



# THE MOTHER OF ALL

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

Volume 46, Issue 6

March 2018

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MOA Deadline  
15th  
September - May

## From the President's desk...

My plan for this month's newsletter was to use a Microsoft Word template to help with transitioning to the new newsletter editor, but sometimes plans don't go well, as planned. Having a bad cold and cough really didn't make things easy on me, so I struggled a while with the new format, and then gave up and used my familiar layout software.

And my two-and-a-half brain cells just don't want to wrap around writing an entertaining story. For a minute it occurred to me that I should have known this would happen and could have asked Lisa Takata to "ghost write" my story. Too late! So, since there is most of the page still here, bare and empty, I decided to pull a "not-so-random find from the Internet" and share some information about the knitting olympic team from Finland (thanks to the guild members who have shared this with me).

From the Guardian's website (<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2018/feb/15/why-the-finnish-squad-are-knitting-at-the-winter-olympics-again>)

## Why the Finnish squad are knitting at the Winter Olympics ... again

*Social media users have loved the sight of Antti Koskinen and the Finnish Winter Olympic squad knitting, for the second Winter Olympics in a row*

The head coach of Finland's snowboarders, Antti Koskinen, became a social media sensation this week when he was seen knitting at the top of the run in Pyeongchang during the Winter Olympics. But this is not the first time that Finnish Olympians have got their knitting needles out in competition. Koskinen caused a similar stir in 2014 at Sochi.

In 2014, the team said they were working together to knit a scarf to hand over to Finland's summer Olympic team for 2016 summer games in Rio. Not that it's entirely clear why you would have needed a scarf in Brazil.

This time there's a very different cause the team are knitting for – a blanket for the Finnish president's child. President Sauli Niinisto's wife Jenni Haukio gave birth to the couple's first child on 2 February.

"Everyone is knitting a little square, and then we will join them together" explained Koskinen. The coach said that around half of the 102-strong Finnish team were knitting at these Games. He also said that the habit also helps him during competitions. "It has become something of a hobby for me. I mean I do it every four years ... it is a nice, Finnish thing ... it means no unnecessary chit-chat is needed."

One of Finland's snowboarders, Enni Rukajärvi, took enough of a break from the knitting to win the bronze medal in the slopestyle competition in Pyeongchang.

See you at the meeting,

Caroline



Olympic Team Finland  
@OlympicTeamFI

We are #knitting again 😊 In Sochi we made a huge scarf, this time we are knitting a blanket for our presidential couple's newborn son. 🇫🇮 #olympicteamfi #knittingteamfi #pyeongchang2018 #olympics #olympialaiset #pyeongchangfi

7:08 PM - Feb 11, 2018

♡ 7,480 💬 2,944 people are talking about this

**Next Meeting:**  
March 3rd 10 AM  
Northtown Community Center  
2202 E. Waltann Lane, Phoenix, AZ

## **MARCH PROGRAM: TWENTIETH CENTURY FASHION INNOVATORS WITH KAREN TIMBERLAKE, PHX ART MUSEUM**

*SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED BY THE GUILD MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT IN A STUDY GROUP  
DOORS OPEN AT 9 AM - COME EARLY AND MINGLE*

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our call for new 2018 board members for our guild. We are so grateful for your support of our guild and willingness to help lead the great work our guild is doing. I am pleased to report that when our Nominations Committee convenes in March, we will have a full slate of officers and chairs identified and committed to fill every board slot except for president.

We are taking steps to simplify the role of president in the coming year, to primarily consist of chairing our monthly meetings. The newsletter editor responsibilities will be coordinated by a different volunteer, and I have volunteered to help ghostwrite the president's monthly column for the guild newsletter.

Can you help us by volunteering for a term as president in 2018-19? Your enthusiasm for the fiber arts and for the guild and its mission are the main requirements for the job. We are looking for someone who can create a welcoming atmosphere for our members and bring us together as a community at our monthly gatherings, sharing the fiber arts we love.

Please consider giving back to our guild by volunteering to serve! Contact Lisa Takata, 602.670.4497 for more details. The Nominations Committee will report back to the membership in April and elections will be held for the 2018-19 slate of officers. *Lisa Takata*

### **THE DEADLINE FOR THE EDUCATIONAL GRANT IS MARCH!!!**

Our guild offers an educational grant to members 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 March after the general meeting.

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

What's new in the Guild Library? This month I added several books to our collection. We now have: **Weaving with Echo and Iris** by Marina Stubenitsky, **Weaving Iridescence** by Bobby Irwin, **The Alchemy of Color Knitting** by Gina Wilde, **Thomas Jackson, Weaver 17th and 18th Century Records** by Harriet Tidball and Rosalie Neilson's Summer and Winter Workshop handout/booklet, so you can experiment with this technique on your own if you missed the workshop.

*Beki Welsch*

### **"SECRET VALENTINE" GIFT EXCHANGE**

Our first small handmade item gift exchange was a great success in my book! We had 17 participants and among the fabulous gifts were woven, knitted, and felted items! Unfortunately, probably since our meeting ran over time, one unidentified participant was not able to stick around for the gift giving ceremony. I have your gift and will bring it to the March meeting.

I sure hope we'll do this again! Maybe the participants could bring their gifts to the March meeting for show-and-tell?



## 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](mailto: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 chairs is Paula Rudnick (814-769-1675).



## SPINNING BEE

On Wednesday, the 14th, the Spinners of our Guild hosted the annual Spinning Bee at Northtown Community Center. Based on the photos it looks as if the event was a success and I hope (selfishly) that we can be host again, but on a weekend, so that I can attend as well.



## 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.



## **SHEEP SHEARING AT THE DOZER'S MARCH 24TH**

It is that time of year again that we are preparing for our annual Shearing and Pot Luck Day. We are planning on Saturday March 24th starting around 9:30 am and hoping to be enjoying the pot luck around 1:00 pm.

This event will take place in the pasture. RSVP to [jody@dozer-lane.com](mailto:jody@dozer-lane.com) or 602 674 9450.

## **AN AFTERNOON OF SPINNING & MORE**

At the January meeting, several people brought their spinning wheels and spindles and a good time was had. Since we have the room until 3 PM on the days when we meet, there is no reason why we couldn't do this after every guild meeting!

The Tapestry Group is meeting at the same time and would be very happy to share the room with more crafting people. Bring your wheels, spindles, knitting, or other portable project! If you have questions or would like mentoring please let someone know before the general meeting so we can find someone to get together with you after the meeting concludes.

## **DEMONSTRATING FUN**

Demonstrating spinning or other fiber arts is something that our guild needs to do to maintain our educational/non-profit status and it is just plain fun! Depending on the event you get to hang out and get to know your fellow guild members, show off your craftiness and eat deep fried or otherwise unhealthy food (I'm mostly kidding about that last one). Here are Val Hilburgh, Elaine Rowles, and Charlotte Fischer at the Quilt & Sewing Festival in January:



On February 18th, Saskia Jorda, Val Hilburgh, Lisa Takata and Christine Hunt demo'ed at the Schemer Arts Center. Christine is so patient with the little ones! They leave the booth with a bracelet made from their own handspun yarn.



## **NATURAL DYEING WITH COCHINEAL**

In light of a recent article in the Turkey Red Journal about Cochineal farming on the Canary Islands, Virginia Glenn contacted the farmer in the article, Lorenzo Perez to find out about ordering a quantity of cochineal bugs directly. According to Lorenzo, one kilogram of cochineal would cost 80 Euros, plus shipping and customs/duties.

If more people are interested in participating in a group order we could look at sourcing the cochineal from overseas or other closer sources in a large quantity to lower the price for the individual.

Here is the link to the article in the Turkey Red Journal (which is an online publication "dedicated to natural dyes"):  
<http://turkeyredjournal.com/perez.html>

If you are reading this newsletter on your computer or tablet/iPad you should be able to click on the link as if you were in a browser.

## **BRING YOUR OWN CUP**

Thank you for bringing your own reusable cups or mugs and utensils to the meetings. The styrofoam cups are bad for the environment and the guild has to pay for them. Same goes for plastic forks.

## THE FIBER FACTORY

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

## CALENDAR EVENTS

- Feb 24 - May 13, 2018 **Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion** - Phoenix Art Museum - <http://www.phxart.org/exhibition/iris-van-herpen>
- March 24, 2018 **Sheep Shearing at the Dozer's** - More information in this newsletter

## 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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