

Each One, Teach One

desert fiber arts

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Our Mission

Desert Fiber Arts Guild's Mission is to preserve, share and promote fiber arts through education, collaboration, outreach, and sustainable practices.



Our Vision

Desert Fiber Arts Guild strives to create a thriving, inclusive community of fiber enthusiasts, connecting generations, celebrating creativity, honoring sustainability, and inspiring positive change.

NOVEMBER 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

FALL MARKET IS HERE!

November 7th (10am-6pm) & 8th (10am-4pm)
@ Central Church

A LOCAL FIBER FEST IS BACK IN 2026

Purlside Fiber Fest in Hermiston is returning Feb 28 - March 1, 2026. Learn more at
<https://www.purlsidefiberfest.com/>

CANCELED: NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

We are all focused instead on making the DFA 13th Annual Fall Market, November 7th & 8th, the best ever!



Monday, Nov. 3 at 6 pm

Monday, Nov. 17 at 6pm

Kennewick Library | 1620 S. Union St.

Calling all knitters, crocheters, weavers, spinners, embroiderers, and other fiber artists! Join the Desert Fiber Arts Guild at the Kennewick library for an evening of creativity and comradery as we work on individual projects and share tips and tricks.





NOVEMBER 2025 STUDY GROUP DATES



MON	November 3	Basketry	1-4pm	DFA Studio
TUE	November 4	Handcrafts	6-8pm	Richland Library
THU	November 6	Sticks & Hooks	10am-12pm	DFA Studio
THU	November 6	Handcrafters Zoom	7-8:30pm	Zoom
MON	November 10	Rigid Heddle	1-4pm	DFA Studio
TUE	November 11	Drawloom	10am-12pm	DFA Studio
TUE	November 11	Handcrafts	6-8pm	Richland Library
THU	November 13	Sticks & Hooks	10am-12pm	DFA Studio
THU	November 13	Handcrafters Zoom	7-8:30pm	Zoom
SUN	November 16	Pop Up spin	1-3pm	DFA Studio
MON	November 17	Basketry	1-4pm	DFA Studio
TUE	November 18	By the Book Knitters	6-8pm	Richland Library
TUE	November 18	Handcrafts	6-8pm	Richland Library
THU	November 20	Sticks & Hooks	10am-12pm	DFA Studio
FRI	November 21	4-6-8 Weaving	1-3pm	DFA Studio
MON	November 24	Rigid Heddle	1-4pm	DFA Studio
TUE	November 25	Handcrafts	6-8pm	Richland Library
THU	November 27	Sticks & Hooks	10am-12pm	DFA Studio
THU	November 27	Handcrafters Zoom	7-8:30pm	Zoom



Behind the Scenes at DFA

By Betsy Dickinson

It's been awhile since I've written a "Behind the Scenes", but I'm baaaaack! This time with a bit of information some of you may not know about.

Did you know that DFA has an actual POLICY about receiving donations? Well, we do. This policy was developed for a number of reasons, but mostly to ensure that any donations we receive are in good repair, can be used or easily sold, or will be of use to our members.

Here are a few key points:

We love money! Anyone who wants to donate money is welcome to. Money can be put in the white lock box on the wall.

Members are not expected to, nor should they, accept donations of equipment or other items from members of the public. You are welcome to review what they have, get their information and let them know a member of the board or the equipment manager will be in touch with them.

Equipment donations should always be reviewed with the equipment manager before letting a member of the public or a DFA member drop off items.

Sometimes someone will offer small amounts of yarn. As long as there is room on the front shelf, you may accept the yarn.

If a Member has items for donation, please FIRST review it with a board member or the Equipment Manager before bringing it to the studio.

Any book donations should be reviewed with the DFA librarian.

Thanks for your attention to this.

***Looking forward to seeing
all of you at our fabulous Fall
Market!***

Betsy Dickinson



PNW FIBER CONNECT

Have you heard of PNW Fiber Connect? It is for WA, OR, and ID residents, businesses, and guilds, too.

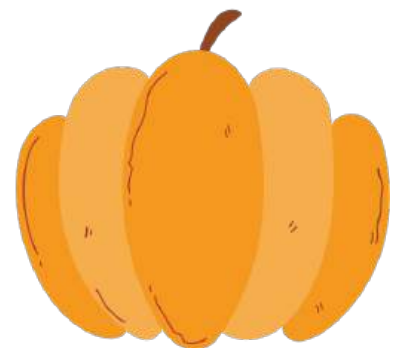
<https://www.pnwfiberconnect.org>

It is just getting started and plans to become a resource and network for folks interested in fiber. It is free to sign up for their email newsletter on their website. They even offer links to their "Founding Fifty" fiber businesses and places to do some online Christmas gift shopping while supporting these small, regional Pacific NW fiber businesses.

<https://www.pnwfiberconnect.org/gift-from-local-farms-ranches>

Thank you to Karen Whooley, DFA member and Chief Creative Designer of Karen Whooley Designs, for bringing this to DFA's attention!

<https://karenwhooley.com/>





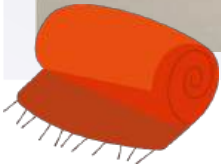
RIGID HEDDLE



At our Rigid Heddle October 13 meeting Chris Love showed us the scarf she wove with crammed-and-spaced technique.

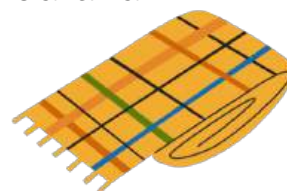


Pam Root is modeling Chris Love's crammed-and-spaced technique scarf in the photo above.



Chris told us it was a new project and fun to do. To make the open spaces she learned to use spacers in the weft rows. Her yarn is 5/2 cotton.

Some of our members found the directions to weaving the crammed-and-spaced scarf are in the Spring 2024 Little Looms weaving magazine.





BY THE BOOK KNITTERS

*Our next meeting will be
Tuesday, November 18th at 6:00pm
in Conference Room A of the Richland Library*

We will discuss the Christmas Tea on December 16th



Melany's two boys Zane and Connor will make their fifth appearance in the Nutcracker ballet. Tickets on Sale November 1st

Purlside Fiber Fest is back again next year, Saturday February 28th and Sunday March 1st. If you missed it last time, plan on a road trip to Hermiston in 2026.

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

Lexie is joining her textured Granny Squares, maybe an afghan, maybe a vest.

Liz added furniture to keep her WIPs in control; she undid a project to use the yarn on the Stephen West Eyelet Burst Shawl.

Teri is using ribbon yarn to knit a lacy black and white scarf for her daughter.

Jeanette brought in her knitted felted project bag. She used leftover teal, aqua and orange wool yarn and added a firm base, an external pocket for her phone and an internal pocket with Velcro for her chapstick. Jeanette just started knitting a crescent shawl project to take traveling.

Jill is working on a pullover, the Inge Sweater by Lene Holme Samsøe.

Melany is knitting 5 hats for Christmas using The Mossy Lane Hat by Daleside Knits and sewing gifts for cast members of the Nutcracker

Sally is knitting animals (cute Teddy) for Christmas Shoeboxes,

Cindy has started her retirement project – embroidering a jean jacket with folk birds, flowers and Polish motifs. This is a never-ending project she has been anticipating for a long time.

Nancy is knitting a kerchief using her yarn scraps,

Julie is working on her Linus Afghan using donated yarn. She'll knit till she runs out of yarn

Earlene is knitting her Christmas socks and crocheting a doll for her granddaughter

WHAT WE READ

Alex Rider series, Susan Ryeland series, Foyle's War series by Anthony Horowitz

Apostle's Cove and the Cork O'Connor series by William Kent Krueger

Beyond The Page Bookstore Mysteries by Lauren Elliott

Butter in the Well Series by Linda K. Hubalek

Chet and Bernie Mystery series by Spencer Quinn

Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder and the Hannah Swensen Books by Joanne Fluke

Leaphorn & Chee Books by Tony Hillerman, Anne Hillerman

My Friends by Fredrik Backman

Parable of the Sower by Octavia E. Butler

Precious Cargo (Anthology Birds of Prey) by C.J. Box

Relic by Douglas Preston

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

Shield of Sparrows by Devney Perry

The Doomsday Mother by John Glatt

The Gryphon Chronicles Series by E.G. Foley

The Teacher of Auschwitz by Wendy Holden

The Vampire Knitting Club by Nancy Warren

The Watchmaker's Daughter by Larry Loftis

We'll Prescribe You a Cat by Syou Ishida

What Time the Sexton's Spade Doth Rust and Flavia De Luce series by Alan Bradley

When Crickets Cry by Charles Martin

Yakima Basket Round Up Road Trip

The Yakima Women's Century Club was the venue for the Northwest Basket Weaver Round Up & Round Up they did. Basket weavers from all over the Pacific Northwest met in Yakima to learn and share basket weaving techniques with a huge variety of fibers. There were 44 participants sitting around the tables in the front parlor of the historic Donald House that was built in 1908. The Northwest Basket Weavers Association brought together 4 incredible instructors to put on the event. Participants could choose from How to Twine a Wa'pass with Bessie Bill, or Amulet Necklace with Karen Magnuson, or Pine Needle with Alma Gomez or weave Around a Oui Jar with Gay Chapman and Nancy Glass. All classes were a whopping \$35.00! Thank you, NW Basket Weavers Association!



Judy and Pam worked with FISH LEATHER & CEDAR. The baskets were formed around a wooden block to get just the right shape. Then embellished with tiny beads. Might there be an interest in having Karen Magnuson coming to DFA for a class? I know at least 5 DFA members who are interested.

Meanwhile, Janet & Vickie tried their hands with pine needles and the coiling technique.





Vickie with her completed pine needle basket at the pine needle basket table. Alma's instruction was unique in that she gave her students a basket where the coil was started. Once everyone got familiar with the technique and many completed their basket, she showed her students how to begin the coil/basket base. WOWSERS!



Martha & Marion worked on their twining technique with Bessie Bill. Martha mastered twining while Marion worked on creating a patterned basket. Bessie even shared a new finishing technique.



Take a look at some of the wonderful submissions for the Fall Market!

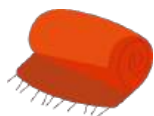


More on the next page!



Thank you to everyone who contributed!
Great work!





Calling All Fabulous DFA Members...

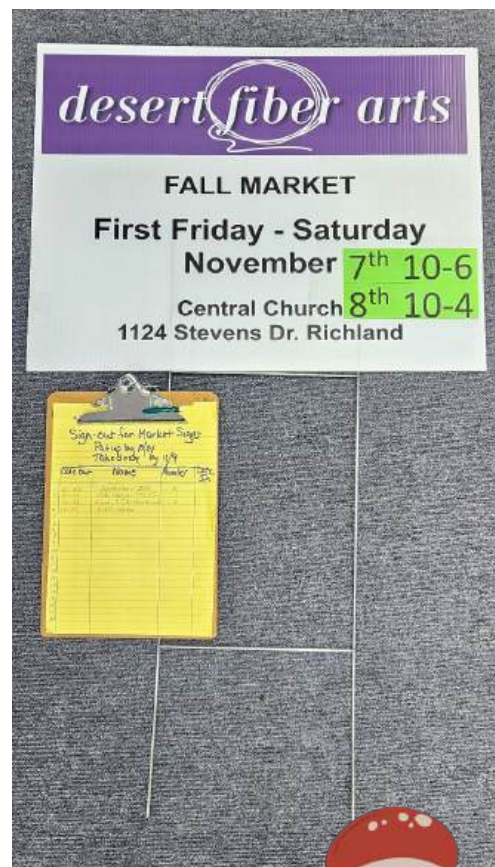
The final countdown to Fall Market, November 7 - 8, has begun! We have fewer than 2 weeks to get the word out to the TriCities community about this incredible, don't-miss-it shopping event!

We have 20 street signs in the studio that are just waiting for you to pick one up (or two or three), and put them in a location where they will be seen by folks during their daily commute or mom/grandma taxi runs! This may be at the main entrance to your neighborhood, in a busy roundabout or intersection, at a popular shopping district or - be observant! Where do you drive often?

When you pick up a sign from the DFA studio, please write your name on the yellow sheet on the clipboard. In Kennewick, signs may be placed on city property 2 weeks before the event and must be removed 1-2 days after the event. Please take a picture of the sign that identifies the location and send it to me (optional). It is easy to forget to pick-up the sign after the event, so make a note on your calendar for November 9th!

Please return the signs to the studio by mid-November. We plan to reuse them next year, holding true to our theme of "Reuse, Repurpose or Recreate". Thank you all for helping to get the word out for DFA's Fantastic Fall Market, November 7th & 8th!

Nancy Klotz – 509-521-2587 – nancyklotz77@gmail.com



🎄 DFA Holiday Party & Potluck 🎄

🎁 **Saturday, December 6th** 🎁

❄️ **10:00 am – 1:00 pm** ❄️

👤 **Richland Library** 👤

🎵 It's beginning to feel a lot like...it's time to start planning the Annual DFA Holiday Party & Potluck! 🍷 🍽️ 🥰

After a sustained effort to pull together another successful Fall Market, we will all be ready to get together to celebrate the season with our DFA fiber friends. Oh yes, and nosh on delicious potluck holiday goodies!

Breanne and I are looking for folks who would like to help us plan and deliver a festive, fun-filled holiday event! Do you like to create crafty decorations and centerpieces? Or organize your study group to make table decorations? Are you the queen or king of planning games or activities that keep everyone laughing? Do you have a fantastic door prize idea to share with us? How about a quick (1 hour or less) holiday fiber project for our gathering?

If so, please contact Breanne or me soon! We have a party budget 💰 that can help make your ideas into a joyful holiday get together.

👤 **Breanne O'Hare** – 503-913-9075 – breanneohare@gmail.com

👤 **Nancy Klotz** – 509-521-2587 – nancyklotz77@gmail.com

November's Green Star Award Goes To...

Karyn Watson



The final Green Star Award for 2025 goes to Karyn Watson!

She will receive her award at our next general meeting.

Karen makes beautiful woven bags and placemats using fabric recycled from old bed sheets and clothing. Her free-motion embroidered fiber bowls are stunning. She is always willing to try something new!

Congratulations Karyn!

*We will resume Green Star Awards in January 2026.
Each winner will receive a certificate to acknowledge their achievement.*

*If you would like to nominate a DFA member for this award,
please contact Jeanette Mendell.*

jeanette.mendell@gmail.com



The Green Corner By Susan Schmieman



The Upcycled Sock

I had the opportunity to spend a couple days in White Salmon this month. A small shop, Arrowleaf, sold many planet friendly items. The Upcycled Sock caught my eye as they are made in New York from upcycled cotton and plastic bottles. Not only that, 75% of their employees are disabled. The cotton yarns are acquired from factories on the east coast. How do they feel? Wonderful! I may have to order more...

Another item that would appeal to weavers with bits of left over fabric are the detachable collars that have been sewn and embellished with various embroidery techniques. With faux material on one side and embellishments on the other, you have a warm, reversible collar with a place to show off lovely handwork. The collar makes a nice alternative to a scarf.



And finally, the more senior members of DFA (and I am one) will appreciate Sue Hotchkis approach to the creative process in textiles.

Sue Hotchkis: Decadent Decay Sue's approach can be applied to many of the textile arts and crafts. Take a look at her story [here](#).

**When you're out and about, look for the worn and weary around you.
What textures and patterns stand out? How might you recreate those in stitch?**

*Until next month, loosely threaded,
Susan*



If you have a green fact or story to share, please feel free to submit an article to DFA Newsletter Editor. We would love to hear what you are doing or learning to make our world healthier for the land and its inhabitants.



DFA Booth Success at the Richland Farmers Market!

DFA brought a taste of what our guild does to the Richland Farmers Market during the first four Fridays in October. We set up our canopy, banners, study group displays and handmade items and invited people to come in and observe us demonstrating various fiber arts crafts. Knitting, spinning, band weaving, rigid heddle weaving, circular knitting (making hats) and more attracted all ages of market attendees to watch and ask questions. Wow! How do you do that? Can I do that? Do you have classes? Can I try it? How can I join?

We promoted the upcoming DFA Fall Market and gave out hundreds of "Save the Date" cards. The Instagram QR code on the card was an instant success with everyone under 50! Note to self, next year we need to order more cards.

The beautiful cabled afghan, lovingly created by the Sticks & Hooks study group, was prominently displayed and we have sold over 100 raffle tickets!

More people who want to keep in touch with DFA signed up for our Constant Contact newsletter.

On the final day, we had 2 rigid heddle looms out front warped and ready. Kids were especially interested when we asked, "Do you want to try weaving?" It was heartwarming to see their eyes light up as they queried the adult with them, "Can I, please?" We encouraged them to hold the shuttle and put it through the opening between the warp yarns, and move the heddle up, down and forward to change the shed and beat the yarn in place. They were focused and fascinated as they watched the yarn, and their efforts made the fabric grow longer! One older boy returned with his younger brother and taught him how to weave. Each one, teach one, that's our Motto. Members in the booth exchanged smiles, nodded knowingly and said, "there is a future DFA member", more than once. Well, OK, the three year old with sticky fingers and chin dripping with Asian pear juice, was mostly interested in just wrapping the yarn around everything! That was fun too!

We were fortunate to have good weather four weeks in a row. It was wonderful to volunteer in the booth with other friendly and helpful, fiber-focused members as we reached out and made connections with all kinds of people in our community. "There is another potential DFA member or Fall Market customer"!

A big **Thank You** to everyone who volunteered their Friday mornings to make the booth a success! Thank you also to the Sticks & Hooks study group for helping me load equipment in my faithful Subaru Forester on Thursdays and all those at the studio on Friday Take-In days who helped me unload afterwards. 🍌 🍌 It was a team effort! And a special thank you to Kareena, who took charge of the booth on two Fridays when I was not available.

Nancy Klotz





The Wonderful World of Felting

By Lisa Saget

Whether you're a seasoned crafter or new to the art, felting offers a unique and creative outlet. There are many different styles to explore, including:

- **Wet Felting:** Using water and soap to entangle fibers.
- **Needle Felting:** Using barbed needles to interlock fibers.
- **Nuno Felting:** Combining felt with other fabrics to create lightweight and draped textiles.

With felting, the possibilities are endless! You can create beautiful items such as:

- Jewelry
- Purses
- Vests
- Scarves
- Clothing and jackets
- Hats
- Bowls
- Even repair a hole in a wool sweater!



We have a fantastic library at the Guild for members only, featuring 30 books and 4 DVDs on felting to inspire your next project. Books can be checked out for a month at a time.

Some titles that are available to get you started are the following:

The complete Guide to Felting by Ruth Lanes

Complete Felt Making Easy Techniques and 25 Great Projects by Gillian Harris

Fundamentals of Felt Making by Patricia Spark

Easy Needle Felting by Nancy Hoerner

Simply Felt: 20 Easy & Elegant Designs in Wool by Margaret Docherty



***Don't miss this opportunity to learn a new craft
and check out a book to start your felting project!***





November Birthdays

Chris Love

Fiona Stanely

Karyn Watson

Wishing each of you a very happy birthday!



Please send articles for the newsletter to
dfanewsletter@desertfiberarts.org

*I tried doing a few things differently this month,
let me know what you think!*