



Fiber News & Updates

April 2024 Vol. 14, Issue 8

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

2023 / 2024

General Meeting

April 8, 2024

Members Stash Sale &
Brown Bag lunch see
details on page 4.

Monthly meetings are
held on the second
Monday of the month at:
Valley Presbyterian
Church
2800 S Camino del Sol
Green Valley, AZ 85622

Come early for socializing
at 9:30am.

Please see important
Library news on Page 3!

Meeting / programs from
10:00am – 12 Noon

VFAG Membership
\$25/year

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Download an enrollment
form from our Web Site.

Dues are due April 30th

President's Letter ~ April 2024

Dear Members

I've just returned from visiting yet another quilt show, this one sponsored by the Arizona State Quilt Guild and I spent a very pleasant day viewing quilts and shopping at vendors. Being tempted to spend way over budget at many of the vendors' stalls, I stopped to think about materials and tools. To me the distinction is that materials become an integral part of the item being created such as yarn for knitters, crocheters and weavers, pine needles for basket makers, fabric and thread for quilters, floss and needles for embroiderers and so on. Tools are sewing machines, looms, knitting needles and crochet hooks which are also necessary to create something. The last few decades has seen a plethora of tools such as items for marking fabric, special hoops for embroidery, rulers, rotary cutters, templates and so on many of which have become essential to modern craftspeople. Many of these tools make our creations better, faster to produce and more enjoyable to work on. But- and there is always a but or a downside - and for me it is the cost, the storage and the organization of these tools. I find space for them so they are not intruding on my work space but then I sometimes forget which tools I already own and spend time searching for the one I need at that moment. I certainly don't want to go back to hand piecing every bit of fabric in a quilt. So, in crafting as in life, there always needs to be a balance. How many tools do I need, how many can I store in my allotted and finite space and retrieve when needed? This is a tough question to answer when face to face with the one magic tool that will make all of my quilts so much easier to construct and look more professional. I'm going to step out of my sewing room, pick up my needles and yarn and work on a low-tech knitting project.



A major solar event, an eclipse is approaching and I want to remind all of our members of the president's challenge which is to create something inspired by space or time. Stars and sunshine readily come to mind but seasons and weather are also part of this.

So let your imagination soar and create beautiful items.

Continued on pg. 5

March 11, 2024 Program

'Art Quilts'

by Deb Deaton



From the library

Greetings!

The library will be closing down for the summer hiatus at the April meeting. Please return ALL materials currently checked out on Monday, April 8th. No material returns will be accepted at the March meeting as we will be meeting at the Continental Plaza conference room instead of the Presbyterian church.

Also, the collection of DVDs and CDs currently owned by the library will be available for sale at the April stash sale. All items will be \$1 apiece. Back issues of magazines will also be available for \$.25 apiece.

Anyone who has materials and magazines to donate/sell are welcome to bring them to the April meeting to sell at the stash sale.

Melanie Fritz, VFAG Librarian

A note from our Membership Committee

VFAG has 101 members!

DUES, DUES, DUES!!! Sometimes there is some confusion about when dues are, well, **DUE**. Dues for the 2024–25 upcoming guild season are due by APRIL 30th and are considered delinquent after JUNE 1st. It can be an easy thing to forget so why not just take care of it soon? Forms can be printed up from the guild website and mailed in or visit the membership table during a meeting and fill one out there (save a stamp!). Checks are accepted, or cash (exact change is appreciated). Thank you! What could be easier?! We've included a membership form you can print from this newsletter for your convenience: print page 11

Did you know? We have a 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.

It's that time of the VFAG year!

Members Stash Sale ~ April 8th

As part of our tradition VFAG members have a chance to cull their stash and send it into the fiber universe. Bring your excess to the general meeting, priced and ready to sell. We will have tables available for your things. If you wish to have table space please let Debbi Brunner know, miskeyb@gmail.com, to reserve your space: 1 table or half a table? Let us know so we can be prepared. Set up starts @ 9:15am. Don't forget to bring change for your customers and customers bring small bills! A donation of 10% of your sales are requested for VFAG, envelopes will be available. After the sale and a short business meeting we will commune during a Brown Bag Lunch. Bring your sack lunch and enjoy some fiber time with fellow members before our summer break.

March Show & Share



Above Left: Dale Box with 3 travel bags she made and a fabric collage wall hanging. Both items were made during classes with the local quilt shop.

Above Right: Jolene Northup shows a hand woven shawl of various natural colors of hand-spun wool.

Con't from pg. 1 This summer, and it seems very early to be thinking about summer, but as this is the last newsletter of the season, I want to wish all our snowbirds safe travels and for those staying put, to think about joining one or more of the study groups that will be meeting this summer. Please keep us in mind and send announcements of festivals, workshops and exhibitions of interest to our members and we can send the information out via group email. Email the fiber news to me, marthafine52@gmail.com
I wish you all a summer of creativity, productivity, inspiration and joy.

Martha Fine

Valley Fiber Art Guild Minutes of the General Meeting, March 11, 2024

PROGRAM

The guest presenter was Deb Deaton, an award winning art quilter and instructor. Displaying a wide variety of her pieces, she shared the techniques and media she uses in the construction of her art quilts.

BUSINESS

The General Meeting was called to order at 10:45. The minutes of the April meeting were approved as published. New members and guests were introduced.

I. President's Report – Martha Fine

1) Slate of Officers. Election of Officers will be held at the April meeting. Martha announced the slate of officers for the positions of President, Martha Fine, and Secretary, Marge Delker, and emphasized that other nominees are welcomed.

II. Vice-President Report – Jol'ene Northup

1) The Arizona Fiber Festival. Jol'ene displayed the raffle basket containing contributions from the Study Groups which VFAG will provide for the Festival and thanked the board members who constructed the felt needle cases that will be put in Festival goodie bags. There is a need for volunteers to help at the event and members who would be interested can sign-up on the Festival website : <https://azfed.org/arizona-fiber-festival/>

2) The Fiber Artists of Northern Arizona is hosting a two hour presentation by Marilou Schultz, a Navajo weaver, in Flagstaff on Saturday, April 15th. This event will be zoomed. Debbi Brunner related that Marilou has done a workshop in the past for VFAG and if there's an interest, could be asked back.

3) Martha Fine passed around a sign-up for those going to the Festival so a meet-up can be planned if desired.

III. Treasurer's Report – Debra Brown

Debra reported a current balance of \$7,721. She also suggested that when members prepare their Arizona Tax returns they consider utilizing the Qualified Charitable Organization Credit that allows a portion of state tax due can be paid to charity rather than to the state. One of the qualifying organizations is Friends in Deed where a number of VFAG Study Groups meet free of cost.

IV. Membership – Cindy Wolf

Cindy reported that we now have 100 members in the Guild. She introduced Nancy Gould who has joined the Membership Committee. Dues of \$25 are to be paid by April 30 using exact cash or by check. The membership form is available on the VFAG website and copies will be at the April meeting.

V. Program Committee – Debbi Brunner

1) The committee will meet next week to plan the programs and workshops for next year. She invited members who are willing to provide workshops to contact her. April's program will be the Stash Sale where members can display and sell their 'stash'. Members are asked to donate 10% of their proceeds to VFAG to help fund workshops, speakers, books for the library, etc. Members are invited to bring a Brown Bag lunch.

VI. Newsletter – Debbi Brunner

The deadline for submitting items for inclusion in the Newsletter are due by the 27th of the month. Study Group leaders are asked to provide related write-ups for the newsletter.

VII. Study Groups

A description of each of the Study Groups was provided.

VIII. Show and Share.

1) Jol'ene Northup modeled a woven shawl made of naturally colored pygora goat fleeces which she carded and spun.

2) Dale Box showed a wall hanging and fiber pieces which she made at a Deb Deaton workshop and three totebags that she made at a Quilt Central workshop.

Respectfully submitted, Marge Delker, Secretary

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ Up Coming Events

April 8, 2024	Members Stash Sale & Brown Bag Luncheon
April 8, 2024	General Meeting
May ~ August 2024	Season Hiatus ~ See you in September!

April 2024 Calendar of Study Groups and Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Art Quilts	2 Tapestry SG	3	4 Spinning SG	5	6	7
8 General Meeting Stash Sale & Brown Bag	9 Clothing SG	10	11 Beading SG	8	9	10
11 Weaving SG	12	13	14 Basketry SG Embroidery SG	15	16	17
18	19 Knitting SG	20 Kumihimo SG	21	22	23	24
25 Felting SG	26	27	28	29	30	31

See the study group information for meeting place and time.

Some groups may be meeting casually over the summer,

check with the study group contacts.

VFAG 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."

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 for questions.

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 or 520-207-0799 for questions.

Clothing:

Clothing Study Group meets the second Tuesday OTM at 9:30, Desert Hills Lutheran Church RM #102. Contact Peggy McGaughey peg-e-su.silk@msn.com or 303-241-7686 for questions.

Embroidery:

Embroidery Study Group meets the third Thursday OTM @1-3p.m. at Friends in Deed building. Contact Peggy McGaughey peg-e-su.silk@msn.com or 303-241-7686 for questions.

Felting:

Felting Study Group meets April 23rd from 12noon to 3:00pm ~ 3D Stained Glass Window with Silk & Merino wools @ Lyndy Runyon's 477 E Paseo Chuparasos, GV. Pot luck hors d'oeuvres & salads. 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 for questions.

Kumihimo:

The Kumihimo group meet on the fourth Wednesday OTM. 1-3pm at Friends in Deed. We are a small but mighty group who would love to see new members. Contact: Laurie Wykoff at lawykoff@yahoo.com.

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 or Marge Delker 316-993-1768 daveandmarged@gmail.com

Spinning:

Spinning Study Group meets the first Thursday OTM at 1:00pm. Contact Sally Young – rare1alaska@gmail.com or 907-322-9264. Spinning study group will meet April 4 from 1-3 pm at Sally Young's house 300 E Paseo Chuparasos. New spinners are welcome and we have spindles and wheels for members to borrow. Bring a sweater just in case as I'm having a renovation done and we may be on the covered patio. We'll have carding machines available if you want to try adding other fibers to your wool or blending colors.

continued on next page...

Tapestry:

The Tapestry group meets the first Tuesday OTM, 9:30am–11:30am at Friends in Deed. April 2 will be our last meeting of the season. Everyone interested is welcome, beginners to advanced. Group leaders are April Boysen and Debra Brown. Contact Debra Brown at debrabrown15@icloud.com with any questions.

Weaving: 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 or 231-652-6275 for addition information.

Newsletter Editor:

Debbi Brunner, Please contact Debbi with questions or suggestions – misseyb@gmail.com

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/Workshops: Debbi Brunner
- Membership: Nancy Gould and Cindy Wolf
- Librarian: Melanie Fritz
- Webmaster: Tom Brunner
- Newsletter: Debbi Brunner

FOR SALE

For Sale: Louet Julia (S11) spinning wheel. Double treadle, Scotch tension, comes with 4 bobbins and a lazy kate. This is a nice little starter wheel for anyone who is interested in trying their hand at spinning. Excellent condition, well cared for! Willing to let it go for \$125.00. Contact Melanie Fritz (text messages only, please!)

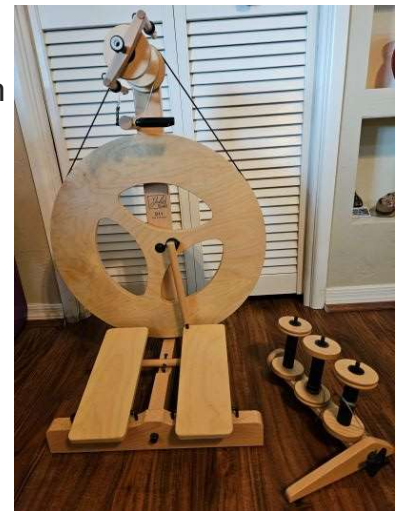
602-697-2052. This will be available at the April meeting & stash sale if it's not spoken for before then!

Special Reminder!

Don't forget your annual VFAG dues are due by April 30, 2024.

A Membership Form to print is on page 11.

Bring your form and \$25. to the our meeting April 8th to insure you have continued access to all VFAG has to offer.



Member Advertisements ~ WORKSHOPS

Lyndy Runyon will be teaching for GVR:

Fundamental Felt Class ~ April 8th 8am – 3pm

Wet Felted Bowl ~ April 22nd 10am–4pm

Wet Felted Scarf ~ May 6th 9:30am– 4:30pm

Contact: lyndyrnyon@gmail.com for information

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 for more details and to download details and registration forms.

THE CALENDAR IN WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM WILL GIVE YOU LINKS TO ALL THE FIBER ART WORKSHOPS IN TUCSON AND NEIGHBORING AREA.



Last notes of the season...

Enjoy your summer and don't forget our September program is "What I did this Summer". We know each of you continues the exploration of the fiber arts and we want to see what you have to show after the summer hiatus. Bring up to three favorite things you created over the summer for Show & Share.

The 2024–25 season will bring the renewal of workshops, the Program & Workshop committee has a great line up so watch for the September newsletter listings then sign up to learn something new. See you then!

Important Reminder

If you have information or articles for the VFAG newsletter they are due the 27th of each month prior to the monthly publication. We welcome fiber related topics which our members may enjoy. Please send your submissions to: misseyb@gmail.com

Valley Fiber Art Guild Membership Form

The Guild extends a welcome to anyone with an interest in Fiber Arts. Valley Fiber Art Guild dues are \$25 for the membership year, May 1st through April 30th and are due in April and shall be delinquent after June 1.

THERE ARE NO PRO-RATED DUES _____ Please initial

Please print and send this membership form with your check payable to Valley Fiber Art Guild for \$25 to:

VFAG Membership ~ Nancy Gould, 902 W Mountain Stone Dr., Green Valley, AZ 85614

The following information is exclusively for publication in the membership roster. PLEASE print clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Full time resident _____ Part time resident _____

Renewing member _____ New member _____

The following policy applies to all members of the Valley Fiber Art Guild (VFAG) who include but are limited to members, study group attendees, workshop attendees, and visitors. The VFAG reserves the right to modify its privacy policy at any time. You can be assured that any information you share with us will be treated confidentially. Information gathered will be used to further serve VFAG members and their future needs. Attendee agrees to hold VFAG harmless from any and all claims, demands, lawsuits, liability damages, loss cost, attorney fees and expenses of whatever kind or nature which arise out of a result from attending or participating in a VFAG sponsored event whether or not foreseeable, including and without limitations, personal injuries to the attendee.

Signed in agreement: _____

Printed name of signer: _____

Date _____ Cash _____ Check Number _____