

# The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hill Country Yarn Crawl The Best Little Yarn Crawl in Texas happens Oct. 11 - 20



Getting ready for the 7th Annual Hill Country Yarn Crawl at The Tinsmith's Wife in Comfort.

By Wendy Solberg

The first question you may ask is what exactly is a "yarn crawl". This is an organized event by eleven yarn shops across south Texas – as east as Paige, around Austin, up to Georgetown, around to Horseshoe Bay, through Comfort and down to San Antonio – to celebrate fiber enthusiasts and the craft of knitting, weaving, crocheting, and spinning. At each stop a "crawler" can capture great patterns designed for the event, special deals on fiber, as well as opportunities to win great prizes.

For the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hill Country Yarn Crawl, The Tinsmith's Wife in Comfort received more than 600 visitors over the course of four days. The Local Yarn Shop Alliance of Texas, the non-profit entity coordinating the event, listened to their customers regarding the speed of the crawl and the challenge to get to all shops in four days. As a result, this year the crawl has expanded to nine days, and we are hoping to further capture visitors to come and spend more

time in the towns surrounding the yarn shops.

If you are or someone you know is interested, you can purchase a yarn crawl "passport" on line or at any of the participating yarn shops. The cost is \$10 and includes a passport and a bag to collect patterns at each store you visit. You will also be registered for prizes at each shop along with the grand prize drawing if you visit all 11 stores.

If you haven't yet been bitten by the bug of fiber crafts this is the time to jump in and see what each shop can offer you to teach, encourage, and generally enable you to explore and fall in love with fiber arts.

Either way, you will see "a few" fiber enthusiasts in Comfort during those nine days. A great ice-breaker for any fiber enthusiast is always to ask what they are making, and you will see the shine in their eyes as they pull the project out of their bag still attached to needles or a hook! Happy Yarn Crawl!

For more information, please visit [www.hillcountryyarncrawl.org](http://www.hillcountryyarncrawl.org), visit The Tinsmith's Wife at 405 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Comfort, Texas, or call us at (830)995-5539.

# Sept. 21 annual BBQ keeps tradition of "Chicken Eating Methodists" alive

By David Guthrie

In the nineteenth century one of the fastest growing Christian denominations in the rural South and Mid West was the Methodist Church. The rapid growth of Methodism was due largely to the contributions of the Methodist Circuit Riders.

The Circuit Riders were a hardy group of lay and ordained preachers who traveled on horseback from settlement to settlement preaching the Gospel. The Circuit Riders carried only a Bible, a blanket and in most cases a rifle for protection and food. When a Circuit Rider arrived in a settlement or frontier home, he depended upon a host family who would invite him to stay with them for the weekend. After services on Sunday, the Circuit Rider would enjoy supper with the family. As

was the case, most of the settlers raised chickens and the common fare for Sunday night supper was, what else, but fried chicken.

The propensity of the Circuit Riders for downing chicken coined a phrase, "Chicken Eating Methodists." Of course the dominance of fried chicken, especially in the South, at Methodist pot luck suppers may have also contributed to the nickname. Regardless of how Methodists became fondly referred to as chicken eaters, Gaddis UMC still shares with Comfort the Methodist love of chicken with its Annual Chicken BBQ.

Since 1987, Gaddis UMC has held its chicken BBQ and through the years it has evolved into a Gaddis UMC labor of love for the community of Comfort. The BBQ starts at 4 a.m. when the huge

stack of wood for the fire pits is lit and allowed to burn down to hot coals which is usually about three hours later. Then the hot coals are placed in the Park BBQ pits by a team of up to five men wearing heat resistant gloves and using long handled shovels. About 8 a.m. the cooking begins and continues all day.

The Annual Gaddis UMC Chicken BBQ will be held Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Comfort Park. Lunch plates are served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and supper plates are served from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The cost is a free-will donation. All proceeds from the BBQ will benefit Gaddis mission work and community outreach.

Plan to join us for a wonderful day in the Park and delicious food. After all Methodists have a long tradition of loving chicken and we know our chicken.



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