

# NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2022

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November

2022









## Message from the President

Dear Fellow Spinners,

This Saturday, 11-12-22, our monthly meeting will be replaced by a silk-spinning workshop. We are happy to have Nancy Morey as our teacher. The guild will pay the teacher's fee, members are only required to pay \$25 for the materials used in the workshop. To have enough time for learning and a lunch break, we'll start earlier, at 10 am and set to finish at 4 pm. The workshop will take place in the Parish Hall of the All Saints Church in Lansing (347 Ridge Road). If you are interested in participating, please, contact Anne Furman (ahfurman@yahoo.com).

As we are returning renters, the All Saints congregation now offered us a reduced rental fee. We will be meeting in the All Saints parish hall throughout the winter (December-March).

Considering, that over the colder season, Covid cases are likely to be on the rise, we ask all participants of our meeting to wear a mask.

Hope to see you soon, Angelika

## **Guild News**

The next meeting will be **Nancy Morey's Silk Workshop** on Saturday, 12 November. The workshop will run **10 AM-4PM**, with a break for food. We will meet in the Parish Hall of All Saints Church in Lansing. Remember to RSVP to Anne Furman (ahfurman@yahoo.com), and bring \$25 in cash or check for the workshop. If you have received at least one email from Anne confirming your attendance, please check in.

Bring your lunch. Hot beverages will be provided. Please bring your wheel in good working order and a lazy kate. Only 20 spaces are available and the cost to guild members will be \$25 to cover materials cost. There are still a 5 openings for the workshop. You can bring cash or a check for Shadeyside Farm to cover the costs for the silk materials you will be using.

Meeting address: 347 Ridge Rd., Lansing, NY, 14882









### Roc Day Challenge 2023

This month's workshop iwth Nancy Morey will prepare spinners for the next Roc Day 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)

#### **Guild Dues**

For all members who have not yet paid dues, they are \$25 for the year of 2022. 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.

## **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









#### **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.

## 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**

#### Workshop: Dyeing for Specific Yarns

1-Day Workshop with Carrie Drake Saturday. November 19, 2022, 9am-4pm

Have you ever wondered how dyers achieve certain colors? This is a great class for yarn enthusiasts that want to try their hand at dyeing. In this one day course, we will learn the basics of acid dyeing wool. We will explore immersion dyeing techniques such as kettle dyeing, speckle dyeing,



variegated dyeing, and more. Each participant will have the opportunity to dye their own yarn for a specific project. We will also explore how dyeing techniques vary across different treatments and breeds of yarn. Yarn and dyes are provided with a \$50 supply fee.

More information on the website here: https://schweinfurthartcenter.org/inspire\_events/dyeing-for-specific-yarn/









## Stories from the Guild: Crazy Color Hat

Kay Stickane sent in a story about spinning and knitting a crazy-colored hat! Thank you for the story.

It all began on a whim when I had been seeing lots of colorful braids, posted in a spindle spinners group, and I saw a rainbow braid that I decided I wanted to spin. When it arrived, the braid was almost a neon range of colors that I wasn't thrilled with, but decided to have fun with it and spin the fiber using the fractal method.

Because the 4 oz braid was as thick as it was, I split the braid down the middle and then split the half another time horizontally and spun from the same end for both segments for the first bobbin.



The other half of the braid was split into 6 horizontal segments and spun from the opposite end sequentially. I then plied the two singles together and ended up with a neon yarn that was interesting with the way that it pooled, with shorter repeats that it might have been due to the one half being broken down into shorter segments, but it was still bright. I had hoped that the colors might have become a bit more muted, but they did not.

I took the spun skein to the guild meeting, and Sharon Gombas asked what was I planning to do with it, and how would it knit up. I had no idea! Over the next month, I decided that I wanted to 1) try to incorporate the little "pigtail" technique that Sharon has shown me how to do multiple times and 2) find a hat pattern that would incorporate the technique. I found Cat Bordhi's "Anemone" hat pattern which even provided the instructions for the technique since I couldn't remember how Sharon made those cute little tails. The hat turned to be fun to knit, I learned a new skill, and it is rather crazy and whimsical which fits the yarn.







This has been part of some variations of color play that I have been reading about and playing with for a couple of years (who knew?). These types of yarn seem to have become a "thing" and I think some of it started (or was spread) when a couple of articles from Jill Moreno, and then the books by Jill M and Alanna Wilcox hit the market. Much of it might also be from the many colorful braids that are now available. Both of instructors suggest various techniques which included fractal spinning, combo drafting, and even the very simple idea of spinning from opposite ends.





#### Resources

https://knitty.com/ISSUEdf15/KSFEATdf15KS/KSFEATdf15KS.php http://www.jillianmoreno.com/journal/2020/1/22/sam-

ple-along-week-four-more-spinning

'A New Spin On Color' Learn how to make handspun yarn using dyed wool roving by Alanna Wilcox and Meg Weglarz Dori Penny | Jan 1, 2017

Yarnitecture: A Knitter's Guide to Spinning: Building Exactly the Yarn You Want by Jillian Moreno, Clara Parkes, et al. | Aug 23, 2016







### Stories from the Guild: Holiday Gift Making Time

Marianne Pelletier wrote astory about the process of making gifts for her family. Thank you for the story!

My sister shows up for all of her grandsons' events, including their skiing lessons. She stands with their two parents in the snow and cheers for two little boys skiing down a small Massachusetts mountain. She mentioned, amid a string of complaints about agreeing to go every week, is that her hands are cold while she stands out there being a helicopter grandmother.

I buy giviut whenever I can because you never know when the Earth gets tired of letting us suck heating oils and gases out of her. Also I buy luxury yarns: I start with alpaca and go up from there most of the time. I think I have border Leicester but that's as rough as my collection gets. Call me a fiber princess. I had made a pair of giviut blend mittens for our friend in New York and I ask her once a year if she still has them. She assures me that she does but having made them with the most expensive fiber I know of, I want to put my hands on them and make sure that they are all right. But for my sister, I decided to let go of my fiber control issues and make her mittens.



My first step was to ask her to draw her hands on paper and scan them to me. The first outline she sent had her fingers spread (no, I do NOT knit gloves for other people), but she complied with sending a second and didn't ask me what I was doing. I'm sure she could guess. I love technology. She could draw her hand on a piece of paper in Massachusetts and get it to me in its actual size.







These mittens are made with 10% qiviut, though a lot of it came off the batt because the fibers are so short; 40% kid mohair that I bought from Kat at last winter's retreat (I touched it once and it became mine); and 50% Romney. Maybe the Romney is why the qiviut didn't blend as well as I'd hoped, or maybe the qiviut that I bought this time around wasn't as well prepared as former purchases.





On the right is a photo of the batts after I blended them. This bowl of fiber gave our housekeeper a fright; she thought we had gotten a new cat. I wonder if it startled the cats, too, before they sniffed it. I fondled the batts for a few days but then had to get on with the knitting since I also promised Darling a new pair of slipper socks for Christmas. So I did the spinning.

All in all there were less than 10 ounces but it took only a couple of 150-yard skeins to knit up the mittens. I changed needles 3 times to get the size I wanted – I used a larger gauge than the instructions called for as the yarn seemed to want to knit snug. Darling always clutches her heart when she witnesses me frogging back a project, but this yarn deserves to be used for mittens that will actually be worn.







I knit them to fit my sister's small hands but was worried that they came out a bit too snug, so I used water bottles to keep them stretched during the washing and setting part

I'm spinning fiber now for Darling's leather bottomed slippers. She wears them out every other year because she spends the entire winter in them. This is gratifying given the work that goes into them. However, this time I'm using a buffalo/silk blend in hopes that these will hang on a bit longer.

We have a nephew who keeps asking me to knit him a sweater that "looks like this one because this one is \$200." I have literally told him to kiss certain parts of



me – a lot of people think of knitting and giving away expensive yarns is something that someone does for free, like when people ask me over and over to make my chocolate chip cookies which take about \$20 worth of ingredients to make. I don't do assignment knitting any more. I've told this nephew more than once that his sweater would cost him \$2,000 from me and I'd use acrylic yarn just for revenge.

But my sister has stood up for me during really hard moments and though we fought for a few year, we can always rely on each other to be understood. So she gets giviut.













## **Vendors**





#### Handmade Glass Whorls Buttons, Pins & Beads by Isinglass Design



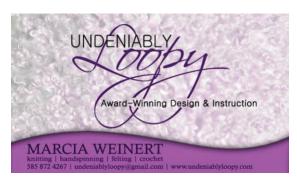
glass whorls for medieval & viking inspired spindles

Beads, felted puppets and www.glassbead.etsy.com scarves now at Ithacamade facebook.com/glassbeadstudio











<b>New Member's Form</b>	<u>n</u>
Name	
Fmail (Print Neatly)	
	with registered guild members. If you wish to remain
anonymous, please let Louise H	łenrie know.
Please list your wheel(s)	
Do you spindle spin? Yes or No	o (circle)
Do you Knit? Weave? Crochet?	Dye? (Natural or Chemical?):
Would you be willing to share y	your skills with other members (ie: teach beginners, present a
meeting topic, demo to the pul	olic, etc?)
If you raise fiber animals, pleas	e list them
here	
	tee(s). If you would like to volunteer, let our president, Angelika
St. Laurent know.	No. of all an
Roc Day Programming	Newsletter

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.

Website

Treasurer

Membership

Outreach