



## ONTARIO HANDSPINNING SEMINAR

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### Fall Newsletter 2007

There's a snowfall warning in the forecast and although that can be ominous to some, to those of us in the handspinning world, it means the garden is put to bed and now its time for us – time to dig out our wheels and knitting needles, time to pull out all those projects that were put on hold last spring and time to start thinking ahead to next year's seminar! So mark your calendars for **Friday June 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008** when Georgian College in Barrie will once again host us for the weekend.

**Beyond Wool....there are other fibres!** is the theme for 2008.

We encourage you to start thinking ramie, bamboo, silk, soy, mulberry paper, sea cell, cashmere and qiviut and we'll try to incorporate as many of these exciting fibres as possible in the workshop planning.

The bright, spacious gymnasium has been secured again this year for the Sales Room and Display Area. As usual, you are encouraged to use the Display Room to show and share with everyone all the projects that you have worked over the past year.

Anyone wishing to have Sales Room space should contact Dianne Lamb at 256 Knox Rd. E , Wasaga Beach L9Z 2T6 or call 705-429-2146 or email [aanddlamb@sympatico.ca](mailto:aanddlamb@sympatico.ca). Vendors from last year's seminar will automatically receive an application.

The Baggie Challenge will follow the theme, Beyond Wool... and we are looking forward to seeing what you produced from the 2007 challenge – please remember to bring your creations along.

We have negotiated with the College for different dining areas and we think you will be excited to use the newly renovated College Dining Hall and the fabulous Georgian Dining Room which caters to gourmet dining. The Dining Room will be the perfect spot for the Fashion show! We now have a great venue – we just need you to bring the articles to show off!

### **Competitions, Awards and Projects**

If you feel up for a challenge, here is a summary of all the categories you may wish to submit to **using the techniques that you learned last year.**

#### **2008 Skein Competition**

You are encouraged to submit skeins in any or all of the three categories:

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

Skeins produced should be a double knitting weight (DK) size yarn.

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 (if using more than one) 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. prepare a 2"x2" swatch

### **2008 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 the techniques you learned from last year's 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 in the project
- c. An explanation of how the fibre was prepared
- d. Description of the spinning technique used
- e. Sample swatch of the final yarn used in the project

### **2008 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. The award is given in recognition of the article on display that 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 gift certificate and handwoven ribbon 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.

## 2008 WOW!! AWARD

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

### 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

## 2008 Scholarship Award

**Do you know!!!....** The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. has money available for an annual Scholarship that provides the applicant with a chance to go on that extra course to learn more about a special technique in spinning or dyeing. If you would like to explore new fibres, study old or new techniques, we would like to give you some help. A specific plan of study must be included with the application, and it is the intention that you share your experience within 3 years of receipt of the scholarship with the participants of an Ontario Handspinning Seminar. **Everyone is encouraged to apply – there is still lots of time to meet the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.** For more information on the requirements and to make an application contact Bridget Lewis, 103 Hill Street, Kingston ON K7L 2M8 or email [lewisb@kos.net](mailto:lewisb@kos.net) or visit our website at [www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca](http://www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca)

### 2007-2008 Committee

Chair: Elisabeth McConaghy  
Board Liaison: Liz Van Wyck  
Registrar: Renee Coutts; Associate: Linda Needles  
Display and Fashion Show: Ruth MacInnes  
Sales Room: Dianne Lamb and Marg Salter  
Special Projects and Skeins: Colleen Thomson  
Workshops: Eleanor Anderson

### 2007-2008 Board of Directors

President: Harriet Boon, Vice President: Hazel Alexander  
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Jane Van Arnhem, Liz Van Wyck, Diny Warren

## And the Winner is.....

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

### 2007 Skein Competition Winners:

Simple 2-ply Advanced: Rickie McClure (1<sup>st</sup>), Diane Stewart (2<sup>nd</sup>), Margaret Pointing (3<sup>rd</sup>)

Novelty Skein: Advanced: Rickie McClure (1<sup>st</sup>), Linda Helms (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Blend Skein: Novice: Diane Jordan (1<sup>st</sup>) (first time attending)  
Advanced: Virginia Poff (1<sup>st</sup>), Jessie McGregor (2<sup>nd</sup>), Linda Helms (3<sup>rd</sup>)

### 2007 Project Competition Winners:

Garment

Novice: not awarded

Advanced: Ann Barnes-Finlayson (1<sup>st</sup>), Sharon Gowland (2<sup>nd</sup>), Wilma Doyle (3<sup>rd</sup>)

Accessory

Novice: not awarded

Advanced: Joan Gentleman (1<sup>st</sup>), Roslyn Darling (2<sup>nd</sup>) (first time attending), Virginia Poff (3<sup>rd</sup>)

Other

Novice: not awarded

Advanced: Jessie McGregor (1<sup>st</sup>), Joan Gentleman (Honourable Mention)

### 2007 Founders Award Winner:

Wilma Doyle

### 2007 Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Award Winner:

not awarded

### 2007 Handweavers' Guild of America Winner:

Sharon Gowland

### 2007 WOW Award Winner:

Tricia Weatherston

### 2007 Scholarship Award Winner: no applicants

#### 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.