



Fiber News & Updates

April 2021 Vol. 11, Issue 8

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

~ Looking Ahead ~

2021

Mon. Apr. 19: General Meeting

Online: ZOOM

*"Art Off the Reservation:
Contemporary Native American Art"
Judy Tracy*

Mon. May 17: General Meeting

Online: ZOOM

*"Make and Take: Weaving
Over Stone"*

June – August:

*Summer Break – no meetings
scheduled*

Mon. Sept. 20: General Meeting

Location: TBA

Topic: TBA



Valley Fiber Art Guild



Membership \$25/year

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

~ President's Message ~

Hello fellow creators,



What a difference two months can bring. I just received my second vaccine on March 16th, which last year at that same day was the day my husband and I sequestered ourselves. We are seeing a little more "light at the end of this long tunnel." I am still envisioning us all gathering for our first in-person, since last April, Valley Fiber Art Guild meeting at the Center for the Performing Arts (CPAC), in September.

This last month, the Board approved one of our member's application to take a three-session class through our Continuing Education Scholarship Fund. We were so excited to see someone step forward to claim some of the money we have set aside for this purpose.

In the future, she will be teaching a class about what she learned to our Guild. Just imagine something that maybe you have been looking at to learn, and then sharing with us as a group talk or demonstration or a class/classes. The world is your oyster right now because so many websites are offering terrific classes on EVERYTHING!! The Guild will pay half of the total cost. Consider learning something new and put that look of fun and excitement back in your eyes with a little sparkle of creativity!

It is so easy to apply for the Continuing Education Fund. Just look on the VFAG website and open the tab for the "Board" and then look under "Board Documents." There will be the documents you can look at or print. If you have any questions about this program please contact our interim Vice President, Jol'ene Northup at jolene.northup@gmail.com

At the next guild general meeting on April 19th, we will be voting on the new slate of officers. The Board is looking forward to having two new members on our Board for the upcoming 2021-2022 year.

See all of you at the next meeting.

Captain Peggy McGaughey

April 19th Program

"ART OFF THE RESERVATION: CONTEMPORARY NATIVE AMERICAN ART"

**Judy Tracy, Docent,
Tucson Museum of Art**



*Prayer Song
by Allan Houser - Apache*

... "Baskets and Pots? Not on this journey!"

Join us, as Judy Tracy explores the reshaping and rethinking of Native American art in paintings, sculptures and fascinating wearables.

Reminder - - This meeting will be held on Zoom. Look for the Zoom link to arrive in your email inbox the day before this meeting.

*Gathering by Tony
Abeyta, Dine (Navaho)*



Dan Namingha - Hopi



Indian, Indio - Jaune Quick to See Smith - French, Cree and Shoshone

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

Collection of membership dues for 2021-2022 has been **postponed** until the September meeting.

Tell me more...

Normally, the months of April and May are when all VFAG members need to pay to renew their membership for the upcoming guild year. Due to the constraints caused by the pandemic to our meetings and forcing many members to remain in their home states - - the VFAG Board has postponed ALL collections of dues to the September meeting.

Please do not send in early payments. Please wait until September. A reminder will be sent at that time.

Library Notes - Greetings from the Library!

As we wind down to the end of the 20/21 season, it is time to say goodbye to the previous year and think about the upcoming year for the Guild. So, with that preamble, I am announcing that the library is closed with no holds allowed at this time.

All materials are due back at the end of April (the end of our current membership year). I will be sending out notices for the few items that are still at large.

I realize it has been a difficult year for all of us, and the library is no exception. It has been hard for me to carve out time to go over to CPAC to try and get into where our books are stored. I and everyone else are looking forward to next fall when we will hopefully be once again able to meet in person and the library will be fully open for browsing and checkout at meetings!

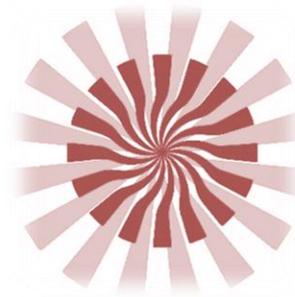
Stay tuned, as we will be having a sale of previously owned books at the September meeting. More details will be forthcoming at that time.

I look forward to seeing you all next fall!

Melanie Fritz, V FAG Librarian

Peggy McGaughey's mantra for 2021:

**IN A
PERFECT WORLD
paper & fabric
ARE FREE
glitter ISN'T MESSY
AND *chocolate*
MAKES YOU THIN**



The Membership Chairperson position is open and needs to be filled.

How about **YOU**?

This is a volunteer position and is a great way to meet and get to know your guild members.

Basic duties:

The person who holds this position must have a computer and printer.

1. Receives mailed-in membership forms and payments.
2. Payments are passed along to the Treasurer.
3. Membership forms are collected and recorded to create and maintain a current roster which is updated monthly.
4. Print labels for name tags that are used at in-person meetings.
5. Supervises and runs the membership table at in-person meetings.
6. Attends monthly Board meetings (currently on Zoom).

Note: If two people are on the committee, they can share responsibilities and have back up.

If you are interested in volunteering - - now, would be a good time to begin in order to attend Board meetings and learn from Pat, our current membership chairperson. The position officially begins May 1, 2021.

Any questions?

Please call Pat Merritt at **607-656-9795**

or email: wayoutwest18@gmail.com

We're Moving...

Life plans change, as ours have recently, and we will be leaving beautiful Green Valley and the Santa Ritas for the hills and horse country of Ocala, Florida - with plans to build our first home. The sad part is leaving this wonderful guild and all of you who have been such an inspiration to me. But the good news is that we can still stay in touch with each other in so many ways.

We are in the process of getting our house ready to put on the market March 25th, and once the house is sold, we will be having a Moving Sale (don't know that date yet, but will let you know). I have decided that my Peter Collingwood wool rugs would look best in a Southwest home setting, so am offering them for sale. They are truly iconic Collingwood. Each side gives a different look, and the turquoise and navy one has Peter's initials woven into the ends of the rug.

Both rugs are wool woven on a linen warp. The turquoise and navy rug is 34 1/2 inches wide by 11 feet 4 inches long. I am offering it for \$350.

The burgundy and beige/gray rug have plaited warp ends, and is 37 inches wide by 7 feet 2 inches long. Offering for \$225.

If you are interested, please email, call or text me to come see them: mgile117@gmail.com, 520-305-4680; (cell) 520-647-4847.

I will miss you all,
Marie Gile



Front



Back



Front



Back



Did You Know?

Video presentations featured by our speakers in our Zoom meetings can now be accessed on our website. Just go to the home page, scroll to the bottom of "Upcoming Programs" and click "View Past Program Videos." (your VFAG member password is required)

More online programs for you...

Studio 203 Artist Talk with Cameron Taylor Brown

This is a virtual conversation with Cameron Taylor-Brown, hosted by Studio 203 Director Aneesa Shami, about the Woven Reflections exhibition, that was on view August 29 –September 20, 2020.

<https://youtu.be/FJOy3oyHAlo>

The artist discusses her concepts and process, with a Q & A toward the end. This event was part of Textile Arts L.A.'s Textile Month, a community-wide event across Southern California that explores the richness of textiles in Los Angeles during the month of September.

View the exhibition and work online here:

<https://www.thestudio203.org/woven-reflections>

Cameron Taylor-Brown on MATERIAL MEANING exhibition on view until 9/21

<https://youtu.be/cZOtNNvDV9k>

Guest curator Cameron Taylor-Brown on the "Material Meaning: A Living Legacy of Anni Albers" exhibition and the influence of Anni Albers.

This exhibition, "Material Meaning: A Living Legacy of Anni Albers" explores the ongoing influence of Anni Albers through the work of ten contemporary artists and designers working with textiles.

Textiles & Tea

This Each week The Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA) hosts a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. The focus of the 45-minute discussion is on their artwork and their creative journey. At the end, 15 minutes is reserved for questions from the audience.

Textiles & Tea takes place online every Tuesday at 4:00 PM (EST) - - 1:00 - 2:00 PM (AZ time) - - and is broadcast via Zoom. These broadcasts are free to view and open to all.

Click on the link to register and to view the upcoming programs:

[Textiles & Tea - Handweavers Guild of America \(weavespindye.org\)](http://weavespindye.org)

Registrants who are not able to login to Zoom at the time of the event may also watch the program live on HGA's Facebook page. A link will be provided in the registration confirmation email.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=FJOy3oyHAlo&t=2320s>



Kumihimo Study Group's March Show and Tell



Judy Model



Eileen Coyne



Barb Isle



Martha Wood



Dale Box (all four)



Kumihimo Show and Tell continued - -

Martha Wood (all 3)



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

How lucky we are to be part of the Valley Fiber Art Guild, a vibrant organization that provides fellowship & inspiration for its members! It's through the generous sharing of experience & ideas that we continue to inspire, challenge & educate ourselves regardless of whether we're able to meet in person or connect virtually.

To expand opportunities for virtual learning, the Program Committee is in the process of putting together a resource of Guild Members and Study Groups that have learned techniques by taking classes online & may be willing to share their experience with fellow Guild Members.

If you would like to share what has inspired you online or if you have any specific information about an online class that you think would inspire others, please take a moment to share your information & experience & contact one of the following members of the Program Committee by phone call or email.

Sudie Durham at 520-548-4138 or, susandurham@cox.net

Marge Lind at 520-207-3606 or, mjlind69@gmail.com

These are some of the necklace amulet purses that Peggy MGAughey has been making. Fabric is discontinued upholstery fabric samples with her embroidery and special touches made for each one. She says she is having so much fun creating each necklace that she's made about 30 of them so far. Look for them at the VFAG sale next fall.



March Meeting Show and Tell

Frances Luney

Handwoven mobi shrug with Interlacements
Rayon Boucle, Bamboo 5/2 and pieces of sari silk



Refashion of a too small white chef's coat into a vest with machine embroidery embellishments



Gary Terlisner

Hand towels.

Warp is stone washed
5/2 cotton and weft is
2 different shades of
blue and white.

They are a straight
twill and 8 shafts.



Ann Pyper

2 outlines of birds from the Sue Spargo bird dance book. These are done using colcha embroidery with embellished stitches.

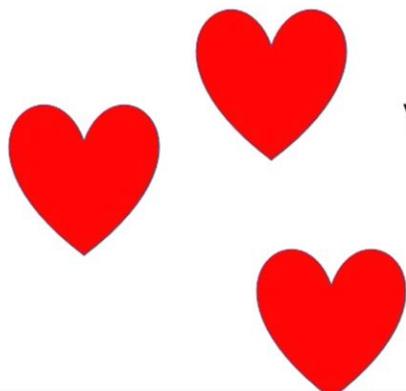


Baubles shawl designed by Andrea Mowry. My version is baubles without baubles I did a different border design.



Kay Burrows

Gloves to be gifted to my Granddaughter made from 100% Cotton thread. Pattern in Piecework Winter 2018 magazine. The Russian gloves, designed by Inna Voltchkova, are inspired by traditional Russian festival gloves.



Valentine Gift Exchange



To: Gretchen Ramsey
From: Eileen Coyne

My beautiful 3D mask was made by Eileen Coyne. It has a strong nose piece with elastic ties and fits well. The Kumihimo lanyard has lobster clasps to secure a double mask. It fits so well and I love wearing it! Thank you Eileen!!!



To: Peggy McGaughey
From: Sue Helle

Here is the picture of what was given to me this month from Sue Helle. I was so excited to open my gift and see the wonderful gifts she had selected for me. What fun!



To: Sue Norris
From: Gretchen Ramsey



To: Barbara Lankler
From: Martha Fine

Here are some pictures of the lovely gift I received from Martha Fine. I think the Spa theme is wonderful.



To: Jan King

From: Kay Burrows

A little Knubbelchen knitted out of a silk/bamboo yarn, a box of Chocolates and a story, "Tale of the Naughty Knubbelchen"



To: Miz Melly Fritz
From: Fran Luney

Here's a pic of the gift I received from the talented Fran Lunney.

"A beautiful hand woven kitchen towel - It's now gracing my kitchen and is being put to use! Thank you, Fran!!!"



To: Margalis Fjelstad

From: Sarah Price

Here's a phone of the cutest knitted bunny and Valentine treat that Sarah Price made for me.



To: Martha Fine

From: Sharon Laws

Lavender sachets and bracelet
This is the beautiful bracelet that Sharon Laws made for me.



To: Sue Helle

From: Laura Ramp

Absolutely beautiful!!



To: Eileen Coyne

From: Margalis Fjelstad

February exchange from Margalis to me! I was thrilled to have Margalis's gift arrive in the mail last week. Caught me off guard! This is a lovely lavender sachet along with a notebook and beautiful card. The stitching on the sachet is quite intriguing.

Thanks - Eileen



To: Frances Luney
From: Pam Roederer



To: Laura Ramp
From: Sue Helle

This is the little wallet I received...fun idea to have this gift exchange.
Thanks,
Laura



To: Kay Burrows
From: Barbara Lankler

I received a lovely alpaca lace cowl, tiny heart shaped stitch markers and a heart shaped needle sizer.
Thank you, Barbara. I love them.



To: Pam Roederer
From: Peggy McGaughey

Here is a picture of the necktie scarf that was given to me as the Valentine gift



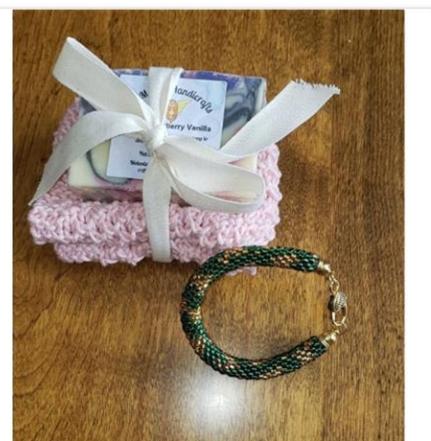
To: Sarah Price
From: Pat Ward

Sarah is enjoying this prayer shawl. She said that she would have had it on in the photo, but was already in her PJs



To: Sharon Laws
From: Melanie Fritz

This is a Spa Kit from Melanie Fritz And made by her. Also a kumihimo bracelet.



VALLEY FIBER ARTS GUILD
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MARCH 15, 2021

Meeting convened at 9:30 am

Debi Brunner introduced the guest speaker, Taylor Cameron Brown. Cameron studied textiles at the University of California at Berkeley and at Philadelphia College of Art and Science. She has had a rich and varied career in textiles and related fields. Her topic is “How String Changed the World: An Exploration of Fiber, Culture and Human Ingenuity. She began with an Anni Albers quote from her classic book *On Weaving* and liberally quoted from leading researchers throughout her lecture. Her lecture started with the earliest known textiles, a 35,000-year-old bit of spun flax and a 51-42,000-year-old fiber found in a Neandertal cave in southern France. So we learned that textiles may have been known to hominids besides homo sapiens, which leads to the realization that “What we usually call the stone age could just as easily be called the “string age.” The discovery of fiber lead to string which in turn lead to rope, which is one of the most useful tools known to man.

Cameron showed us how textiles fulfill the human needs as delineated in Abraham Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs Pyramid. Textiles fulfill the basic needs for shelter, warmth and protection and the higher needs of aesthetics and belonging by signaling membership in a group (clan tartans are an example) and of course the higher needs of self-actualization through creative pursuits and transcendence when we teach and mentor others.

Cameron also showed us how fibers permeate our thinking as reflected in language; we spin a tale, hang by a thread, get our knickers in a knot and sometimes even hang by a thread.

Cameron traveled to South and Central America and Asia and found that textiles are a universal language and makers of textile are a community that cross language and international barriers.

To conclude her talk Cameron asked us how could we use textiles as a spark for conversation and community building. Debi Brunner responded that each study group could have a discussion of how their craft relates to Maslow’s Hierarchy of needs and report back to the group.

Cameron loves to travel and hopes to continue exploring her textile traditions in different cultures as soon as travel is deemed safe once again.

For further reading Cameron recommends:

- Albers, Anni *On Weaving*
- Barber, EJW *Prehistoric Textiles*
- *Women’s Work: The First 20,000 Years*
- Gordon, Beverly *Textiles: The Whole Story*
- Postrel, Virginia *Fabric of Civilization*

Continued on next page

Kaye's Textiles and Tea, a weekly podcast hosted by the Handweavers Guild of America

Cameron's talk left us with much to ponder while we weave, crochet, sew, knit, bead and pursue other creative textile arts.

Last month's minutes were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report: We currently have \$9472.93

Committee Reports:

Basketry – Continuing on with demonstrations on fabric and paper bead embellishments

Beading – Continuing with Zoom meetings, members are working on individual projects

Clothing – Zoom meetings where members share individual projects

Knitting – Zoom meetings but considering outdoor meetings as the weather permits.

Kumihimo (*Zoomihimo*) Members are exploring and sharing resources

Mixed Media is on hiatus until September when members will reconvene refreshed and inspired

Spinning – will continue meeting at Desert Meadows Park to discuss overtwisting yarn.

Weaving – the next meeting will be used to plan future meeting programs and Jol'ene Northrup will present a tutorial on fiber works.

Program Committee: Judy Tracy, a curator of Native American Art at the Phoenix Museum will present "Native American Art – Out of the Box" at our April 19 meeting.

Show and Tell:

Kay Burrows put together a slide presentation.

Fran Lunney showed a handwoven mobi shrug in luscious corals and we learned that mobi is a type of recycled silk. She also showed an amazing garment that started as a too small chef's jacket and became a black white and red vest fully embellished with patches and embroidery.

Gretchen Ramsey braided a black and white runner measuring 6 feet by 29 inches of reprocessed wool for her son.

Gary Terlisner wove 4 towels with warps of stonewashed cotton in a straight twill weave. The weft is in different shades of blue and white. He also made a coiled basket of clothesline rope wrapped with variegated shades of hand-dyed orange wool and embellished with beads.

Ann Pyper is continuing her wonderful "Bird Dance" series. Her birds are getting even sassier. It always amazes me when so much character is captured using only a needle and thread. As that didn't keep her busy enough, she even knit the "Bauble Shawl" designed by Andrea Mowry in a beautiful meld of pinks and greys.

Kay Burrows showed us the elegant lace mitts she knit in cream cotton from a pattern in Piece Works Magazine for her 19-year-old granddaughter. The mitts, featured in a 2018 issue were inspired by traditional Russian festival gloves. Her granddaughter will surely feel like a character out of Dr. Zhivago when she wears them.

Valentine Gift Exchange:

Members who participated in this exchange spent January and February making a gift for another member of our guild. This helped us to stay connected and show our appreciation of our fellow members.

Eileen Coyne made a 3-D face mask with a Kumihimo lanyard. And while we are all tired of wearing masks, I'm sure

Continued on next page

That Gretchen Ramsey, the lucky recipient is looking forward to wearing this one.

Peggy McGaughey was thoroughly “*valentined*” with an “XO” mug, a knit washcloth and a beaded lanyard all in red and pink hearts from Sue Helle.

Gretchen Ramsey made a basket braided with black, raspberry and blue fabrics and embellished with an antique silver shoe buckle.

Kay Burrows knitted an adorable Knubbelchen which translates to “awfully darn cute”. This one seems to have a tiny naughty streak and Jan King will have to keep a careful eye on him.

Barbara Lankler received a leather bucket bag filled with valentine goodies; a knitted heart washcloth and hand soother. The bucket bag features revers applique pink suede hearts. These were made by Marth Fine

Fran Lunney wove a beautiful plaid towel for MizMelly

Sharon Laws made an elegant black and gold beaded bracelet that perfectly matches a knitted shawl the recipient, Martha Fine made a few years ago. If she ever gets the chance to go out on the town again she will wear them both.

Pam Roederer made a Kumihimo lanyard for Fran that perfectly matches her glasses.

Margalis made Eileen Coyne a lovely lavender sachet and an embellished notebook where Eileen can record her creative inspirations.

Laura Ramp knitted a cozy red shawl for Sue Helle

Sue Norris made Laura an “anywhere” wallet

Kay Burrows received knitted a baby blue lace cowl from Barbara Lankler

Sarah Price was gifted with a prayer shawl knit in garter stitch from Pat Ward.

And Peggy McGaughey brought a goodie bag of items for Pat Ward to choose from.

We hope this Valentine swap made our participants feel cared for.

Peggy spoke with Chris of CPAC and it is looking hopeful for in-person meetings at this lovely venue in September. It will be so good to finally meet in person again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF BOARD CANDIDATES

VICE PRESIDENT – Jol'ene Northrup

TREASURER – April Boysen

MEMBERSHIP – this position is still open. This is an important but fun position to meet and greet our members at meetings. Any takers?

Positions are for a 2-year term and voting will take place at the May meeting.

Meeting adjourned 11:35 am

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Fine, Secretary

~ Study Groups ~

Study Groups are open to all **current guild members**. Learn a new technique, share ideas and resources or just enjoy the friendship. **In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and national recommendations for social distancing, study group meetings have been modified.** 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:

Holding meetings via Zoom on the 1st Thursday OTM at 9 AM, to share techniques, book reviews, and show and tell. Debbi Brunner – misseyb@gmail.com

Beading:

We will have a Zoom meeting on April 8 at 10:30 AM. And we anticipate resuming meetings at Friends in Deed on Thursday, May 13, at 9:30 AM. If Friends in Deed reopens as expected, this group will continue to meet over the summer for those that remain in the area. Karen Gabriel — karengary115@gmail.com

Braided Rug:

Instruction offered on an individual need to learn basis. If interested, please contact: Gretchen Ramsey - grandmagretchen@cox.net (393-6179)

Clothing:

Will meet on Thursday, April 15, at 10:30 AM, in the yard, at the home of Linda Laird. Please contact Kris Sells to be added to the email list for further details. Kristine Sells and Paula Sween are the co-leaders. Kristine Sells – cksells1961@gmail.com Paula Sween - sweenpaula@gmail.com

Crochet:

Currently not holding meetings. Usually meets the 3rd Thursday OTM at 9:30 a.m.; at Sunrise Point Clubhouse.

Knitting:

Contact group leader for current meeting details. Currently meeting via Zoom, on the 4th Tuesday OTM; 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Kay Burrows - k_burrows@cox.net

Kumihimo:

Holding monthly meetings via Zoom at 1 pm (AZ time). An email will be sent 3 weeks before each meeting to identify the current project. We meet the 4th Wednesday OTM; 1:00 - 3:00pm. Co-leaders: Eileen Coyne and Judy Model. Group Contact / Communication Director: Diane Mikolyzk - dianemik46@gmail.com

Marudai:

Due to the continued closure of Friends-in-Deed, this group will suspend all in-person meetings until further notice. Usually meets the 1st Thursday OTM; 12:30-3:00pm at Friends in Deed. Pam Roederer - roederers@gmail.com

Mixed Media Fiber:

No meetings scheduled - - on hiatus until October. Co-leaders: Donna Lambert- DonnaDo3203@gmail.com and Elaine Cselenko - elaine52@yahoo.com

Rigid Heddle Weaving:

No meetings scheduled. Marilyn Wrucke - mwrucke2@gmail.com

Spinning:

"Spin in the Park" will continue to meet at the Desert Meadows Park (north end by the Butterfly garden ramadas) from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM, on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Please contact the group leader for a current update on activities and plans. Ann Pyper - pyperann52@gmail.com

Tapestry Weaving:

Currently not holding meetings. Contact Debra Brown - debrabrown15@icloud.com or April Boysen - gaboysen1@gmail.com (720-545-7748).

Weaving:

Meeting monthly via Zoom. 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:

Dagmar Munn dagmunn1@gmail.com