February General Meeting

Come to the General Meeting Feb. 17th at 6:30pm

Jan Nilsson will be talking about either
Canlis upholstery or Polish tapestry
with examples from her travels

Hopefully we will be able to meet in person

PRESIDENT’S FEBRUARY LETTER

Hi everyone. I want to let you know about a couple of things that are coming in the next few months. First, we need a nominating committee to find people to be the new officers to be voted on at our May general meeting. All offices will need new people except for the secretary position. So we need people to step up, first for the nominating committee and then for elected officers. Please contact a member of the board if you are willing to be on the nominating committee. Time is running short.

The other thing we need to vote on in May has to do with membership dues. Last time we voted to raise the dues to $40. We also voted on things that the board had not recommended, which according to the bylaws, makes those things invalid. The board will come to you with a recommendation soon regarding the ‘half-priced’ dues for people that join DFA after January 1 of the fiscal year. We will also come to you with a recommendation regarding the ‘add on’ family member’s dues price. Do we keep it as is or do we bump it up to $2 per person to actually realize revenue. The way the online systems work, we get very little of a $1 membership.

Our rescheduled used book sale was postponed and now we have twice as many used books! All are textile oriented: crochet, weaving, knitting, quilting, spinning, dyeing, just to name a few of the categories. Cash or check only.

Hours:
12-3 Friday, February 11
11-3 Saturday February 12
RIGID HEDDLE STUDY GROUP
Next Meeting: Monday, February 14, 1-4 PM, 101 N Union St, Suite 208, Kennewick, WA

Wow – it’s hard to believe that the Rigid Heddle Study Group has been meeting for 10 years!! Where did the time go?? Our first meeting was scheduled for January 24, 2012, but was cancelled due to a winter storm, too bad we didn’t have Zoom back then!!

And our goal was “to learn everything there is to know about weaving on the humble yet versatile rigid heddle loom.” I think it is safe to say we have more than exceeded that goal!!

Come celebrate with us on the second Monday in February, 1:00 at the DFA studio – COVID permitting.

Our latest project is weaving a scarf with sprang motifs! Here are some examples of what the members have done.

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<th>Jennifer Panter</th>
<th>Judy Rice</th>
<th>Carol Kaminsky</th>
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<th>Kathy Thorndike</th>
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TIME TO BEGIN PLANNING FUTURE EVENTS

Team Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 3, 10am-11:30am
Zoom link coming in a blast

A Zoom meeting is scheduled for February 3, Thursday, 10 AM for everyone interested in working as a team for DFA Shows and Fundraising Events. This is also where we can share some of the chaotic funnies that occurred during November that might need addressing in the future. All ideas are welcome. Questions: Susan Schmieman 509-528-3782 weaveyourartout@gmail.com

DFA needs you:
Team Leader
Marketing Prop Organizer
Publicity/advertising Constant Contact Mentor Take In/Take Down
Liaison to Study Groups (making small items as Money Management
DFA donations) Venue Search
Our next meeting will be February 15th at 6:00pm in Conference Room A at the Richland Library.

Project Linus donates blankets to children, infants through teens. Many sizes are appropriate depending on the chapter’s need. For example, blankets could be as small as 36” × 36.” The majority of Project Linus blankets are about 40” × 60”, or what is called "crib size." Blankets could be as large as twin size for teens.

http://www.projectlinustucson.org/blanket-guidelines/
Also check out this link on Ravelry for quick and easy afghans suitable for watching tennis or Olympics
https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/search#craft=knitting&availability=free&query=afghan&sort=best&view=captioned_thumbs&page=2

Self-Striping Sock Yarn
We had a nice discussion about striped socks and what makes stripes vs pooling. For example my socks require 27 inches of yarn to make 1 stripe. One stripe requires a second stripe to make it look like real stripes. So that means the yarn must have 27 inches of Color A and a second 27 inches of Color B. If the yarn does not have 27 inches of continuous color it results in pooling. While pooling is nice it is not what we are trying to accomplish for this project. I am attaching 3 handouts to help you figure out your yarn. The large Stocking is to use with crayons to create your actual set of stripes. There is an example handout with my calculations for my striping pattern. The last handout is for you to fill out with your calculations – and you thought there wasn’t any math. Bwahaha. (email me if you need the handouts  emokler@gmail.com)
Once the math is done we will figure out how long the skein must be for the dyeing.
The yarn won’t be ordered until March, and after is arrives it must be skeined,
The actual dyeing won’t be will April or May.

What we are knitting
Leah was gifted cotton yarn and is making dishcloths. Rosanne was crocheting Hexagon Granny Square Christmas Stockings. Julie was working on a knitted afghan for the Linus Project. Jill was finishing the 2nd sleeve of the Curtain Call Sweater with yarn she dyed herself; she also brought in the Blood Thistle Hat with an amazing crown. The Algae Hat is also a great pattern. Lissa was making progress on the Down to the Stream Sweater and she has started Rose by Andrea Mowry. Sue is on her second sock and knitting fast. After a hiatus for the holidays Earlene is once again knitting on the 2 Dyes project, only 81 colors to go.

What we are reading
Better off Dead (Jack Reacher, #26) by Lee Child
Calypso by David Sedaris
Cold Comfort Farm by Stella Gibbons
Duncan Kincaid and Gemma James series by Deborah Crombie
Gabriel Allon series by Daniel Silva
Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell
Joe Pickett by C J Box
Knitted gifts for all seasons by Wendy Bernard
Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert
Maggie Hope Series by Susan Elia MacNeal
Maggie Murders series by Anthony Horowitz
My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry aby Fredrik Backman
Star Wars: A New Hope the Princess, the Scoundrel, and the Farm Boy by Alexandra Bracken
Sunny Randall Series by Robert B. Parker
The Bartender's Tale by Ivan Doig
The Bounty (Fox and O'Hare Series #7) by Janet Evanovich
The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V.E. Schwab
The Last Chance Library by Freya Sampson
The Lending Library by Aliza Fogelson
The Liar's Dictionary by Eley Williams
The Lost Apothecary by Sarah Penner
The Royal Spyness Series and Constable Evan Evans series by Rhys Bowen
The Secret History by Donna Tartt
Thursday Murder Club Series by Richard Osman
Under the Greenwood Tree by Thomas Hardy
When No One is Watching by Alyssa Cole
Winter Solstice by Rosamunde Pilcher
A VERY SUCCESSFUL FALL FUNDRAISER 2021: RESULTS

In spite of a late start, Covid, 2 years since our last fundraising/sales event (loss of social skills as well as sales skills), and a number of challenges we faced, we had a lovely display of our work and craftsmanship. Our prime location in the Mercer Building which Julie Mercer generously offered to us was for a mere $15.

We brought in $2135 total. With 30% commissions plus donated items to sell and cash donations, $1179.50, went to DFA. Kudos to all the DFA Makers who contributed items and worked hard to create this event. Thank you to generous members who donated items for sale with the full price going to DFA. You are all to be commended for your efforts in hard work, the high quality of your work and your creativity.

# of Makers 23
# of Items in Sale 368
$ brought in $2135.00
30% to DFA $640.50
$ from DFA’s items $414.00
Pre/Post Sale Donations $125.00
Total to DFA $1179.50

Not only financially, but there were many tasks that we will benefit from in the future.
1. Our new logo was activated, (Jennifer Ely and Leslie Wiborg),
2. Hang tags and contracts were revitalized, (Kathy Myers)
3. We have a new banking system and merchant’s card reader for taking in credit cards, (Chuck Paddor and Betsy Dickinson)
4. This Fundraiser prepares us better for future events.

The consensus is that we need to stay focused and fresh on sales/fundraisers:
1. Knowing where and what displays/props we have, looking for venues,
2. How to publicize our guilds activities and events,
Organization, marketing, and good planning takes the stress out and increases the fun and success for:
1. Individual members who can make a little money for themselves,
2. DFA to make us stronger financially and in the eye of the public, and
3. Happy shoppers who rely on DFA for the quality, creativity of unique textiles.

Managing all the wonderful resources we have for these opportunities requires a team of people. A big Thank you! to all who helped.

TREASURES IN OUR DFA LIBRARY

Request the pass code from Mickie Chamness to have access to the library at your convenience.
mickiec@charter.net

Of current interest:
The Techniques of Sprang by Peter Collingwood
Many knitting books, 3 shelves worth
Yarn sample books. Great references to learn yarn sizes and appropriate setts.
SAVE THE DATE!

AVL WORKSHOP

April 5th and 6th
10am- 4pm

Plans are coming together for Linda Kubik to join DFA Fiber Artists to teach us how to warp, weave & maintain our giant AVL Loom! Volunteers needed to assist in putting the finishing touches on the workshop. We, also need overnight lodging for Linda for April 5th.
contact Marion to volunteer: marionmade55@gmail.com or call 509-531-7273

Looms for Sale at White Bluffs Quilt Museum

2 table looms,
1 rug loom &
1 antique spinning wheel.

The table looms are 4-shaft. 1 is about 16” wide for $200. The other table loom is made by Schacht. 24” wide for $400.
The rug loom is made in Davenport, IA. 2-shaft. About a 28” weaving width. Call White Bluffs for the price.
The spinning wheel is Scandinavian. It comes with documentation of its history. Call for price.
For more information, call the White Bluffs Quilt Museum, (509) 943-2552, on Fridays/Saturdays, between 10am-4pm.
Hello Collaborators!

Thank you for an inspiring meeting last week! We have made some great progress on the design, in a collaborative effort, that I am very pleased with- all thanks to your wonderful contributions, collaboration, and creativity!

We have several fronts to follow up with. I invite each one of you to read through those parts that you are interested in working on and feel free to skip any area that you aren’t interested in.

DESIGN

WOODEN FRAMES (SPINNING PANELS)
The design is mostly done! We’re starting to collect materials! Details below.
We are building a team of woodworkers to approve the plan, donate a working space, and support the building.
After our engineer team approves, I’ll be working on building the pieces during my next visit to Tri-Cities.

- Internal frame design details: 6 spinning wooden panels, each measure 46” x 10 1/2” as seen in this sketch

![Internal Frame Sketch](image)

- Materials needed: 1 x 2 wood boards, 12 46” long, 12 10” long (will be cut into size and finished)

- If you’d like to volunteer woodworking expertise, space, or time, please contact Marion or Ophir

LAVA ROCKS
We are moving forward with Lois Anderson’s design concept for the rocks made from used Tyvek envelopes!

- This is Lois’s experiment for reference
Please start collecting used Tyvek and similar materials (used synthetic non-woven surfaces that react to heat)

Please feel free to use this design concept for further experimentation: try looking at the rocks on the river bank, the colors, and textures they have and imitate them using a heat gun to manipulate the Tyvek material. Please make sure to be safe: have proper ventilation and/or wear a mask as the synthetic material may release harmful fumes.

Thank you Lois for this cool idea!

SPRANG TOWERS
We are moving forward with Kathy Myers’s design concept for our power towers using digital cables with the sprang technique.

There were many ideas for potential development (trying different weights and widths of cables, using similar but different techniques, working sideways with the sprang “loom”, working the sprang on rings rather than the poles, etc.) and, we have a few more problems to solve: how to make the tower stand on itself, how to make it 3 dimensional, etc.

This is Kathy’s experiment for reference

Please start collecting used and unwanted cables and electric wires: the variety serves us well for further experimentation

Please feel free to use this design concept for further experimentation: try any of the ideas we’ve discussed in the meeting, try similar but different techniques or materials, try finding solutions for making the surface into a 3d form, try ways to make it stand on its own, etc.

Thank you Kathy for this beautiful concept!

WOVEN RIVER
We are moving forward with the twine and the plastic wraps for our woven river! This is especially exciting as we get to use a specified waste stream from the local waste stream while also highlighting the local alpaca ranchers! They are collecting twine from their hay bales, and we all get to reuse some of our plastic wrappers and bags! We still need to hone in on the weaving structure and warp material, I am inviting our masterful weavers and anyone who wishes to dig into this convo to join me on a focus group for that!

These are Marion’s experiments for reference

Please start collecting plastic bags and wrappers in river shades that are big enough to cut into weave-able straps.

Please feel free to use this design concept for further experimentation: use twine and plastic bags/wrappers to weave a river

WOVEN GROUNDS
We are moving forward with Vicki’s concept to use textured hand-woven fabrics to cut and sew the hills, cliffs, and grounds around the river!
There’s more to develop and discuss regarding the weaving structures, materials used, and how to integrate different colors.

● These are Vicki’s experiments for reference.
● Please feel free to continue developing ideas for textured fabrics that can imitate the beautiful landscapes around the river, consider the materials and techniques to use, the landscape’s combinations of soils, sands, weeds, etc., and the kind of structure to weave.

TECHNIQUES SUGGESTED
A few more ideas that came about can be experimented with! Here are a few that I found intriguing and encourage anyone who wishes to try!

● Using the twine with basket-making techniques, perhaps to create hills? or cliffs? or any other element of the landscape that is of a big scale
● Using knitting! And crochet! We have not yet seen any of these techniques and would love to integrate them! We are still missing some wildlife elements, such as fishtails, and some plants, such as the weeds, some man made structures, such as railroads... Please feel free to experiment!

SCHEDULING
VISIT DATES
I’m coming back to the Tri-Cities! Yay!!
For my next visit, I plan a full week, so we’ll have time to work together in the studio on developing and finalizing several design elements. Once we approve the dates, I’ll share more details on the goals, activities and schedule of this coming trip.
The suggested dates are April 7th-14th. Will you be around? We have quite a few dedicated individuals, and I want to do my best to be there when you’re available! If I see that these dates aren’t attainable for key players, we’ll try to find the next feasible date, probably in May.

● Please fill in this RSVP form to approve your availability during the suggested visit dates

RECURRING ZOOM MEETINGS FOR EG2
We are starting to meet regularly on zoom from February on. How exciting!!
During our recurring zooms we will cover progress on any aspect of the project, we’ll share developments, and we’ll focus on specific design aspects that need attention, and more!
I’d like ALL of you to join the parts you’re interested in! I will do my very best to accommodate so that we won’t lose anyone who wants to be a part!

● Please fill in this RSVP form to share your availability for recurring zoom meetings

OTHER UPDATES
MATERIALS LIST
Please review
VENUE
A conversation with the REACH Museum has been started by Mickie Chamness!
We all thought this could be a great location, on the river, and hope we can make it work!
  • Thank you Mickie for reaching out to REACH!

TRI-CITIES RECYCLING
I promised to share with you some info regarding where to source waste materials and where to recycle those you can’t use anymore. I started this research and here are the few learnings I found so far:

Acquiring affordable (by the pound) unwanted textiles to reclaim:
  • Goodwill outlet at 307 W Columbia St, Pasco, WA 99301

Donating materials for recycling:
  • Pacific steel & recycling (accepting electronic waste including digital cables)

Thank you, EVERYONE, for your wonderful collaboration, and I look forward to our next meeting!

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

In Loving Memory of Carol Z Mitz

DFA's beloved, longtime member Carol Mitz made her celestial journey, January 20, 2022 to weave with the angels!
Carol was 98!
She'll have all the angels weaving in no time!
Mueller Funeral Home, Kennewick is in charge of arrangements.

You can be a part of the Desert Fiber Arts Guild. To join send a $40 check along with your name, address and phone to Desert Fiber Arts, P O Box 1004, Richland WA 99352