

FALL NEWSLETTER



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FALL GREETINGS

As the skies turn grey and we see the first flakes of snow it is time to pull our warm woollies out of the cedar chests and it is time to think towards our spinning projects once again. We hope that you all have been faring well and staying safe and healthy.

While some fibre events are starting to go in-person once again we are not just a one day event but a whole weekend with meals and communal living. Due to these

considerations, we the committee, and the board of directors made the very difficult decision to host a virtual event once again in 2022.

The participants last year provided excellent feedback and we are using it to grow and develop our online event. There will be much that is similar to last year with some tweaks and additions. If you have any suggestions please feel to reach out to us.

ontariohandspinningseminar1964@gmail.com

JUNE 3- 5, 2022



Pam Aoki

SPINNING JOYFUL COMMUNITIES: SPINNING TO SATISFY OUR SOULS

EXPLORING HOW SPINNING CAN PROMOTE JOY AND WELLNESS WHILE BUILDING A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY OF CREATIVE FIBRE MAKERS.

Our theme for 2022 is heavily influenced by the challenges we have all faced with the repeated lock downs and restrictions. For many of us the act of creating has been a great solace in these difficult times. Also, the fibre communities we are involved in have been able to provide connection as they moved to the virtual realm. We plan to explore how the art of craft, and specifically spinning, can be a vehicle to aid in improving our physical and mental health.



Linda Needles

THE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is posted on the Ontario Handspinning Seminar website and is available for all to view. Anyone who has attended the Seminar in the past three years or who has requested information about the Seminar in the past two years will receive an email to notify them that the newsletter is available on the website. You can request to be added to the mailing list on our contact page.

REGISTRATION

An email notification will be sent when the Spring 2022 Newsletter, including workshop details and registration information, is available online at www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca.



Nancy Bowman



Elaine Horemans

VENDORS

We are planning to create a space for vendors to share information about their store on our website and in our social media platforms. If you would like to be added to our mailing list please visit our contact page.



WOW AWARD

by Roslyn Darling

This extended time at home seemed to be the opportunity to replace the seats on my old teak dining room chairs, and to try to make a dent in my seemingly endless stash of fleece.

Inspirations for the pattern were 20th mid-century modern design and the quilts of Gee's Bend. The chairs live in a fairly dark room, and I wanted to see COLOUR. Three chairs are now done, and there are three more still to go.

Fibre/Material Content & Source

85% Wool/15% Mohair

The wool was an assortment of medium-strong fleeces from my stash, both white and gray, and included a Border Leicester, a Finn X, a Perendale, a Romney, and a suspected down X.

The mohair locks, also from my stash, included a variety of natural colours -- white, brown and gray..

Preparation Method

All wool and mohair locks were lock combed first to remove short fibres, weak tips and vegetable matter.

Opened fibres were weighed and then drum carded together to blend. A roving was pulled from the batt, and pre-drafted prior to spinning.

Spinning/Construction Method

Three ply yarns were spun with a medium-firm twist measuring approximately 10 wpi(p) after finishing. White, light gray and dark gray skeins were spun thanks to the variety of fleeces collected over time.

White skeins and gray skeins were dyed in the same dye pot to provide a wider range of colours. All yarns were dyed with G&S acid dyes.

Chair seats were rug hooked on a cotton warp backing with a simple rug hooking tool.

HANDMADE BY YOU

It was such a joy receiving photos and stories of people's handmade items last year! The video is still available to watch up on the website along with the detailed information on all the items.

We are going to be creating a video once again this year so start taking photos and videos of all those gorgeous items we know you are making. There are some tips and tricks up on the website and we really hope to see all sorts of beautiful handspun items.

In the survey, it came to our attention that an item was lost in the ether of the internet from our submission portal. Due to the anonymous nature of the survey, we do not know whose it was but we apologize and will be revising the method used to prevent it from happening again. We are certain it was quite lovely and hope you submit it again this coming year.



Catharina Forbes



2022 AWARDS

In light of this once again being a virtual event we will be keeping to the awards that traditionally are not judged on skill and craftsmanship. The WOW is all about that first impression and is voted on by all participants of the Seminar. Once we return to an in-person event those merit based awards will return.



2019 BAGGIE CHALLENGE

You Can't Make a Silk Purse Out of a Sow's Ear...

This expression was a proverb from the mid-1500s, meaning to produce something refined, admirable, valuable from something which is unrefined.

Your challenge from this Seminar is to make a 'purse' out of the "unrefined" items found in the bag handed out in 2019. You must use at least some of every fibre in your baggie and you may also use additional fibres from your stash if you wish. We hope that you will share the item you made in our virtual Display Room in 2021*. Then, we would like you to bring your item to our next in-person Seminar which we hope will be in 2022 where this baggie challenge will be judged and eligible for the Baggie Challenge \$50.00 Award that is selected by ballots cast by that year's Seminar attendees.



2021 BAGGIE CHALLENGE

Step ONE:

Assemble and those fibre odds and ends left over from previous workshops (about 100g)

OR

Assemble those fibre odds and ends left over from previous spinning projects (about 100g)

Step TWO:

Take a PHOTOGRAPH of your ASSEMBLED FIBRES

Design a small project that features our theme of Sustainable Fibres using your chosen fibres

Step THREE:

DESIGN and SPIN your YARN(s)

Supplement your odds and ends (from step 1) with other fibre as needed

Step FOUR:

CONSTRUCT your PROJECT

Step FIVE:

PHOTOGRAPH and SUBMIT your PROJECT + PHOTOGRAPH of FIBRES to the SEMINAR in 2022!

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar organization has developed two different scholarships; the Ontario Handspinner's Research Scholarship and the Re-Inspired Scholarship. Detailed information and application forms are available on the website

RESEARCH

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. has funds available for an annual Scholarship to be awarded and used for the exploration and development of new techniques, equipment and/or related research of interest to handspinners and dyers. A specific plan of study must be included with the application.

Recipients are required to share the results of their experience with the participants of an Ontario Handspinning Seminar within three years of receipt of the scholarship. Those interested are encouraged to apply before the January 31st deadline.



RE-INSPIRED

The purpose of this scholarship is to allow the individual to further their education and knowledge of handspinning in order to re-inspire them in their craft. This is to be accomplished by attending a workshop, class or course which pertains to spinning or dyeing handspun fibre or other related areas. A cash award of up to \$250.00 will be given to the successful applicant.

The applicant must send their application to the secretary of the Board of directors at seminarsecretary@gmail.com by January 31st, a description of the intended course or workshop they would like to take and a description of what they hope to learn from it.

The recipient is required to share the results of the experience with the participants of The Ontario Handspinning Seminar within 2 years of receipt of the scholarship. This can be done by a short oral presentation or visual display in a format in which they are comfortable.

A simple direct and rewarding process with a deadline to help curb the wanderings.
- Harriet Boon



Committee Members

Joan Ang
Leslie Falzone
Edy Marlatt
Joan McKenzie
Margo Murley
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Angela Whyte
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Diny Warren



Joan McKenzie

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Showalter

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LEGAL STUFF

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar cannot be responsible for the inability to connect due to personal internet issues or digital theft of images. We will take every precaution to ensure your content does not get shared beyond this platform. We will be hosting this event on password-protected sites and will remove them after August 31, 2022. The virtual Seminar content will be for the registered participants only and for personal use. The participants will agree not to share the content and links with others.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar strives to promote and establish a safe, respectful and positive atmosphere:
For shared knowledge,
For respect of ideas, cultures, and values and
In a common space for learning.

We also respect the policies of the facilities where we hold The Handspinning Seminar and the support services that make this annual event a success.

WWW.ONTARIOHANDSPINNINGSEMINAR.CA