



Fiber News & Updates

April 2020 Vol. 10, Issue 8

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Looking Ahead ~

Thurs. Apr. 9: General Meeting

Location: American Legion
Stash Sale & Members Picnic

CANCELLED!

Tues. May 5: General Meeting

Location: CPAC
How to Wear Scarves

CANCELLED!

June – August:

Summer Break – no meetings
scheduled

Mon. Sept 7: General Meeting

Location: CPAC
Program TBA

Mon. Oct. 5: General Meeting

Location: CPAC
Program TBA

Mon. Nov. 2: General Meeting

Location: TBA
Program TBA



Valley Fiber Art Guild

Membership \$25/year
Guest fee has been waived

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

President's Message ~

April Greetings to you!

We had such a colorful, stimulating and busy March 10th meeting. Tim McIlrath, an artist from Tucson, by way of Iowa, presented the most AMAZING art pieces that he had created over a lifetime. He worked in several disciplines and fell in love with crochet. Currently he is working with fused glass and then free hand single crocheting art on the glass. Tim was a humorous and entertaining speaker, and it was a true privilege to have him speak to us and wow us with his wonderful creations. Thank you, Marge Lind (Program Chair), for such great programs all year long.



Our March meeting also had the final book sale of the season, and members got great deals on great books. \$200.00 was made for the Library Fund. A HUGE thank you to Melanie Fritz and Linda Verbiscar, for managing the library transition so elegantly.

Margalis Fjelstad coordinated the last fund raiser of our season with a silent auction of donated items from our Study Groups, which raised \$608.00 for VFAG. Thank you to the Study Groups for sharing their talents and creativity so generously, and for Margalis and her team for such successful fundraising efforts.

Gary Terlisner's class that afternoon was well attended and we all had a great time learning a new skill. Thank you, Gary! Thank you as well to Debbi Brunner for arranging and maintaining the VFAG Workshops all year long – we have enjoyed them all!

So, as most of you are aware, our annual Stash Sale will NOT take place April 9th at the American Legion as scheduled. There are serious doubts regarding the May 5th VFAG meeting at CPAC as well. We have canceled the April 16th Field Trip to the Tucson Desert Museum and hope to reschedule this trip at a later and safer time.

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(President's Message - - continued)

I want to thank the Valley Fiber Art Board for managing the workings of the Guild:

- ~ Margalis Fjelstad is Vice President and manages fund raising. She also *pinch hits* for the President whenever I might be absent. Margalis is also responsible for publicity and letting the newspaper know when and where our meetings are each month.
- ~ Ann Pyper is our faithful Treasurer who keeps our funds organized and accurate.
- ~ Ann Bont is our terrific Secretary who keeps our minutes accurate and timely. Ann is completing her term this month and gets to “retire.”
- ~ Patricia Merritt manages our Membership – an organizational effort that keeps our members recognized by name tags, and delivers dues to the Guild bank account.
- ~ Melanie Fritz is our Librarian and set up our library in a mobile storage with computerized access for members – a monumental task. ...*And Melanie just thought she had retired as an academic librarian!*
- ~ Marge Lind is responsible for producing programs that keeps us coming to meetings.
- ~ Debbi Brunner is responsible for coordinating workshops that delight and challenge us as well as liaison with the State Federation.

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Kumihimo Study Group had a meet-up at Viola Jo's and lunch at Shelby's Bistro – Tubac.



Timothy J. Arand-McIlrath presented our March program



✓ REMINDERS:

- April & May meetings have been cancelled.
- All study group meetings are suspended.
- Return all materials borrowed from the library.
- Renew your membership for 2020 – 2011.

(President's Message - - continued)

- ~ Kay Burrows runs our Website and is such a great resource For so many reasons.
- ~ Dagmar Munn produces our fabulous newsletter; nine times a year. We all enjoy her creativity and most excellent editing!
- ~ Sue Durling is our Guild Liaison to the Arizona Federation.
- ~ Marie Gile is Past-President and puts on the Holiday Luncheon as well as functioning as Guild Historian.
- ~ Kaye Miller and Pat Bencic are Members-at-Large on the Guild Board.

All members are welcome to attend the Board Meetings.

I have been your President for the past very busy two years. I am honored and humbled by good will, amazing talents and strong work ethic of the Board. I have been dazzled at every meeting by the creativity and sharing of our membership. We are a strong tribe of talented, creative and giving individuals.

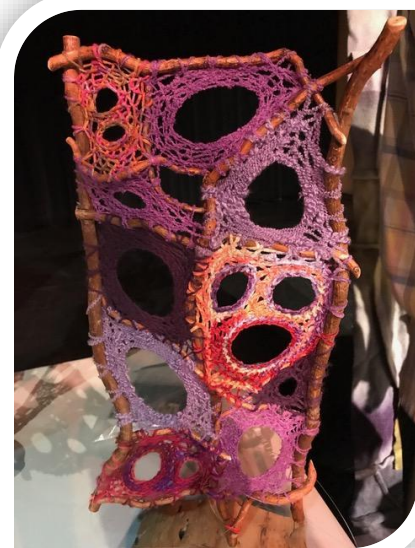
Thank you – everyone – for your encouragement and good will. It has been an unusual year for sure. It is my sincere wish that we all meet at CPAC in the Fall of 2020.

This is the year to elect a new Guild President and Secretary and they will assume their positions May 2020.

Peggy McGaughey was nominated for President of the VFAG March 10, 2020. Voting was accomplished this week on-line and Peggy has been confirmed as VFAG President for 2020/2022. Congratulations Peggy!!!

Martha Fine was nominated for Secretary of the VFAG March 10, 2020. Voting was accomplished this week on-line and Martha has been confirmed as VFAG Secretary for 2020/2022. Congratulations Martha!!!

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(President's Message - - continued)

There is one more group of people that need recognition and appreciation and that is our Study Group Leaders. The Study Groups are the reason for the Guild's existence and leaders bring us together to socialize and share our joy in creating and celebrating the creations of others. Thank you to each of you for your efforts each month.

November 12-15, 2020 is the Red Ruana Retreat at Canoa. The Website (Thank you Debbi and her husband) will be up shortly with information on helping, attending and selling at our first Boutique.

We are in the midst of an historic Pandemic. It is strange and frightening to be socially distanced when we love the friendliness and sharing we experience with each other. Please be safe and well and stay in touch on-line.

Looking forward to Fall 2020: September will bring a Show and Tell to remember I am certain. See you then!

Kathe Alves

**Library Notes - Greetings from the Library!**

I hope everyone is staying well and adhering to the "social distancing" decree.

Attention: Those of you who have library materials checked out!!

Because our meetings are cancelled for the rest of the season, I would like to offer a way for library materials to get returned in a timely manner. **On Thursday, April 9th, I will be parked in the north end of the Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior parking lot.** The church is on La Canada (east side) and south of Esperanza in case you are not familiar with the area. **Starting at 9:00 AM to around 10:00 AM I will be in my vehicle with the back end open with two crates available to return books.** If you are unable to return books on that date or plan on leaving for summer residences earlier than that, PLEASE contact me directly to make arrangements for material returns.

Another alternative is if you know a board member and can return to them, just drop me an email so I know to clear your checkout record.

I will follow up this newsletter notice with an email to members who currently have materials checked out closer to April 9th as a reminder.

Thanks to everyone for the support the library has had this year. It's been a joy to bring the entire collection to a central location for all to use and enjoy!

Be well, everyone!

Melanie Fritz, Librarian

to contact me directly: 602-697-2052, alternatively: mlfritzi4@gmail.com

Fall Opportunities

The cancellation of the Tucson Desert Museum Field Trip is not the end of this endeavor. When the current health crisis is resolved we will once again make plans.

In the meantime, you could look forward to the Twined Rag Rug 3- part Class scheduled for November 3, 10 & 17, 2020, 9:30am-12noon. If circumstances dictate we cancel, a full refund will be made to all those who are registered.

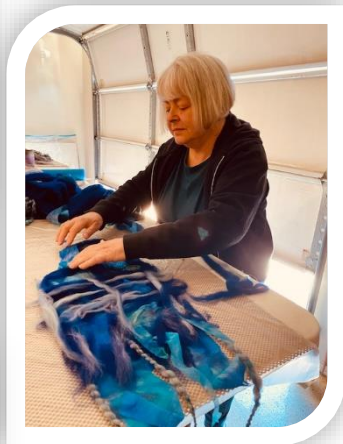
Watch for the info on the Workshop Page of our website: valleyfiberartguild.org If you have questions, email me at misseyb@gmail.com Hope to see you sooner than later!

Debbi



Upper right: Silk painting workshop

Right & below: Felting workshop



Red Ruana Retreat - Update

Planning continues amidst our current world situation. *We all need something to look forward to, don't we?*

The Red Ruana Committee is carrying on with website development and plans for the *first ever* VFAG Red Ruana Boutique! We are so pleased we have fabulous instructors for a seven half-day classes on November 12, 2020, and three 3-day workshops November 13-15, 2020.

We will send out information when all is ready for the website debut and you can register for this inaugural event. Until then stay in, stay well, stay positive and be creative!

Debbi, Kathe, Marie and Pat



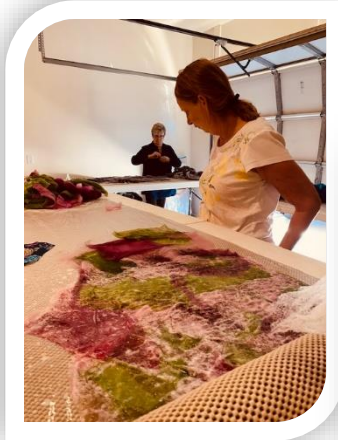
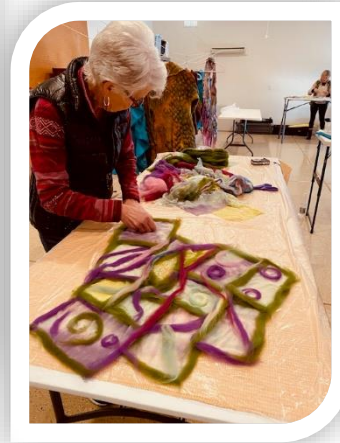
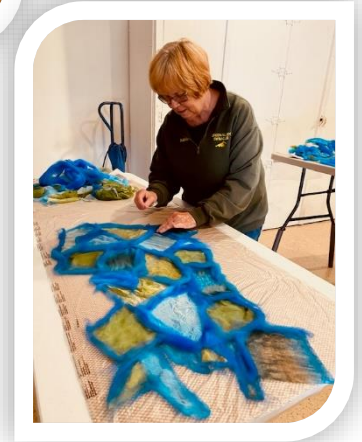
TAG (The Art of Giving)

Since I'm at home most of the time, I went through my closet with organizing it in mind. Well, I fell short on organization, BUT I found some great yarn hiding waiting to be used. I started looking for patterns that called for partial skeins and uncovered several great patterns for fingerless gloves, many of them free. Since I've started weaving, I made up patterns for scarves, cowls and little pouches. All great for TAG gifts. AND I'm freeing up space in the closet for the Stash sale, whenever that event occurs. *Maybe this is a good idea for you too?*

Seriously, it would be much appreciated if we could all find some time while we are practicing social distancing to make items for the low income in our community.

My best to all of you during these trying times. You are all the greatest group of creative, fun and inspiring women.

Jane



A special thank you to Cheryl Waters, Patti Barker, Christie Furber, Marge Lind and Eileen Coyne for providing the photos you see scattered throughout this newsletter.

Membership Renewal Reminder!

Time to RENEW Your Membership! Your \$25.00 annual membership for the upcoming 2019-20 year is due now.

A new membership form needs to accompany your payment. Download and print the FORM found on our website. Complete the form and follow directions to mail it to:

Patricia Merritt, Membership Chair

Alternately, you can wait to renew your membership in-person, at our first meeting in the fall.

Thank you!

VALLEY FIBER ART GUILD MEETING**March 10, 2020****OFFICERS**

President – Kathe Alves Vice President — Margalis Fjelstad

Secretary — Ann Bont Treasurer — Ann Pyper

The March Valley Fiber Arts Guild Meeting was called to order by President Kathe Alves at 9:36 am welcoming members and guests.

Program

Cindy Wolfe then introduced Timothy McIlrath, a retired Art Professor from Iowa State University now living in Tucson. Timothy displayed several of his art projects to the delight of our members. He explained his technique or crochet incorporated on to various mediums, including his newest using fused glass that he had made and fired in his kiln. After the meeting he demonstrated how he crocheted yarn on to his latest fused glass creation. He invited members to the upcoming Tucson Sculpture Festival April 3-5 at Brandi Memorial Park.

After Timothy's presentation, Kathe announced a short break to give members time to bid on Silent Auction items and browse and buy books at the library sale.

Secretary's Report: Minutes for the January 7, 2020 Guild meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: \$8,367.74 as reported.

Committee Reports

Membership: Pat Merritt: Pat reported that the Guild has 145 members.

Library: Melanie Fritz: The library sale is today. Today is also the last day to check out any library items which are due back on April 9th.

Old Business

Kathe reported that the Big Reveal on February 6 at the American Legion was a fantastic success with so many creative and talented members displaying their creation in the various study groups. Kathe also said someone may have left a nice black leather jacket at the Big Reveal. Please let Kathe know if the jacket belongs to you.

Six members attended the Phoenix Quilt Exposition.

Debbi Brunner is planning a field trip on April 16th to the Tucson Desert Art Museum. The Museum has the largest Navajo and Hopi exhibits among many museums. If you are interested in going, please let Debbi know. The group is limited to 20 attendees and will car pool. Bring a brown bag lunch and meet in the Fry's parking lot at 9 am.

Arizona Federation

Debbi Brunner reported about the AZ Traveling Teachers for 2020 and 2021. The Federation is thinking about renting gallery space for members to display their creations in three areas of Arizona, with CPAC as on the consideration.

New Business**Reminders:**

- Send information on upcoming fiber events to Dagmar or Kathe.
- Marie Gile and Christie Furber are having a Pop-up sale on Friday March 20, 2020 with 10% off at Marie's home.
- There is a possible field trip to Canoa Ranch in October, 2020 More details to follow
- The slate of officers for 2020/2021 are Peggy McGaughey, President and Martha Fine, Secretary
- The Stash Sale for this year will be Thursday, April 9, 2020 from 9:30-12 at the American Legion Post # Bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert and water will be provided. Members wishing to participate in the Stash Sale must notify Kathe Alves to ensure that adequate tables are available. A brief business meeting and election of officers will take place before the Stash Sale. All tables must be completely covered with sheets by 9:15. No presales are allowed before the sale opens and NO PEEKING!

Study Groups

Check the Guild newsletter for information on the various study groups.

Show and Tell

Members wore their lovely creations made at the Patti Barker Nuno Felting class and from the silk painting class by Peggy McGaughey.

The meeting adjourned at 12 and members who made the final bid at the Silent Auction were asked to pick up their items and pay for them.

~ 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."

NOTICE

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and national recommendations for social distancing, all study group meetings have been suspended.

Basketry:

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

Beading:

Usually meets the 2nd Thursday OTM; 10:00 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 (393-6179)

Clothing:

Usually 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:

Usually meets the 3rd Thursday OTM at 9:30 a.m.; at Sunrise Point Clubhouse. Contact: Toni Prutch – portraitsbytoni@yahoo.com

Knitting:

Usually meets the 4th Tuesday OTM; 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, in members' homes. Sarah Price - sprice1013@yahoo.com

Kumihimo:

Usually meets the 4th Wednesday OTM; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.; at Friends-in-Deed. Co-Leaders: Eileen Coyne and Judy Model. Group Contact: Diane Mikolyzk – dianemik46@gmail.com

Marudai:

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

Mixed Media Fiber:

Usually meets the 1st Monday OTM; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at Good Shepherd Church. Co-leaders: Donna Lambert - DonnaDo3203@gmail.com and Elaine Cselenko - elaine52@yahoo.com

Rigid Heddle Weaving:

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

Spinning:

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

Tapestry Weaving:

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

Weaving:

Usually meets the 2nd Monday OTM, 1:00 p.m., in the Conference Room of Quail Creek Kino Center. Cindy Wolf – pclobo2@gmail.com or phone: 608-343-6765.

Newsletter Editor:

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