



Fiber News & Updates

November 2019 Vol. 10, Issue 3

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Looking Ahead ~

Tues. Nov 5: General Meeting

Location: Good Shepherd UCC

Kay Jensen

"In Praise of Hands"

Tues. Dec 3: General Meeting

Location: Good Shepherd UCC

*Celebrating the Red Ruana
and Member's Holiday Potluck*

Tues. Jan 7: General Meeting

Location: CPAC

Toni Best, *"Basketry"*

Thurs. Feb. 6: General Meeting

Location: American Legion

*"VFAG Study Groups
Extravaganza"*

Tues. Mar. 10: General Meeting

Location: CPAC

Timothy C. McIlrath, *"Crochet"*

Thurs. Apr. 9: General Meeting

Location: American Legion

Stash Sale

Tues. May 5: General Meeting

Annual Member's Picnic



President's Message ~

November Greetings!

November is one of my favorite months for so many reasons:

- ~ The desert is spectacular this month and I encourage you to enjoy the beauty.
- ~ I focus on gratitude and thanksgiving which reminds me to be grateful every day.
- ~ I love to cook Fall meals - so savory and satisfying.
- ~ Fiber friends are returning with wonderful stories and projects they have been working on while away - can't wait to see it all!



The Guild has a full schedule for 2019-2020 and I am ready to enjoy it all. Coming up:

November 5th ~ Kay Jensen, Docent from Tucson Museum of Art will present "In Praise of Hands." Melanie Fritz and Linda Verbiscar have been sorting and moving books and magazines and the BOOK SALE will be *EPIC!!* Bring cash and checks.

- ~ Reminder to bring any items you are donating to TAG (The Art of Giving) to benefit our neighbors in the community. Valley Assistance Services knows who is 'in need' and arranges the gifts for the local to firemen deliver them - it is a happy occasion for all involved! The deadline for donations is the November 5th Guild Meeting.

November 7th ~ Shirley McFerron is offering her workshop, "Painted Floor Cloths." There are still a few openings at \$55.00/person. Contact Debbi Brunner for information - you can also sign up at the November 5th meeting.

The VFAG Storage Room was sorted and there are some major treasures available to members. Look for the listing that Debbi Brunner has in this newsletter and snap up the bargains. The storage unit will be emptied forever in December. This saves the Guild \$1026.00 per year. Study Group leaders will maintain pertinent items for membership use.

(continued on next page)

(President’s Message - - continued)

December 3rd is our Holiday Potluck and Marie Gile is chairing the event - be prepared to volunteer to be one of her “Helper Elves” and think up a yummy potluck item. That is also the day we will reveal our “Red Ruanas” - our gifts to ourselves.

~ Reminder to bring any items and baskets to Margalis Fjelstad now, for our Opportunity Basket Fundraiser held at the December Meeting. This is always a fun event. You will be able to purchase 6 tickets for \$5.00.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: A nominating committee will be selected at the November meeting. We will be electing a new President and Secretary later in April 2020. This will give the committee enough time to come up with candidates interested in working with the Board to keep the Guild fun, creative and solvent!

So, expect a vibrant busy November meeting - See you there!

Kathe Alves



Above:
Debbi Brunner,
Shirley McFerron
and Kay Miller



Right:
Shirley McFerron
presenting,
“Painted Floor Cloths”



*Left: Wild Flower Fabric Flower Brooch
samples from Sudie Durham workshop*



Opportunity Baskets

Our holiday Opportunity Baskets are a fun way to win something wonderful at the December meeting! It’s a great way to make money for the Guild and have a good time!

Between now and Thanksgiving, we’re collecting donations of any fiber related craft items such as yarn, craft materials, beads, crafting tools, books, and of course.....baskets. And this year we’re encouraging you to donate finished items as well. They really get a lot of response at the drawing. It was a great success last year, and we hope to do even better this year.

Bring your items to a meeting or,
call Margalis Fjelstad, at 719-310-2482 to make your donation.

November 5th Program

“In Praise of Hands”

A popular returning speaker to the guild, Kay Jensen will reflect on the uphill battle faced by fiber artists to be recognized and included in fine art. Kay will share a look at many of our favorite artists from the sixties to present.

Kay Jensen has been a docent with the Tucson Museum of Art for 20 years. A fiber artist herself, her love affair with textiles began when she was introduced to Peruvian textiles while visiting the John Herron Art Museum in Indianapolis as a child. Kay continues to seek out and explore her love of textiles during her extensive travels around the world.



✓ Meeting Reminders:

- Our start time is 9:30 AM.
- “Book Sale” at the November meeting.
- Return all checked-out library materials.
- Please bring your TAG items & your items for the Dec. Opportunity Baskets fundraiser.
- And...don't forget your “Show and Tell!”

December 3rd Program

Celebrating the Red Ruana (Show & Tell) and Member's Holiday Potluck

Something new -- to change things up for our Holiday meeting and luncheon. In the past we exchanged handmade gifts, then we had three years of scarf exchanges. This year, we're giving a gift to ourselves -- a handmade Red Ruana! It may be felted, knitted, crocheted, woven (see the newest issue of *Handwoven* magazine for ideas), you name it, size doesn't matter.

If you're not familiar with a Ruana, it is a wrap to cover the shoulders and drape the body. It has many names; American-Spanish Ruana, Mexican Serape, Peruvian Manta to name a few. Today's Ruanas are a fashion statement, so make your statement and celebrate creativity with your fellow members!

Library Notes

Greetings from the Library!

Another month is flying by and I'm currently working on assessing and cataloging the library collection. The new website will be debuting in December, with checkouts resuming in January once we are at CPAC for our monthly meetings.

I would like to ask that all library materials that are currently checked out be returned at the November meeting so that I can get them cataloged onto the new system.

Attention Study Group Leaders! As I work on the collection, I may be pulling some materials that are of interest to the different study groups. Because our space at CPAC will be more limited for library storage, I am pulling some books that are duplicates or cover the same techniques and information that other volumes contain. A decision has been made to pass these materials on to the specific study groups if there is interest in keeping them for reference. If not, then they can be sold at the book sale. I will contact individuals as I work my way through the collection.

Magazines are another area that needed attention. I will only be keeping the 2 most current years of our few magazine subscriptions. Back issues of *Handwoven*, *Spin-Off* & *Ply* are being shared with the Weaving and Spinning groups. Please let me know if other study groups are interested in keeping back issues of the other titles. If not, then they will be offered for sale at the book sale.

SPEAKING OF BOOK SALES!!! Yes, there will be another book sale at the November meeting!!! Please be sure to bring \$\$ -- materials are priced as follows: Magazines are \$.25, Books will be priced as marked, but NOTHING over \$5, most are \$1 - \$3. Cash and Checks accepted. Lots of great bargains, and with the holidays coming, gifts and inspiration galore!!!

And lastly, I'd like to thank Linda Verbiscar, Kathe Alves and her husband for taking the time to get the collection packed up and moved to my house for the interim while I catalog the collection.

I'd also like to thank everyone for their patience while we transition the library!

Melanie Fritz, Librarian
mlfritzi4@gmail.com



FOR SALE

LECLERC "FANNY" 4-H
COUNTERBALANCE LOOM,
45" weaving width.

It has LeClerc's Shed Regulator, 6 treadles, wire heddles, 2 aprons, plus a boat shuttle, bobbins, a reed and heddle hook, a Leclerc raddle, 2 lease sticks and a loom "helper" attachment for winding warps; also an 8, 10 and 12 dent steel reed; an iron bar for the beater to add weight for rug weaving ... and 38" wooden LeClerc open end bench with lift lid and side pockets. Excellent condition. Comparable purchase cost today is \$4320. I'm offering all the above for \$995 (less than 1/4 the current cost).

Email: mgile117@gmail.com
Phone: 520-305-4680



Announcing the inaugural **Red Ruana Retreat!** Sponsored by the Valley Fiber Art Guild

A new fiber art event in Southern Arizona!
Featuring classes and workshops with a
Southwestern theme: colors, techniques and
projects reminiscent of Southwest style and
culture.

Location: Canoa Ranch Golf Resort
Date: November 12-15, 2020.

We are calling on the talent and expertise of
our guild members to submit proposals for half-
day classes on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

Use the form available on our website. Just
print it off, complete and bring to the next
meeting. Or email the retreat committee at:
misseyb@gmail.com

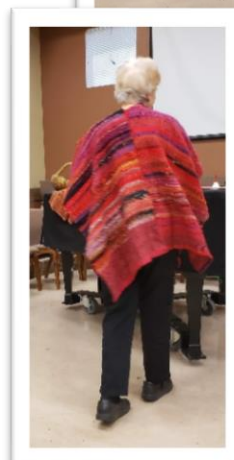
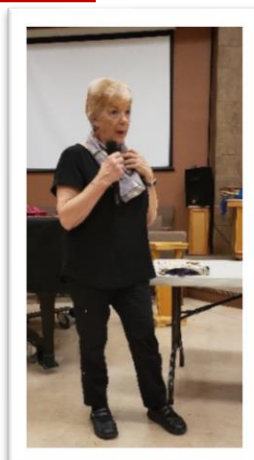
More details will be announced
as our planning progresses!



**SHOW
AND TELL!**



SHOW AND TELL!



VFAG Equipment FOR SALE

The VFAG Board has decided we will close our storage unit which has housed our loan equipment and various 'Stash' due to lack of use. We will still have an 8-harness floor loom with an assortment of reeds and warping board for weavers to borrow. There will also be a spinning wheel and wool cards available to loan. The rest will be sold and proceeds will go into the Guild Treasury.

This is the list of equipment available and sale prices. If you are interested in any of these items, you may arrange to see them and make your purchase. Please see Kathe Alves or Debbi Brunner at our next meeting or contact either by email. kathe.alves@icloud.com or misseyb@gmail.com

All will be sold first come first serve, hurry! We hope to close the storage unit by November 30th.

- 24" 4-harness Baby Macomber floor loom; includes 10, 12 and 15 dent reeds - \$300
- 24" 4 harness Dorset direct tie up floor loom; includes 6, 10, 12 and 15 dent reeds - \$200
- 28" 4 harness Dorset direct tie up floor loom; includes 6 and 10 dent reeds - \$250
- 3 card looms, your choice - \$5
- 36" to 48" Navajo Loom, two sets of cross-wise beams, warp frame and dowels - \$125
- Large A-Frame Tapestry Loom w/ warping peg slats, beautiful wood - \$25
- Two sets of wool carders like new, your choice - \$40 each.

SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS AT THESE EVENTS ♥

The Chris Bubany 25th Annual Marketplace at Harlow Gardens

6520 E. Pima Street, Tucson

Saturday, Nov. 2, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm & Sunday, Nov. 3, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

♥ (Marie Gile & Ellen Kelley)

Green Valley Lapidary & Silversmith Club 51st Annual Artisans Festival

West Center (GVR) near the Continental Mall, Green Valley

Friday, Nov. 8, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm & Saturday, Nov. 9, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

♥ (Marie Gile, Sudie Durham & Ellen Kelley)



Texture, Texture, Texture

Felting workshop
with Renate Maile-Moskowitz
March 12-14, 2020 in Tucson, AZ

Exploring textured pieces that can be incorporated into anything from wearables, to wall hangings, to sculptural felted art or pillows. Workshop is sponsored and organized by Karen Herhold.

For questions or more information, contact:
kherholdtucson@aol.com or leave a message at 520 760 1414.

Valley Fiber Art Guild Meeting

October 1, 2019

Officers

President:	Kathe Alves	Kathe.alves@icloud.com
Vice President:	Margalis Fjelstad	Margalisf@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Ann Bont	abont@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Ann Pyper	pyperann52@gmail.com

The business meeting was called to order by President Kathe Alves at 9:30 AM. Members and three guests were welcomed.

Secretary's report: M/S/A as published in newsletter.

Treasurer's report: A checking balance of \$7031.38 was reported.

Special recognition: Retiring VFAG librarian Linda Verbiscar was recognized with flowers and a gift card for her years of service to the Guild.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Pat Merritt reported current membership at 109

Library: Melanie Fritz reminded members of the book sale being held today. Another one will be held in November. The Guild library will be moving its location to CPAC. A transition is being made to an on-line system.

Programs: Debbi Brunner reviewed the next few guild programs; November – Kay Jensen *In Praise of Hands*, December – *fundraiser/holiday party*, *Red Ruana Gift to Self*, January - Toni Best, *Basketry*

Workshops: Debbi Brunner announced some upcoming workshops; today Sudie Durham will lead a workshop making a wildflower brooch, October 7 will be a painted floor cloth workshop, January - Toni Best will teach Gourd and Pine Needle baskets.

Newsletter: Editor Dagmar Munn is always looking for photos for the newsletter.

Special Projects: Margalis Fjelstad is collecting donations for the December Opportunity Basket event. Handmade finished projects are especially appreciated. Study groups are asked to donate items for the March fund raiser.

Website: NR

Outreach: NR

AZ Federation: The Fair Isle knitting and spinning workshops previously discussed have been cancelled. The Federation is investigating the possibility of bringing a traveling teacher in February. The instructor is Patty Barker from Washington who is known for *nuno felting*.

Old Business:

- 1) The knitting group plans to offer classes in Sock Knitting and Finishing Techniques this the Fall.
- 2) Reminder to renew your membership for the 2019-2020 year. See Pat Merritt at the membership table.
- 3) The February Guild meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 6 at the American Legion Post #66 on Duval Mine Rd.** Study groups are asked to share their craft by showcasing various methods and techniques, display finished products, provide demonstrations and hands-on opportunities where possible.

Minutes continued on next page

(Meeting minutes continued)

4) Reminder of the Red Ruana theme for our December holiday party. Members are asked to gift themselves with a red ruana. A red ruana might be a garment, a piece of jewelry, a sculptural piece, a wearable accessory, object d’art, etc.

Get creative and see what you can come up with to share in December.

New Business

1. VFAG will be changing the meeting venue. January, March and May meetings will be held in the auditorium at CPAC. The library will also be housed at CPAC and should be more accessible to members.
2. VFAG will be hosting a ‘Red Ruana Retreat’ November 12-15, 2020. Six ½-day classes and three 3-day classes will be offered. Teaching proposals are currently being accepted. Contact Debbi Brunner.

Announcements:

- Send information on upcoming fiber events to Dagmar or Kathe.
- Fiber Arts Tucson 2019 Show and Sale, Saturday, October 12, 12:00-6:00, Dunbar Center, Tucson
- The Tucson Guild is opening some workshop slots to non-members. Check their website.
- The TAG program is collecting gifts for low income elderly by the November meeting

Study Groups: See www.valleyfiberartguild.org for meeting times, locations, and contacts.

Basketry: Continuing study of pine needle baskets and gourds. Meetings are being held at Quail Creek.

Knitting: The group will continue to meet the 4th Tuesday and will continue to mentor guild members who want to learn/relearn to knit.

Mixed Fiber Media: Continuing exploration of books and techniques to use with books. This month exploring watercolors on paper and fabric.

Rigid Heddle: This month’s topic is ‘From the beginning; how to plan and set up a project on the rigid heddle loom.

Rug braiding: Gretchen Ramsey will be available to help on mornings of the 4th Monday in her home.

Tapestry weaving: This group, which has been on hiatus, is restarting. A tapestry display has been provided on the side table today.

Weaving: Continuing study from *Next Steps in Weaving*, looking at *Color and Weave* this month.

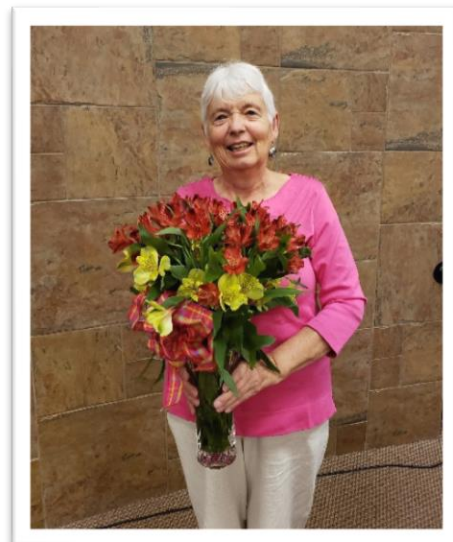
Show and Tell: There were 8 participants sharing 17 items.

Business Meeting adjourned at 10:00

Program: Shirley McFerron - Painted Floor Cloths

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Bont, Secretary

Retiring VFAG librarian Linda Verbiscar was recognized with flowers and a gift card for her years of service to the Guild.



~ Study Groups ~

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."

Basketry:

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

Beading:

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

Braided Rug:

Note: Will not meet in Nov. or Dec. Usually meets the 4th Monday OTM; at 9:00 a.m. Please contact leader if interested in attending. Gretchen Ramsey - grandmagretchen@cox.net or 393-6179

Clothing:

Meets the 4th Thursday OTM; at 9:30 a.m. at Desert Hills Lutheran Church. Kristine Sells and Paula Sween are the co-leaders. Kristine Sells – cksells1961@gmail.com Paula Sween - sweenpaula@gmail.com

Crochet:

Meets the 3rd Thursday OTM at 9:30 a.m.; at Sunrise Point Clubhouse. Kim Keast - kimkeastart@yahoo.com

Knitting:

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

Kumihimo:

Meets the 4th Wednesday OTM; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.; at Friends in Deed. Pam Roederer - roederers@gmail.com or Diane Mikolyzk – dianemik46@gmail.com

Marudai:

Meets the 1st Thursday OTM; 12:30-3:00pm at Friends in Deed. Pam Roederer - roederers@gmail.com

Mixed Media Fiber:

Meets the 1st Monday OTM; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at Good Shepherd Church. Debbi Brunner - misseyb@gmail.com

Rigid Heddle Weaving:

Meets the 3rd Monday OTM; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.; at Quail Creek Kino Center. Marilyn Wrucke - mwrucke2@gmail.com

Spinning:

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

Tapestry Weaving:

Meets the 2nd Wednesday from 9:30 to 12:00 at Quail Creek Kino Center. Contact April Boysen - gaboysen1@gmail.com or 720-545-7748 or Debra Brown - debrabrown15@icloud.com or Lila Stoffel - istoffel@loretel.net 520-648-0792.

Weaving:

Meets the 2nd Monday OTM, 1:00 p.m., at the BMO Harris Bank meeting room. Cindy Wolf – pclobo2@gmail.com or phone: 608-343-6765.

Newsletter Editor:

Dagmar Munn dagmunn1@gmail.com