

DEC 2012

ROVINOS



from spidermancrawlspace.com

Dec 8 Meeting

Holiday Party

At the last meeting I suggested that we bring in a pattern to share. After thinking about this, it seems more reasonable to send a pattern you enjoy both making and giving [to me by email](#), to post to our web site. Please be sure to send only patterns free of copyright restrictions.

Best wishes,

Sharon

Future Programs

Jan -Roc Day

Feb - Spinning with beads

March - Spin in

FROM THE PRESIDENT

One month to Roc Day!

Get your skein ready for the contest and remember to sign up to help. Also, early registration for the workshops is strongly encouraged so register at the meeting. Ellie would like your items for the Chinese Auction as soon as possible so bringing them to this meeting would help her and you (*no extra trips and less to forget or haul on Roc Day*).

The program for our December meeting is in keeping with the season, **food and gifts**.

We will have a dish to pass lunch (food) and both a pattern and gift exchange (gifts).

If you wish to participate in the pattern exchange bring a copy or mail one to Sharon of a knitting pattern you like.

To take part in the gift exchange bring a wrapped gift and place it on the table. Those who bring gifts will then draw numbers to see when you get to pick a gift. Please nothing expensive and try to keep them spinning or at least fiber related.

See you there, **Jim**

President- [Jim Johnson](#)

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Newsletter Editor - [Susan Sarabasha](#)

Membership - [Wayne Harbert](#)

Programming - [Sharon G](#) & [Marjorie I](#)

Web Mistress - [Teresa Porri](#)

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P 2-4 ABBY WORKSHOP

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The Black Sheep meet from 11am - 3pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month at All Saints Church Parish Hall, Route 34B, in Lansing, New York

PICTURES FROM THE ABBY WORKSHOP

taken by Lois S



**Sending separately -
A copy of a guild newsletter
from 30 years ago that Wayne
has salvaged for us.**

Fibery Events



Roc Day

Saturday, January 13 & 14

10-4 Saturday

All Saints Parish Hall

Lansing, NY



Report on the Abby workshops - from Lois S

Spindle Speed improvements:

NOTE: The spindles we used were plain wooden dowels with a wood wheel whorl about 1-1/2 inches from the bottom. Overall length of spindle was 14 inches with a large wooden wagon wheel about 1 inch from the bottom of the dowel. The bottom of the shaft was sharpened. The top of the spindle shaft was not pointed or notched at all. The spinner twines yarn up the stem closely together and double half hitches at top. I am surprised at how much I like this spindle using the Peruvian techniques with it. Abby mentioned it is VERY difficult to find a woodworker who doesn't want to add something fancy to this perfect, ancient tool.....

1. Winding on Improvements

Wind on back and forth at a 45 degree angle on spindle shaft, rather than round and round at a 90 degree angle. We ran 3 min. tests for wind on and it is way faster than straight wind on-more yarn in less time. Add a 'bump' about 1.5 to 2 inches down the wind-on to produce a less straight build up shape. Spins better as the yarn builds up. Andean spinners can put up to 8 ozs. on a spindle before they declare it 'full'.

When actively making yarn, wind on about 2 inches down



from the top shaft for several yarn making repeats and then wind this upper storage yarn onto your fingers using the Peruvian butterfly on fingers method and rewind all at once to store near bottom whorl. Much faster, as a lot of time is 'wasted' trying to get the right leader length each time you do a wind-on at the bottom of the spindle shaft.

We learned the figure-eighting hand movement for storing yarn on our hands for wind on or for double drafting. This employs the 'social finger' transition from the index and thumb pinch. Fast. And finger position leaves two free for double draft manipulation. This figure-eighting movement is in '*Respect the Spindle*'.

Storage of twist: The leader coming from the top of the spindle should be AT LEAST a

hand length long or more. More twist can be stored and the spindle will spin longer after each twist addition.

Twist can be adding by rolling spindle shaft on the thigh (fast) for unsupported spindle. If the yarn has a problem, spindle can be parked under armpit if you are standing to fix the problem section before wind-on.

Quality of yarn: as twist is entering the yarn and you are adding more twist, scrape the yarn from fiber end to spindle with thumbnail against index finger pad. Smooths it out.

2. Plying Spindle

NOTE: A lot of Peruvian spinning techniques don't work well with top whorl spindles. The yarn keeps jumping off the hook. Also, the typical spindle Abby learned on has no hook at the top; two half hitches are used. There is no taper at the top of the spindle. There is a point at the bottom of the dowel for supported spindling and for the figure eight re-wind.

Spindle Plying: hand ball two single yarns together into a tight, hard ball, watching out that there are no eyelashes or twisters as you wind. Ply from the tightly wound ball.

works for both spindle and wheel plying. Also works for 3 ply. Don't separate singles

between your fingers as you ply. It adds uneven plying spacing to your yarn as your fingers fatigue.



Plying andean spindle style: The hands are set up to work together in holding the yarn-threaded thru the right hand in a certain pattern and in the crook of the thumb on the left hand which holds the spindle top. Spread the hands apart the width of your shoulders. The spindle is swiftly rolled between the palms and dropped/flung while the right hand slides along the doubled yarn to control the ply twist. Fast. Don't use a good spindle for this. There is no notch at the top of the bottomwhorl spindle. Use two half hitches. Fun and Fast. In "Respect the Spindle".

Wheel

Plying on a wheel, often with 2-3 bobbins in a lazy kate: Take all the yarns around a chair leg or other object set behind the wheel a distance of about 3-5 feet and feed it forward into the orifice. Evens the tension and adds control. Works like a charm. Do NOT thread singles through individual fingers - this leads to less even tension

as the fingers tire.

To cable, make two two-ply yarns (s singles plied z). Then s ply these two plied yarns for one cable. A 3 ply yarn (three s singles spun together z) smooths out the irregularities in the 3 singles. Often 3 ply is used in commercial products for this reason. Abby mentioned using a

crepe yarn technique where one ply is very precious and tender. The other singles protect it.

Working from fleece

I also learned to spin Peruvian style fleece This method used double drafting:

Andean spinners often work directly from a washed fleece with no carding or combing of the fleece. They use the Double Draft method - first spinning a yarn by long draw, leaving most of the yarn a bit thicker than needed with 'bubbles' of thicker fleece. Then they figure eight it back to the beginning and respin, pulling the yarn out finer (usually the physics rule that thinner yarn needs more twist) and working on sections of yarn that are too thick. Then the final amount of twist is added and the yarn is stored on the spindle.

Double coated fleece

(Icelandic) - twist the top of the long, coarser tog and then pull out away from the short, soft thel.

Dyeing skeins: Peruvian skeins for dyeing are made on the hands with no niddy noddy. A figure eight movement is made so that the skein ends up with a 1 and 1 cross in the middle. End tied to the beginning and some loose ties made around the skein. Singles are dyed, then dried and plied afterward to ensure better penetration of dye. To turn a figure eight dye skein into a simple circle-skein, put both hands in one of the skein loops and push the 1x1 cross to the other end, so it vanishes.

Working with prepared wool tops, silk and other preps -

We spun a variety of fiber lengths and preparations. Abby demo'd using just one hand on wool tops and making sure there was very little draw in on our wheels for very fine yarns. We also tried very strong draw-ins. We practiced fat yarns with strong draw-ins to produce lofty yarn. If the yarn doesn't draft easily, it has been badly prepared- not a good thing.

While Abby was having us try exercises that pushed the limits of our wheels (some were impossible to actually do, on purpose), I got to sit next to an electric Hansen spinner for these exercises and learn what it can and cannot do well as we all learned the limits of spinning wheels. I was somewhat surprised that there were situations where I definitely preferred a spindle.

Fascinating workshop. I am a better spinner for it. I do truly respect the spindle now.

BLACK SHEEP HANDSPINNER'S GUILD NEWSLETTER



Membership Form

Please type or print

Date: _____

DUES Record:

2011 2014

2012 2015

2013 2016

Joined guild in _____

Please fill this out
and either bring it
to a meeting or
mail it with your
check for \$20 to:
Vickie Marsted,
29 Lincoln St,
Cortland, NY
13045

Name: _____

Address: _____

preferred email: PRINT NEATLY please _____

preferred phone # _____ birthday month *(opt)* _____

This info will be made available to the guild membership. If you wish to remain anonymous please let Char know.

Please list your wheel(s)

We welcome spinners of all skill levels. How long have you been spinning? _____

Do you: Knit? Weave? Crochet? Dye - *(Natural or chemical)* ?

Which of your skills might you be willing to share with a member or the group?

ie: teach beginning spindling or spinning or dyeing; teach a spinning / knitting / crocheting skill, etc

If you raise any fiber animals, please list them here _____

Which committee(s) are you interested in joining?

- Roc Day
- Membership
- Programming
- Charity Works
- Outreach including Events & Activities Schedule for non guild members
- Newsletter - advisory & review
- None
- Library
- Education
- Website
- Nominating Committee *(occasional)*

Would you be interested in chairing or co-chairing one of these groups? If yes, which one(s)?

Newsletters are sent via email. If you would prefer to get yours via snail mail please give 12 SASE envelopes to Sharon Gombas. Postage should be \$2 per envelope.



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A photograph of a wooden spinning wheel with a large flywheel and a spindle. The wheel is surrounded by several skeins of colorful yarn in shades of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple.

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To place an ad

A check for \$5.00 made to BSHG for an ad to run three times for members; \$5/month for non members should be sent to our treasurer: Vickie Marsted, 29 Lincoln Ave. Cortland, NY 13045. Send the ad to the newsletter editor, [Susan S. sarabasha@earthlink.net](mailto:susan.s.sarabasha@earthlink.net)


If you have a question for her or others, you can email us through the links on page 1.

B&W Business card ads are free for Current members.




For Sale - Double wide Strauch Hand Crank Drum Carder. Great Condition. Purchased 2 yrs ago but barely used.

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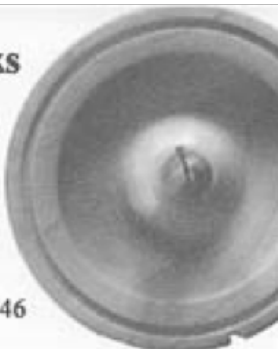
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