

THE

MOTHER OF ALL

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

DECEMBER 2024

Volume 53, Issue 3

From the President Desk
Merlyn Heck

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Greetings, Guild Members!

I don't know about you, but December always seems to sneak up on me. This seems odd, since I'm pretty sure I saw Christmas decorations out in stores well before Halloween, and I've been working on holiday gifts for weeks now. And yet, as I write this memo in mid-November, the rush of preparations yet to come makes the time seem so much shorter! In the busy seasons of life, what I most appreciate about fiber arts is the way they seem to stretch time back out. I like to think of a woven shawl or a crocheted dragon as not just a pretty thing to look at, but also a physical representation of time. A small possum doll represents an hour I spent thinking about an old friend and their favorite animal, and how happy they'll be to find this in their mail. A large, intricate dragon was 12 hours spent thinking about our Guild, and how thrilled someone will be to take it home after the raffle. A tiny, pocket-sized duck was 15 minutes that I spent thinking about ducks, and therefore 15 minutes well spent! The time I spend with yarn in my hands is time that I've spent fully in the present, reflecting on the people I love and the things that make the world a more interesting place to live.

When we give and receive handmade gifts, we are really gifting and receiving time and care in a physical form. It's a lovely gesture to bring us into the spirit of the season!

Looking forward to spending some time with all of you at the December meeting,

Merlyn, *President*



DECEMBER 7TH

HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

Get ready for an exciting Holiday extravaganza at our December 7th Guild meeting!

We will open the doors at 9:30. Please bring your delicious treats and most importantly your money. We have so many new items for our raffle- only \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5.

If you have a donation basket to donate, for the raffle, you will find that table marked "Guild raffle baskets" (however any clever container will do).

Now for the Silent Auction! This year is amazing with floor looms, table looms, spinning wheels, new Singer serger machine, new Louet high speed flyer/bobbins, quilters frame, warping frames, and more- hope I got your attention and interest as it looks like something for everyone.

Please bring checks or cash especially for the Silent Auction- we do not have Credit card access. A special gift at the door for all attendees and I heard some incredible baking is happening! It could be the best Holiday party yet!

***Bring a friend or two friends!
The more the merrier.***

ROXANNE EKLUND

roxanne@cedarstudio.com



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.

Thanks.

WAYS & MEANS

Lauren Goldfish

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com



The Ways and Means Committee is wishing you and yours a healthy and peaceful end to 2024.

This month I would like to share ‘a day in the life of a Ways and Means helper, so you, dear reader, get some insight into a small fraction of *what makes our guild go* on a month to month basis. The Ways and Means function of the guild orchestrates the rental and sales of fiber equipment and supplies to offset the guild’s expenses (for example, the storage unit where we keep supplies that support our community).

The guild is contacted regarding materials for donation and depending on where the previously loved holdings are located, a pickup can be coordinated. Loom in Sun City? A guild member with a truck generously offered to help me pick it up. A loom in Lake Havasu or Prescott? Hopefully someone closer can help it find its next home.

All the materials contributed to support the guild wind up in our storage unit (except for a 48” 4H Schacht that’s in my den. Needs a little work, but... interested?). The day of our Saturday meetings, we arrive at the storage unit at approximately 8 am, culling items we think will make a successful raffle, as well as bringing the sound system to the meeting. All must be returned after the meeting. We’ve been fortunate that Roxanne has offered her time and skill to organize our December event, and that folks have been so helpful in handling the very bulky sound system with/for me on meeting days.

On occasion, trips are made to the storage unit ‘off schedule’ to coordinate the drop off or pick up of materials.

It’s incredibly gratifying to help with the Ways and Means Committee: seeing members enjoy a drum carder or try weaving on a Schacht loom without breaking the bank, the excitement of the raffle, and getting to talk with everyone all along the way.

Should you like to join in the fun, whether it be picking up contributions in different parts of the Valley, moving contributions on meeting days, or being a runner during the raffle, we are always grateful for helping hands. Drop us a line at adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com. Thank you!

KNIT, SWIRL! KNIT ALONG (KAL)

Lauren Goldfish

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

Hello to the Knit, Swirl! Knit Along Gang!

At the last meeting, I suggested picking your pattern and yarn for the December meeting.

The most difficult skills you will employ in knitting this sweater:

1. Casting on hundreds of stitches (513 in the picture below). I place stitch markers at every 20 stitches to keep myself straight.
2. Joining your cast on stitches (after knitting three rows) without twisting your stitches.

After that, you'll be cruising through the pattern. The rest is pretty much rows of either knitting or purling. I've knit more in the past four months than I have in ages, simply because of how easy it is to pick up/put down this project.

Resource: Knit, Swirl! Book/Website: <https://knitswirl.com/>

Here's my Knit, Swirl! In progress. This is the Forest Fiesta pattern, the yarn is Noro Tasogare, which has many characteristics of a lovely handspun. Greetings from the thirteenth welt!



KNIT, SWIRL! KNIT ALONG (KAL)

Lauren Goldfish

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

And here is how I keep track of my stitches for this section of the pattern. I'd love to hear how others track their progress!

ST ON 513 stitches

August 5

W.I. Rows 1-1

140969-

512 stitches x 5 = 2560

480 stitches x 5 = 2400

464 stitches x 5 = 2320

448 stitches x 5 = 2240

432 stitches x 5 = 2160

416 stitches x 5 = 2080

400 stitches x 5 = 2000

384 stitches x 5 = 1920

368 stitches x 5 = 1840

352 stitches x 5 = 1760

336 stitches x 5 = 1680

320 stitches x 5 = 1600

Row 1 (RS): K1tbl, (K1 p1) 4 times

Marker, work back 82(91-100-109-118-127-

WORKSHOPS

Roberta Perpich

adwsg.workshops@gmail.com

There is lots of interest in the Western Sakiori Scarf Weaving workshop by Amanda Robinette, the traveling teacher brought to us by the Federation. This is a two-day workshop that will take place on March 29th and 30th. We currently have 14 people (the maximum participants for this workshop) who have expressed interest in this workshop but will have a waiting list at the front table at the December meeting in the event a space opens.

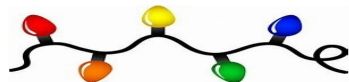
Roberta Perpich 602-316-5866

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



This month I am going to highlight three very different books by Bobbie Irwin. All are available in our Guild Library.

The Spinner's Companion

The definitive tool for spinners, this handy pocket-sized guide is filled with common spinning terms, tips on how to maintain wheels, and lessons on how to process fiber and spin yarn. Appropriate for spinners at every level of ability, this book presents clear, concise instruction on topics such as basic carding techniques, how to dress a distaff, and creating uniform yarns. This instructional guide proves as practical as it is comprehensive. (from Amazon)

Weaving Iridescence: Color Play for the Handweaver

Iridescent fabric shimmers and glows, changing colors depending on how the light hits it. Different colors appear in the folds and pleats, adding surprising layers of color to fabric. To the uninformed it appears magical and difficult, but the truth is that weaving iridescent fabric is accessible to any handweaver who knows the tricks. (from Amazon)

Twined Rag Rugs

Twining rugs is not the same as weaving and does not require a floor loom. This book has complete instructions for building the basic equipment plus step-by-step diagrams and photographs for twining round, oblong and rectangular rugs. There are tips for designing your own rug from old blue jeans, sheets, wool, and more. Irwin has brought this almost lost craft back to life with this book.

Demonstrations

Jody Dozer

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com



May everyone have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season. Demonstrating will occur in the New Year with the Phoenix Quilt, Craft and Sewing Festival January 30 to February 1. Please let me know if you want to demonstrate.

Thank you and have a great Holiday Season. - Jody

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!

MEMBERSHIP

Trish Boone

adwsg.membership@gmail.com

Our Guild is up to 90 members! We have had several brand-new members join so welcome!

New members are Hilary Simms, Carolyn Stang, Vicki Neighbors, Stephanie Wathen, Linda Schoenmakers, Judy Graham, Lindy Isenberg, Beverly Janson, Carol Skelly, and Karen Milaitis. Our new members have found us on Facebook, Google, MeetUp, at our demos and have been referred by friends.

Welcome back to previous members Lorna Spencer and Jill Solberg also. It is great to have you all and look forward to getting to know you at our meetings.

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
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Secretary	Velvet Dishon	adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2024-2025

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Hospitality	Julie Cattaneo	adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com
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Ways & Means	Lauren Goldfish	adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com
Web Site	Anna Akridge	adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

DECEMBER 7TH 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 time 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

DECEMBER 7, 2024

January 4, 2025

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



Great Louet Floor Loom for Sale! BEST OFFER!

A barely used Louet Spring II (\$10,000 Value)

8 shafts installed with 4 shafts add-on kit (12 shafts)

Includes 5 reeds (6,8,10,12,15)

Extra heddles, Matching Bench, Extra Loom Lift System

All documentation! Prescott Area Pick Up!

Linda Schoenmakers 847-946-7368

Did you know - Classified Ads are free to current ADWSG Members - Just send your ad to adwsg.editor@gmail.com

And it will be included in the next MOA