



FIBER TO FINISH GUILD NEWSLETTER

June 2018



From the Weaver's Bench

Late again. In my own defense, all I can say is "I've been busy!" It is a busy time with gardens, farms and projects. Recently I decided to use up some leftover dye from another event. Who would have thought that I could dye 8 large-ish shirts and still have dye left over? Using some shibori (Japanese binding) and other resist techniques, I have created some great patterns. Can I reproduce them? Maybe. But the point is I got the mostly white t-shirts dyed and recycled the dye. The dye colors were limited to primary and secondary colors. That limitation was not necessarily a hinderance. Sometimes the colors "bleed" into each other and create a completely different color.

The most fun project was taking a long-sleeve red T-shirt and using bleach as a discharge. After sections were discharged (color removed), I went back and added fiber reactive dye. I was hoping to capture the force of a wild forest fire. You can tell me what you think when you see it on Saturday, June 16 at our meeting. So much for my play.

The T-shirts were only the first half of my extended play time. The second half of my busy time was experimenting with "Eco dyeing." This is a technique invented by a woman in Australia where plant materials are laid on a fabric, tightly bound and steamed. The color or impressions you obtain



are highly dependent on the plants you use. Carla Wackenheim, my dye partner, and I auditioned many plants. It is curious, there are many colorful plants that you would think would produce "some" color and they don't! Carla's red roses and my black

June 16, 2018 our June meeting at the Belen Harvey House Museum. If you would like to come and demonstrate, please feel free. We will have a brief business meeting to discuss the current exhibit. Meeting will begin at 1:00 with refreshments on-going. At 3:30 we will begin taking down the exhibit. Be prepared to check out and take your items home. Thanks go to all that participated and helped! We are especially thankful to many of the new members who rolled up their sleeves and made a big difference!

July 21 Meeting is our summer picnic/cook out. We have been invited to Casa Wackenheim again in Rio Rancho. It is a potluck. The guild sponsors the main course and members bring the sides and accouterments. Bring projects - completed or in progress to share and discuss. If you are interested in carpooling, let Myra or Terri know.



hollyhocks stole the show for colors! We produced some nice samples and there are more planned.

My most valuable tool these days is a timer. I set the timer to remind me that the beans are being watered, dyes are steaming, dinner is cooking and so on. Well, this week my timers let me down because I failed to set one! I turned on a steam pot to do the last 15 minutes of steaming on the last eco dye piece of silk. The silk had plants very carefully laid out and tightly bound on a piece of pvc pipe. The pipe did not fit in the canning

(continued) pressure cooker (YES, you can pressure steam set the colors!) so I steamed it separately the night before. Then I walked off and completely forgot about it. Sometime later, of course, the water evaporated and the pipe began to melt and burn.

Not only did the pipe burn and melt into the pot, the silk burned as well. I searched the house for the source of the horrible smell. Finally, I tracked it to the studio. I raced the hot pot outdoors and added water. One minute of forgetting to set a timer leaves me with a messy pot to clean up and the loss of a good sample. So, be careful. I'm going to try to remember to set the timer next time.



In the meanwhile, keep your hands safely in the fiber!

Myra

Upcoming Meetings:

August 18 meeting will be held at the Belen Harvey House. Refreshments at 12:45 and program to begin at 1:00. Program to be announced.

Upcoming Events:

The Yarn Store at Nob Hill, in association with the Tractor Bar at Nob Hill, is sponsoring two special craft meetings each month. On the second Saturday of each month, from 3-5 pm, there is a *Begin Again*: help getting back to or starting off with any hand craft. On the third Thursday of each month, from 6-8 pm, there is a *Community Craft Night*: bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, etc. and join in with others. Tractor Brewing is at 118 Tulane SE, Albuquerque, New Mexico, just up the street from The Yarn Store.

Storytelling Tapestry Workshop by Rose Vigil, July 15-21 at Ghost Ranch

There are two options to sign up: 1 - Go to <https://www.ghostranch.org/retreat/storytelling-tapestries-g180728/> and download a printable registration form and mail to: Ghost Ranch Registrar, 280 Private Drive 1780, Abiquiu, NM 87510. OR, 2 - Register by phone at (505) 685-1001 or (505) 685-1017 or toll-free at (877) 804-4678, ext. 4155 or ext. 4121. Available Mon-Sat 8-5

Sheep to Shawl - Las Arañas Spinners and Weavers Guild annual event of shearing to weaving at the Dairy Barn on the NM Expo Grounds, September 6 through 16, 2018.

Classified Advertisements:

Carla is selling an assortment of looms and wheels. Contact her for more information.

Advertise your items here. Contact Myra or Terri, and we'll place your ad in the next newsletter.

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

2018 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 are also lots of photos posted from meetings and members' work. We're also on Ravelry (www.ravelry.com), join our group "Fiber To Finish of Valencia County."

Photos from the May Meeting and a Few Left Over from April



What? Only one photo from the Artful Threads Reception and F2F meeting? Yes, and here it is, Carla's new wheel.



April Meeting - Cat Models a Shawl





More from the April Meeting