



ONTARIO HANDSPINNING SEMINAR

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Fall Newsletter 2006

"Tools of the Trade – Tips and Techniques for Handspinning"

2007 will draw us north to Georgian College at Barrie, Ontario. Barrie is located on beautiful Kempenfelt Bay just an hour north of Toronto. Mark your calendars for **Friday, June 8th through Sunday, June 10th, 2007.**

Your committee is planning another fun filled weekend including challenging workshops, spin-ins, the fabulous fashion show, the amazing display room showing off **your** talents, shopping till you drop and a few other surprises!

Competitions, Awards and Projects

For those of you who love the challenge of competition, you may wish to participate in one or more of the following categories. Descriptions of the categories are included as well as the details for presenting your projects to the judges – so start planning for next June.

Following through on last year's colour theme, we are asking you to "push your limits with colour by using more than one colour - be it a dyed or natural fibre" in any of your submissions.

2007 Skein Competition

You are encouraged to submit skeins in any of the three categories, **using more than one colour**

1. Simple 2-ply skein
2. Novelty skein
3. Blend

If you have been spinning less than two years, enter as novice, more than 2 years, enter as advanced.

Guidelines for submitting a skein and to be eligible for judging

1. All skeins must be a minimum of 20 meters and a maximum of 25 meters in length.
2. Skeins must be correctly tied in four places with figure eight ties made from thin cotton and must not be twisted. The beginning of the skein should be tied to the end of the skein.
3. All entries must be handspun and include the following in order to qualify for judging:
 - a. sample of the fibre(s) used, before and after preparation. If using commercially prepared fibre, include a sample of the unspun fibre
 - b. percentage of each fibre **and colour** in the skein
 - c. an explanation of how the fibre was prepared, including blending
 - d. full explanation of yarn construction techniques
 - e. describe the purpose for which the spinner intends the yarn to be used and why that technique was chosen
 - f. explain how you "pushed your limits" with the colour

2007 Special Projects

Again we are challenging you to create a finished article in any of the following categories:

1. Garments: ie sweaters, vests, jackets
2. Accessories: ie hats, scarves, socks, mittens
3. Other: ie dolls, teddy bears, tea cosy, placemats or other household article, or whimsical ideas

All finished articles in categories 1-3 must show that you have **“pushed your limits with colour by using more than one colour – be it a dyed or natural fibre”** (again, Colour being the feature at the 2006 Handspinning Seminar).

All entries must be handspun, may use any appropriate construction technique and include the following in order to qualify for judging:

- a. Sample of the fibre(s) used, before and after preparation. If using commercially prepared fibre, include a sample of the unspun fibre.
- b. Percentage of each fibre and colour in the project
- c. An explanation of how the fibre was prepared, including blending
- d. Description of the spinning technique used
- e. Sample of the final yarn used in the project

2007 Competition Awards

(Participants do not apply for these awards – any article submitted for Display is eligible if appropriate guidelines are followed)

Founders Award

This award honours the founders of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar: Edna Blackburn, Ted Carson and Dorothy Kirk. The award of \$100 is presented to the person with the best article on display, made of 100% handspun yarn as judged by ballots cast by the Seminar attendees.

Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Award

This award of \$100 is presented by the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners, in recognition of the article on display which demonstrates “the best use of handspun yarn in a handwoven article. Judges are provided by the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners.

Handweavers’ Guild of America

This award of a certificate, handwoven ribbon and a one year membership to the HGA and subscription to *Shuttle, Spindle and Dyepot* is presented by the Handweavers’ Guild of America in recognition of a work of handweaving, spinning, dyeing or basketmaking which embodies a unique interpretation, demonstrates a fresh, individual approach and expresses personal creativity as judged by an appointee by the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Board of Directors.

WOW!! AWARD

This award is presented by the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Display Co-coordinators and judges in recognition of the article that inspires the viewer to say “WOW”!! All articles submitted for display are eligible.

2007 Scholarship Award

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. provides an annual scholarship to suitable applicants for the purpose of study and/or research of new techniques, equipment and/or related subjects of interest to handspinners and dyers. The deadline for scholarship application is now January 31 each year. For more information on scholarships and to make an application, contact Barbara Scott, 87 Liverpool Street, Guelph, ON N1H 2L2; email:

Some final notes about Special Projects and Awards:

- seminar participants are limited to one entry per category
- Entries in the Projects Competition are eligible for the Founders Award if they meet the criteria that the item is made totally of handspun yarn
- Entries in all categories must have been completed within the past year
- Seminar participants who act as judges may not submit entries in the competition
- Novice = less than 2 years spinning experience; Advanced = 2 or more years spinning experience

The Baggie Challenge

Since you seem to enjoy this challenge and we certainly enjoy the results of your labours, we are bringing it back one more time with a new and different twist. Remember to bring the results of last year's challenge for the Display Room.

Display Room and Fashion Show

Remember to bring along all the projects you will have completed since the last seminar – it's fun and inspirational to see and touch and feel each others' use of colour and texture and fibre and then to watch your projects on the "runway". There's still time to get involved!!

Sales Room

Anyone wishing to have sales room space at this year's seminar, please contact Dianne Lamb at 265 Knox Road East, Wasaga Beach, ON L9Z 2T6, or 705-429-2146 or
Vendors from last year's seminar will automatically receive an application.

Just a Little Bit of Housekeeping

2007 Committee

Chair: Brenda Pedden-Boyce

Board Liaison: Liz Van Wyck

Registrar: Renee Coutts; **Associate:** Linda Needles

Display and Fashion Show: Ruth MacInnes and Nancy Stewart

Sales Room: Dianne Lamb and Marg Salter

Special Projects and Skeins: Elisabeth McConaghy and Leone Letherby

Workshops: Eleanor Anderson

A Note about Liability

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. is not responsible for damage to or loss of personal property. We do take every precaution to protect your equipment and materials on display. Workshop and display rooms will be secured at all times when seminar participants are not in attendance.

What's New and Different

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar has a website under construction – we'll keep you posted on the progress. We may even be looking at starting a move toward some e-mail communication – we'll be looking for your opinions!

And the Winner is.....

Here is a summary of last year's competition winners – some inspiration to get you thinking and planning

2006 Skein Competition Winners:

Simple 2-ply Novice: Pat Hood

Advanced: Deborah Wilkins, Diana Burr

Novelty Skein: Novice: Pat Hood

Advanced: Linda Helms

Blend Skein: Novice: Pat Hood, Sharon Gowland

Advanced: Virginia Poff, Betty Fitchett and Diane Stewart and Linda Helms

2006 Project Competition Winners:

Garment

Novice: Yvonne Strucke, Sharon Gowland

Advanced: Betty Fitchett, Wilma Doyle, Virginia Poff

Accessory

Novice: none awarded

Advanced: Deborah Wilkins, Wilma Doyle, Mary Ethel Bradley

Other

Novice: none awarded

Advanced: Diane Burr

2006 Founders Award Winner:

Diane Little

2006 Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Award Winner:

Ann Barnes Finlayson

2006 Handweavers' Guild of America Winner:

Wilma Doyle

2006 WOW Award Winner:

Wilma Doyle

2006 Scholarship Award Winner: no applicants