



NEWSLETTER

August 2024

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Connected Stitches in Dryden is our new local fiber shop!



Message from the President

Dear Fellow Spinners,

October is here, which is by far my favorite month. Even though we haven't had a night frost yet, I still hope for some lovely changes in leaf colors. At the very least, I'm spinning fiber in fall colors. There will be a guild meeting on Saturday, October 12th, from 11am- 3pm, in the Parish Hall of the All Saints Catholic Church in Lansing (347 Ridge Road).

Our Roc Day planning is well on its way. The meeting minutes will go out with this newsletter, and a brief summary of decisions we've made is here. Yvonne LaMontagne agreed to be once again our Roc Day Coordinator. We will have workshops featuring the art of darning and visible mending, and of course an introduction to spinning for beginners. There are some demonstrations proposed as well. Donations for the Ellie Mae Paper Bag Raffle can be given to Debbie Benzer and Roberta Sibley. Lois Swales requested that if spinning equipment is donated, this happens with a week or so of time ahead of Roc Day, so there is time to evaluate (and if necessary, fix) the equipment.

The 2025 Roc Day Challenge is to create a hat, which incorporates beads (see the rules and some hints on how to incorporate beads in this newsletter). Materials for the challenge are available at the October guild meeting. And, finally, we will again have our traditional pot luck.

In other news, Kylie Spooner is organizing our guild retreat, which is scheduled for March 6th-9th in Casowasco. If you are interested in participating, the October meeting is the time to sign up. The trip has to be paid for by end of October.

Hope to see you all soon,
Angelika



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Guild News

Guild Meeting

The next Guild meeting will be on Saturday, September 14th, 11-3 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.

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 Officers

President	Angelika St. Laurent
Vice President	OPEN
Secretary	Roberta Sibley
Treasurer	Louise Henrie
Newsletter	OPEN
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 2024. 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: rachael.siems.skye@gmail.com.

Roc Day 2025

Hello everyone!

We are starting to put plans in place for our traditional Roc Day celebration on January 11, 2025. Plans will include, as in the past, vendors, the spinning circle, dish to pass lunch, the raffle, a competition, demonstrations, and workshops. There are still many slots for volunteering. Sign up for a two hour slot at the October BSHG meeting, or contact me at yvonnemarie999@gmail.com to claim a spot. The volunteer sign-up sheet is attached to this newsletter so you can view the options.

Although we have already had several volunteers for workshops and demonstrations, please bring your thoughts and ideas for all to consider to the October meeting. Also, any contact information for vendors you would like us to invite. Information about the competition, as well as information on donations for the raffle are supplied in this newsletter. Do you have something that would be a good item for our raffle?

Looking forward to a great day and keeping fingers crossed for good weather!

Yvonne LaMontagne, Roc Day Coordinator



Updates: Guild Retreat 2025

Spinners!

The time has come. In October we'll be collecting money for the March 2025 Spinning Retreat.

The 2025 retreat will be held March 6-9. For those who want to stay 3 nights, the cost is \$242, and for those wanting to join in Friday, the cost will be \$193. The two night package includes a dinner on Friday night provided by the retreat center.



The potluck will take place Thursday night. Bedding, blankets, a towel and washcloth are provided, but you might want to bring an extra blanket if you're a person who gets cold easily.

We have room for 20 participants, and we hope you'll consider joining in! The retreat is a lovely time to get to know your fellow guild members, squish all the fibers, and explore new gadgets. During past retreats, we've gotten to try out a blending board, a drum carder, and a sock knitting machine! You'll find many different makes and models of spinning wheels, knowledgeable people who will answer questions and help make adjustments to get your own spinning wheel humming, and every kind of fiber under the sun. It's a revelation in spinning knowledge!

There are also games, hiking, and great meals on offer.

You can make checks out to BSHG to our treasurer, Louise Henrie, 417 2nd Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. You can also pay by Venmo at Black-Sheep-NY. PLEASE PUT "RETREAT" IN THE MEMO LINE!!

3 nights: \$242, 3 nights: \$193.

If you have questions, please call or text Kylie Spooner at 607-229-9756, or email kyliespooner1@gmail.com



Ellie Mae Raffle

It's time to collect for the Elli May Raffle! 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 art/item that depicts fiber arts or sheep.

Items can be delivered to Debbie Benzer, centrally located in Ithaca – 714 N. Cayuga St. She's put a covered bin on my porch in which you can drop off items for the raffle anytime! Any questions about donations call Debbie at 607-279-7174. Contributions can also be delivered at the next guild meetings. We're hoping to get all donations by the December meeting!

The Raffle is a major source of revenue for the Spinning guild, and it allows us to have low cost workshops for the guild members and pay the monthly rent for meetings.

Thanks for contributing!
Debbie

Roc Day Challenge

This year's challenge is to create a hat that incorporates beads. For this you will receive a bit more than 4 ounces of white Falkland top and sixty Czech glass beads in assorted colors.

The rules are:

- 1) No other materials than the ones provided may be used for the hat.
- 2) At a minimum, there have to be 20 securely attached beads on the finished hat.



Any fiber art (e.g. knitting, crocheting, weaving, braiding, felting) or combination thereof is allowed in the construction of the hat. The fiber may be dyed.

The beads may be attached in whichever way fits the design the best (e.g. spun into the yarn, set while knitting, embroidered on). If choosing embroidery, note that the thread has to be spun from the fiber provided. A brief tutorial on spinning with beads is included in this newsletter.



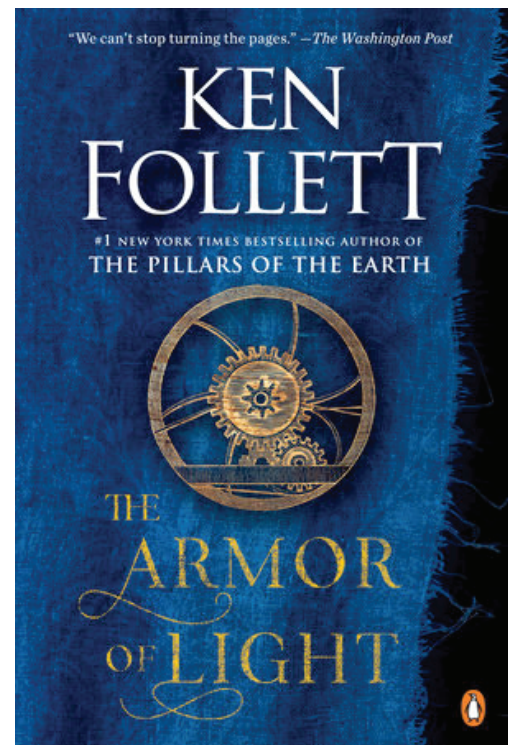
Finished hats should be submitted latest by 10:30 am on January 11th, 2025. With the submission, include a short description of the methods used. Judging will happen by popular vote in the categories 'Most Beautiful', 'Most Creative', and 'Most Practical'.

Fiber in Literature

Jen wrote in about an interesting book she found with a strong grounding in spinning and weaving in 18th and 19th century England, *The Armor of Light* by Ken Follet. It is technically the part of a series called Kingsbridge, but it seems that you can read one without reading the others. If you are interested in historical fiction, the series follows stories set in the same town in England (Kingsbridge) over the course of a millenia, exploring major points in England's history. The latest novel follows the industrial revolution, and particularly the developments in textile technology. Jen will bring a copy to the Guild next meeting, and here's so more information if you're interested!

A note from Rachael: if you've read any fantasy, you may know Ken Follet as the author of *Pillars of the Earth*, an excellent and well-known series.

Book summary: The Spinning Jenny was invented in 1770, and with that, a new era of manufacturing and industry changed lives everywhere within a generation. A world filled with unrest wrestles for control over this new world order: A mother's husband is killed in a work accident due to negligence; a young woman fights to fund her school for impoverished children; a well-intentioned young man unexpectedly inherits a failing business; one man ruthlessly protects his wealth no matter the cost, all the while war cries are heard from France, as Napoleon sets forth a violent master plan to become emperor of the world. As institutions are challenged and toppled in unprecedented fashion, ripples of change ricochet through our characters' lives as they are left to reckon with the future and a world they must rebuild from the ashes of war.





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.







How to Integrate Beads

By Angelika St. Laurent

Our 2025 Roc Day Challenge requires that beads be incorporated into the finished hat. There are many ways, in which beads can be added to a project. I'm showing four different methods. I'm sure there are plenty more out there.

1. Adding beads while spinning: This requires the use of a thin stiff bit of thread or dental floss.

			
Loop the dental floss around a sliver of fiber. Slide the bead over both ends of the floss.	Use the dental floss to pull the sliver of fiber through the hole of the bead.	Now the bead is stuck on the sliver of fiber.	Spin the fiber with the bead around it. The result is a thread, on which the bead slides freely.

It is possible to fix the bead to the single by spinning a bit of fiber with the beaded sliver. If the beaded thread is plied, the bead will be held in position by the plying thread.



2. String beads on single before plying: After spinning singles, one can thread beads to one or multiple of the intended plies and then ply. A bit of dental floss, a needle with a fine enough eye to fit through the bead, or a fine crochet hook can help with the stringing. The resulting yarn looks identical to the yarn produced with method one.

When working with yarn that has the beads held in place with a ply, the positioning of the bead will depend only on its position in the yarn. This approach works well, if the intention is to produce a randomized distribution of beads. However, the bead could end up on the wrong side of the fabric.

3. String beads on finished yarn: For more control over the final location of the bead in the finished option, one can string the beads onto a finished yarn. The beads provided for the Roc Day Challenge have a 2mm hole, which should allow them to be strung on worsted weight or thinner yarn. The bead can then be slid into position, when needed. Note that a pre-strung bead will show up in a finished product either on one leg of a stitch or between stitches.



4. Place beads individually during garment construction: This is the way to place a bead in an exact position.

<p>Slide the stitch from the needle and thread a bit of dental floss through it. Alternatively, a fine crochet hook works.</p>	<p>Use the dental floss to pull the bead over the stitch. After this, slide the stitch back on the left needle and continue knitting.</p>

With this method, the bead will cover both legs of a knitted stitch or a loop of a crocheted stitch.

All four methods will securely incorporate a bead into a finished object. Unless the object is frogged, the beads won't come loose or change their position.



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Volunteer Schedule for 11 January, 2025

<p>Set-up Friday 4:30 - 6pm - Yvonne L.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yvonne LaMontagne 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. <p>Raffle Set-Up - Deb Benzer, Roberta Sibley Lois Swales - Wheels</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. 8. 9. 	<p>Welcome Table - Kathy Halton</p> <p>9:45-10:45</p> <p>10:45-11:45</p> <p>11:45-12:45</p> <p>12:45-1:45</p> <p>1:45-2:45</p> <p>2:45-3:45</p>
<p>Spinning Circle - Melody Narveaz</p> <p>10-11</p> <p>11-12</p> <p>12-1</p> <p>1-2</p> <p>2-3</p>	<p>Raffle - Debbie Benzer, Roberta Sibley</p> <p>10-11</p> <p>10-11</p> <p>11-12</p> <p>11-12</p> <p>12-1</p> <p>12-1</p> <p>1-2</p> <p>1-2</p> <p>1-2</p>
<p>Kitchen - Jean Currie, Sharon Gombas</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (9-11) 2. (9-11) 3. (11-1) 4. (11-1) 5. (11-1) 6. (12-2) 	<p>Floaters - Yvonne LaMontagne</p> <p>10-11</p> <p>11-12</p> <p>12-1</p> <p>1-2</p> <p>2-3</p> <p>3-4</p>
<p>Competition - Angelika St.Laurent</p> <p>Competition Table</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (9:30-10:30) 2. (10:30-11:30) 3. (11:30-12:30) 4. (12:30 till announced) 	<p>Clean-Up 4 - 6:30 pm - Yvonne L.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yvonne LaMontagne 2. 3. 4. 5.