

THE MOTHER OF ALL

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

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MOA Deadline
15th
September - May

From the President's desk...

At the January meeting I had a conversation with some guild members and the subject of weaving came up. Together we lamented the demise of David Kish's weaving study group that did not continue on after David left to pursue other opportunities out of state. At that time it was decided that the weaving group would mix in with the spinning group under the new name Fiber Artists Group.



I have yet to attend a meeting of the Fiber Artists, unfortunately I can't make time during the week thanks to the day job that enables my fiber hobbies. However, I was told that there isn't much weaving going on during the meetings - and when David was leading the weaving group, the members brought portable looms to the meetings and actually wove together. Which makes me wonder, are the former weaving group members still weaving? Are they coming to the Fiber Artist Group meetings? If so, why are they not bringing looms?

Shouldn't we be able to sustain a study group of weavers that pursue this craft, by learning the basics and beyond on a rigid heddle or tapestry loom, backstrap loom, card loom, or - dare I say it - multi-shaft looms? Mentoring and teaching new members?

What are your thoughts about this, dear Fiber Enthusiasts? Sometimes I really wish I could pick your brains. I always want to hear from you, by email or in person at the guild meetings. However, the meetings are often hectic and are not conducive to exchanging thoughts and ideas. Emails don't allow for anonymity. Therefore I would like to introduce something new - at least as far as my guild memory goes. I'm going to bring a comments box to the next guild meeting.

I will supply some pieces of paper, Anita has (hopefully) a couple of pens at the ready and you can leave your comments in the box with or without your name, it depends on your preference. To get your gears going I am going to ask a few questions.

1. What are you missing in our guild? What could be improved and do you have any ideas for solutions?
2. If you are not volunteering in the guild already, what stops you? Have you considered volunteering for an office but unsure about what it all entails? Is there anything we can do to help you help us?
3. What are your thoughts about a weaving group? Is that something you would be interested in joining, or even helping with the organization?

I am excited about what I may find in the box after the February meeting!

Caroline

Next Meeting:
February 4th at 10 AM
Northtown Community Center
2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phoenix, AZ

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: VAL HILBURGH, SPINNING SILK

*SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED BY THE FIBER ARTIST GROUP
DOORS OPEN AT 9 AM - COME EARLY AND MINGLE*

EDUCATIONAL GRANT

Val Hilburgh, our speaker this month, is the recipient of last year's Educational Grant. Applications for the 2017-18 Educational Grant will be accepted until the March meeting. *[I know I said February before, but I was wrong it is March, MARCH! Sorry about that... Caroline Wise]*

The grant, \$250.00, is available to members to further their study in a fiber art of choice. It could be used for a workshop or materials or in other ways that help you further your knowledge and expertise. All we ask in return is to hold a program in 2018 to share what you have learned.

Just write down how you are planning to spend the funds and hand your application to any board member.

ARIZONA FEDERATION OF WEAVERS AND SPINNERS NEWS

The Federation is seeking nominations for President and Secretary, with elections to be held in April. Nominations do not have to come from within the existing board. Please consider getting involved.

Do you receive Federation updates via email? The Federation's Forum mailing list distributes copies of all member guild's newsletters and is a great way to hear about sale items, workshops or other events.

Members are encouraged to use the Forum as a discussion board for questions and observations regarding fiber related interests.

Some members have experienced difficulties receiving the forum emails in digest form, it's suggested to avoid that option for simplest delivery. The volume of messages is not very high. Here is where you sign up: <http://www.azfed.org/list.php>

We are also compiling a database of Arizona educators and lecturers to be available to all member guilds. If you teach or speak on a subject, we would like to know about it! If you have given a talk to your guild on a pet interest or passion, think of the time you have devoted to developing your talk - the work is already done - won't you share it with others? You are among like-minded friends.

Plans are underway for Fibers ThroughTime 2018; we are seeking volunteers to help with the planning and staffing of this event.

For more information, please contact Christine Hunt or Caroline Wise.

UPCOMING DEMONSTRATION: GLENDALE FOLK & HERITAGE FESTIVAL MARCH 2017

Our next assignment is the Glendale Folk & Heritage Festival. Fun demonstrations, lots of music and good food. Dates are March 18th and 19th, 2017.

Signup sheet will be at the meeting, or contact Diane Wilson at weavebskts@aol.com or call 613-376-6452 if you want to join the excitement.



INTEREST GROUPS

TAPESTRY AND BEYOND

Meets after the monthly general ADWSG meeting at Northtown Community Center, 2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phx, 85022. Bring your luncheon/beverage along with any type of loom with warping yarn and various types of yarn for tapestry weaving, or other projects. For more information, contact Mary Conti at mariaconti@cox.net or 425-788-5012. All are welcome.

FIBER ARTISTS GROUP

The Fiber Artists meet on the **second** Wednesday of the month at Northtown Community Center, 2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phx 85022 at 10:00 am. Members bring lunch and beverage.

The Fiber Artists were born when the Weaving Study Group merged with the Daytime Spinners Group. From now on, spinners, weavers, and all fiber artists are welcome. The group's co-chairs are Judy Lukas (602-361-7339) for the months October - May and Paula Rudnick (814-769-1675) for the summer months.



WORKSHOP NEWS FOR 2018

Rosalie Neilson is traveling in Arizona during February 2018 and is available to us at AZ Desert Weavers to offer a 2 day workshop on February 10 and 11, 2018. We have two choices for workshops and need your input!

First option is Color & Design in Huck Lace Towels on a 4 or 8 shaft loom.

Second option is Introduction to Kumihimo: Braiding on the Marudai.

More details will be available at the guild meeting February 4, 2017. For more information prior to that contact Karen Stromberg at kas-tromberg@gmail.com.



ADWSG Jewelry



Silver logo pins and earrings are available for purchase at the monthly meetings. The "sheep with the woven coat" pins are \$20, and earrings are \$40. See Elaine Rowles for availability.



THE INTERMOUNTAIN WEAVERS' CONFERENCE

And Why I love Attending

Pamela Bliss

The Intermountain Weavers' Conference, held every other year in Durango, Colorado, is a nationally known fiber arts conference that attracts attendees from across the country. Held on the beautiful Fort Lewis Campus in southern Colorado, the four-day gathering celebrates all the fiber arts, including knitting, spinning, weaving, felting, embellishing, dyeing and more. I look forward to every conference.

The next one will be July 27-30, 2017. It is a four-day event and many of the workshops are three days in duration. I have always liked the depth of study that a three-day experience provides. One-day workshops are also offered. This format allows a flexible mix-and-match approach as attendees can choose to attend one, two, or three different workshops. Visit <https://www.intermountainweavers.org> for a full list.

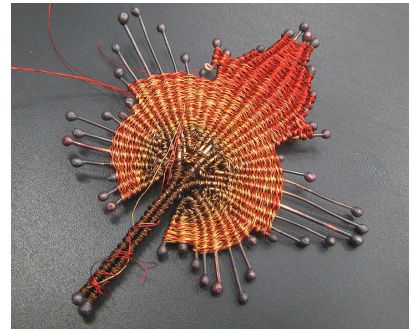
I always stay in a dorm on campus. The rate is very reasonable and some units have kitchens so I can make my own breakfast or organize a mini potluck dinner with friends. And while the cafeteria does not provide fine dining, the chef always supplies fresh salads and a variety of reasonably good entrees for us. You can, of course, stay in a local hotel and eat off-campus.

Inside or outside the classroom, inspiration for the fiber artist is everywhere. Besides the workshops, there is an opening convocation with a featured speaker, this time silk expert Karen Selk. There is a fashion show of members' creations and a raffle of gift baskets. The vendor hall is a great way to see (and purchase!) a variety of fiber art specialty items that are conveniently all in one place. For creative inspiration I visit the non-juried exhibit featuring members' work, another featuring teachers' submissions, and a tapestry exhibit. There is also time built into the schedule for visiting other workshops – a feature I very much appreciate, as I am perpetually curious about other fiber arts.

Personally, I love being with other fiber artists for four days – people who understand my passion and support it! I love the deer that live on campus and the occasional refreshing rains that visit the mesa. I appreciate the size of the conference – not overwhelmingly huge, but big enough to attract major teaching talent.

And the IWC is a home-grown product - a non-profit organization made up of representatives from Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah. I urge you to give it a try and hope you love it too!

Registration begins February 1, 2017. Many classes fill early, so be sure to register as soon as possible. See you in Durango!



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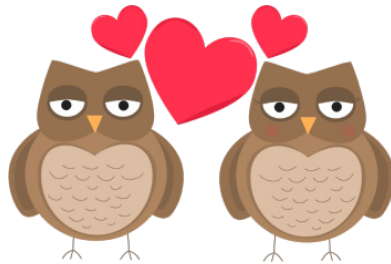
ADWSG WEBSITE:
<http://www.adwsg.org>

CALENDAR EVENTS

- **Until Feb 26, 2017 Eye on Fashion - The Kelly Ellman Collection** - Arcosanti - Phoenix Art Museum - <http://www.phxart.org/EyeOnFashion>

MOA DEADLINE

15th of every month From September to May
Visit our guild's website: <http://www.adwsg.org>



First Class

c/o Caroline Wise
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