



NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Contents

- 2 Message from the President**
- 3 Guild News**
- 5 General News**
- 6 Spindle Workshop with Judy Maierhofer**
- 7 Band Weaving Workshop**
- 8 Stories From The Guild - Silk, String, and a Recipe!**
- 10 Vendors**
- 11 New Member's Form**





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2023



Message from the President

Dear Fellow Spinners,

Spinning has a long history and many cultures have developed different tools and techniques to turn fiber into thread. In our next meeting, Judy Maierhofer will teach us about the traditional spinning style of the Blackfoot nation and talk about her work on maintaining the Navajo Churro breed of sheep. Judy herself learned this spinning style from her grandmother. The meeting will take place on Saturday 3-11-23, from 11am – 3pm, in the Parish hall of the All Saints Church in Lansing (347 Ridge Road.)

In February, we held our annual retreat at Casowasco. It was a beautiful and relaxing weekend on the shores of Owasco lake. Many thanks to Kat Doxtater for organizing the retreat.

Our spinning challenge is due at our April meeting, Saturday 4-8-23. If you haven't started on the tussah silk fiber, yet, there is just one month to go.

In sad news: Our long time member Marie Bryhan passed away on January 22, 2023. If Marie was around, it was impossible to get bored. She had done so many things, from raising her own sheep to collecting fossils in the arctic, that I sometimes wondered, what she hadn't done. And she could tell the stories. I feel blessed to have known her and sad that I won't get to hear more of her stories.

Hoping to see you all on Saturday,
Angelika



Guild News

New Members

Sadly, Marie Bryhan has passed. Her obituary can be found at the Haughey Funeral Home and you can contribute your memories of Marie here:

<https://haugheyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/marie-bryhan>

There is not yet a memorial service planned, though one will be forthcoming. Here is her complete obituary.

Marie Bryhan, 74, of Caton, NY, died peacefully after a long illness on January 22, 2023.

Born and raised near Dallas, TX, Marie lived life to the fullest and died a remarkable woman, whose radiant smile lit up any room.

She was a dedicated gardener and was sure to be found in one of her many gardens, tending to her flowers. Marie loved watching the birds at her birdfeeder, took great pride in feeding the neighborhood hummingbirds, and never missed participating in Cornell's annual bird census. Marie and her family lived on a sheep farm in Caton, where she was an accomplished spinner, fiber artist, and self-taught veterinarian, never hesitating to pull a lamb during a difficult delivery or administer various medications to the flock. Marie was a Jill of all Trades, working as a teacher, nurse, and then a biochemist with Corning Inc. at Sullivan Park. She was an aficionado of classical music and looked forward to NPR's Piano Puzzler every week. She was a voracious reader, especially loving mystery novels. Marie was a great cook and baker and made her famous Sunshine bread every Thanksgiving. She enjoyed traveling with her family, often to Europe where she visited smaller towns to get a true sense of the culture. She was a connoisseur of fine wines. Marie will be remembered as a devoted mother, beloved wife, loving grandmother, and wonderful friend.

Marie is survived by her husband and partner of 50 years, Bob Morena; daughter, Lilly; son, Matt and his wife, Lindsay; two granddaughters, Finley and Addilyn; brother, John; and sisters, Nancy and Betsy. She is predeceased by her brother, David.

A memorial service for Marie is planned for a future date this coming Spring.



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2023



Guild Meeting

The next Guild meeting will be Saturday, March 11, 11-3 PM. We will meet in the Parish Hall of the All Saint's Church in Lansing.

Address: 347 Ridge Rd.

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 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 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 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.

General News

Roc Day Challenge 2023

The challenge is due soon! We look forward to seeing your creations in April.

This year's Roc Day challenge will build on the silk spinning workshop with Nancy Morey, though attendance is not necessary for participating in the challenge. Brief details are below, and more will come as get get closer!

Use the 2+ ozs. top of tussah silk top to spin a two ply yarn. Spin S and ply Z. Use regular plying, no special plying techniques such as boucle, spiral, or slub. Use only the fiber provided with no dyeing or additions of any kind.

You can create any gauge yarn you want, fat or spider web thin. Judges will be looking for even twist, appropriate plying twist, consistent thickness of yarn, durability of the structure (that it doesn't fall apart when pulled)



March Spindle Workshop: Judy Maierhofer

We are extremely fortunate to be welcoming Judy Maierhofer this month, to teach us about Blackfoot spindling! She learned from her great-grandmother, and is passing that knowledge down as a teacher.

Biography:

My paternal great grandmother was indigenous. In her culture, when a woman was finished raising her children (they had been accepted as adults in the tribe) she would choose a young person to be her apprentice. That person could be a relative or possibly a neighbor. It would usually be someone who reminded her of herself. My grandmother chose me. She taught me her skills, beliefs, and likes and dislikes. She was a weaver and hand spinner. While teaching me to spin, she told me stories of her life. I have since taught hundreds of people from around the world to spin her style.

Navajo Churros:

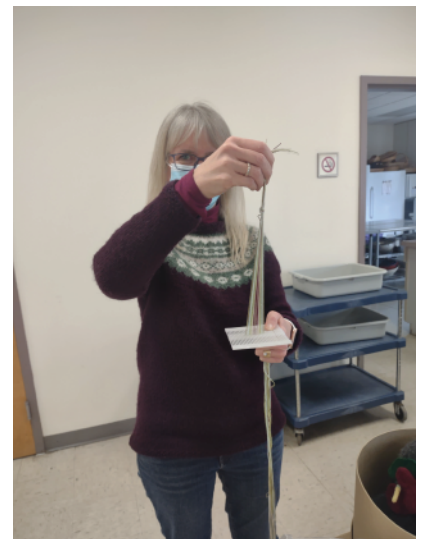
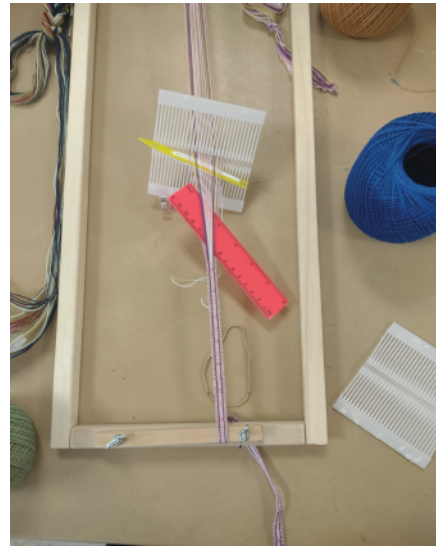
A hand spinner since childhood, Judy bought her fleeces at local sheep shearing days. In the mid-90s, years of drought decimated the Navajo Churro sheep, causing the genetic pool to become threatened. During one of her fleece buying trips, a local farmer offered anyone with a barn one ram and three ewes to help replenish the breed. Once her herd grew, she was able to send 15 ewes to New Mexico to diversify the gene pool. As she continues spinning and selling her wool, she also works with community school districts introducing children to her beloved sheep!

I am so excited to see you all at the workshop! There will be spindles available to try and purchase.



Band Weaving Workshop

Thank you so much to Arija for hosting the band-weaving workshop! Here are a few pictures from the event.



Stories from the Guild

Silk Spinning Samples

Kay Stickane has finished spinning the samples from our wonderful November workshop! Here's her beautiful work. She spun 3-ply on a support spindle, and ended up with 420 yards of fiber. She plans to make a scarf with the sampler kit!



The Archeology of String

Shelly Marino sent in a wonderful article on archeology and the history of string! Check it out here:

<https://hakaimagazine.com/features/the-long-knotty-world-spanning-story-of-string/>

“Bard remembers when she first saw them. She squeezed through a small opening and shuffled sideways through a long narrow passageway to the very back of the cave. There they were: more than 20 thick papyrus ropes, neatly coiled and, by all appearances, so exquisitely preserved it seemed a sailor might come along and scoop them up at any moment.”





Lamb Meatballs

By popular demand, here is Sarah Davis's Lamb Meatballs recipe from the retreat!

Lamb Meatballs with Dried Cranberries, Yogurt and Herbs

From Jerusalem, a Cookbook, by Yotam Ottolenghi and Sami Tamimi

2 lbs ground lamb	¾ cup white wine
2 medium onions, finely chopped	2 cups chicken stock
1 oz flat leaf parsley, finely chopped	2 bay leaves
3 cloves garlic, crushed	2 thyme sprigs
¾ teaspoon allspice	2 teaspoons sugar
¾ teaspoon cinnamon	5-6 oz dried figs
6 tablespoons dried cranberries	1 cup Greek yogurt
1 large egg	3 tablespoons cilantro, dill, mint, tarragon – coarsely torn
7 tablespoons sunflower oil	Salt
1.5 lbs shallots or onions)	Pepper

Place the lamb, onions, parsley, garlic, allspice, cinnamon, dried cranberries, egg, 1 teaspoon salt, and ½ teaspoon black pepper in a large bowl. Mix with your hands and roll into balls about the size of golf balls.

Heat 1/3 of the oil over medium heat in a large, heavy-bottomed pot for which you have a tight fitting lid. Put in a few meatballs and cook and turn them around for a few minutes until they color all over. Remove from pot and set aside. Cook the remaining meatballs the same way.

Wipe the pot clean and add the remaining oil. Add the shallots (onions) and cook over a medium heat for 10 minutes, stirring frequently until golden brown. Add the wine, leave to bubble for a minute or two, then add the chicken stock, bay leaves, thymes, sugar and some salt and pepper. Arrange the figs and meatballs among and on top of the shallots; the meatballs need to be almost covered in liquid. Bring to a boil, cover with the lid, decrease the heat to very low, and leave to simmer for 30 minutes. Remove the lid and simmer for about another hour, until the sauce has reduced and intensified in flavor. Taste and add salt and pepper if needed.

Transfer to a large, deep serving dish. Whisk the yogurt and pour on top, and scatter with the herbs.



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.