



# FIBER TO FINISH GUILD NEWSLETTER



October 2013

## From the weaver's bench:

I just returned from 8 days on the big island, Hawaii. What a fun trip! Except for the closure of the Volcano National Park the trip was nearly perfect! We toured the island, saw new sights and revisited others.

I also made a point of checking in with my dad's relatives.



One of my aunties is a *kahuna* as well as a registered nurse. Her knowledge of medicine—traditional or alternative-- is amazing. She makes traditional leis that are made solely from leaf materials, no flowers. She suggested historical and cultural places to visit. Her suggestions are never a disappointment.

One of her suggestions was to visit Waipio Valley where the Hawaiian kings "vacationed." Waipio Valley was only accessible by four wheel drive vehicles. The valley floor was famous for growing taro, the main ingredient of the traditional Hawaiian diet, poi. There were sheer volcanic cliffs dropping down to the sea—all covered in dense tropical vegetation. The beach at the mouth of the valley was covered in fine black sand. It was a mystical place where you could imagine an outrigger canoe just coming into view!

We explored Hilo, the largest city on the island. It is the city with the most rainfall in the United States, 130 inches a year! We toured the Lyman Museum and Mission House. The Mission House was built for David and Sara Lyman in 1839. It is a story of early Hawaii and the Lyman's adjustment to a different culture. Sara Lyman recorded every earthquake for 50 years in her personal journal. Hilo also hosts a twice a week farmer's market. You can find all types of tropical fruits and vegetables. I was introduced to Rambutan, a red hairy fruit. It is peeled with a knife. The skin easily separates from the fruit. The fruit resembles a peeled grape with a large seed. The taste was sweet and juicy. In addition to

countless, never before seen produce there were native crafts for sale. Baskets are woven of palm fronds, many items made from coconut shells, woven hats, quilts and so



much more. No trip to Hilo is complete without visiting the Big Island Candy Company. Their specialty is a macadamia shortbread cookie that can be partially dipped in smooth chocolate. Yum! Their showroom is tastefully decorated and samples of most of their goodies are available to try. Hawaiians do not have a detailed textile history. The original cloth was made of fibers sort of felted together. It was a long process to pound the "cloth." It was quickly replaced by lightweight cotton that came with missionaries and other visitors. Quilts also had a huge impact on Hawaiians. Designs were translated into traditional flower, fruit and symbolic motifs.

Eight days in paradise pass quickly. I apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. Remind me to tell you about the wildlife and our rental house when you see me.

Keep your hands in fiber,  
Myra Chang Thompson

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***October meeting*** : October 19th 1:00 p.m.  
First Baptist Church at Fourth and Becker Streets in Belen. Program: *Garments!* Our guest speaker will reveal all of the highs and lows of a professional garment business and share inspiration that will motivate and excite your design sense. Short business meeting will follow to include our plans for the holiday party and donations.

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### **GOT YARN?**

Check out all the information for the big November Yarn Swap on page 3!

## Questions?

Ask your officers or any member. If we don't know—we'll find out.

### **2013 Executive Board**

<b>Pres.</b>	Myra Chang Thompson	864-0876	<a href="mailto:mchangt@yahoo.com">mchangt@yahoo.com</a>
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Send all correspondence to :

**Valencia County Fiber to Finish Guild**  
**P. O. Box 1613 Belen, NM 87002-1613**

**FIBER TO FINISH IS ON THE WEB** Check out the guild's home on the web at [www.fibertofinish.org](http://www.fibertofinish.org) . You'll be able to see the newsletters on line – the minutes from each month's meeting are in the newsletter as well. There's also photos and notes posted from some of the classes and presentations the guild has given.



## **EVENTS!**

### **Presbyterian Church Arts & Crafts Show and Sale**

Members are encouraged to participate in the show and sale where 25% of sales will be donated to our local food bank. The set up date is October 25 (Friday). Sale and show times are Saturday, October 26 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Sunday's hours are from 11:30 to 4:00 p.m.

### **Bosque Fiber Arts Fest** December 7, 2013

The fair is being organized by Julie Ploughmann and Kim Murdock. Spaces are limited so please contact Julie Plougmann at 575-517-9962 or at [JPLOUGMANNJR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JPLOUGMANNJR@GMAIL.COM)

**Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts 1<sup>st</sup> annual Juried Art Show** deadline for entry is September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Contact Andrea Chavez at 352-7714 for more information.

**Workshop on "Stitched Shibori"**. It will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2013 from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Belen Art League in Belen. This would be a great time to start working on those holiday gifts.

Don't let the word "stitched" scare you. The stitching is done by hand and is actually very simple to do. The trick is in the preparation. The patterns you can create are almost limitless and very beautiful. I've attached pictures of some of my stitched pieces, so that you can see a few possibilities.

The cost for the workshop is \$70.00, which includes the supply fee. You will be provided with fabric to practice your stitching on, and a silk scarf blank for your final project. A supply list and additional details will be provided after you have registered. Please contact me via email: [lindaearthdreams@aol.com](mailto:lindaearthdreams@aol.com) or phone 505 864-3362 to register. Looking forward to seeing you. This workshop should be lots of fun and an opportunity to be very creative!

**December 21 - meeting at the Belen Public Library** at 333 Becker Street beginning at 10:30 a.m. Ending at 1:45 p.m. Bring a holiday edible and something you'd like to share with the group (a new idea, material, color combination, whatever you're working on currently). Election of officers. Invite a friend to join us.



**November meeting:** The really big yarn swap and sale event of the year! We want you to turn over yarns and fibers that you are not going to use and trade it for something you will use. The guidelines follow below. We've also acquired a large amount of yarn from a former knitter that we will sell as a fund raiser. Even if you have nothing to swap—you will surely want to shop! There are also knitting books available for sale.



### ***Guidelines for the Big Yarn Swap:***

We have established the following categories for the yarn/fiber swap:

1. All acrylic yarns or unknown fiber yarns with a unit value of \$.50 (Like Red Heart Acrylic yarn)
  2. Part acrylic yarns with a unit value of \$1.00 (Lion Brand Wool Ease for example)
  3. Wool yarn of ordinary quality with a unit value of \$1.50 (Brown Sheep Wool)
  4. Wool or other animal fiber of better quality with a unit value of \$2.00 (Lamb's Pride by Brown Sheep)
  5. Luxury or exotic fiber or yarn with a unit value of \$2.50 (like Classic Elite's Sharon Mohair or alpaca)
- A “unit” or “item” should be approximately 4 ounces.  
If you have an 8 oz. skein, that’s 2 “items” or “units”.
  - Assign a value to your yarn or fiber according to categories 1 to 5 above.
  - Label your yarn/fiber. Please do this ahead of time to avoid chaos and confusion during the Swap.  
Be sure to include:
    - -Category 1 – 5
    - -Number of units (for example, one 8 oz. skein = 2 units)
    - -Your name
    - -Anything else you’d like to include
  - Bring your yarn and fiber to the meeting.

There will also be a “FREE Table”. You are encouraged to donate to the Free Table to reduce your stash!

- Here’s how it will work:
  - We’ll have a Ticket Table. Trade your yarn/fiber for tickets valued at 50¢ each for the total value of your items.
  - Your yarn/fiber goes onto the swap tables.
  - You “shop” the swap tables and “buy” the yarn/fiber you want by “paying” the owner with the number of 50¢ tickets that add up to the labeled value of the items.
  - If you don’t have enough tickets to swap, buy more tickets for 50¢ each.
  - Return your tickets to the Ticket Table at the end of the swap for 50¢ each. This way the original owner will get the money for the items sold not traded.
- The guild will have a **separate table for the yarn and book sale**. ALL yarns and books are \$1.00 each. All sales to benefit the guild. Yarn and books were donated by Jo Compton's family.

Business meeting: time again to nominate officers for the next year!

**Wendy Jacob's estate sale: contact Myra at 864-0876**

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40 INCH SCHACHT MIGHTY WOLF WITH STROLLER. 4 SHAFT. 6 TREADLE WITH BENCH AND SADDLE BAGS

REEDS 12 AND 8 DENT REEDS WITH CARDBOARD PACKING LEASH STICKS, STICK SHUTTLES AND 6 BOAT SHUTTLES 1 BALL WINDER.

1 BOBBIN WINDER SWEDISH WOODEN SWIFT

HORIZONTAL WARPING MILL. 1 YARD AROUND

ASHFORD RIGID HEDDLE LOOM. 8 DENT REED. 12.5 DENT REED

YARN HOLDER WITH LEGS. CONE HOLDER FOR USE ON THE FLOOR

CONED YARNS: COTTONS, MERCERIZED COTTONS, PEACHES N CREAM, TENCEL, YELLOW BAMBOO, RAYON, RAW SILK, COTTON & RAYON CHENILLES

BAG OF COTTON WARP (CHAIN)

INKLE LOOM. SCHACHT. 29.5" W/BELT SHUTTLE

KNITTY NODDY

FLEECE: ROVING CORMO-RAM VARIOUS COLORS

CONED PROCESSED YARN FROM MORA MILL 10 CONES DARK , PROBABLY WARP (TIGHTLY TWISTED) WHITE CORMO SKEINS, APPROX 4 OUNCE 8 DARK BROWN CORMO-RAMBOUILLET SKEINS

ASSORTED KNITTING YARN SOME WOOL

COTTON KNITTING YARNS

1.42 POUNDS ROVING WHITE FROM VILLAGE WOOLS (MIGHT BE "TOP")

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**MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 21, 2013**

- DYE ON CELLULOSE FIBERS WAS A BIG HIT. NEARLY EVERYONE PAINTED A SHIRT. TERRI PAINTED A LINEN TABLECLOTH AND NAPKINS. BOBBY DOW SHOCKED AND AMAZED US ALL WITH HIS PROJECT
- JOLENE HANSEN WON THE RAFFLE THIS MONTH. A SKEIN OF COTTON YARN WAS HER PRIZE.
- TWO VISITORS WERE WELCOMED, RENA CASH AND JENNY WILSON
- YARN WAS HANDED OUT TO BE COMPLETED BY GUILD MEMBERS FOR A "BLANKET" IN THE SIZE OF 12 INCHES BY 24 INCHES. IT COULD BE CROCHETED, KNIT, WOVEN, FELTED, ETC. BUT MUST CONTAIN SOME OF THE COLORFUL MOHAIR ALSO GIVEN OUT. NINE VOLUNTEERS WERE GIVEN YARN. MYRA IS WEAVING THE SASHING TO GO BETWEEN THE MEMBER PIECES.
- DISCUSSION - PARTICIPATION OF THE GUILD IN THE HARVEY HOUSE FEBRUARY SHOW. MYRA AND ANNMARIE WERE APPROACHED BY RONNIE TORRES, EVENT ORGANIZER FOR THE HARVEY HOUSE. EACH PARTICIPATING GROUP WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY \$200 TO PARTICIPATE FOR A TWO WEEK SHOW. THE \$200 IS TO DEFRAY THE COST OF THE UNM-VC INTERN THAT THE HARVEY HOUSE IS SPONSORING. MYRA EXPRESSED HER CONCERNS ABOUT THE EXPENSIVE FEE. THE GUILD MAY ONLY MAKE \$20.00 ON THE PREVIOUSLY MONTH LONG SHOW. THE TOPIC WAS DISCUSSED BY THE GUILD MEMBERS PRESENT. THE GENERAL FEELING WAS THAT WE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE AT THE CURRENT TIME UNDER THESE CONDITIONS. DIANA DOW SUGGESTED WE FIND A DIFFERENT VENUE.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. MINUTES SUPPLIED BY MYRA CHANG THOMPSON