



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...

Dear Guild Members,

You and I need to talk. We are going to have elections in April and are looking for volunteers to fill most of the board seats (yes, including President and Newsletter Editor). Have you enjoyed our programs and workshops over the years? If the answer is "yes", please consider that it takes the work of dedicated board members and helpers to make this happen.

Have you ever volunteered in any capacity on behalf of the guild? If the answer is "no" please give yourself a nudge and tell yourself that it is time for you to help make sure that the guild continues in its educational capacity to offer programs and workshops.

Each board member slot comes with a set of tasks and responsibilities, but the work is not overwhelming and there will be helpers to support you. And the effort that goes into the organization of our events is highly rewarding. Also worth considering: you can put your "own spin" on your office, for example as Programs VP by finding speakers for subjects that interest you in particular.

I suspect that putting the newsletter together is probably one of the more involved offices, since it requires the monthly effort of populating the MOA with reports and messages received by the guild. Quite often some blank spots remain however and then I hunt the Internet for interesting tidbits to fill in the blanks, or maybe there are some photos sent by guild members (or posted on Facebook) that can be used. I am always glad when I receive items by guild members to include in the MOA because that makes the editor's life so much easier! Once the newsletter is finalized (and proofread) the editor distributes the digital version to the email list and also prints and mails out copies to the few remaining snail-mail recipients.

By the way, the reason why our newsletter looks better than other guilds' is (in my opinion anyway) because I am using a layout program (Adobe Indesign). Whoever is taking my spot will most likely not be able to use this program because it is quite expensive and has a learning curve. However, I'm working on transforming our newsletter template into a Word format so that anyone with word processing software can update the newsletter with new content. It shouldn't be much more difficult than updating an email. The drawback is that our newsletter will lose its "look", but on the other hand I've been the editor since 2013 so wouldn't you agree I deserve a break?

I have to admit that I find it a bit worrisome that the level of commitment of the general membership seems low, based on that we have not been able to fill the assistant spot for the Workshops VP since last year. I can't thank our current board enough for all the work they do and fully understand that they feel that they have "done their share". Please keep in mind that the guild will not be able to make another decade without volunteers, so why don't you come and "do your share", too.

See you at the meeting,

Caroline



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

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: TALKING TEXTILE TRANSFORMATIONS WITH KAREN LUKACS

"SECRET VALENTINE" GIFT EXCHANGE

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

ABOUT OUR PRESENTER, KAREN LUKACS

A sewist and weaver since high school, Karen Lukacs began working with reclaimed garments and fabric salvage as source materials since 1996, when she relocated to Tucson, AZ. Several bespoke commissions and limited edition collections later she sells her work online and at specialty markets.

An award-winning textile artist, Karen's work has been exhibited in galleries in AZ as well as traveled the US. Her Sustainable Eco Fashion statement pieces have been published in Belle Armoire and Altered Couture magazines, as well as regional AZ publications.

Karen will present a video presentation tour of her experience and mentors, and will be available for comments after.

DEMONSTRATIONS: FEDERATION DAY, FEB. 2018

We will have an 8 x 10" table to show off our guild's talents and possibly sell items handmade by our members. We will need folks to help set up and staff the table, either for the entire day or half-day.

Also, if you have items you can let us use for display, please bring them to the February meeting.

If you can help or are interested in selling things, please contact Sara Jenkins at Jenkins37@aol.com or call 623.935.0514

FEDERATION DAY 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).

Registration for the luncheon and classes has closed, but you can come and visit on the day of - there is going to be a raffle and a number of vendors for your shopping pleasure:

Dream in Color – Gorgeous Yarns to work and play with!

Lollipop Acres – Fabulous spinning, weaving and knitting yarns and fibers!

Mary Gavan Yarns – Beautiful and exciting line of weaving and knitting yarns!

Peaceful Prairie Ranch – Alpaca fibers, yarns and things of the highest quality!

Brookmoore Creations – Everything Cotton and more!

RAFFLE DONATIONS

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

HELP US MAKE KEY RINGS FOR FEDERATION DAY

Attendees at Federation Day 2018 will receive a key ring with a tassel made of various yarns and ribbon. Our guild has volunteered to make them. Michelle Mattingly, Elektra, and I will stay on after the February Meeting to make them and would appreciate your help! We have received a bag full of pretty ribbon yarns, but you are welcome to bring odds and ends of handspun or ribbons you might have at home. Michelle will bring the key rings.



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.



THE DEADLINE OF THE EDUCATIONAL GRANT IS MARCH!!

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 MARCH (I keep getting that wrong - my apologies) so you have a little bit more time to consider your application.

CELEBRATING IRIS

A few guild members grasped the moment at the last meeting and celebrated Iris Dozer's 90th birthday by sharing their appreciation for Iris with the guild. I think Iris was a bit nervous about the whole thing at the beginning, but it was a very heartfelt occasion. Here is what Iris wrote to me afterwards:

My thanks to the membership for the many wonderful memories brought to mind at the last meeting. I wish I could have spoken to everyone who has touched my life. How lucky I am to be a member of this group of exceptional people. I have learned much, enjoyed much and appreciate the many good times I've had with you all.

Thank you, thank you all. And thanks to Lisa Takata for the great picture.
Iris



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.



AN AFTERNOON OF SPINNING, CONTINUED

At the last meeting, several people brought their spinning wheels 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!

SEE AN ENTIRE NORTHERN IRELAND VILLAGE KNITTED OUT OF WOOL

An incredible yarn from Cloughmills, County Antrim

By Natasha Frost - January 16, 2018/www.atlasobscura.com

The Main Street of Cloughmills, Northern Ireland, is lined with neat, two-story houses that flank a cluster of commerce—a local store, a butcher, a post office, even an Indian takeaway. This quiet village of just a couple thousand people, and five (five!) churches, has recently put itself on the map. But not just any old map. These establishments, and many of the town's other buildings, have been enshrined in wool by the village's ladies' crochet group, and publicly displayed in the town's Memorial Orange Hall.



Local resident May Aitcheson started the club six years ago. Now, it has 30-odd members, most of whom are retired. "I didn't realize it would keep going the way it's done," she told the BBC. In May of last year the members got together to begin work on the mammoth model of their village. They headed out first with cameras, and then began to craft the houses and other buildings, with six women in particular doing much of the work. They even created a few sites that no longer exist, including the old shirt factory where many of the members once worked. They finished the project in September.

Aitcheson had been inspired by a small model village she saw in Cushendall, a similarly sized place some 15 miles

away, "but ours snowballed," she said. It's now too large to fit out of the doors of the hall, and will remain on display for as long as there are visitors to come and see it. In the meantime, Jim Witten from Cloughmills Community Action Team says, the project has brought the village a lot of attention, with community groups from across the country inspired by this marvel in wool, which has helped raise money for Macmillan Nurses' cancer support.



The group continues to get together weekly to "get the latest gossip," member Margaret Murphy said, though they're still waiting on their next big idea. "Maybe a model of Belfast, but we'd need lots of helpers for that one."



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.

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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>
- Feb 24, 2018 **Federation Day** - Doubletree Hilton North Phoenix - <https://www.azfed.org>
- Thru Feb, 2018 **Dress Matters: Clothing as Metaphor** - Tucson Museum of Art - <http://tucsonmuseumofart.org/exhibition/dress-matters-clothing-as-metaphor>

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

