January 9th 10am at Marion’s Move Peggy to the Guild House  
January 9th 1pm Peggy Study Group at the Guild House assemble Peggy  
January 10th 1-3 Tapestry group at the Guild House  
January 13th 10am to noon DFA Board Meeting at the Guild House  
January 13th and 27th noon to 4 Rigid Heddle at the Guild House  
January 21st 6-8pm By the Book Knitters at Richland Public Library  
January 16th 6:30pm General Meeting at the Guild House  
January 30th Jane Stafford Study Group 1-3 at Mary Thomas’ 6983 rd, Kennewick

General Meeting  
January 16th  
6:30pm at the Guild House

The program for January’s general meeting is a presentation by Susan Schmieman on her weaving week in Perugia, Italy. Susan wove in a workshop which has been in use since the 1300’s. She wove on a loom built in 1750. The presentation will focus on weaving on a jacquard loom and warping with a large number of threads at one time while maintaining a single thread cross. We will have the opportunity to see and hear about some of the very old techniques of the ancient crafts we are keeping alive. Bring your show and tell.

BY THE BOOK KNITTERS

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 21st from 6:00 – 8:00pm in Conference Room A at the Richland Library. Bring your recent projects, dreams for your upcoming projects and remember:

“Knitting is endlessly interesting. Knitting lets you turn one thing into another, and better than that, a variety of ‘anothers.’ A ball of yarn could be anything at all: a hat, a book cover, a bag. For the love of wool, Debbie New knit a boat. (It’s seaworthy, too.) That innocent-looking string could be anything, and it’s all up to the knitter.” Stephanie Pearl-McPhee, Knitting Rules! p. 14.

photo of Debbie New in coracle
RIGID HEDDLE STUDY GROUP
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY #8
Meeting times: January 13 and 27, 12-4 PM

Happy 8th Anniversary, RHSG!! Our first meeting was January, 2012. But winter weather had other ideas-- lots of snow and ice. So we actually met at the home of Alice Ikenberry in February. From the initial gathering of 6 members, we have grown to 30 plus rigid heddle weavers!!
The original outline and goals have served us well. With added weavers comes expanded ideas to explore. From plain weave to complex 2 heddle techniques – even 3 heddles with member Don Ashley, we have found that the weaving horizons continue to stretch beyond, beckoning for us to try new techniques, create new ideas from traditional applications. The only limitation is your imagination. The DFA motto: Each One, Teach One, has served us well.
In that mode, we plunge into 2020! We were ahead of our time as Kathy Myers taught us how, in 2013, to recycle plastic bags into a more lovely bag made from plarn. Recent legislation in both Washington and Oregon is attempting to implement NO plastic bags statewide. Let’s use our creativity yet again as we will revisit the steps in this technique at our January meeting.
To get started, bring 12-18 plastic grocery bags, a rotary cutter and self healing mat, a quilter’s ruler or straight edge to use for cutting strips of plastic, (think color combination if you have a variety). A handout of instructions will be available

JANE STAFFORD STUDY GROUP
Thursday, Jan 30, 1-3pm
at Mary Thomas’ home, 6983 W 23rd Ave, Kennewick, 99338.
We are starting Season 4: Twills on 4. See a description of the 10 lessons online, https://janestaffordtextiles.com/online-guild/
Consider this: JST Online Guild has a yearly membership fee. As long as you are a member, you have access to ALL the lessons in ALL the previous seasons. So if you are a new weaver, you can benefit from the Basics in Season 1 and the Color & Design lessons in Season 2, as well as all the studies in Plain Weave of Season 3. Or simply jump into Season 4 on 4-shaft Twills.
No matter where you are in Jane’s lessons, you are welcome to benefit from all the encouragement and sharing in our own DFA study group. Visitors to the group are welcome; we simply cannot share the online information with you without robbing Jane of her livelihood. But anyone can attend and share their weaving projects, ask questions, get help warping, etc. Questions? Contact Cheryl Reed, cheryldavisreed@gmail.com, (509) 318-5293.
This is DFA. Any group of members who want to start an evening meeting of the Stafford Study are free to do so. Simply let the Board know and post your meetings in the DFA newsletter.

TAPESTRY STUDY GROUP
The tapestry study group meets Friday January 10th 1 to 3 at the guild house. Contact Paula Grey with questions.

CALLING ALL DFA MEMBERS INTERESTED IN WORKING ON THE AVL
Peg Assist Dobie Loom (aka: PEGGY)!
January 9th at 10am for the heavy lifting. Please meet at Marion’s garage (72205 E. Grand Bluff Loop, Kennewick) at 10am to inventory and transport Peggy to the DFA studio. We will be labeling parts and pieces for ease of assembly. AVL Team will re-convene January 9th at 1pm at the DFA studio. We will begin the process of assembling Peggy. Please join us as we brainstorm the possibilities of the new study group and planning for an AVL instructor come to DFA. The study group kicks off to research and learn about our newly acquired AVL LOOM.

SLOW SKILLS FOR RICHNESS & BEAUTY
“Do you cook?” she asked me.
“No,” I said.
“Do you garden?”
“No.”
“Do you sew?”
“No.” I blushed, unsure how to justify myself and suddenly reconsidering my life choices.
“Well, you see,” Hicks said, “all that’s gone.” And with those three simple questions, she appeared satisfied. According to Hicks, living an honest, mindful life requires a devotion to making; and by de-prioritizing such “slow” skills, we lose opportunities for richness and beauty.
from Alina Cohen’s interview with fiber artist Sheila Hicks.
DECEMBER 9, 2019 BOARD BRIEF:

Items discussed:

**Mid-Columbia Library Display** will be installed February 1. Susan Schmieman is leading the talented team. The display case is divided into compartments that could easily accommodate the many facets of DFA. Susan and team will be contacting members to assist by loaning their beautiful work/projects for the display. Huge THANK YOUs to our Susan Sch, Rene J, Leslie W, Sue DeM, Lynn B and Lisa for volunteering their time and expertise.

**Mid-Columbia Library Fyber Monday** (name is TBD). The partnership between DFA and MCL is moving forward with only a few speed bumps. We scheduled the MCL Fyber Night to be the 3rd Monday of the month. The calendar created a challenge as BOTH 3rd Mondays in January and February are holidays, thus MCL is closed. SOOOOO… mark your calendar for January 6th soft opening of Fyber Monday and February 3rd for the hard opening of Fyber Monday. The remainder of the year we will be meeting at MCL the 3rd Monday from 7-8:30pm.

**KEYS:** DFA has 29 keys that have been confirmed in member’s hands. However, there may be as many as 40 keys “out there”. As our membership grows, we need to have a better handle on our security. Suggestions have been made to re-key the front lock, put a key code lock on the front door and/or add security cameras. These suggestions are being researched. We are in the process of developing a KEY procedure.

**Computer Upgrades:** Our wonderful new studio printer is not compatible with our current desk top. The board is considering replacing the Treasury Laptop and shifting the current laptop to use in the DFA Studio office. More researching is necessary.

**Taxes:** DFA will receive it’s first Tax Bill in January. Procedure will need to be developed to help us keep track of our inventory, spending, and depreciation.

**Logo:** DFA members chose the circular version of the DFA Logo at the November 25th General Meeting. Work is continuing on our logo to be compatible with electronic media and registering the Logo. Work in Progress.

**Insurance:** Our insurance is up for renewal January 30, 2020. We are in the process of shopping for insurance that fits the needs of our organization.

**New Donation:** DFA has taken ownership of a Peg-Assist AVL loom. Her name: Peg-A-sist or Peggy. Currently she is housed in piece, in Marion’s garage. A new study group will be forming in January to learn about how Peg-Assist AVL looms operate. We hope to have Peg-A-sist join us at the studio in March. Contact Dorothy, Kathy or Marion if you’d like to receive information on this exciting new learning opportunity for DFA.

**Christmas Party Reports**

**A Heartfelt Thank-You**

Thank-you to everyone who worked to organize a beautiful, thoughtful Holiday Party. The ends and outs, the lefts and rights, not to mention the “acrosses!” Every aspect was beautiful and meaningful in a special way that uplifted my Holiday Spirit. Thanks-you for the gifts and for honoring the special members who work to make DFA an outstanding guild. What a turnout of members: such a blessing to see so many and meet our new members.

Judy

P.S. Did you taste that carrot cake?!!!!?

**From Our Party Chairmen**

Karen Lamar and I want to thank all of the volunteers who helped make the Christmas program a success. The food was marvelous and we had a great turnout. The room was full and very cheery. Merry Christmas to all of our members and their families and friends. (If you enjoyed Dorothy's apple crisp as much as I did ask her for the mystery ingredient)

Pam Root

**Sugar scrub receipe** Several people have asked about the recipe for the sugar scrub that everyone received at the Christmas party. Fill the jar half full with any olive oil, then add a quarter cup of granulated sugar. Stir. If you want the mix to be "scrubbier" add another tblsp of sugar.

**From Marion**

We got a wonderful surprise after the Christmas party when an 8 shaft Mighty Wolf loom appeared in the back of our donor's pickup truck. Kathy and Dorothy are checking it over. It was a nice Christmas present for our Guild. More information will be forthcoming.
A NEW STUDY GROUP COMING TO DFA: SPINNING WITH INTENT

A new study group will be starting up this spring. The purpose of this study group is to grow as spinners, to help new spinners develop technique and start experienced spinners on the path to spinning with intent. (i.e. with a project in mind). This study group will focus on spinning yarn for a specific purpose. We will begin with bulky yarn with a pattern in mind for yarn gauge and yardage. Once the yarn is spun, the project will then be knit to test how well we did. (alternates to knitting might be possible if you don’t knit)

Whether you are new to spinning and want to learn the finer techniques of spinning yarn or just want to brush up on your craft, “Spinning with Intent” Study Group is for you. We will meet twice a month (the 2nd and 4th Saturdays 9:00-1:00). You can supply your own fiber if you like, but I am planning to purchase roving in bulk for everyone to buy what they need - at the reduced bulk cost. I don't plan to mark up the fiber but pass along the savings to everyone. A bump of fiber will be brought to the study sessions and a scale so that we can use what we need. This will allow for re-do's and practice attempts if they are necessary and getting additional fiber for a 2nd project, etc. If you don’t know how to spin, there are a few months before this begins to learn the basics of spinning (how to draft, how to make your feet and hands work together, etc. - nothing fancy - just to know how fiber is spun and not be totally new to spinning.)

Tentative schedule (subject to change)
March 28th – Getting to know each other and our wheels. Bring some fiber to work on (or some will be available for purchase) - and your wheel or drop spindle.
April 11th – Spinning super bulky yarn. Estimated fiber cost will be approximately $3.50 (or bring your own). Extra fiber will be available for purchase if needed. We will be working on spinning the yarn for this pattern: Winter Morning Headband (it’s a free one).
April 25th – Knitting Winter Morning Headband
May 9th- Spinning Bulky yarn. Estimated fiber cost will be approximately $6. We will be working on spinning the yarn for this pattern: Chunky Slipper Socks (it’s a free one).
May 23nd – Knitting Chunky Slipper Socks
June 13th – Spinning Worsted weight yarn. Estimated fiber cost will be approximately $12.50. We will be working on spinning the yarn for this pattern: Going Vertical Hat (it’s a free one).
June 27th - Knitting Going Vertical Hat

Please e-mail me, Rebecca Harkins at rebeccasromneys@gmail.com to let me know your thoughts and comments. I would also like to know if you are interested in participating in this study group - I also need to know if you want to buy bulk-purchased fiber or use your own so that I can know how much to purchase. If you are not currently a spinner but would like to learn over the next few months, there is time, so let me know that as well and I will connect you with someone who will be able to get you started.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST DFA MEMBER.
APRIL MCBRIDE
Richland, WA 99352
(509) 713-5275
april_s_mcbride@outlook.com
Another Profitable Synergistic ‘Relationship’
GIST Yarns

This is an introduction of GIST Yarns to meet each DFA member:

https://www.gistyarn.com/pages/about-us

After reading the short stories of the owner and her staff, you surely recognized kindred fiber spirits. Some DFA members have already ordered from GIST yarns and so can attest to the quality of the fibers and the efficiency of their shipping.

As you look across the Navigation Bar of their site, check out the Resources tab: Weaving Yarn Calculator. Handy little item.

At the bottom of the home page you will find:

Weaving Guild Affiliate Program

Weaving guilds are the heart and soul of many weaving communities around the country, and we (GIST YARNS) are pleased to offer a way for you to support your weaving guild and buy fabulous yarn and weaving equipment from us in the process.

Here’s how we (DFA) make the 5% back on money we spend at GIST:

1. When shopping, enter the GIST website through the DFA website Links Tab
2. That alerts GIST to reward DFA.
3. Shop, Click & DFA will receive 5%.

DFA President, Marion H. and Treasurer, Robin P., have complied with all the qualification requests. DFA members can now participate in the Affiliate Program. We have received our special link which you use as the portal for shopping on GIST Yarns. Here and on the Links Tab of the DFA web site, you will find that link:
https://gistyarn.com?ref=Mjg0NzUuNzk4LjEwLjQ

Happy Shopping! Thank You in advance for adding 5% of your purchase into the coffers of DFA!!
SALES INFORMATION
We’re doing a survey to learn where our Save-the-Date Postcards were distributed. A few people have returned their records already. If you come across yours, simply take a photo of it and email that to Cheryl Reed, cheryldavisreed@gmail.com. 
Or simply list the places where you distributed postcards: the names of businesses, and simply "to friends/family" without their names.
The 2020 Fall Sale Team thanks you!

♥Please join fellow DFA members♥
♥February 3rd♥
♥by the fireplace♥
6:30-8:30pm
for
"Stitches and Stories"
at the
♥Mid Columbia Library ♥
♥Union Street Branch♥
Join in the fun as Desert Fiber Arts and Mid Columbia Library collaborate on our monthly special event of learning and sharing our fiber arts knowledge!

HOW TO START YOUR ART AGAIN
excerpts from essay by Nicholas Wilton, Art2Life.com
The more you do, the more you do.
I suggest breaking the pattern by just doing anything in the studio. Even cleaning. This will break the pattern of doing nothing.

LITTLE AND OFTEN
The science on how we learn teaches us that we actually learn faster and more efficiently if we do shorter but more frequent intervals of an activity. Surprisingly, it is more likely you will achieve more if you can work 30 minutes, 3x a week than waiting all week till you have 90 minutes on the weekend.
Don’t Start. PLAY instead.
When you are returning to your art, if it feels hard, make it easy. Begin with no agenda except to entertain yourself. Finding the wonder in our art process is what will seduce you back.
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.

Beginning Spinning Wheel Class

3 Lessons: Feb. 17, 20, 24, 2020
9:30am-Noon; no more than 6 students so you have individual attention.
Location: South Richland, WA
Instructor: Cheryl Reed
cheryldavisreed@gmail.com
(509) 318-5293 Contact her to register.
Tuition: $115
Materials fee: $15, fibers & handouts
You need a working spinning wheel. There’s no time in class for major wheel repair. Not an electric spinner. But you can apply what you learn to e-spinning. Receive a complete supply list when you register.
You need a couple hours between lessons to spin your homework. This is a skill, so practice is a good thing.