



Fiber News & Updates

February 2017 Vol. 7, Issue 6

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Looking Ahead ~

Tues, Feb 7: General Meeting

Yumiko Alexander presentation, "Dan Doh Designs: Designs to Create Unique and Versatile Pieces" & TRUNK SHOW.

Tues, Mar 7: General Meeting

Judith Shangold presentation, "Weave-Knit-Wear"

Tues, Apr 4: General Meeting

Member Stash Sale and Pot Luck Picnic



General meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month, September – May
10am at:

*Good Shepherd United
Church of Christ
17750 S. La Canada Drive
Sahuarita*

Membership \$20/year
www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Note from our President ~

It's hard to believe that we're in full swing into 2017 — and before we know it, 2018 will be here! And for the Valley Fiber Art Guild, 2018 is a special year. It means our guild will be thirty (30) years old!!! That is something to celebrate! To do it up right, we would like to have a celebratory party, and a committee is needed to plan the occasion. To join the committee and help plan some fun things (and perhaps something serious too!) for the celebration, please let me know by emailing me at mgile117@gmail.com



For our January meeting, we had a very interesting and inspiring program; Laura Lundy gave a great talk on SAORI weaving and demonstrated this technique on the loom. She also showed/discussed her handwoven garments, scarves and other items. At our February meeting you won't want to miss Yumiko Alexander's trunk show of her beautifully designed and crafted garments in knit and crochet, and her patterns — or the March program to be given by textile artist and author of Judith Shangold, author of *Weave-Knit-Wear*.

There are also many fiber events coming up, so please don't miss checking those out on page 6 of this newsletter.

Happy creating!
Blessings,

Marie

JOIN US ON



Ravelry is a free information website for knitters, crocheters, designers, spinners, weavers and dyers to keep track of their yarn, tools, projects and pattern information, and look to others for ideas and inspiration. **Groups** provide a fun place to meet and connect with other users who share interests and passions, and our group name is: **VFAG – Valley Fiber Art Guild**.

ASK A
QUESTION

Just log into www.ravelry.com
Click the **GROUPS** tab at the top.
Type in: **VFAG**

SHARE FIBER
IDEAS

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Yumiko Alexander “DanDoh Designs: Designs to Create Unique and Versatile Pieces”

Born in Japan, Yumiko has enjoyed knitting and crocheting for years. She sold her finished garments while still living in Japan and since moving to the U.S., has written several popular books for knitters and crocheters - - available at: <https://www.dandoh.com/>.

All of her designs are fashionable, functional and versatile combining fun stitch patterns with simple, attractive shapes. Her lecture will include information about using different fibers /yarns for a given pattern and how one design can change based on what the knitter chooses to work with.

She will share patterns that have 3-4 models in different fibers or yarns or weights of yarn and she will bring samples to show off the different looks depending on the choice of yarn. Following her talk, she will share her Trunk Show.



Note: Per guild policy guest fee is \$2/meeting

WEAR...

Help us show Yumiko how much we love her designs. If you've made a Yumiko Alexander garment, please wear it to the meeting!

ARIZONA FEDERATION OF WEAVERS & SPINNERS

Call for Educators

The Arizona Federation of Weavers & Spinners is compiling a database of Educators in Arizona.

This is not limited to only weaving and spinning educators, all of the fiber arts are welcome!

This Educational Database will allow individual guilds around the State to search for classes, workshops and program opportunities. Our guild has many wonderful teachers and people who do programs and we hope you will consider adding your information to the list of talented individuals in Arizona.

To access the forms go to www.azfed.org then click on the link provided on the Home page.

Welcome New Members!

Kristin Berg	Barbara Mathie
Judy Davis	Kelly Riese
Linda Houck	Linda Summers
Jean Jorgensen	Wilhelmi Jeaneen
Mary Kalkbrenner	Deb Woythal



A Message from Our Librarians ~

WOW!! Books checked out at the January meeting--78!! That is the most since the library was started.

A big THANK YOU to Toni Prutch for her donation to the library. There is quite a diversity of books, which you will see being added to the collection.

We will have a library sale at the March meeting. Smaller than last year, but still some fun books & magazines.

Reminder: all library items are checked out for ONE month, due at the next meeting after you've checked them out.

Linda Verbiscar, Librarian

Did You Know?

Steve Wagner, *Internet Reporter* for KGVY Radio attended last month's meeting and was so impressed he posted videos and photos of Laura Lundy's presentation on the KGVY Facebook page!

Steve heard about our guild through contacts with our President, Marie Gile and Vice-President, Ann Pyper.

If you are a Facebook user, look up the KGVY Radio page, and share what Steve is posting. He plans to attend our February meeting so be sure to welcome him and share our meeting photos with your Facebook friends.

Looking for More Knitting & Crocheting?

Then join the Sahuarita Library "Yarn Addicts" Fiber Arts Group. Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels are welcome. Bring your current project and share ideas, knowledge and have a fun afternoon.

Meetings are every other Saturday from 1:30 -4:00 pm. Call 594-5490 with any questions.

New Study Group? ~ Smocking ~

Guild member Reba Ashmore has suggested a new study group: Smocking - - and she will even volunteer to lead it!

Reba shares that she became interested in smocking after attending a Needle Arts Conference at BYU several years ago. She was impressed by how a piece of flat fabric could be transformed into a textured article; smocking quickly became one of her favorite forms of needlework.

Since many tend to associate smocking with only infant's and children's wear, Reba made an effort to find additional smocking possibilities, and soon branched out into making pillows covers, night gowns, doll clothes, and lining antique boxes, etc.

Members interested in joining a Smocking Study Group can chat with Reba at our next meeting; look for the signup sheet or contact Reba at reba99@cox.net. Meeting dates, time and place will be determined once a group is formed.



Images: Courtesy of Reba Ashmore

**VFA Guild General Meeting
January 10, 2017****OFFICERS**

President – Marie Gile
Vice President - Ann Pyper
Secretary - Sue Durling
Treasurer – Debbi Brunner

mgile117@gmail.com
ronann0228@q.com
sdurling@juno.com
misseyb@gmail.com

PROGRAM

Saori Weaving by Laura Lundy from Tucson. She presented a Power Point of her many examples and she demonstrated the technique on her special Saori loom. Others were able to experiment on her loom as well. Steve Wagner of KGVY Radio 1080 was at the meeting and took a variety of photos during and after the presentation, as well as a video of Laura, assisted by Marie Gile, discussing her Saori woven garments. These images and videos were later posted on KGVY Radio's Facebook page.

Business meeting opened by the president at 11:25 a.m.

Secretary's Report - M/S/A

Treasurer's Report - The treasurer reported a balance of \$5609 – M/S/A

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Elaine Cselenko reported 159 members with 7 new or returning today, and a record 17 guests.

Library - Linda Verbiscar reported 75 checkouts today, a new record. Materials are due in one month. She also reminded members that the entire library catalog is available on the website and she is happy to provide specific requested materials at any meeting or on demand.

Programs – Marge Lind announced meeting plans for the next two months.

Workshops – Debbi Brunner reminded members of the knitted bracelet workshop coming up in February and that attendees should bring Size 2 circular or straight needles. The weaving workshop in March is fully subscribed and the Guild has looms available for loan.

OLD BUSINESS

Christie Furber confirmed plans for the Fiber Graffiti project at the Common Ground conference scheduled for Jan. 13 & 14 at Good Shepherd Church and she thanked members for their fiber contributions.

Marie Gile reminded members that the Guild now owns equipment for natural dyeing that is available for loan.

NEW BUSINESS

The Guild congratulated our newsletter editor, Dagmar Munn, on her recent winning of a Blog Challenge with prize of \$1000 for her blog, ALS & Wellness.

Reba Ashmore raised the possibility of a new study group for smocking.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marie Gile announced several upcoming events of interest. Details of these events are included in the newsletter.

STUDY GROUPS

There were no special announcements made by study group leaders. Please see the website for details about each study group: Knitting, Kumihimo, Felting, Weaving, Spinning, Crochet, Mixed Media Fiber, Beading, Tapestry, Clothing

Meeting Adjourned: 11:45 a.m.

SHOW & TELL

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Durling, Secretary

*A big **thank you** to the Crochet Study Group and the Guild for the donations to and help with the fiber graffiti installation called The “We” Tree at The Good Shepherd. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. We will be adding some finishing touches in the coming weeks.*

It was a fun project!

Christie Furber

The “We” Tree

La Canada Drive and W Camino Antigua
Sahuarita, AZ

The “We” Tree welcomes all as a symbol of inclusivity and sharing. It is the combined work of many hands. This is an expression of numerous artists piecing their work together in remembrance and celebration of our multicultural heritage at this place and time (Sahuarita, AZ, January 2017). The “We” Tree stands as a safe place, a place of sanctuary for all, a happy beacon of warm community for the future. It's various forms of fiber art create a surprise of unexpected color. It synthesizes the rich diversity of our heritage from churro wool to synthetic fiber, from dream catcher to serape, from granny crochet to felting and knitting. We hope it brings a smile to your day and a bit of fiesta to your heart.

— Christie Furber and Los Fiberistas at Common Ground on the Border 2017

Special thanks to members of the Freeform Crochet Study Group and Valley Fiber Arts Guild (Green Valley, AZ)

Inspired by the works of Jafagirls, Prudence Mapstone, and those who have walked in fibrous beauty before us.



~ Study Groups ~

Study Groups are open to all current Guild members and meet September - April. 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.”*

Beading:

Meets the 2nd Thurs. OTM, 9:00 a.m., at Friends in Deed. Karen Gabriel – karengary115@gmail.com

Braided Rug:

Meets the 4th Monday OTM., at 9:00 a.m. Gretchen Ramsey grandmagretchen@cox.net or 393-6179

Clothing:

Meets the 4th Thurs. OTM, 9:30 a.m., at the Desert Hills Lutheran Church. Pam Smith - qcreekpam616@gmail.com or 775-770-4630.

Crochet:

Meets the 3rd Thursday OTM, 9:30 a.m.
Kim Keast - kimkeastart@yahoo.com

Felting:

Meets the 1st Monday OTM, 9:30 a.m. -12:00 noon, at Good Shepherd UCC. Sue Norris-
norris201@gmail.com or 520-398-7150

Knitting:

Meets the 4th Tuesday OTM,
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, in member’s homes.
Kathe Alves – kathe.alves@icloud.com

Kumihimo:

Meets the 4th Wednesday OTM, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.,
at Friends in Deed. Diane Mikolyzk –
dianemik46@gmail.com

Mixed Media Fiber

Meets the 1st Thursday OTM, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.
Debbi Brunner - misseyb@gmail.com

Spinning:

Meets the 3rd Wednesday OTM, 10:00 a.m., at Ann Pyper’s home. Ann Pyper - pyperann52@gmail.com

Weaving (Off Loom) Tapestry:

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday OTM, at 1:00 p.m.,
at the East Villas Club Room (on Paseo Cerro). Valarie James Valarieleejames@gmail.com or 520-398-9450.

Weaving:

Meets the 2nd Monday OTM, 1:00 p.m.,
in member’s homes. Cindy Wolf –
pclobo2@gmail.com or phone: 608-343-6765.

~Area Exhibits & Happenings~

Now through July 9, 2017

Weaving in New Mexico: The Ancestral Puebloan and Rio Grande Traditions, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. Las Cruces, NM.

For details check the Museum's website:

<http://www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org/current.php>

January 26 – February 4

2017 Tucson Gem Shows. Tucson will be host to several major industry bead, gemstone and jewelry shows located in major exhibit facilities throughout the city. 1,000s of exhibits, daily workshops and both retail and wholesale opportunities. For links to individual shows use this page:

<http://www.tucsongemshows.net/coming.html>

March 1, 2017 – 2:00 PM

Navajo Rugs: The History, the Artistry and the Contemporary, Joyner Green Valley Library.

A talk by Linda Friedman, Docent Council of the Tucson Museum of Art. Free (seating FCFS)

Phone: 594-5295

April 5 – May 12

The Art of Recycle IV. Community Performance & Art Center (CPAC), Green Valley. Entries must be at least 75% recycled, discarded, repurposed and/or found materials. Deadline March 20. All entries must be for sale. Information: <http://www.performingartscenter.org/programs/exhibits/>

April 20 - 30

Pima County Fair, theme: *Southwestern Transportation*. A great opportunity to showcase your work! Look under the Fine Arts Entries category and the Home Arts Entries category.

Entries due March 10 & items due April 14-15. Information at:

<http://www.pimacountyfair.com/premium-book>

June 2-7, 2017 ♥

Fiber Inspirations, Michigan League of Handweavers Biannual Conference and Workshops.

Hope College, Holland, Michigan. For details and information: <http://www.mlhguild.org>

July 27-30, 2017

Intermountain Weavers Conference, for fiber artists.

Fort Lewis College Durango, Colorado. <http://www.intermountainweavers.org/>

February 24, 2018 ♥

Federation Day, Arizona Federation of Weavers & Spinners biannual meeting. Phoenix, AZ

<http://www.azfed.org/>

♥ = Denotes guild member participating
in this event!

