

# Fiber News & Updates

February 2026 Vol. 16, Issue 6

## VFAG PRESIDENT LETTER

Dear Members,

A few days ago some VFAG members including myself had the privilege to visit Caywood Farms, which is a cotton farm right up the road in Casa Grande. This farm has been in the Caywood family for 5 generations. As so many of us weavers, spinners, knitters and crocheters use cotton, we knew this tour would be of great interest. But not only did we learn about how cotton is grown and sold in southern Arizona, we also learned of the great complexity cotton farmers have to contend with. Personally, I knew about a few of the factors but was quite surprised about all of the different factors that went into making my yarn, quilting fabric, thread, clothing and household linens available.



Farmers have to balance water availability, which can change suddenly and precipitously against the prices of seed and fertilizer. Some years crops can be decimated by pests. Cotton farmers have to file dust abatement plans with the local government, and deal with fluctuating market values and the effects of tariffs.

The next time I sew with cotton thread, knit with cotton yarn and enjoy the beautiful hand woven dish cloths I have that are made of cotton. I will have a much deeper appreciation for the farmers that make it possible. At the conclusion of our tour, our host gave us cotton seeds. This spring I intend to plant my seeds, tend my little crop until maturity in September, painstakingly de-seed it, spin it and finally knit it up and hopefully show off my creation at Show and Share maybe by next January.

Martha Fine, President

WE WENT TO CAYWOOD FARMS ~ Photos on page 5

Friday, January 23 was the day some members of VFAG ventured up I-10 to Casa Grande to visit Caywood Farms. We were treated to a hayride around the acreage and stopped at a cotton patch where we were invited to pick as much cotton as we pleased. We then were given a fascinating presentation on the complexities of cotton farming, how cotton is grown, the history of cotton in southern Arizona, how raw cotton is processed and graded and the hundreds of end uses of cotton. During the talk we were treated to Twinkies and popcorn made with cottonseed oil. At the conclusion of the tour our host gave us packets of cotton and alfalfa seed.

**2025-2026 Season  
General Meeting  
February 9, 2025**

**Eco-Dyeing Journey  
With Lori Kovash**

**Monthly Meetings are held  
on the second Monday of  
month at:**

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

**Meeting & Programs  
10am ~ 12noon**

**Come early for social time  
at 9:30am**

**Fiber Day!  
Monday, February 23rd  
See page 9**

**VFAG Member \$30. @ yr  
Due by January 15th,  
each year beginning  
January 2026.**

**Membership Form is on our  
website.  
[www.valleyfiberartguild.org](http://www.valleyfiberartguild.org)**



# January Program Highlights

## Hopi Quilting with Carolyn O'Bagy Davis





# Let's keep VFAG a thriving and creative group!

*Hey there!*

Do you teach or have an idea for a program, class or workshop?

Perhaps you've experienced something recently that you enjoyed and thought fellow members may enjoy it as well.

This is how we keep things interesting, we all want to continue our education of the fiber arts and related fields. Learning new things and spreading the word about the myriad of opportunities out there.

This is what the Program & Workshop committee looks for 'members participation, bringing us ideas. We don't do it alone, the committee coordinates and helps implement your Ideas.

Thank you to all who help us along the way to bring the best to our guild.

Sincerely, The Committee

Lyndy Runyon, Sudie Durham, Martha Fine, Julianne Valentine and Debbi Brunner

## From the Membership Committee

Reminder.....

If you have not already paid your 2026-2027 guild dues, it's time to do so. If you are a new member and paid \$30., you are good to go until January 2027. Those with unpaid dues after January 31, 2026 will be dropped from the roster. Remember a paid membership allows you to vote on VFAG agendas, take classes & workshops, participate in Study Groups and field trips, don't miss out on these benefits!

Print up a membership form from our website, fill it out and send it in with your check for \$30 to the address listed on the form.

Not sure if you've paid or not? Either check at the membership table at the January meeting, or email either Cindy (pclobo2@gmail.com), or Nancy (tngould@icloud.com). We'd be happy to check for you!

## Arizona Fiber Art Festival ~ Swag Bags

Each Member Guild of the Arizona Federation of Weavers & Spinners has been tasked with contributing 150\* items for the swag bags given to each Registrant when they check in for the event.

If you have been making Birds, please bring your completed birds to the February General Meeting. We're going to count them and do a photo shoot.

We'll determine at that time how many more birds we need and go forward with the stitching. We would also like volunteers to pin tags with our guild info to the birds. Will you help? No sewing required!

The Birds 2.0 pattern, designed by Michael Fulkerson, is the inspiration for our contribution, the little bird makes a great pin cushion! The pattern is no longer available with sewing instructions so the VFAG Board will make the first 'flock' of birds then, form 'Bird' sewing groups to pass on pattern pieces and instructions. Please join the fun, it's a perfect way to use fabric scraps you probably have and if you don't we do. \*We don't yet have the final word on the exact number of birds the Federation will need for the Arizona Fiber Festival Swag Bags but we know we are up to the task of meeting the goal.



**See page 17 for  
complete  
AZ Fiber Festival**



# January Field Trip to Caywood Farms



Photographs from the  
Caywood Farms tour by  
Sarah Kochanowski



# January 2026 Show & Share

Thank you to  
Marge Delker  
and Vicki  
Bohnhoff for  
photographing  
the event.





## More Show & Share



New greeter for the  
Weaving Study Group  
at Casa del Lobos  
Photo from Julianne Valentine



and Look at all those hand knits!





# Fiber Day!

let's get together and do what we do....

One of our nuno felting workshops was cancelled so rather than waste a perfectly good space,  
the VFAG Board has decided to hold a Fiber Day.  
Monday, February 23rd 10am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall  
of Valley Presbyterian Church.

It's a wonderful chance to gather with friends of like minds  
and work on a project or two or three.

Spinners bring your wheels, knitters your needles and yarn,  
weaver's your portable looms, beaders, embroiderers,  
quilters, you get the idea! All are welcome!

We will mingle, share and see what each other are doing.  
Bring a bag Lunch and we'll supply the coffee, tea and dessert.

There will be a sign-up sheet at February meeting  
so we can decide how may tables and  
how much dessert we'll need.

Come for the whole day or part of the day but join us!

Questions to Debbi Brunner [misseyb@gmail.com](mailto:misseyb@gmail.com)



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

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." We are always looking for ideas for new study groups - please let a Board Member know of your interest.

**Art Quilts:**

Who: Martha Fine ~ marthafine52@gmail.com  
Where: Home of Vicki Bohnhoff  
When: 1st Monday OTM, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

**Basketry:**

Who: Marge Delker ~ daveandmarged@gmail.com  
Where: Home of Pat Merritt  
271 E. Paseo Churea, GV  
When: 3rd Thursday OTM

**Beading:**

Who: Karen Gabriel ~ karengary115@gmail.com  
Where: Friends in Deed  
When: 2nd Thursday OTM, 10 am-12 pm

**Cloth Creations:**

Who: Fran Lunney ~ lunnfran@gmail.com  
Where: Desert Hills Lutheran Church rm #102  
When: 3rd Tuesday OTM 9:30am

**Knitting:**

Who: Jane Tempel ~ tempelj@aol.com  
Where: Friends in Deed  
When: 4th Tuesday OTM, 9:30 a.m.

**Spinning Study Group:**

Who: Lyndy Runyon ~ lyndyrunyon@gmail.com  
Where: TBA meet in Member homes  
When: 1st Thursday OTM, 9-12noon

**Tapestry:**

Who: April Boysen & Debra Brown  
debrabrown15@icloud.com  
Where: Friends in Deed  
When: 1st Tuesday OTM, 9:30am-11:30am

**Weaving Study Group:**

Who: Ann Bont - abont@comcast.net  
Phone: 231-652-6275  
Where: Desert Hills Lutheran Church  
When: 3rd Monday OTM 1:30-3:30pm

**Wet and Needle Felting:**

Who: Lyndy Runyon - lyndyrunyon@gmail.com  
Where: Friends in Deed  
When: 3rd Monday OTM 12noon-3pm

**Wool Rug Braiding:**

Who: Gretchen Ramsey - grandmagretchen@cox.net  
When: by appointment, contact Gretchen

*Joining or visiting a Study Group is a great way explore something you have been curious about. Visit a meeting and discover the ins and outs of the techniques, equipment needed, etc.*

*Groups are always happy to share knowledge with interested people and some groups have equipment to loan should you want to experiment and learn more.*



# Calendar of Events ~ February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Art Quilts Study Group	3 Tapestry Study Group	4	5 Spinning Study Group	6 Cotton Spinning Workshop	7 Cotton Spinning Workshop
8	9 VFAG General Meeting	10	11	12 Beading Study Group	13	14
15	16 Weaving Study Group  Felting Study Group	17 Cloth Creations Study Group	18	19 Basketry Study Group	20	21
22	23 Fiber Day!	24 Knitting Study Group  NunoFelting Workshop	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ Winter Schedule 2026

February 9th Program ~ Eco-Dyeing Journey with Lori Kovash

Fiber Day ~ see page 9 for details

March 9th Program ~ Navajo Rugs: The History, the Artistry, the Contemporary with Tucson Museum of Art docent Linda Friedman

Note: There will be a change of venue for our March meeting, TBA



## ***Workshops 2026 Winter Season and Beyond***

The 2026 Program & Workshop committee has an interesting array of Programs and Workshops in the coming months. You can read full information on our website,  
[www.valleyfiberartguild.org](http://www.valleyfiberartguild.org)

Take full advantage of your membership, enjoy interesting programs each month and sign up for a Workshop/Classes, learn something new.

We've included a Registration Form to print in the newsletter, page 16  
Please note: Workshop/Class registrations fees are non-refundable, if for some reason you are unable to take the workshop or class it is possible to find someone who would like to take the class. We sometimes have wait lists.  
We will make every effort to help you find a replacement.  
Thank you for your consideration.

**There is still room in the following Workshops  
See pages 13~15 for details. Registration form to print: page 16**

***Double Weave on 4 Harness workshop with Patty Huffer  
Eco-Dye Magic & Garment workshop with Lori Kovash***

*We are planning now for the 2026-2027 workshop schedule.*

*If you have any ideas, seen something interesting or want to learn a particular technique or discipline let us know.*

*Email: Lyndy Runyon ~ [lyndyrunyon@gmail.com](mailto:lyndyrunyon@gmail.com)*



# 'Double Weave on 4 Shafts' with Patty Huffer

Date: March 13, 14, and 15, 2026

Time: 9:30am ~ 3:30pm

Venue: La Posada Recreation Center

Cost: \$ 140, this includes a \$20 materials fee

Min/Max students - 10/12

**2 spaces remain**

**Registration Deadline - February 1, 2026**

Registration open to public - December 15, 2026 with membership in VFAG

Level - Beginning to Advance - Students should be able to read a draft and weave without assistance.

Explore the potential of double weaving in this class. Using only four shafts, you can create cloth that is twice the width of your loom. You can create tubes, pockets, multiple layers, and even pick-up designs.

During class you'll learn the theory of double weave, experiment with different materials, and complete a storage caddy sampler that you can use for shuttles, scissors, or other weaving tools.

Note: Students will receive warping instructions and loom set up in advance of the workshop.



*Bio - Patty Huffer has been weaving since 1981. After graduating from Central Washington University, she took a summer class in weaving. This began her almost 40 years of weaving and teaching. The love of fibers and teaching others has been a life-long inspiration for her. She always looks forward to the moment when a student understands for the first time how a woven piece is constructed resulting in a beautiful finished piece. Patty's experience and use of many types of looms, and threading possibilities has contributed to her ongoing passion for weaving.*

## 'Eco-Dyeing Magic' with Lori Kovash

Do you want to experience the magic of eco-dyeing? You will learn how to create a one of a kind piece of art using leaves and flowers. I will walk through the process of how to prepare your fabric to accept the tannins and natural dyes from plants. We will talk about how to use leaves and flowers to create the clearest prints. I have several examples of natural dyes you can achieve in your own home with plants and flowers locally grown. These natural dyes pair so beautifully with eco-dyeing. I just love it and hope you will too!

Workshop March 19th date is Full ~ but Lori has agreed to take more students to do this class on March 20th. Please contact Debbi to reserve a space. [miskeyb@gmail.com](mailto:miskeyb@gmail.com)

Date: Friday March 20, 2026

Time: 9am ~ 3pm

Venue: Valley Presbyterian Church

Cost: \$70.00 + Kit fee \$15.





# 'Eco-Dyeing a Garment~ Continue the Magic

with Lori Kovash

The next step in Eco-Dyeing; learn the intricacy of doing a garment as you work with Lori to create a beautiful top. Planning the design and implementation are the core of this workshop, allowing you to create the eco-print design best suited to the style of the garment. Lori will have a variety of tops to choose from and purchase after her program at the February VFAG meeting.

Date: Friday March 20, 2026

Time: 9am ~ 3pm

Venue: Valley Presbyterian Church

Cost: \$70.00 + Plus garment choice \$ varies

Limited to 12 Students

4 spaces remain Registration ends February 9th.





### Workshop Registration Form

*To reserve a seat in a Workshop, tuition must be paid in full at registration.*

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one

☐ VFA Guild Member

☐ I am not a Member of the VFA Guild

Workshop	Instructor	Date	Amount

Total tuition amount \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this completed Registration Form  
and your check payable to 'VFA Guild' for the full tuition amount to:

Debbi Brunner,  
1692 W. Corte de Cajamarca  
Sahuarita, AZ 85629  
520-631-9908  
[misseyb@gmail.com](mailto:misseyb@gmail.com)

Please include instructor's name on check memo line

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email





## **"Arizona Fiber Festival"**

**sponsored by the Arizona Federation of Weaver & Spinners**  
**2nd AZ Fiber Festival**

**April 10, 11, and 12, 2026**

**Camp Verde, Arizona**

**We're ready for Volunteers to sign up! Please go to the Website fill in those 2 hr. slots!**  
**For details Go to: <https://azfed.org/volunteers/>**

**OR**

**cut and paste in your browser**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040444AFA92BABF85-61212166-azfiber#/>**

**All Class & Workshop Registration ends March 1, 2026!**

**Register now to reserve your spot.**

**Brochure and easy on-line registration**

**Go to ~ <https://azfed.org/arizona-fiber-festival/>**

**TAKE CLASSES\***

**VISIT THE VENDOR HALL**

**WATCH DEMONSTRATIONS**

**VISIT THE GUILD BOOTHS AND MEET ARIZONA ARTISANS**

**ENTRANCE TO THE VENDOR HALL, DEMONSTRATIONS  
AND GUILD BOOTHS IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**\*Classes, workshops, and seminars require registration and have a fee.**

**Camp Verde, AZ is a nice little town with hotels, restaurants, museums and a casino  
just off the I-17 freeway approximately 230 miles/3hr 30min from Green Valley.**

## Valley Fiber Arts Guild

### Minutes of the General Meeting, January 12, 2026

**Program** - "Hopi Quilting: Stitched Traditions from an Ancient Community" was presented by Carolyn O'Bagy Davis. A fourth-generation descendant of Utah pioneers, she has written 15 books on the history of archaeology, quilting, and western history. She earned her B.A. degree in Anthropology from the University of Arizona. Carolyn lectures extensively to history, archaeology, and quilting groups around the country, and has curated many traveling museum exhibits including: "*Goldie Tracy Richmond: Quiltmaker and Indian Trader*," "*Hattie Cosgrove's Mimbres Archaeology in the American Southwest*," "*Quilting from the Hopi Mesas*," "*Quilted All Day: The Quilts and Prairie Journals of Ida Chambers Melugin*," and "*From Clay to Cloth: Hopi Pottery and Painted Quilts*."

Carolyn was the founding president of the Tucson Quilter's Guild (1976) and also Old Pueblo Archaeology Center (1994). In September 2010, she was inducted into the Arizona Quilter's Hall of Fame. A film featuring Carolyn Davis work with the Hopi quilters can be seen on YouTube by searching for "Hopi Indians - Quilting in AZ".

#### **Business meeting**

The minutes of the December 8, 2025, General Meeting were approved as published. New members and guests were welcomed.

**Vice President's Report** - Susan Bollinger serves as VFAG's liaison to the Arizona Federation, the state-wide organization to which VFAG belongs. The Arizona Federation has released information about the Arizona Fiber Arts Festival at Camp Verde on April 10, 11, 12, 2026. It is available on their website: <https://azfed.org/arizona-fiber-festival/>. While attending the festival is free; there is a charge for taking any of the classes being offered. The deadline for signing up for a class is March 1st.

VFAG will contribute "bird pincushions" to be included in the Festival Swag Bag. Debbi Brunner has included a link to a pattern on the Guild newsletter. At the January board meeting, officers worked on creating birds to share along with the instructions at the General Meeting so members who wish to participate in the project can be informed of the process. Sign-up sheets were passed out for those who wish to participate in bird production. The deadline for completion is March 1st.

Susan also reminded members that both the Arizona Federation and the Valley Fiber Arts Guild have funds for scholarships available. More information is contained on the Guild Website : <https://valleyfiberartguild.org/>

**Treasurers Report** - Gary Terlisner reported a current balance of \$12,498.88

**Membership Report** - Cindy Wolf reported a membership role of approximately 151 members. A more exact number will be available after the end of January. The membership year is now January to January.

**Program/Workshop Committee Report** - Debbi Brunner updated the status of the upcoming workshops. Contact her at [programs@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:programs@valleyfiberartguild.com) for specific details about any of these workshops of interest. Debbi announced that Lyndy Runyon will be the new chairperson of the Program/Workshop Committee.



**Minutes continued....**

**Other Items:**

**Field Trips** - Martha Fine reminded that there will be a field trip to Caywood Farms in Casa Grande on Friday, January 23, at 1:00. The cost is \$15.

**Area Event** - Patsy Heacox, a member of the Guild, has her art quilts on display at the Desert Hills Lutheran Church Chapel, 2150 South Camino del Sol, Green Valley, during January and February.

**Exhibition Committee** - As part of VFAG's outreach/awareness goal, an exhibition committee is being formed. They will meet before the end of February to develop strategies to increase awareness of the Guild and to feature the artwork of VFAG members. A signup sheet was provided for those interested in being part of this project.

**Show & Share:**

Pamela Roederer showed complex woven, beaded necklace.

Vicki Bohnhoff showed an oriental motified jacket

Kim Fike showed a long knitted scarf created with a wave pattern.

Joan Ruane presented the objects used in spinning cotton.

Sarah Kohanowski displayed her creations of a knitted sweater, organic embroidery, art quilting and photography enhanced with threads

Dale Box showed an elaborately designed jacket in oranges and lime green colors and objects decorated with stitched fabrics.

Jolene Northup displayed two quilt projects using indigenous motifs

Respectfully submitted, Marjorie Delker, Secretary



If you have information of interesting fiber related events, nearby or discovered while you travel, we are happy to spread the word.  
Please send info to: [newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com)

# Member Teachers Workshops & Classes

## BASIC WEAVING CLASS

In this Basic weaving class you will learn the ins and outs of weaving. How to make a warp, dress your loom, how to handle your shuttles, read weaving drafts, and understand basic weave structures and much more. At the end of class you will take home samples of all your projects .

All looms and materials are provided.

Classes are 4 consecutive days, and you need to be able to attend all classes.

Cost: \$375. A \$50 non refundable deposit. If there is a waiting list and the space is filled the deposit will be returned.

Dates February 26, 27, 28, and March 1. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Times: 9:00am to 3:30pm

This course is also good for weavers that need a refresher course or any one just wanting to get started.

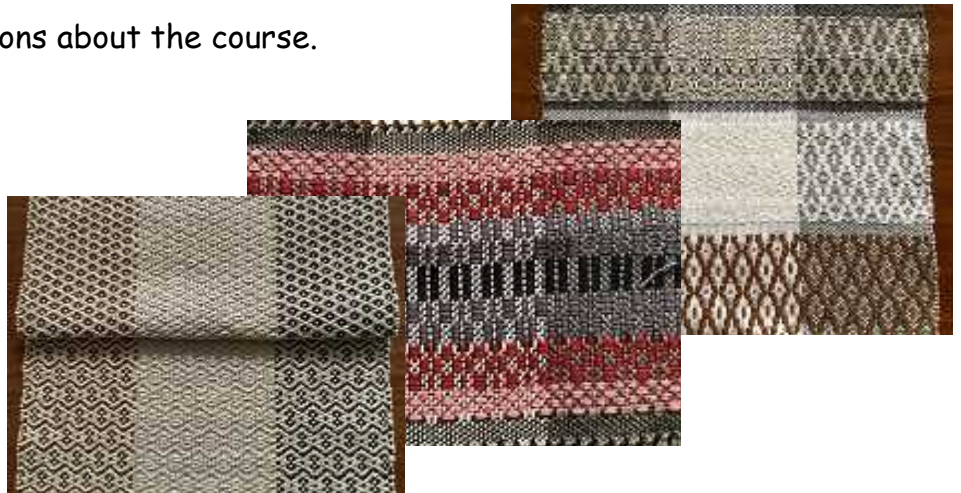
I have been weaving for over 40 years after receiving a BFA in Textile design, and have been teaching for 20 years.

Please feel free to ask any questions about the course.

Jolene Northup

541-350-3356

Jolene.northupstudio@gmail.com



## Lyndy Runyon Workshops ~ Taught through GV Recreation

Felt a Sculptural Bowl \$45 + \$10 materials fee February 11th, 9AM-2PM

Cobweb Wet Felted Scarf \$65 + \$20 Materials fee March 18th, 9AM-1PM

Lyndy's most recent felted creations are at the Santa Fe Weaving Company in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her work and the work of 40+ other fiber artists can be seen by going to: [SFWeaving.com](http://SFWeaving.com).



## Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

### **Board of Directors:**

President: Martha Fine      [president@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:president@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Vice President: Sue Bollinger      [vice-president@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:vice-president@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Secretary: Marjorie Delker      [secretary@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:secretary@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Treasurer: Gary Terlisner      [treasurer@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:treasurer@valleyfiberartguild.com)

AZ Federation: Susan Bollinger      [azfedrep@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:azfedrep@valleyfiberartguild.com)

### **Committee Chairs:**

Programs/Workshops: Debbi Brunner      [programs@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:programs@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Membership: Nancy Gould      [membership1@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:membership1@valleyfiberartguild.com)  
Cindy Wolf      [membership2@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:membership2@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Librarian: Mary Hughs      [library@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:library@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Newsletter: Debbi Brunner      [newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Deadline for newsletter copy is due by the 25th of each month preceding the monthly publication of each issue.

For Sale? Free?

Do you have fiber supplies or equipment you no longer use?

Workshop/Classes scheduled to teach?

Place and ad in our newsletter, no charge. Email Debbi with ad copy and pics. [newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com](mailto:newsletter@valleyfiberartguild.com)

Deadline the 25th of each month.

# Equipment For Sale



Baby Lock Model EMB 7  
(left)

Embellishing machine  
used lightly to felt bracelets and  
wall hangings. Downsizing.

Available after Jan 1 /26  
\$100. CND \$80. USD  
Contact: boxldale@yahoo.com



**Expandable Dress Form** that can  
expand from small to extra large. I  
even padded it and draped fabric  
over it when I needed to use it for  
other sizes. Always stored in my  
studio and is great to have for drap-  
ing, fitting and sewing.

\$75

Lyndy Runyon  
707-373-8584 or  
LyndyRunyon@gmail





# More Equipment For Sale

## Embellishing/Felting machine for Sale

Like new Husqvarna Felting machine  
Needles, tools, plug and foot pedal  
\$150 or best offer  
Call Lyndy 707-373-8584



**Alder Clemes & Clemes Hand** or  
cracks in the wood.  
Sell for \$181 new  
I'm selling for \$90  
Lyndy Runyon  
707-373-8584 or  
LyndyRunyon@gmail.  
com