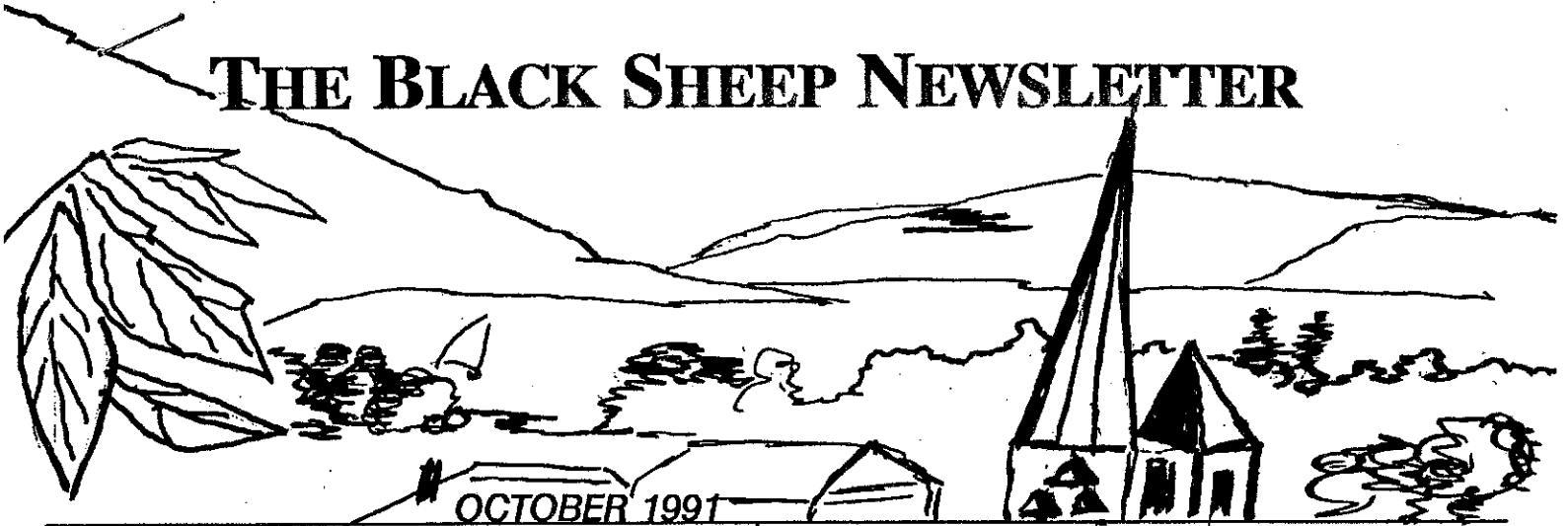


THE BLACK SHEEP NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 1991

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OCTOBER'S MEETING: DYER'S WORKSHOP

The October 12th meeting will be held at the Varna firehouse on Route 366 at 12:00 p.m. To kick-off the meeting, there will be a 12-room garage sale. Bring your surplus to sell and bring money to spend.

A business meeting will follow, including a discussion of the Rita Buchanan workshop in November and the spinners' retreat planned for later this winter.

A show-and-tell will follow. Please plan to bring those items exhibited at the New York State fair for the benefit of those who couldn't make the event and any projects you've been working on over the summer. We will be pleased to see the finished product or encourage you if the project is still in process and try and problem solve with you if needed. Lets have lots of items to show. We all need inspiration to get started on those Christmas projects ahead.

At about 1:30, Jean Warholic will give a workshop on the Gerber method of investigative dyeing. She will show slides of the 1980 workshop by nationally known dyer/spinner extraordinaire, Fred Gerber. This was a

fantastic three-day hands-on workshop using a number of natural dyestuffs and mordants, plus an intensive one-day workshop on spinning novelty yarns. Some of our long-time BSHG members will remember this remarkable event. We will also talk about the 'investigative method' of dyeing that he presented, which gives a practice, repeatable system of dyeing with a palette of up to 16 colors from the same dyestuff using a variety of mordants safely.

RITA BUCHANAN WORKSHOP

Saturday & Sunday - November 16th & 17, 1991, at the Varna Community Center, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days.

TOPICS: Planning for a Project - Spinning more and Spinning better.

Be sure to arrive early. We will start at 9:30 a.m. sharp. the building will be open at 9 a.m.

Workshop costs for the two days:

Active members:	\$45.00
Inactive members:	\$55.00
Non-members:	\$65.00

Participants should plan on bringing their own fibers to use in a project. Rita will offer

suggestions and ideas for fiber preparation, yarn design, and finished project.

A small materials fee of \$5.00 may be collected at the workshop to cover any other fibers used.

Bring your wheel in good working order, carders, combs or other processing tools, niddy-noddy, ball-winder, lazy-kate, fibers to work with, notebook and labeling supplies.

Lunch and beverage provided.

SEPTEMBER'S BEGINNERS SPINNING WORKSHOP

A good turnout of interested beginners showed up for September's meeting. There was hardly enough wheels to go around.

A note to Vernice Church: Kay Stickane has your sample skein winder from that Saturday.

NEW YORK STATE FAIR ACCOLODES

From the looks of the list in front of me, the Blacksheep of the exhibition came away with many of the honors.

Debbie Benzer took first place for her handspun sweater in 'any wearable article' division. Jill Lott, Celia Radke, Vernice Church, Nancy Wilson, Amy Cook and Michelle Reif all placed honors in many of the spinning, knitting and weaving divisions listed.

The Cherry Valley Country Spinners Newsletter wrote this of the sheep-to-shawl competition:

"...The competition was very close with 7 teams, all of whom finished in time. First was Sheep Thrills (Golden Fleece of Baldwinsville) whose shawl won the best use of texture Prize. Second: Dust Bunny Spinners (one of two Black sheep groups) who won the teams' choice prize. Third: North Country Spinners (Lewis County). Fourth: Black Sheep Spinners

(Ithaca) who won best use of color. A good time was had by all in the spirit of friendly competition."

"DYEING TO SPIN AT CAYUGA NATURE CENTER PIONEER DAYS"

September 21 was a pleasant day of spinning and demonstrating. I'd like the guild to push for a better location in the future, so that we can be in the same general area with other fiber-oriented programs. Shelly Marino, Ann Furman, Sharon Gombas, Nancy Demjanec and Kay Stickane demonstrated spinning. Shelly and Nancy wore full sweaters of their handspun. Both were beautiful! (Nancy's sweater was just completed this summer).

Valerie Rockne and Pam Goddard had a wonderful demonstration of natural dyeing with a wood fire, lots of steaming dyepots, and some brilliant batches of wool dyed in goldenrod and brazilwood.

Mildred Scudder participated as the weaver in the lodge. She wore a delightful vest made of thrums knitted in strips (from a knitting Nancy??) The vest was made of a variety of colors and then woven into a bulky black warp.

There seems to be at least two kinds of demonstrations which sometimes we don't think too much about until we're in the situation. Both are legitimate:

- 1) demonstrates the craft, explains the process, and answers questions.
- 2) Provides a hands-on experience.

Our group this year chose to demonstrate the craft, which was successful. Maybe this could be a topic of a future meeting where we could brainstorm (brainspin!) techniques and maybe even develop several programs to have available for the future. Also, maybe we need to work through a 'buddy-system' to get the new members involved with the demonstrations.

Do you know what a 'getting' is? Ask Ann Furman.

** Imagine the look on the young child's face when Shelly explained the many processes for wool: "The wool is dyed..." We had to jump to Shelly's aid and explain it's colored and not killed!

DEWITT HISTORICAL SOCIETY GETS INTO THE ACT

The DeWitt Historical Society has started carrying those wonderful Shire Album publications in their gift shop. These British booklets are excellent references for a variety of textile subjects including textile machines, smocking, beadwork, the cotton industry, fisherman knitting, pillow lace and bobbins, samplers, shawls, spinning and spinning wheels, the woollen industry, etc.

They are only about \$4.00 per book. They are always interesting reading and a nice addition to any spinner's library.

Hours for the DeWitt are 11-5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. It is located in that magnificent Clinton House Hotel, corner of Seneca and North Cayuga Streets.

LETTER FROM THE LODIDIANS

"The Lodi Village Market would like to express their appreciation to you and your co-spinners for demonstrating at the market this past season.

We are certainly glad that people like yourselves continue to learn and share this by-gone art with the public. It seems most fitting to feature spinning in conjunction with our market and hope you will consider joining us again next year."

NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE COMPANY OF SPENCER

We received a letter from John Butler, of NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE to announce they have high quality cashmere goats for sale this season. All animals have been imported from New Zealand and are capable of producing enough cashmere to knit one sweater a year.

In addition, they have selected quantities of de-haired cashmere ready for spinning. Fiber is New Zealand cashmere and is available in superwhite (WW), white (WC), grey (GY) and brown (BR).

They will be displaying at the Sheep and Wool Festival at Dutchess County Fair Grounds, in Rhinebeck, NY, this month.

You can write toll-free 1-800-336-4628 for information on animals and cashmere fiber. He also sent a wonderful leaflet which we will have available at this coming meeting.

GOING TO NEW ENGLAND THIS FALL?

If you plan to visit in New England sometime this fall, consider checking the Boston Area Spinners and Dyers Newsletter. (It will be available at the next meeting). They list many interesting exhibits and programs.

One of them is at the Museum of American Textile History in Andover, Massachusetts. The exhibit is called NEWS '91. Featured will be contemporary handweaving, both decorative and wearable art from the New England Weavers Seminar.

The Museum of American Textile History,
800 Massachusetts Ave.
North Andover, MA

Exhibit open from 10/6/91 thru 1/12/92.

FRANKENMUTH WOOLEN MILL'S EXPERT AND VARIED WOOL WORK

Send for a brochure from Frankenmuth Wool Mill. They have a large selection to choose from in processing your wool or other fiber.

Frankenmuth will turn your raw and skirted fiber or prewashed fiber into roving or batting. They have yarn to sell or they will buy your white wool... and they will convert your wool into bed pillows or mattress pads at a savings. And heres the good part. Frankenmuth includes free fudge with each individual fleece processing order of 30 lbs or more.

Write to Frankenmuth Woolen Mill
570 South Main Street
Frankenmuth, Michigan 48734
(517) 652-8121

CONSIGNMENT SELLING OF YOUR HANDSPUN ITEM

Joan Buchanan of SATURDAY'S BARN, 175 W. Seneca Turnpike, Manlius, NY is taking handcrafted items to sell on consignment. The fee is 15%. She is open on Saturdays till Christmas.

For more information, call 315-682-8392, evenings.

FOR SALE:

Ad Rates: 3-6 lines ----- \$1 one time
----- \$2 three times
7-24 lines ----- \$5 one time
25 lines ----- 1/2 page \$10 one time

For Sale: Clean, soft, beautifully shorn handspinning fleeces. Many different colors and breeds to choose from. \$2 - 5/lb. Come visit our flock. Samples available. Elizabeth Hays, Angel Ridge Farm, Spencer, NY (607) 589-6792. (3/3)

Loom Wanted: 22 or 24" Dorset or Baby Wolf floor Loom.

Please call Eleanor May, 272-8224 (1/3)

For Sale: The Louet S90 Ultimate is here! Special guild price \$370.00, shipping included. Regular price is \$439.00. Louet yarn blocker and warping mill, \$100.00. Lisa Ann Merian, Spinner's Hill Shop, RD #1, Box 118, Brackett Lake Road, Bainbridge, NY 13733, 843-6276. (9/15)

SPINNING WHEEL FOR SALE:

Louet S-70, natural oak with skein winder, \$285. Call Celia Radke 749-2711 (1/3)

more items on next page...

FOR SALE: Lambs and sheep - many are border leicester crosses, white and colored. All are priced to sell! Nancy Morey, Shadeyside Farm, P.O. Box 48, Chenango Bridge, NY 13745. 607-656-4737

BOOK SALE: All books are 20% off - slightly damaged books 25% off. Shadeyside Farm, P.O. Box 48, Chenango Bridge, NY 13745 (607) 656-4737.

FOR SALE: LeClerc spool rack for sectional beam warping. Brand new, never used. \$60.00 call 656-8626. (1/3)

FOR SALE: Finn sheep with lovely fleeces. Two ram lambs and one ewe lamb. \$40 each. Call 656-8626. (1/3)