



THE MOTHER OF ALL

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

NOVEMBER 2025

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From the President Desk **Merlyn Heck**

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This is probably a surprise to no one, but I read a lot of sci-fi and fantasy novels. Perilous journeys, political intrigue, and fantastical characters in a setting with dragons and/or lasers just never get old. One of my favorite aspects of these genres is the world building, getting to see all the work the author put into creating a universe out of nothing and making it feel lived-in.

I've watched my writer friends fall down some pretty deep rabbit holes in the name of realism (and pushed them down farther when asked for my input). I thereby hold it my duty as a reader to pick at the fabric of a made-up world and see which threads of research the author followed, and whether they got really excited over a subject I know well. For example, Andy Weir, author of The Martian, displays his engineering background with accurate calculations and plausible solutions to the problems of space survival. However, the wind storms on Mars, while very fast, are not strong enough to pick up and throw around heavy equipment like an Earth tornado.

In fantasy stories, textiles often serve as dressing for both the characters and the setting. If a cathedral is decorated with rich tapestries, where did they come from? Who put the time and effort into making them, and what was so important to depict this way? A character may be dressed in specific colors to reflect status or allegiance, or maybe for a holiday or a special occasion. Ask enough questions, and sometimes you notice the author dropping in a reference to a specific kind of insect that lives on a faraway fantasy continent, which is ground up to make a dye, which is terribly expensive due to its origins and a dicey political situation, and so the character who wears a lot of that color must be very wealthy and possibly making a political statement by dressing that way. Following small details out to the author's conclusion feels like finding a personal Easter egg, a little connection to the author who shared some level of very specific interest with me.

I hope you're all enjoying the things that interest you this fall! Be they stories, crafts, or anything else that brings color to your world. See you at the meeting!

Merlyn, *President*



November 1, 2025 Presentation
Our November meeting
Fiber Journey One: Spinning, What is This??

Members of our guild will be presenting a program on Spinning. We plan to bring A LOT of spinning equipment/tools for show and will plan to demonstrate their use. Come listen as our expert spinners share their expertise. After a brief tease of equipment, members can choose a table and learn about each step in Spinning

We are planning five tables with a resource expert at each table to answer questions. The tables will be

1. Fiber A self guided table
2. Fiber preparation
- 3 Spindles
4. Spinning wheels and beyond
5. Saving money -- ideas on inexpensive tools

MEMBERSHIP

Trish Boone

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Welcome to our new members, Denise Kelly and Kirsia Van Dusen. Thanks to all who have renewed their dues as well! We have 98 current members, and we just keep growing!

Stop by the Welcome table at the next meeting and say hi and pick up your name tag. You can return it to the file box after the meeting for next time or take it with you. If your name tag goes missing, please let me know so a new one can be printed.

Treasurer
Sue Carneal
adwsg.treasurer@gmail.com

Members of the Guild extend their deepest sympathies to Paula Rudnick and her family on the loss of her husband Les.

Demonstrations
Jody Dozer
adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who demonstrated at the Arizona State Fair. What a wonderful way to share our love for fibers with the public. Thank you!

We currently have no upcoming demonstrations, however if opportunities arise, I will put an email out.

Enjoy the Fall weather!



WAYS & MEANS

Riley McInnis & Colette Hogue

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

Thank you for continuing to support the guild by buying raffle tickets at our monthly meetings! We do our best to comb through our holdings to put interesting items out to tempt you. If there are certain types of products that would increase the odds of you taking a chance on winning, be sure to stop by our table at the next meeting and let us know. Hurray!

- This December, our guild will have its annual fundraiser, a mix of raffle and silent auction. Your donations help support our guild! We can accept your donations ahead of time, and we'll be ready to receive your donations at our November guild meeting. We have a lot of great things for the fundraiser this year, so I hope you're all looking forward to it! I know we sure are!
- As per our usual policy for donations, fiber stored with mothballs cannot be accepted. Thank you for keeping this in mind.

Also, we have a few items that we rent out for your use. The rental fee for equipment is \$20/month. The current list for equipment available for rental or sale can be found on our website: <https://adwsg.org/rentals-and-sales>

LIBRARY

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

Your Guild library subscribes to several magazines and has back issues of those and even more that are no longer being published. The current subscriptions are for *Handwoven*, *Ply*, *Weft* and *Shuttle Spindle and Dyepot*. You may check out any of the issues and keep them for the month, returning them at the following meeting. Magazines that are no longer published or no longer subscribed to but available in our library include *Spin Off*, *Weaver's*, *Interweave*, *Weaver's Journal*, *Weaver's Craft*, *American Indian Art*, and *Prairie Wool Companion*.

If you have questions about how to check out library items, just ask! We have lots of books and DVDs on many fiber arts, including both out of print and recently published titles. If there is a title you would like me to consider buying, email me the info. The Guild library is one of the great benefits of being a member.

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.

FEDERATION

Helene Hall

adwsg.federation@gmail.com

AZFED.ORG for all things pertaining to the Federation.

The AZ Federation Board met on Saturday, September 27 via zoom.

TRAVELING TEACHER:

The initial discussions on the traveling teacher program have begun. If there is someone or a topic of specific interest that you'd like, please let me know. We are considering in-person and possibly zoom to accommodate more members. The next traveling teacher is scheduled for 2027.

FEDERATION GRANT:

Kathleen Burns was the recipient of the individual scholarship given by the Federation last year. She took a class on sectional weaving. There will be a Federation Zoom class in the near future, where she will talk about the why and what she learned. More information is coming.

There are some date changes coming for applications for grants, but they have not been finalized. If you are interested in applying for a grant, go to the website and start the process! There is an individual grant and a guild grant available.

AZ Fiber Arts Festival update:

April 10-12, 2026, Camp Verde AZ

As of now we have approximately 20 workshops varying in length from several hours to all day. We also have 4 seminars.

Registration should open on November 15 for guilds, keep an eye on email for confirmation.

There are many opportunities to help out, let me know if you're interested, I'm certain a spot can be found.

Let's make this event even more successful than FIBER FEST 2024!!!

OTHER:

The Federation website (AZFED.ORG) is available to the guild as a way to advertise to the fiber community. Perhaps we'd like to invite members of other guilds to our Holiday fundraiser? We could ask the webmaster to post this on the site.



OFFICERS FOR 2025-2026

President	Merlyn Heck	adwsg.president@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	Carolyn Stang	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 2025-2026

Demonstrations/Publicity	Jody Dozer	adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com
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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
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Ways & Means		adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com
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Next Meeting:

NOVEMBER 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 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 3rd Thursday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 pm. If you want an email reminder, contact me and I will add you to the email list. We always leave having fulfilled our laughter quota!! Join us.

From the front door, proceed to the library in the far back left corner. 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

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

December 6, 2025

January 3, 2026

February 7, 2026

March 7, 2026

April 4, 2026

May 2, 2026

BRING YOUR OWN CUP

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

Let us take care of Our Earth

CALENDAR

September 2025 – September 2026 – Phoenix Art Museum - Flowers of the Punjab

April 10, 11 & 12, 2026 - AZ FIBER ARTS FESTIVAL, CAMP VERDE AZ



June 12-14, 2026 – Complex Weavers Seminars 2026, Westminster, CO

August 11-17, 2026 – HGA Convergence Fiber Arts Conference, New Orleans, LA

July 6-10, 2027 - Intermountain Weavers Conference (IWC), Colorado Springs, CO

CLASSIFIED

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

