



THE

MOTHER OF ALL

Newsletter of the Arizona Desert Weavers & Spinners Guild, Inc.

MARCH 2025

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From the President Desk **Merlyn Heck**

adwsg.president@gmail.com

Hail and well met, fellow fiber artists!

It is officially my favorite time of year here in the valley: Renaissance Festival season! (I'm sure this comes as a surprise to no one, with my fondness for dragons and general whimsy.) Ren Faires have always been a creative inspiration for me: I learned how to sew in high school so I could make costumes, outfitted myself and all my siblings in fantastical garb, and convinced our parents to set us loose at our local faire at least once per season. Between all the artisan vendors, the crafting demonstrations, and the talented costumers walking around, it's a hub for creativity and inspiration! A special treat this year has been taking a close look at all the woven garments and tapestries, now that I've begun to learn how to use my loom. I've come away with far more ideas than I can ever implement, and a great many that are well beyond my current skill level, but I'm excited for the process of learning and making and seeing what happens when I try something new. Where do you draw inspiration for your arts? Is there a particular place or time, maybe a person or story that inspires you to create? Whatever it may be, I hope your craft continues to bring you joy and fulfillment, in this season and year-round.

See you at the meeting!

Merlyn

Merlyn, *President*



NOMINATING AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

Slate of nominees for 2025-2026 election

President: Merlyn Heck

VP of Workshops: Roberta Perpich

VP of Programs: Carolyn Stang

Secretary: Velvet Dishon

Treasurer: Sue Cernel

This announcement is the 30-day notification to the Guild prior to the election. Anyone else wishing to run may be nominated by the day of the election.

The election for Board officers for the 2025-26 Guild year will be held electronically, using ElectionBuddy, which is the same platform as we used last year. Prior to the election you will get an email with details about how to vote and a link for casting your vote.

Presentation

Our March meeting

Scholarship Presentation - Collyer Ekholm

Rug Hooking-My Covid Hobby

Collyer has been a member of our guild for a number of years and has a special interest in rug-hooking. Come hear about her last year of exploring her craft as our 2024 Scholarship Recipient.

A teaser for April and May

April Program: The AZ Federation of Weavers and Spinners Traveling Instructor, Amanda Robinette will present our April Program, Western Sakiori.

May Program: The last meeting of the year will feature the works of the three Special Interest Groups from the past year, as well as the pieces woven during Amanda Robinette's workshop the end of March.

MEMBERSHIP

Trish Boone

adwsg.membership@gmail.com

Welcome new members! We are continuing to grow each month and we are up to 106 members. New members this past month are Susan Cole, Sarah Cole, Lisa Wayman, Nicole Hunt and Carla Firetto. Stop by the Membership table at the next meeting and introduce yourself and pick up your Guild name tag.

HOSPITALITY

Julie Cattaneo

adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com

Please make sure to add a notecard to your food contribution listing the major ingredients for our members that have food allergies. Also consider a beverage contribution is welcome as well.

WORKSHOPS

Roberta Perpich

adwsg.workshops@gmail.com

The Western Sakiori Scarf workshop is full! We are so thrilled to have Amanda Robinette come to Arizona and teach this workshop. Participants are busy gathering fabrics, mostly silk, for this rag style weaving workshop. I am sure they will be willing to share their completed projects at an upcoming meeting. I want to thank those who have been instrumental in helping put this workshop together. Ruth Greenspan for coaching me through the entire process, Virginia Glenn for agreeing to house Amanda which saves the Guild the cost of providing a hotel thus keeping the cost of the workshop very affordable. Our amazing treasurer, Sue Carneal, for keeping track of the deposits and all the money things for us. It really does take a team to make any workshop or event successful and we have a great Guild with members who support each other and work together.

I want to thank all who responded to the recent call out the board members conducted, it provides us with valuable information on about your learning needs and desires. As well as ways in which as a Guild we can support all our members.

FEDERATION

Helene Hall

adwsg.federation@gmail.com

Federation grants available

Individual Grant applications for 2026 grants are due September 1, 2025.

ARIZONA FEDERATION OF WEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILDS, INC.

Individual Education Grant Guidelines and Application

<https://azfed.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/AZFedIndividualgrantGuidelinesApplication122923.pdf>

AZ FIBERFEST Planning

The Arizona Federation of Weavers and Spinners is organizing the committee for the Second Arizona Fiber Festival to to be held in Camp Verde on April 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2026 and we need your help.

2024 Chairs who have agreed to serve for 2026 are:

Website - Diane Braun

The website committee coordinates the online registration including payment for workshops.

Vendors - Nancy Wilson

The Vendor committee solicits, vets and contracts with vendors, assigns vendor booths and coordinates a floor plan for the vendor hall

Marketing and Publicity - Kris Nelson (needs committee members especially to help with distribution)

Creates and prints rack cards, bookmarks, flyers, banners and signage. Submits articles for publicity

Event Information - Paula Rudnick

Gathers information regarding Food, Lodging and sight seeing in and around Camp Verde. Prepares an insert regarding this information for the Goodie Bag and Website.

Event Survey - Paula Rudnick

Prepares and tabulates an event survey.

Volunteers - Lexi Leopold

Recruits and assigns event volunteers

AZ FIBERFEST Planning

Facility - Colleen Murphy

Oversees set up, maintenance and clean up of site. Coordinate with Camp Verde staff to ensure smooth operations

Raffle Baskets - Ruth Demar (needs committee members)

Solicits raffle baskets from Guilds, Vendors, Suppliers, etc. Oversees the Raffle during the event.

Chairs and Committees needed -

Steering Committee Chair/Cochair - Chairs event meetings, coordinates committees and assists committees as needed, prepares agendas and notes

Workshop Coordinator - Solicits, vets and contracts with instructors. Selects and schedules workshops classrooms.

Guild Booths - Each member Guild of the Federation is offered a booth in the vendor hall. Communicates with Guilds to secure booths.

Demonstrations - Solicits Guilds, Instructors, Vendors to present short demonstrations throughout the Festival and schedules demonstrations.

Goodie Bags - Selects and obtains bags and contents, prepares the bags and oversees distribution to workshop attends, instructors and committee members.

Registration -Coordinates with Website and Workshop chairs to oversee the process for class numbers, creates nametags for workshop attendees, instructors and committee chairs. Works with volunteers at the registration desk.

Sponsors -Identify sponsors and collect funds, ensure that sponsors are publicized according to level of sponsorship.

Please refer all questions and volunteers to fill these positions to Carol Byrne, President AZFed.

carolbyrneaz@netscape.net or 602-531-9107

SPINNING/FIBER ZOOM

Paula Rudnick

adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com

If someone who is interested, didn't get the email link they must email me at adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com so I can add their name to the list.

Demonstrations

Jody Dozer

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

We are looking for demonstrators for two different events.

Glendale Folk Festival at Sahuaro Ranch Park. March 2nd, Sunday, from 10 am to 5 pm. This is an outdoor event. Very casual bring your own chair and fiber equipment to sit in the park under a shade tree.

Maricopa County Fair. April 4th, Friday, from 11am to 4 pm. Also April 12th, Saturday, from 11 am to 4 pm. This will be in the Home Arts area, inside and chairs and table will be provided.

If interested in demonstrating, please let me know.

Thank you

Jody

ps: it's time to be thinking about your fair entries.



LIBRARY

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

A new weaving magazine will debut in April. It is called Weft Magazine and is brought to us by the publishers of Ply Magazine, which is for spinners. Your Guild library has subscribed to Ply for several years, and I have just subscribed to Weft. As with Ply Magazine, Weft will focus on a single topic in each issue, taking a deep dive into the what, why, how, and history, plus it will include projects to reinforce the information in the articles. Weft Magazine is for the intermediate and beyond multi-shaft weaver. It should be a nice complement to Handwoven Magazine.

Our current magazine subscriptions include Shuttle, Spindle & Dyepot, Handwoven, and Ply, and now Weft. We also have years of issues of out of print magazines such as Weavers, Weaver's Journal, Spin-off, Interweave and Prairie Wool Companion. I would love to have some of the magazines checked out. Just ask and I will point you to the stacks.

Intermountain Weavers Conference

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

Registration is open for Intermountain Weavers Conference to be held:

June 17 to 21 in Albuquerque. There are 3-day (WThF), 1-day Sat, and 1/2 day (Sat AM and Sat PM) classes offered. <https://www.intermountainweavers.org/> Sign up is first come first served.

I have registered for a 3 day and a Sat morning class and will be looking for someone to carpool with. I plan to drive as I will be taking a Baby Wolf loom. I MIGHT have room for another small loom or spinning wheel.



CRAFTING A CREATIVE MEMOIR

Anna Akridge

adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

There are just two months left in our "Crafting a Creative Memoir" adventure! The last prompts will be going out after the March and April meetings, but past entries will remain available online for revisiting at <https://adwsgcreativememoir.substack.com/>

Thank you to everyone who has followed along this year. I hope you found something that interested you, sparked some new thoughts, and helped you think about your craft in a new way. If anyone would be interested in sharing their writing at the end-of-year May meeting, contact Anna at adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com and we'll coordinate.

OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

President	Merlyn Heck	adwsg.president@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	Sue Garber	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
Vice President Workshops	Roberta Perpich	adwsg.workshops@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sue Carneal	adwsg.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	Velvet Dishon	adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2024-2025

Demonstrations/Publicity	Jody Dozer	adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com
Federation Representative	Helene Hall	adwsg.federation@gmail.com
Historian	Vacant	adwsg.historian@gmail.com
Hospitality	Julie Cattaneo	adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com
Interest Groups		
Spinning/Fiber Group	Paula Rudnick	adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com
Wonderful Weavers	Ann Ormiston	adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com
In Person Spinning Group	Sue Garber	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
Librarian	Beki Welsch	adwsg.librarian@gmail.com
Membership	Trish Boone	adwsg.membership@gmail.com
Membership Assistant	Elaine Rowles	
Newsletter Editor	Ann Ormiston	adwsg.editor@gmail.com
75 TH Anniversary	Sue Carneal	adwsg.anniversary@gmail.com
Ways & Means	Lauren Goldfish	adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com
Web Site	Anna Akridge	adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

MARCH 1ST will be in person and on Zoom

At

Northtown Community Center

Meeting starts at 10 am

MOA Submission

Deadline

**The 15th of each month
September through May**

adwsg.editor@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUPS

SPINNING/FIBER GROUP ZOOM MEETINGS

Meets the third Wednesday of the month (all year long). FOR THE PRESENT TIME WE ARE MEETING ON ZOOM-(please be sure you are on the group email list so you get the email invite) We love to chat, learn what events are happening online, see what everyone is working on, and exchange ideas and get help with questions or problems we might be having with our projects. Our Zoom starts at 9:30---so join us and start chatting. We love to talk and work while we are still at home so join us for the talk and fun. We also try to have field trips a few times a year.

The group chair is **Paula Rudnick** - adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com

WONDERFUL WEAVERS STUDY GROUP

Currently Meeting as a ZOOM Group - Meets the Third Sunday of each month, all year long. Currently we are meeting from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm as a Zoom Group. We discuss Hand Weaving structures, ideas, problems, and solutions and enjoy our show and tell. Come and join our group. The group chair is **Ann Ormiston** adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com

THE DROP IN SPINNERS GROUP

The Drop In Spinners meet at the North Town Center 2202 E Waltann Ln, Phoenix on the 4th Thursday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 pm. From the front door, proceed to the library in the far back left corner. Everyone is welcome to attend. Anyone with an interest in spinning may join in, even if you are currently working on something else. The group chair is Sue Garber adwsg.programs@gmail.com

ADWSG WEBSITE

<http://www.adwsg.org>

Follow us on

[FACEBOOK](#)

Join Us for Our Monthly Meetings:

10 am In Person

Northtown Community Center 2202 E.
Waltann Lane,

Phoenix, AZ

Doors Open at 9 am

Come Early and Mingle!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MARCH 1, 2025

April 5, 2025

May 3, 2025

BRING YOUR OWN CUP

Thank you for bringing your reusable cups,
mugs, and utensils to the meetings.

Let us take care of Our Earth