



# Fiber News & Updates

February 2024 Vol. 14, Issue 6

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ [www.valleyfiberartguild.org](http://www.valleyfiberartguild.org)

**2023 / 2024**

**General Meeting  
February 12, 2024  
The Color Red**

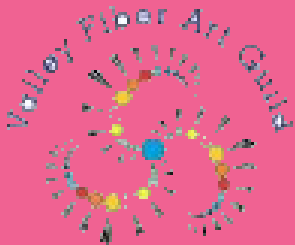
Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at:

Valley Presbyterian Church  
2800 S Camino del Sol  
Green Valley, AZ 85622

**Important: The March meeting will be held in the upstairs meeting room at the Continental Mall**

Come early for socializing and library browsing at 9:30am.

Meeting / programs from 10:00am – 12 Noon



Membership \$25/year

[www.valleyfiberartguild.org](http://www.valleyfiberartguild.org)

Download an enrollment form from our Web Site.

## President's Letter

Dear VFAG Members,

In February we are urged to think about and perform acts of love. When we create something and show it to the world we are sharing a perception, an insight, a value. We make ourselves vulnerable and trust that our offerings will be well received.

Each time we “make” we invest a part of ourselves in the creation. Recently I have seen members share a hand embroidered memorial to a beloved brother, another member created a tiny birds nest which can be seen as a valentine to Mother Nature as it directs the viewer to be aware of the beauty and fragility of our world and the creatures that inhabit it. We saw a member undertake a months long study of embroidery from a culture beset by war. Embracing the arts and traditions of a culture is surely an act of love.

Many of us “gift” our creations to people we cherish. We knit booties and blankets for newborn babes, mittens and hats to keep our children warm, and we quilt lap robes to comfort elders. All of these are acts of love.

As we come together as a community we share our time, talents and enjoyment of each other, which is certainly an act of love. While chocolates and bouquets are always appreciated, a work made with our hands, head and hearts is even better.

Martha Fine, President

## The Color Red

Diane Foray, a docent from the Tucson Museum of Art, will tell us about the intrigue and fortunes of the cochineal trade between the Americas and Europe.



### **Arizona Fiber Festival (AZFF) Basket**

The festival is fast approaching and the Guild is providing a Raffle Basket and has requested that each Study Group provide an item. Please bring your items to the March meeting.

### **Lyndy Runyun and Jol'ene Northrup at the Tubac Artists Studio Tours-of-duty**

Two of our talented fiber artists are part of the Tubac Artists Studio Tour. This year's tour is March 7, 8, and 9. Please come and support fiber arts and the artists that create them. A brochure will be coming out with times and locations.

### **Tucson Museum of Art Field Trip**

On January 25, six members of VFAG ventured forth to the Tucson Museum of Art. We met up with two docents and were given an informative and very enjoyable tour of the ancient area that is now Peru. As fiber artists we were most intrigued and impressed by the intricately woven tapestries, some dating back 2000 years. The colors were vivid and the patterns were intriguing.

I had seen this exhibit in October with a dear friend who is not a fiber artist and enjoyed viewing it with her. But seeing it again and being able to discuss the items with fellow fiber artists and our two knowledgeable docents was a rich educational experience that led me to a deeper understanding and appreciation of what I was seeing.

I highly recommend seeing the Cumbi exhibit before it leaves the Tucson Museum of Art.

We would like to have more field trips in the near future, your suggestions are most welcome

### **YouTube channel**

Valley Fiber Arts Guild has a YouTube channel all our own. It is a private channel; available only to our members. Information to access then channel will be made available in the members-only password-protected section on our website.

# **IMPORTANT: March Meeting at the Continental Mall**

The march meeting will be in meeting room upstairs at the Continental Mall. Please note this in your calendars.

# Arizona Fiber Festival (AZFF) – April 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>



Join Valley Fiber Arts Guild members at the Arizona Fiber Festival. Several of our members will be workshop instructors. **Workshops do sell out so register now. Registration closes March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.** Workshop details are posted on the Arizona Federation of Weavers and Spinners Guilds website at [www.AZFED.org](http://www.AZFED.org) and click on Fiber Festival on the opening page. Deborah Jarchow and Carol Byrne co-chair the festival. They will be looking for volunteers so think about how you can help.



Kantha Embroidery



Shibori Dyeing



Kumihimo



APRIL 5-7, 2024 • Camp Verde  
Workshops • Vendors • Guild Displays

[www.azfed.org](http://www.azfed.org)

STILL OPENINGS IN THESE  
AND OTHER WORKSHOPS

REGISTER NOW!



Teneriffe Gourd Weaving



Spinning Dyed Top



Wet & Needle Felting



Viking Knit



COTTON CLOUDS



HGA  
Handweavers Guild  
of America, Inc.  
SPONSORS

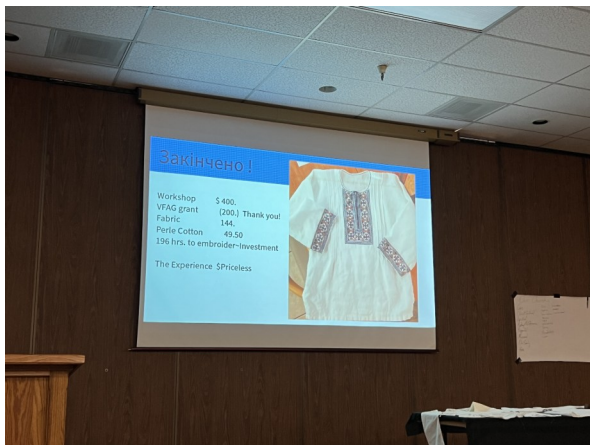


## Exhibit: Cumbi – Textiles, Society and Memory in Andean South America

Cumbi: Textiles, Society and Memory in Andean South America is a beautiful exhibit at the Tucson Museum of Art. It features some incredible and very early textiles from this region. I think this calls for a VFAG field trip, this exhibit will be in place until February 25, 2024.

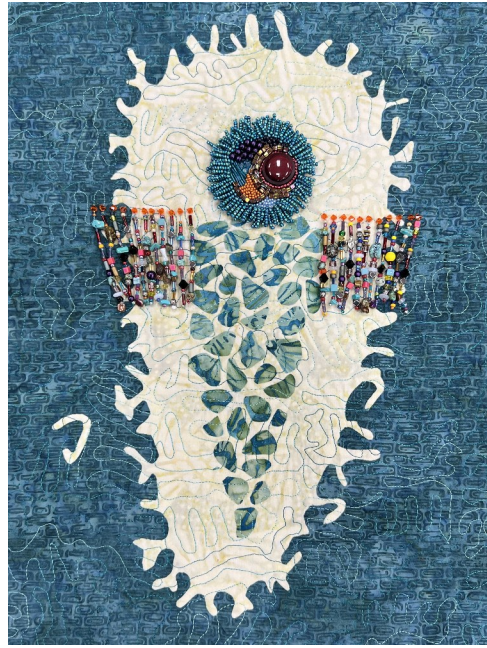


# January 2024 Handmade Sorochka Experience



# January 2024 Show and Share





## 2023 / 2024 General Meeting and Workshop Schedule

February 12, 2024	The Color Red
March 11, 2024	Art Quilts
April 8, 2024	Member’s Stash Sale

## February 2024 Calendar of Study Groups and Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 <b>Spinning</b>	2	3	4
5 <b>Art Quilts</b>	6 <b>Tapestry</b>	7	8 <b>Beading</b>	9	10	11
12 <b>General Meeting</b>	13 <b>Clothing</b>	14	15 <b>Pine Needle Basketry</b>	16	17	18
19 <b>Weaving</b>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <b>Felting</b>	27 <b>Knitting</b>	28 <b>Kumihimo</b>	29			

See the study group information for meeting place and time.



# Valley Fiber Guild

## Minutes of the General Meeting January 8, 2023

### PROGRAM

A program about the history and construction of handmade sorochkas, traditional Ukrainian embroidered blouses, was presented by Debbi Brunner. She used a grant from VFAG Continuing Education Fund to help pay for monthly online zoom classes provided by a sorochka embroidery master in Ukraine.

### BUSINESS

The General Meeting was called to order at 10:45 AM.

#### President's Report by Martha Fine

- 1) It was announced that there was a signup sheet for any members who are interested in a field trip for a docent led tour of the "Cumbi - Textiles, Society and memory in Andean South America" exhibit at the Tucson Museum of Art.
- 2) The President's Challenge for next year will be to create a piece that relates to space and time continuum. The category is very broad with sunrise or sunset, seasons, stars given as examples.

#### Vice President Report - Jol'ene Northup

- 1) Members can apply for a grant from the Guild's Continuing Education Fund to provide financial assistance toward furtherance of their education in fiber arts. The procedural process and application forms are on on the Guild website.
- 2) The Arizona Federation allots \$500 a year to further scholarship and information related to fiber arts. Our Guild could apply for that funding to develop, for example, a workshop or a YouTube channel that would be available to all members of the Federation.
- 3) The Arizona Fiber Festival is set for April 5-7, 2024, at Camp Verde, AZ. Signup is occurring now. VFAG will contribute needle cases that will be put in attendees' Goodie Bags. We will also contribute a raffle basket that will be bid on at the Festival. Ours will be a large gourd basket filled with items provided by each Study Group. These items will be collected at the March meeting. Four of our members will be instructors at the Festival.

#### Membership Report - Peggy McGaughey

- 1) There are currently 86 members. Four new members were in attendance and were introduced.

#### Library - Melanie Fritz

1) The library continues to be well used. At the April Stash Sale, there will be a number of items available including the collection of Cd's and DVD's.

### **Program - Debbie Brunner**

1) The February program will be "The Color Red" - an exploration of the history and use of cochineal" presented by docent Diane Flore from the Tucson Museum of Art.

Martha Fine suggested Elaine Kelley, a weaver of unique materials, a possible speaker for a future program.

### **Treasurer - Debra Brown**

1) The current balance is \$7,698.

### **Study Groups**

1) Clothing- Peggy McGaughey The clothing group is working on a vest project. Peggy announced that she is starting a contemporary embroidery study group and placed a signup sheet on the table. She has an interest in 3-D embroidery.

2) Spinning Group - Sally Young The spinning group is working on bast fiber now.

3) Weaving - Ann Bont The weaving group meets the third Monday of the month at 1:00pm at Ann's home. At the next meeting they will be looking at the results of three-dimensional weaving projects. The group is studying the aspect of color in weaving this year.

4) Felt Group - Lyndy Runyon The group meets at Friends in Deed from 12:00-3:00 on the last Monday of the month. Their next project is felted lace.

5) Beading Group - Karen Gabriel The group meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 10:00-12:00 at Friends in Deed. Members bring their current projects and work together.

6) Pine Needle Basketry - Pat Merritt The basketry group meets on the third Thursday from 9:30-12:00 at Pat's home.

### **SHOW AND SHARE**

- Marge Delker showed her latest tapestry featuring a moon shining over the ocean.

- Lynn Ocone shared a fabric scroll filled with strips of embroidered personal phrases that she made in memory of her brother and also her long felted art piece.

- Lyndy Runyon shared her large felted desert sunset piece.

- Sue Helle showed three of her small art quilt wall hangings.

- Pat Merritt shared a wooden mosaic piece.
- Peggy McGaughey showed one of her silk paintings and explained the process of color blending.
- Dianne Ruch modeled a knitted vest for which she created a matching tam.
- Jol'ene Northup announced that she and Lyndy will take part in the Open Studio Tour sponsored by Tubac Center for the Arts. If there are any other guild members taking part, let her know so this can be included in the newsletter. She is also starting weaving classes again and has one more opening for March for a 4 day intensive class.

The meeting was adjourned and members were invited to meet for Lunch at the Coyote Grill.

## Study Groups

Study groups are the heart and soul of our organization. They are vital for sharing ideas, techniques, and most of all: friendship.

**The VFAG will follow Pima County's Guidelines for COVID precautions. Whether you decide to wear a mask or not OR to create distance, you will be respected by all.**

For more information about a particular group or the current topic of the month, please contact the group leader. We are always looking for new study group ideas; please let a Board Member know of your interest. - Note: "OTM" refers to "of the month."

### Beading:

Beading Study Group meets the second Thursday OTM from 10:00am to 12:00pm at Friends in Deed. Please contact Karen Gabriel at [Karengary115@gmail.com](mailto:Karengary115@gmail.com) or 520-207-0799 for questions.

### Clothing:

Clothing Study Group meets the second Tuesday OTM at 9:30, Desert Hills Lutheran Church. Contact Peggy McGaughey – [peg-e-su.silk@msn.com](mailto:peg-e-su.silk@msn.com) or 303-241-7686 for questions.

### Felting:

Felting Study Group meets the last Monday OTM from noon to 3:00pm at Friends in Deed. Contact Lyndy Runyon – [lyndyrnyon@gmail.com](mailto:lyndyrnyon@gmail.com) or 707-373-8584 for questions.

### Knitting:

The Knitting Study Group meets the fourth Tuesday OTM, from 9:30am to 11:30am at Friends in Deed meeting room A. Contact Jane Tempel at [tempelj@aol.com](mailto:tempelj@aol.com) for questions.

### Kumihimo:

The Kumihimo group meet on the fourth Wednesday OTM. Next meeting is November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1:00 to 3:00pm in the Boal room at Friends in Deed. The topic is working in a braid within a braid. We are a small but mighty group who would love to see new members. Contact: Laurie Wykoff at [lawykoff@yahoo.com](mailto:lawykoff@yahoo.com).

### Art Quilts:

The Art Quilts Study Group meets the first Monday OTM from 2:00pm-4:00pm at Quilt Central, 701 W Ward Ln. Contact Martha Fine [marthafine52@gmail.com](mailto:marthafine52@gmail.com) for questions.

### Pine Needle Basketry:

The Pine Needle Basketry study group meets the third Thursday OTM at 271 E Paseo Churea (home of Pat Merritt) Contact Pat Merritt 607-656-9795 [wayoutwest18@gmail.com](mailto:wayoutwest18@gmail.com) or Marge Delker 316-993-1768 [daveandmarged@gmail.com](mailto:daveandmarged@gmail.com)

### Weaving:

The Weaving study group meets the third Monday OTM at 1:00pm at a members home. All weavers are invited including Tapestry & Rigid Heddle people! Contact Ann Bont for detail – [abont@comcast.net](mailto:abont@comcast.net) or 231-652-6275 for addition information.

### Spinning:

Spinning Study Group meets the first Thursday OTM at 1:00pm at 300 E Paseo Chuparasos. For more information contact Sally Young - [rare1alaska@gmail.com](mailto:rare1alaska@gmail.com) or 907-322-9264.

### Tapestry:

The Tapestry group meets the first Tuesday OTM, 9:30am-Noon at Friends in Deed. Everyone interested is welcome, beginners to advanced. Group leaders are April Boysen and Debra Brown. Contact Debra Brown at [debrabrown15@icloud.com](mailto:debrabrown15@icloud.com) or 520-372-2075 for questions.

### Newsletter Editor:

Cheri Golden. Please contact Cheri with questions or suggestions - [cheri-golden@comcast.net](mailto:cheri-golden@comcast.net).

### VFAG Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

- President: Martha Fine
- Vice President: Jol'ene Northrup
- Secretary: Marjorie Delker
- Treasurer: Debra Brown
- Federation: Jol'ene Northrup
- Programs: Debbie Brunner
- Membership: Peggy McGaughey and Cindy Wolf
- Librarian: Melanie Fritz
- Webmaster: Darren Selvage
- Newsletter: Cheri Golden

## Member Advertisements

### FOR SALE

Rug Hooking combo frame set. BeeCreek, Ltd. Includes floor stand, lap base, 14” octagonal top and 10x10 rectangular top. \$140

Fran Lunney, 208-705-4881 or [lunnfran@gmail.com](mailto:lunnfran@gmail.com)

4 harness Gallagher table loom, weaving width. 30.5” with 3 reeds: 8, 10, and 15. \$425. Fran Lunney, 208-705-4881 or [lunnfran@gmail.com](mailto:lunnfran@gmail.com)

Free to good home: Passup knitting machine. Learn to knit using this machine. It was given to me with the hopes of it finding a new home. Lots of equipment comes with it. Call Lyndy Runyon for more information – 707-373-8584

Majacraft Little Gem spinning wheel for sale. Has several bobbins, plying head and bobbin and a carry case. \$950. It’s a neat little wheel, but I don’t need as many wheels as I have. Also have a Spinolution spinning chair for \$250. Sally Young 907-322-9264.

### WORKSHOPS

**FELT A SILK AND WOOL PILLOW USING RESISTS AND VINTAGE SCARVES.** The class will cover fiber embellishments and creating a pocket to stuff with a pillow form. The cost is \$65 and a \$5 material fee to Viola Jo's in Tubac. Saturday, Jan. 20th from 10AM-5PM. Contact Viola Jo's for availability - (520)398-2240. Ask about future Wet/Nuno Felt classes at Viola Jo's.

**MAKE A MERINO, SILK AND VINTAGE SILK SCARF.** Learn how the different fibers connect to create rippled effects, textures and puckering of the background fabric. This class will be held at a ranch in Sierra Vista. The cost is \$80 and will include silk base, merino wool, silk hankies and the use of teachers' felting tools. Date and ranch address is pending confirmation. Call Lyndy with any questions - 707-373-8584.

**SOUTHWEST CORNER** will be offering classes in Four Harness Weaving, Basketry, Beading, Inkle Weaving and a variety of Spinning workshops with the SPINNING RODEO finale at the end of February. Go to [WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM](http://WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM) for more details and to download details and registration forms.

**THE CALENDAR IN [WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM](http://WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM) WILL GIVE YOU LINKS TO ALL THE FIBER ART WORKSHOPS IN TUCSON AND NEIGHBORING AREA.**



## Member Advertisements (Cont.)

### DANDOY RETREAT

Monday, April 15 - Thursday, April 18, 2024

Happy knitting and crocheting!

DanDoh Style

- No shaping
- Easy to knit
- Adjustable length/width/sleeves
- Make your own style

Konnichi wa

こんにちは

**New Retreat Date:** Monday, April 15 - Thursday, April 18, 2024

We're all about community.

Immerse yourself for two and a half days into the world of DanDoh, including lectures, a Mystery Knit Along, a Pop Up Shop, knitting, food, beverages, more knitting, reuniting with old friends, making new friends, sharing ideas and techniques, learning, (did I say knitting?) and building community, all within a very relaxed, informal atmosphere.

RETREAT REGISTRATION OPENED MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2023 AT 9:00 AM MST

Visit [www.dandoh.com](http://www.dandoh.com), select more, and select retreat to register.

