

# PETERBOROUGH HANDWEAVERS' AND SPINNERS' GUILD

P.O. Box 781, PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO K9H 6X8

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September/October

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There is no doubt about it- fall is in the air! The sunflowers are raging at us in their glorious colours, the geese are working out their formations and seem to be honking overhead more frequently. Mother Nature is giving us bracingly cool mornings and pleasantly warm afternoons as we head into the month of September. I often have a greater sense of renewal in this month than any other time of year. An invisible clock is ticking somewhere and at some predetermined moment the phone starts to ring, the calendar fills up, acquaintances are renewed and planning begins for the next nine or ten months ahead. The pace quickens and a bit of me gets revitalized as I anticipate upcoming events and get a wee bit anxious about things unknown.

The first meeting of the PHS executive was confirmation for me that our guild is a vibrant group indeed. Our gathering affirmed that many people have a commitment to working with each other and sharing a wealth of talent and expertise with all members and newcomers. At our meetings there is always a dose of good humour that takes the edge off any anxiety we may have about venturing into new territory in a new season. The laughter soothes our varying opinions and belies the hard work and careful planning that results in a solid plan for the year ahead. As you read this edition of our newsletter, I am certain you will be enticed to be an active participant in a variety of planned events and programs.

The summer months were full of news and members are looking forward to meetings when we can "catch up" with one another. Sadly, I note the passing of Dini Moes. Through her love of weaving this woman has left a legacy to share with all of us. You will hear more about Dini's legacy to the guild at our September meeting.

Also, on behalf of the Peterborough Handweavers and Spinners, I send sincere condolences to Lois Carter and now wish her a full and speedy recovery.

## PETERBOROUGH HANDWEAVERS' AND SPINNERS' GUILD

I look forward to seeing everyone on September 19<sup>th</sup> at the guiding meeting rooms. If you have made any connections with people who have an interest in fibre arts, please invite them to join us at the Kawartha Artists Studio. The guild wants to extend a welcome and continue to build a network of people who have an interest in all matters related to our love of animals, fibre, art, spinning, weaving, dyeing, basketry and felting.

Happy fall! Welcome back!

Donna Southern  
President

### GROUP ACTIVITIES

#### **Guild Meetings**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at Kawartha Artists' Gallery, 729 Park St. S.  
Library and Store open at 7:00 pm and meetings start at 7:30 pm.  
Next scheduled meetings: September 19<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup>

#### **Executive**

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 pm at Lois Watson's house.

#### **Spinning Groups**

*3rd Thursday Spinners* will meet temporarily at Jo Mills's house.  
September 15, October 21

#### **Dye Group**

*1st Thursdays*. Meet at Deb Vanderniet's  
October 6<sup>th</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

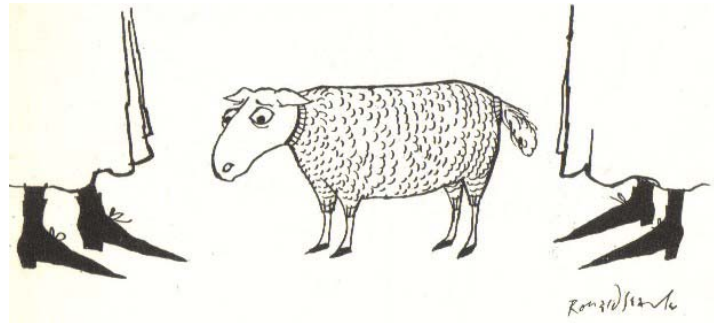
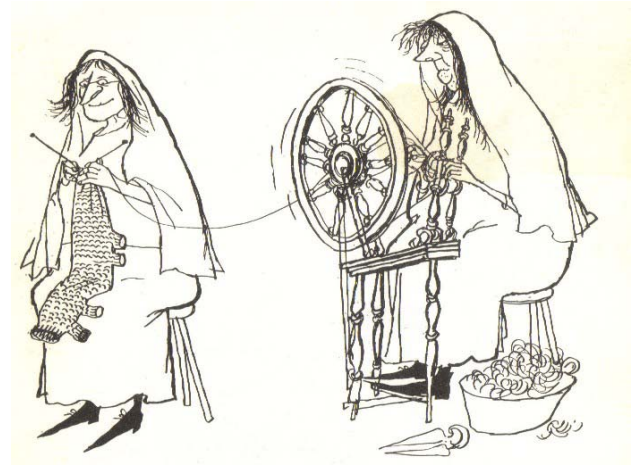
#### **Basketry**

*Maria Tryba to announce meeting dates later.*

### LIBRARY

Please return any books and magazines you borrowed at the May meeting or June luncheon to the September meeting.

Please bring in unusual thrums, at least 8 inches long. They will be used to adorn our bookmarks...an ongoing project anyone can help with at meetings. Also bookmarks need to be stamped with our e-mail and web site.



## MEMBERSHIP

The application for 2005-2006 membership has been sent out. Please bring your application, with payment, to the September meeting or send in your application with cheque payable to Peterborough Handweavers and Spinners Guild, 791 Foxe Street, Peterborough, K9H 6Y<sup>^</sup>. If you cannot do either contact Carole at 743-4613.

## PROGRAM NOTES

### ***September Meeting***

We encourage all members to bring in their summer projects for *SHOW AND TELL*.

*The Year Ahead*. Jo will review the coming year's program.

*Dye Group*. Deb will review the new study group to replace 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday spinning.

*Waulkiing Project*. Jo will review a long-term project to be highlighted in May.

*Social* will take place after program notes so that members can sign-up for the projects, discuss and share ideas, spend more time in the library and yarn store or help each other with current projects.

### ***October Meeting***

*Challenge*. Barb and Jo will introduce this year's Challenge. A video, discussion and handouts, followed by a *SHOW AND TELL* from the Sharon Alderman seminar and the Alpaca Workshop.

*Social* will take place after program to allow members to discuss the Challenge and have a look at materials.

### ***Coming Events***

Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>     More Than Colour Seminar  
Central Region Seminar on Scugog Island. Those who are attending should try to car pool if they can.

Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>     Doors Open Peterborough  
We will have a table at the Armoury, set up by Marcia McGrath and Mary Lavery. Anyone to demo? We need 3 people for two-hour shifts-10 to 12/12 to 2/2 to 4.

Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>     Spin-In, Campbellford  
10am-3pm. \$5/bring lunch & mug. Held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Ranney Street. Car pool? Advise Jo and she will contact them to advise of attendance. Contact Donna.

Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>    Alpaca Workshop with Nancy Carr of Silver Cloud Alpacas.  
To be held at Kawartha Artists' Studio, 10am – 3pm. Contact Pauline Fanning.

November 11, 12, 13<sup>th</sup>    Autumn Treasures at the Trentwinds  
See article in this newsletter.

## AUTUMN TREASURES

The 2005 Autumn Treasures Art and Craft Show and Sale will be held at the Trentwinds International Centre on Lansdowne Street East, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 9pm, and on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 5pm. Guild members will be manning a booth and selling members' articles. We will also have demonstrations of our crafts. The sales from the booth benefit our members and bring in some revenue for the Guild. The Guild takes 20% of the members' sales.

We hope you have been busy producing articles for sale. Remember that all articles accepted for sale in our booth must be predominately handspun or handwoven. We also welcome prepared fleeces, felting and knitting. For the first time, this year felted articles may be made of commercial yarn. **Quality** is important – finishing needs to be the best. **Presentation** can be as important as quality. Many items will be purchased as gifts so attractive packaging can add to appeal.

### 1. Tags

All articles for sale must have a fully completed Guild Tag firmly attached to each article for sale. Tags cost 10 cents each. They will be available at the fall meetings. We will have some very small tags to be only used on small articles that do not need full content and care information. These will be for sale for 6/25 cents. Tags must be securely fastened (sewing thread is fragile). You will also need to completely fill out a Catalogue sheet. Each article submitted for sale must be entered on the sheet.

### 2. Biography Sheets

These are handouts for our customers with information about our members who are selling articles. You may only want to include your name and phone number or you may write up a short statement about yourself. Past handouts will be on display at the September meeting. If your information is OK, check it off the sample. If not please submit changes by the October meeting.

### 3. Booth Set-Up

Ideas are welcome on set-up, props and display. The booth is 15 feet wide by 8 feet deep and we will have our Ikea Ivar shelving on three sides.

### 4. Booth Sign-Up

The sign-up sheet will be available at the September and October meetings. We will have one person on sales and one person on cash for each shift of 2-1/2 hours. We want to have demonstrators for each shift. If possible, please sign-up for one or more of these jobs.

### 5. Demonstrations

We would like to have a demonstration of some kind going on at each shift so that we can show visitors what we are all about and attract them to our booth. Hopefully we can set up a loom for weavers to use as well as having spinners, felters, basket weavers and knitters taking their turn to "show off". Maybe it will increase sales.

### 6. Photos

To continue with the education theme we would like all members to give us a 4" X 6" colour photo of themselves engaged in their craft. It will have your name and craft entered on it via computer and will be in a Plexiglas frame and displayed among the articles for sale. Please make sure it is in a vertical format and submit it at the September and October meetings. The photos used last year can be used again. If you are unable to get a photo made call Lois and she will come to your house to take a pic.

7. Delivery

At Carole Erwin's home, 791 Foxe Street by Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. 743-4613

8. Pick-Up

Please pick up your unsold articles or arrange for another member to do so at the close of sales on Sunday.

**LAST YEAR'S SALE WAS A SUCCESS BECAUSE SO MANY  
PARTICIPATED WITH ARTICLES FOR SALE.  
LET'S TRY TO OUTDO OURSELVES THIS YEAR!**

## FOR SALE

After much thought I have decided that a large loom just does not fit into my life at the moment (not even into my new house). So I am selling the 45" LeClerc Jack loom I purchased from the Guild last year. Price is \$350-the same as I paid for it.

It is being offered to Guild members first and won't be advertised outside the Guild newsletter for a couple of weeks. If you are interested, call Meg Russell at 295-4123.

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

If anyone does not want to receive their newsletter by e-mail or would prefer to have a paper copy mailed as well please advise Jo.



To make sure articles get into the newsletter on time, submission dates should be the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month of the next issue. Submissions can be sent to Jo Mills at 210 Carlisle Avenue, Peterborough, K9H 1J6, or you can e-mail your article to [jomillsjo@hotmail.com](mailto:jomillsjo@hotmail.com). You can also telephone Jo at 705-749-3323.

Visit our web site at [http://www.aym-gael.com/PBO\\_handweaving\\_spinning/default.html](http://www.aym-gael.com/PBO_handweaving_spinning/default.html)  
- any suggestions for improving it are welcome.

## THE NIDDY NODDY COLUMN

### *Is Your Niddy in a Noddy?*

A sign-up sheet for this column will be passed around at the September meeting for our next season.

Don't be shy. Share your thoughts, ideas and experiences.

All articles are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, January, March and May.



### **Fired up and Ready to Go!**

By Jo Mills

The past few months have been quite invigorating for me, with a long visit to Perth, Australia. The idea was to watch over Mum and chauffeur my niece around while my sister took a much-needed holiday in Europe. Thinking I would have all sorts of time on my hands I connected with the Western Australia Handweavers, Spinners and Dyers Guild. However Mum ended up in hospital and Claudia had her driving test moved up requiring me to take her out for practice every day.

But somehow, with the help of a wonderful group of people I managed to get out to various group meetings. Spinning is the main focus and what yummy tops I got my hands on. Sue Greig, of the Innaloo Spinners, lent me her Schacht wheel; Jean Leary, V.P., arranged for me to speak to the Guild at their monthly meeting; and Connie Ward, President, introduced me to many wonderful people, a number who had been to Canada. The Guild presented me with a small locally-carved wooden bowl and thank you card with an inlaid weaving sample by member Rosemary Skinner. June Lynn of Bilby Yarns has a treasure trove of goodies in her shop; raw and carded tops (coloured Merino in many shades and combos). I will be adding her web site to our 'link's section on the internet. After buying great quantities of tops and a fair share of her "Bush Colours" Gaywool dyes (now discontinued) she presented me with a Jarrah wood spindle and kindly showed me how to work it (I am still at the 'novelty yarn' stage).

I had the opportunity to attend their "Spin-In", sponsored by the Dianella group and held at their main facility, Alexander Park Craft House. As W.A. is sparsely inhabited spinners came from great distances, in some cases up to 300 miles away.

Announcements we made of where everyone came from a round of applause and murmurs for "Peterborough, Canada".

The group has a wide range of 'workshop' groups including Kumihimo, Tapestry, Spinning, Knitting, Weaving and Dyeing. I had the chance to meet the tapestry weavers working on a commissioned series of banners; the Kumihimo group doing amazing braiding; and visited with Sue while taught a small weaving group-all this on the same day at Alexander Park. Later Sue and I managed to get together for coffee at a new knitting

/ coffee shop called the “woolly latte”. A great idea for a chance to sit down with a tasty pastry, cappuccino, your knitting and some stimulating conversation.

Once I returned home I thought that maybe some of these ideas could be adapted to our group. Talking to some members during the summer got more ideas going in my head. And once Program Committee started talking...well we could keep going for a long time! The main theme we wanted to focus on was ‘sharing’. And of course ‘program’. Plans for this year will mean more time on program, especially in the new year; programs that are not just one time events but a continuation during the year; programs that fit around our Challenge which in turn would be a learning tool; and finally, we want to see every member sharing their ideas and skills.

We want to encourage members to bring their projects to the Guild and we want to have things set up at the Guild that are part of a ‘group’ effort. We want you to spend more time talking to each other. If you knit or crochet, spin, dye, work Kumihimo, or weave on a small portable loom, bring your work with you. After each program we would like you to take your tea or coffee and work or move about looking at what members are working on, asking questions, sharing your experiences. If you are part of a study group and need to conference, this is a good option to get together outside of your regular meeting. Other members can listen in, and may be inspired to join!

*But the important goal this year is to have everyone relate to the program not only as individuals but as a body of people who have skills and experience to share with each other.*



The Innaloo Spinning Group outside Alexander Park Craft House. A timed competition used a handout of combed top with prizes for thickest, thinnest, longest, roughest, smoothest. I won for smoothest...a package of Smarties...in fact we all won a packet of Smarties! Here we are measuring for longest. Oh, and this is winter!!!!