Alamo InventorsSM



Wounded Warrior Clothing Inspires Adaptive Women's Designs Kay Simpson

Kay Simpson started designing her Fashion-ABILITY[™] clothing line in April 2012. To see a video demonstrating her innovative Sit 'n' Zip Skirt, go to <u>https://youtu.be/D784K8aJZw4</u>.

Simpson began creating clothes for her dolls at age 6, and was sewing on a treadle machine by age 10. Soon, she was making most of her clothes on her own Singer sewing machine. Through high school, she sewed clothes for herself, her mother and friends, entered style shows and design contests, and later completed a fashion design and pattern-making course.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, she designed for several local clothing manufacturers, including Santone, Lasso, H.P. McGrath and Carr Coats. Those companies later went out of business, when it became difficult for San Antonio manufacturers to obtain wholesale fabrics. Her later work in communications, marketing and nonprofit development, and the MBA which she earned at age 50, gave her the skills and the opportunity to demonstrate qualities of persistence and determination that are helping her as a small business owner.

For years, Simpson volunteered for a nonprofit organization which provides free adaptive clothing for wounded warriors. They needed basic, comfortable pants with elastic waistbands and legs that opened down the side with Velcro© strips. This gave her an understanding of how the soldiers just wanted basic clothing so they could "look like everyone else". As she sewed pants, she began dreaming of adaptive clothing for women that would be both stylish and practical.

At age 70, she is not the typical entrepreneur, as she has the empathy to create flattering clothing for women of all ages who have difficulty dressing – something no one else is doing.

In January 2015, Simpson registered her EIN, created her logo, labels and hangtags for obtaining her trademark. She has narrowed down her clothing line to a mini-collection, which she is manufacturing in small quantities. Visit her website at <u>www.fashionability.org</u>.

Also, please take this opportunity to pay your annual dues (\$25/\$95 Corporate), thanks!



5:30-6:30 Networking 6:30-8:00 PM - Presentation San Antonio Technology Center 3463 Magic Drive (North of I-410 Between Callaghan and Fredericksburg Roads) Public Invited

Alamo Inventors, a Special Interest Group (SIG) of Technology Connexus Association, is a non-profit organization made up of local area engineers, business people, professionals, students, faculty and people from all walks of life. Anyone interested in inventing and/or business and product development is welcome to attend and become a member. For more information visit:

Ź

www.alamoinventors.org