

Fiber News & Updates

September 2025 Vol. 16, Issue 1

September Presidents Letter ~



Realizing that the calendar said autumn is approaching, even though the weather didn't agree, I wiped the sweat from my brow and endeavored to organize all the paper-work for the coming VFAG 2025-26 season. 20 file folders later, I sat on the floor, exhausted but also impressed with the scope of VFAG's business. Here is a quick rundown of what we do.

VFAG holds programs with guest speakers and members who are experts in their field. Speakers are chosen to represent the wide interests of our members.

We hold a "Show and Share" session every meeting so we can all see what each other has been up to.

We provide nifty magnetic name tags so members can get to know each other by name instead of calling, "Hey You".

We sponsor study groups so members can regularly meet with people who share their interests. This is an opportunity for members to learn, inspire and befriend each other.

We provide workshops where members can have a "hands-on" learning experience with an expert, at a reasonable price. These are great opportunities to learn a new skill or deepen an existing one.

We plan and implement field trips to local places of interest for our members, such as museums, galleries, ranches and farms.

We maintain a good-sized fiber arts lending library of books and fiber equipment that members may borrow. The books are easily accessible during our meetings and the equipment, by arrangement with the study group leaders.

We participate in the Arizona Federation umbrella organization. They have begun holding workshops and a vendor's market on alternate years where you can shop, take a class or two and meet up with friends from other parts of Arizona.

We send out a monthly newsletter to keep all our members informed about what is going on and maintain a website for our members and outreach to the wider community.

2025-2026 Season

**General Meeting
September 8, 2025**

**"What I Did This Summer"
Show & Share
Bring up to three of your
favorite things created
over the
Summer hiatus.**

**Monthly Meetings are held
on the second Monday of
month at:**

**Valley Presbyterian Church
2800 S Camino del Sol
Green Valley, AZ 85622**

**Meeting & Programs
10am ~ 12noon**

**Come early for social time
at 9:30am**

**VFAG Member \$30. @ yr
Due by January 15th,
each year beginning
January 2026.**

**Registration Form on the
last page of the newsletter
and our website.
www.valleyfiberartguild.org**

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September 8, 2025 Program

"What I did this Summer"

It has been the tradition of the guild for members to Show & Share things they created over our summer hiatus.

Whether it be the result of a class or self-study, a whim or a grand plan, we want To see it. Of course we all want to share everything but as you know we only have so much time during a meeting, so we ask that you bring up to three of your favorite things and show them. Share what inspired you to create them in a short Presentation. You are the program, let's inspire each other!

TAG

'The Art of Giving'

I know I was busy making smaller projects during the hot summer weather for TAG GIFTS. I'm in Iowa and it's been hot AND humid.

While in Green Valley earlier this year, I was fortunate to meet a woman (through bridge lessons) that works at Valley Assistance. I told her about my association with Valley Assistance and told her about TAG. She said she was one of the volunteers that decide where to distribute the gifts. I asked her which ones were most popular. And she said ALL of them put a smile on the faces of the recipients. Please know that all gifts which go to the low income in the area are appreciated. I thank all that contribute to TAG. If you need ideas, there are ideas on the website. Often members of the Guild have great ideas from providing loved ones with gifts.

Too busy to make a gift? Toiletries are always appreciated and so are books.

I will be collecting gifts in October and November at the Guild meetings.

Thank you in advance,
Jane Tempel

President's Letter Continued...

We provide a venue for members to sell their personal items via a Stash Sale.

Our TAG group collects and distributes hand made items to give to various charities who provide for those in need.

Rereading this I noticed the word "we" is used many times. This organization belongs to all of us and benefits all of us. But we can't do all this without your participation. So please, choose an area of interest to help our organization to remain as vital as we have been. Look for opportunities to do outreach, fundraising, program planning, planning or sponsoring a workshop, newsletter and website maintenance, and maybe even taking a Board position. We can all benefit by sharing our expertise, skills and energy.

Whatever your level of participation, we are glad you have joined us for fellowship, inspiration, friendship, community, adventures and fun.

Sincerely,

Martha Fine
VFAG President

"Art in the Park"

Once again, Green Valley will be holding "Art in the Park". This is a great opportunity for outreach. We have reserved a booth, where we can do demos and strut our stuff. Please volunteer to spend a couple hours with us in Desert Meadow Park on October 18. Bring your spinning wheel, table loom, current knitting project or whatever you are working on and an item or two to display.

We will have a sign up sheet at the September 8th general meeting.

Special Note: It was our intention to have, for the first time, a sales booth. Unfortunately the cost became prohibitive so we are looking at new options for the future. We are proceeding with our Transaction Privilege Tax status. We need 6 volunteers to form a committee to pursue this goal.

Please contact Debbi Brunner ~ misseyb@gmail.com to volunteer or ask questions by December 1, 2025.

It's Time for another field trip! Saturday September 12, 4-6 pm

Please join the Art Quilt Study group for our first field trip of the season. We will be going to the Sonoran Desert Museum for an artist's reception on Saturday, September 12 from 4-6 pm. The Ironwood Gallery, inside the desert museum is sponsoring the exhibit "Camouflage" by Studio Art Quilt Association, SAQA. This is a truly eye-opening experience. We will meet at the Safeway parking lot on Duval Mine Road at 2:30 pm to form our car pools.

Please be advised that admission fee is steeper than most area attractions. If you haven't yet been to the Desert Museum, it is a wonderful place to spend the day. Contact Martha Fine ~ marthafine52@gmail.com

General Admission (ages 13-64): \$29.95 Seniors \$2. discount



Save the Date...

Arizona Fiber Festival

sponsored by the Federation of Weaver & Spinners

2nd AZ Fiber Festival

April 10, 11, and 12, 2026

Camp Verde, Arizona

Workshop/Lecture schedule coming soon ~ www.azfed.org

Study Groups are open to all current guild members. Learn a new technique, share ideas and resources or just enjoy the friendship.

For more information about a particular group or the current topic of the month please contact the group leader. Note: "OTM" refers to "of the month." We are always looking for ideas for new study groups - please let a Board Member know of your interest.

Art Quilts:

Who: Martha Fine ~ marthafine52@gmail.com
Where: Quilt Central, 701 W Ward Ln.
When: 1st Monday OTM, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Basketry:

Who: Marge Delker ~ daveandmarged@gmail.com
Where: Home of Pat Merritt
271 E. Paseo Churea, GV
When: 3rd Thursday OTM

Beading:

Who: Karen Gabriel ~ karengary115@gmail.com
Where: Friends in Deed
When: 2nd Thursday OTM, 10 am-12 pm

Cloth Creations:

Who: Fran Lunney ~ lunnfran@gmail.com
Where: Desert Hills Lutheran Church rm #102
When: 3rd Tuesday OTM 9:30am

Knitting:

Who: Jane Tempel ~ tempelj@aol.com
Where: Friends in Deed
When: 4th Tuesday OTM, 9:30 a.m.
The KSG will meet on 9/23 at 9:30. Please bring your summer projects to share with all. It's always great to see what people do, especially from different locations.

Spinning Study Group:

Who: Lyndy Runyon ~ lyndyrunyon@gmail.com
Where: TBA meet in Member homes
When: 1st Thursday OTM, 9-12noon

Tapestry:

Who: April Boysen & Debra Brown
debrabrown15@icloud.com
Where: Friends in Deed
When: 1st Tuesday OTM, 9:30am-11:30am

Weaving Study Group:

Who: Ann Bont - abont@comcast.net
Phone: 231-652-6275
Where: TBA
When: 3rd Monday OTM 1-3pm

Wet and Needle Felting:

Who: Lyndy Runyon - lyndyrunyon@gmail.com
Where: Friends in Deed
When: 4th Monday OTM 1-3pm

Wool Rug Braiding:

Who: Gretchen Ramsey - grandmagretchen@cox.net
When: by appointment, contact Gretchen

Joining or visiting a Study Group is a great way explore something you have been curious about. Visit a meeting and discover the ins and outs of the techniques, equipment needed, etc.

Groups are always happy to share knowledge with interested people and some groups have equipment to loan should you want to experiment and learn more.

Calendar of Events ~ September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Art Quilts Study Group	2 Tapestry Study Group	3	4 Spinning Study Group	5	6
7	8 General Meeting	9	10	11 Beading Study Group	12	13
14	15 Weaving Study Group	16 Cloth Creations Study Group	17	18 Basketry Study Group	19	20
21	22 Felting Study Group	23 Knitting Study Group	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ Fall Schedule 2025

September 8th Program ~ "What I Did This Summer"

October 13th Program ~ "Rag Baskets" with Nancy Gould

October 18th Art in the Park ~ VFAG demo/outreach booth

November 10th Program ~ "Continuous Weave Little Looms" with Lindy Bringham

November 14th Workshop ~ Rag Baskets with Nancy Gould

December 8th Program ~ "President's Challenge ~ Think Outside the Box"

Boxes are the most useful vessels, we use them for shoes, jewelry, food storage, holding our pets, gifts. .. You get the idea. "Think Outside the Box", think inside the box, think alongside, beside, under, over, wherever, the box. Where is Schrodinger's darn cat, anyway? This challenge begins with a box. You can start with an already existing box to decorate or create your own box structure. Use any fiber media that strikes your fancy. These will be "judged" on innovation, creativity and daring. As always the challenge parameters are open to interpretation. And there will be prizes for the winners!



Workshops 2025-26 Season

The 2025-26 Program & Workshop committee has an interesting array of Programs and Workshops in the coming months. You can read full information on our website, www.valleyfiberartguild.org. Take full advantage of your membership, enjoy interesting programs each month and sign up for a Workshop/Classes, learn something new.

We've included a Registration Form to print in the newsletter.

Please note: Workshop/Class registrations fees are non-refundable, if for some reason you are unable to take the workshop or class it is possible to find someone who would like to take the class. We sometimes have wait lists. We will make every effort to help you find a replacement. Thank you for your consideration.

'Coiled Fabric Baskets' with Nancy Gould

No Sewing Machine and No Rope Core Technique

Students will explore making coiled fabric baskets using two basic techniques. Light weight fabric wrapped around a core cloth wrapped and stitched with a thin binder material and/or another using heavier/bulkier fabric without a core that is wrapped but not sewn with a thicker binder material. We will play with thread tension, fabric manipulation and going where the process takes us.

It isn't likely you will walk away with a finished project (unless it is very small or you work very fast) but you will be able to continue on your own journey into endless possibilities. I find the process to be relatively simple, relaxing, inexpensive and as creative as one wants to be.

I will have supplies and materials to use but you might want to go through your stash if you want a particular color or simply want to try with your own materials. We can work with almost anything for fabric and any binder that will fit through a large eye tapestry style needle. **Student Supplies:** Scissors, Binder clip (used to hold papers together), Old sheet (to use as a core cloth), Outer fabric — cotton / upholstery / just about anything. Heavy thread / embroidery floss / crochet thread / etc. Needle — I like to use size 3 doll needles and large eye blunt tapestry needle, thimble and craft pliers (optional). A willingness to let perfection go, relax, enjoy, de-stash.



Date: Friday November 14, 2025
Time: 9am ~ 3pm
Venue: Valley Presbyterian Church
Cost: \$50.00
Limited to 10 Students

'Weaving with Little Looms' with Lindy Brigham
Continuous weaving method to create accessories and clothing.

This is designed as a beginners class on pin loom weaving. But those who have some experience may also find it interesting in that we will start the process for a completed project going from basic weaving to joining the squares. A manual will be provided with information on different kinds of pin looms available, tools needed, yarn considerations, joining techniques, and useful references. A simple scarf of individual squares will be started in the class and students should have enough information by the end of the workshop to complete it at home or during the workshop if you have made pin-loom squares before!

A kit is available with enough yarn to complete a pin loom scarf for those with their own pin-looms. \$10.
A kit with a pin loom and yarn for a scarf \$40.

In the class we will weave at least two squares and then attach these two with a join of your choice. The kit has enough material to finish the project on your own.



Date: Friday January 30, 2026
Time: 9am ~ 3pm
Venue: Valley Presbyterian Church
Cost: \$50.00 + Kit of your choice
Limited to 10 Students



Workshop Registration Form

To reserve a seat in a Workshop, tuition must be paid in full at registration.

Today's date

Please check one

☐

VFA Guild Member

☐

I am not a Member of the VFA Guild

Workshop	Instructor	Date	Amount

Total tuition amount _____

Mail this completed Registration Form
and your check payable to 'VFA Guild' for the full tuition amount to:

Debbi Brunner,
1692 W. Corte de Cajamarca
Sahuarita, AZ 85629
520-631-9908
misseyb@gmail.com

Please include instructor's name on check memo line

Your name

Address

City/State/Zip

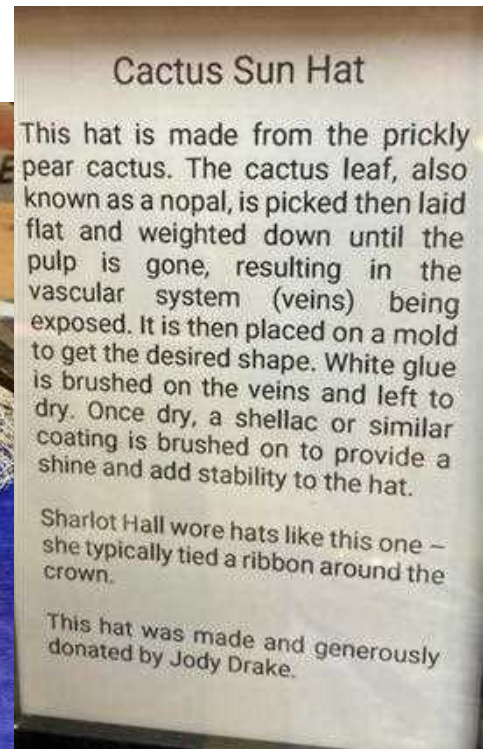
Phone

Email

Travels & Exhibitions of Interest

From Nancy Gould.....If your adventures take you to Prescott, AZ, a visit to the *Western Heritage Center* in historic downtown is well worth the time spent. Enter through a small unassuming storefront and advantage of a tour from a knowledgeable local guide. At the far back of the room take notice of the "Cactus Hat" — surely one that won't be found on Amazon or a quick Google search! There is no entrance fee but a suggested \$5 donation.

Instructions included for the fiber fanatics among us!





LOS DESCONOCIDOS: THE MIGRANT QUILT PROJECT

See it at the Arizona Heritage
Center Septmeber 2, 2025
through September 26, 2026

 ARIZONA
HERITAGE
CENTER
An Arizona Historical Society Museum

1300 N College Ave, Tempe, AZ 85288 | azhs.org/tempe



or Tempe.....

If you have visited someplace with an interesting exhibit other members would enjoy, send it to the newsletter editor with a paragraph stating who, what, when and where.

Newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

Board of Directors:

President: Martha Fine marthafine 52@gmail.com

Vice President: Sue Bollinger susanab754@gmail.com

Secretary: Marjorie Delker daveandmarge@gmail.com

Treasurer: Gary Terlisner garyft45@cox.net

AZ Federation: Susan Bollinger susanab754@gmail.com

Committee Chairs:

Programs/Workshops: Debbi Brunner misseyb@gmail.com

Membership: Nancy Gould tngould@icloud.com
Cindy Wolf pclobo2@gmail.com

Librarian: Mary Hughs marytats@cox.net
Apple Gibson apple.gibson@hotmail.com

Newsletter: Debbi Brunner misseyb@gmail.com

It is the volunteers who keep our guild moving toward the future. Since the guild was founded there have been members who are willing to devote time to help share the joys and love of fiber art.

Our aim to educate the public through outreach and 'bring them into the fold' by offering programs and the opportunity of membership to join study groups and classes which help keep the fiber arts alive for future generations.

Please consider volunteering for any of the Committee Chair positions and we will be looking for a new President and Secretary to take the reins in April of 2026.

Each person listed in a current position would be happy to talk with you about their role and what's involved. Each new Board member brings their personal spin and fresh ideas to share and keep the alive and well. You could be instrumental and gain a new perspective to the Valley Fiber Art Guild.

A rewarding experience!

Rah! You can do it!

For Sale? Free?

Do you have fiber supplies or equipment you no longer use?

Workshop/Classes scheduled to teach?

Place and ad in our newsletter, no charge. Email Debbi with ad copy and pics. newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com
Deadline the 25th of each month.

Valley Fiber Arts Guild

Minutes of the General Meeting, April 14, 2025

Business meeting

Minutes

The minutes of the March 2025 meeting were approved as published.

Election for the offices of Vice President and Treasurer

Gary Terlisner was elected for the office of Treasurer and Susan Bollinger was elected for the office of Vice President.

Reports

Vice President

Jol'ene Northup announced that the Arizona Federation of Spinning and Weaving Guilds (AZFED) will again sponsor a Fiber Arts Festival at Camp Verde to be held April 10-12, 2026. The Workshops/Seminar committee is soliciting presenters for workshops or seminars. For those who might be interested in presenting at the Festival, the form describing proposed workshop/seminar needs to be received by the Federation by July 15th. More information will be available on their website: <https://azfed.org/arizona-fiber-festival/> .

Treasurer

Debra Brown reported a current balance of \$7,639. Insurance for next year and the cost of the website for the next two years have been paid.

Other

President's Challenge

Martha Fine reminded members to create their item to enter in the President's Challenge, "Thinking Outside the Box" which will be judged at the December meeting.

Study Groups

The Art Quilt, Spinning and Beading groups announced that they will be meeting over the summer. Information is available on the VFAG webpage.

Field Trips

Martha Fine reported on the recent field trip to the Amerind Museum. She will send out email blasts on future field trips as they are planned. There will be a Flagstaff Fiber Festival on May 30 that she and others are planning on attending.

Show and Share

Dale Box showed a set of large Christmas stockings made for her grandchildren and a recently completed bleach dyed knit shirt.

Martha Fine modeled a top made of a plant dyed silk scarf that she created in a Merry Warner's Eco-dyeing workshop.

Program

Following the business meeting was the yearly Stash Sale.

Respectfully submitted, Marjorie Delker, Secretary

Highlights from 2024-25 *Season*



Eco-Dyeing
Workshop
with Merry
Warner



Indigo Dyeing,
Basketry and
Colcha with
Ric Rao



Spinning Study
Group ~ fun in
the summer



Highlights continued...



Weaving Workshop
with Patty Huffer



Show & Share
General Meetings,
Every month is a
testament to the
creativity of our
members!