



Fiber News & Updates

October 2019 Vol. 10, Issue 2

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Looking Ahead ~

Tues. Oct. 1: General Meeting

Shirley McFerron
"Painted Floor Cloths"

Tues. Nov 5: General Meeting

Kay Jensen
"In Praise of Hands"

Tues. Dec 3: General Meeting

*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 ~

The September "Show and Tell" VFAG program was varied and really outstanding. The meeting was slow in getting going but the enthusiasm for the talent and summer work was remarkable. Everything from needle felted art to baskets and gorgeous gourds to fabulous dyeing, crochet, knitting, rug braiding and the list goes on. Valley Fiber Art Guild is beautifully productive. Check out the photos from the day.



Linda Verbiscar has been our wonderful librarian for at least six years and last month she contacted me to let me know that she and her husband are going on a world tour for several months. This seemed like a good time for Linda to retire from the library position and I agreed. Trips should not be put off! I put out an APB (all-points bulletin) for anyone interested in taking over the library position for the Guild, and, Melanie Fritz volunteered (bless her!). Melanie has a strong background in Fine Arts and has managed libraries for years. So, Linda and Melanie will be sorting through the existing and amazing library that Linda has created and we will have a BOOK SALE at the October meeting. Bring your cash and checkbooks and get ready for some great books and bargains!

When Linda leaves for her sojourn around the globe at the end of the year, she will be very much missed. Everyone on the Board is in awe of the amazing job Linda has done maintaining the library, transporting books of interest to Guild meetings and storing the entire library in her home. With Linda leaving - the library needs to find a new home. This posed a major storage problem! I checked with the Good Shepherd Church to see if they had any storage options, but they are bursting at the seams until the Sahuarita Food Bank is built (another 2-4 years). The Board discussed the problem and a committee of three was sent off to find storage for the library. The committee visited the Sahuarita American Legion that has a nice space for workshops but no storage room. It turns out storage is seriously hard to find!

(continued on next page)

(President's Message - - continued)

Currently the Guild spends \$1,026.00 annually for a non-climate controlled small storage space.

Then your committee of three visited the Community Performing Arts Center (CPAC) on Continental Road. The room space was well filled with existing music groups and Olli. The Theater however, was available and 'saints be praised' they had STORAGE available. The theater has very comfortable seating with a great sound system and a sound technician. The parking is great and there is an extra lobby and outdoor space for sales and events. Chris Ashcraft, CPAC's director was quite impressed as to the variety of artistic endeavors we enjoy and was excited by the possibilities of integrating VFAG into the larger art community.

A Board meeting was called Monday, September 9th and it was agreed to move the VFAG meetings to CPAC in January 2020. The library will be housed in two large metal, wheeled and locked storage containers. At each meeting, the library will be available for perusal and check out.

Melanie and Linda have a huge project to get us to this point and I cannot thank either of them enough for their dedication. The plan is for Melanie to have a computer in order to keep records and check-outs/check-ins current each month.

While we are editing and re-housing the library, it was suggested to clean out the storage unit as well and have a storage unit sale in the near future. Any items deemed valuable to the membership will likely be stored by the Study Group that values them. Anything not sold or stored by members will be sent to the White Elephant. The storage unit should be cleaned out and no longer a budget item by December 2019. This will allow us to maintain our library and meet in a very nice setting with ties to the greater arts community. We have all enjoyed the wonderful meeting space of the Good Shepherd Church and will miss the beauty and peace of the sanctuary each month.



Basketry Study
Group

***(President's Message - - continued)***

Tuesday, October 1st at 9:30 AM, we will meet again at the Good Shepherd Church to enjoy a presentation by Shirley McFerron: "Painted Floor Cloths." Shirley is also presenting a workshop teaching us to create a beautiful designer floor cloth, Thursday, November 7th from 9 AM to 4 PM. Check with Debbi Brunner for workshop space.

At the December meeting we will celebrate *Red Ruanas* - - Make your own fashion statement!

Just a reminder to everyone: TAG (The Art of Giving) is still active and all donated items will be collected at the October and November meetings. TAG items go to Valley Assistance Services, for our elderly community members who live with minimal resources. If you are interested in contributing; focus on items that would be a comfort or delight to an elderly person. Typically, the firefighters deliver the gifts each year. If you have specific questions, contact Jane Tempel at: tempelj@aol.com.

Kathe Alves

October 1st Program

“Painted Floor Cloths”

Shirley McFerron is known for her beautiful, designer floor cloth creations.

She will be our speaker for the October 2019 meeting,
which will give you a first-hand look at her art.

This will be followed by her workshop on November 7th, 9am-4pm.

Workshop information will be available at the September meeting
(and is currently available on our website).



✓ **Reminder:**

- **Our start time is 9:30 AM.**
- **October “Book Sale”**
- **Bring your “Show and Tell”**



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.



Library Notes

Greetings! My name is Melanie Fritz, and I am the new librarian for the Valley Fiber Arts Guild. I am a retiree of the Maricopa Community College System where I served as the supervisor of Library Services at Rio Salado College for the past 15 years of my career. I am a fiber arts "junkie" who has dabbled in just about every fiber art, which I must say stems from my college career as a Fine Arts graduate from Arizona State University. How did I end up with a career in library science? That's another story!

Sadly, we say goodbye to Linda Verbiscar who served the guild as Librarian for the past 5+ years. She did a phenomenal job, so please take a moment to thank Linda for her over and above service to the Guild!

Over the next few months, we will be transitioning the library collection and rolling out some new and exciting changes to the Guild's library, so please stay tuned!

Next up is the October book sale! There will be bargains aplenty with both books and magazines up for grabs so bring your cash or checks to the meeting and help us "thin the herd."

And as always, there will be a selection of library materials available for checkout at each meeting.

See you at the October meeting!

Melanie Fritz, Librarian

mfritzi4@gmail.com



Linda Verbiscar and Melanie Fritz



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.

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 on the **last page** of this
newsletter (also on our website). Just print 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!



Valley Fiber Art Guild Meeting

September 3, 2019

Officer

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 at 9:57 AM by president Kathe Alves. Members and 3 guests were welcomed.

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

Treasurer's report: A checking balance of \$8357.38, which includes some workshop pass-through fees, was reported. Report was M/S/A.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Pat Merritt reported current membership for the new year at 117.

Library: Linda Verbiscar introduced Melanie Fritz, who will be the new Library chair. The guild is looking for a new place to house the library materials.

Programs: The program list for the 2019-2020 year can be found in the newsletter.

Workshops: Debbi Brunner announced some upcoming workshops: On October 1st, following the Guild meeting, Sudie Durham will lead a workshop on making a wildflower brooch. On November 7, there will be a painted floor cloth workshop. A 2'x3' floor cloth is included in the \$55 class fee. January 8-10, Toni Best will lead a workshop on Gourd and Pine Needle baskets

Special Projects: Margalis Fjelstad is looking for donations of finished items for the December Opportunity Basket event. Study groups are asked to donate items for the March fund raiser.

Federation: The Arizona Federation is offering a retreat in Scottsdale at the Franciscan Retreat Center; a class in spinning Fair Isle type yarn on May 16, and a class in Fair Isle knitting on May 17. See Debbi Brunner or Sue Durling for information.

Old Business:

- 1) The knitting group will be offering classes in sock knitting and finishing techniques. Contact Kathe Alves if interested.
- 2) Reminder to renew your membership for the 2019-2020 year. See Pat Merritt at the membership table.
- 3) Cone yarn sale tomorrow, Wednesday, Sept. 4. Details in newsletter.
- 4) February Guild meeting will be held **THURSDAY, Feb 6**, at the American Legion Post #66, Duval Mine Rd. Each study group will:

- showcase various methods and techniques by having displays of their finished masterpieces.
- Have on-going demonstrations by study group members and provide others an opportunity for hands-on experiences where possible
- Set up a schedule for group members to work at their display and time to visit other exhibits

Minutes continued on next page

(Meeting minutes continued)

5) Debbi Brunner reminded members that this year's holiday gift will be a gift to yourself – a Red Ruana! Get creative using your many fiber talents.

New Business/Events:

- Send information on upcoming fiber events to Dagmar or Kathe.
- Showcasing African Inspired Art
- Need for space to store library materials – open forum.
- Looking for ideas and leaders for possible field trips. Some options include:
 - Trip to Tempe – Angela Johnson
 - Bead Show
 - Bisbee Guild space
- Looking for guild members to lead workshops. Possible ideas include
 - Kool Aid Dyeing (Debbi Brunner)
 - Silk Painting (Peggy McCaughey)
 - Pole Wrap Shibori (Marie Gile)
 - Eco Dying (Marie Gile)

Study Group announcements: Meeting times, locations, and contacts are listed on the Guild website.

Basketry: New location at Quail Creek, Mesquite Room in the Kino Center. Will continue study of pine needle basketry and gourds.

Clothing: New leaders are Kristine Sells and Paula Sween

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

Kumihimo: Will resume in October

Rug braiding: The group will not meet, but Gretchen Ramsey will be available to help.

Spinning: The group will continue to study different fibers and help each other

Tapestry: Will resume in October at Quail Creek

Weaving: The group will be using *NEXT STEPS IN WEAVING*, by Pattie Graver, as a basis for study this year. Sept., Oct., and Nov. will focus on chapter 2, "Color and Weave."

Program – Summer Show and Tell: There were 14 participants sharing about 78 items.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bont, Secretary

General meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month



9:30 AM - **Note new start time**

17750 S. La Cañada Drive
Sahuarita, AZ



Membership \$25/year - Guest fee has been waived

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

~ 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:

Note: Meetings will resume in November

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

Braided Rug:

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 – ksells1961@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:

Note: Meetings will resume in October. 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:

Note: Meetings will resume in October - with the NEW meeting date of the 1st Thursday OTM; 12:30-3:00pm at Friends in Deed. Pam Roederer - roederers@gmail.com

Mixed Media Fiber:

Meetings will resume the first Monday in October. 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:

Note: Meetings will resume in October. Usually 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

Red Ruana Retreat ~ November 12-15, 2020

Sponsored by Valley Fiber Art Guild

Educators Class Proposal Form

Criteria ~ 3-hour class, Thursday, November 12, 2020. Please consider offering a class with a Southwest theme: Colors, Techniques or Project reminiscent of Southwestern style and culture. Class will be limited to 10 students, plan to offer kits, prepare handouts, so students are required to bring a minimum of supplies.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Class Description:

Please enclose picture of the project.

Educator's charge for $\frac{1}{2}$ -Day Class \$ _____ Kit Fee \$ _____ each.

(A stipend for travel will be paid to instructors outside the metropolitan Tucson area.)

(Note: this form has 2 pages)

Student Supply list:

Educator Biography: Please write information here or attach to this submission form.

Website (if applicable): _____

If you are submitting more than one class, please use a separate form for each.

SUBMISSIONS from VFAG Guild Members will be given preference and are due no later than November 15, 2019. After that date requests will be made to all instructors in Arizona.

Please send this form along with photograph of the project to:

Red Ruana Retreat Committee
Debbi Brunner
1692 W. Corte de Cajamarca
Sahuarita, AZ 85629

You may send questions to: miskeyb@gmail.com