

# Green Tables News

## Eight "Seeds for Learning" Students Learn about Sheep Shearing & Sustainable Farming Practices

3/7/10



The Seeds for Learning Initiative is a project of the Philadelphia Center for Arts and Technology (PCAT) partnered with Foundations, Inc. and several civic groups. This program provides unique project-based learning opportunities for students at Martin Luther King High School. MLKHS has a fully functioning urban farm and farm stand.



Linda is ready to inoculate each sheep right after shearing to protect it from disease. Her husband, Mike, helps hold the sheep.



On a wintry February 22, eight Philadelphia high school students with three chaperones traveled to Dame Linda Geren's

High View Farm in North Hanover, NJ, to learn about sheep shearing from Kevin Ford. Ford is America's foremost hand sheep shearer. Ford wrote the finest book on blade shearing available today: *Shearing Day: Sheep Handling, Wool Science, And Shearing with Blades*.

Linda's sheep are bred for meat and wool and are a combination of Finn, Suffolk and Cormo. To shear all 40 sheep took more than seven hours. Hand shearing assures that the wool will have longer strands. Each fleece is skirted by hand to remove debris and yields about 15 pounds of wool.

Green Tables Committee Dames Eileen Talanian, Jennifer Lindner McGlinn and Marie Connell served Chicken & Vegetable Soup, Guinness Glazed Ham on Rolls, Farm Egg Salad Sandwiches, Goat Cheese with Linda's Caponata and Sun-Dried Tomatoes with Fresh Spinach on Panini, and Chocolate Chip Cookies with Hot Cocoa. Jennifer made lamb cookies for the students to take home. Linda feels it's important to share the sustainable farm life-style with city kids.



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