I’ve learned a lot this year...
I’ve learned that things don’t always turn out the way you planned, or the way you think they should.
And I’ve learned that there are things that go wrong that don’t always get fixed or get put back together the way they were before. I’ve learned that some broken things stay broken, and I’ve learned that you can get through bad times and keep looking for better ones, as long as you have people who love you.”
--Jennifer Weiner lessonslearned in life.co

I’ve learned that I want to keep my friends, family and community safe because I love them all.
Our Desert Fiber Arts family is so fortunate to be a tight knit group, spun with a twist of fun, dyed in the fiber of our choice and woven together with our love of fiber and friendship. My mother had a wonderful “momism” .... “You can stand anything for a short amount of time.” She would never define the term “short amount of time” so I was left to my own interpretation. Sooooo should the definition be in reference to Geologic Time (eons) ? Gestational Time (months) ? Baking time (minutes/hours)? Months? Years? Decades? Centuries? We even might develop a new sense of “COVID 19 Time”? I just want to let you know I’m eager to get back to my “Happy Place” in the DFA Studio so we can spend time together. The studio might look a little different, our operation might look a little different, our hair might look a little different. But what won’t look different is our friendships and love of learning and fiber. The garlic basket kits are prepped and waiting. The website is undergoing changes to improve and increase learning and the business of DFA. Equipment is being cleaned, maintained and refurbished in anticipation of our reconnecting at the studio. Our Re-Opening team has prepped a training so that members will be ready to enter the studio under the new look. Procedures have been written down and clarified. Just letting you all know:

DESERT FIBER ARTS is READY to get back to the business of having fun!
The waiting is perhaps the most challenging of all the tasks at hand. Soooo ...I leave you with my 2 cents worth...since there is a change shortage...I’ll feel free to share...... Marion

“Stay positive and happy. Work hard and don’t give up hope.
Surround yourself with happy, warm and genuine people.
Author unknown
RIGID HEDDLE STUDY GROUP

Weaving Buddies
2 ND  Monday, August 10, 1 PM, ZOOM Meeting -- Comfort of your home computer!
Watch for the ZOOM invitation notice.

Hello RH weavers! I hope you have a warped loom with an inspiring project in progress. Anybody with clamped warp?

Previously, meeting twice a month, weaving, learning and inspiring each other, as compared to now, meeting only once a month distance meeting with ZOOM is a real adjustment. What we thought would be temporary and bridge the gap of time may in fact be the ‘new normal’ for a few more months.

A very valuable part of RHSG interaction was growth in our confidence, ideas, encouragement and learning. Sometimes the exchange of ideas and discussion of outcomes in ‘real-time’ gives arise to spontaneous ‘what-if’s’ that might not otherwise occur. Have you considered a Weaving Buddy!!

No, a Weaving Buddy is not some new app..( although that could be food for some future thought.)

I was thinking more along the lines of a real person in real time. Is there a weaving friend that lives close to you? Not thinking of a group, just one person. If you both have been Staying Home, Staying Safe, following the CURRENT mask guidelines would allow for real time communication and inspiration. If in home visits aren’t what you need, long phone calls with pictures sent as attachments work too. Reach out and find your Weaving Buddy! Each One Share with One!

Every person must wear a mask or cloth face covering when they are outside of their house and unable to maintain at least 6 feet distance from people who are not members of their immediate household.

Individuals may remove their face covering when they are in an outdoor area and are able to maintain a distance of greater than 6 feet from people who are not members of their immediate household.


My Weaving Buddy, Kathy Myers, is vacationing by a lake in northern Minnesota’s piney woods. She took 10 Wanna-be Scarves. One scarf has already come into existence. “Keep ‘em coming, Kathy. Bring back lots of inspiration. We miss you. Dorothy Mucha

ALLIED ARTS SHOW

The January 2021 show at Allied Arts is still being planned. If the Gallery is not open by January, we will have the option of a different month or an online show. Keep getting projects ready. A reminder- the theme is Wearable Art. Not all items have to follow the theme. We will also display the poker creations.

Hope

Greetings DFA. Here’s a reminder to keep thinking about your projects for the Allied Arts Show in January. We’re using the Design Poker Project in a focal point display at the show and need several pieces for the display. We are also planning on using your projects in the DFA booth at the ANWG Conference in Oregon next June.

Several of you have responded on what you are planning and I thank you for that. Still need more items though and want you to start thinking about what you plan to contribute. Put a little note on your calendar to give you a heads up. I would love if you would let me know what you are making when you have a plan. It's a space issue. We want to display your work appropriately.

P.S. You don’t need to respond if you have already given me your projects.

Thanks again
Sharon Ofsthun
sofsthun@gmail.com
AUGUST STAFFORD STUDY MEETING
Video lesson is released Aug. 13.
Zoom meeting Tuesday, August 25, 1-3pm  Topic: Twill takes Basket Weave on a Date. Jane describes it as, “Basket weave is the perfect pairing for 4-shaft twills on a 2/2 tie-up. We give it equal billing in our threading along with any twill threading which provides us with a way to structurally divide space and to frame twills. We all know how important framing is when it comes to design.“
Share any weaving you’ve been doing, or other fiber art or your garden or ??

As always, anyone is welcome to join the discussion. If you’re not on the email list for the Stafford Study already, simply email Cheryl Reed to receive the Zoom invitation to the meeting.
Contact Cheryl with any questions. cheryldavisreed@gmail.com.
If you want more information about the teaching videos look here: https://janestaffordtextiles.com/online-guild/#season04

Cheryl’s supplemental warp on second loom is working fine.

For the second time, Zoom did a strange thing at our Stafford Study meeting on June 16. Mary Thomas was kept in the waiting room for 15 minutes, until she gave up and closed her computer. Her name didn’t appear to the host to allow her to join the meeting. Apologies to Mary. And to Char Friberg, to whom that happened in the past. I’ve had that happen to me on a Zoom meeting of a different organization. Very frustrating.
We had a couple members who joined us late that day. Why would it shut out just one of us from joining? Anyone with some ideas, please call me to teach me how not to have that happen again!
Cheryl (509)318-5293.

Mary Thomas’ bags from her twill sampling
BY THE BOOK KNITTERS
Our next Zoom meeting will be August 18th at 6:00pm at this link
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83252598518?pwd=aVBKTUUyWlowbWNxTzZVR2xRWjIUT09

Books we read
Gift upon the Shore by M K Wren
Hideaway by Nora Roberts
Lady in Waiting by Anne Glenconner
Light it up, Tear it Down and Wild One by Nick Petrie
Quilter’s Holiday, The Union Quilters, and in the middle of the Aloha Quilt. Also Rose in Bloom
by Jennifer Chiaverini
The Institute by Stephen King
The Sea Captains Wife by Beth Powning
The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett
Undaunted Courage by Stephen Ambrose

What we are working on
I’m knitting socks still..two pair of Rippling Wave on the needle. Socks work so well for traveling

ANWG Conference 2021: Start NOW on your entry
Details on the conference in Salem, OR, are here: https://anwgconference2021.com/participate/
You can start on entries for the Fashion Show, the Noh Coat Challenge, and the Conference Colors Exhibit. [The colors are in the Conference logo. The categories are weaving, spinning, felting, and other entries…so every technique DFA enjoys.]
The DFA Board approved the COVID-19 Safety Plan for the Desert Fiber Arts Guild Studio at the July 7th board meeting. The Safety Plan outlines re-opening the Studio by phases:

Phase 1 and modified Phase 1: The Studio remains closed at this time. Watch for the DFA COVID-19 Safety Plan to be posted on the DFA website soon. A short slide-show on COVID-19 Infection Prevention will soon be e-blasted to all members and will also be available on the DFA website.

Phase 2: Rental equipment and Library materials may be picked up and returned curbside by appointment. Curbside “how to” instructions will be e-blasted to members, printed in the next newsletter and posted on the website. A video on using the studio safely, with parts played by famous DFA actors (wink emoji here), will be added to the DFA website in addition to the slide-show virtual training. Viewing the slide-show and video on-line will be required prior to using the Studio in Phase 3.

Phase 3: Scheduling begins for groups of 5 or fewer to be in the studio at a time. Virtual training for members will be required prior to use of the Studio. Curbside pick-up and return of rental equipment and library materials by appointment will continue.

Phase 4: To be determined based on state and county health department guidelines. Prevention measures will likely continue until an effective vaccine is developed and 70-90% of the population is vaccinated.

Other things the Team has been doing:
We contacted Liz Moncrief, loom expert and frequent “Handwoven” contributor, to learn how to clean and sanitize our looms and other wood fiber arts tools and equipment. Check out her article in the Handwoven July 8th e-newsletter, “Cleaning and Sanitizing Your Looms Safely” at https://handwovenmagazine.com/cleaning-and-sanitizing-your-loom-safely. The Re-Opening Team has included Liz’s experienced advice as part of the “Cleaning and Disinfecting Procedures” in the DFA COVID-19 Safety Plan. She recommends an annual maintenance cleaning with Murphy Oil Soap for Wood. Disinfecting can be done using alcohol wipes (>60%) as needed between users. The alcohol will evaporate. Liz and other loom experts agree; do not use bleach, Lysol or other chemicals on the wood as they can be absorbed and leave a chemical residue.

Our Facilities Manager, Mickie Chamness, gathered information on the HVAC system and air circulation, as well as square footage so that we can calculate the “occupancy load” of the Studio by phase (links to resources found by Sue Silliman). This information allows us to determine the number of people we can safely schedule to be in the Studio following the Phase 3 “Safe Start” guidelines. Carol and Ray Kaminski are researching portable HEPA air filtering units, to determine if this would be an effective and affordable option to mitigate viral transmission through the air.

We are all looking forward to returning to “Our Happy Place” (as Marion Halupzcok, board president calls it), the DFA Studio, in the future!

- Nancy Klotz, Safety Plan Lead, nancyklotz77@gmail.com, cell 509-521-2587
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.

BASKETRY:
ALL Things Considered VI  by National Basketry Organization
A Juried & Invitational Exhibition of 2011
Basketry: 18 Easy and Beautiful Baskets to Make  by BJ Crawford
The Ultimate Basket Book:  A Cornucopia of Popular Designs to Make
by Lyn Siler
COLOR & DYING
Hands on Dying  by Betsy Blumenthal
Textile Dying:  The step-by-step Guide and Showcase  by Kate
Broughton
FELTING
Animal Felt Using the Felting Needle  by Brigitte Hansen
New Felt Using the Felting Needle  by Brigitte Hansen
Pixie Felt Using the Felting Needle  by Brigitte Hansen
The Complete Photo Guide to Felting  by Ruth Lane
WEAVING
DVD Weaving With Novelty Yarn  By Tom Knisely
presented by Robin Spady
Hands on Rigid Heddle Weaving  by Betty Davenport
Copy #2 of an old favorite
Weaving Iridescence:  Color-play for the Handweaver  by Bobby Irwin
Weaving Shaker Rugs:  Traditional Techniques to Create Beautiful
Rugs & Tapes  By  Mary Elva Erf
Krokbragd:  How to Design and Weave  by Debby Greenlaw
The Navajo and His Blanket  by U.S. Hollister