

What's New at the Market

Sequim Farmers Market

Downtown Sequim on the corner of Sequim Ave. and Washington St.

Saturdays 9 am to 3 pm

Open Extended hours Friday and Saturday of Lavender Weekend

July 11th and Friday July 17 & Saturday July 18th, Special Hours 9 - 6 pm

What's New at the Market is something that dates back to the 4th century b.c. It is chainmaille, yes, the kind that was used by knights slaying dragons. Karl Ayres started a business this year called DEKA, the name is a combination of his and his wife's name, he is making and selling what he calls and spells in his preferred way, chainmaille. He began at our market a few weeks ago and has been drawing a crowd.

Karl's passion began in Germany while in the military in 1987 where he became acquainted with a medieval society. This was a natural fit for someone who loved dungeons and dragons. He tells me, "I always felt I was living in the wrong era." When his comrades were marveling at the headpieces, he became determined to make one as fast as possible. He came back to the states with a mission and scoured the goodwill stores for metal coat hangers and began wrapping them around round cylinders and cutting them to make the rings needed.

As it turns out, making chainmaille is a lot like knitting or "weaving" as Karl likes to say. One of his first efforts was a green 'hauberk', or frock and painted it green. After that he was coined the "green knight" and his hauberk weighed almost 40 pounds. This spun him into making, learning and selling to friends various pieces. Each head piece takes about 1,000 links and fortunately he can now buy a tremendous variety of rings in all colors and metals, so is no longer working with coat hangers.

This passion for discovering new weaving patterns for chainmaille keeps him awake at night and his enthusiasm is infectious at the market. What he sells to customers varies from bracelets and anklets for men and women, to head dresses and very cool hand and foot decor and he even has a hauberk. Karl tells me he loves to watch people try things on in his booth. He says "I love the look on kids faces when they put on a piece."

You will be amazed to see such weaves as the full Persian, box weave, Japanese style, dragon scale, rose pattern and there are new patterns every week. He has pieces which range from lovely and feminine to heavy and masculine, he has also been dabbling in the style of steam punk. Come meet Karl and learn all about the medieval cultural events in our area.

Our Live Music program is kicking off on July 11th!!! We are very excited. You can get a schedule of musicians at the Market or Music Booth. We will have live music all of July and August from 11 am to 2 pm.

July 11th - The Powerhouse Band

July 18th - The Cat's Meow Jazz Band

In our Suzanne Arnold Community Booth we will be hosting the Newcomers Club and Sunbonnet Sue, who will be selling raffle tickets for that amazing quilt, on July 11th. The Soroptomists will present on July 18th.