



FIBER TO FINISH GUILD NEWSLETTER

March 2015



From the weaver's bench:

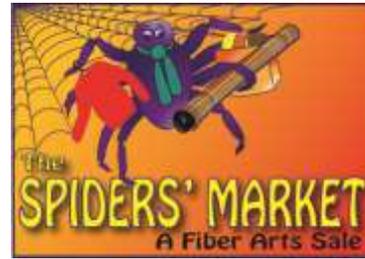
March blew in with a flurry of activity. Between entering the Spider's Market in Albuquerque and the deadline for the Albuquerque Fiber Arts Fiesta—life has been jumping!

I've been thinking about projects. More precisely I've been thinking of well executed, beautiful projects. The projects that you create lovingly and with care. We read and talk about the time and energy it takes to create these handmade objects. We argue that if we are going to make them, then perhaps they should use materials of the very best quality. Now, before you reach for the phone to call me, let me clarify that. Best quality can be subjective. We have one friend who scores tons of cashmere yarn. That's wonderful that she chooses to spend her time and energy that way. Another friend looks for values at the local discount store or thrift shop. She knows a good quality of wool yarn and only uses that. Both are admirable practices. I guess what I really wanted to say is use the best materials you can afford.

I learned to knit, the second time, by watching Elizabeth Zimmerman on Public TV years ago. Elizabeth only knit with wool. She knit with wool when the marketplace was selling acrylic yarns by the train car load! She found sources in her home state of Wisconsin. Sometimes it takes seeking what you desire. She said once that if she wanted a garment that could go into the washer and dryer—she would buy a sweatshirt! A lovely wool (or silk or cotton or whatever) sweater deserved to be carefully washed and blocked. She argued that by taking care of her woolen garments they would be “renewed to their original loveliness” and last much longer.

We have a lovely sweater that belonged to my father in law. It was hand knit in Scandinavia in the 1930's. It is white with colorful knit patterns across the body and sleeves. It has been worn and worn. It has a bit of a “dated” style but the materials are still light and fluffy. It is durable, warm and attractive. It was made by

Next meeting: Road Trip to Spider's Market at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Boulevard, NE. Plan to meet at Los Lunas Animal Clinic on State Highway 314 (north of Main Street) in



Los Lunas at 10 a.m. To have lunch at Sadie's Restaurant and attend Spider's Market. Call Terri for more details 681-7421



Upcoming Meetings

April 18 Meeting Coil Baskets with Janice Van Havermaat Join us for our April meeting and make a small coil basket. Janice will furnish the twine used

for the core of the baskets. You will need to bring a large (about 2 ½ inches long) blunt needle and dk weight yarns in colors of your choice. Rug yarn works very well. Some yarn will be available for use. Bring a friend! Meeting will be held at the First Baptist Church at Fourth and Decker Streets unless there is a conflict.



skilled hands—using great materials to be worn, warmed and enjoyed. So when you create your next project make it to be appreciated for those who will come after you-- to be admired and used a 100 years from now!

Keeping your hands warm in fiber,
Myra

Questions?

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

Officers for 2015:

President	Myra Chang Thompson	mchangt@yahoo.com
Vice President	Terri L. Greenlee	tlgreenlee@earthlink.net
Secretary	Sally Nittler	nittlers2@gmail.com
Treasurer	Annmarie Pearson	altbalance@q.com
Member at Large	Diana Dow	rockingbd@earthlink.net
Website	Chip Kimball	chipkimball@gmail.com
Newsletter	Mary Curik	mary@fourpinesalpacas.com



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 .

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 lots of photos posted from meetings and members' work.

Advertisements:

Free magazines available at the next meeting. See Jolene or Terri

Weaving Instruction- Hands on weaving instruction, any technique or equipment.

Call Myra @ 864-0876

This month's guild member: Donald L. Pippenger



Don was born in Alameda, California. He attended California Public Schools and briefly attended Cal Poly. He began his work in fiber by making latch hook rugs and cross stitching. He recalled a rug he partially completed with \$500 worth of Persian yarn that was lost in a move. He considered Oriental rugs interesting and made samples in counted cross stitch. This led to needlepoint. When he moved to Belen he joined the Belen Stitchers. He purchased a Schacht flip loom as he moved between Washington and New Mexico. When he officially retired and moved to Belen permanently, he took up weaving. It was then that he joined Fiber to Finish Guild.

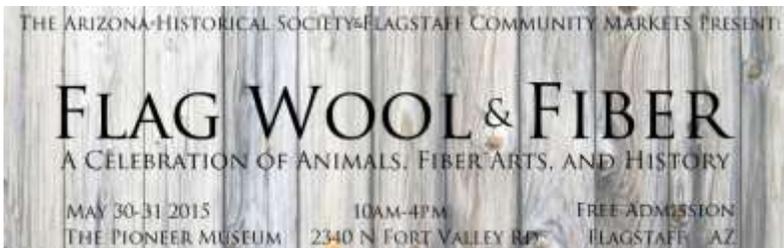
When asked about his favorite project he noted it was probably shawls. He makes more of those than anything else. He likes to enter his work into competitions and makes many projects for his family. He also enjoys making placemats and towels. He gave his youngest daughter, Lisa, a set of towels. Lisa's daughter, Jenny (Don's granddaughter) liked them so much that she took them! Don quilted and spun on a spinning wheel. He found the wheel difficult to coordinate and moved to a drop spindle. Despite his many ventures into other fiber arts, Don has stuck with weaving and Huck embroidery.

Don finds inspiration in Handwoven magazine, books and magazines. He credits Jean Scorgie with his stable selvages. She suggested fortifying selvages with two double threads. He finds the projects he does currently depend on the need or family request. He admitted, sadly, that he is not as active as he used to be. His plan for the year is to get rid of yarns. He plans to weave two large blankets—one in wool and one in alpaca. He plans to weave several panels and stitch them together to get the desired width. He is also working on a shawl that was commissioned by a guild member.

Don's good humor and technical expertise have led him to entering competitive events. He wants to receive feedback on his weavings. He has entered two entries in the Albuquerque Fiber Arts Fiesta in May. He appreciates the criticism he receives from judges. Don would like to have more competitive venues to enter. Besides his love of weaving and fiber arts, Don continues to love container gardening. He also exercises at "Silver Sneakers." Don also plays the recorder and is learning to play the Native American Flute. Due to physical restraints, Don purchased a recorder that was modified by a company in Mountainview, California. It was made to allow Don to reach the tone holes with minimal movements. He previously was a member of the "Young at Heart" Choir, a choir of senior citizens. Don has generously shared his knowledge with many people.



Upcoming Events



May 30 – 31, Flagstaff AZ

The web site for more info is [www,Flagwool.com](http://www.Flagwool.com). Phone number for info is 928 699-2012



El Rancho de las Golondrinas - Spring Festival & Fiber Arts Fair

Costumed villagers shearing sheep, fiber arts marketplace, baking bread and more, plus animals, games and hands-on activities for kids!

Saturday & Sunday, June 6th & 7th, 2015 10AM - 4PM

February Meeting – Spinning Tune Up – Thanks Terri!

