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# NEWSLETTER

## November 2023

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*Thistle helped out with my spinning at home in Michigan  
-Rachael*



January  
2024



## Message from the President

Dear Fellow Spinners,

A new year is here and finally a new Roc-Day! We will be celebrating Saturday, 1-13-24, from 10am-4pm, in the Parish Hall of the All Saints Catholic Church in Lansing, 346 Ridge Road. The weather forecast looks wet, but warm enough, that the precipitation shouldn't interfere with travel.

Please remember to bring a dish-to-pass for our pot-luck on Saturday (and don't forget to label your dishes, so they can travel back home with you after the celebration.) If you are participating in this year's challenge, please remember to bring in your bag latest by 10:30am, so there will be plenty of time for the public to vote. If you have volunteered to help during the day, but do not remember the exact time, or you still would like to volunteer, please contact Rachael, our newsletter editor, or Yvonne, our Roc-Day coordinator, who are keeping the lists.

Thanks to everyone who already put in a lot of effort in planning and preparation of Roc Day.

I hope to see you all on Saturday,  
Angelika



January  
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## Guild News

### Guild Meeting

The next Guild meeting will be Roc Day on Saturday, January 13, 10-4 PM, in the Parish Hall of the All Saint's Church

Address: 346 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](mailto: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](mailto:robertainez@yahoo.com).

## Guild Officers

President	Angelika St. Laurent
Vice President	Sue Quick
Secretary	Roberta Sibley
Treasurer	Louise Henrie
Newsletter	Rachael Skye
Workshops	Marianne Pelletier
Webmaster	Rosane Mordt
Roc Day Coordinator	Yvonne LaMontagne



## Guild Dues

For all members who have not yet paid dues, they are \$25 for the year of 2023. 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

## Guild Meeting Location

All members are asked to be on the lookout for a new guild meeting location in a reasonable price range. It must have adequate parking.

## 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: rachael.siems.skye@gmail.com.

## 2024 Retreat Update

The retreat will be the weekend of February 23 through 25 at Casowasco Retreat Center. Those who have gone in past years can tell you what a great time this is. With a minimum of 18 people registered, it will cost \$159 per person. This fee includes lodging (the entire Galilee Lodge for our group) and meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday.

We currently have 18 people registered. If you still have to pay your deposit, you can: mail a check written out to Black Sheep spinning guild to: Sarah Davis 26 Curtis Road, Ithaca NY 14850, or you can Venmo to "Black-Sheep-NY". If you Venmo, please put "retreat" in the comment.

We will accept payments toward the retreat at any time if you want to spread it out. Final payment is due to Casowasco on February 5th.

Please contact Kylie Spooner, Sarah Davis or Anna Murray-Bartels with any questions.





## Fiber Events

Connected Stitches Yarn & Fiber Shop is a new business looking to set up in the area! Right now, they are hosting knitting classes and social gatherings called Stitch and Spin in Dryden, NY. They are at the event space next to Corner Brew Cafe (2 W Main St, Dryden, NY). Future dates will be posted on the website, Instagram, and Facebook. Bring a mug for hot tea!

<https://connectedstitches.com/>



*join us!*



# STITCH & SPIN

January 11th, 16th, and 24th

6:30p-8:30p

The Corner Brew Event Space

Dryden, NY

## For Sale In The Guild

Kay Stickane is selling a Majacraft Suzie with 5 bobbins (it usually comes with 3). \$800.  
Contact Kay Stickane, [krs3@cornell.edu](mailto:krs3@cornell.edu)

## Elli May Raffle

Hopefully, most items for the Elli May Raffle are already in - but if any are left, please get them to Debbie as soon as possible! Friday at the 4:30 setup will be the last time to accept raffle items. The Raffle is a major source of revenue for the Spinning guild, it allows us to have low cost workshops for the guild members and pay the monthly rent for meetings.

Any items related to fiber arts, equipment (knitting/Crocheting, spinning, weaving any equipment used to craft fiber), books-magazines with patterns or techniques, kits, completed items, any fiber-in any form, or any art/item that depicts fiber arts or sheep.

Contact Debbie Benzer or take them to the bins at her house: 714 N. Cayuga St. 714 N. Cayuga St.  
[DPBenzer@twcny.rr.com](mailto:DPBenzer@twcny.rr.com)



## 2024 Roc Day Challenge

Our 2024 Roc Day Challenge goes from raw fleece to finished objects. Participants receive eight ounces of raw Lincoln wool, four ounces white, four ounces brown\*. The challenge is to make a bag out of this wool – and only out of this wool. The finished bag needs to be sturdy and tight enough to hold a cup of marbles. Participants may use any fiber art to create and adorn their bag. Felting, knitting, crocheting, weaving, nalbinding, embroidery and any combination of these are all allowed (so are fiber arts not on the list). Participants are free to dye the wool. However, dyeing is not required. No other fiber, thread, fabric, or notions (buttons, zippers etc.) may be used in the making of the bag. E.g., if the bag is constructed sewing together woven fabric, the sewing thread also has to be spun from the wool provided.



Carolann Darling of Darling Woolens in Groton provided the fleeces for this year's challenge. Here is Carolann with her four Lincoln ewes.

**Finished bags should be submitted latest on Roc Day 1-13-24 by 10 am.** We ask participants, to add an index card listing the crafts used for their project. Judging will be by public vote. The categories will be 'Most Beautiful', 'Most Creative', and 'Most Practical'.

Ziploc bags with the wool will be available at the November. At this point, there are still four bags of fiber available. If you'd like to participate, but can't make it to a meeting, please contact Angelika [angelika@simon-stl.com](mailto:angelika@simon-stl.com).

\*A little note on weight loss with washing. You are receiving raw wool, which contains a fair amount of grease, dirt and sweat. When washing the wool expect to lose 25-30% of total weight. After washing, you'll have six ounces or a little bit less of clean fiber to work with.

There are two different articles on fleece washing for beginners at the end of the newsletter, from Angelika and Ellen.



## Roc Day 2024 Schedule

Doors Open 10:00 - 4:00      Spinning Circle, Vendors

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00         | Doors Open   |
| 10:30         | Last chance to hand in your project for the competition  |
| 10:30 - 11:30 | Workshop: Beginning Spinning with Angelika St.Laurent  |
| 11:00         | Demonstration: Card Weaving with Rachael Skye  |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | Workshop: Drop Spinning with Marianne Pelletier  |
| 11:30 - 1:30  | Dish-to-pass luncheon  |
| 1:00          | Demonstration: Art Yarn with Zoe Gras  |
| 1:30          | Sale of raffle tickets ends  |
| 1:30 – 2:30   | Workshop: Beginning Knitting with Priscilla Reyer  |
| 2:00          | Silent Auction ends  |
| 2:30          | Presentation of raffle items/silent auction items to winners.<br>You or your designee must be present to win |
| 2:50          | Prizes awarded to winners of the competition   |
| 4:00          | Celebration ends for this year--we hope to see you next<br>year!   |





⊕ **Volunteer Schedule for 13 January, 2024**

<p><b>Set-up Friday 4:30 - 6pm</b> - Yvonne L.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Louise <del>Henrie</del></li> <li>2. Angelika <del>St Laurent</del></li> <li>3. Melody Narvaez</li> <li>4. Kay <del>Stickene</del></li> <li>5. Suzanne Schwartz</li> <li>6. Mary Nichols</li> </ol> <p>Raffle Set-Up</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Lynne Anguish</li> <li>8. Sue quick</li> <li>9. Debbie <del>Benzer</del> Roberta Sibley</li> </ol>	<p><b>Welcome Table</b> - Kathy Halton</p> <p>9:45-10:45 Kathy Halton</p> <p>10:45-11:45 Amy Glaser</p> <p>11:45-12:45 Louise <del>Henrie</del></p> <p>12:45-1:45 Susan <del>Sarabasha</del></p> <p>1:45-2:45 Sharon Gombas</p> <p>2:45-3:45 Ruby <del>Schnirman</del></p>
<p><b>Spinning Circle</b> - (Need Point Person)</p> <p>10-11 Zoe Gras</p> <p>11-12 Mary White</p> <p>12-1 Suzanne Schwartz</p> <p>1-2 <del>Arija Restbergs</del></p> <p>2-3 Ronda Porras</p>	<p><b>Raffle 10am – 1pm</b> - Deb <del>Benzer</del> Roberta Sibley</p> <p>10-11 Beth <del>Varieur</del></p> <p>10-11 Lynne Anguish</p> <p>11-12 <del>Christianne White</del></p> <p>11-12 Deb <del>Benzer</del></p> <p>12-1 Marilee Williams</p> <p>12-1 Deb Benzer</p> <p>1-2 Ronda Porras</p> <p>1-2 Lynne Anguish</p>
<p><b>Kitchen</b> - Jean Currie</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ruby <del>Schnirman</del> (9-11:00)</li> <li>2. Marianne Pelletier</li> <li>3. Sue Quick (9-11:00)</li> <li>4. <del>Christianne White</del> (12-1:00)</li> <li>5. Sarah Davis</li> <li>6.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Floater</b>s - Yvonne LaMontagne</p> <p>10-11 Sharon <del>Gombas</del></p> <p>11-12 Zoe Gras</p> <p>12-1 Amy Glaser</p> <p>1-2 Kylie Spooner</p> <p>2-3 Kylie Spooner</p> <p>3-4 Kylie Spooner</p>
<p><b>Competition</b> - Angelika St. Laurent</p> <p><b>Competition Table</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Angelika St. Laurent (9:30-10:30)</li> <li>2. Kay <del>Stickane?</del> (10:30-11:30)</li> <li>3. (11:30-12:30)</li> <li>4. Rachael Skye (12:30 till announced)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Clean-Up 4 - 6:30 pm</b> - Yvonne LaMontagne</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Angelika <del>St Laurent</del></li> <li>2. Jean Currie</li> <li>3. Kylie Spooner</li> <li>4. Sarah Davis</li> <li>5. Susan <del>Cerretani</del></li> </ol>





## Our Vendors

**Mary Miller, Dear Mary Handspun and Handwoven** - Hand-woven and hand-spun towels and scarves, hand-knit socks from my hand-spun yarns. Hand-spun skeins, from cobweb to chunky weight, from dyers such as Hello Yarn, Southern Cross, and Spunky Eclectic.

**Robin Nistock, Nistock Farms** - Cotswold fleece, roving, dyed and natural curls, spinning batts and yarn. Quilt batting, moth repellent essential oils, silk top and hankies. Hand crafted tools for fiber artists. Frames and tools for rug hooking, Oxford rug punch and punch needle embroidery. Drop spindle kits, books and glitz fibers for all your blending needs.

[nistockfarms.com](http://nistockfarms.com)

**Lisa Merian, Spinner's Hill** - Hand-dyed roving, fiber blends, batts, and yarns. Also fiber arts supplies.

[spinnershill.com](http://spinnershill.com)

**Margaret Flowers, Trinity Farm** - Icelandic and Shetland fleece, rovings, and hand-spun yarns, hand-made sheep milk soaps, original needle-felted creations.

[trinityfarm.net](http://trinityfarm.net)

**Heather Warren, Lochan Mor Farm** - Roving, yarns, hand dyed locks and raw fleeces from Angora goats, Leicester Longwools, Romeldale CVMs and Romney sheep.

[Lochan Mor Farm \(FB\)](#)

**Dan and Lorraine Tracy, Dan Tracy Designs** - Spinner's De'Lite (single and double versions), drop spindles, Tibetan spindles, Dealgan Scottish Spindles, Mayan Spinners, ring distaffs, Lucets, Multiple Kates.

[dantracydesigns.com](http://dantracydesigns.com)

**Nancy Morey, Shadeyside Farm and Fibers LLC** - Fleece, locks (natural and dyed), carded roving and batts, and yarn from our flock. Silk fibers in all forms and blends with other fibers. Camel and yak tops and blends with other fibers from around the world. Small batch hand dyed tops, mohair locks, and yarns.

[shadeysidefibers.com](http://shadeysidefibers.com)

**Catkin Hollow Studio, Catkin Hollow llc** - We specialize in homestead products from our small farm in West Danby. Our handmade products include soaps, yarns, and ceramics. We offer classes for all ages in many homesteading and artistic endeavors on the farm, or schedule us to travel to your town for a class.

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# ROVINGS

January  
2024



## Guild Vendors

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## 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 Rachael Skye (734) 476-0634. 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.