Greetings DFA Members, Fall is fast approaching and we haven’t met since May. It is time for Show & Tell. Did you finish a new project over the summer? Did you go to ANWG? Do anything cool at Dye in the Park? Attend a cool class in the Southwest? Did you get a new tool? Find a new supplier? Win anything at the Fair? We are always interested, come to the meeting and show us. Tell us all about your process.

More from Dye in the Park - Lyn dyed small skeins in graduated shades of yellow. She then used them to add color to her project. She also added textured bands using different types of rib stitch patterns. The two techniques combine to make a beautiful shawl. The shawl will be mailed to her friend in Maine. Bring your dye projects to the next meeting to share with us.

4+MORE WEAVING STUDY GROUP
Tuesday, September 19, 1-3p at DFA Studio, 101 N Union St, Kennewick, Suite 208
TOWEL EXCHANGE! Bring your handwoven towel and take home a different one. We’ll share the weave structure or “recipe” source of our towels, then roll the dice once to shift your towel to a new owner. Everyone is welcome. Details in another article.

DRAW LOOM STUDY GROUP
The Draw Loom Study Group will meet on September 12 from 1-3. We will be watching the DVD for warping pattern shafts also taking about drafting designs. So if someone knows how to draft designs please come and help those that don't.

TAPESTRY STUDY GROUP
We use to meet at Weave your Art Out.
We call our group Freyii Friday, after Susan's tapestry looms that she demonstrated and sold lovingly at her shop. Susan's nurturing blossoms our core tapestry group, we love you Susan. We have woven hours upon hours with your yarns, tools and looms.
Love, spirit and prayers, Freyii Friday, Tapestry
BY THE BOOK KNITTERS

The next meeting will be Tuesday September 19th from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Richland Library in Conference Room A.

We finished up the Seattle Mariners 40th Anniversary afghan for the Summer Reading Program. Holly purchased baseball buttons to add to the afghan. The yarn is purchased by the library and the squares are knit by members of the By the Book Knitters group. It will be a raffle prize for a deserving reader.

We had several new knitters asking about the squares we use to learn to knit, each square uses 2 oz of yarn. Here is the link to the Year of Swatches patterns. Start with the January squares and knit the calendar.
http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/search#query=year%20of%20swatches

Books we read this month
A Hat for Mrs. Goldman by Michelle Edwards (a great kids knitting is love story)
Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden
Chief Inspector Armand Gamache series by Louise Penny (read the whole series in order)
Every Body Yoga: Let Go of Fear by Jessamyn Stanley
Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles
I Let You and I See You by Clare McIntosh
Kiss My Bundt by Chrysta Wilson
Last Hack by Christopher Brookmyre
The Day the World Came to Town by Jim DeFede
The Innocent and the Hit by David Baldacci
The Lost Book of the Grail by Charles C Lovett
The Train to Crystal City by Jan Jarboe Russell
The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry and The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy by Rachel Joyce
The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware
When the English Fall by David Williams (an Amish science fiction book)

GENERAL MEETING HOSTESS NEEDED

Cheryle Kierulff has been doing the job for many years and she would like a break. Thank you Cheryle for all the things you have done. She is willing to help the new person get started and sub once in a while. It comprises setting up snacks and drinks for after the general meeting. If interested call her at 967-5515 to get more information. If you decide to take on the task email me at: karen.lamar@gmail.com to let me know. Karen

TOWEL EXCHANGE SEPTEMBER 19
This will happen at the Fall-kick-off meeting of the 4+More Weaving Study Group. Tuesday, September 19 from 1-3p at the DFA studio.

No real rules, just common sense. Create a towel that's of a size that works to dry things. Perfection is NOT demanded. We are all learning. Bring something that you might enjoy using. A stray float here or there will still dry things fine. This is just for fun and friendship.

Don’t wrap your towel. We’ll share the weave structure or “recipe” source of our towels, then roll the dice once to shift your towel to a new owner. Everyone is welcome. Ask any regular attender; this is a safe place to bring less-than-perfect items and get kind advice on how to do better next time.

SALE OF LOIS JOHNSON’S YARN & TOOLS

Lois willed her fiber arts stash to DFA. The Board decided which tools to add to our DFA equipment. The rest of her fiber estate will be offered to DFA on September 15 & 16 in Lois’ studio space at her home in Stanfield, OR. That’s about 30 minutes from Tri-Cities. All proceeds go to DFA.

Items that don’t sell that weekend will be brought to the DFA studio for a week or two to sell in Kennewick. Then any remaining items will be cleared from the studio.

She has lots of quality yarns and very many handspun skeins. She has boxes of wool roving from her own animals. These will be sold by the oz. The remaining tools will be sold at roughly half the price for them new.

Lois’ studio is at 33398 Bartley Rd., Stanfield OR 97875. Her driveway is hiding between some bushes by the road. There is only room for about 4 cars in her driveway. It’s recommended that you park on the left side of the road, across from her property where you can get off the road a bit.

If you get turned around, call Cheryl Reed’s cell, (509) 318-5293.
**BOOKS ADDED TO THE DFA LIBRARY IN JULY 2017**

*Posts and Rugs: The story of Navajo Rugs and their Homes*  by H.L. James  
This book is based on a classic study of the Navajo rugs with the concern that the craft might end with the Americanization of the Navajo. This author did more studies, took many pictures, some with drawings and tells stories of this wonderful weaving craft. Pictures of the rugs are in color.

*Navajo Textiles: From the Read Mullan Collection*  Published by the Heard Museums  
Colored pictures of the Navajo Rugs from the Read Mullan Collection donated to the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona

*Loom-Controlled Double Weave from the Notebook of a Double Weaver*  by Paul R. O’Connor  
This spiral bound “notebook” is an “informal sharing of the author’s expertise on Loom-controlled double weave for the four and more harnesses.” This book is also referred to as an “In-depth study for double weave enthusiasts.”

*Backstrap Weaving:* Step-by-step techniques on one of the oldest and most versatile looms  
by Barbara Taber and Marilyn Anderson  
Rediscover “primitive” weaving methods, which originated in South America, with the help of the authors.

**CALENDAR**

*Sale of Lois Johnson’s Yarns & Tools*  
Friday & Saturday, September 15 & 16, 10a-3p in Lois’ studio space, 33398 Bartley Rd. Stanfield OR 97875. Details in another article.  

*DFA Studio Booked*  
**Sept. 8-10, NwRSA Judges Training, Part 2**  
Judges in Training will learn from Marie Gettmann. This is one of the steps in becoming a certified judge for fairs through the Northwest Regional Spinners Association. The studio will host this class starting Friday night and going to Sunday afternoon.

*Spinning and Weaving Week October 7-13.* See some ideas for activities at http://www.weavespindye.org/ideas-that-work.

*MAWS Fiber Arts Expo Threads of a Feather Flock Together* October 20-23, 2017  
Deadline for registration September 29th  
Come join us for a weekend of classes, open sewing, shopping and FUN!  

*Textile Society of America 2018 Symposium*  
September 19-23, 2018  
https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/  
“The Social Fabric: Deep Local to Pan Global”  
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre: 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC  
V6Z 2R9  
(604) 331-1000 / sheratonvancouver.com

*MAWS Montana Ass of Weavers and Spinners*  
http://www.bozemanweaversguild.org/MAWS-2018  
Convergence 2018, Handweavers Guild of America  
July 6-12, 2018, Peppermill Resort & Spa, Reno, NV  

**FELTED HAT CLASS**  
We are doing a hat class on the farm on September 23 and 24 which is alpaca farm days. We will work from 10-1:00 each day so the hat has time to dry. The class is $225 and if they bring their own fiber sheet which needs to be at least 18x18 inches then they wont have to purchase mine which are $20. We can set up another class for DFA if no one wants to do the Sept. class. We need two days for the hat to dry to finish it. What say you? Can you e-blast the class time and cost to see if there is interest? We can do 6 people and we have two already. I need 4 minimum to do the class. All other materials will be a part of the cost.  
Then they could go down the road to Jennifer’s to her open house for the afternoon to see the baby alpacas and other vendors. Downtown they can go to the huge harvest festival which I have been trying to get a group of us for 3 days to invest the time with a DFA booth. I just can't do the three days by myself. Linda Mackey 509-786-3419

**If you can’t make it to the September class we can schedule another at the Guild House at a later time.**  
All we need is 4 people to make a class. If interested email karen.lamar@gmail.com or Connie Schlosser at connieschlosser@yahoo.com
Lois: “My draft mule is neurotic. My riding mule wants to squash anything that comes into her pasture. The sheep are paranoid. The only sane critter on the ranch is our Australian shepherd.” Me: “Sounds like you need a pet psychiatrist at your place.” Lois laughed, her shoulders bouncing up and down at the absurdity. That was in the late 1980’s. We met for the first time at a Chapter One meeting of DFA. [Chapter One was a branch of DFA that met in the Lower Yakima Valley.]

Lois and Dick moved to Hermiston from California in 1985. Lois was interested in spinning and weaving. She heard of the Desert Fiber Arts Guild, but chose to attend our “Chapter One” group in the Lower Yakima Valley. I think she liked the fewer people at those meetings and enjoyed meeting at different farms in the Lower Valley.

In the early 1990’s, Lois began a correspondence course in weaving. Weaving with Robert & Roberta by Robert and Roberta Ayotte arrived chapter by chapter each month. She ordered the yarns the Ayottes offered for each project. She followed their tips on selling your products. She filled a small booth each holiday season in Hermiston selling her scarves, table linens and ruanas. She did commission work on saddle blankets, men’s vests, and blankets in the official Harley Davidson tartan. The variety of her projects was impressive.

In the early 2000’s Lois encouraged some DFA friends to take the same course to learn to weave. That was the beginning of our 4-shaft Weaving Study Group, that has grown into our 4+More Weaving Study Group.

Dianna Chesley: Lois UNDERSTOOD weaving. The Ayotte program honed her skill where she could understand weave structure and how to figure appropriate yarn needs. She was always free to give some help... many times she came here to help me with all kinds of weaving needs. And she was perfectionistic enough to take her weaving out if she found an error... remember that blanket she wove where the two sections needed to match perfectly... she unwove 13 inches because she found an error...

Sharon Ofsthun: As a new weaver I would call her for help reading drafts or confusing instructions. She would always help me either by phone or she would mail me pictures and solutions to my problem, even if they were stupid questions.

Lois loved routines. Each night in front of the TV news, she would spin on her gorgeous Jensen spinning wheel. Her fibers were harvested from her fiber critters. As we cleaned for the sale this month, Dick showed us one of her handcrafted dulcimers. There was a mother-of-pearl inlay of her llama, her sheep, her angora goat and her angora rabbit. Some of her sheep came from my flock. When a wether produced a lovely fleece, I’d put a plea in the DFA newsletter for someone to save him from the freezer. They lived long pampered lives on her farm.

Lois was an RN. Her attention to detail carried into her dyeing. She used carefully measured amounts so she could replicate a color. Her studio had notebooks and samples with her formulas.

Lois fed and neutered several feral cats in her barn. She loved critters. Nothing made her more angry than neglected beasts. That’s why it was suggested that to honor her memory, you donate to the animal rescue organization of your choice.

She was a firm believer in Murphy’s Laws. “The one time a weaver decides NOT to sample, is the one time she weaver SHOULD have sampled.” “Yardage shrinks in proportion to the beauty of the cloth...about 75% on lovely fabric, and less than 1% on fabric that looks and feels like burlap. Corollary: There never seems to be enough fabric for the whole pattern.”

Lois succumbed to dementia, but even as her brain failed, she warped up her workshop loom with simple mug rugs to weave from her stash of sock yarns. Playing with fibers was her joy for as long as she could weave or spin.

Lois willed thousands of dollars worth of equipment, yarns and fiber to DFA. Through those gifts, she will continue to encourage DFA members into the future.
Hello

I would like to thank Desert Fiber Arts for sponsoring the award given to me at the ANWG Conference in Victoria, and for your interest in my work.

Thank you

Sandra Brooks

TO SEE AND DO


CONFLUENCES, ANWG CONFERENCE 2019

2019 ANWG Conference in Prince George, BC June 11-16, 2019. More info in newsletter. Email pgfibrearts@gmail.com to get onto the email list for Conference updates.

Prince George, BC, is hosting the next ANWG conference, June 11-16, 2019. The themes plays off the confluence of rivers around Prince George, and on the confluence of cultures in the area. First Nations, and immigrants from all over the world, most recently Syrian refugees. The colors for this conference are the colors of the aurora borealis, purple, magenta, electric blue, green and yellow.

Prince George is home to about 75-80,000 people. The conference will be held in the Civic Center, the Marriott Hotel and possibly surrounding hotels. There are lots of campgrounds around the city, if you prefer to enjoy their beautiful outdoors. The pre-conference workshops will be 2 days long, followed by the usual 3-day conference.

The keynote speaker is Abby Franquemont of spindle-spinning fame. Go to YouTube to watch Abby sum up her fiber experience in 1 minute in her “Channel Welcome Video.” Her multi-cultural background makes her a perfect speaker for “Confluences.”

Start saving your pennies now. I plan on about $1000 for the full week plus travel expenses. One idea would be for Eastern WA to charter a bus to take us all up there.

Do we have any travel agents in DFA to pull that together?

RIGID HEDDLE STUDY GROUP

Hello RHSGers! (Is there such a word?) Keeping our meetings going through the summer was a good plan. Only one meeting had to be cancelled. Pam Root and Dorothy Mucha spent a week in Window Rock, Arizona, learning Navajo weaving. Kathy Myers has been in Minnesota relaxing and weaving. Where has your weaving and travels taken you this summer? Did you get any new ideas to share? Bring your finished as well as in-progress work for sharing and inspiration.

Now onto a new year of weaving and learning. Meetings will continue on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, 1-5 p.m. A hands-on plan for learning new techniques will be unveiled at the next RH meeting. Your input is greatly appreciated as to what direction you would like your weaving to take. Let’s work and weave together. See you there.
FAIR AWARDS

Best of Class Handwoven Neil Kierluff
Best of Class Felted Item Judy Rice
Best Use of Color Judy Rice
Best Original Design Hope Harkins
Best Handspun Item Connie Schlosser
Best Next Generation Savanah Edwards
Best Handspun Yarn Lara Felts
Best Special Challenge Item Judy Rice

THANK YOU TO THE DRIVERS

The Mc Curley’s August fund raise drive was another successful event. Thank you to all the drivers that participated and thank you to Robin Phillips for checking people in while Dorothy was on a weaving vacation. We have one more drive in October to complete this year’s fund raising. New drivers are always welcome to sign up.
You can be a part of the Desert Fiber Arts Guild. To join send a $25 check along with your name, address and phone to Desert Fiber Arts, P O Box 1004, Richland WA 99352

Desert Fiber Arts newsletter Advertisements;
Members - $1.00 per vertical inch, 8 inch width.
Non-Members - $2.00 per vertical inch, 8 inch width.

National Alpaca Farm Days at
Sage Bluff Alpacas
Saturday and Sunday, September 23rd and 24th 11am to 4pm
8401 S. Steele Road, Prosser

To all DFA members...

You are cordially invited to "come spin awhile" (or weave or knit or...) at Sage Bluff Alpacas last open house of the season, Saturday and Sunday, September 23rd and 24th from 11am to 4pm.  As always, come when you can, leave when you must... one day or both.

You are welcome to bring your gorgeous creations to sell.  And John will prepare his famous hearty lunch.  (Please RSVP for lunch preparations, thank you.)

Our farm visitors so enjoy seeing your "fiber to fashion" demonstrations!
And you'll connect with other lovely friends from "up the valley."

Wanda Carpenter will be teaching her braided rug class on Sunday.  If you can join us, wonderful, thank you!

See you here!

Jennifer Ely
509-786-4507
ejly@sagebluffalpacas.com