



**seminar ONTARIO HANDSPINNING SEMINAR**  
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## Fall 2012 Newsletter

It's that time again! With the arrival of this newsletter, you can start planning for the 2013 Seminar.

The Committee wants to thank everyone who filled out the evaluation forms at the Seminar last June. We read through them thoroughly and welcomed your suggestions, your kind words and even your constructive feedback.

At the 2013 Seminar, we are going to have some fun as we explore spinning in folk tales and cultures around the world. Join us for:

## *Spinning Tales*

**Friday, June 14 – Sunday, June 16, 2013**  
**Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre (Holiday Inn)**  
**Burlington, Ontario**

The Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre (Holiday Inn) is located near the intersection of Guelph Line and the QEW in Burlington and is easily accessible by car. There is a GO Transit Station and a VIA Rail Station located a short taxi ride away. Parking is free at the hotel – no parking passes required!

Our Keynote Speaker will be announced in the Spring Newsletter.

The Sales Room and Display areas are similar in size to the spaces we had last year. They are at street level with two sets of access doors for moving in and out. No stairs, elevators or hallways to manoeuvre! The workshop rooms are spacious and easy to find.

### **Accommodations**

Again, like last year, a block of hotel rooms has been set aside for our use. The hotel rooms are \$109.00 plus taxes per hotel room – no matter what size the room is. There are a number of single rooms (1 double bed) and a number of double rooms (2 queen-sized beds) reserved for us. There **is** a surcharge for extra people (more than 2) in the hotel room so if you have 4 friends who are willing to share a double room, there will be a \$10 charge per person per night. Breakfast is **not** included in the room cost.

**Please book your accommodations early! Reservations can be made at any time, Monday to Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., by contacting:**

**Hana Park, Reservations Coordinator**  
**Tel: 905-639-4443, ext 4676 or at 1-888-987-4888, ext 4676**

**It is essential that you quote our group number when you make your reservation: #1147437**

**The block of rooms will be held until May 16<sup>th</sup> so be sure to book your room well before that date in order to stay at the Seminar location!**

### **Sales Room Contact**

Anyone wishing to have Sales Room space should contact:

Registrar: Anne Reynolds

email: areynol@mcmaster.ca

website: [www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca](http://www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca)

Vendors from last year's Seminar will automatically receive an application.

**2012-2013 Board of Directors**  
President: Linda Needles  
Vice President: Esther Grav

Secretary: Dianne Lamb  
 Treasurer: Brenda Pedden Boyce  
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 Display Convenors and Competitions: Danny Ouellette, Ina Muller  
 Fashion Show Convenor: Kitt Fisher, Kim Cuddington  
 Facility and Financials: Barbara Aikman

## 2012 Competition and Award Winners

Special Project 100% Silk Award: Wearable, Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Hazel Alexander, Handwoven Silk Scarf 2 <sup>nd</sup> Hanna Fulton, Lace Silk Shawl 3 <sup>rd</sup> Beth Showalter, 2 Necklaces
Special Project Award, Open: Wearable, Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Danny Ouellette, Grey Cowl 2 <sup>nd</sup> Hanna Fulton, Yellow Shawl 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jessie McGregor, Blue-Purple Shawl 3 <sup>rd</sup> Rhonda Gerrits, Grey and White Cardigan
Special Project Award, Open, Non-Wearable, Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Beth Showalter, Hollyhocks Hooked Wall Hanging 2 <sup>nd</sup> Pat Jarvis, Tea Cosy
Skein Competition: Simple 2-Ply, Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Pat Jarvis 2 <sup>nd</sup> Hanna Fulton 3 <sup>rd</sup> Rhonda Gerrits
Skein Competition: 3 or More Ply, Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Beth Showalter 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rhonda Gerrits 3 <sup>rd</sup> Elaine Horemans
Skein Competition: Novelty, Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Beth Showalter 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rhonda Gerrits

### Award Winners

**Founders Award: Hazel Alexander, Handwoven Silk Scarf** 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. It is judged by the Seminar attendees, who cast ballots for their favourite.

**Barb Patterson Award: not presented.** This award of \$25 honours Barb Patterson, one of the founding members of The Grand River Spinners and Weavers Guild. It is presented for the “Best Skein by a Novice Spinner”.

**Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Award: Hazel Alexander, Handwoven Silk Scarf**  
 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 Award: Beth Showalter,** 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 basket-making which embodies a unique interpretation, demonstrates a fresh, individual approach and expresses personal creativity”, as judged by an appointee of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Board of Directors.

**WOW!! Award: Jean Kazmierczack, Entrelac Lace Wild Silk Scarf** This award is judged by the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Display Coordinators. It is in recognition of an article that inspires the viewer to say “WOW”!!  
**All articles submitted for display are eligible.**

## 2013 Competition and Award Categories

In an effort to encourage more entries, we have rewritten the criteria for some of the categories, hoping to persuade you to enter your projects. If you find it confusing to complete some of the forms, please ask for help. If you don't want to be judged on your project, then enter the "Just for Fun" category. You may not think that you are good enough to enter, but don't be shy! You may have come up with a colour combination that surprises, a fibre blend that entices or a design that everyone wants to try. We all love to see

what others are doing, no matter how simple or complex. Plan now on entering your projects in the 2013 Displays. It's all about participating!

- Seminar participants are limited to one entry per category.
- Entries in the Special 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.

### Baggie Challenge

Remember the bag of luxurious silk fibre that you received at last year's "Enduring Silk – A Timeless Classic" Seminar? It contained 20g of 3 – 4 wonderful colours.

This year's fibre challenge is to create a small luxury or decorative item that is made of silk blends. Please consider the following guidelines:

- Use all 20g of the fibre provided in this bag.
- You may add other fibres to create your item.
- Emphasize the beautiful natural colours of the wild silk.
- Embellish your item with beads, charms, buttons or shells as needed.

Have fun creating a small luxury item just for you as you enjoy exploring the lovely colours! Be sure to bring your item to be displayed at the 2013 Seminar in Burlington.

### Skeins Competition

"In the skeins competition, there is a new category of "intermediate", between novice and advanced. This was decided in an attempt to encourage more spinners to enter the competition." More details will follow in the spring newsletter.

#### Skeins Competition Criteria

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

- If you have been spinning for fewer than two years, enter as "novice".
  - If you have been spinning between 2 - 5 years, enter as "intermediate".
  - If you have been spinning for more than 5 years, enter as "advanced".
1. **Simple 2-ply skein:** Your goal should be to produce a consistent, balanced yarn that is appropriate for the end use suggested in your documentation.
  2. **3 or more ply skein:** Your goal should be to produce a consistent, balanced yarn that is appropriate for the end use suggested in your documentation.
  3. **Novelty skein:** Your goal is to construct a yarn, which boasts a decorative element. This may be a spinning technique (crepe or bouclé, for example) or it may consist of additions to your spun yarn (beads, feathers, etc). The choice is yours...so have fun with it. However, remember that the yarn must be stable and suited to the end use you have stated on your entry.
  4. **Spindle-spun skein:** This 2-ply skein must be spun on a hand spindle. It will be critiqued on the same basis as the wheel spun 2-ply skein...grist, twist, balance and appropriateness for end use.

### **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 fine cotton. Skeins must not be twisted. The beginning of the skein should be tied to the end of the skein.
3. All entries must be handspun (including binder threads for novelty yarn) and include the following in order to qualify for judging:
  - a. sample(s) 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. a description of the intended end use for the yarn AND a description of why the yarn suits the end use.
  - f. 2"x2" swatch worked in the technique specified for the end product.

The entry form will be sent out with your registration information in the Spring Newsletter.

## **Special Projects Competition**

### **Special Projects Competition Criteria**

You are encouraged to submit an item based on techniques taught at last year's Seminar.

- If you have been spinning for fewer than two years, enter as "novice".
- If you have been spinning between 2 - 5 years, enter as "intermediate".
- If you have been spinning for more than 5 years, enter as "advanced".

Techniques and subjects from last year's Seminar include: Silken Bumps and Lustrous Lumps, Spinning Silk – An Introduction, Spinning Silk and Silk Blends for Rug Hooking, Shimmering Stitches, For the Love of Blends, Spinning Lovely Lace with Sumptuous Silk, From Cocoon to Loom – Weaving With Silk, an Overview of Spinning Silk on a Drop Spindle.

The categories are:

#### **1. 100% Silk or Silk Blends**

##### **a. Wearable Items**

Projects for this category may include, but are not limited to: Items for the head, neck, hands or feet; items that are worn over the shoulder or that lie on your lap; items for your pet.

##### **b. Non-Wearable Items**

Projects for this category may include, but are not limited to: Items for carrying or for use around the house.

#### **2. Open – Any Percentage of Any Fibre**

##### **a. Wearable Items**

Projects for this category may include, but are not limited to: Items for the head, neck, hands or feet; items that are worn over the shoulder or that lie on your lap; items for your pet.

##### **b. Non-Wearable Items**

Projects for this category may include, but are not limited to: Items for carrying or for use around the house.

### **Guidelines for Special Projects and to be Eligible for Judging**

All entries must be 100% handspun, although felted items and items made with silk paper are included this year. You may use any appropriate construction technique. Please include the following in order to qualify for judging:

1. Sample of the fibre(s) used, before and after preparation. If using commercially prepared fibre, include a sample of the unspun fibre.
2. An explanation of how the fibre was prepared, including blending
3. A brief description of the spinning technique used
4. Sample skein (about 5 metres in length) of the final yarn used in the project.
5. Felted items and silk paper items will be judged on creativity and construction technique.

The entry form will be sent out with your registration information in the Spring Newsletter.

## **"Just for Fun" Submissions**

**These creations will not be formally evaluated but are eligible for the Founders Award, WOW Award, the OHS Award and the HGA Award.**

If competitions are not for you but you wish to share your achievements with your peers, bring your skeins or projects along to display. There is only one criterion in this category - all "Just for Fun" submissions must be created since the last Seminar (Enduring Silk 2012) and may be made from any fibre.

## Awards

**Any article submitted may be eligible if the 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. The Seminar attendees, who cast ballots for their favourite, judge it.

### 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 basket-making which embodies a unique interpretation, demonstrates a fresh, individual approach and expresses personal creativity”, as judged by an appointee of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Board of Directors.

### WOW!! Award

This award of \$50.00 is judged by the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Display Coordinators. It is in recognition of an article that inspires the viewer to say “WOW”!! **All articles submitted for display are eligible.**

### Barb Patterson Award

This award of \$25 honours Barb Patterson, one of the founding members of The Grand River Spinners and Weavers Guild. It is presented for the “Best Skein by a Novice Spinner”

This year we are pleased to announce two new awards:

1. This year the Ontario Handspinning Seminar is offering a **“Re-inspired Spinner Award”** for the spinner who has lost interest or confidence in their spinning. The purpose of the award is to allow the individual to further their education and re-inspire them by attending a workshop, class or course that is of interest to them. A cash value of \$250 will be awarded to the successful recipient. They must apply in writing, stating their educational goal and afterwards, must present results of their studies to the Ontario Handspinning Seminar attendees, either by a workshop, oral presentation or comprehensive visual display.
2. This year we are offering a **“New to the Seminar Award”** for two people who are first time attendees at the Seminar. Details to follow in the Spring newsletter

## The Handspinner’s Research Scholarship

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. has money available for an annual Scholarship that is to be used in 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 the experience with the participants of an Ontario Handspinning Seminar within 3 years of receipt of the scholarship. **Everyone is encouraged to apply – there is still lot of time to meet the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.**

For more information on the requirements and submitting an application, visit our website at [www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca](http://www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca).

## Fashion Show

The Fashion Show will be held after the Banquet on Saturday night. If you would like to model your creation, have someone else model for you or be a model in the Fashion Show, a form will be available to fill out with the Registration Form accompanying the Spring Newsletter.

## Spring Newsletter and Registration Form

This Newsletter, as well as the Spring Newsletter and registration forms will be available on-line at the Ontario Handspinning Seminar website. Please pass this information along to your friends and tell them to visit [www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca](http://www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca). If you received this Newsletter, please be assured that your registration form will be mailed by regular Canada Post with the Spring Newsletter.

Be sure to follow the conversation at [www.ravelry.com/groups/ontario-handspinning-seminar-fans](http://www.ravelry.com/groups/ontario-handspinning-seminar-fans).

**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.