

THE MOUNTAIN SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD
VOLUME XXXV NUMBER 1 September, 2011
P. O. BOX 1820 PRESCOTT, AZ 86302

[Newsletter Archive](#)

President's Message

Many thanks to the outgoing board; they did a great job!

With Arizona's 100th birthday coming up, I keep thinking about ways to connect the event with fiber. The Arizona State Museum in Tucson houses a collection of more than 3,500 Native American textiles. Phoenix's Heard Museum's collection includes Native American rugs, blankets, beadwork, and baskets, while the Phoenix Art Museum displays costume and Western fashion. You can find textiles and fiber art at the ASU Art Museum in Tempe. Travel north to Flagstaff's Museum of Northern Arizona to view Navajo, Hopi, and Rio Grande textiles.

Also, do you know about this website:

<http://www.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/books.html>? It contains hundreds of textile-related printed works no longer under copyright.

Have you hugged a sheep today (or any other fiber-bearing animal)?

Diane Braun

September Membership Meeting
Saturday, September 17, 2011
Meeting: 9 am Program 10:30 am
American Lutheran Church
1085 Scott Dr. Prescott AZ

Upcoming Programs:

September TBD

October Panel Discussion "How to Price Your Items for Sale"

Announcements:

Fiber Art Now is a new quarterly publication. The premier issue will be released in October, 2011. Annual subscriptions are \$40.00 in the US. The premier issue is complimentary to those who subscribe before December. The quarterly's mission is to connect and inspire the fiber arts & textiles community with the most compelling work in basketry, felting, knitting, needle arts, paper/book arts, dyeing, mixed media, surface design, quilting, sculpture, wearable art, weaving, collage, encaustic, mixed media and more.



Coming in October:
Fiber Art Now
A new magazine serving
the fiber arts & textiles
community.
www.fiberartnow.net

Website Addresses:

Mountain Spinners and Weavers Guild - <http://www.mtnspinweave.org/>

MSWG Library

<http://www.librarything.com/profile/MSWGuild>

MSWG on Facebook - http://www.facebook.com/#!/home.php?sk=group_166391530078322&ap=1

The Loom Room, a link from Susan Swiggers.

September Birthdays:



September 14 – Beverly Pott
September 18 – Roland Faulkner
September 29 – Annemarie Bellem

Hospitality:

September: Wilda Postel,
& Cindy Falkner

Sign up to provide snacks! Contact
Brenda Behrens

Member Milestones

Nancy Wilson – Certificate for
Handspun Yarn Judging at the
Southwest Regional Spinners
Retreat near Cloudcroft, NM.

Anne Marston - Arts Prescott
Cooperative Gallery Member

Donna Meyer – TKGA Level 1

Special Interest Groups

Mondays – Spinning 10 am -2 pm
at Sharlot Hall Museum.

**Tuesdays – UFO (UnFinished
Objects)** 1:00 pm, Annemarie
Bellem's or Anne Marston's, call
first, 445-5564

Wednesdays – Bead Weaving,
Wilda Postel's, call first, 776-4481

Fridays – Sewing Handwovens

August Plaza Show (additional pictures on the website in the [Gallery](#))



History, Lore, and Other Arcana



Yucca fiber “was the staple of New Mexico textile artists for millennia. Thigh-spun into thread, string and rope, it formed the basis for both “hardware” and fine multi-colored weavings. Fur and feather blankets were built on yucca string foundations, rabbit nets were made partially or entirely from yucca, ropes were tied to finely woven tump bands to carry heavy loads, and women wove beautiful multicolored aprons and sandals for their families.

Yucca takes natural dyes well, with blond, reddish brown, and blue-black commonly used throughout the Southwest....

Once the spinning technique is mastered, the quality of the finished product is determined by experience and precision in fiber bundle preparation. A practical upper limit is ½ inch diameter rope (well over 500-pound test strength), and fine thread can be produced by working with only a few individual fibers in each ply. Dyeing is best done after spinning, and the ancient colors were achieved with the bark of cedar root, reddish brown, and sumac leaves, blue-black.”

From: Press Release, May 9, 2011, Western New Mexico University, “WNMU Museum to Host Yucca Fiber Spinning and Fur/Feather Blanket Demonstration,”

<http://www.wnmu.edu/admin/pio/2011/fiberspining.pdf>

Gathering Yucca <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R64tt45palQ&feature=related>

Processing Yucca [http://www.rewild.info/fieldguide/index.php?title=Processing_\(yucca_fiber\)](http://www.rewild.info/fieldguide/index.php?title=Processing_(yucca_fiber))

Hopi Basketry <http://nanact.org/encounter-the-people/hoopi/hoopi-basketry.html>

Mountain Spinners and Weavers Guild

Minutes of the General Meeting August 20, 2011

The meeting was called to order by: President, Anne Marston at 9:05 a.m.

We had one new member plus two guests attending today.

Minutes: July's minutes were approved: M/S/V, Jeanne Zinda / Barb Kiger / All

1st VP: Laura Miner: Today's program is "Wool Baskets CAN hold water but I wouldn't recommend it" by Diane Braun.

Laura and Janice Masson, 1st VP 2011-2012, are coordinating a program for September.

2nd VP: Kathy Kelly: (Kathy was absent today). Janet Lambert chaired the Plaza Sale & Demonstration August 13 & 14. It was a great success. The Yavapai Community Fair is September 30th – October 2nd (Friday through Sunday). Drop off for entries will be Wednesday, September 28th from 8 to 8 and Thursday, September 29th from 8 to 12. (Information provided by Vanessa Martin). The Fair will be chaired by Marion Patterson. Kathy will chair the Library Viewerie (display) in November.

Workshop Chair: Barbara Albeck

The Kristin Hansen "Make it fit" knitting workshop has been canceled.

A Shibori dyeing workshop, with Candiss Cole, is in the early stage of planning. The date and cost are TBD.

~ Susan Swiggers, Workshop Chair 2011-2012, reported that Jason Collingwood will do a rug weaving workshop the 3rd week of February 2012.

Special Interest Groups: Spinning (Monday), UFO's (Un-Finished Objects) (Tuesday), Beading (Wednesday), and Sewing Handwovens has suspended for the summer, however you can call Wilda, at any time, for an appointment.

Sunshine: Mary Bricker – Marilyn Smith's husband is home and continuing his rehab. Barb Gray is continuing with her medical treatments in Phoenix and in Texas.

Announcements & Mail: Anne – (1) the collection cup will be passed around. If you forgot your name tag you need to put in a quarter (\$.25). (2) HGA's (Handweavers Guild of America) is sponsoring its annual "Small Expression's" exhibit in Long Beach, CA from May 10 – August 12, 2012. Their deadline for entries is February 01, 2012. (3) Anyone interested in taking a Latin language class through community education see Diane Braun. (4) Lois Longfield has brought in books, magazines and educational material. These items are for sale or library donations.

Hospitality: Sandy Evans and Susan Swiggers are our hospitality hostess's. Today's refreshments were provided by: Oleta Askerman, Carma Koester and Sandy Evans.

Historian: Marilyn Smith – Not present. Marion Patterson has photos that were taken at the August Plaza Show & Sale.

Librarian: Janice Masson – Has brought in Library books for check-out and is accepting book returns.

Membership: Caralee Roberts – Our 2011-2012 Membership drive is now underway. Membership forms are available today and can also be downloaded from the website.

Newsletter: Diane Braun – As a regular reminder all inputs for the newsletter are due the Saturday following the Guild meeting. Diane is looking for a volunteer to edit the newsletter for the 2011-2012 term.

Parliamentarian: Debbie Allen – Nothing to report.

Publicity: Nancy Ricketts – Not present

Ways and Means: Carma Koester – Today's raffle is: Wool fibers, needle felting – book and a needle felting tool. We also have sweatshirts, Tee-shirts, tote bags, cookbooks and more.

Old Business: Anne Marston – (1) The 2011-2012 Board members are: President – Diane Braun; 1st VP – Janice Masson; 2nd VP – Rebecca Bass; Secretary – Donna Meyer; Workshop Chair - Susan Swiggers; Treasurer – Debbie Allen. (2) The out-going 2010-2011 members are: President – Anne Marston; 1st VP – Laura Miner; 2nd VP – Kathy Kelly; Secretary – Marion Patterson; Workshop Chair – Barbara Albeck. Debbie Allen, Treasurer, will stay on for a 2nd term. (2) Carma reminded us of next year's Arizona Federation Conference. It will be in the Phoenix area, April 19 – 22, 2012 at the Four Points Sheraton. You can check their website for class schedules/workshops. (3) Jeanne Zinda reminded folks of the lap throw project for the VA in December. Remember no wool and no fringe. Size is approximately 35x55 inches and it must be washable.

Holiday Sale: The Holiday Sale is November 12, 2011 from 10 to 4. It's at the Marina room which is adjacent to the Hassayampa Inn. The Woodturners will be joining us. Yvonne Johnson and Diane Braun are Co-chairs for the sale. (1) They need someone to do publicity work primarily notifying and placing events on other websites. (2) Yvonne will do take-in at her home in Prescott Valley. She needs a

volunteer, from Prescott, to do take-in at their home also. (3) We will probably need someone who can help with overnight storage of items and bring the items to the sale location. The building opens at 7:00 am. (4) They need people to start signing-up as volunteers. (5) Last year there were 31 participants and the gross sales were over \$8,000. (6) Carma Koester is in charge of the raffles and she is asking for donations.

New Business: Anne Marston – Nothing to report.

Other discussions: (1) Gretchen Mummert asked if we would be involved in the Arizona Centennial celebration known as “Arizona’s Best”. Anne said not to her knowledge. There will be numerous events/activities taking place around Prescott. (2) Susan Swiggers said the Celtic Music Festival has been cancelled due to several conflicts.

Show & Tell: Anne Marston – A weaving sample from her new 32 harness loom; Janice Masson – Samples from a Sharon Alderman workshop at the recent conference in Durango, CO and 2 alpaca knitted shawls. Nancy Wilson – A knitted lap throw for the VA project. She recently received her “Certificate” for Handspun Yarn Judging at the Southwest Regional Spinners Retreat near Cloudcroft, NM, a skein of core handspun yarn, a skein of faux boucle handspun yarn and a mobius knitted with beaded handspun yarn for evening wear; Debbie Allen – a woolen basket (a wool yarn warped around a heavy core yarn) and 3 fair isle knitted hats; Luida Gottlieb – a knitted shrug; Barb Kiger – Several handwoven towels (different weave structures); Gisela Gminder – a sample from a Navajo weaving workshop from a recent class in Flagstaff; Sharon Taub – a lap throw for the VA project and a knitted bamboo scarf; Marion Patterson – 3 handwoven mohair, boucle and woolen shawls.

Motion to close meeting: M/S/V, Luida Gottlieb / Mary Phares / All

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m. Secretary: Marion Patterson

Today’s program: “Wool Baskets CAN hold water but I wouldn’t recommend it” by Diane Braun.



MSW 2011-2012 Officers and Staff

President---Diane Braun
First VP---Janice Masson
Second VP---Rebecca Bass
Secretary---Donna Meyer
Treasurer---Debbie Allen
Workshops---Susan Swiggers

Support Staff

Historian---Marion Patterson
Hospitality---Brenda Behrens
Librarian---Janice Masson
Facebook Moderator---Janice Masson
Membership---Caralee Roberts
Newsletter Editor---Donna Meyer
Web Mistress---Donna Meyer
Parliamentarian---Debbie Allen
Publicity---Nancy Ricketts
Ways & Means---Carma Koester



October NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – September 24.

Send articles to Donna Meyer, d2meyer@cableone.net

Send address corrections/updates to info@mtnspinweave.org



Don’t forget to do some browsing on the Amazon and Interweave sites using the links on the [MSWG Website](#).

Items For Sale:

Spinning Wheel: Majacraft Little Gem Travelling Folding Wheel for sale. I used this wheel less than 4 hours and bought it new 3 years ago, it is like new. Included with the wheel is 5 bobbins, flyer, flyer hook, a lazy kate made by majacraft, a niddy noddy, traveling/storage bag, a couple spinning books and magazines, and several bags of roving which is all wool and mostly bright colors. Please call Shareis' cell. (928)848-3511

Looms: Four harness, six treadle jack loom of unknown manufacturer. Weaving width - 23.5". Overall dimensions 33 5/8" wide x 44" deep X 44" high. Loom has not been used in sometime. The existing steel 10.5 dent reed and heddles are rusted and thus need to be refurbished or replaced. Sturdy hardwood frame believed to be ash is in excellent condition. Asking: \$150.00

Folding Tapestry Loom of unknown mfg. Overall Size: 28-3/8" wide by 28-5/8" high + 3-3/8" for pegs on top. Weaving width?? The outside measurement from the outside of the first peg to the outside of the last peg is 20.5". Loom is 4" deep when folded and 14-3/8" at widest point when open. One peg was missing but my husband made a replacement peg. Partially completed work was cut off. Remaining warp is chained and hangs on pegs. To see either loom here in Prescott, contact Nancy Millet at 778-5825. Asking: \$60.00



Out and About the Region

I attended the Pagosa Fiber Festival with Nancy Wilson. While Nancy was teaching a class I drove up to Wolf Creek Pass. That drive was incredible. I think the festival is one of the best kept secrets in the southwest. The classes were fabulous, nice selection and small so there was a lot of good instruction, student interaction and the results were breathtaking. The demonstrations are frequent enough to keep your interest throughout the day but left plenty of time to drool and shop. Everyone, vendors and other participants were very friendly and extremely generous with their knowledge. I can't remember when I last felt this level of energy and excitement at a festival. There are sheep, Scottish Highland cattle, alpacas, llamas & angora bunnies. Great food, great location and great fun! If you need fiber or inspiration this is the place to be!

--- Michelle Bures Veatch

[Pagosa Springs Fiber Festival 2012](#)

- October 1 & 2, 2011 - [The Wool Festival at Taos](#)
- Robyn Spady Workshop - "Extreme Warp Makeover" 3-day workshop from October 7-9, 2011 in Reno, Nevada.
- November 5, 2011 - [Southwest Fiber Festival](#), Tubac AZ
- AZ Federation of Weavers and Spinners Guilds, Inc. "[Fibers Through Time](#)" conference April 19 – 22, 2012. Four Points by Sheraton, Phoenix North, 10220 North Metro Parkway East, Phoenix, Arizona.
- HGA's (Handweavers Guild of America) is sponsoring its annual "[Small Expressions](#)" exhibit in Long Beach, CA from May 10 – August 12, 2012.

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<http://www.studiothreeaz.com>

We will be putting our new class schedule for next year 2012 on our web site. We will have hand outs here at the Studio too. We are excited about all the classes that we have been teaching and so appreciate your support. Our twill color gamp class was a huge success and we still have people wanting to take it. It will be our first class scheduled for January. We have open knitting on Thursday from 1:00 to 3:00. There is no charge. We continue to offer classes on an individual bases.

---Conne and Patti

Mountain Spinners & Weaver Guild
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