

# Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Newsletter



No. 131 - July/August, 1990

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4360 McIntyre Rd.  
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607-387-6760



## Summer Meetings

**July 14, noon:** Spin-in at Sharon Gombas' house, 177 Salmon Creek Rd., Lansing (533-7390). From Ithaca, take rt. 34 North to the flashing light; turn left onto rt. 34B. Turn right just after the high school (bottom of the hill) onto Ludlowville Rd. Take this to the end, turn left onto Park, then right onto Salmon Creek Rd. Continue past the bridge to 177, which is on the right.

**August 11, noon:** Lamburger cookout and dish-to-pass at Yvonne LaMontagne's, 1191 Ellis Hollow Rd (272-3204). Burgers and beverages provided; please bring salad or dessert, as well as a chair or stool. We'll be spinning under the trees (or under the beams in case of rain), and will begin planning next year's Market Day, as well as some fall workshops for beginners.

From the P&C at East Hill Plaza (corner of Judd Falls and Ellis Hollow Rds), go east on Ellis Hollow Rd. past Game Farm Rd. and Dodge Rd. The driveway is on the right, between Dodge and Turkey Hill Rds. When you reach the fork in the driveway, veer left.

## Market Day Report

Nancy Wilson

Market Day went well at the Guild Table. We sold a total of \$194 worth of raffle tickets. The raffle was held and one of the vendors won the natural afghan, while BSHG member Marie Bryhan went home with the colored one.

We had 4 new members sign up and pay dues. We also had 26 people sign up as interested in a beginner's workshop this fall.

The Guild sold 5 more T shirts, but we still have plenty left: large and X-large in short sleeves in both Wild Lilac and Teal, and large in white long-sleeved. I'll be bringing them to upcoming meetings for sale.

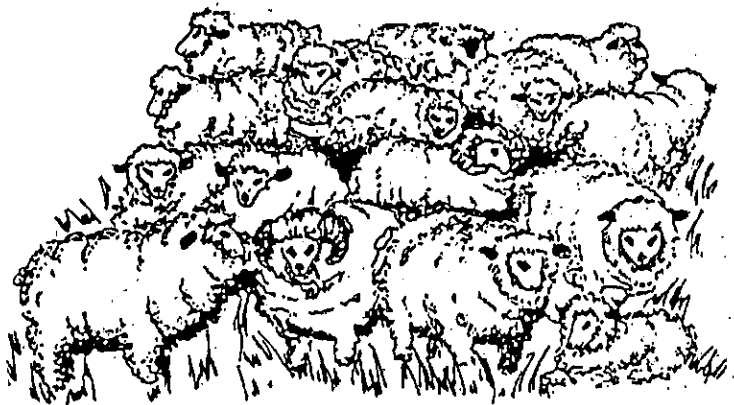
The Guild Table sold some handouts, and also collected 10% of other sales, which included Marie Bryan's sale of \$64.35, and my sale of \$21.00, both in yarns.

The Guild agreed to purchase any left-over lamb from The Portable Feast. This year we paid \$12.75 for lamb burgers. If you missed them, don't despair, because they'll be served up at the August meeting, a dish-to-pass at Yvonne LaMontagne's (see "Upcoming").

This will be a good time to talk about next year's Market Day, and plan for this fall's beginner's workshops.

## June meeting

We had a reasonable turnout on that lovely day, but once again forgot to Show and Tell. Let's hope that in July we can see what everyone's been up to this past season!



# T-Shirts, T-Shirts, TShirts!

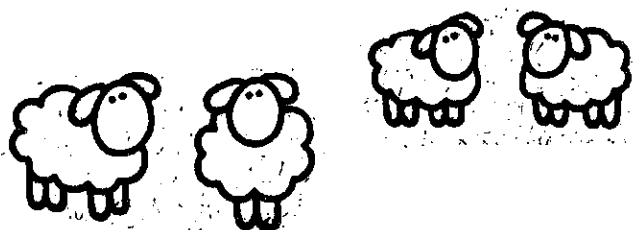
Nancy Wilson will be selling them at the next meeting .

## Spinners Bike Trip

I'm trying to organize a series of mellow bicycle trips this summer. It would be nice to start with some short ones, then perhaps an overnight trip around the lake or out to Nancy Morey's. Ideally, we could plan each trip to end at a picnic or swimming area, where family or non-bikers carrying equipment (wheels, wool and food) could meet the cyclers.

Interested? Give me a call!

If this seems to work out well, I'd also like to give serious thought to a spinners bicycle trip in Great Britain or even in Europe next summer. Not too soon to plan!



## Spinning Silk with Nancy Morey Debbie Serviente

I was delighted to learn that the second silk spinning workshop with Nancy would be held with only two attendees. Talk about receiving individualized attention! Besides lot of spinning in the latter part of the day, we also reeled silk filaments directly from cocoons and made muatas from cocoons and dyed them.

The big message of the day was "you just do it." Dye combed alpaca/silk top? You just do it, no problem! Cut silk with a scissor? House a lamb in your bathroom? Sure, why not!

Nancy gave us lots of ideas on how to incorporate silk into projects without spending a bundle, like using silk waste and blending it with wool. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and enlightening day.

## Rochester Folk Art Guild Open House

On Saturday, June 16, I headed over the hills to Middlesex, NY, near Canandaigua Lake, for an Open House at the Rochester Folk Art Guild. Anyone who has seen their annual Xmas show and sale at the Women's Community Building may have an idea of the wealth of craftwork produced by these artisans. Sitting on many acres of beautiful, rolling farmland, the guild is home to glass blowers, woodworkers, graphic designers, potters, and (here it comes) fiber artists.

We toured each of the buildings, watched demonstrations, examined many lovely items, and played with the toys. The heat was pretty deadly, but the refreshment tent provided an alluring array of delectable goodies (those strawberry tarts...) along with thirst-quenching lemonade.

As you might imagine, the fiber work appealed to me above all. They produce marbled silks and also sew lovely children's clothing, some with silkscreened designs. The weaving studio is absolutely delightful: so much light, so many looms, fibers, a huge free-standing warping reel, a whole box of reeds.

It was there that I saw something that really got my attention: a double-treadle Saxony wheel! The wheel itself was huge, about the size of a Canadian production wheel or even larger, but this was not an antique. To find out about the history of the wheel I made my way over to the fiber display tent, which was filled with baskets, corn husk dolls, mats woven of wool and scarves woven of silk. The master weaver was sitting in front of her Ashford, and was happy to tell me about the double treadle wheel.

It turns out that this wheel was one of a limited number made by Paul Dixon of Massachusetts about fifteen years ago. He apparently no longer makes them. She told me that it spins beautifully.

Does anyone out there own one of these, or know someone who does?

## New Members

Please welcome these four new Guild members who signed up at Market Day:

Mariana Johnson  
349 Fall Creek Rd.  
Freeville, NY 13068  
H: 838-3189  
W: 257-3000

Patricia Smith  
7401b Van Ness Rd.  
Balwinsville, NY 13027  
H: 638-2389  
W: 473-5074

Marion Wikoff  
544 Iradell Rd.  
Trumansburg, NY 14886  
387-5410

Judy Strubel  
RD 1 Box 152  
Whitney Point, NY 13862  
H: 692-4326  
W: 692-3665

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## NY State Fair

On your mark, get set, get ready....to sign up to demonstrate in the Wool Center. Our Guild always chooses one day to work there (AND WE NEED TO DO SO RIGHT AWAY) but you are also welcome at other times. Call Millie Bankert at home, (315) 861-5602, or at work, (315) 853-3389, to sign up. She'll send you a parking pass; you'll also receive free admission to the fair.

And how are your projects coming along? Fair submissions are due in one month!

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## Schacht spindle spinning wheels

Debbie Serviente

For owners of Schacht equipment, it may be handy to know that they have a toll-free number, 800-228-2552. I have found them to be very helpful and particularly interested in knowing of any problems with their products.

## Calendar of Events

**July 7-Aug.19 (weekends):** The Sterling Renaissance Festival is looking for craftspeople, artists, and entertainers for its 1990 season. For info send SASE to Sterling Renaissance Festival, RD 2, Parden Rd., Sterling, NY 13156, or call (315) 947-5782.

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

**July 25:** Troy Fair Wool Day. Shearing, sheep judging, prizes for skeins and garments; sheep to shawl and other contests.

**Aug. 7-9:** Empire Farm Days, rt. 414 between Seneca Falls and Waterloo.

**Aug. 24-Sept. 3:** New York State Fair!

**Sept. 2:** Town of Dickinson Centennial, 11 to 4. Seeking demonstrators (to be paid). Call Jean Compton, (607) 723-8161.

**Sept. 8:** Allegheny Plateau-Central New York Sheep and Wool Festival, Norwich.

**Sept. 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.

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

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

**Oct. 20-21:** New York Sheep and Wool Festival at Rhinebeck.

**Nov. 2-4:** North East Handspinners "Gathering", Lower Shaker Village, Enfield, NH. Registration packets: SASE (.45) to Peg Rearick, RR1, Box 100, Hebron, ME 04238. Features Joan Cummer, Sue Beevers, Rita Buchanan, Karen Casselman, Rachael Emmons, Nancy Morey, Faith Wight.

## ADVERTISEMENTS \* \* \*

Advertising rates:

3-6 lines: \$1 for one time, \$2 for 3 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. (6/7)

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

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

Again available, a few fully-restored, late 19th century Canadian foot treadle wool wheels. Excellent spinners and valuable antiques. Call now for best selection. Bill Ralph, (717) 247-7175.

**For Sale: Skein winder.** Handmade of red oak, \$125.00. Jill Lott, 656-7535. (2/3)

**Harrisville Designs 36" 4-harness, 6 treadle loom.** Includes reed and bench. Perfect condition. \$500.00 firm. Laurel Schuman, (717) 563-1042. (2/3)

**What you need is a few good sheep!** Selling Romney cross lambs & ewes, Romney ram, and Border Leicester cross lambs. White and colors. Come see and feel! Shelly Reif, 387-6760. (2/3)

**Louët "Spring" 36" 4-harness, 6 treadle counter-march loom.** Includes reed and bench. Perfect condition (never used), \$700.00 firm. Laurel Schuman, (717) 563-1042. (2/3)

**Does anyone have one of Rachel Brown's "Rio Grande" wheels?** I'd like to be able to see one. Debbie Serviente, 347-6631.

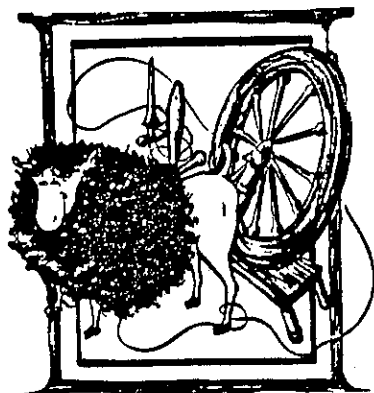
**Ashford spinning wheel, ex. condition, \$95. Glimakra loom, ("Standard"), 8-harness, 10-treadle, countermarch, 60".** Includes bench, 2 reeds, lease and warp sticks. Ex. condition, 5 yrs old, \$1600.; also yarn ("Christopher Sheepfarm Wool"), 2-ply, variety of colors, 48 lbs., \$6/lb., \$288. Liza Lamb, 273-6694.

**Grease wool for sale:** 2 Oxford, 4 Oxford/Romney, 1 Oxford/Romney/Corriedale (black). Vince Sgambati, Otisco Lake, (315) 636-8090.

## Black Sheep Handspinners Guild

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Ithaca, NY 14850



Kay Stickane  
6341 Willow Creek Rd  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Submissions for September issue are due by August 25.