

THE MOTHER OF ALL

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

JANUARY 2026

Volume 54, Issue 4

From the President Desk **Merlyn Heck**

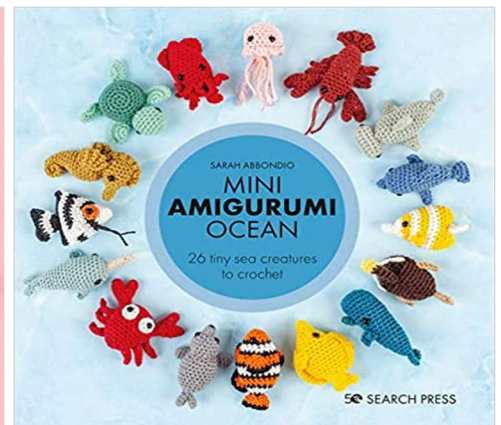
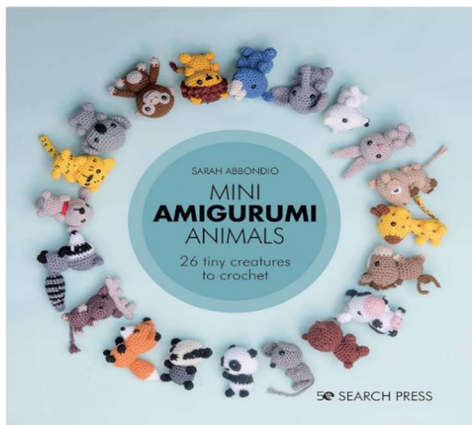
adwsg.president@gmail.com

Happy holidays, everyone!

I'd like to start by thanking you all for a fantastic raffle fundraiser! Whether you joined the Ways and Means team as they bravely sorted through the storage unit, helped Hospitality with set up and clean up, provided organizational support, supplied snacks or baskets or just yourself, you were an important part of making it a great party.

Thinking forward to next year, because our linear experience of time never stops: It's time to think about the Guild Education Grant for the next year! The grant supplies \$250 to one lucky artist, who will use it to learn about a fiber art topic and then give a presentation to the Guild about what they learned. The application can be found at adwsg.org under the Guild Info > Guild Forms tab. It is due in March, the Board will vote on the recipient, and the winner will be announced at the April meeting. So while you're thinking about New Year's Resolutions, perhaps consider adding "learn a cool new fiber technique" to your list!

On my list right now is a goal to crochet every pattern from a series of books by Danish designer Sarah Abbondio. They're simple patterns for various animals, birds, and sea creatures that take under an hour to make and are great for when I want a project with instant gratification. There's no particular reason I have this goal, aside from the satisfaction of seeing all 77 little critters piled together at the end. Do I have a plan for these 77 critters after I've made



From the President Desk
Merlyn Heck

adwsg.president@gmail.com

them all? No, that's a problem for Future Merlyn! You'll probably see them popping up in our meeting raffles eventually, once I'm done admiring the hoard.

I hope that you're all enjoying the holiday season with your favorite people, treats, and activities! See you in 2026!

Merlyn, *President*

JANUARY 3, 2026 Presentation

Our January meeting

***Fiber Journey Two: Weaving - What we do
with the spun yarn***

Members of our guild will be presenting a program on Weaving; we will be bringing a collection of looms (that fit in our cars!) and various pieces of weaving equipment. Our experts will share their expertise, explain uses of each loom, favorite tools and share samples of our woven pieces. We will be available to answer questions during the break. We plan to hit the high notes, expose you all to what we do and provide some resources. Come and see what is available.

WAYS & MEANS

Riley McInnis & Colette Hogue

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

Hello to the Guild in 2026!!!

We want to thank everyone for making our December meeting such a roaring success. It's always fun to get to say hello to everyone each month, but it was such a delight to get together and celebrate the Guild and the holiday season with y'all.

A Bonus shout-out to Julie Cattaneo and Trish Boone for Emceeding, and to Mary Rooney, Jan McInnis, Julie, and our fearless president, Merlyn, for spending a whole morning in the storage unit to put baskets together. We here in Ways and Means are so thrilled we can get into that unit without drowning now! And, of course, a huge thank you to everyone who arrived early to help with setup and takedown. We know some of you were at the storage unit at 6:30am with us, and we're so grateful for your effort and help.

We'll return to our usual raffle format in the January meeting! Meet us next year for more!

Ways and Means,

Colette and Riley

P.S. Riley is planning a trip to the Art Resource Center to make some non-fiber arts donations! If anyone has something they want to get rid of, but not throw away (and give to a great cause), feel free to bring it by, and they will make sure it gets donated! 😊

Demonstrations

Jody Dozer

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

Demonstrators needed for Glendale Folk & Heritage Festival. This is an outdoor event where you get to share your love of fibers while enjoying the relaxed atmosphere of Sahuaro Ranch Park. We need demonstrators Saturday February 28 and Sunday March 1. The festival runs 10 to 5 each day but demonstrations hours may vary.

Please contact Jody if interested.

Thank you,

Jody

jody@dozerlane.com

WEB SITE

Anna Akridge

adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Help Make the Tech Table More Colorful!

You may have noticed a new addition to our monthly tech setup - a second computer! While a fantastic addition to our team, the new laptop is unfortunately...well...really boring.

I'm putting out a call out for fun fiber and craft-related stickers to make this plain black computer a little more exciting! Did you get a crafty sticker with a recent yarn order or in a goody bag? Do you have a punny weaving sticker lying around looking for a home? Bring them to a guild meeting and we'll find a spot for it! Feel free to bring stickers any time - the call remains open until the laptop is covered!

FEDERATION

Helene Hall

adwsg.federation@gmail.com

AZ Fiber Arts Festival update:

April 10-12, 2026, Camp Verde AZ

Registration is open for one and all!!!

Check out the following link:

<https://azfed.org/arizona-fiber-festival/>

Some classes are filling up, so if there's one in particular that you'd like to attend check in soon.

****We still need 100 so needle holders. Please refer to Julie's email for more information on how to make these.**

****We have committed to supplying a raffle basket. Ways and Means has volunteered to collect and organize items for the basket. Please bring items to the guild meeting in January, February and March.**

****ADWSG will host a booth at the Festival. Set up is Friday, April 10 until 3. The vendor hall opens at 4:00 and runs until 6 on Friday. Saturday's hours are 9am to 5pm and Sunday hours are 9am to 3pm after which we can tear down. Please consider signing up as often as possible. Trish will have a sign-up sheet at the January & February Guild meetings. If you're unable to attend the meeting and would still like to sign up, please let me know your availability and I will write you in. Volunteer blocks are 2 hours, but feel free to help out for multiple slots.**

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Helene Hall

adwsg.federation@gmail.com

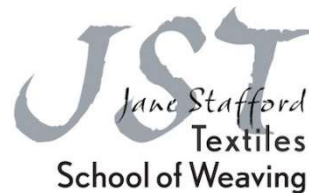
**Other volunteer opportunities will be announced shortly Thanks again for stepping up to make this event a success!

FESTIVAL-CLASS-BROCHURE

Festival Sponsors –



THE
Handweaving
Academy



HOSPITALITY

Julie Cattaneo

adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com

Needle holders needed.

We are almost halfway to our goal of needle holders for the Fiber Festival goodie bags. We need 88-133 more. Please bring them with you to the January 2026 meeting. Let's try and meet our goal then!

Thanks, Julie

Hospitality

I would like to request a volunteer to help me with hospitality. This is a great way to get to know the people of the guild. You have to be at every meeting to make the coffee. It worked for me! Please let me know if you would like to help. Hospitality@azdswg.org

Remember to label any treats donated with the major ingredients, ie flour, eggs, nuts, & dairy products, for those guild members that have allergies. Thank you in advance.

LIBRARY

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

I purchased two new books for the Guild library this month. ***Profile Drafting for Handweavers*** by Deb Essen explains how to use, read and create profiles in weaving drafts. Profile drafts are drafting "shorthand" for weavers, allowing them to create one fabric design and translate it into many weave structures. but many handweavers do not know how to use the drafts. This is the first book dedicated entirely to this key weaving tool. Projects are included in the book so you can put what you learned into practice. (from the Schiffer Publishing website)

The second book is ***Pick-Up Bandweaving Designs*** by Heather Torgenrud. There have been a lot of inkle weaving books checked out of our library in recent months and this book will add to your knowledge of Baltic pick-up with 288 brand new charts for 13 pattern end bands.

Please remember that if there are items from your Dec fundraiser baskets that you have no expectation of using, Helene can use them for the basket we will be providing for the AZ Fiber Arts Festival. Each Guild is expected to provide a raffle basket with a value around \$250. Please, only unused items. This is not a garage sale. Bring items to the January Guild meeting. Items do not have to be from your December winnings but any fiber related items.

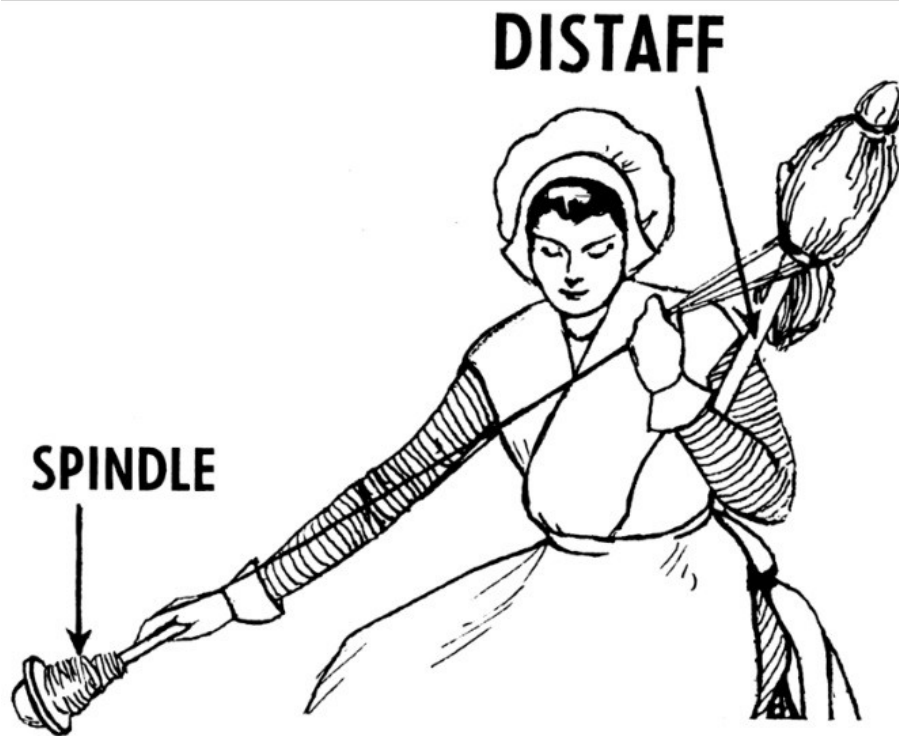
MEMBERSHIP

Trish Boone

adwsg.membership@gmail.com

Welcome to our new members, Sandie Fish, Leva Beach, Jill Hall, Gwyneth Gordon, Dorothy Johnson, Laura Prato and Margaret Lyman. Thanks to all who have renewed their dues as well! We have 108 current members, with new folks joining at every meeting!

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.



OFFICERS FOR 2025-2026

President	Merlyn Heck	adwsg.president@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	Vacant	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
Federation Representative	Helene Hall	adwsg.federation@gmail.com
Historian	Jamie Krauss	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
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Newsletter Editor	Ann Ormiston	adwsg.editor@gmail.com
Ways & Means		adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com
Web Site	Anna Akridge	adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

JANUARY 3rd 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

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