

# Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Newsletter



Editor  
Lee Buerkle  
4030 Carr Hill Rd  
Cortland, NY 13045  
607-753-1580



## SEVERE WEATHER FORCES MANY CANCELLATIONS

### M O M

Meet our members. This month the roving reporter talked with the presidents, new and last. Short autobiographies follow.

#### Shelly Marino

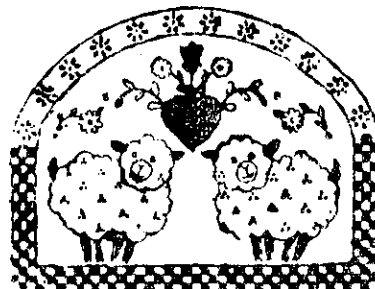
Can it be that I'm already 41? Guess so, even my parents sent me a card, and they ought to know! I started out in suburban Cleveland, racing around a typical 50's neighborhood and swinging on the monkey bars. Always liked handwork, probably because I read so much Louisa May Alcott, and her heroines were always busy with some project or other. We always embroidered and did a little sewing of doll clothes. Taught myself to knit at about age 9, and its been fiber heaven since.

Went throught the 60's, sex, drugs and rock and roll, came out the other end alive and able to tell the tale. Received a B. A. in Biology from Cornell, traveled a bit around the U. S. hitchhiking with my dog, Sibear (come to think of it we must have made quite a pair). Experimented with the drop spindle and loom. Married, had my darling daughter, Mara, bought my home in the country, became single, did years and years (and years and years...) of lab work as single mom, raising goats and garden as well. Married again (very briefly) and began raising sheep. Sheep lasted eight years. Maybe I should have married them.

Got involved with BSHG around 1983 (before sheep), and felt I'd found my spot. Served as president for a couple years, newsletter editor off and on

for a few more. Began swing dancing along the way, and am still dancing with my beloved spouse Tom (they say that three's the charm and I believe it). Sheep goeth before a move to town, so 1994 finds me a tax-paying Ithacan on Hudson Street with a terrific teenage daughter who can (after all these years) walk to violin lessons, a wonderful husband who now is able to come home for dinner (most nights), 3 cats and no sheep.

BSHG has played an increasingly important role in my life for lo these many years. It's through the Guild that I've made some of my best friends and closest companions. Truly. It recently became clear to me that the Guild and the work we do are probably one of the biggest doses of care I give my soul. That's a satisfying revelation for an old lady of 41.



Born and raised in Chicago, Ill., Ellie came to Ithaca in 1972 for a 2 year stay and is still here. She has been married since 1957 and has three daughters. Leslie who has been ill, is doing much much better now. Maryann a neo-natal nurse and Patty a farmers wife.

All are married and Patty has produced 2 "great" grandchildren.

Ellie is a school nurse and also teaches a course in health. She plans on retiring in June. An avid reader, and member of Friends of the Library she plans to continue to help in expanding library facilities in Jails, and Pre-school Centers.

Ellie's husband Monty has a hobby involved with model steam trains. These fellows are known as "live steamers". The model trains are made 1 1/2" to the foot scale. (Well now that wont fit under the Christmas Tree). They have a special track in the Clyde/Merino area near Rochester where they steam up their trains and sit on them and give rides to youngsters.

Ellie has been involved with BSHG for many years. She was lay leader in the offshoot Saturday group. Eventually the Saturday group emerged as the regular BSHG. She has been our president for the last few years, Thanks!

Treasurers Notes

It's that time of year again. DUES ARE DUE! Please get them paid this month. The retreat weekend is coming right along, March 4,5,6,...cost ie \$75.00. Eleven members are already signed up, there's room for 6 more. Get your money to Sharon this meeting.

Rock Day Cancelled

The headline on front tells it all. Hope to see the vendors at Market Day.

Come on out for the February meeting to discuss and plan for State Fair Entries. Some spinning categories have none or very few entries. As spinners, knitters, etc. we should make an effort to enter our work. We thought it would be a good idea to spend the February meeting to help, advise and encourage each other to develop and start working on projects to enter the Fair. Come with books and ideas on novelty yarn, plying, color blending, patterns and instructions. Following is the list of categories:

HANDSPUN YARN - Classes 71-78

Any fiber - each entry in classes 71, 72 and 73 must attach a white 3 x 5 card or paper indicating a plan for usage. Skeins should be approximately 2 ounces in weight (1 1/2 ounces for specialty yarns - silk, angora, cashmere, etc.)

PREVIOUSLY ENTERED YARN NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Class

- 71. Proficiency of spin, 2-ply evenness of spin and evenness of ply color
- 72. Yarns for clothing, 2-skeins for use in weaving, knitting, crocheting, macramé, etc.
- 73. Novelty yarns, 2 skeins for any use
- 74. Garments for infant or child (1 or 2 piece) made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc.)
- 75. Adult hat and scarf set or hat and mittens set made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc.)
- 76. Adult sweater, made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, etc.)
- 77. Any other adult garment made from handspun yarn (knit, crochet, poncho, vest, jacket, tunic, etc.)
- 78. Any other non-wearable functional or decorative article (wall hanging, afghan, lap robe, pillow, rug) made from handspun and dyed yarn.

Celia Radke

Where?

BSHG meets the second Saturday of each month at the Varna Community Center on Rt. 366. Bring your lunch, we start at 11:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m.