

NOVEMBER
2025

ROVINGS



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Fiber-y Events and Opportunities

Our November 8th meeting will be 11-3pm at 347 Ridge Rd in Lansing.

The Local Fiber Popup Store is open now through December 18th at 115 S. Cayuga Street in Ithaca for shopping, and has a range of workshops on Thursdays 6-8pm. See their website, LocalFiber.org, for more details.



Black Sheep Hand Spinners at Rhinebeck!
Left: Crowd; Right: Anna Murray-Bartels and Kylie
Spooner. Credit, Kylie Spooner

Message from the President

Dear Fellow Spinners,

It's fall. We got the hour back they stole from us in spring. I put it to good use drum carding. Now, to get used to earlier night fall. Conveniently, when it's dark out my garden can't distract me from spinning. I might even get my project for the Roc Day challenge done that way.

Our next meeting is on November 8th, 11am-3pm, in the Parish Hall of the All Saints Catholic Church in Lansing, 347 Ridge Road. I'm very much looking forward to seeing you there,

Angelika

P.S. All fiber for the Roc Day Challenge has been handed out at this point. You can still join, just use from your stash.



Guild News

Guild Meeting

The next Guild meeting will be on **Saturday, November 8th, 11-3 PM**, in the Parish Hall of the All Saint's Church

Address: 347 Ridge Rd, Lansing

New Members

If you know of folks who would like to join, please have them contact Louise Henrie and pay dues at: henrielm6@aol.com.

Address List

We put together a list of names, email addresses, and telephone numbers for guild members. This list is available in printed form at guild meetings or by request to Secretary, Roberta Sibley at robertainez@yahoo.com.

Guild Dues

For all members who have not yet paid dues, they are \$25 for the year of 2025. Please pay at a meeting, send your check for \$25 to: Louise Henrie, 417 2nd Street, Ithaca, NY 14850, or now you may send money via Venmo to Black-Sheep-NY

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, Louise Henrie, 417 2nd Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. Send the ad in digital form to the newsletter editor: rschnir@gmail.com

Guild Officers

President	Angelika St. Laurent	Newsletter	Ruby Schnirman
Vice President	Rose Helmbright	Workshops	Marianne Pelletier
Secretary	Roberta Sibley	Webmaster	Rosane Mordt
Treasurer	Louise Henrie	Roc Day Coordinator	Marianne Pelletier and Anna Bartels



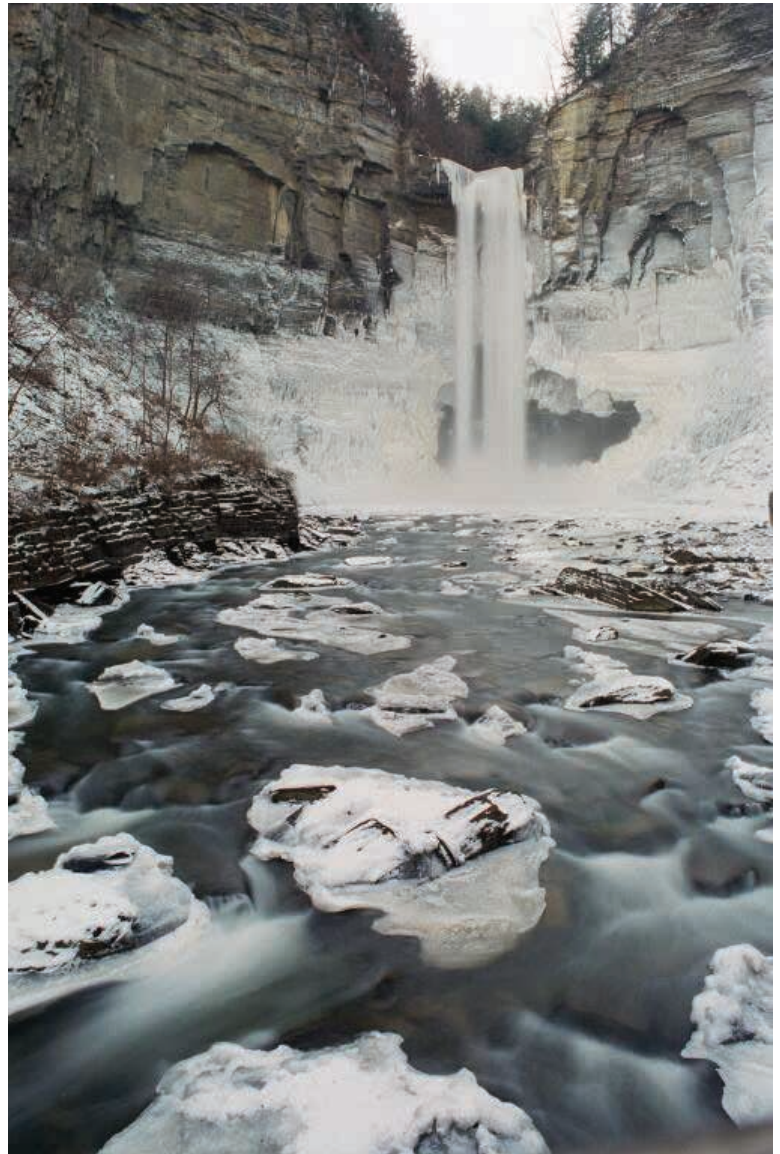
Roc Day 2026 Competition

Angelika St. Laurent

Objective: Create a scarf inspired by the photo of Taughannock Fall in Winter*.

Rules: All yarn and thread used in the project has to be handspun by the person submitting the project, this includes warp yarn, sewing thread etc. The scarf may be constructed with any fiber art technique known to humankind. Any fiber or blend may be used. If you want color, you may either dye your own fiber at any state of the process or resort to commercially dyed fiber. The finished object has to be submitted latest at Roc Day 2026, January 10th , by 10:30am. With the submission add a note about which fibers and techniques you used in the creation of the scarf and how they relate to the photo-inspiration.

All submitted scarfs will be judged in three categories: Most Beautiful, Best Interpretation of the Photo (both by public vote), and Best Technique (by a team of judges).



The guild has a limited number of 8-ounce bags of white Finn 2 wool available for members, who do not feel they have suitable fiber in their stash for the project.

With any questions contact Angelika St.Laurent, angelika@simonstl.com, 607-277-8105 or 607-793-4215.

*Photo credit: Susan Verberg

**Sheep raised by Elizabeth Kinne Gossner.



Roc Day Announcements

Roc Day this year will be January 10th, 2026. Please see below for important announcements regarding planning to ensure that we have another successful Roc Day.

Audio/Visual (AV) System Question

Marianne would like to know if anybody remembers where the speakers and microphone came from last year. If you have any leads, please email mpellet771@htva.net.

Volunteering at Roc Day

Roc Day planning is happening now! How can you help? Sign up to volunteer during the event. We still need people to sign up for many obs. Can you sign up for an hour to host the spinning circle or assist with the raffle? Email Anna at janedoe727@aol.com.

Elle May Roc Day Paper Bag Auction

Is your stash of fiber, yarn, handmade fiber creations (very popular) or any other fiber related tools, books, or other related items taking up too much space in your house? Consider **donating** to the Elle May Roc Day Auction.

Debbie Benzer and Roberta Sibley will be collecting any donations during the Nov-Dec meetings. If it's more convenient, drop off donations at any time at 714 N. Cayuga St. Ithaca (place items in bin on porch).

If you have larger fiber-related items you would like to donate for the silent auction (looms, spinning wheels or yarn winders) they need to be checked by Lois Swales. Please call her at (607)-220-8973 to discuss repair, reverberation, and transportation of items several weeks before the auction.

Kitchen and food reminders

Jean Currie says, "As usual for our Roc day I hope you will bring a wonderful dish to pass. Just a few reminders about the logistics:

- Bring the dish as early as possible
- Have a label of some kind that has ingredients-- this is for those with allergies
- If it needs either cooking or heating, let me know when you arrive
- You don't need a serving utensil-- the church has plenty of them
- Please take any leftovers home with you and remember to take your dish. We hope that everything was eaten and that we have washed it for you!
- Bon appetit!

Any questions, let me know at ejeancurrie@gmail.com." Thanks, Jean!



Member Ads and Announcements

Free Black Walnuts

Lynne Anguish says: "I have a ton of black walnuts collected and would like them to have a home with someone who would like them for dying, nuts or whatever. You can come to my house to pick them up or I can bring them to yours or to the next meeting. Let me know ASAP!" If interested, email Lynne at lynne.anguish@gmail.com.

Baynes Wheel and Accessories for Sale

Carol LaBorie has a Baynes wheel and accessories for sale. For more information, please email Carol at tusweca_winan@yahoo.com.

Articles of Interest

Several people sent in articles that may be of interest to this group this month!

Quilts=Arts=Quilts show at the Schweinfurth Art Center in Auburn NY:

<https://schweinfurthartcenter.org/quiltsartquilts-2025/> (From Marilee Williams)

NY Wool Goes to Fashion School

<https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2025/10/new-york-wool-goes-fashion-school> (From Kay Stickane)

How Local Wool is Making a Comeback Around New England

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2025/10/28/metro/nh-growing-local-wool-farm-closet/> (From Kay Stickane)



Column: Zoe Goes to Grad School

Zoe Gras is on an exciting journey in an MFA program in textiles. Zoe will be sharing dispatches from her experience here!

Hello all, it's been a busy month! I went to the Kings County Fiber Festival and was a human bobbin in a bobbin lace demonstration, where I finally got to meet the incredible Elena Kanagy-Loux, who is doing her PhD at Bard. I then had midterms and a big art critique, which went well, as all the professors liked my work. My class then went to the Antonio Ratti Textile Center and Reference Library at The Met, where we were able to see historical lace in person and learn more about lace techniques and how they progressed through the centuries. Next, of course, was the Rhinebeck Sheep and Wool festival, where one of my classmates and I pet some sheep and bought some fiber. It was so nice to be back in upstate New York and see all the fall foliage. I then had a week intensive in Sensory Design, where I explored how to use materials to activate all the senses when exploring art. This week was really impactful for me and led to some breakthroughs in how I could use lights to create shadows through textiles. You can see this in the image below, which is my most recent project, depicting a memory of swimming in Cayuga Lake. In person, you can move the lights around, which creates different types of shadows depending on where you put them. I also used a fan to get the pieces of thread to sway, and to add an auditory element. In the coming month, I am going to continue using handspun yarn and a knitting machine to see what interesting textures I can get when I felt a knit. Stay tuned next month to see what I come up with and follow me at @acreatorliveshere!



From the Archives

See below for a tidbit about what the weather was like in November 1978. We may be getting the first snow of the year this month as well!

BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNERS GUILD
Ithaca, New York

NEWSLETTER #21 -- November 1978
Edited by Jean Warholio

As this Newsletter is getting pulled together (Tuesday), the snow is swirling down and is utterly BEAUTIFUL!!! That first real snow of the winter is always something of a treat to watch! Especially if you can be inside! The birds are collecting at the feeders already; they are always a pleasure to watch, too. And the cats still think that somehow if they would just go out the front door instead of the back door, all that nasty white stuff won't be there... Good weather for WOOLIES and, if you can be home, to get some spinning done!!

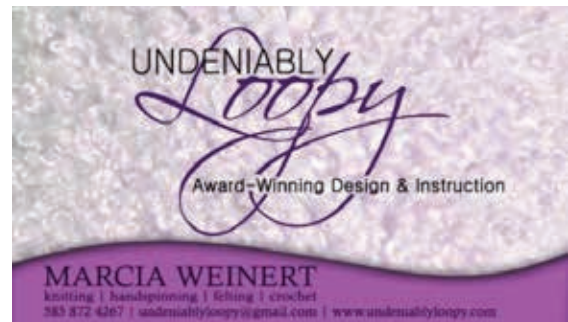
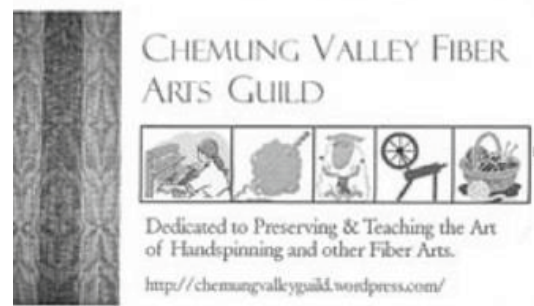
This is a good time to reiterate our SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY... In the event of severe snowstorms or truly inclement weather, cancellation of the meeting (decided by the officers) will be on the radio (WHCU, WTKO) by 7:30 or 8:00 a.m. Unless stated otherwise, the meeting will be postponed to the next Monday. When in doubt, call your nearest Guild officer. Use your horsesense, too -- if it is a blizzard outside, stay home! We want no snowbound spinners stuck somewhere enroute. Guild members are spread over a large area and some will have more snow problems than others... (Saturday Group-ers should call Eleanor May or Ernestine Wright, below.)



Photo of Debbie Benzer sent in by Kay Stickane:
"One of the first sweaters I remember Debbie Benzer spinning and knitting, maybe 20 years ago?"



Guild Vendors



New Member's Form

Name _____

Address _____

Email (Print Neatly) _____

Phone # _____

This information will be shared with registered guild members. If you wish to remain anonymous, please let Louise Henrie 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 our president, Angelika St. Laurent know.

Roc Day Programming	Newsletter
Membership	Website
Outreach	Treasurer

Our newsletter is distributed electronically. If this is a problem, please contact Ruby Schnirman (401)-486-7237 . Please fill this out and either bring it to a meeting, mail it with your check for \$25 to: Louise Henrie, 417 2nd Street, Ithaca, NY 14850, or send via Venmo to Black-Sheep-NY.

