



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...

I do a lot of fiber arts stuff, I knit, weave, spin, crochet, make sprang... I'm sure many of you also have a long list of things you like to do in your spare time with fiber or textiles. Thing is, I don't have a lot of time after work, so I try to not have too many works in progress simultaneously. (While I'm taking a short break writing this my head turns to see two looms with unfinished warps sitting in the room behind me.) This means that I haven't actually spun in over a year. Maybe it has been two years? I don't remember.

However, I volunteered to demonstrate at the State Fair in October, and so it became time to (literally) shake the dust off my trusty Fricke spinning wheel. Good thing I have a decent supply of spinning fiber in my stash, so I pulled out a few ounces of natural colored Shetland roving and spent a day in great company spinning. As they say, you don't forget to ride a bicycle and it is the same with spinning. I had a great time and my hands were happy.

After my return home I decided to finish the rest of the Shetland roving and one thing led to another so I've been spinning almost every day since the State Fair. I've also made a point of carrying my tiny turkish spindle in my purse again so that I can make use of extra time in the car, in restaurants, or at work.

What am I trying to say here? Not sure, but, if there's something you haven't done in a while, consider dragging out the tools and give them a whirl. It might feel like meeting a dear friend you've not seen in a while.

I still have a little space left this month, so I just wanted to mention that I'm excited about the December Fundraiser. Last year I took home a lovely rug woven by Beki Welsch. I'm hoping to bid on or win something equally beautiful and handmade this year. Since I've been looking through my spinning fiber stash I'll be donating some of that for the raffle and a couple of little things that might adorn someone else's baskets.

Also, I haven't forgotten about our gift exchange, which we had talked about earlier this year. I called it our "secret valentine" because we had discussed doing this in February 2018. A number of you had tentatively put their name down for that and I hope you're still planning on participating.

See you at the meeting,
Caroline



WANTED!

We are still looking for a **Workshops Assistant**. Please consider stepping up to help continue our tradition of diverse and interesting fiber arts education. Just take a look at what is in the works already! These workshops don't pick and schedule themselves... Contact Karen Stromberg for more details.

Next Meeting:
December 2nd at 10 AM
Northtown Community Center
2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phoenix, AZ

DECEMBER PROGRAM: ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

*HOLIDAY TREATS, SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED BY THE ENTIRE GUILD
DOORS OPEN AT 9 AM - COME EARLY AND MINGLE*

EDUCATIONAL GRANT

Our guild offers an educational grant to a member who would like to explore a new skill or further develop a skill of a fiber related craft. You may use the grant award for workshop fees or materials. Submit a written application to any board member, outlining your area of study and how you will use the grant.

The only stipulation is that you will share your newly learned or improved skill with the membership at a monthly meeting the following year. This is a great opportunity for the participating member as well as the guild.

The recipient of the educational grant is chosen in February, so you have some time to consider your application.

UPCOMING DEMONSTRATION: SEWING FESTIVAL JANUARY 2018

Our next assignment is the Sewing Festival at the State Fair Grounds. The dates are 25 - 27 January, 2018.

Please contact Sara Jenkins at Jenkins37@aol.com or call 623.935.0514 if you want to join the excitement.

WORKSHOP NEWS

AN AFTERNOON OF SPINNING FOR THE CURIOUS, THE EXPLORERS AND THE SEASONED!

January 6, 2018 after the guild meeting until 3 pm. No charge. Bring your own lunch.

For the curious, come hold a spindle or sit at a wheel and learn a few basics. For the sometime spinner, get out your wheel and bring it along for a few hours of fun. For the explorers, come check out another wheel. For the skilled and seasoned spinner, come help (a bit) and spin and socialize. Bring some fiber.

THREE-DAY WEAVING WORKSHOP WITH ROSALIE NEILSON WEAVING SUMMER AND WINTER BLOCK WEAVES

FEBRUARY 10-12, 2018

Rosalie has been exploring block weave for many years and just released her most recent book, *An Exaltation of Blocks*, with a toolkit of design pages and transparent overlays for exploring symmetric block design. We will be using material from her book to learn to design block weaves specifically applicable to Summer and Winter. Space is limited. Please contact Karen Stromberg at kastromberg@gmail.com for more information.

FEDERATION DAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018

Federation Day 2018, Connecting Threads, will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 9-4:30 at the Radisson North Phoenix (soon to be a Hilton Doubletree Hotel).

This year, we will feature both half-day and full day classes on a variety of fiber arts and a wonderful soup and salad luncheon, with keynote speaker Rosalie Neilson. We also have a great line-up of vendors for unique fiber shopping. There will be guild booths where guilds can display and sell their work.

We expect both the classes and the luncheon to fill quickly, so be sure to get your registration in early.

Registration is now open, with a deadline of postmark by January 7, received by 1/10/2018.

We are seeking donations for the raffle. Items may be brought to guild meetings, or contact Christine Hunt for pick up at 623.853.6081 or email hunt.christine@rocketmail.com

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.



AZ Desert Weavers and Spinners Guild Annual Fundraiser December 2, 2017 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Raffles and Silent Auction by Guild Members and Local Artisans. Refreshments and holiday treats to enjoy

- Fiber and fiber related tools
- Handmade Items
- 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 Left to parking lot on North side of Waltann Lane.

Checks/Cash Only Please

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.



COMING IN 2018: ARIZONA! BY CHOI+SHINE

Choi + Shine are the creators behind such fascinating works of public art involving crocheted lace ribbons as “Urchins” in Singapore and “The Lace” in Amsterdam (pictured below). We are very lucky that Scottsdale has been chosen as the location for their upcoming sculpture “Arizona!” which will be installed November 2018 at the Scottsdale Waterfront. It is going to be 8 feet tall and 650 feet long.

The artists were present earlier in November in Scottsdale to present the plans for “Arizona!” at the Scottsdale Museum for Contemporary Art.

The sculpture will consist of pieces of crocheted lace produced by volunteers. Choi + Shine will provide instructions, patterns, and materials (3mm polyester cord).

I was not able to attend the event, but emailed my name and address to Sarah Kim at Skim@choishine.com. If you'd like to participate you could contact them as well and get your name on the list. *Caroline Wise*



WOVEMBER

Wovember (<http://www.wovember.com>) is a website/blog which means to promote WOOLNESS - and sheep's wool in particular, during the month of November. There are daily articles about wool from various contributors all over the world. Here is a sample article from November 16th which struck several chords with me:

[Today's] post was written by Beate Herold from Nuertingen, Germany, who describes the multifaceted physical and mental benefits she has experienced as a result of growing and working with wool.

Wool rescued me. When my work got more and more computerized and pressured, woolly sheep came into my life. Working and caring for them means working with my hands, being connected to nature and feeling real in what I am doing as a contrast to my work in the office. It is wonderful sitting in a meadow among my sheep, looking at them, spinning or picking their wool: to me this is real WOOLNESS. It always feels like a bit of a holiday during the busy daytime. Wool helps to keep me mentally and physically well. When I am developing woolly projects or spinning wool from my sheep I feel totally absorbed.



When the menopause arrived I had to face hot flushes which caused frequent changes of pyjamas during the night. Then I remembered wool's fabulous qualities, especially that wool can absorb approximately 30% of its weight before it feels damp. So I changed from cotton pajamas to woollen underwear. I also made a duvet and pillow with wool filling from my sheep and now have a perfect sleeping environment. Feeling snugly wrapped into the best from my sheep: this is real WOOLNESS to me!

Some of the best things wool has brought me are global connections with fellow wool workers. Lots of wonderful people have come into my life through wool: shepherds; handspinners; weavers; dyers; felters; and knitters. We meet at sheep and wool markets, guild meetings, spinning classes and private WOOLNESS-get-togethers at which we spin and talk all day long about sheep and wool. Working with wool has introduced me to lots of different textile traditions from many different countries. Working with wool has also changed my view on textiles completely and whenever I spin in public I speak about the qualities of wool, trying to convince people to start wearing wool. I tell them working with wool is not old fashioned; that it develops one's creativity; and that it is sustainable and best for our environment, too.

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ADWSG WEBSITE:

<http://www.adwsg.org>

CALENDAR EVENTS

- Dec 9 - 10, 2017 **Mesa Arts Festival** - Visit Telarana's Booth at Mesa Arts Center - <https://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/events/mesa-arts-festival>
- Thru Jan 7, 2018 **A Tribute to James Galanos** - Phoenix Art Museum - <http://www.phxart.org/exhibition/james-galanos>

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
18660 N Cave Creek Rd. #244
Phoenix, AZ 85024

