INTERIM NEWS BLAST

DESERT FIBER ARTS (DFA)

INTERIM NEWS BLAST FOR FEBRUARY 2023

As always, please continue to go to the DFA website at desertfiberarts.org for the most current and detailed information.

PRESIDENT’S BLURB:

The Allied Arts show was beautiful and a resounding success. We have amazing artists in our midst!

Thanks to Linda Bittinger, our Webmaster for updating all of our licenses and improving the website. Many of those changes are behind the scenes, but it’s taken a lot of work to do.

Our newsletter team continues to review the best ways to present our news. Change is hard, but they are trying to reduce multiple processes. We have to find the best use of what we have and the time spent. Please be patient as we transition.

Keep your eyes peeled for an announcement of a February get-together to celebrate Bonnie Baker and her years as newsletter coordinator. We will also celebrate Valentine’s Day and the heart of what is DFA. US!!!

Betsy Dickinson, 509-366-3486, fiberpres@gmail.com

DFA FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Feb 6 - Basketeers Study Group, 1-4 pm DFA Studio, contact Marion Halupczok with questions, marionmade55@gmail.com

Basketeers finished up their casserole basket carriers on January 30th. They worked with round, oval, square and handled casserole dishes to create their one of a kind basket casserole carriers! No patterns, just lots of measuring & noodling. Challenge Met! Plus, DFA gained 2 new members!

Next up on February 6th is the Short Cuts basket to use up our scraps AND learning how to weave on the diagonal! Join us from 1pm - 4pm on!

Feb 8 - Tapestry Study Group, 1-3 pm at the DFA Studio, Contact Karen Lamar with questions, karen.lamar@gmail.com

The Tapestry Study Group will meet on the second Wednesday of the month from now on. Anyone is welcome! The first hour we will be exploring Design Space and Placement within
your format. Second half of the meeting will be sharing what you are working on or helping anyone, if needed.

**Supplies you will need to bring:**
- Glue stick or double-sided tape
- Scissors
- Ruler
I will have everything else.

**Feb 8 & 22 - The Band Weaving Study Group** is meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesday, at the DFA Studio, 5-7pm, Email Jane Campbell, [janecamel@gmail.com](mailto:janecamel@gmail.com) with questions.

All are welcome. Our general area of focus is improved warping techniques and we will move to assessing pattern translation software by the end of the month. Our members have wide variations in skill levels and we welcome everyone.

**Feb 2, 9, 16 & 24 - The Thursday evening Zoom Handcrafting Group** continues to meet at 7-8:30 pm, every week. Email Jane Campbell, [janecamel@gmail.com](mailto:janecamel@gmail.com) with questions.

Now that holiday gift season is over, we have moved on to new ideas or new crafts. Our members are working on tatting; crocheted shawl and blanket; Tunisian crochet; knitting squares, mittens and tiny blankets; Valentine's Day cards; and a mystery book quilt square-a-month challenge. We are all enjoying learning about new crafts and watching them grow.

**Feb 9 & 23 - Sticks and Hooks Study Group** (daytime knitting and crochet group), from 10am to 12pm at the DFA studio, contact Sue DeMerchant at [oswald1@yahoo.com](mailto:oswald1@yahoo.com) or Kathy Thorndike at [kthorndike@msn.com](mailto:kthorndike@msn.com) if you have any questions.

Bring a project to work on or that you need help with and join us. We have moved our meetings to the **second and fourth Thursdays** of the month.

**Feb 9 & 18 - DFA Felting Study Group** will meet at the DFA Studio from 1-3 pm, Contact Leslie Wiberg @ 509-460-3127 or ld_wiberg@hotmail.com

We are meeting on a Saturday to include those that work during the week. We are learning/practicing needle felting at this time. Bring your felting needles and tools and let’s have some fun. Everyone is welcome.

**February 13 & 27, Rigid Heddle Study Group** will meet at the DFA Studio, 1-4 PM, contact Kathy Myers, [kbmyers@gmail.com](mailto:kbmyers@gmail.com)

Everyone is welcome! Many in the group have completed their two-heddle weaving project. It was fun exploring weaving with finer fibers.

For our next group project, we will explore the catenpile technique!! The catenpile technique is the invention of Jessica Lambert. She wrote an article in the Fall 2022 Little Looms magazine on how to create interesting designs crocheting loops together as you weave. The technique can be used on scarves, table runners, pillows and just about anything you can think of. Check out her table runner in the Fall 2022 Little Looms magazine or her pillow in the Spring 2023 issue. These magazines are now in the DFA library.
On a personal note, Vicki Hughes designed and wove the most gorgeous scarf, and she generously gave me the weaving draft. I dusted off my 8-harness Norwood loom and got to work warping it. It has been a while since I warped the loom, so I was a little rusty, but it took me hours and hours and hours to get the loom warped and ready for weaving. I can warp my rigid heddle loom for a scarf in about two hours, little wonder the rigid heddle loom is so popular.

Feb 14 - DFA will have a Valentine get-together for all DFA members on February 14. Plans will be announced soon. Contact Leslie Wiberg with any questions. ld_wiberg@hotmail.com

Feb 16 - DFA All-Member Monthly Meeting, Thursday, Feb. 16, in DFA Studio, DAYTIME again. 10:00-Noon. Questions? Cheryl Reed, cheryldavisreed@gmail.com

Program: Wonderful Wool! A panel of sheep breeders, spinners, fiber artists who enjoy wool. Bring their favorite wool projects to share. The meeting will also be on Zoom. Link coming in a blast.

Feb 21 - By The Book Knitters Study Group, Tuesday, February 21st at 6:00pm in Conference Room A at the Richland Library, contact Earlene Mokler, emokler@gmail.com, if any questions.

We started the afghan squares for this year, the theme is Ocean. The colors are Artic Ice, Navy, Light Grey and a variegated yarn called Cypress Landing. The squares must be 8 ½ inches by 8 ½ inches with a Seed Stitch Border on 4 sides, 5 rows and 5 stitches. Please leave a tail of 4 or 5 inches. For ideas check out the DFA Knitters Pattern Page https://www.desertfiberarts.org/by-the-book-knitters-pattern-page/

What we are knitting
Cowl Original pattern
Dishcloths and a T-Sweater
Fisherman's Hat by Barbara Rogers with triple strand earflaps
Fossil Frenzy Tee Jr by Mary P. Hunt
Hexagon Granny Square afghan out of scrap yarn
Hexagon Granny Square Christmas Stockings with Red and Green
Linus Project Challenge Afghan and Quilts
Ombre Hats and Rose Cardigan
Practicing Knit and Purl stitches
Squares for the Summer Reading Afghan
Squares for washcloth donations
Twisted Rib bottom up cardigan with lots of texture

All books read by the By The Book Knitters Study Group last month are listed on the DFA website Events page.

NOTES OF INTEREST:

- **Rebecca Harkins** is putting together a group order for Ashland Bay Fiber (www.Ashlandbay.com). If you would like to order anything, let Rebecca know. They have both roving and yarn. The prices are wholesale and are very reasonable. For the price sheet and more information please email Rebecca at rebeccasromneys@gmail.com

- **Registration is Open for Braided Alpaca Rug Class.** Saturday, March 4, 1-4pm in DFA Studio. Registration = $25. Materials Fee = $45. More information on DFA website. Contact Cheryl Reed cheryldavisreed@gmail.com
• **The Stafford Study Group** will not meet in February. The next meeting will be **March 7**. Topic: Fiberworks. Time and location to be announced. More information contained on the DFA Events calendar. Questions? Cheryl Reed, cheryldavisreed@gmail.com

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

For Sale: 5 cones of 2/14, 80% alpaca/ 20% silk. Never used so they are full cones. $10 each. Contact: Karen Lamar at Karen.lamar@gmail.com if interested. Cash only pick up at Studio.