



Fiber News & Updates

April 2022 Vol. 12, Issue 8
Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

~ *Looking Ahead* ~

2022

General meetings are held the third Monday of the month, September – May starting at 9:30am - AZ time



Mon. Apr. 18: General Meeting

Location: Continental Shopping Plaza

Stash Sale/Election

Mon. May. 16: General Meeting

Topic & Location: TBA

Valley Fiber Art Guild



Membership \$25/year

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Download an enrollment form from our Web Site. Dues are due by May 31, 2022.

President's Message



Hello Everyone,

I can't believe it's April already. When I was younger I couldn't hardly wait to be 13 or 16 or 18 or 21. After that, time just kept going faster and faster and now it's on a bullet train!

The month of April is my last month on the Good Ship VFAG as she docks into the Stash Island harbor. I have been your captain for two years and have never been on dry land and a podium to bring a meeting to order. These last two years has been a challenge, a big learning curve in computer skills, Zoom meetings and a frustration of not knowing when and where we were going to dock. As I say good bye I am reminded of all the great Zoom meetings we had and the wonderful speakers who taught us so many things to keep us interested in fiber as we made our journey.

I want to say how very thankful I am for my crew of current and retired board members that kept me on the right track and encouraged me when I hit some rocks along the coastline. Each and every one made this trip so worthwhile and taught me so much about life and working on a Board. I truly wish someone would step forward into the President's position to keep VFAG going down the road to more adventures. If you think you are unqualified to be President...think again. I didn't have any special skills to be the captain, but I did my best and that's all any of us can give. So, give it a try, you might like it!



I'm not fully retiring; I am going into the position of Membership Co-chair with Cindy Wolf. So, I will see all of you around and will keep on trying to do my best for VFAG.

Thank you all for continuing to support our group and keep our membership going,

Peggy McGaughey, Retiring Captain

Your Guild Really Needs You!!!

We have 2 key open positions: President & Web Master



FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY VFAG President!!!

Gals, please search your hearts and generously consider saying “YES” to being on the April ballot for President. You will be provided with tremendous support.

We have come so far during this pandemic and we won't want to give up on this amazing organization of talented women.

Have questions??? Contact any one of your Nominating Committee Members:

Sudie Durham 520-548-4138

Ellen Kelley ellen.kelley@cox.net

Gretchen Ramsey 520-393-6179 or

Peggy McGaughey 303-241-7686 (current President)

Intriguing Webmaster Opportunity

Would you like to learn more about how our website works? The Valley Fiber Art Guild is looking for a new webmaster. Our current webmaster has already moved to Colorado.

The ideal person would be someone who works easily with computer apps. Lots of training will be available and you will work alongside the current webmaster.

Contact Kay Burrows at 520-204-1774 or newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.org



In Memoriam

Wilma Myers (May 1927 – March 2022)

Wilma Myers loved knitting, felting, quilting, basketry, and making paper, but her favorite fiber art was definitely weaving. Many of our longtime guild members will remember Wilma as one of the first persons to welcome them to the guild. Or, of sitting beside her in one of the guild's many classes that she took - - and she enjoyed taking classes. Fellow guild member Irene York taught Wilma how to make "My Recovery Buddy" dolls. And Wilma ended up making 50 of them to give as donations!

Wilma grew up in Oregon and moved to Los Alamos, New Mexico, as a newlywed. After moving to Green Valley in 2003, she was quick to join the Green Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild. She was the guild's first Publicity Chairperson and served as Chair of Community Outreach for several years, as well as joined many guild committees whenever assistance was needed.

Wilma passed away at home peacefully on Sunday, February 27, 2022, after being in hospice for a week. Her son David Myers, and daughter-in-law Heather, send along "a special thank you to all who kept in touch with her through emails and cards and especially for being her friend; it meant a lot to her."

David shared if anyone would like to remember Wilma, per her request her remains were donated to research for Spasmodic Dysphonia, with assistance from the Harvard Brain Bank and Science Care. There should be a drop-down box with Wilma's name if you go to the donation web page. Please add a note that it is in memory of Wilma Myers if you use mail.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Wilma to the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association (NSDA) either online at www.dysphonia.org/donate/ or by mail at NSDA, 300 Park Boulevard, Suite 175, Itasca, IL 60143. She had a great passion for getting the word out about spasmodic dysphonia and served as an NSDA Area Contact Leader for many years raising awareness about this rare voice condition.



VALLEY FIBER ARTS GUILD GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES March 21, 2022



Meeting convened at 9:31 with our Vice President, Jol'ene Northup, presiding.

Carolyn Webb presented her program on “The History of Knitting in America”. Carolyn, a long-time member of our guild began knitting as many of us did, as a young girl taught by her mom. “Lulu” as her mom was affectionately called explored many different fiber media but always returned to her passion, knitting. Carolyn’s parents opened an antique shop where Carolyn was exposed to many beautiful examples of knitting and other fiber arts.

Some resources for those of us who are interested in pursuing an interest in historic knitting are;

Knitting America by Susan N Strawn

No Idle Hands by Ann McDonald

Piecework Magazine

Carolyn gave an overview of knitting from its earliest days to its importance during our Revolutionary, Civil and both World Wars. They say an army lives and dies on its stomach but Carolyn showed us the importance of knitted socks for our soldiers. A pair of socks can save a soldier from frostbite and infection. One quote that stood out to me is “Remember Pearl Harbor - Purl harder!” Her beautifully illustrated presentation showed us how knitting went from the utilitarian to become an important part of fashion.

The meeting took a brief recess from 10:35-10:42

BUSINESS MEETING

The February minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer’s Report - \$279 were deposited from the book sale, Thank you Melanie for a very successful book sale.

April and May are membership renewal time. Find the renewal form on the website.

Eileen Coyne has recently taken over the newsletter and requests items be sent to her by March 22nd.

The Fiber Arts Guild Federation will be issuing a quarterly newsletter. This will help all the local guilds stay in contact and learn about events at other guilds.

Look for information about the Stash Sale in the newsletter. It will be held at the Continental Shopping Plaza meeting room at 9:30 on April 18. This will be our first in-person meeting since the pandemic. I, for one, am looking forward to seeing your beautiful masked smiles.

The Nominating Committee presented the slate of nominees for open positions. Each will be for a two year term.

President - no candidates

Secretary - Martha Fine

Treasurer - April Boysen

Membership - Peggy McGuaghey and Cindy Wolf (as co-chairpersons)

Debi Brunner motioned to accept the slate, Dagmar Munn seconded.

The business meeting closed at 10:57am



Meeting Minutes Continued



SHOW and TELL

Gretchen Ramsey showed an adorable hooked rug given to her by her daughter 30 years ago featuring a ring of kittens drinking milk out of a bowl. In Gretchen's stash, she found a length of crocheted lace using a heavier thread. Her grandmother originally crocheted the lace for a round tablecloth. Turns out, it was the PERFECT length to encircle the rug! Gifts given us by people we cherish deserve the care and artistry that Gretchen used in refurbishing this family treasure.

Debbi Brunner remains ultra-busy and took an online course from Sarah Woodyard (sewncompany.com), a historical stitcher at Williamsburg. Debbi made an 18th century styled chemise all hand sewn with flat-felled seams. She used fabric from a linen twill tablecloth that has been in her family for years. Although Debbi has been sewing clothing for over 60 years, this her first garment sewn entirely by hand!

Jol'ene Northup lost 25 pounds of hand-spun yarn to moths. She believes they were attracted to the lanolin as they did not choose to eat her purchased yarns. So take caution and make sure your yarns are safely stored. Jol'ene wishes she had a picture to share - she was very sad.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am; Respectively Submitted by Martha Fine, Secretary

Gretchen Ramsey's Rug



April 18th 2022 ANNUAL STASH SALE

In Person With Masks!

Location: Continental Shopping Plaza, 2nd story building on northwest corner of shopping center, room 203 on second floor, elevator on east side of building.

Stash sale set-up: 9:30; no early bird sales

Stash sale begins: 10:00 Sale will last approximately 1 hour

Guidelines:

- ✓ Fiber, yarns, fiber related implements and your hand-made items can all be sold.
- ✓ Please make sure all your items are clearly priced.
- ✓ A limited number of tables will be available for your items, be prepared to share a table (1/2 table).
- ✓ Whether you are a seller or a buyer, bring enough small bills and change to facilitate sales.
- ✓ You may also want to bring your own shopping bags; you never know what you will take home!

Still have a question?

Contact Peggy McGaughey (peg-e-su.silk@msn.com)

“Après” the Sale

Following the **Stash Sale...** and a short business meeting for **election of officers...** we will have **Show & Tell.**

You are then invited to join us for a **Brown Bag Picnic!**

Bring a sack lunch or buy a sandwich downstairs at the little Cafe and eat with friends at the tables provided in the courtyard.



Membership Dues

May 2022 through April 2023

- Download the Membership Application from our web site (www.valleyfiberartguild.org)
- Mail to address on the form & include a \$25 check
- Or hand in at the April in person meeting
- We all hope to return to in-person meetings at CPAC depending upon the COVID-19 status.



Greetings from the Library!

Many thanks to Peggy McGaughey, Jol'ene Northrup, Debbi Brunner, Martha Fine, and Eileen Coyne for their most able assistance in helping me set up and price materials for the book sale! Saturday dawned chilly but sunny, and we had plenty of customers who came and purchased wonderful books for their personal collections. Many new friends were made and new recruits welcomed into the wonderful world of the Valley Fiber Arts Guild! I hope to see your smiling faces at the stash sale in April, or the May end of year meeting! Our final tally for the sale was \$289.00! Once again, thank you for your support and commitment to the library.

By Fall I hope to have the library open for business once again at CPAC during our monthly meetings!

Melanie Fritz
VFAG Librarian

Thank You Melanie!

The whole VFAG membership thanks you for your commitment to the library, Melanie. We are so fortunate to have you and your professional library skills to make our library top notch!

Special thanks to you and your friend, Reed, for holding the book sale and making \$289 for the library. We can't wait to see what you do with all those pennies!

We hope you enjoy the extra space in your garage Melanie now that you've been able to sell all those boxes of books!



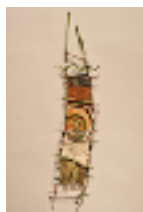
Update from Jane Herrick, our February Speaker



The following is a link to a website that includes photos and info regarding her upcoming 2022 Wisconsin workshop (October 11th to 15th). Jane sent this because we have some members who expressed some interest or might be in her area late summer or early fall.

Also, as a reminder to our members, our guild hopes to host one of her workshops next season right here in Arizona. No firm plans yet.

<https://www.washburnculturalcenter.com/workshops-and-classes-registrations/jane-herrick-fiber-sculpture-workshop>



Kumihimo Study Group - - Celebrating Friendship During a Covid Lull with Lunch at Tubac

Matching Bracelets
Crocheted by Dagmar for
Herself and Eileen Coyne!
Silk / cotton yarn.
Design called
'River Rocks'





Spotlight on Study Groups

By Martha Fine



This month I had the good fortune to visit the Clothing Study Group. These stalwart ladies have continued to meet in person, taking covid safe strategies.

Members of this group in attendance were: Gretchen Ramsey, Ellen Kelley, Fran Luinney, Sharon Laws, Suki Thomewn, Julienne Valentine and Sudie Durham. Peggy McGaughey, group leader, was unable to attend so Gretchen presided in her place.

Each month the group chooses a skill to learn. There is so much talent in this group, often time someone will offer to teach a specific project or the group assists in problem solving issues. Show and tell is always something this group enjoys doing - lots of inspiration! If you are considering joining this group please don't be frightened off, even if you haven't completed or even started your project for the month, you won't be graded or shunned!

Last month the group worked on modifying and embellishing sweatshirts. Lynn Swann trimmed a black sweatshirt with bands of colorful Kaffe Fasset fabric to transform it into a cardigan. Gretchen used an old chenille bedspread to make beautiful soft collar and cuffs on a seafoam green sweatshirt. She applied an adorable giraffe munching on leaves on the back of the sweatshirt.

Gretchen showed another project she is considering and got valuable suggestions from the group on using lace pieces to make inserts and embellishments on an ivory sweatshirt. This group showed me that even the lowly hoodie can be raised to high fashion.

Next month's project is cloth beads. So even if you have never sewn a stitch in your life you will be able to make these "statement" pieces. This group meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 9:30. Contact Peggy at peg-e-su.silk@msn.com for questions.

Gretchen Ramsey's Design



Lynn Swan's Design



Gretchen Ramsey's Design



Study Groups

Study Groups are open to all **current guild members**. Learn a new technique, share ideas and resources or just enjoy the friendship.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

"It is the expectation of the Valley Fiber Art Guild that all members attending guild in-person events are vaccinated and properly wearing a mask."

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:

The Basketry Study Group is meeting in person the 1st Thursday of April, 9-11am. Contact: Debbi Brunner – misseyb@gmail.com

Beading:

We are meeting in person at Friends in Deed from 10:30 AM until 12:00, on the second Thursday of the month. Bring your own project to work on or the group projects. Details are sent out via email prior to the meeting. For more info contact Karen at karengary115@gmail.com or 520.207.0799

Braided Rug:

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

Clothing:

Meetings are the 4th Thursdays of the month. Time 9:30 am
Contact Peggy at peg-e-su.silk@msn.com for questions.

Crochet:

The Crochet group is meeting the third Thursday OTM at Sunrise Clubhouse at 9:30 am. Contact Toni Prutch 503.349.6491- portraitsbytoni@yahoo.com

Knitting:

Usually meets on the 4th Tuesday OTM 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Friends In Deed, Room A. The group needs a new Group Contact/Leader, please consider this easy and fun position. Send emails to newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.org

Kumihimo:

Usually meets 4th Wednesday OTM at Friends in Deed at 1pm.
Contact: Laurie Wykoff - lawykoff@yahoo.com

Marudai:

Suspending all in-person meetings until further notice. Usually meets the 1st Thursday OTM; 12:30-3:00 pm at Friends in Deed.
Pam Roederer - roederers@gmail.com

Mixed Media Fiber:

No meetings scheduled.

Rigid Heddle Weaving:

No meetings scheduled.

Spinning:

No meetings scheduled.

Tapestry Weaving:

No scheduled meetings. We hope to continue the tapestry group next guild year. Contact Debra Brown - debrabrown15@icloud.com or April Boysen - gaboysen1@gmail.com (720-545-7748)

Weaving:

The Weaving group usually meets the 2nd Monday OTM, 1:00 p.m. Contact Cindy Wolf for more details. Cindy Wolf – pclobo2@gmail.com or phone: 608-343-6765.

Newsletter Editor is Eileen Coyne. Please contact her with questions or suggestions - coyne.eileen@gmail.com