



FIBER TO FINISH GUILD NEWSLETTER

May 2014



From the weaver's bench:

Recently on a trip to Las Vegas, Nevada I had an outing to "Wild and Wooly," a yarn store on my list of things to do. The night before my day out I checked the phone book. It was listed with one other yarn store in the yellow pages! On my last trip there, I'd visited six yarn stores! It was a forewarning! "Wild and Wooly," in its former location was completely empty. The owners, unable to sell the business or have someone else take it over, retired and closed the doors. I was gravely disappointed.

I fondly remembered being invited to a "WOW" at the Wild and Wooly yarn shop. The local guild called it "work on Wednesdays." It was a time when members could get together and work, visit and exchange ideas. There were 10 or 11 people spinning the day I went. One woman was working on a knitting project. It was a fun time. And now the doors are permanently closed.



Although I love a bargain as much as the next person, I can see the importance of patronizing the local yarn shops. How often have I just stopped in to find some inspiration in an already

made up project or yarn on display? And how often have my "palms been itching" for a project to knit or spin—and I've found just the thing at the local yarn store? I think it is increasingly important to support our local yarn stores and make sure they are around to offer us inspiration, advice and the gorgeous yarns and fibers.

So the next time you are tempted by some great buy on-line, check the local store first! Not only will you be supporting a local business—you will also gain instant gratification! Who doesn't like that?

Keep your hands in fiber!
Myra Chang Thompson

May 17 Guild Meeting

Belen Public Library - 10:30 am- 2:30pm

Program: Color and Design for Spinners - a DVD

featuring Deb Menz will be shown.



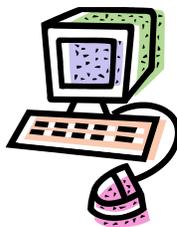
The program consists of two DVDs which will be shown. Please bring a dish to be shared for lunch instead of the usual dessert. This DVD has been previewed by several members and it is highly recommended. Even if you do not spin, the DVD will help you blend colors – using fiber, colored paper or colored pencils! It is very informative!

"Your self has so many colors....let them all out to play."
~ SARK

June 21st meeting Location to be announced!

Program: Let's card some fiber! Using hand cards and drum carders, members will create batts and rollags. Learn how to blend different fibers and colors! Even if you don't spin you can use the batts for creating felted batts.

Website news: If you haven't visited our website lately, run to your computer and look it over - go to fibertofinish.org.



Chip Kimball, our website goddess, has added many new things! There is a section on "Member Pages" where digital pictures of your work may be posted! We will work on a set of criteria for posting pictures at the next board meeting. Be sure to view the items under the "Gallery" tab as well.

There is also a "President's message" and a statement of our mission. It is a very well designed website that I hope you will all take pride in sharing with your friends and families. Thank you Chip for a job well done!

July 19 meeting at the home of Annmarie and Bill Pearson 454 Diana Drive NE Los Lunas, 12:00 **Program: Your current projects-- a sharing of projects.** We will hold our annual picnic. Bring one of your favorite dishes to share with members.



Questions?

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

2013 Executive Board

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Send all correspondence to :

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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.



Classified Advertisements:

Estate Sale items, a complete weaving studio:

40 inch, 4 shaft Schacht Mighty Wolf loom with stroller for sale. 6 treadles, bench with saddle bags, 8 and 12 dent reeds, leash sticks, stick and boat shuttles included. Package also includes cardboard packing for the warp beam, a ball winder and a bobbin winder.

Other items include: A Swedish wooden swift, Schacht hardwood horizontal warping mill, and a skein holder on legs. \$2,000 or best offer for the complete studio of equipment.

Knitting and weaving home grown and processed at the Mora Mill: Cormo, Rambouillet and Merino yarn and fiber also available.

Contact Myra Chang Thompson at mchangt@yahoo.com or 864-0876.

Upcoming events:

Pattern Weaving Class offered at **Village Wools with Myra Chang Thompson**. Using 4, 6 and 8 shaft looms, a bevy of patterns will be studied and woven to prepare you for the "ultimate project." You must be able to warp a loom and read a draft. Class is offered on Friday, June 6 for setting up, Saturday, June 7 and Sunday, June 8 from 10 a.m. To 4 p.m. The class continues the weekend of June 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. To 4 p.m. Call Village Wools at 883-2919 to register.

The Camino Real 8 art group will present "Valencia County Visions and Beyond" at the Harvey House in Belen May 15 - 30, 2014, Tues. - Sat , 12:30-3:30 p.m., Sun. 1-3 p.m. The reception will be Saturday, May 17 from 1-3. This fine art exhibit explores the scenes of Valencia County and other New Mexico environments through oils, acrylics, pastels, and watercolors. Featuring Barbara Garrett demonstrating on May 16 and 30th Admission is free.

Recent happenings:

I recently attended the first annual Spring Fiber Fiesta on Friday, May 2 in Santa Fe.



The show and sale was sponsored by the Española Valley Fiber Arts Center. There were many beautiful items that members made and were selling. Of course there was fiber and yarn for sale as well. There was a particularly beautiful display of “heritage blankets” woven by an EVAC member. Another member created wonderful rag and chenille woven wall pieces that reflected light in the most amazing manner.

Glenna Dean, an anthropologist and fiber artist, demonstrated spinning along with other Las Arañas Spinners and Weavers guild members.

A Mother's Day Tribute

My mother was a very modest woman whose youthful wish was to be surrounded by children—many children. After the birth of my oldest brother, the doctor encouraged her not to have more children. Not easily deterred, mom went on to have three more children—18 months apart! She must have been so busy in those early days. She had a number of amazing talents. She could roll a cigarette with one hand (although she rarely smoked), was a keen horsewoman and she could card wool by hand (clearly I did not inherit this talent!)

Yet, as demanding as 4 young children, a husband and home were she found time to sew for all of us and indulge in her life long passion of crochet. I don't know when she found time to work on it yet there were completed pieces that sprang up every now and then.

I think she became a quilter as a matter of practicality—home sewers had many scraps. She made multiple quilts for each child, grandchild and great grandchild. The woman was tireless.



She patiently taught me to sew at the kitchen table. Hovering over my shoulder she would have me rip out seams that were of poor quality. You'd think that her close scrutiny would have turned me off to sewing? No, instead it made me more careful, more precise and more meticulous. The patience to see a project to the end, doing the best you could do on a project and the familiar “if it's worth doing, it's worth doing well.” These have stuck with me. I had a chance to thank my mother for all of the gifts she bestowed upon me. And, of course, there were many more than just these. These are the gifts I think of as being important to me as I continue along my adventures in fiber and life.

Happy Mother's Day! With affection, Myra

Felted Pansies



Beautiful felted flowers by Vera Renski.

See <http://livingfelt.com/blog/archives/6321> for more beautifully felted creations by Vera Runova as well. They are both featured artists from the Living Felt website. Always lots of good felting ideas in their newsletter!

