



## A Message from the President

Greetings, all,

What a month! June brought weddings, graduations, a bridal shower at my house, a visit to my dad in Vermont, illness, and challenges, with the highs and lows associated with each. The sheep (3 that we know of) found their way into the garden, with the result that I have few phlox, asters, Platycodon and etc. this year, and mama deer is back as well, with this year's fawn. Have you ever watched sheep play tag with a fawn? If only I had a camera with me.

I hope that participants in the dyeing project last month enjoyed it as much as I did--please bring your fiber in to show off. I will write up the basic instructions for the method we employed, for anyone interested in trying it at home.

We have no program planned for the July meeting; I look forward to a time of visiting and hearing about your big events, be they family or fiber.

See you there,

Sharon

July 2016

Our July 9th meeting will be in Lansing at All Saints.

## We will be Spinning with Friends

President	<a href="#">Sharon Gombas</a>
Vice President	<a href="#">Sue Quick</a>
Secretary	<a href="#">Angelika St. Laurent</a>
Treasurer	<a href="#">Vickie Marsted</a>
Newsletter	<a href="#">Angelika St. Laurent</a>
Membership	<a href="#">Marjorie Inana</a>
Programming	<a href="#">Audrey Lowes*</a>
	Audrey phone only 607-657-8242
	<a href="#">Marjorie Inana</a>
Webmaster	<a href="#">Rosane Mordt</a>

**p.1 Pres. Message**

**p.2 Minutes**

**p.2 Request for Spinners**

**p.3 Dying Instructions**

**p.4 Lichti-Harriman Quote**

**p.5 Membership Form**

**p. 6-7 Ads**

The Black Sheep meet from 11am - 3pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month at All Saints Church Parish Hall, Route 34B, in Lansing, NY. Exceptions are possible-see location changes in the latest newsletter!

## Minutes of the Black Sheep Handspinners Guild Meeting on Sat. June 11th

On our last meeting we had an excellent time dying yarn and roving and very little business to discuss.

Unfortunately, as newsletter editors switched, some email addresses got lost and some members of the Guild did not receive the June newsletter. Angelika is working to collect all emails and add them to the list, so future newsletters will arrive in more mailboxes.

Please send your submissions to the Newsletter to Angelika ([angelika@simonstl.com](mailto:angelika@simonstl.com), or call 607-277-8105)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Angelika St.Laurent

## Requests to Spin in Public:

DRYDEN LAKE FEST is looking for spinners to demonstrate at their event on July 23. The festival runs from 10 until 5. Check it out on line! If interested please contact Erin Bieber at [deputyclerk@dryden.ny.us](mailto:deputyclerk@dryden.ny.us)

THE WOOL BOOTH at the NY State Fair is looking for spinners and weavers to demonstrate. The guild usually sends a group on the Tuesday or Wednesday in the middle of its run, which this year would be the 30th or 31st, but go any time you want. They have shifts from 10-2, 2-5, and 5-9. Also, Linda will be at the booth most Sundays from noon until 4 preparing fiber for the event, carding, dyeing, setting up the booth. If you are interested you may contact Linda Miller directly at 315-440-6049, or Sharon at [sg39@cornell.edu](mailto:sg39@cornell.edu). Entry and parking passes are provided, and it is fun!

## Quote of the Day:

“I am NOT a hoarder. I am the curator of a private fiber collection.”

### Upcoming BSHG Meetings:

July 9<sup>th</sup>, from 11am - 3pm at the All Saints Church Parish Hall, Route 34B, in Lansing, NY.

### Tour de Fleece

July 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 24<sup>th</sup>

On [www.ravelry.com](http://www.ravelry.com)

### Dryden Lake Fest

Sat. July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10am-5pm

Lake Road, Dryden NY 13053

### Waulking

Sat. August 13<sup>th</sup>

Home Textile Tool Museum, Orwell Road, Wysox, PA 18854

### NY State Fair

August 25<sup>th</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup>

581 State Fair Blvd, Syracuse, NY 13209

### The Finger Lakes Fiber Festival

Sat./Sun. September 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>

Hemlock Fairgrounds, Hemlock NY

### Southern Adirondack Fiber Festival

Sat./Sun September 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>

392 Old Schuylerville Road, Greenwich, NY 12834

### Homestead Heritage Day

Sat. September 24<sup>th</sup>, 10am-3pm

14 North Street, Dryden NY 13053

### Celtic Festival

Sat. October 8<sup>th</sup>

Stewart Park, Ithaca NY 14850

## **Painless Dyeing Basics (as employed at the June meeting) by Sharon Gombas:**

1) Pre-soak fiber: Add fiber (roving, top, yarn, etc., tied as you would a skein) to the soak solution (1 part white vinegar to 3 parts water). Let sit about 30 minutes. Squeeze excess water from fiber; remember that a wetter fiber will allow colors to blend where they meet, while a drier fiber will result in more discrete colors, so decide what effect you want in advance.

2) Arrange a plastic kitchen trash bag in a bowl (bowl is optional but does give support). Pull up the center of the bag to create a donut shape; this helps keep dyed portions separate. Arrange the fiber around the center.

3) Mix dyes according to instructions on the dye container. Check the resulting color by painting it onto a paper towel; you may add more dye for a deeper color, or less for a lighter color.

4) Add color to fiber: Using a small cup or squeeze bottle, apply the first color to sections of the fiber according to your plan, using your gloved hands to gently work it through all layers of fiber. Apply additional colors in the same manner, allowing colors to blend, or not, in keeping with your desired result. Use only enough dye to thoroughly wet the fiber as more liquid means more mixing of colors. Use paper towels to soak up the excess liquid, leaving a small amount so you can see when the dye has been absorbed (when the water is clear).

5) Heat it to set the dye: Move the fiber, still in the bag, to a microwave oven (preferably one used only for dyeing), keeping the center of the bag 'donut' pulled up to keep colors separated. Heat on high for 2 minutes, let set for 5. Repeat until color is gone from the water. Let fiber cool, and rinse it in vinegar soak. Squeeze out excess water (or spin, whatever), and lay it out to dry.

This is just a start--experiment with how you lay out the fiber, how wet the fiber is, how much water you add to the dye you start with, etc. It is recommended that you keep a record of what you did, as you may want to duplicate it. Have fun!

## **"Art was just Craft - Poorly Made"**

Laurie Ament found this beautiful quote:

An article by Kathryn A. Lichti-Harriman called "Taking the Piss: Mistakes and Irony in Scottish Craft Groups' appeared in the book 'Humor in Craft'. She was doing 'anthropological fieldwork' in Northeast Scotland consisting of visiting craft groups 'in order to learn how your every-day wyfies (women) in Northeast Scotland constructed meaningful objects and relationships as craft-makers.' While there, she stumbled upon the idea of making what could have been counted as a mistake into a 'design feature.' She goes on to speak a bit about the idea of Craft occupying a subordinate position to Art.

In conclusion, she says 'The non-professional "design feature" is a mistake rescued. Calling it such is an outright dig at the capabilities and aesthetic choices of Art. It may have a higher social capital, but to the women I knew Art was just Craft... poorly made'

You can download the whole article for your reading pleasure here:

<http://aberdeen.academia.edu/KathrynLichtiHarriman/Papers>



## Membership Form

*Please type or print*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### DUES Record:

2015	2018
2016	2019
2017	2020

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred email: PRINT NEATLY \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

This information will be shared with registered guild members. If you wish to remain anonymous, please let Vicki Marsted know.

Please list your wheel(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you spindle spin? Yes or No (circle)

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

Would you be willing to share your skills with other members (ie: teach beginners, present a meeting topic, demo to the public, etc?)

If you raise fiber animals, please list them here \_\_\_\_\_

We need your help on committee(s). If you would like to volunteer, let Sharon Gombas, our president, know!!!

- Roc Day
- Programming
- Newsletter
- Membership
- Website
- Outreach
- Treasurer

Our newsletter is distributed electronically. If this is a problem, please contact Sharon Gombas.

Please fill this out and either bring it to a meeting or mail it with your check for \$20 to: Vickie Marsted, 29 Lincoln St, Cortland, NY 13045

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In an effort to reduce my personal stash, I'd like to sell cotton warp, loop mohair, rug wools, fine wools, rayon and rayon chenille and other interesting stuff at prices ranging from low to ridiculous. I also have a Hansen e-spinner with woolee winder, two bobbins and kate for sale. Contact Karey Solomon at [threads@empacc.net](mailto:threads@empacc.net).

For sale from my own happy sheep and rabbits in Trumansburg: Navajo-Churro roving in a variety of natural colors  
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Contact Sharon Berger @607-592-4649 or



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### *To place an ad*

The cost for ads is \$5.00 per month for non-members. Current members may submit one business-card sized classified ad per month for free. Send a check made out to BSHG to our treasurer, Vickie Marsted, 29 Lincoln Ave, Cortland, NY 13045. Send the ad in digital form to the newsletter editor, [angelika@simonstl.com](mailto:angelika@simonstl.com). Black & white business cards are published free for current members.





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