



THE

MOTHER OF ALL

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

FEBRUARY 2025

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From the President Desk

Merlyn Heck

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Greetings, Guild Members!

Welcome to 2025 (I say, fully aware this memo will go out a month into the new year)! According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, we can thank the ancient Romans for our calendar year beginning on January 1st. As Janus, the namesake of the month, is the Roman god of new beginnings, it's a fitting start to another revolution around the sun.

I don't typically make New Year's Resolutions, but I do like to honor the new year by trying something new. Last year, I took up guitar; another year, it was unicycling. Since joining this guild, a whole world of new activities has opened up, and I'm so grateful to everyone who shares their talents with the group! So far this year, I've learned how to use a drop spindle at our Roc Day gathering and am almost finished with my first weaving project with Beki's beginning weavers' group. I love the process of learning and making mistakes and eventually making something decent with a new skill.

If you are also hoping to try something new this year, I'd like to remind you about the Education Grant that our guild provides to enable that! Every year, we provide a \$250 grant to one member to support their study of a chosen topic. The recipient then gives a 45-minute (approximately) presentation about that topic during a meeting in the next calendar year. Applications are due by the March meeting, and the winner is announced in the April MOA. The form can be found at the following address, and can be submitted in person or emailed to <mailto:adwsg.president@gmail.com>: <https://adwsg.org/guild-forms>
See you at the meeting!

Merlyn, *President*

February 1, 2025 Presentation
Our February meeting
Fiber Arts in the Flores Islands of Indonesia
By Betz and Harold Frederick

Betz and Harold will share their recent experience on a Textiles Study Tour around the Flores Islands in Indonesia. The remote ikat-weaving islands of eastern Indonesia have one of the most diverse textile cultures on the planet. Hand-woven cloth plays an important role in these societies where they spin their own cotton, prepare their own natural dyes and weave on traditional back-tension looms. The tradition is kept strong by guilds of village weavers.



HOSPITALITY

Julie Cattaneo

adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com

Please make sure to add a notecard to your food contribution listing the major ingredients for our members that have food allergies. Also consider a beverage contribution is welcome as well.

WORKSHOPS

Roberta Perpich

adwsg.workshops@gmail.com

The Western Sakiori Scarf Weaving Workshop is just about full, one space left and hopefully that will be filled by the time this newsletter goes out. Right now, those who have signed up are busy gathering and preparing their supplies for this unique rag weaving workshop. We are looking forward to learning from Amanda Robinette and are thankful to the Federation for bringing this talented weaver to us so that we can learn and expand our weaving knowledge.

MEMBERSHIP

Trish Boone

adwsg.membership@gmail.com

Our Guild is now 100 fiber artists strong! We are continuing to grow each month and new members are finding us! Welcome to Liz Vela, Delores Chavez, Meg McVay, Peggy Skinner, Kathleen Burns, Jane Wunder, Sandy Strunk, Mimi Damrauer, Jamie Krauss and Karen Bulawa who have joined us since the beginning of December. Stop by the Membership table at the next meeting and introduce yourself and pick up your Guild name tag.

Demonstrations

Jody Dozer

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

Demonstrations are off to a Great start for 2025. We will be at the Quilt, Craft and Sewing Festival Jan 30th to Feb. 1st. Thank you to everyone who is demonstrating for our guild. Demonstrating is a wonderful way to introduce ourselves to many fiber enthusiasts. March 1st (same day as our March meeting) and 2nd is the Glendale Folk Festival at Sahuaro Ranch Historical Park, if interested in demonstrating please reach out to Jody.

SPINNING/FIBER ZOOM

Paula Rudnick

adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com

If someone who is interested, didn't get the email link they must email me at adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com so I can add their name to the list.

LIBRARY

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

The Winter 2024 issue of Ply Magazine has arrived. It is all about Care. Care of your wheel, spindles and other tools, care during fiber prep to avoid issues, care of your body while spinning and prepping fibers (ergonomics), care and how to deal with wool sensitivities, care of spinning traditions, care of the earth when dyeing. You get the idea. This and other back issues of Ply Magazine will be available at our Guild meeting.

Intermountain Weavers Conference

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

Registration is open for Intermountain Weavers Conference to be held:

June 17 to 21 in Albuquerque. There are 3-day (WThF), 1-day Sat, and 1/2 day (Sat AM and Sat PM) classes offered. <https://www.intermountainweavers.org/> Sign up is first come first served.

I have registered for a 3 day and a Sat morning class and will be looking for someone to carpool with. I plan to drive as I will be taking a Baby Wolf loom. I MIGHT have room for another small loom or spinning wheel.

CRAFTING A CREATIVE MEMOIR

Anna Akridge

adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Interested in exploring a different side of your craft? Announcing “Crafting a Creative Memoir,” a creative write-along.

“Crafting a Creative Memoir” is a multi-month guided group project with the goal of helping each of us tell the stories of ourselves as makers and creatives. The project will run during the guild year, from October through May, and at the end, participants will have seven pieces of creative work exploring their origins, values, and aspirations as a maker.

Each month, I send out a theme with a short excerpt or reading, some guided reflection questions to get you thinking about how you relate to the theme, and suggested approaches for the month’s “assignment.” No previous writing experience is required - this is a chance to explore.

I'm running this project through Substack - a free e-newsletter/blog platform. Go to <https://adwsgcreativememoir.substack.com/> to subscribe for the monthly email notifications (you can also view each month’s entry without subscribing, if you prefer). You can review last month’s prompt on the Substack page and sign up for future prompts, going out following each month’s guild meeting. Contact Anna at adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com with any questions!

WAYS & MEANS

Lauren Goldfish

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

I need to step down as the Ways and Means committee member. I will come to the February meeting, but likely will not be able to attend meetings for the rest of the year. The guild needs someone that can fill the following responsibilities:

The Ways and Means committee is in charge of the storage unit, organizing the materials that will be raffled at Guild meetings, and coordinating communications and donations to the guild as they are sent to the Ways and Means email address, adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com or gifted in person. This committee also coordinates the rental of Guild equipment.

The primary responsibilities for this position take place on the days our guild meets in person. For example, I arrive at the storage unit at approximately 8 am, pull from the materials specific for donations (in contrast to rental equipment), and arrive at the Northtown community center at 9 am.

Once there:

1. Bringing in the raffle items and organizing them for visual and organizational appeal.
2. Set up the raffle cups (kept in library cabinet) and coordinate the sale of raffle tickets.
3. Collect and record proceeds from the raffle and give them to Treasurer (with documentation).

After meeting (this piece takes significantly less time than the morning organization):

1. Return materials to library
2. Return donations and excess materials to the guild storage unit.

Communication via email does occur year-round. It is common for individuals outside of the Guild community to have materials to donate to the guild, on behalf of a family member no longer active in textiles. These types of pickups (or helpful hints on how they can sell or donate their holdings) occurred a handful of times over last Summer.

Being a part of the Ways and Means Committee is a lot of fun! It's an opportunity to interact with our members and play a significant role in contributing to the guild's financial health.

For everyone that still wants to knit the Knit, Swirl! sweater. Please contact me if I may help you with the sweater construction.

OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

President	Merlyn Heck	adwsg.president@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	Sue Garber	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
Vice President Workshops	Roberta Perpich	adwsg.workshops@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sue Carneal	adwsg.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	Velvet Dishon	adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2024-2025

Demonstrations/Publicity	Jody Dozer	adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com
Federation Representative	Helene Hall	adwsg.federation@gmail.com
Historian	Vacant	adwsg.historian@gmail.com
Hospitality	Julie Cattaneo	adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com
Interest Groups		
Spinning/Fiber Group	Paula Rudnick	adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com
Wonderful Weavers	Ann Ormiston	adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com
In Person Spinning Group	Sue Garber	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
Librarian	Beki Welsch	adwsg.librarian@gmail.com
Membership	Trish Boone	adwsg.membership@gmail.com
Membership Assistant	Elaine Rowles	
Newsletter Editor	Ann Ormiston	adwsg.editor@gmail.com
75 TH Anniversary	Sue Carneal	adwsg.anniversary@gmail.com
Ways & Means	Lauren Goldfish	adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com
Web Site	Anna Akridge	adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

FEBRUARY 1ST will be in person and on Zoom

At

Northtown Community Center

Meeting starts at 10 am

MOA Submission

Deadline

**The 15th of each month
September through May**

adwsg.editor@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUPS

SPINNING/FIBER GROUP ZOOM MEETINGS

Meets the third Wednesday of the month (all year long). FOR THE PRESENT TIME WE ARE MEETING ON ZOOM-(please be sure you are on the group email list so you get the email invite) We love to chat, learn what events are happening online, see what everyone is working on, and exchange ideas and get help with questions or problems we might be having with our projects. Our Zoom starts at 9:30---so join us and start chatting. We love to talk and work while we are still at home so join us for the talk and fun. We also try to have field trips a few times a year.

The group chair is **Paula Rudnick** - adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com

WONDERFUL WEAVERS STUDY GROUP

Currently Meeting as a ZOOM Group - Meets the Third Sunday of each month, all year long. Currently we are meeting from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm as a Zoom Group. We discuss Hand Weaving structures, ideas, problems, and solutions and enjoy our show and tell. Come and join our group. The group chair is **Ann Ormiston** adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com

THE DROP IN SPINNERS GROUP

The Drop In Spinners meet at the North Town Center 2202 E Waltann Ln, Phoenix on the 4th Thursday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 pm. From the front door, proceed to the library in the far back left corner. Everyone is welcome to attend. Anyone with an interest in spinning may join in, even if you are currently working on something else. The group chair is Sue Garber adwsg.programs@gmail.com

ADWSG WEBSITE

<http://www.adwsg.org>

Follow us on

[FACEBOOK](#)

Join Us for Our Monthly Meetings:

10 am In Person

Northtown Community Center 2202 E.
Waltann Lane,

Phoenix, AZ

Doors Open at 9 am

Come Early and Mingle!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

March 1, 2025

April 5, 2025

May 3, 2025

BRING YOUR OWN CUP

Thank you for bringing your reusable cups,
mugs, and utensils to the meetings.

Let us take care of Our Earth