



THIS WEEK!!



SERIOUS STASH BUSTING EXTRAVAGANZA

FRIDAY MAY 3RD & 4TH
10AM-3PM

@DFA

DFA member, Sharon Ofsthun, is offering her stash of yarns and dyes. Bring bags and cash please. No prices posted. Just pay what you can.

STUDY GROUP CALENDAR

- May 1 Great Wheel Spin 1-3 Travellers
- May 1 Tapestry Group 1-3 DFA
- May 2 Sticks & Hooks 10-12 DFA
- May 2 Handcrafters 7-8:30 Zoom
- May 4 Great Wheels 1-3 Rich Library
- May 6 Basketry 1-4 DFA
- May 8 Great Wheels 1-3 Travellers
- May 8 Band Weaving 5-7 DFA
- May 9 Sticks & Hooks 10-12 DFA
- May 9 Felting Group 1-3 DFA
- May 9 Handcrafting 7-8:30 Zoom
- May 10 Evening Weavers 6-8 DFA
- May 13 Rigid Heddle 1-4 DFA
- May 14 Draw Loom 10-12 DFA
- May 15 Great Wheels 1-3 Travellers
- May 16 Sticks & Hooks 10-12 DFA
- May 20 Basketry 1-4 DFA
- May 21 BytheBook Knitters 6-8 Rich Lib
- May 22 Great Wheels 1-3 Travellers
- May 22 Band Weaving 6-8 DFA
- May 23 Sticks & Hooks 10-12 DFA
- May 23 Felting 1-3 DFA
- May 23 Handcrafting 7-8:30 Zoom
- May 24 Evening Weavers 6-8 DFA
- May 27 Rigid Heddle 1-4 DFA
- May 28 4-6-8 Weaving 10:30-12:30 DFA
- May 29. Great Wheels 1-3 Travellers
- May 30 Sticks & Hooks 10-12 DFA
- May 30 Handcrafting 7-8:30 Zoom



9 AM - 4 PM
MAY 4-5, 2024

FIBER FEST
Ritzville

**FAMILY-FRIENDLY
SENSORY CELEBRATION
OF FIBER ARTS**

Open to all ages and stages of learning/experience.
There are classes, demonstrations, and make n take,
as well as vendors onsite.

Bring an ongoing project or come learn something new!

AT THE KNUTH BUILDING
Wheat Land Communities' Fairgrounds
811 E Main St. • Ritzville

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
ritzvillefiberfest@gmail.com
Call Karen 509-999-8941

Betsy's Blurbs

Hi everyone,

April and May are busy months! Study groups are humming along. I was at the Sticks and Hooks meeting the other day and it was almost standing room only!

Meanwhile, at the Board meeting on Saturday, the board approved the motion to contract with Heather Norberg from A+ Accounting Services to be the DFA bookkeeper. We will begin transitioning the bookkeeping piece of the treasurer's position in May.

Heather works from home and will be able to meet with our treasurer at the studio on a regular basis. This makes the treasurer's job much easier and separates responsibilities for safer financial management. She charges \$75/hour and bills in quarter hour increments. She estimates that once the transition is completed, she will be billing about 2 hours per month.

The Board also passed the motion to add some language to the Membership portion of the policies. The new policy states: "Any new or returning member who joins Desert Fiber Arts after March 31st and pays the necessary dues shall not be required to renew their membership on June 1st of that year."

Also approved was a motion to upgrade the Constant Contact services in order to utilize the electronic balloting that is available. It's a slight increase in cost and worth the ability to have a fully confidential voting procedure.

The Board approved the budget to bring to the membership for a vote in May. Keep your eyes open for an electronic ballot, which will also include the slate of officers for the next fiscal year.

Fifty years ago, a few women met to talk about weaving. They could not have imagined that somewhere in the future, the organization they founded would be communicating by email and text, learning online or using Zoom for meetings. Wow! Our fiber arts world has gotten so much larger as a result.

The transitions that have occurred within DFA the last few years have been a little mind-boggling. But at its core, DFA is still about relationships, sharing and teaching. And laughter. Let's not forget that!

Betsy



DFA MEMBERSHIP DUES



We hope you are having a wonderful spring season.

It's almost that time of year again when you get to support Desert Fiber Arts with your membership dues for the upcoming fiscal year, June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025. Watch for an email coming your way soon with the details on how to renew your membership if you haven't already done so. (We will make every effort to not send out invoices to those of you who have already paid.)

Primary Member \$40, Add-on Family Members \$5 per person. Please wait for your invoice before submitting payment so you can see the different options on how to renew, and to let the website prepare for the renewals. (Spoiler alert: on-line, at the studio or mail it in....)

Thank you in advance for your continued support of Desert Fiber Arts.

Cindy Jewell and Kathy Thorndike, Membership Elves

ELCIPSE KNITTING



Jeanette, from Sticks & Hooks,
knitting during the Eclipse



MAY 2024 DFA ANNUAL ELECTIONS

MAY IS THE DFA ANNUAL ELECTION FOR OPEN BOARD OFFICER POSITIONS, AS WELL AS VOTING TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JUNE 1, 2024.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT EVERY OPEN POSITION HAS AN EAGER CANDIDATE WHO IS LOOKING FORWARD TO SERVING THE DFA MEMBERSHIP AS A BOARD OFFICER. LOOK FOR THE ARTICLES ON “MEET THE CANDIDATES” IN THE MAY DFA NEWSLETTER AND IN FUTURE BLASTS.

PRESIDENT (1 YEAR TERM) – KAREENA ANDERSON

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (1 YEAR TERM) – BREANNE O’HARE

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (1 YEAR TERM) – NANCY KLOTZ

TREASURER (2 YEAR TERM) – PATTY ELDER

AN ELECTRONIC BALLOT WILL BE SENT TO YOU NO LATER THAN MAY 10TH IN A DFA CONSTANT CONTACT E-MAIL. IT IS SIMPLE TO VOTE ELECTRONICALLY AND IT SHOULD WORK ON ANY OF YOUR DEVICES; CELL PHONE, TABLET, LAPTOP OR DESKTOP COMPUTER. BE SURE THAT YOUR E-MAIL IS LISTED CORRECTLY IN THE DFA MEMBER DIRECTORY.

IF YOU CAN’T VOTE ELECTRONICALLY, CALL NANCY KLOTZ (509) 521-2587 NO LATER THAN MAY 5TH AND A PAPER BALLOT WILL BE MAILED TO YOU. YOU CAN RETURN IT BY MAIL OR PLACE IT IN THE LOCKED WHITE BOX ON THE WALL IN THE DFA STUDIO MEETING ROOM. ALL BALLOTS MUST BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY OR BE RECEIVED AT THE STUDIO NO LATER THAN MAY 20TH.

VOTES ARE ANONYMOUS AND THE RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL DFA MEETING ON SATURDAY, MAY 25TH.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE MEMBERS WHO ACCEPTED A NOMINATION AND WHO ENCOURAGED OTHERS TO RUN FOR AN OFFICE! YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE ☺. THANK YOU!

YOUR NOMINATING COMMITTEE - NANCY KLOTZ, DENICE LOVEJOY AND

DYE IN THE PARK 2024

WHEN SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024 AT 8:30
WHERE EARLENE MOKLER'S BACKYARD
25 E 3RD AVE KENNEWICK WA 99336
WHAT TO DYE? SILK, WOOL, COTTON (PREWASH ALL PLANT FIBERS)

WHAT TO BRING

- water
- hat and sunglasses
- snacks and lunch
- paper towels
- dye notebook and dye kit
- wear old clothes and sunscreen

DEPENDING ON THE DYE TECHNIQUE YOU PICK PLEASE BRING

- foam brushes
- disposable gloves
- iron and ironing board
- bubble wrap
- rubber bands
- spritzer bottles
- portable table
- white plastic table cloths
- basin or plastic bag to carry home wet fiber

WHAT I HAVE ON HAND

- one iron and ironing board
- marbles
- sharpie markers
- rubbing alcohol
- syringes
- dyes for silk, protein and plant fibers
- Citric Acid for protein fibers
- Soda Ash for cotton/hemp fibers
- About 10 lawn chairs
- 4 assorted tables
- kosher salt
- drying rack

We received over 30 assorted silk scarves and 10 yards of silk organza fabric from Linda Woosley's studio. Scarves and organza are on a first come first serve basis.

Bubble Pack or Dry cleaning Bags

This is a fantastic technique that picks up the pattern of the plastic.

- 1. Lay the plastic, bubble side up. If using dry cleaning bags, slit it, then wrinkle**
- 2. Lay silk, right side down on the plastic**
- 3. With a large foam brush, brush the fabric with water. This merges the plastic and silk together, and the pre-wetting prevents streaking.**
- 4. Mix Colorhue Dye, typically 3 parts water to 1 part dye, and stir.**
- 5. Using a foam brush, brush on the dye.**
- 6. Let dry for at least one hour before removing from the plastic.**
- 7. Dry, then press.**

Pleating

Because this dye is so instant, you can brush on several colors, and there is very little merging of colors.

- 1. At the ironing board, pleat your fabric into 1" pleats.**
- 2. Using rubber bands, wrap the fabric. Wherever the bands are, the fabric will remain white.**
- 3. Using foam brushes, push the dye into the areas between the rubber bands. Using 3 colors usually works best, more gets too busy.**

Marbles

- 1. Lay out plastic over your table.**
- 2. Place marbles in fabric, and tie in place with rubber bands.**
- 3. Brush on the dye using foam brushes.**

Uneven Dyeing

Scrunch your silk, and tie with rubber bands or clothespins. Dip in dye Or place in a zip lock bag. Squeeze out dye, dry and repeat for second color. Spritz it! Cover your area with white plastic. Dilute the dye with water, and pour into a spray bottle. Scrunch up your fabric, for an uneven color and spray! Repeat with other colors.

Drip Dyeing

- 1 Using pipettes or syringes drip dye on to scarf**
- 2 Once you get the perfect amount of drips of dye you can move the scarf around so you get all the white parts covered with the dye.**
- 3 Take a piece of saran wrap and wrap the top of the bowl. Put in microwave for 4 minutes in 2 minute increments. Poke holes in the saran wrap with a fork this will prevent the saran wrap from exploding.**
- 4 Remove the saran wrap and rinse the scarf until the water is clear.**
- 5 Remove the water out and ring out the scarf. Place outside or on a drying**

Meet the Candidates

It's time to elect new DFA Board Officers! Here are our wonderful candidates for the four open board positions.

Kareena Anderson, President Candidate

I work full time as a Software Developer at ERI, Economic Research Institute, where I have worked for almost 22 years.

I love weaving and spinning and I'm also learning to knit. My interest was inspired by my Grandma Margaret and trips to her farm when I was young. She was a weaver and spinner and encouraged all her grandchildren to help out.

I inherited 2 old wooden floor looms from my Grandma and my Great-Grandma. When I called DFA seeking some advice on how to repair these looms, Carol and Ray Kaminsky came to my rescue! Now I am weaving kitchen towels on my Great-Grandma Jenny's Bergman 4- shaft loom and I could not be happier. A piece of family history has returned to life!

I love DFA and how it brings together diverse people who are not only passionate about their fiber arts but are also passionate about sharing and teaching their skills to anyone interested. The members who have befriended and mentored me at DFA have exemplified our "each one, teach one" motto. It is my privilege and honor to do my part to continue sharing this love for fiber arts with our community. I feel incredibly humbled to be offered this position. I will do my best to be a positive and passionate DFA president.

FYI, I also enjoy camping, hiking and reading. I have two Havanese (dogs) - Louie and Bailey. I am getting a new Havanese puppy on the 27th. I am super excited!!

(Editor's note: Kareena enjoys time with her school-age niece and nephew and, naturally, she is teaching them to weave! Is that 5 generations of weavers?)

Breanne O'Hare, First Vice President candidate

It's really fun being part of the guild. I get so much inspiration from other people's work! People do things I really never would have thought of, and do an amazing job! I enjoy being able to take raw materials like yarn, or even un-spun fiber, and work out how to turn them into what I envision. Color, fiber, and size can be exactly what I want them to be, as opposed to whatever the store happens to have available.

It's nice being able to describe my own mistakes and successes with people who understand what I'm talking about. I can tell my sisters "I dropped a stitch and didn't catch it for five rows!" or "I figured out how overshoot works!" and they'll say that sounds frustrating, or cool, once I explain. But it's nice to be able to say it and not have to explain!

I was a history major in college, so I've always been interested in understanding the past. Making things myself helps me to understand how much time people from several hundred years ago spent on their clothing. Did you know that the spinning wheel was only invented a few hundred years ago? Before that, every bit of yarn for every bit of clothing was spun on a drop spindle. Making just one shirt could take 500 hours or more, by the time you include spinning the yarn, weaving or knitting the fabric, and sewing it up.

I've also never been very good at sitting still. Being able to knit or weave or spin while I talk to someone or listen to an audiobook helps keep me from going absolutely stir-crazy.

(Editor's note: Breanne is also a very busy Mom of an elementary-age daughter and son. Of course she is teaching both of them to weave!)



NANCY KLOTZ, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATE

I am a retired RN. Four years ago, I attended a rigid-heddle weaving class taught by Dorothy Mucha and Kathy Myers and I was hooked! I immediately joined DFA and have been a member ever since. Rigid Heddle Study Group and Sticks & Hooks Study Group are my go-to gatherings of talented, helpful and friendly fiber artists. The social aspect of the study groups is very positive, supportive and fun. I am awed by the depth of fiber knowledge and experience of the DFA members and their sincere willingness to share what they know and help others.

My husband and I enjoy traveling in our trailer and exploring, hiking and birding in the Pacific NW and beyond. I am always looking for unique yarn shops, craft shows, fiber artists and creative inspiration everywhere we go. Last summer I had so much fun playing with fiber colors, textures and weaving techniques that I wove several free-form, abstract wall-hangings on my 15" Cricket rigid heddle loom while we were traveling. Of course, I have my trusty little loom on the road with me this year too.

Why did I put my hat in the ring for the Second Vice President position? In the past several years, DFA has grown by leaps and bounds and our hard-working board and members have risen to meet the challenges! I am looking forward to an exciting, fiber- and friend-filled year serving on the DFA board this year!

Patti Elder, Treasurer candidate

I retired from Kennewick School District 2 years ago. I was the Kennewick High School library secretary for 26 years. My husband passed away in June of 2020. Ken was the person that actually gave me my Ashford Loom our last Christmas together. I guess he thought he needed to give me a new hobby!

I learned to knit and crochet in high school home economics class. I joined DFA in the fall of '22 and I attend the rigid heddle group on Mondays. Weaving is harder than I expected but I am determined. Thank you to Carol Kaminsky and Kathy Myers for all the instruction and patience.

When I was asked to consider running for treasurer I thought, why not? So I decided to give it a try. Thank you to Dorothy for her encouragement to put my name on the ballot for treasurer.

HANDCRAFTERS STUDY GROUP

KNIT EVERY DAY IN MAY

The Handcraft Group meets via Zoom on Thursday Evenings from 7 PM to 8:30 PM. This month the group discussed several books, food, and given the season, Kittens. Sue Silliman finished her shawl and showed off the final block product. It is beautiful. Peggy recently finished a sloth. Jane made progress on their Row-A-Day after time out to visit the Panama Canal. Sheila is working on a new shawl and a lovely Cheetah stuffie. Kaylee and Julie dropped by and showed off their latest work as well. If you would like an invitation to the meeting, please contact Peggy Larreau at plarreau@msn.com.



Last year I participated in a Knit Every Day in May organized by Ann at Yarn Folk in Ellensburg. It was fun and helped me to keep up with my knitting habit. I hope this copy cat of Ann's idea will be fun for you this May.

Here are the simple rules:

1. Do any type of fiber arts every day in May and track your progress in whatever way works for you, e.g. a calendar, a spreadsheet, etc.
2. There is no minimum amount you need to do
3. You can work on multiple projects and don't need to finish anything.
4. Just nurture your habit. It's a good one.
5. It's on the honor system.
6. By June 6th, let your study group leader know that you completed this challenge. Study group leaders can then provide me with a list of everyone in that group who is eligible for a chance to win a prize. Note: if you are not in a study group, you may contact me directly by texting my cell phone.
7. Yes, there will be at least one

BYTHE BOOK KNITTERS

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 21st at 6:00pm in Conference Room A of the Richland Library.

Saturday June 8th Knit in Public Day at the Richland Library 955 Northgate Dr, Richland WA 99352. Bring your knitting or crocheting and join us in the Lobby. Yarn and needles will be available for new knitters to learn.

Saturday June 22 Dye in the Park (see info at the end of this article)

Jan has knit and crocheted 100 carves, 200 washcloths and over 30 hats for charity.

Yoga for knitters Jan and Rosanne had stiff hands and thumbs so we did some sitting yoga stretches at this week's meeting.

Nerve Flossing Extend your arms straight out at shoulder height. Bend 1 hand upwards and the other hand downwards. Keep your arms extended and alternate flipping your hands up and down. Raise your arms overhead and wiggle hands and fingers. Move your arms to the back and wiggle hands and fingers again. Keep rotating your arms and wiggling hands and fingers.

Sitting cow and cat Sit in a sturdy chair, feet flat on the ground.

Cow Sit toward the middle of the chair. Inhale and arch the back, opening the chest and lifting the chin slightly.

Cat Exhale and round the back, drawing the chin toward the chest. Repeat cat and cow slowly.

Some of the books we read this month and last month

*Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult (Highly Recommended)

100 Knitted Tiles by Various Authors

5 Tuesdays in Water and Father of the Rain by Lily King

A Court of Thorns and Roses series by Sarah J Maas

A Little Girl's War by Wendy Appleton

A Remarkable Mother by Jimmy Carter

A Study in Scarlet Women by Sherry Thomas (Sherlock Holmes inspired)

After All by Mary Tyler Moore

ANWG is YOU.

The Association of NW Weaving Guilds is misleading. It's not only about weaving!

ANWG is an association of fiber arts guilds in WA, OR, ID, MT, AK and all of western Canada. And you, as a DFA member, are a member of ANWG. One dollar of your annual dues to DFA goes to ANWG. In return, we get a high quality Conference every odd-numbered year. Our last Conference was last July in Bend, OR. The 2025 Conference will be in Yakima, WA!
[<https://anwgconference.org/>]

ANWG sends out a newsletter every quarter. DFA is one of the guilds described in the January newsletter. ANWG runs on volunteers from all the member guilds. Please follow this link to the January newsletter. Consider how you might be able to help. Also read the news from some of the member guilds. Their activities hold great ideas for DFA to explore, ideas for individual study groups as well as for the entire guild.

<https://northwestweavers.org/about/newsletters/>

The 2025 Conference Colors are shown clearly in the newsletter.

by Cheryl Reed



RECIPES

DENICE'S FAVORITE TACO SOUP

1/4 rotisserie chicken, cut into chunks
1 can diced tomatoes
1/2 c chopped onions
1/2 c chopped gr peppers
1 c. frozen corn
1 c black beans
1 sm can chopped green chilis
cilantro to taste (handful)
2 heaping t. knorr caldo de tomate (in the Hispanic aisle)
1/2 t. chili powder
1/2 t ground cumin
1/4 t. black pepper

Cook all for an hour.
Serve with avocado, tortilla chips, shredded cheese, lime.

Super yummy!!

Editor
Denice Lovejoy
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Please have your items to me by the 20th of each month. Please send your pictures and articles in an email. My computer doesn't work well with word attachments.

UPCOMING FIBER FUN!

May 3-4 Ritzville Fiber Festival

May 24-Sept 2 Slow yarn crawl
www.slowcrawl.com

June 1 Annual DFA Meeting
more details to come

June 1-2 Fiber Fusion Northwest
Monroe, WA

June 8 Knit in public day

June 22 Dye in the Park

June 28-30 Black Sheep Gathering Albany, OR

Aug 9-11 Flock Fiber festival
Seattle, WA

LOOK WHATS COMING!

WATCH FOR PIN LOOM MEETUP IN MAY!
BLASTER WILL BE SENT WITH DETAILS

