



Fiber News & Updates

January 2021 Vol. 11, Issue 5

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

~ Looking Ahead ~

2021

Mon. Jan. 18: General Meeting

*"Bird Dance Embroidery
And Beyond"*
Ann Pyper

Mon. Feb. 15: General Meeting

"Theorem Painting"
Kaye Miller

Mon. Mar. 15: General Meeting

Online: ZOOM
Topic to be announced

Mon. Apr. 19: General Meeting

Online: ZOOM
Topic to be announced

Valley Fiber Art Guild



Membership \$25/year

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

~ President's Message ~

2021 is finally here!!! With it comes some hope and light. With the new vaccine starting to get distributed we have a glimmer of movement toward the end of this long, dark, tunnel we have all experienced. Even though we probably won't be meeting again in person till fall, we still have hope.



When we finally get together, we should have a great big giant hug circle to welcome everyone back!

Lately I have been nostalgic in looking back at all the different ways I expressed my creativity. Remembering when 'Candlewicking Embroidery' was such a new and exciting skill to learn in the 70's. Then there was a year I joined a group that were doing Artist Trading Cards... 3x4 cards decorated any way you wanted and then exchanged at a group meeting. Then, it was on to art classes, collage workshops, sewing, refurbishing furniture, tailoring class, doll making, silk painting classes, and on and on.

I've asked myself over the years why I never stuck to **just one** thing in order to master it well. The only answer I came up with is - I LOVE IT ALL! Everything I've tried over the many years has surprised, comforted, challenged and made me happy. So that is what fiber arts is really all about for me - - Doing what I love and enjoying the process whether it is in one medium or many.

So, as we look at this fresh new year, let us all rejoice that we have our fiber arts to take us places that doesn't need a mask, transportation or group meetings (Zoom is our virtual in-person relationship now). Our talents and crafts are always there waiting for us to connect to our creativity, whenever we feel inspired; and without any condemnation (thank God it can't talk!).

Enjoy this new start and be sure and join our February Gift Exchange if it inspires you to connect with other guild members. It's a good way to start a new creative year.

Happy New Year,
Captain Peggy McGaughey





January 18th Program

“Bird Dance Embroidery and Beyond”

During the years that Ann Pyper has been a member of our guild, she has explored, and mastered many fiber art specialties. In this presentation, Ann will share her fiber journey into embroidery -- her inspiration board, her hand-stitched wool pieces and, the creation of her *Bird Dance* cloth book.

Join us, to learn about this intriguing fiber art as well as how you too can follow Ann’s strategy to spark inspiration and build a skill set in all your creative pursuits.

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

ALSO happening in January.....

Join us! In the VFAG first annual Valentine Gift Exchange!



Our guild is certainly a unique and valuable group of skilled and creative members and we appreciate each and every one! But as you know, COVID-19 has made it difficult for us to come together this year and be inspired by each other’s fiber creations. In addition, our traditional December scarf/gift exchange could not be held this year as well; we’ve missed all the meaningful connections this event always brought. So, we have come up with a new, substitute event, to be held in February -- the **VFAG Valentine Gift Exchange!** ♥

How it will work ♥

All guild members are invited to participate and will be given the name and contact information of another member. You will then make a gift of your choice for that member. Use this as an opportunity to perfect an old skill, further explore an engaging theme or learn a completely new skill. The making of the gift should be as much a delight as the receiving will be. The gift does not need to be Valentine-themed, but, of course, it surely can be. Gifts should be fairly quick and inexpensive to make and not inconvenient to accomplish.

Gifts will be “exchanged” during the month of February. You may hand-deliver the gift yourself, send it through the mail or if you request it, another member can pick it up at your house and deliver it for you.

All we ask is that recipients to snap a photo of the gift. Photos will be published in the April newsletter and shown during the March meeting in a special show and tell.

Important dates ♥

1. The **deadline** to be included in the gift exchange is **January 15th**.
2. Gifts will be “exchanged” during February.

Contact ♥

To participate or if you have questions, please email Martha Fine at: marthafine52@gmail.com

Library Notes - *Greetings from the Library!*

This month I would like to spotlight magazines that the guild subscribes to. As always, to check out a magazine during these challenging times, please contact me to reserve a copy and arrange a time and date to pick up the title in question.

In alphabetical order as follows:

1. **Handwoven:** is published 7 times per year - Feb, April [special issue], May, July, September, October [special issue], and November. *Handwoven* covers a variety of topics of interest to weavers, spotlighting yarns, weaving techniques and different styles of weaving. The most current issue received is the January/February 2021.
2. **Ply:** The magazine for hand spinners, is published quarterly – Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. *Ply* covers a range of topics of interest to hand spinners, including different fibers, prepping and spinning techniques, types of yarn that can be created and each issue includes a number of patterns to knit and crochet. This month's issue has some great articles on kitchen dyeing, different yarns for warmth. As a matter of fact, most of the issue is devoted to staying warm! The latest issue received is Winter 2020/21.
3. **Spin Off:** The art and craft of spinning yarn. Published quarterly – Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter. *Spin Off* not only focuses on the different techniques for handspun yarns, but also contains articles on different cultures and their history with handspun yarns, including knitting patterns that recreate specific handspun & knitted accessories such as hats, stockings, mittens, etc. I have not received the Winter issue yet; I assume it's hung up in the holiday crush at the post office.
4. **Threads:** For people who love to sew. *Threads* is published bi-monthly, the most recent issue is the Dec/January 2020/2021 which has not arrived yet. *Threads* covers all aspects of sewing, including how to techniques, patterns and inspiration, tools and supplies and fitting instructions. There are also articles on couture for the truly high fashion aficionados.

February 15th Program

"THEOREM PAINTING"

with Kaye Miller

Kaye Miller has been an active member of our guild for several years and is excited to introduce us to Theorem Painting.



(Library notes - - continued)

5. **VAV:** Scandinavian weaving magazine. Publishes 4 times per year, *VAV's* main focus is on different weaving techniques, historical weaves, weaving in the art world articles, and different textiles. One article that caught my eye in the latest issue is "seat cushion with bronze age inspired tassels". The latest issue received is #4, 2020. And I am sure you are wondering if this journal is written in English, and yes, it is!
6. **Vogue Knitting:** publishes just 2 X per year. The magazine contains plenty of advertisements for different knitting notions/needles, book reviews, articles of historical and contemporary interests, and of course patterns for knitted garments and accessories! The latest issue received is the Winter 2020/21.

Happy reading!

Melanie Fritz, Valley Fiber Arts Guild Librarian
Contact the Librarian at: mlfritzi4@gmail.com

Reflections ~

Fun Valley Fiber Art Guild events of yore...



*Our 30-year
celebration
February 2018*



*STASH SALE!
April 2019*



*A trip to the Amerind
Foundation Museum
March 2019*





***TAG – The Art of Giving prepared gift bags for 80+ recipients.
December 2018***



***Lights! Camera! Action!
The Knitting Study Group
Fashion Show.
January 2019***





We went RED with the Red Ruana Show and Tell December 2019





Guild study groups shared their fiber art at the Big Reveal. February 2020



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)

Currently available:

- Marie Gile: How to Tie a Scarf
- Tamara Scott: Fiber Artist

Newsletter Editor:

Dagmar Munn dagmunn1@gmail.com

~ 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:

The Beading study group has met twice via ZOOM and will continue meeting this way through June 21. We will start a group project in January — probably a peyote star or a pod that can be made into a pendant. We are also looking into the possibility of a ZOOM class or free tutorial. Usually meets the 2nd Thursday OTM; 9:00 a.m. 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:

Currently not holding meetings. 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:

Currently not holding meetings. Usually meets the 3rd Thursday OTM at 9:30 a.m.; at Sunrise Point Clubhouse. Contact: Toni Prutch – portraitsbytoni@yahoo.com

Knitting:

Contact group leader for current meeting details. Currently meeting via Zoom, on the 4th Tuesday OTM; 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Sarah Price - sprice1013@yahoo.com

Kumihimo:

The Kumihimo Study Group will begin monthly Zoom calls starting on Jan 27th at 1pm (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:

Holding monthly meetings on Zoom. **NEW!** Meets the 1st Monday OTM (beginning Jan, 4th); 1:00 p.m. To join, contact co-leaders: Donna Lambert - DonnaDo3203@gmail.com and Elaine Cselenko - elaine52@yahoo.com

Rigid Heddle Weaving:

No meetings scheduled. Will defer making a decision until January. Meeting times changed to the 3rd Tuesday OTM; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Marilyn Wrucke - mwrucke2@gmail.com

Spinning:

"Spin in the Park" will meet on January 20th (Wednesday) at the Desert Meadows Park (north end by the Butterfly garden ramadas) from 10:00 AM til 12:00 PM. Please contact group leader for current update on activities and plans. Usually meets the 3rd Wednesday OTM, 10:00 a.m.; Ann Pyper - pyperann52@gmail.com

Tapestry Weaving:

Currently not holding meetings. Looking at Zoom opportunities. 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:

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.