June 6, 1-3 Stafford Weaving Group at Marion’s, 72205 E Grand Bluff Loop, Kennewick
June 10 and 24th 12-4 Rigid Heddle at the Guild House
June 11th 10-12 Draw Loom Study Group at the Guild House
June 18th 6:00 to 8:00 By the Book Knitters at the Richland Public Library
August 1st Deadline for Benton-Franklin County Fair Entry Forms—just the forms online

BENTON-FRANKLIN FAIR

The fair August 21st to the 25th is where thousands of people see our work each day. The fair is where our work is judged by a trained judge who makes comments. It is a great place to learn and improve our skills. We can demonstrate or help others try weaving, spinning or any other craft you want to share. People are needed to help with set-up, demonstrating, take down or making a list of volunteers. Contact Marion or attend Rigid Heddle June 10th.

STAFFORD WEAVING STUDY

Thursday, June 6, 1-3pm
at Marion’s, 72205 E Grand Bluff Loop, Kennewick 99338.
Topic: Warp-faced weaving
The video for this lesson came out May 23. Bring any warp-faced projects you’d like to share. Other weaving projects and questions are welcome too. Visitors are welcome.

NEWS FROM THE DRAW LOOM

The Draw Loom is approaching the end of its warp! So far three lucky ladies have had a chance to test out their drawing abilities. Lori Sanchez, Kathy Thorndike and a mystery woman. Beautiful fabrics and ideas have blossomed! Stop by and check out the progress next time you are in the studio. If you’d like to get in on the fun of trying out the Draw Loom please contact Susan Schmieman to get on the schedule.
Desert Fiber Arts will be hosting Joanne Hall for a September 17, 18 & 19th workshop on the warping, threading and weaving techniques. The 17th of September overlaps with a McCurley car drive, please consider driving as some of our regular drivers will be attending the Draw Loom workshop.
Next Draw Loom Meeting will be June 11th to put the finishing touches on our Draw Loom Workshop.

INTERNET AT THE STUDIO

Want to use the internet at the studio? A “US Cellular Hotspot” is in the office with instructions for use. Need to use the guild computer? Want to work on the web site with your laptop? Or perhaps use it with your cell phone if you don’t want to use your own data quota. Want to view a “How-To” video on the TV in the classroom? Bring your laptop or other device with HDMI cable to plug into the TV. There are 2 Gig available each month and has 4G speed. It has been used only very slightly. This is our answer to internet at the studio at a low cost. (It is currently being donated.)
Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 18th from 6:00 – 8:00pm in Conference Room A at the Richland Library.

Please bring in any Richland High Squares you have made so it can be assembled for the library.

A BIG Thanks to Connie Schlosser who came and taught everyone how to make Wool Dryer Balls. The knitters had a great time making something just a bit different tonight. She brought Pendleton selvedges from the DFA Fiber Stash for the knitters to use and each maker contributed $1.00 for each dryer ball they made. Just over $40.00 was donated. Everyone had a great time making dryer balls.

Another Really Big Thanks to Sue Spencer for writing down all the title of books that were shared this month while I was on vacation.

Books we read and shared this month.
- Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Kwan
- Dishing the Dirt by M. C. Beaton
- Hiss and Hers by M.C. Beaton
- Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly
- Midwives by Chris Bohjalian
- Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- Residence by Kate Andersen Brower
- Rump by Liesl Shurtliff
- Tell Me Three Things by Julie Buxbaum
- The Golden Tresses of the Dead by Alan Bradley
- The Jury by Steve Martini
- The Other Woman by Sandie Jones
- The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See
- Unmarriageable by Soniah Kamal
- Unplanned by Abby Johnson
- Widow Walk by Gar La Salle

RIGID HEDDLE STUDY GROUP

2018-2019!!! What a busy year it has been. Double heddle for some, 3 heddles and twill for Don, double density sleying, pickup, leno, rag and textured fabric weaving, tapestry and other weft faced techniques, several new members, first ever Beginning Rigid Heddle class and featured artist group at the Allied Arts Biennial Membership Show . . . . Yes, a busy year!! And now on to the summer. The study group will continue to meet throughout the summer, 2nd and 4th Monday’s as usual, but keep an eye on the calendar and watch for any blasts that come out. We may add some flexibility with activities of demonstrating, or meeting in the park or . . . . whatever interesting ideas that come up.

This next meeting, June 10, 12-4 PM we’ll go over Benton Franklin Fair how-to’s. We’ll use the *Hotspot at the studio and get the BFF site up on our TV so everyone can see how to navigate the exhibitors section, what you will be able to exhibit and into which department the item(s) would apply to.

The new Ashford rigid heddle looms are now available for rent. Carol Kaminsky made beautiful embroidered tote bags for them. Each loom will come with 3 heddles, 7.5, 10 and 12.5 dent so the renter can choose different sets for projects. The complete package rents for $10/month through the DFA web site: Log in to: http://www.desertfiberarts.org/desert-fiber-arts-shop/ choose Equipment Rental, then follow the prompt. D. Mucha and K. Myers

LATEST BOOKS IN THE DFA LIBRARY

Eco Color: Botanical Dyes for Beautiful Textiles  by India Flint

Summer & Winter Plus: The Best of Weavers Series  by Madelyn Van der Hooft Editor


Stubenitsky Code by Marian Stubenitsky
MCURLEY CAR DRIVE
Twelve happy Desert Fiber Arts Members completed the first leg of the May “Make a Wish” Car Drive for the McCurley dealerships Tuesday, May 21, 2019. The return drive May 27th will mark the two-thirds milestone for our McCurley fundraisers this year! Mark your calendars for the final fundraising drive and don’t miss out on the fun and laughter! The next car drive is September 17, 2019 with the return on September 22, 2019. The next drive overlaps with the Joanne Hall Draw Loom workshop so many of our regular drivers will be unavailable as they will be attending the Tuesday workshop.

Thank you DFA drivers,

Gary Johnson Carol Hall Marion Halupczok Duane Klotz Marilyn Lord Dorothy Mucha Robin Phillips Lisa Saget (backup driver) Jan Salsberry Lori Sanchez Larry Taylor Kathy Thorndike (KJ) Leslie Wiberg

Thank you to everyone for such a successful drive. The nice part about the cloudy day was that you weren’t thinking of all the fun you could be having doing yard work!! Watch for Marion H.’s photo of us happy drivers waiting for our van ride to the next dealer.

A special Thank You to the folks that drove for DFA that aren’t actually members: Gary Johnson, friend of Carol Hall, that drove from the west side – Seattle area— to help us out; Also Thank you to Lisa Saget in her leg cast for being our backup driver; (we had the 12 required drivers so Lisa went home to play!!) Spouse of DFA members: Duane Klotz, spouse of Nancy Klotz. However you were coaxed into driving, Thank you so much for coming.

Jennie Bass and Sue DeMerchant provided us with our snack packs. After the second car delivery, we were all diving in for goodies. First time driver and new member Marilyn Lord said, “She had a good time.” It’s a great way to get to know your fellow DFA member better and share in the camaraderie.

Several of the drivers for today will be driving again Monday, May 27, 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 ish. The way things went today, finished by 2:15 p.m., if they sell a goodly number of cars, we will be finished earlier.

Also, A special Thank you to McCurley Auto Sales for providing this great opportunity for our guild.

THANKS
Transition time! The Desert Fiber Arts family’s leadership transitioned to new officers on May 23rd. The board met at the Richland Library for a mini board meeting to discuss carpet for the studio and to work on the budget prior to the transition meeting. Leslie Wiberg and Jennie Bass did wonderful job over the past year and years respectively! Huge THANK YOU! to both of you! Gayle Kerr takes over for Jennie, DFA Secretary, Pam Root joins Robin Philips as our co- Vice Presidents and Marion Halupczok will attempt to fill Leslie’s big shoes as President. Rebecca Harkin anchors the board as our Treasurer. Fond Farewells and Welcomes are in order.

He who works with his hands is a laborer.
He who works with his hands and his head is a craftsman.
He who works with his hands, his head, and his heart is an artist.
-- Louis Nizer
MORE CUSTOMERS FOR YOUR CREATIONS

One thing we know from 6 years of running our DFA Fall Sale is that most of us are not wired to be ad men. The weakest team on the Sale and on our Allied Arts Exhibit is our advertising team. Our ideas are decent but we balk at actually making contact with folks who could help us get the word out about our event.

We can’t change our personalities. But there are techniques that work with our skill sets. Here’s a few things we’ve learned about modern marketing. Maybe you can help us with one of them.

1. Let local influencers know about the event.

   Last year for the Sale, Jennifer Ely contacted a sorority in Prosser. Two DFA members did a short demonstration of the process of making yarn and knit/woven fabric. They shared some of our items that would be in the Sale. The sorority sisters organized a car caravan to Badger Mountain Yarns!

   Sharon Ofsthun simply shared one of our FB posts about our Allied Arts Exhibit with an artist friend. The artist shared that post with all of her artist contacts on FB.

   Who do you know that might share news of our Fall Sale around our community? We’re looking for influencers in Walla Walla and the Yakima Valley as well. If you don’t want to make the contact, simply share your contact with the Sale publicity committee [contact below]. It’s not too early to ask clubs to include our demonstration in one of their September or October meetings.

2. Pitch to local news.

   Who do you know at local TV stations, radio stations and newspapers/magazines? The publicity committee can write up a press release and send it to your contact.

   This includes our marketing area from Ellensburg through the Basin to Walla Walla. Any media outlet that serves customers within a two- or two-and-a-half-hour radius of Tri-Cities. We are ALL interesting fiber artists. If we pitch this as local human interest, we can get the publicity for free. Many monthly news magazines need our article NOW for their fall publications.

   If you can help in any of these ways, please contact our Fall Sale Committee, chairman to be determined, or the Fall Sale Committee’s publicity committee led by Jennifer Ely (jely@sagebluffalpacas.com). The payoff? More customers for your wares.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Sue Silliman
Kennewick, WA 99337
206-369-0209
lookin_up@mac.com
Area of interest: Knitting
Would like to be involved in: Annual Fund Raising Sale, McCurley Drive Fund Raiser

Kathy and Lee Wetherell - Kennewick, WA
Area of interest: Clothing, Knitting and Weaving
Would like to be involved in: Annual Fund Raising Sale, Demonstration Events

Susie Heller - Kennewick, WA
Area of interest: Weaving, Spinning and Dyeing
This brings our current membership to 140.
Thank you,
Carol Kaminsky
DFA Membership Coordinator
509-619-0233

‘Knitting Is Coding’ and Yarn Is Programmable in This Physics Lab
For Elisabetta Matsumoto, knot theory is knit theory.
The NY Times, May 17, 2019
“For Dr. Matsumoto, knitting is more than a handicraft hobby with health benefits. She is embarking on a five-year project, ‘What a Tangled Web We Weave, funded by the National Science Foundation, to investigate the mathematics and mechanics of ‘the ancient technology known as knitting.’”
Read the article here:
GREETINGS FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

DFA Membership renewal time has come.

The DFA Membership Year runs June 1st – May 31st. Dues may be paid now but are due by June 1st for the fiscal year. Members who have not paid by the end of June cease to have membership privileges.

Renew online. It is easy, saves paper, and gives you an opportunity to review and update your profile, i.e. changes to your interests, address, phone, email, etc. To renew online, go to www.desertfiberarts.org log-in and click on Membership. (Not sure of your password? Click “Forgot your password?” the Reset link will be emailed)

Move down the page just beyond Step 1 “Register Membership” to begin your renewal, be sure to choose “Member Dues – 2019/2020” the button on the left. Note: The 2018/2019 button may not have dropped off yet.

There are two pages to review before adding your renewal to the cart. At the end of the second page click the ‘add to cart’ button. At this point, you can click on the link to Add-On Family Members (that share the same household address) that might be interested in using DFA benefits. After adding the family members to the cart, you can make a donation by clicking on continue shopping or click on the “proceed to checkout” button or PayPal. Annual dues are $25 plus $1 for each additional family member. We accept credit card, PayPal, check, and cash. Please make checks payable to DFA. When your check clears, your membership will be renewed.

Or Complete an application form (click on DFA Membership From in the Description box) mail the completed form along with your check to: DFA, P.O. 1004, Richland, WA 99352

Please note: Completing a paper application form or the online form are very important to for the processing of your membership payment. So please complete one or the other and submit it with your payment online or in the mail.

Peggy is the winner of the Early Bird Drawing held at our May Meeting. There were 63 names in the drawing, and you did not have to be present to win. Once again I want to thank everyone that renewed their DFA Membership early and participated in this traditional drawing. If you would like to donate raffle items for next years Early Bird Drawing they are always welcome. To make a donation, please contact Carol Kaminsky, DFA Membership Coordinator at 509-619-0233.

Editor’s note

A number of members have indicated on their membership forms that they would like to work on the newsletter. I like to think all of you as a part of the newsletter. I welcome your input. If you have found a good resource, read a helpful book, seen a worthwhile exhibit or learned a new trick to make our craft easier please share. Photos are always appreciated. Send in your articles and I will try to include them. Bonnie Baker

We are hungry for things that have touched human hands.

—Faith Popcorn
FIBER FEST
White Bluffs has a grant for a Fiber Fest in October. Would DFA or individuals be interested in a booth? Attend the meeting:

Please join us on Sunday, June 2 at 12 noon
White Bluffs Quilt Museum
294 Torbett Street in Richland,
for a brief meeting to discuss the scope of the project
And where you might help.

For a program description, go to our web site
www.whitebluffscenter.org

See you on Sunday.
Virginia