



AKS Newsletter

What's happening in the World of Braiding

Learn * Connect * Braid

AKS Launches New Website



The AKS tagline is Learn * Connect * Braid and that is exactly what the new website will help you do!

LEARN - All about braiding and kumihimo including the equipment, techniques and the latest trends

CONNECT - With other braiders through local groups and the newsletter

BRAID - Enroll in an eCourse on the Online Learning Center, sign up for the AKS Gathering

The new website builds on the old, but also reflects the incredible growth and interest of the braiding community. Take a look - explore - and let us know what

you think!

Highlights include:

- The Online Learning Center (OLC) is web-based and contained on the AKS site. No more flipping between [;]' and course materials. New OLC eCourses will be available starting at the end of June!
- Instead of "classes," we have "eCourses." These can be "Instructor Led" and interactive similar to the previous Braider's Dozen Classes, or they can be "On-Demand" independent study eCourses. Some of these are repeats of popular Braider's Dozen classes that will be available for self-study.
- eStudy Groups, previously called Braid Abouts, will focus on a particular book or topic.
- Upcoming eCourses are listed, and many more are in the works!
- "Braiding and Technique Tutorials" from Novice to Advanced are short videos or downloads that teach a specific braid or technique.
- The "Braiding Dictionary" serves as a resource to clarify or help better understand braiding terminology. This replaces the Wiki.
- All previous Newsletters are archived for easy reference.
- The Calendar includes events and classes from around the country. Anyone can add their event to the AKS Calendar.
- We've added information about our instructors, artists and members.
- Also new is a greatly expanded list of Braiding Resources with links to help you find information about anything connected to braiding!

Over the next few months you will notice more changes to the website. Our goal is to make the AKS website be the one stop place for all braiding information. We would love to know what you think of the website and if you have any braiding news you would like to share. Contact [Adrienne Gaskell](#)

[Check it out now!](#)

Spotlight on Beth Hardy, the Traveling Kumista



Beth Hardy is truly a traveling kumista. After serving 21 years in the US Navy and a second career working as a horticulturist, Beth and her husband bought an Airstream Travel Trailer, gave up their permanent address, and started an adventure that many of us only dream of. That was 8 years ago. Her hobbies then were hiking, biking and reading. In 2013, that changed a bit. She stopped in a bead shop in Tucson, Arizona and was fascinated by a foam disk with a hole and a long braid coming out of it. The rest is history.

[Read more.](#)

AKS Gathering 2018

There are still a few registration seats available for the second AKS Gathering. October is a beautiful time in Tampa and a great time to get away and braid with fellow enthusiasts.



[Read more.](#)



AKS had a Strong Presence at Bead & Button 2018 Show!



Three Cheers for our AKS Member Braiding Instructors!

From June 1st - 10th the Bead & Button show in Milwaukee educated thousands of jewelry artists from around the world! Five AKS members taught classes and engaged more than 100 student kumistas from far and wide! All classes were well-received and students left wanting more! Bob Galivan, Adrienne Gaskell, Yin Guang, Rebecca Combs and Cheryl Focht represented us well.

And, the AKS booth at the Market Place was well visited with numerous signups for additional

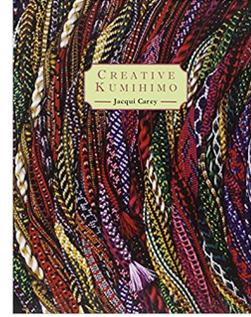
information. Thanks to all of the volunteers who demonstrated kumihimo on both the foam disk and the marudai.

First eStudy Group Announced: A survey of 18 braids from Creative Kumihimo by Jacqui Carey, Leader: Carolyn Haushalter

This 12-week eStudy Group will survey 18 of the braids from **Creative Kumihimo** by Jacqui Carey. Each week, Leader Carolyn Haushalter will discuss a braid and guide students through the technique. This course includes a discussion forum for student questions and leader feedback. The course is free and open to all AKS members

This eStudy Group will begin at the end of June. Watch the website for Registration and details! We'll send an email when registration is available!

[Read more about Carolyn Haushalter.](#)



Fun Stuff: What do You do with your Braid Samples?



Lately, I've been thinking about my braid samples and wondering what to do with them. What do *YOU* do with yours when you're done -- you know those 8, 10, or 12 inch -- or longer -- experiments you make when you're taking a new technique class or trying out a new braid? My samples were all over the house, completely unorganized and undocumented...

[Read More.](#)

STAY CONNECTED



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