



Fiber News & Updates

April 2025 Vol. 15, Issue 8

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

2024 / 2025 Season

General Meeting

April 14, 2025

Members Stash Sale

The April meeting is at
Valley Presbyterian
Church 10:00am – 12
Noon

Come early to socialize
April meeting
at 9:30am.

VFAG Membership
\$30/year

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

We've made some
changes! Read about the
new fiscal year dues
schedule on page

Grant information from
Arizona Federation of
Weavers & Spinners

&

Azfed Fiber Festival
azfed.org pages 19-21

President's Letter ~ April 2025

Dear VFAG Members,

April marks our last meeting and this will be
our last newsletter of the 2024-25 season.

I realize many of you may be departing for
more northerly locations. I think it would be
great if we could all stay connected anyway.



For those of you who, like me, are year round residents, there are many
opportunities for us to meet in study groups and local events. For those
of you who are far flung, I am happy to send out email blasts informing
us all about events of interest in your local area. You may be pleasantly
surprised to find VFAG members in your locale.

I like to use the summer as a time to renew my creativity, learn a new
skill but mostly slow down my pace and relax.

Do think about this year's President's challenge to "Think Outside the
Box". I hope to learn a new skill or craft and use it in some sort of
boxlike structure. But I have til December to produce it and that seems
so very, very far away.

I am very grateful for the wonderful year of programs we have all
enjoyed and being in your company.

Martha

“TAG” ~ The Art of Giving

The days are getting longer and warmer. I think of projects that I want to knit and find that I gravitate to smaller projects. Which brings me to think of TAG gifts.

For those of you who are new to the Guild, TAG is a charity project that targets the low income elderly in the area. We donate gifts to be distributed by Valley Association during the December holiday season.

There is a list of gifts listed on the Guild website, but I advise people to think of their families and what they needed as they aged. Often times it's things to keep them warm. Hats. scarves, gloves, lap blankets, etc. They also are thrilled to receive items like books, toiletries, jewelry, things they cannot afford. I will be collecting things in November and December. However if you have things now, I do have room to store them until the holidays.

Thank you, Jane Tempel



Vice President and Treasurer election at the April Meeting.

Thank you to Debra Brown for her term as Treasurer
and

Thank you to Jolene Northup for her two terms as Vice
President

Members Fiber Related News
Items for Sale and Classes ~ Page 11-14

Arizona Federation Fiber Festival
Save the Date ~ Page 19

Volunteer and Make a Difference

Valley Fiber Art Guild is now over 120 members strong. We are an extremely creative group of people in a variety of mediums with a wealth of life experience to share, learn and enjoy together.

The mission of the Valley Fiber Art Guild is to promote the craft of spinning, weaving and fiber arts by providing encouragement and education with programs, demonstrations, classes, mentoring and community outreach.

VFAG welcomes and encourages members to contribute to the mission of the Guild. Please set aside a little time to think about if and how you might like to increase your participation with the Guild.

Do you have a skill, interest or passion to help VFAG with our mission?

Do you have a suggestion or idea to bring to the Guild?
Have you seen a presentation that you think others in the guild would enjoy?

The board of directors and committees look forward to hearing about your unique talents, ideas and energy. Dip your toe in the water or simply dive right in!

Don't forget April 14th is Members Stash Sale!

**Vendors bring lots of small bills for change
and
Buyers bring an assortment of cash and checks too!**

Greetings from the Library!

Or should I say "Hello and Goodbye??" Big changes are happening with the library! I will be stepping down as Librarian at the April meeting, and I would like to introduce you to my two able volunteers who will be co-librarians starting in the fall. They are Mary Hughes and Apple Gibson. Please give them a warm welcome.

I have been the librarian for the past 6 years and I am proud of how we've changed the library to not only become more accessible, but moved it into the 21st century by finding a small non-profit automated library system to keep inventory control of the collection. It's been a great run for me, after moving the collection out of a private residence, downsizing it and moving it first to CPAC where we met for a few years, and then moving it again to the Presbyterian Church where it now resides.

For the Stash Sale: the library will no longer be maintaining subscriptions to journals. Which means that ALL magazines and journals will be for sale at the April Stash Sale!! Cost is \$.25 per item, or 4 for \$1.00 if you prefer!! Please bring EXACT change as the library will not be able to make change. Any magazines and journals that are left at the end of the sale will either be recycled or donated to the White Elephant. And one final housekeeping note – **All checked out library materials** must be returned at the April meeting before the library goes on hiatus for the summer. Thanks for the memories!

Outgoing VFAG Librarian, Melanie Fritz

Our heart felt thank you to Melanie for her revamp of the Library system and years as Librarian. Great Job!

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ Events

April 14 2025	General Meeting ~ Valley Presbyterian Church	
April 14, 2025	'Members Stash Sale'	
	Bring small bills and change for your purchases.	The great rotation of fiber related items. You never know what treasure you'll find!

Calendar of Study Groups and Events~April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Tapestry SG	2	3Spinning SG 4		5
6	7 Art Quilt SG	8	9	10 Beading SG	11	12
13	14 General Meeting	15 Cloth Creations SG	16	17 Basketry SG	18	19
20	21 Weaving SG	22 Knitting SG	23	24	25	26
27	28 Felting SG	29	30			

VFAG Study Groups

The heart and soul of our organization and 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. – Note: "OTM" refers to "of the month." Some Study Groups are meeting casually over the summer check with the coordinator of any group for details.

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.

Basketry:

The 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

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.

Cloth Creations:

The Cloth Creations Study Group meets the 3rd Tuesday OTM at Desert Hill Lutheran Church. Contact Fran Lunney lunnfran@gmail.com

Felting:

Felting Study Group meets the 4th Monday OTM at Friends in Deed 12noon to 3pm. Contact: lyndyruncyon@gmail.com or call 707–373–8584 "contact Lyndy for a list of materials you would need or you can just come and watch the activity to see what we are doing."

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 tempelj@aol.com for questions.

Rug Braiding:

By appointment with Gretchen Ramsey Contact Gretchen ~ grandmagretchen@cox.net

Spinning:

Spinning Study Group meets the 1st Thursday OTM at 9:30am~ 12noon at members homes. New spinners are welcome and we have spindles and wheels for members to borrow. Contact: Lyndy Runyon lyndyruncyon@gmail.com

Tapestry:

The Tapestry group meets the first Tuesday OTM, 9:30am–11:30am at Friends in Deed. Group Leaders are April Boysen and Debra Brown. Contact Debra Brown with questions at debrabrown15@icloud.com

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.

- **VFAG Board of Directors and Standing Committee Chairpersons**
- 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

*******Changes to Membership Year and Dues*******

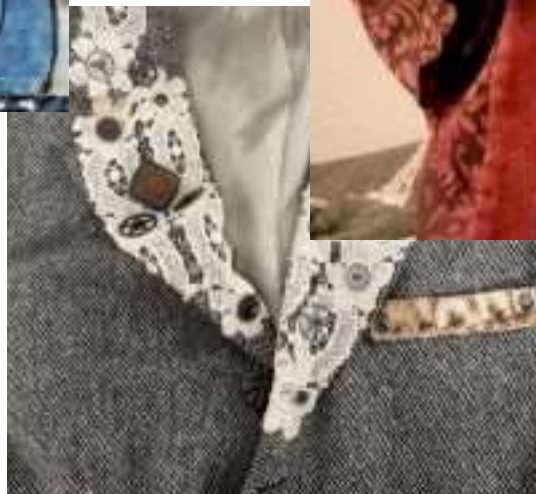
The VFAG Board of Directors has discussed and voted on membership changes. The membership year has always been aligned with our Fiscal Year, May 1 through April 30. The membership year will now be the calendar year! What does that mean to you?

Current members will NOT have to renew this April. Current members will pay dues for a calendar year beginning January 2026. Beginning the calendar year 2026, dues will increase to \$30. a year, payable through the month of January 2026. Members not paid by January 31, 2026 will be removed from the roster and membership privileges.

For the few members who have pre-paid a year ahead on the former schedule — you are paid members through December 2027. New members signing on now through December 2025 will pay dues of \$30 and be members through December 2027. We hope the new schedule will make life a little easier, leaving more brain space for creative fiber fun. You are always welcome to ask questions at the membership table or email:

Nancy Gould tngould@icloud.net

'March Program with Merry Warner'



Photos by Marge Delker

'March Show & Share'



March Show & Share continued ...





Fun
with
the
Felting
Study
Group

photos
from
members



Summer & Winter Weaving Workshop with Patty Huffer

photos by Phillnore Howard and Ann Bont





Fiber Artists of Southern Arizona present



Hands Up! Don't Shoot! by Tamara Scott Anderson

Perspectives in Fiber

March 20–April 20

Gallery hours

Monday–Thursday, 5 am–8:30 pm

Friday, 5am–6pm

Saturday & Sunday, 7 am–6pm

Artist Reception

March 23, 2–3:30 pm



Jewish Community Center Gallery

3800 East River Road. • Tucson

Check <https://tucsonjcc.org/culture-community/#Around> for details.

www.fasa-art.com

*Valley Fiber Arts Guild
Minutes of the General Meeting, March 10, 2025*

Business meeting

Minutes

The minutes of the February 2025 meeting were approved as published.

Nomination for Vice President and Treasurer

Martha Fine announced the nominations of Gary Terlisner for the office of Treasurer and Susan Bollinger for the office of Vice President. A call for any further nominations will be made and voting will take place at the April meeting.

Reports

Vice President

Jol'ene Northup announced that the Arizona Federation of Spinning and Weaving Guilds (AZFED) is going to have a special event : Nancy Willson, from the Sedona Guild, is going to be harvesting cochineal at the Jerome State Historical Park and on April 26th will do a presentation on dyeing with that product.

Treasurer

Debra Brown reported a current balance of \$7,761. There have been recent payments totaling \$4,075 for workshops since the beginning of the fiscal year. A payment of \$585 has been made for the two-year cost of the Guild's website. There has been a deposit of \$3,587

Library

Melanie Fitz requested that all library items be returned in March. She has cancelled future magazine subscriptions and the current collection will be available for sale at the March meeting for 25¢ each. She announced that Mary Hughes has agreed to take the position of librarian in the fall.

Field Trips

Martha Fine described the recent field trip to the Tucson Desert Museum to see the exposition of Navajo rugs and a docent led exploration, Women of the West, about the process of natural dyeing of fabrics. On March 27th, there will be a field trip to the Amerind Museum, participants will meet at the Fry's parking lot at 9:00. Currently there are six special exhibits. For more information, contact Debbi Brunner.

Membership

Nancy Gould reviewed the change in the date regarding the Membership Year in which the Membership Year will now reflect the Calendar Year in lieu of the currently used Fiscal Year. The membership of all current members will thus be extended to December 31st, 2025. Beginning with the Calendar Year, January 2006, the yearly dues will be \$30 which will be payable no later than January 31st. At that time, the Guild Roster will be updated to reflect current members.

Local Events

The Tubac Open Studio event will be held on March 11th at which numerous Green Valley studios will also participate.

The Green Valley Quilt Guild's quilt show will be held on March 14-15th at the Continental Elementary School.

President's Challenge

Martha Fine invited members to enter an item in the President's Challenge, "Thinking Outside the Box" which will judged at the December meeting.

Show and Share

– Members who participated in the Summer and Winter Weave workshop with Patty Huffer, showed their woven samplers.

– Members who participated in a workshop on weaving with copper wire presented their created items.

– Dale Box showed her snap-shut clutch bags.

–Anne Holzman displayed her felted paintings.

–Lyndy Runyon showed her felted three dimensional rabbit and flat designs.

Program

Merry Warner provided a journey through her exploration of Eco-dyeing and fabric embellishment.

Respectfully submitted, Marjorie Delker, Secretary

April Fiber News

~Members Items for Sale ~

and Studio Classes

Burnham loom, it is 48" wide, floor loom, 8 harness, 12 heddles. Must dissemble to move but easy to put back together. Great loom for rugs and tableware or towels.

Price: \$550

Please text questions and interest to: Kay Huisjen: 970-371-1880



Continued on the next page.....

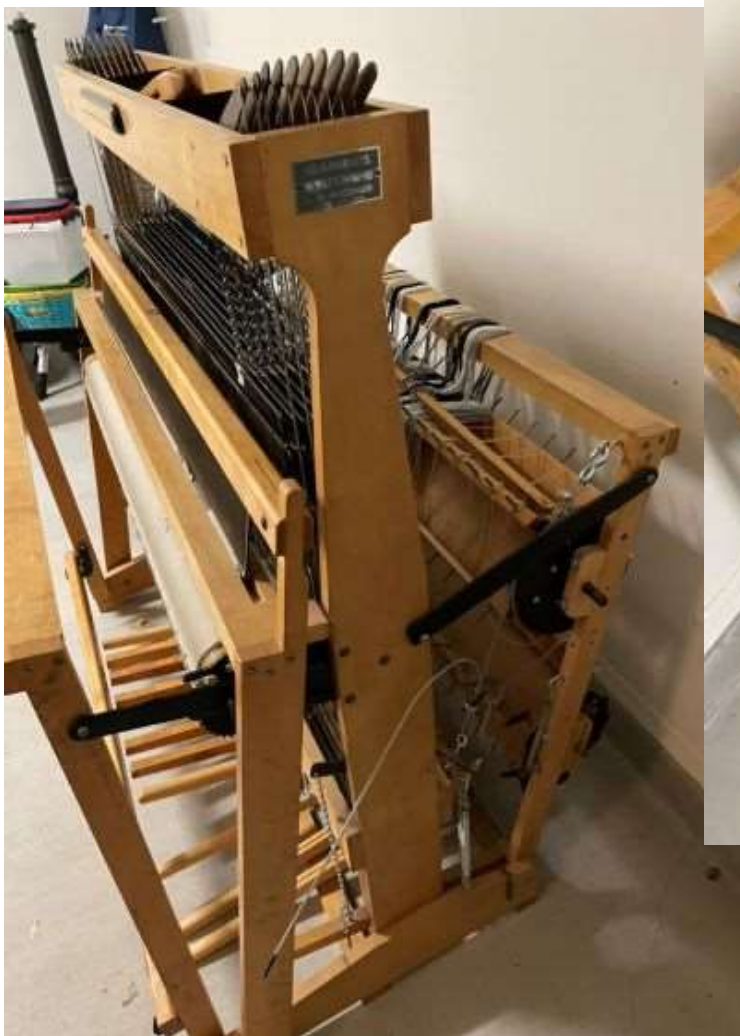
Navajo loom, handmade and very sturdy. Overall size: 44" (h) x 30" (w).
\$50, pick-up in Green Valley. Marcia Wiener, 410-299-1666.



Continued on the next page.....

Macomber is a great loom for everything from rugs to lace.

48" wide, 10 shaft, 12 treadles, 2 back beams (1 sectional), 3 reeds, and a raddle. My parents purchased it from Macomber in the early 1950's and then I inherited it and have loved using it. \$2000. Barb Giesen, 269-352-1095, bgiesen972@mac.com



Workshops in my studio.....

www.deborahbrunner.com

for complete information

April 9th

~ 1 day class

Zhen Xian Bao ~ Chinese Thread Box

Create one of the most fascinating thread holders from three sheets of hand made paper. Learn the math involved in creating this unique piece of useable art.



April 16th & 17th ~ 1 ½ day class

Handmade Paper Books or Albums

There nothing quite like a beautiful sheet of handmade paper, the texture can be subtle and smooth or almost two dimensional. It depends on the end use of such paper that designates it's character. Of course many of these papers are expensive: it depends on the origin of the ingredients in the paper pulp which is blended to specification of the creator.



Arizona Federation of Weavers and Spinners

Your other Guild
AZFed.org
[Facebook.com/groups/azfiberartsfederation](https://www.facebook.com/groups/azfiberartsfederation)

AZ Fiber Festival – April 9-12, 2026
Camp Verde AZ

Grant Applications

Traveling Teacher Program

To obtain information about all these programs please visit the web page AZFed.org and click on General Information there you will see the latest newsletter “The Woven Word”. This is packed with all kinds of information.

How to apply for grants.

The “Traveling Teacher” program. Locations and times and which Guilds have opening that you might want to attend.

Volunteer information about the 2026 Festival. How you can get involved. All the contact information.

Plus the Newsletter keeps you update on what some of the Guilds are doing.

AZFed Representative

Jolene Northup

ARIZONA FEDERATION OF WEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILDS, INC.
Individual Education Grant Guidelines and Application

Application on Next Page

An individual education grant may be offered to one or more individual members each year. The amount of each grant will be determined by the Board of Directors of the Federation, but the total amount of funds allocated to individual education grants each year will not exceed \$500. In order to apply for grant funds, an individual must belong to a currently paid-up Guild member of the Federation at the time the application is submitted.

The individual grant is intended to help augment expenses for conferences, workshops, retreats or other educational opportunities in the fiber arts. The recipient of the Grant must share their new learnings with the other members of the Federation through an article published in the Woven Word and a lecture or workshop in their home Guild.

This presentation must be open to all Federation members, and consideration should be given to provide ways in which any Federation member, regardless of location within Arizona, can access the presentation. Some ways this might be accomplished are through remote participation platforms, such as Zoom. For presentations that are easily and effectively recorded, such as lectures and some types of workshops, recording the event and making it available to Federation members on a private YouTube channel, or other appropriate platform, should be considered.

An individual may apply any year, but receipt of previous grant funds will be taken into account in evaluating applications.

Individuals should use the application form that is available on the Federation website. If there is a technical reason why the form cannot be used (i.e., software incompatibility) an application in an alternative form must address all of the items that are on the official application form.

Applications are due on September 1 of each year for activities to take place during the following calendar year. The Education Committee will review the grant applications and make a recommendation to the entire Board at the fall Board meeting.

Adopted April 27, 2024

Application for Individual Education Grant

Instructions: Please fill out the form by typing in the gray fields. The form will expand to additional lines and pages as needed. Return form via email to the current President of the Federation.

Applications are due September 1 of each year for activities to take place in the following calendar year.

Name of Individual and Guild affiliation:

Individual Contact Name:

Contact Address:

Contact Phone:

Contact email:

I am applying for a grant for funds to be used towards a retreat or special event (workshop, instructor, etc.).

Type and/or title of event:

Date of event:

Location of event:

Amount of money requested (not to exceed \$500):

Describe the event in detail, including how the grant money would be used.

Have you applied for a grant previously?

If yes, when?

Did you receive the grant?

How will you make access to the learnings from the funded event available to other Federation Guild members?

Adopted April 27, 2024