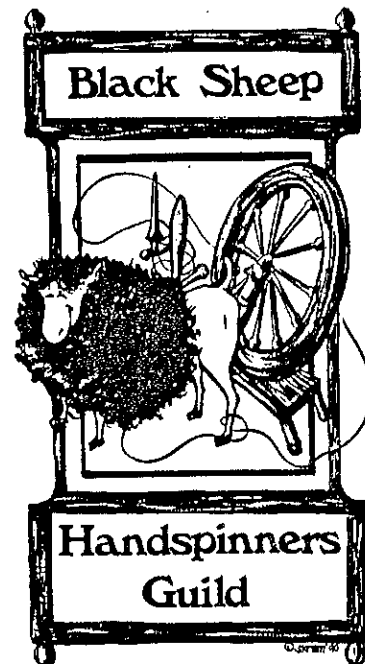
\_\_\_\_ Long sleeve, \$8.50

Size (circle one): S M L XL

Colors: Indicate 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice:

____ Wild orchid (deep lilac)	____ Jade
____ Peach	____ Teal
____ Red	____ White
____ Royal blue	____ Lt. yellow
____ Lt. pink	____ Dk. yellow
____ Dk. pink	

Please fill out separate order form for each shirt.  
Colors are the same as Greenstar Coop T-shirts.



## ADVERTISEMENTS \* \* \*

Advertising rates:

3-6 lines: \$1 for one time, \$2 for three times.

7-24 lines: \$5 for one time

25 lines- 1/2 page: \$10 for one time

**For Sale: Macomber 72" 4 harness loom** with sectional beam, bench, reed, push shuttles. Perfect for rugs or coverlets. Delivery can be arranged. \$2200. Joan Koster, 692-4398, RD 1 Box 32, Itaska, Whitney Point, NY 13862. (3/7)

**For Sale: Saxony spinning wheel by Country Craftsman.** Excellent condition. \$135.00. Also, wanted: Used Ashford Traditional wheel. Want to make a trade? Marcia Vann, 387-9262. (3/4)

**Romney Ram for sale:** Our good friend Ranger, a handsome silver-gray Romney, he-man and son of the famous stud "Baby", needs a new harem

whose wool wants lengthening and new color. Make offer! Shelly, 387-6760. (2/3)

**Angora goat kids born 3/5/90.** Purebred, not registered. Also adult does and 2-year-old buck. Moonshadow Farm, 564-9223. (1/4)

**Wool & mohair — raw fleeces. Drastically reduced prices to clear out barn!** Make me an offer! Border Leicester and crossbreds. Moonshadow Farm, 564-9223. (1/4)

**SILK II: A class for handspinners.** Spin the many forms of silk available to us: cocoons, tops, caps, bricks and waste forms. Both bombyx mori (white, cultivated or mulberry) and tussah (tan or wild) will be spun, as well as some silk blend tops. If time allows, a brief discussion on blending silk with other fibers will be included. Class fee: \$30; materials fee: \$18. Class dates: Saturday, May 19 or Sunday, May 20, from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Pre-registration by May 1st is required. Shadeyside Farm, PO Box 48, Chenango Bridge, NY 13745, 607-656-4737.

**Black Sheep Handspinners Guild**  
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DEFEAT  
MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY  
SUPPORT MDA



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Submissions for May newsletter are due by beginning of last week of April.

