THE
MOTHER OF ALL

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

November 2026 Volume 55, Issue 2

From the President Desk

Mary Rooney

adwsg.president@gmail.com



Greetings from Mary!

Wow! Our second meeting is upon us! Like many of you, "Fall" is a time for Autumn crafts. Again, I have forsaken my spinning and weaving and have been doing a bit of sewing. I put together some fabric collage keychains!

I also dug out some knitted pumpkins that I had done on my antique sock knitter. They needed stems and some cute leaves. I like to space them out on a Fall table runner!



On the textile history front, I am reading an interesting book called Worn, A People's History of Clothing by Sofi Thanhauser. It talks a lot about the textile industries and how everything changed when machines and factories replaced home industries in weaving, spinning, and sewing. I never cease to be surprised by the way humans have basically messed up so many things for the sake of textiles....throughout the history of the world! I am glad to have our Guild and all of our creative artists that can appreciate the value of slow crafts and getting back to our roots a bit. I look forward to our Show & Tells again this month! See you on Nov. 7....AND DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!!!!!

--Mary, *President*

NOVEMBER 7, 2026, Presentation

Cotton Basics for Spinners and Weavers

Michele Marshal

Most Americans encounter cotton nearly every day of their life - and may not be aware of it! The clothes we wear, the towels we clean and dry with, the rugs we walk on, and the personal care products we use often contain cotton, or cotton blended with other fibers.

As spinners and weavers, we are in the unique position to experience, first hand, cotton in its raw form as fiber, and as a raw material for our own creations. Cotton at this level has a "reputation," for spinners, and offers unique opportunities for weavers. Learning just a bit more about cotton's unique characteristics can help make cotton a staple in your spinning and/or weaving toolbox.

WAYS & MEANS

Velvet Dishon

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

November's raffle will be full of temptations for weavers with Cone-a-paloza. We will have another 15 or more raffle bundles available. This time with a focus on coned yarns.

KNITTING 101

Julie Cattaneo

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

Looking for Spinners who don't know what to do with all their finished yarn!!!!!
Starting after the October meeting, I will be hanging out around the couch and chairs to teach knitting to anyone that wants to learn. I will also help with understanding gauge, patterns, fixing mistakes, and any new technique you might want to learn.

This is a great place to learn to knit and purl, so you will be ready to take the sock workshop
I have been knitting for almost 45 years and have accomplished or at least tried most of the techniques out there. Don't want to learn anything, but don't want to go home either? Bring your current project of whatever and sit and stitch with us.

HOSPITALITY

Julie Cattaneo

adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com

Welcome back to another year of food, fun, & friendship! Jill and I will provide coffee, tea, & the fixings. Here are the basic hospitality ground rules:

1) Please label any treats you bring with the ingredients. We have several members with allergies.

2) Consider bringing a beverage to share as not all our members prefer hot beverages.

3) Feel free to bring your own coffee cup and plate as this will cut down the waste we generate.

4) At the end of the meeting, fold up the tablecloth and make sure your table has 6 chairs around it.

Thank you for your help! Julie & Jill

BEGINNING WEAVING CLASS

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

A new beginning weaving class will be starting in Nov. We will meet once a month for almost a year, and I will take you from knowing nothing about weaving to knowing how to read a draft, choosing your yarns, warp and weave. There will even be a couple of sewing projects using your handwoven fabric. The class will deal with multi-shaft weaving only - no rigid heddles. We will meet on Sat or Sun afternoons at my house near 7th Ave and Northern, but you will weave at your own home. No carting your loom to class! Limit 5 students. I have already had three people tell me they want in, so if you are interested, email me soon. Beki Welsch adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Roxanne Eklund

adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

I wanted to let our members know about 3 great exhibits in our 3 local museums:

Heard museum - "Twilight Trading Posts & Creative Legacies" opening Oct 26. This is large exhibit features he collection of the Heard tapestry weavings and their stories

Western Spirit Museum in Scottsdale- "Woven: Navajo Textiles". Open now. From the Pelberg collection

Phoenix Art Museum: Fashion by Christian Siriano

MEMBERSHIP

Trish Boone

adwsg.workshops@gmail.com

Our Guild membership is currently at 117 members. Woo Hoo! 11 new members joined us since the end of September, most at the October meeting.

Welcome to Janelle Yoder, Jacob Gray, Kyrie Miranda, Elizabeth Mendoza, Scarlett Mendoza, Shelly Johnson, Diane Leondard, Barbara Nelson, Tracey Saliba, Laura Schoonejans and Julie Hudy. So wonderful to have so many new members!

All new members receive a Welcome email with an information sheet letting you know about what the Guild has to offer so check your spam folder if you did not see it.

Stop by the membership table at the next meeting to say hi and pick up your name tag.

WORKSHOPS

Roberta Perpich

adwsg.workshops@gmail.com

If you have not heard, the traveling teacher we were hoping to have provided a workshop for us in March has canceled her teaching tour. Since there was interest in her workshops, I will continue to investigate other fiber teachers to hopefully provide other workshops this year.

We do have two workshops scheduled as mentioned in last month's newsletter. Beki Welsch will lead a bag-making workshop and an added workshop on sewing garments from handwoven fabrics. There will be an informational meeting this month, November 17th at 7 pm on Zoom where Beki will provide those interested in attending this workshop information on what type of woven fabric you would need, weight of fabric, amount of fabric, choosing a pattern for you garment and what other supplies you may need and answer any questions you may have so you will have time to plan your weaving, chose your pattern and most importantly weave you fabric. So please sign up to show your interest and look for an email announcement about the zoom meeting so you will be able to attend.

As always if you know of a fiber teacher/artist or would like to teach a workshop yourself please do not hesitate to contact me at adwsg.workshops@gmail.com

Demonstrations

Heather Fowler

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

Thank you to the many talented and enthusiastic guild members who volunteered to demonstrate at the State Fair!

For three days in the Home Arts department and one day in the sheep barn, our guild members shared their knowledge, skills, and joie de fiber (a term I made up but which should be part of the lexicon, IMHO 😄) with people visiting the Fair. We gave out ADWSG bookmarks to people interested in finding a fiber community, we planted seeds of "some day I'm going to do that" in others, we shared with everyone we saw the deep satisfaction we find in our fiber pursuits, and we got to know each other better as we chatted and laughed and did our things.

If you wanted to demonstrate at the State Fair and were not able to (or were just too shy) keep your eyes open for other demonstration opportunities this guild year… Glendale Folk Festival in early March, Maricopa County Fair in early April, and possibly more.

Thanks again to all who gave of their time and talents - it was fun! And it was super fun to see so many of our guild members with entries in the Home Arts categories! Way to represent, ADWSG peeps!









OFFICERS FOR 2026-2027

President	**Mary Rooney**	adwsg.president@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	**Deborah Gross**	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
Vice President Workshops	**Roberta Perpich**	adwsg.workshops@gmail.com
Treasurer	**Sue Carneal**	adwsg.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	**Roxanne Eklund**	adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

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Hospitality	**Julie Cattaneo**	adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com
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Wonderful Weavers	**Ann Ormiston**	adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com
Drop In Spinners	**Sue Carneal**	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
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Next Meeting:

NOVEMBER 7TH 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 time 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 3rd Thursday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 pm. If you want an email reminder, contact me and I will add you to the email list. We always leave having fulfilled our laughter quota!! Join us.
From the front door, proceed to the library in the far back left corner. Anyone with an interest in spinning may join in, even if you are currently working on something else. The group chair is Sue Carneal 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

NOVEMBER 7, 2026

December 5, 2026
January 2, 2027
February 6, 2027
March 6, 2027
April 3, 2027
May 1, 2027

BRING YOUR OWN CUP

Thank you for bringing your reusable cups, mugs, and utensils to the meetings.
Let us take care of Our Earth

CALENDAR

Heard museum - “Twilight Trading Posts & Creative Legacies” opening Oct 26. This is large exhibit features he collection of the Heard tapestry weavings and their stories

Western Spirit Museum in Scottsdale- “Woven: Navajo Textiles”. Open now. From the Pelberg collection

Phoenix Art Museum: Fashion by Christian Siriano

December 20 2026 - Helene Couture-Hall thought you might like this idea

Mini Sweater Pin Loom Day https://www.ullvuna.cl/mini-sweater-day

December 20 is our day!

Eight years ago, I started Mini Sweater Pin Loom Day with a simple idea: What if pin loom weavers from around the world could make one little sweater and celebrate together? Every December 20, makers create a mini sweater using four 4×4" (10×10 cm) pin loom squares and join a worldwide celebration of weaving, creativity and community. Let´s Weave Around the World! This year we want to celebrate the people and places behind the sweaters.
So the theme invites you to make a mini sweater inspired by your country, city, region, culture and traditions. There are no prizes and no competition. Every sweater is a celebration of its maker and a little piece of the world they live in. How do I participate? It's easy! Follow these steps:

1. MAKE YOUR MINI SWEATER Download the Mini Sweater Pin Loom Day 2026 Participant Guide below and weave your sweater using 4 to 6 squares measuring 4×4" (10x10cm). Make as many as you want!

2. TAKE A PICTURE -Place your mini sweater on a white sheet of paper and take a clear picture from directly above. Natural daylight works best.

3. SUBMIT YOUR PICTURE - Send your high-quality JPG picture, along with your name, country and a short description of the inspiration behind your design.

Submission deadline is December 18, 2026.

4. CELEBRATE! On December 20, we'll celebrate Mini Sweater Pin Loom Day together! A final image featuring all the submitted mini sweaters will be published on our Facebook page, along with an e-book showcasing the creations, their makers, and the inspiration behind them. Your sweater can be part of something BIGGER. One little sweater may be tiny.. but when hundreds of makers from different places weave one together, something beautiful happens. Different colors, different techniques, different stories, different places. One worldwide celebration!

July 6-10, 2027 - Intermountain Weavers Conference (IWC), Colorado Springs, CO