

PETERBOROUGH HANDWEAVERS' AND SPINNERS' GUILD

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

Volume 28, Issue 12

2005

November/December

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How inviting for us to be able to think about "colour" on these colder and greyer days! This year's Challenge for Guild members has all of us thinking about colour. All members will be supported in their quest to succeed during our monthly meetings as we bring samples, notes and ideas to share with each other about our journey to create a useful or decorative item by June. Perhaps members will find some useful colours in our Yarn Store at the Guild meeting room as they start to plan their projects. With thanks to Barbara Burbidge this edition of the newsletter has more information on colour theory. If you have not yet selected your personalized colour challenge do not despair! Members can select a challenge card (or swap one!) at the next general meeting.

Meeting turnout has been hovering around twenty members this fall. It would be great to see some old friends and new members in November. Here are some highlights from our recent meeting.

The Alpaca workshop, given by Nancy Carr, was a great success. Mary Johnston and Jo Mills brought samples and ideas to share at our October meeting and Mary told us about the wonderful colour names of the Alpacas who donated their fleeces to the workshop. Mary also shared an idea for storing roving samples in three-ring plastic holders that are used by sports card collectors.

Our Show and Share brought forward a wonderful array of six baskets from natural materials, put together on a sunny fall day at the home of Maria Tryba. Tea towels by Dee Jones and placemats from Pauline Fanning provided us with samples of fine work and inspired us to look at colour combinations in various weave structures.

The Peterborough Handweavers' and Spinners' continue to demonstrate a great deal of respect for the high standards that are a prerequisite to creating fine fibre, fleece, woven and felted goods. As we continue the journey of this year's colour study Challenge, I am looking forward to the support that comes from the rich bank of expertise we have collectively as a group. Equally, I anticipate with please the innovations and revelations that will be part of our shared discussions and workshops when we are working and learning together.

Donna Southern
President

GROUP ACTIVITIES

- Guild Meetings** 3rd 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: November 21st, December 5th
- Executive** November 28th at 1:30 p.m. at Mary Lavery's home
- Spinning Groups** 3rd Thursdays: November 17th at Lois Carter's home.
December luncheon to be held on December 8th. This is a Potluck. Bring tableware and cutlery and \$2.00.
- Dye Group** Carding and Gaywool microwave dyeing are to be scheduled for November and December. Dye Group members will be contacted with dates and times.

LIBRARY

- OVERDUES: Janette: Spin-Off, Summer issue 100 and Spring issue 199
Elements of Colour and Learning to Weave
- Jo: A Dyer's Garden and Deb Vanderniet's Dye Workbook
- Dianne: Handwoven, September/October 05

MEMBERSHIP

The new membership list has been completed and handed out or mailed to all members. Please check the information provided. If you have any changes contact Carole at 743-4613.

GUILD SCHOLARSHIPS

Are you interested in a course in your area of expertise where a Guild Scholarship would help? If so contact a member of the Executive. More information about scholarships will follow in our January newsletter as well.

PROGRAM NOTES

November Meeting

Colour Challenge - We will be reviewing two samples of colour combinations – the Split Complimentary and the Triad. As well a table will be set up at the next few meetings to display samples of the various colour combinations, books illustrating colour variations and other helpful tools to planning your project.

December Meeting

Colour Challenge – Barb will be taking us through the process of making God's Eyes. We will be using yarn and materials supplied by Programme Committee and our Yarn Store. The focus will again be on Split Complimentary and Triad colour groupings.

COMING EVENTS

Autumn Treasurers at the Trentwinds. November 11th-13th

Other Guilds and Groups

Belleville Weavers and Spinners Guild: *Fibre to Fabric Show and Sale.* Friday, November 18th, 4pm-9pm and Saturday, November 19th, 9:30 am-5pm. Free. Belleville Recreation Centre, 116 Pinnacle Street, Belleville.

Scugog Council for the Arts: *Showcase of the Arts.* Saturday and Sunday, November 19-20th, 10am-5pm, \$3.00. Scugog Community Recreation Centre, 1655 Reach St, Port Perry.

Peterborough Art Gallery Sale. Preview night is November 10th. Sale runs through to Xmas. Guild members are invited to put items in the sale. If you are interested please contact Jo ASAP. We can add items after Autumn Treasures and anytime up to the end of the sale.

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 11th from 4pm to 9pm, and on November 12th and 13th 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 hand-woven. 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.

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.

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- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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
- Photos** To continue with the education theme we would like all members to give us a 4" X 6" colour photo of them 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 picture.
- Delivery** At Carole Erwin's home, 791 Foxe Street by Wednesday, November 9th. 743-4613, after 12:30 pm.
- 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!**



Another pair of hands would have helped but in the end we were mostly successful.

FOR SALE

Keep Me Warm One Night. Written by Harold and Dorothy Burnham, this book is the culmination of 25 years of study. Beginning with fieldwork throughout Eastern Canada, research extended to Great Britain and Europe tracing origins of traditional techniques carried to North America. There are over 500 photos and drawings recording material still in existence with a complete history of individual pieces.

Price is \$100. If interested contact Donna Southern at 705-745-7699.

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 1st 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. You can also telephone Jo at 705-749-3323.

THE NIDDY NODDY COLUMN

Is Your Niddy in a Noddy?

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

We need one more article for March and two for May.



SOMETHING ABOUT COLOUR by Barbara Burbidge

After my failed attempt to show a video about colour at the September meeting, I think I should offer some basic points about colour theory to those who are confused by the Challenge. (Those of you who know all this already may as well skip to the next article and not waste your time) This is very elementary and leaves out a lot but it is a starting place. So here goes.

Among the thousands of colours in the world around us most are really combinations of colours. But there are three basic colours that occur on their own and cannot be made from others. These are red, yellow and blue. They are called **PRIMARY** (or first) colours. When these colours are combined in equal amounts, two at a time, we get three **SECONDARY** colours. Red and yellow make orange; yellow and blue make green; blue and red make violet.

Now let's list them in order: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet. But wait. Violet belongs at both ends really because it is half red. So to bring Violet closer to red we must bend the line. Now we have a ring, or a **WHEEL**.

This is the simplest colour wheel. But usually another set of colours called **TERTIARY**, or third, is added, giving a wheel composed of red, red-orange, orange, yellow-orange, yellow, yellow-green, green, blue-green, blue, blue-violet, violet, red-violet. This is the basic colour wheel you will find in most art study books. It is like a large pie cut into twelve equal pieces, or the face of a clock, with each piece or each number having its specified colour.

It will be useful to use the clock image and its numbers to define the different colour combinations we have been assigned. Remember that the number sequence may be rotated on the colour wheel as a unit, but the numbers and colours may not be rearranged. Please take time now to number the circle from 1 to 12, like a clock, and to label the segments with the colour names: red, red-orange, orange, etc.

Finally we get to the colour combinations we have been given. I shall use the numbers on the clock to identify them. Twelve may point to any colour: just rotate the wheel, which will move all the numbers in exactly the same way, leaving everything in the same order. The combinations, as given by Deb Menz, are:

Complementary – 12 and 6
Split Complementary – 12, 5 and 7
Double Split Complementary – 12, 4, 5, 7 and 8
Triad – 12, 4 and 8
Double Triad – 12, 1, 4, 5, 8, and 9
Tetrad – 12, 2, 6, and 8
Square Tetrad – 12, 3, 6 and 9
Hexad – 12, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10
Analogous – 12, 1 and 2
Monochromatic – different shades of one colour

When choosing your colours you will want to consider intensity and textures. Warm colours (red, orange and yellow-and white) will want to dominate. Cool colours (green, blue, violet and black) will want to recede. Shiny fibres stand out more than dull ones. There are excellent examples in Deb Menz's book which will be on display each meeting.

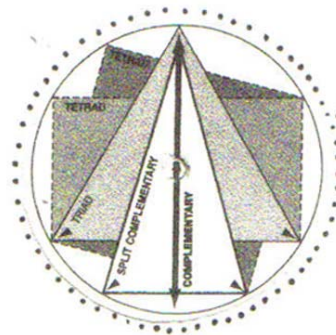
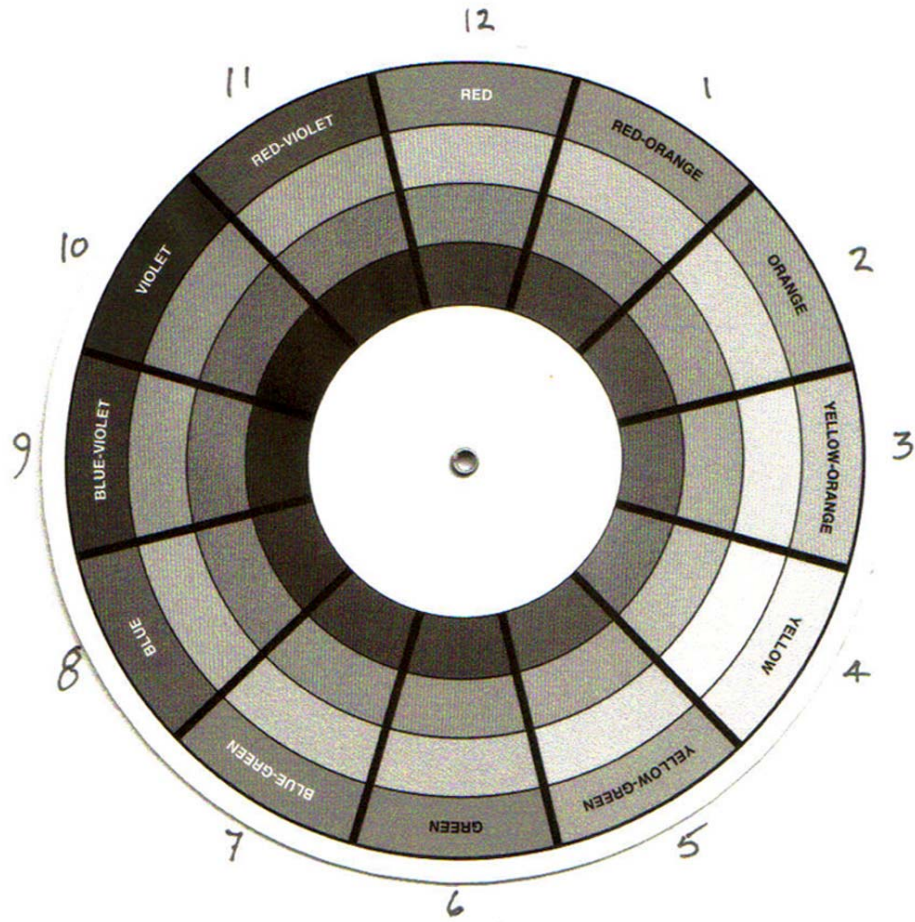
For our Challenge, your combination may be used along with neutrals (black, white, grey and maybe beige). Please do not go bankrupt buying a lot of colours you did not want and will not use again. You may find that you can do some trading and sharing with friends or you may find bargains in the guild yarn store. Your colours may be only a decoration on an otherwise neutral item or your whole item may be worked in varying quantities of your Challenge colours. Your article may be woven, spun, felted in any way, or a basket.

Some examples of items and how they could be interpreted:

- Coasters:* – make a set using the same colours but in different ratios
- use same colours and ratios but in different patterns
- Spinning:* – random 'blotches' of colour for one sample, with longer colour sections on another sample...spin and compare results
- solid colour samples in equal intensities, followed by a second set in toned down versions
- Baskets:* – comparison of two baskets, one using intense and the other muted versions of same colours

We hope this information and some of the ideas will be of help in planning your Challenge. Bring your questions, your samples and your ideas to share at our next meeting.

**We are making small colour wheels to be handed out to members at the next meeting. If you prefer to buy your own they are available at Cossar Art on Hunter Street - \$6.75 for 5". PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED A COLOUR WHEEL SO I CAN MAKE ENOUGH.



← Cut circle -
place over white circle
on colour wheel and
turn to find colour
combinations