



<http://www.mesafiberartsguild.org>

January 2012

## CALENDAR

**January 4** – Guild Meeting: Wednesday, at noon, First Presbyterian Church, 3940 27 ½ Rd in Grand Junction

**Program:** Linda Brown and friends “How to knit on an antique sock knitting machine”

Refreshments for January will be supplied by: Kay Gregorich, Gladys Miller, and Sue Smith.

### **Group Meetings in January**

Weavers will meet at 9:30a on January 7 at Judy Brock’s home, 261-5702.

Knitters will meet at 9:30a on January 11 at Nancy Groenert’s home, 254-8756.

Spinners will meet at 9:30a on January 18. Michelle Potter is the hostess and the meeting will be at Main Street Bagels in their meeting room. Michelle’s number is 234-3190.

Navajo Weavers will meet January 17 (this is a change from Thursday!) at a pending location.

### **Upcoming Guild Programs**

**February** – Free for All – all the groups will bring projects they are working on and share with friends.

**March** – Judy Brock - Hooking & Punching (*No this isn't an exercise class!*)



### *Thrums from the President*

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season with family and friends! I’m looking forward to a New Year filled with fiber fun and adventures.

Some exciting Fiber Events will be coming up and we will need to discuss if and how we are going to participate in them including the Colorado Weavers Day, May 19<sup>th</sup> in Golden, CO., the Palisade Peach Festival in August, and the Salida Fiber Festival in September. Bring your ideas to the next meeting.

The Fact Finding/New Idea committee is busy putting together a questionnaire for you and Delores will give you an update at the next meeting.

The Newsletter Team had been doing a great job keeping us well-informed of the Guild business, events and workshops as well as entertaining us with their fun pictures. I hope everyone is getting into the habit of referring to the newsletter for the information they need.

I’m looking forward to January’s program with Linda Brown and friends giving us a demonstration on the sock knitting machine. Keep warm in your handcrafted woolies...

*Ellen*

**Don't forget to wear your nametag to the Guild meeting!!**

**2011/2012 Officers**

President ..... Ellen Higgins  
Vice President ..... BJ Lester  
Secretary ..... Jude Sirota  
Treasurer ..... Connie Solomon  
Newsletter Staff..... Judy Brock &  
Gail Phillips

**Guild Meeting Show 'N Tell**

**Weavers**

The Weavers met December 3rd at Ellen Miller's home. Besides Show & Tell, which is always instructive, we shared what each member who attended Bobbie Irwin's Iridescence workshop had learned in completing their samples. It's too bad the pictures for the newsletter aren't in color, as the weaving samples were so very striking! Next month weaver's will learn more about color theory and combining colors.

**Knitters**

To our meeting on Wednesday, we brought Christmas related craft items and stories to go with them. As a workshop topic for the spring, we explored the following: The nature of fibers and the making of yarn. This would be a hands-on workshop and include the handling of various fibers and learning basic spinning techniques for making fibers into yarn. Any suggestions on how to conduct this workshop are welcome.

**Spinners**

The meeting was at BJ's home and ideas for a future workshop were discussed. More details will be available in January.

**Navajo Weavers**

We are planning the Trading Post tour for April 12-14. The Natural Dye Workshop will be sometime this summer, no date yet. Anyone interested should let me know and we'll plan a date.

**Treasurer's Report**

BALANCE FORWARD 1796.25  
> INCOME 81.00  
> EXPENSES 15.08  
> DEC BALANCE 1861.17  
Current Paid Memberships - 60 members



**December 2011 Group News & Snapshots**



## **December Guild Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at noon PM. Bobbie R. standing in for President Ellen H. and VP BJ L. who were off on a holiday! No guests were present today.

Minutes: Donna H. made a motion to approve the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Carolyn M. seconded. Approved unanimously.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

We received a letter of thanks from Heifer International for our donation. The finances stand as written in the newsletter. Judy Br. made a motion to approve and Phyllis S. seconded. Approved unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Ideas Committee: Dolores S. said a member survey would be coming out early in 2012 with the ideas and options the Committee has come up with for furthering the Guild's mission.

Public Relations: Paula O. invited journalist Sharon Sullivan from the Free Press to come to today's meeting. However, later in the meeting Paula received a message from her that she wouldn't be able to make it. Hopefully she will attend next month.

Sunshine and Clouds: Nancy G. said there was only sunshine this month, no clouds. The raffle gift was a holiday pin donated by Kay G. and won by Judy Brock.

Tunisian Crochet mini-workshop: Pete R. has set the workshop to be held for an hour after our February meeting. More details will be forthcoming.

Guild Participation sign-up: The sheet will be passed around in January so keep a list of all the Guild things you have participated in lately (such as demonstrations, CEC craft sale, show and tell).

Guild Branded Items: Donna H. asked that the discussion of selecting and purchasing items with

the Guild Logo be postponed until January. There are a lot of new choices.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Salida Fiber Fair: There will be a fiber fair in Salida, CO, next September. We will have an ongoing discussion on having a Guild booth where members can sell their handmade items. The business meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM – must be a record!

### **SHOW AND TELL**

As usual lots of beautiful things were shared with the members. Don't forget to sign the participation sheet in January if you brought something to share.

### **GIFT EXCHANGE**

Everyone had fun opening and "stealing" presents from each other. Lots of incredibly beautiful gifts were taken home.

### **Member Items**

Jennifer Cirka was contacted by Evelyn Kyle who needs help with repairing a couple of sweaters. Evelyn's number is 243-8927 and she is willing to pay. Her description: One sweater is an Icelandic pullover with a snag that needs to be repaired on a sleeve. The other is a Norwegian design that has a hole in the elbow. She says this one may be a challenge.

Have you ever wanted to learn more about Aran sweaters? Ellen Higgins is conducting a class in January. Dates and times are TBD and there is a limit of 6 participants. The cost is \$45. For more information contact Ellen at 245-8386.

Tunisian Crochet mini-workshop: Pete R. has set the workshop to be held for an hour after our February meeting. More details will be forthcoming at the January Guild meeting.

Gladys Miller is organizing a Natural Dye Workshop this summer, however there is not a date yet. Anyone interested please contact Gladys.

## Upcoming events from around the region

Congratulations to Susan Wilson, a member of the San Juan Weaver's Guild, who has just published a new book on Crackle Weave: Weave Classic Crackle and More. For those of you who are interested, she will be signing and selling copies at Shuttles, Spindles, & Skeins in Boulder on January 9th from 1 to 3:30 PM.

The Larimer County 4-H program is sponsoring a Fiber Fun Fest on February 25, 2012, at the McKee 4-H and Youth Community Building at The Ranch from 9AM - 4PM. This event is open to the public. There will be demonstrations, workshops, and other activities for people of all ages. They are also looking for fiber related door prizes. If you are interested in being a vendor contact Kathy Wolfe, CSU Agent 4-H Youth Development, at 970-498-6000. The deadline is January 25, 2012.

## COLORADO *Weavers Day* 2012

Mesa Fiber Arts Guild members may want to get this event on their calendars now! The Rocky Mountain Weavers Guild is sponsoring Colorado Weavers Day on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at the American Mountaineering Center in Golden, CO. Featured speakers are: World renowned fiber artist Anita Luvera Mayer and Deborah Chandler, founder of Mayan Hands and author of "Learning to Weave."

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## Social Media and Fiber Arts

When you have some time to spare, or are interested in a particular knitting pattern, for example, scarves, why not try Social Media. This month, why not go to ravelry.com and look around. There you will find at least 2 groups representing western Colorado: Western Slope Fiber Artists (which includes members in Steamboat, Rifle, Durango, the grand valley, etc.) and Grand Valley Knitters (which primarily

includes knitters from Palisade to Loma/Mack area). I saw at least 3 or 4 MFAG members (JayBird, Frogetmeknot, and others). In a matter of moments I learned about new yarns available and found several FREE knitting patterns (booties, cowls, socks, and more). If you register, there are some personal "notebook" features such as tracking your stash, favorite patterns, even a place to list the knitting needle sizes you already have. (If you are like me, you get to the yarn store and forget whether you need size 1 or size 3 double pointed needles!) It's just another tool for fiber arts aficionados to learn more and network together with other fiber nuts!

## From the Newsletter Staff *Happy New Year!*

Thanks to all who submitted news and photos for this newsletter! The deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the 3rd Monday of the month prior. You may want to designate specific members of your group to gather reports and take photos. To get your group's latest news in the newsletter, we appreciate your e-mailing the group reports to Gail Phillips (Nativeplant2001@yahoo.com), and photos to Judy Brock (jnjingj@yahoo.com) by the monthly deadline. THANK YOU in advance for your contributions!

### ...The fine print . . .

**Newsletter:** The Mesa Fiber Arts Guild Newsletter is published monthly from September through May. Deadline to submit material is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. Publication of articles and advertisements does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Guild. Please send information to Judy Brock care of [mesafiberarts@yahoo.com](mailto:mesafiberarts@yahoo.com)

**Business ads:** must be computer ready. Monthly rates are \$5 for up to 5 lines; \$10 for 6 lines up to 1/4 page; \$10 for 1/2 page; and \$25 for a full page. Payment must be received before ad will be printed. Send payment to Treasurer: PO Box 3585, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502. Please indicate that the payment is for a business ad.

**Personal ads:** are free to members. Cost to non-members for non-business ads is \$5/month.

**Membership Dues:** Payable in September -\$20 for individuals, \$30 per household. Send dues to Treasurer: PO Box 3585, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502