THE MOTHER OF ALL

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

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## *From the President's desk...*

Happy Holidays to All!

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving. When we meet again Thanksgiving will be behind us and we will be heading into the December holidays.

My recent weaving venture is a wrap using novelty yarns. I have wanted to do this for quite some time and now I am well into the 'throws' of this project. The following is what I have learned. Many of you may know these techniques/challenges and I knew some of these in theory but needed to work through the challenges myself. This is my own design, no pre-written pattern so I am weaving and learning.

**Loom:** Harrisville 4 shaft floor loom
**Warp Length:** 4 yd (project 2)
**Width:** 22 in, 10 dent reed
**Sett:** Warp: 7epi, floating edge. Weft: pending
**Yarns:** Novelty; some cotton, mostly rayon
**Structure:** Plain; Twill with tabby

I had signed up for Sunday demonstration at the State Fair and not being a spinner decided I would dedicate the time to winding and warping my rigid heddle loom for a multicolored scarf. Selection of the yarns from my stash took the better part of Saturday afternoon the day before.

So off to the fairgrounds I went with my yarns and loom. I had selected 12 yarns for the warp, electing to mix the yarns with no specific order. The warp was only going to be long enough for a scarf for me, so I determined I didn't need a warping board I would just deal with winding each yarn individually and sort them for the warp. It was a mess (!!!) but I had the time and a few interested observers to distract me.

With the warps arranged, and untangled, I sleyed the heddle and began the process of winding the warp only to realize I left the rubber strap that secures the warp to the front beam at home.

Enter the 9 year old girl attending the fair with her family who was running a booth near us. She had been sitting with me off and on during the day asking questions. When I told her I would have to stop work because I left a piece at home she wanted to know why and what the piece did. So we discussed securing the warp to the front beam and that I didn't have anything else to use in its place. With all the wisdom of the world she told me we could find a substitute. We brainstormed and she picked up a piece of heavy paper I was going to use for the back beam winding and asked why we didn't cut strips of the paper and wedge it into the slot. I humored her, sure that this was not the answer, cut strips and darn if it didn't work. She acted as my second set of ....

*...continued from front page*

hands and helped me secure the warps. Having provided her expertise, she slipped away and I didn't see her again. This still makes me smile.

Now, I had the challenge of winding the warp onto the back beam. I realized at this point that a couple of the yarns were not going to move easily through the heddle and that winding the warp was undoing the nub/slub of one of the yarns. The day at the fair was ending so I gathered my project and headed home.

I elected to scrap the rigid heddle and move the warp to my Harrisville floor loom. Threading and sleying was easy enough, but I still found one of the yarns was not able to slide easily through the reed so I had to replace these warps. Fortunately this was only 12 of the 151 ends. Switching to the floor loom allowed me to sett the epi to a better spacing as well and my scarf is now a wrap!

My selection for the weft yarns was my next challenge. I had thought I could use some of the same yarns but this washed out the variety of the warps so I tried several options and am now on my way. I had expected to pick a structure and use this for the entire length, however now that I have sampled a few I anticipate I will alternate twill with tabby, and alternate weft yarns. I will bring the finished project to a future meeting!!

**My warp:**

**Novelty yarn use:**

- Stretch: Evaluate the stretch of a yarn if you are using multiple yarns for a warp. I was able to work with this as the length of the warp was not going to be excessive, and the tension for a scarf does not need to be tight.
- Strength/Tension: Consider only using novelty for the weft which would avoid tension issues. My project was not going to be excessively long or use a very tight tension so I avoided that concern.
- Yarn Weight: Will the yarns move easily through your heddles and the reed. I had to eliminate one yarn as I said to avoid the yarn potentially breaking, but also it eliminated sheer frustration.
- Grabby? Is the yarn sticky and will it easily allow change of sheds? I found that decreasing the epi helped the shed.
- Durability: This project will not require fiber durability, my concern in the long run will be preventing pull within the structure.
- Variegated yarn: I did use a variegated yarn in the warp, and may consider using for part of the weft. The twill with the floats may allow the color variation to stand out.

Happy Weaving!!

Sue Garber

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# INTEREST GROUPS

### *DAYTIME SPINNERS*

Third Wednesdays at 10 AM at Northtown Community Center, 2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phx, 85022. Bring your luncheon/beverage, & join us for a day of spinning. Contact Georgian Ferrante. georgianf@cox.net or 480-948-3705 for more information.

### *TAPESTRY STUDY GROUP*

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. For more information, contact Mary Conti at mariaconti@cox.net or 425-788-5012. All are welcome.

### *DESERT WEAVERS*

This beginners group meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10am. Doors open at 9:30 AM to socialize. Northtown Community Center, 2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phx, 85022. Bring your hand held or tabletop loom with materials to weave. You are welcome to bring your bag lunch. Meetings are about three hours long. For more information, contact Dave Kish at davidjetea@yahoo.com or (602) 686-2054.

## Desert Weavers
## Holiday Live and Silent Auction
## December 6, 2014
## 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Auction Items by Guild Members and Local Artisans

- Fiber and fiber related tools
- Wearable art
- Special treats
- Yummy goodies

Northtown Community Center
2202 E. Waltann Lane
Phoenix, Az.85022

From Cave Creek and Greenway Roads turn Right on 22nd. Street, then Right on Waltann Lane, then Right to parking lot on North side of Waltann Lane.

Refreshments and holiday treats to enjoy

**Checks Only Please**


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**Next Meeting:**
**December 6 th at 10 AM**
**Northtown Community Center**
**2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phoenix, AZ**

## December Program: Holiday Auction

***Everyone Brings Holiday Foods to Share!***
***Doors open at 9 AM – Please come early and mingle or help us get set up.***
***Donations for the Live and Silent Auctions will still be accepted at the meeting.***

# WORKSHOP UPDATES

## Doubleweave Diversity with Jennifer Moore

Another reminder about the upcoming Double Weave class with Jennifer Moore. The dates are Feb. 5 (half day PM), 2/6 (all day) 2/7, (AM Guild presentation, PM class). 2/8 (all day). The class will be held at Northtown Community Center.

Learn all about the magic of doubleweave! In this workshop participants will weave a 4-8 shaft sampler that explores weaving two independent layers of cloth, double-width cloth, tubular weaving, color-and-weave effects, pique, quilting, and doubleweave pick-up. Graphing designs and working with multiple colors will be introduced. These techniques can then be taken home to create clothing, sculptural pieces, decorative hangings and whatever else the imagination can dream of.

Level - beginning to intermediate.
Students will bring a 4 or 8 shaft table or floor loom warped according to instructions.
Material fee - $10
Maximum - 20 students
Estimated cost $150 - 200 depending on how many enroll.

To secure your place in the class give your deposit to guild treasurer Sue Carneal at the November meeting or mail it to P.O. Box 4362, Cave Creek, AZ 85327. If you're not a member of the AZ Desert Weavers and Spinners Guild we ask for an extra $25 or you can join the guild for $20.

Any questions - email Virginia Glenn (vmatglenn@me.com)


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## *Happenings...*

## Help Needed for Guild Pins!

We need a referral to a person who can use our jewelry molds to cast our guild pins for a reasonable price. Please email Elaine at emrowles@cox.net.

## Guild Member in TCA Show

Our own Karla Elling, spinner, weaver and paper artist/printer is a featured artist in the Tempe Center for the Arts Gallery, juried show. The show is titled "COPPER". Karla created an accordion style book that she printed herself. She then riveted a copper panel to the front and back cover. This book has an interesting story related to her childhood in Globe. Exhibit runs through January 31st. Call TCA for hours 480 350-2867. - *David Kish*

## {Re}collecting the Herdbeast - an exhibit by Aimee Leon

"The Herdbeast is a global collective engagement project, which creates community through the mutual use of homegrown, hand processed wool. The project attempts to (re)introduce and educate about the complicated relationship between sheep and man and the necessaity of sheep and wool to man."

I visited Aimee's exhibit on its last day. It was located in a warehouse studio. Aimee had asked fiber artists to donate handspun, natural colored sheepswool yarn and set up a simple loom on which visitors could weave a rug. By the time I arrived it had gotten quite long. Along the wall hung color-coordinated samples of the individual yarns along with the breed. Names of donors were printed higher up on the wall. I was pleased to recognize many guild members! Next door sat piles and piles of raw fleeces in many shades of white, cream, brown, and grey., inviting visitors to pet, touch, and smell the various locks and strands. I took home a few pounds to process and spin. *Caroline*

## 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.

*Herdbeast continued...*

# GUILD RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Our guild has equipment for rental if you are interested in trying out a new technique or looking for equipment for a classs. Several members are storing the various items however you can contact me for rental details.

Sue Garber
602-482-3255 or Sue.garber@cox.net

## Guild Rental Equipment List:

### Table Looms

| | | Weaving Width |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 Harness Leclerc | 22" max |
| 1 | 4 Harness Rasmussen | 24" |

### Floor Looms

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 Harness Baby Wolf | |
| 1 | 4 Harness Pendleton | 36" |

### Other Types of Looms

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Inkle Loom | |
| 1 | Tapestry | 18" |

### Spinning

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Louet S10 Spinning Wheel with 2-bobbin Lazy Kate attached |
| 1 | Ashford Traditional Wheel |
| 1 | 4-bobbin Lazy Kate |
| 1 | Drumcarder |
| 1 | Cotton handcarders |
| 1 | Wool handcarders |
| 1 | Swift |
| 1 | Niddy Noddy |
| 1 | 30" Navajo Style Spindle |

## ~ Classified Ads ~

**Contact me with items for sale or sought after Caroline Wise (caracolina@gmail.com).**

# Intermountain Weavers Conference 2015

The next Intermountain Weavers Conference will be held July 23 - 26, 2015 in Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado. It has the motto "Try Something New."

The lists of 3- and 1-day workshops have been posted at http://www.intermountainweavers.org.

Conference registration will begin February 1, 2015.

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**ADWSG WEBSITE:**
http:/www.adwsg.org

## CALENDAR EVENTS

- **December 5 - 7th, 2014 - Tempe Festival of the Arts** - Mill Avenue, 10am - 5:30pm - Free Admission. For more info: http://www.tempefestivalofthearts.com/
- **December 13 - 14th, 2014 - Mesa Arts Festival** - Mesa Center for the Arts, 10 am - 5pm - Free Admission.
- **Thru January 18th, 2015 - Explorations: AZ Surface Design Association** - Vision Gallery, Chandler. For more info call 480-782-2695 or visit http://www.tvisiongallery.org/

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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