



# Telaraña Tidings

Newsletter of the Telaraña Weavers and Spinners Guild

FEBRUARY 2013

February Guild Meeting

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

**Outreach Center of the First United Methodist Church** First Avenue and Center St. Mesa. It is the free-standing building in the Southeastern corner of the parking lot. There are entrances to the lot from north & south: First Avenue and Second Avenue. The room will be open by 6:00 pm for set-up.

**Hospitality:** Thank you to Diane Moody for volunteering for snacks for the February meeting. If any other members want to bring some food, it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks for all who volunteer. I couldn't do this without lots of help.

**February Raffle:** We have raffle baskets for both weaving and knitting. Bring your lucky rabbit's foot and your \$! The tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

## President's Message

Dear Telarañians,

Many of you know that I trained teachers how to teach mathematics for 17 years. Most people see mathematics as a cold and static entity, but mathematics is so much more than that. It can be stunning, surprising, and deeply connected to things you would never imagine.

I often use the Fibonacci series in my weaving. It was developed by Leonardo Fibonacci of Pisa in 1202 when he published a hypothetical math problem about multiplying rabbits. The gist of the sequence is that, starting with zero, each number of the sequence is the sum of the two numbers that went before.

$0 + 1 = 1$     $1 + 1 = 2$     $1 + 2 = 3$     $2 + 3 = 5$     $3 + 5 = 8$     $5 + 8 = 13$

It gives a quick and easy formula for stripes, rows, or the placement of a repeating motif. It can be applied to width, frequency, changes in color or texture, whatever. Pull a set of numbers out of the sequence and repeat them; reverse the numbers, mix them up and the result is visually pleasing.

The golden ratio is related to the Fibonacci series because the ratio between any two consecutive numbers in that series approximates the golden ratio of 1.66. For example, the ratio of 5 to 3 is 1.66. Sharie Monsam, often incorporates the golden ratio into her Navajo rug projects by having the ratio of the sides of rugs be 3 to 5. She said she does this because the golden ratio is so pleasing to the human eye. Basket makers also incorporate the golden ratio, as shown by the ratios between height and width of the baskets or spacing between patterns on the baskets.



A fractal is a shape created using a mathematical formula. The curious thing about a fractal is that if you look at any small part of it, it looks quite similar to the overall shape of the fractal. Fractals are often used in fiber arts. Cynthia Broughton used it in the towels she made for the Weaving Study Group towel exchange.



Ruth Teller and her helpers used the mathematics of hyperbolic planes when they created the magnificent center pieces for Fibers Through Time 2010.

Next time you are designing or looking at a fiber arts project, I challenge you to think about the mathematics that is used.

All of these mathematical ideas can also be seen in nature. Hilja Martinez and the Exhibitions and Show Committee have discussed the possibility of a co-exhibit/show with CACS, Central AZ Cactus Society. It would be a presentation of cactus and fiber arts with a focus on mathematics. Guild members would be able to sell their art at the exhibit/show. More details will be provided as they develop.

Betz Frederick, President

### **Minutes of Board Meeting January 30, 2013**

The Board met at the Mesa 1<sup>st</sup> Street fire station from 7 to 9 p.m. Betz Frederick chaired the meeting. In attendance: Betz Frederick, Paul McLemore, Debi Deadmond, Nancy Wanek, Christine Hunt, Sharie Monsam, Mary Snyder, Phil Leonard, Karen Stromberg, Elly Weinel, Hilja Martinez, Amanda Neal, Wendy Beaver and Linda Wade. Discussions and action items were as follows:

**Betz** announced the Nominating Committee: Nancy Wanek (chair), Linda Wade, Maureen McCarthy, Terry Neal, Nancy Pimentel. They will nominate people for the 4 elected offices and make suggestions for chairpersons insofar as possible.

A discussion of acquiring a projector for presentations led to the appointment of an *ad hoc* committee (Debi, Linda, Betz) to investigate the question and report this spring. Recommendations include looking at new units priced between \$400 and \$700, and proposing the purchase as a budget item for the next fiscal year.

**Paul** gave a Treasurer's Report, indicating that we have \$441.30 unexpended in the current budget, and a bank balance of \$5,177.73 as of the meeting date.

**Nancy** reported membership at 94, with one additional expected. She will prepare an updated roster. She is also working on updating "standing rules and policies" of the guild. A new library borrowing period policy will be discussed at a future meeting.

There was discussion about nonmember fees for workshops, with the outcome that we should think about this issue and formulate policy next time.

Nancy concluded by discussing the coming March 9 Ancient Technology Days at Pueblo Grande, and the March 2 Fashion Show in Tucson.

**Christine** went over plans for the February meeting, with early setup needed for the spinning and carding activities. Hilja mentioned that an editor from Arizona Country Register magazine, whose interest is in quilting, plans to be with us and offered to bring cookies. The magazine will be publishing an article featuring our Guild.

**Sharie** led discussion of the Challenge charity auction for the March meeting. Susan Clark will be auctioneer, and will set reserves for individual items. Plans for publicity, and for refreshments, were discussed. It was agreed that representatives from the two charities (Lodestar and Seeds for Autism) be invited, as well as Ann Morton and Maggie Leininger of ASU. Amanda and Christine volunteered to help on auction night.

Sharie also discussed the Boyce Thompson event, *African Days*, February 23, where members will have the chance to sell our items. Sharie has already reserved a table and Elly will bring an additional table. See details in the newsletter.

**Library:** A motion was made by Mary Snyder that we acquire 2 sample books by Laura Fry, A Good Yarn: Cotton and A Good Yarn: Rayon at a cost of \$115 CDN. Motion was voted on and adopted.

Paul requested the Guild library purchase a book, Labors of Love: America's Textile & Needlework 1650-1930, for \$5. Before discussion, Mary paid the \$5 and donated it to the Library, then checked it out.

**Linda** gave a calendar update indicating a net 2012/2013 profit of \$248.46, with only \$10 still due. Out of seventy-five calendars ordered, seventy-three were sold. Two calendars were retained for Guild records. One will stay with the Library; the other will be held by the Historian.

**Mary** reported that the coming felting workshop has 12 people signed up. The board approved an expenditure of up to \$20 for water and snacks during the workshop. She also proposed a future workshop for making a "cone stand" using an old pirn, and had a sample to show. The workshop will probably be next year.

Mention was made that the mini-workshops we've held prior to the general meetings this year have not afforded enough time for the skill. It was suggested that in planning the programs for next year, we revisit some of these workshops, perhaps have a meeting where the program consists of one or more mini-workshops. Sharie noted that Bill Oliphant sold some of his carved wooden needles at his Nalbinding workshop, and then donated the proceeds to Ways and Means.

**Karen** gave an update about MN-based **Artspace** and its exploration of building near the Mesa Arts Center in the future.

**Elly** said she needs people to report their hours spent helping with demonstrations. This is important for our non-profit status.

**Amanda** spoke about hospitality issues for the March meeting. We are expecting extra guests for the Challenge auction and she may need more help.

We adjourned after setting our next meeting for February 27<sup>th</sup> at Mesa Fire Station #201 Community Room.

Submitted by Phil Leonard, Secretary

2012 - 2013 Executive Board			
<b>Executive Officers</b>			
President	Betz Frederick	Secretary	Phil Leonard
Vice-President	Debi Deadmond	Treasurer	Paul McLemore
<b>Committee Chairs</b>			
Demonstrations	Elly Weinel	Membership	Nancy Wanek
Federation	Gloria Traicoff	Newsletter	Linda Wade
Historian	Wendy Beaver/ Debby Taylor	Programs	Christine Hunt
Exhibits & Shows	Karen Stromberg	Publicity	Hilja Martinez
Hospitality	Amanda Neal	Ways and Means	Sharie Monsam
Library	Ginny Davis	Workshops	Mary Snyder
		Website	Cindy Reynolds

## February Program

**Judging Fiber with Ruth Greenspan.** Ruth will discuss skein judging using a rubric developed by the Northwest Regional Spinner's Association that evaluates handspun skeins on their own merit. Bring in your handspun for one-on-one judging with Ruth after the program. See attached form for necessary information, or fill one out at the meeting. <http://telarana.org/images/judgingscorecard.pdf>  
Don't be shy! Bring in your skeins!

Mini Workshop - 6:30 Spinning wheels, drop and supported spindles stations, carding station. Spinning problems? Questions? Curious? Bring your wheel or spindle, help is available.

## Upcoming Programs

**MARCH:** Challenge Donation Auction

**APRIL:** Cindy Shanks, Arizona Sheep Trail. Cindy will present a new, more detailed program about the trail, with many previously unshared photos and stories.

**MAY:** Annual Stash Reduction Sale and Summer Send-Off Pot Luck.

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## Upcoming Workshops

**Arizona Desert Weavers & Spinners Guild** will present a workshop with **Marg Coe**, "Laptops & Looms". **Date:** Feb 22-24 **Location:** Northtown Community Center

Instruction will be paced to meet class needs. We will cover level 1 and as much of level 2 as we can depending on student progress. Loom not required. Laptop and Photoshop (Photoshop Elements is sufficient) Weaving design programs will be used – demo copies can be downloaded for the class.

**Level 1:** requires participants to have only rudimentary skills in both weaving and computers! Most of the workshop is spent exploring structures using contemporary weave design programs. Would be of interest to weavers with looms of 4 or more shafts.

**Level 2:** Introduces such design topics as interleaving, parallel and network threadings, double weaves, thick 'n thin, lace, and tied threadings. Of interest to weavers with looms of 8 or more shafts.

**Cost:** \$50 deposit required; final cost estimated to be \$95-\$195. Mail to Virginia Glenn at 15819 W. Avalon Dr. Goodyear, AZ 85395.

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**Tucson Handweavers & Spinners Guild** will host a workshop, "Modern Overshot", by **Tom Knisely** of The Mannings. Tom was voted Handwoven's 2011 Teacher of the Year.

**Date:** Thursday, March 21 and Friday, March 22 **Time:** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM both days

**Location:** Tucson Museum of Miniature/The Mini Time Machine; 445 E. Camp Lowell Drive, Tucson

**Cost:** Member: \$120\* workshop **Non-members:** \$185 workshop

**Level:** Intermediate weaver, must be able to read a draft and warp their own loom before the workshop

**Workshop size:** Max. 12; Min. 11 **Materials Fee:** TBA

Registration opens to THSG members at the January 23 Guild Meeting

**Registration opens to non-members: February 12** Registration deadline: February 28

Act quickly! There are only a few spaces left. For more information and to download a registration form, go to: [www.thsg.org/archives/6583](http://www.thsg.org/archives/6583)

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**Arizona Desert Weavers & Spinners Guild** will host a workshop with **Jannie Taylor** on Shadow Weave, March 21-23. \$50 deposit holds your place. Send to Virginia Glenn, 15819 W. Avalon Dr. Goodyear 85395.

Workshop will be held at the Guild's regular meeting place: Northtown Community Center  
2202 E. Waltann Lane. Phoenix, AZ 85022

Final cost estimated between \$120-200

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## Demonstrations/Outreach:

### **Saturday, March 9, 10am – 3pm Ancient Technology Day Pueblo Grande Museum, 4619 E. Washington Street, Phoenix AZ**

This is always a fun day at the Museum which highlights many ancient crafts, has activities for children (and adults), and foods - even an agave heart roasted in an underground oven (horno). Our booth has two aspects: one is a demo and display table of the ancient and highly skilled textile arts of the Hohokam culture, and the other is a hands-on activity in which we teach children how to make their own weaving. Sharie Monsam developed a quick method of making a portable handloom from a cardboard box - and we get the children weaving within a few minutes. This year we also want to have some spinning wheels and looms, too. Contact Nancy Wanek at [webmaster@telarana.org](mailto:webmaster@telarana.org) or Elly Weinel [demonstrations@telarana.org](mailto:demonstrations@telarana.org) to join in the fun.

### **Boyce Thompson Arboretum Demonstration and Sale:**

We have been invited to the *African Days* at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum near Superior, **Saturday, February 23 from 10am-3pm.** Weaving, spinning and basketry are still important trades in the African countries, so we will fit in nicely! We will have a table where we **CAN** sell item. (10% of sales are to be donated to the Arboretum). We do not have to pay for the table. Contact Elly if you can go. The weather should be wonderful. Bring the family and explore the Arboretum.

<http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu/index.html>

If you have some items you'd like to offer for sale at the event, but are unsure how to price them, bring to the February general meeting. Member Shirley Murphy will be on hand to help you establish appropriate prices.

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**TELARAÑA DONATION AUCTION:** March 13<sup>th</sup> during the general meeting. We are hoping for a minimum of 35 items to auction. The purchased price will be divided between the non-profits: **Seeds of Autism** (where Hilja volunteers) and **Lodestar** (where Ann Morton volunteers). Do you have something you have created that can be donation to be auctioned? Susan Clark, of the Fiber Factory, will be the auctioneer.

If the item does not sell, it will be returned to you. Be sure and bring your checkbook and go home with something wonderful! This will be fun. Bring your friends and family too!

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**Tapestry/Navajo Study Group** meets on the first Saturday of the month, at MCC Red Mountain campus, 9am-12:30. It will be in room 114 of the Palo Verde building. Directions: From the intersection of Power and McKellips, go EAST to the first light and turn LEFT into the Campus. Go to the Stop sign and turn Left. Wind around the campus to the Palo Verde Building. You may park in the Employees' parking lot. We meet in the first classroom on the right, #114. Everyone is welcome!

**Weavers Study Group:** Our meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, 7pm. All levels of weavers are welcome. For more information, contact Linda W., [webmaster@telarana.org](mailto:webmaster@telarana.org)

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**Newsletter:** Members are encouraged to submit articles of interest for our newsletter. Cut-off date for submission of articles is the Friday following each board meeting. Board meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month. Newsletters will be mailed by the first Wednesday of the month (except June, July, and August). Please email submissions to [webmaster@telarana.org](mailto:webmaster@telarana.org)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Our current membership, including all family members is 95. We welcome four new members to Telaraña:

#### **Shannon Arns**

Knitting, Rigid Heddle, 4-Harness weaving

#### **Diane Moody**

Dyeing, Spinning, Felting, Knitting

#### **Ruth Picotte**

Rigid Heddle and 4H Weaving

#### **Karen Zorn**

Dyeing, Spinning, Felting, Knitting, Multiharness weaving

## IN AND AROUND TOWN (and elsewhere)

**Don't throw your old calendars away!** Sharie is still collecting old calendars for an artist that uses them to make recycled art. They CAN have writing on them. She turns them into beautiful butterflies! Bring them to Sharie at the February meeting.

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**Arizona Renaissance Festival & Artisan Marketplace:** Feb.9-March 31 You will see weaving and basket making there and lots more! 12601 East Highway 60, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118

The Arizona Renaissance Festival is one of the largest of the Renaissance events in the nation because it is really five Festivals all rolled into a giant, costumed fantasy village. [www.royalfaires.com/arizona/](http://www.royalfaires.com/arizona/)

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**Sunday A'Fair:** Scottsdale Civic Center Mall, Scottsdale Feb10 and 24. Arts and crafts, outdoor concerts. Free. [http://www.scottsdaleperformingarts.org/special\\_events\\_sunday\\_afair.php](http://www.scottsdaleperformingarts.org/special_events_sunday_afair.php)

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The City of Chandler and **48 West** bring an exciting event to the regularly scheduled **Downtown Chandler Art Walk** on Feb. 15th, 6-10pm -- "*A Night of Art & Science*". Technology meets the arts as Downtown Chandler transforms its monthly Third Friday Art Walk into a creative look at the science behind the food and drink, beauty, art and invention around us. Participate in discussions, exhibits, hands-on activities, shows and tours of the science behind glass blowing, oil painting, wood burning, clay molding, tea, beer, wine and pottery making, soap, kids' crafts, and more.

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**Fountain Hills Great Fair:** Feb. 22-24 on Avenue of the Fountains. This juried art fair with 480 artists and artisans, including weaving and basketry booths. Free parking and admission. <http://www.fountainhillschamber.com/ArtFairsEvents/GreatFairFeb/tabid/690/Default.aspx>

**YARN BOMBING:** The Mesa Art Center is going to cover their trees around the center for the Festival of Creativity, March 13-17. They would like stripes only of these dimensions:

Shadow Walk trees: 4 feet long by 15", 20" OR 30" long

Giant Palm Trees: 6-8 feet long by 40 ", 50" or 60" long

These are due by **March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013** Take to the Box Office at the MAC. Contact Billy Jones at 480-644-6541 for questions.

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**Magic of Tucson Fashion Show, Luncheon & Boutique. Tucson Handweavers & Spinners Guild**  
**Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** at the Doubletree Hotel Reid Park, 445 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson.

This event will treat you to an enticing array of one-of-a kind clothing and other art items. All will be available in the boutique from 10 a.m. until noon and after the fashion show. In addition, educational exhibits and demonstrations will begin at 10 a.m. Raffle baskets filled with exciting hand-crafted items, gift certificates, and donations by local merchants will be yours for a ticket and a lucky draw. Winners will be announced during the fashion show, but you need not be present to win. The boutique and exhibits are open to the public and free of charge.

**Lunch begins at noon**, with the fashion show to follow. There are three **luncheon choices: salmon, vegetarian strudel, or beef stroganoff. All three choices include house salad, vegetable, starch, rolls & butter, dessert, coffee and iced tea service.** The reservation deadline for the luncheon is February 23, and the luncheon and fashion show cost is **\$40 per person**. Remember that this is an all-day event, starting with the boutique, education & demonstration displays, raffle baskets, the luncheon and fashion show.

**Sign Up for a Telaraña Table: Please give Nancy your \$\$ for your ticket before February 18<sup>th</sup>.** Let me know your luncheon choice and if you want to car pool. I will send in one ticket form listing all of us and request that we be seated together. Contact Nancy, [webmaster@telarana.org](mailto:webmaster@telarana.org) **Make checks payable to THSG.** For more info: [www.thsg.org](http://www.thsg.org)

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**MESA ART CENTER**, 1 E. Main, Mesa 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Contemporary Crafts, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>-March 31<sup>st</sup>. Sharie Monsam has another basket juried into this show.

**DENVER ART MUSEUM:** "Texture and Tradition: Japanese Woven Bamboo" through July 28<sup>th</sup>

**GALLERY WEST:** 6420 n. Campbell Ave., Tucson "Ethnographic Materials of the Apaches" showing clothing, baskets and bags from the 19th century, through March 2

**Taos Fiber Marketplace** We would like to invite you to join us for our second annual fiber festival in Taos, NM! Over the weekend of April 19-21, 2013, The Taos Convention Center will be transformed into a fiber filled wonderland with a great variety of vendors, including Buffalo Gold, Weaving Southwest and Hocket's Woodworks (visit our Facebook and website for a full list and updates). Scattered throughout the festival will be artists demonstrating the techniques they use to create their beautiful finished products, in addition to all the fiber supplies needed to create them! While at the festival you will be able to lay your eyes (and hands) on the finest wool yarns and silks, beautiful local fleeces, handwoven rugs, handcrafted apparel and much, much more! During your stay in Taos you can also visit many of the local attractions, Taos Pueblo, Taos Ski Valley and the Rio Grande River, to name a few. Come experience New Mexico and participate in a new fiber experience with a southwestern flair.

[www.taosfibermarketplace.com](http://www.taosfibermarketplace.com)

Telaraña Tidings  
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