

Dallas Area Fiber Artists Newsletter

Meet the new officers

President—Rhonda Douglass

A Lake Highlands' feltmaker and fiber artist Rhonda Douglass combines her love of color, pattern and texture with the versatility of wool and luxury fibers to create her contemporary hand-rolled felts. Rhonda has a diverse background in many art mediums including drawing, painting, enameling on metal, silk screening, stained glass, and glass fusing. She studied graphic design at the University of Kansas and worked as a graphic artist until the first of her two children was born. Her creative inquiry took her into the fiber arts. In 2004 Rhonda was awarded a scholarship to attend the Split Rock Arts Program at the University of Minnesota to study feltmaking. She has since worked with international and national feltmakers to learn new techniques to this ancient art, such as nuno felting (the adding of wool fibers to silk fabrics allowing for lighter weight felts).



Rhonda hand dyes her fibers, working mainly with merino wool. She especially likes to add natural colored, locally raised corriedale wool fibers to her artwork. Yarns and fibers of silk and mohair are also added to enhance the design. Upon completion of the felting process she shibori/resist dyes some of her pieces leaving their interesting outcome to the dye pot gods. Rhonda's work has been displayed at the "Focus On Fiber" show at the Eisemann Center, Richardson, TX and the "Scratching the Surface" fiber show at the Southwest School of Arts and Crafts, San Antonio, TX. While wall hangings and home décor is the focus of her feltmaking, she also produces fashion accessories and can be contacted for commissions.

Executive Vice President—Glenda Hurley

Glenda's first passion is interior design with a dual second between sewing and music. After overhearing another Guild member at JoAnn Fabrics she became interested immediately. Glenda began sewing around age 3 making doll clothes. She received her first Touch and Sew machine at age 13. At age 15 she placed 1st in the Singer Sewing Center contest with a shirtwaist dress (bias front with checks to be matched). The next year her eight-panelled coat with bound buttonholes placed 2nd nationally. She continued sewing clothes for herself as well as her mother. Being devoted to music she was always singing in the school and church choir and attended college hoping to pursue a career in music. After marrying, she found her real passion was in interior design with her first home which opened up a whole new world of creativity. A willing husband, Mike, fueled her home décor creativity by being willing to do any project around the house.



Glenda and Mike have one child, Jonathan which is a junior at Dallas Baptist University, majoring in business. Being a stay-at-home Mom has always been extremely important to Glenda. She states that "being a mother has been her most rewarding give and best creation."

1st Vice President—Delores Lyon**(Membership Development and Community Liason)**

In 1977 or '78 I heard about Fiber Artists from Ruth Anderson in a quilting class she was teaching. I came and immediately joined.

I like to design one-of-a-kind garments: pillows, baby blankets using a variety of techniques (crazyquilt patchwork, pleating, manipulated fabric, overlays of lace, silk ribbon embroidery, quilting, old linens, crocheted pieces, old buttons, yoyo's, photo transfers, etc.) I also make handmade books and boxes. I design and make one-of-a-kind purses. I also am an avid gardener.

I have received awards in a number of Fiber Artists' shows and 2 state shows, a number of blue ribbons, 2nd & 3rd place ribbons in the Texas State Fair. I have had my work in galleries in Texas and New Jersey. I have done a number of craft shows in the Dallas area in the last 29 years.

My husband's name is Richard. Between us we have 6 children, 13 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild. I have taken design classes at Richland College, handmade books class at Collin County Comm. College and Off-loom weaving-quilting-dyeing, etc. workshops with national fiber artists (Lois Ericson, Cindy Hickok, Mary Ruth Smith, Chungie Lee) and workshops with local artists (Barbara Ryan, Louise Hunt, and Jack Brockette). I served as President of Dallas Fiber Artists in 1981 and again from 2002 – 2004.

**2nd Vice President—Michelle Knoerzer**
(Ways and Means)

Michelle Knoerzer is a newcomer to the world of fiber arts. She began quilting at the urging of a close friend and fabriholic. A basic sampler quilt was all it took. Four years later, Michelle has a closet full of fabric and projects.

Even though quilting will always be her foundation, wearables and embroidery have caught her eye. New interests in thread and different textures are finding ways into her work. Michelle is currently designing a dress that will be made from packaging material used for potato chip bags.

Through friendships with Houston Area Fiber Artists and several chance meetings with Dallas member Lu Peters, Michelle joined DAFA this year. Before she knew it, Michelle was the new web mistress and the vice president of Ways and Means. She has enjoyed her new artistic endeavors and hopes to flourish in this creative environment.

Michelle has to work to support her habit. She spends her business hours working for Mary Kay as an Operations Trainer for their Manufacturing facility. She shares her life with her husband Tony and their four-legged kids, Snow, Flake, and Matisse. Tony and Michelle made a deal several years ago not to ask the other about their "craft-related" purchases. (Tony is a wood worker.) Keeping some mystery in the relationship has promoted a harmonious six years together.

**3rd Co-Vice President—Jack Brockette**
(Programs)

Jack is a Past President of Dallas Fiber Artists. He has taught at all levels: K through Graduate School and retired after 39 years of teaching.

Jack has won numerous Best of Show Awards, Judge's Choice Awards, and has received many invitations for exhibitions in the US and Europe. Included in these invitational exhibitions were The Fairfield Fashion Show. Jack's work has been published in national Magazines, The premier issue of Womens Day Wearable Art, Craft News and Sew News.

He has always been an innovator, and in 2004, he brought together 5 artists (Chungie Lee of Korea, Mary Ruth Smith and himself of Texas, Dawn Erickerson of Minnesota, and Joan Schultz of California) to participate in his "Interpretive Pojagi" show, held at Baylor University in Waco. Jack is also serving as Chairman of the 2008 Federation of Fiber Artists Show which will be held here in Dallas.

Prior to a recent move, Jack's Studio was on the White Rock Lake Artist Studio Tour where you could visit Jack's studio and see where he constructs all his fiber constructed images.

Jack is married to Ann and they have three children: Pebble, Sean and Erin; three grandchildren: Victoria, Nicolas and Ocean Killian Riley.



3rd Co-Vice President—Connie Akers (Programs)

Connie is a mixed media fabric artist, quilter, collage artist and works with dyeing fabric also. She is married to Karl, a very talented woodworker and is a mother to Ashley, a jewelry artist/gardener extraordinaire and Elliott, a yet undirected about-to-be college graduate.

As an art teacher, Connie was trained with small bits of knowledge in many areas. She is a life long stitcher and began putting her art and sewing together in the 1970's in Houston. There was a gap in her art making until she met Jack Brockette in 1993 and have been overloaded ever since. Jack introduced Connie to Fiber Artists and her work was in the 2005 Dallas Fiber Artists' juried show.

You can see Connie's self-portrait quilt on page 72 of the Summer 2006 Quilting Arts magazine. Of this piece, Connie says, "It is hot in Texas in the summer and '05 has been particularly bad as we've had very little rain and my garden mainly supports giant wild sunflowers. This piece [*in the magazine*] represents my mixed feelings about this growth and my place in it."



3rd Co-Vice President—Sara Moe (Programs)

Sara's Career as a Fiber Artist had very early beginnings. At the age 5, in her kindergarten class, she painted a flower on a pale pink dress that her mom had just made for her because she felt it was boring and needed more color. She's been embellishing and creating art with fabric ever since. She started sewing her own clothes in Home Economics in 7th grade and has been sewing up a storm ever since. Like most teenagers, Sara didn't listen to her mom, when she urged her to attend F.I.T in New York to study fashion design. Instead she went to the University of Buffalo, in NY and got a degree in Speech. She eventually got into sales in the fast growing computer industry, where she worked for 25 years. In 2001, Sara finally got the opportunity to pursue her true passion, when she was asked to become a Creative Consultant for Pfaff Sewing Machines.

Sara has traveled for the last 4 years teaching sewing and quilting throughout the United States. She has done workshops for Quilts Inc.'s Quilt Market in Houston and Kansas City, The Original Sewing and Quilting Expos on the East Coast, as well as Pfaff's Dealer Conventions just to name a few.

Her passion is to combine her technology expertise and love for sewing into a career promoting the joy of creative quilting and sewing. Sara is a fiber artist, specializing in wearable art, and quilting with an emphasis on contemporary art quilts. She has recently become a member of the Board of the Dallas Area Fiber Artists and is also a member of the Quilter's Guild of Dallas and the Bear Creek Quilt Guild.

Sara specializes in incorporating digital photography, embroidery and embellishments into her quilts with the use of the latest technology, equipment and notions available. She has been featured multiple times on National PBS TV's "America Quilts Creatively" show. Sara has published her own quilt patterns and template kits and teaches many different types of workshops on quilting and wearable arts. Pictures of her work and descriptions of her workshops can be found on her website: <http://www.sewinspired.com/>



4th Vice President—Ed Noyce (Annual Show)

It is with regret that I do not have detailed information from Ed about his background. We do know he is a very accomplished silk painter and member of SPIN—Silk Painters International.

He is currently the coordinator for the Silk in Santa Fe festival "Rise to the Challenge" which is this summer and will be coordinating the Annual Fiber Show for 2007 for the Dallas Area Fiber Artists. Hopefully, we will be able to run a feature on Ed later this year.



5th Vice President—Diana Pease (Communications)

Diana majored in home economics education with a minor in business administration, graduating from Sam Houston University. Having sewn clothing since the 9th grade, she picked up crochet as an adult and later ventured into paper arts. While at home for 20 years raising children, she had a cottage business of custom dressmaking and alterations and made most of her children's clothing. Returning to the business arena in 1990 she worked as a word processor for an insurance company where she met Sherry Searcy who also later came to Dallas Fiber Artists through Delores Lyon, Diana's longtime personal friend.



After joining Dallas Fiber Artists, Diana learned to explore the many areas of mixed media from card-making to wearable art and into jewelry making as well. She has awards from the juried shows of Dallas Area Fiber Artists as well as the Texas State Fair. Diana retired in 2003 from the insurance company and has served as Newsletter Editor for 4 years.

Diana is married to Leo and they have 4 children (3 girls, 1 boy) and 8 grandchildren. They have lived in Richardson for 43 years.

Treasurer—Brenda Arrington

Brenda is a native Dallasite, married 47 years to another native Dallasite, Larry. They have 2 daughters—one in Pennsylvania with 2 children and the other in California with 3 children, so she has the opportunity to see a lot of the U.S. Brenda's grandmother taught her all sorts of needlework and techniques when she was quite young. She began sewing her own clothes at age 9 and still makes many of them.



She's retired now, but she worked for 14 years for the International Fabric Company and was the Sales Representative and Showroom Manager at the World Trade Center. She also served as director of the Dallas Fabric Show for 5 years.

Brenda loves quilting and all sewing techniques. She is a beader and member of the Dallas Bead Society as well as the North Texas Polymer Clay Guild. Brenda came to know about Dallas Area Fiber Artists through her fellow beadworker, Elizabeth Harkins, who had learned of our group through Rhonda Douglass.

Secretary—Amy Fox

Amy had been searching for a fiber group that went beyond the quilting groups. She saw the DAFA website first, then a friend, Geneva Horning, invited her to attend. She's been hooked ever since.

Amy likes to work with all fabric and fiber mediums: threads, yarns, dyes, paints, resists, stamping, etc. Her specialty is thread and the machine arts. She says she doesn't do a lot of machine embroidery, but she does love all kinds of freehand machine work, such as Trapunto, reverse appliqué, thread painting, etc.

She was awarded 3rd place in the Amateur Wearable Arts and was winner of the Sulky Challenge 2004 with her White Fantasy Jacket. As a winner of this event, her jacket traveled for one year beginning at the 2004 Houston Quilt Market. It was also in numerous Sulky Exhibitions throughout the year at all the quilt markets, etc.

Amy was raised in Tripoli, Libya, North Africa and Sydney, Australia until she was a junior in high school. In Australia she studied fashion design each year beginning in 7th grade. That training has been invaluable for the 34 years she's been sewing. Amy has a Bachelor of Arts in Theater from the University of North Texas (1988), with a concentration in design, primarily staging, costuming, and lighting. She also has a Master of Science from Texas A&M University.

By day she is an ESL teacher for DISD, but at night she works all over her art stores, goes to meetings, and works late in her studio. Amy has been married to Curtis, a professional musician, for 25 years and they have 2 children.

As a new member to Dallas Area Fiber Artists, Amy hopes to get to know all of the talented members and the local opportunities for exhibitions, hosting, etc. She is eager to help DAFA reach their short as well as long term goals.



* * * * * **June 26 Meeting** * * * * *

This meeting will be a social with food and refreshments. We plan on recognizing our members of 20 years or more. If you have memorabilia from the past please make it available for the meeting. We will also display members' work. Bring several items representative of your work to share with other members.

*We need members to organize and to contribute food items. Please contact **Delores Lyon** (972-496-0707 or lyonrd1@msn.com) if you are willing to help out.*

We are open to suggestions from the membership for ideas.

“BAG-O-STUFF” CHALLENGE

Want to be a part of a really fun challenge? Bring a bag (any reasonable size) to the **June 26** meeting. Include anything you'd like to donate to the challenge, i.e. fabric, fabric pieces, trims, buttons, ribbons, cording, appliqués. You get the idea. The bags will be collected and before you leave you will take another bag home with you (contents site unseen by you). A date will be announced later to bring to show and tell the item you have created from the “stuff” you had in your bag.

PAPER EXPLORATIONS

Calling all DAFA artists and crafters who enjoy working with paper in all its fascinating aspects. If you're interested in getting together with other enthusiasts on a regular basis to share your knowledge, explore new techniques, and revisit some old ones, phone or e-mail Jody Ferguson at 972-788-5028; vesta11@yahoo.com.

Depending on availability of space, we hope to meet at C. C. Young monthly for a weekday morning session. Exact time and date to be determined.

Jill Heppenheimer, co-owner of the **Santa Fe Weaving Gallery** and co-founder, Design with Heart Fiber Conference is organizing **textile tours** through November 2007. Jill is a friend of Mary Ann Johnson (SAFA) who suggested we inform our member of these opportunities.

Oct. 5-13, 2006: London and Bath, England Textile Tour, with Melissa Leventon, freelance curator of textiles and costume from San Francisco, covering historic textiles and contemporary fashion/fiber arts. \$2500., plus air fare.

November 27—Dec. 10, 2006: Thailand and Laos Textile Tour, with Nancy Craft of Esprit Travel, with an optional extension to Angkor Wat (through Dec. 13), focusing on textiles, hill tribes' crafts, temples. \$4150, plus air fare.

November 2007: Textile Tour to Kyoto, Arimatsu and Tokyo, with Nancy Craft of Esprit Travel. Price TBA.

Jill can be reached at rusee@aol.com or 505-982-1737.

2006—2007 Officers

- President: Rhonda Douglass, 214-341-5616 (hm), petuniafiber@aol.com
 Exec. V-P: Glenda Hurley, 972-271-5286 (hm), glendahurley100@aol.com
 1st V-P: Delores Lyon 972-496-0707, lyonrd1@msn.com (Membership Development and Community Liaison)
 2nd V-P: Michelle Knoerzer, 214-674-3192 (hm); michknoerzer@aol.com (Ways & Means)
 3rd V-P: Connie Akers, 940-240-1060 (hm), ckakers47@msn.com,
 Jack Brockette, 214-324-3107 (hm), jbrockette@hotmail.com, AND
 Sara Moe, 817-379-9998 (hm) sara.sewinspired@verizon.net
 (Monthly meetings and 2nd Wednesday Play Days)
 4th V-P: Ed Noyce, 972-572-8428 (hm), enoyce@lonetree.com (Annual Show)
 5th V-P: Diana Pease, 972-231-0659 (hm), 972-231-0622 (fax), peapod60@sbcglobal.net
 (Communications: Newsletter and Website)
 Secretary : Amy Fox, 972-222-6188 (hm), cafox@prodigy.net
 Treasurer: Brenda Arrington, 214-341-4629 (hm), beader40-info@yahoo.com
 State Board Reps: Delores Lyon (2004-2008) and Jack Brockette (2006-2010)

The Greater Dallas Chapter of Embroider’s Guild of America is hosting a **Finishing Workshop** on September 23, 2006 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Location is 1st Bank of Canyon Creek Community Room, 429 Belle Grove, Richardson TX 75080 (just south of the Civic Center). At the Finishing Workshop you will finish the following: 1) box 2) easel 3) triangle 4) round 5) beaded edge. Pre-stitchery is required but the patterns are very easy.. Class fee, which includes lunch, is \$117.00 with 50% deposit at sign-up. Balance will be due on August 1.

Please contact Janet Jelen at 214-691-7549 if you are interested and for additional information.

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 “**Through The Needle’s Eye:**” The Embroiderers’ Guild of America’s 18th National Exhibition is on display at the Irving Arts Center from May 20—July 2, 2006. The Arts Center is located at 3333 MacArthur Blvd, Irving.

Admission is free. Gallery hours are:  
 Mon, Tues, Wed., and Fri: 9:00 am—5:00 pm  
 Thursday: 9:00 am—8:00 pm  
 Saturday: 10:00 am—5:00 pm; Sunday: 1:00 pm—5:00 pm

You can view information online at:  
<http://www.ci.irving.tx.us/arts> & (click on Events)  
 This national exhibition consists of approximately 55 works of contemporary needle art (*including two garments, beaded necklaces, quilts, canvas work, stitchery, surface design, a vessel and one doll*) and is a representative selection of the best in artistic and technical works embracing both traditional and contemporary needlework while expanding the perception of embroidery as an art form.

**June & July Birthdays**



|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Sandi Wheeler .....     | 6/02 |
| Sara Moe.....           | 6/05 |
| Pat Cale .....          | 6/10 |
| Christine Miller .....  | 6/10 |
| Debbie Maddy .....      | 6/12 |
| Barbara Murrell .....   | 6/19 |
| Lyon Delores .....      | 7/2  |
| Jack Brockette .....    | 7/6  |
| Sheila Mann.....        | 7/7  |
| Michelle Knoerzer ..... | 7/10 |
| Lu Peters.....          | 7/30 |
| Ruth Anderson .....     | 7/22 |
| Phyllis Wuthnow .....   | 7/28 |

**Silk in Santa Fe “Rise to the Challenge”**

July 31—August 6, 2006

Silk Painters International (SPIN) will hold it’s Festival in Santa Fe this summer at the Santa Fe Community College in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The coordinator for this festival is Ed Noyce, Program VP of DAFA. The festival website [[www.silkinsantafe.com/subindex.htm](http://www.silkinsantafe.com/subindex.htm)] will provide the most recent information regarding the festival along with registration information.

You can reach Ed by email at: [ednoyce@lonetree.com](mailto:ednoyce@lonetree.com)

Annual Dues are due on June 1. Please complete the form below and turn it in with your cash or check to Delores Lyon by June 1. Please make checks payable to Dallas Area Fiber Artists.

## DALLAS AREA FIBER ARTISTS Membership Form

The following information is important for tracking member data and interests for planning of future programs and events. If this is a renewal membership, please update any information previously given. Include this form with your check (made payable to Dallas Area Fiber Artists) and mail to Dallas Area Fiber Artists, c/o Delores Lyon, 710 Wakefield Dr., Garland, Texas 75040. Dues are as follows:

| New                                                                       | Renewal |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| ___ \$35.00 / yr. June 1 -May 31                                          |         |
| ___ \$17.50 / ½ yr. January 1 -May 31                                     |         |
| ___ \$10.00 / yr. for student in a full time fiber art related curriculum |         |

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Name: _____                | Phone (H) _____              |
| Address _____              | (Bus) _____                  |
| City, State, Zipcode _____ | Fax _____                    |
| Email address: _____       | Cell _____                   |
| Website _____              | Birthday: (month, day) _____ |

What are your fiber art skills and interests? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive my monthly newsletter (please choose one)

VIA EMAIL (PDF FORMAT)

VIA U. S. MAIL

### *Calendar of Events*

June 8-10: Great American Scrapbook Convention, Arlington, Texas [www.greatamericanscrapbook.com](http://www.greatamericanscrapbook.com)

June 16-18: Martha Pullen, Arlington Convention Center, [www.marthapullen.com](http://www.marthapullen.com)

June 26: **Regular Meeting:** Social and getting to know each other. Refreshments provided by members volunteers.

**Bag-O-Stuff challenge**

July 31: **Silk in Santa Fe—Rise to the Challenge.** Contact Ed Noyce, coordinator: [enoyce@lonetree.com](mailto:enoyce@lonetree.com)

Dallas Area Fiber Artists  
 Diana Pease  
 1955 Eastpark Dr.  
 Richardson, TX 75081-5427

*Give lavishly! Live abundantly!*  
 The more you give, the more you get—  
 The more you laugh, the less you fret—  
 The more you do unselfishly,  
 The more you live abundantly . . .  
 The more of everything you share,  
 The more you'll always have to spare—  
 The more you love, the more you'll find  
 That life is good and friends are kind . . .  
 For only what we give away  
 Enriches us from day to day  
 -Source Unknown



*Deadline for submission to the July-August Newsletter is June 29, 2006*

## Come Join Us

**Dallas Area Fiber Artists** is a non-profit organization, which promotes fiber arts and artists through education, workshops, style shows and annual exhibitions. Our members are enthusiastic, creative people who explore and expand all facets of fiber arts. Monthly programs include lectures and demonstrations by professionals on varied subjects such as: stitchery, fabric painting, fabric manipulation, papermaking, paper as well as fabric collage, garment design, fiber jewelry, altered books and other aspects of fiber techniques and art. We are associated with the Texas Federation of Fiber Artists. Membership is open to anyone who is actively involved in the creation of original fiber art or interested in its promotion as art. Visitors are welcome at our monthly meetings.

We meet every 4th Monday of the month at the C. C. Young Retirement Community in the Chapel. *(see adjacent map)*. We have social time at 7:00 pm and our meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Monthly workshops are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am. Locations may vary, so check the web site.

Call 972-496-0707 (Delores Lyon) for details or additional information.

**We meet at C. C. Young Memorial Home  
 4829 Lawther West "Bldg. B" 7:00 ish,  
 meeting starts @ 7:30 !**