



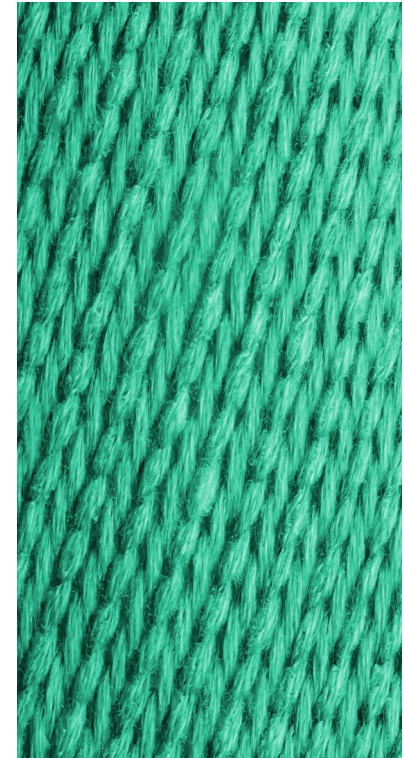
Letter From the President

Another month closer to Spring, the snow is melting and the sun is shining – warming the hearts and lawns of every Alaskan! Ewes are lambing, and wouldn't you know it seems to be the year of SPOTS! Did you get all of those fleeces processed over the winter as planned? With spring comes shearing and all new fleeces to process. If you are interested in getting your hands on locally grown fleeces reach out to us at info@valleyfiberarts.org or contact your local favorite fiber farmer.

A reminder to pay your annual membership dues, \$30 for the year. The funds go to support all of the guild activities and costs. You can send a check to our PO Box 876098 Wasilla, AK 99687 or pay on our website at <https://new.valleyfiberarts.org/>.

We are meeting in person!!! Turkey Red in Palmer has graciously offered us the use of their banquet room at no cost for our monthly meetings. Turkey Red has really shown support for local groups, and please take a moment to thank them for their generosity. We did have to adjust our meetings times to accommodate their schedule. Our General Membership April meeting is Saturday April 2 beginning at 10:15am, be sure to arrive by 10am to order some yummy breakfast and catch up with friends!

That same day, April 2, the Board meeting is at Vagabond Blues from 9 to 9:50am. Then we transition to Turkey Red for our general meeting from 10:15 to 11:30am. There will also be the ZOOM option for online attendance at every meeting. **(Continued on next page)**



UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 2, 2022

- Board Meeting @9AM at Vagabond Blues
- General Meeting @ 10:15AM Turkey Red
- Zoom Meeting Available

May 7, 2022 @ Turkey Red*

*This is the annual meeting, more details on following pages.

VFAG Does Not Meet In June, July, or August

Have you signed up for a committee yet for this year? If we don't have committees, we don't do that activity – it's just that simple. The committee signs up are available and will be sent out with the newsletter. If you want to sign up, please email your committee choices to info@valleyfiberarts.org. Be sure to note if you want to be a member or the chair. We are looking for folks to join the technology committee to help the guild with our technology/social media needs. If you have that talent, please consider serving your guild in that way. We only have a few committees full yet, so please be sure to sign up!

The Spring Alaska Fiber Arts Retreat is open for registrations! All things considered, we are moving to a relax and refresh venue for the Spring retreat, and will have a class focused event for our Fall retreat. The link to register is here: <https://valleyfiberartsguild.regfox.com/2022-spring-alaska-fiber-art-retreat> . The price also includes a Camp catered meal on Saturday which has been very popular! Hope to see you there!

Our annual meeting is coming up in May and we have some exciting fun planned! Please come join us in person at Turkey Red on Saturday May 7 from 10:15 to 11:30am for a catered breakfast and other fun activities. The Guild is a wonderful opportunity to meet like talented fiber artists and make new friends! May is our final meeting of the spring time, we take summer off but there are lots of events to attend like the Fiber Festival, and we reconvene in the fall beginning in September.

I have had the pleasure of serving as President for the last 4 years and it is now time for someone new to take the reins and grow the Guild! We have a few positions on the slate for election in May: President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor, and Workshop Coordinator. If one of these positions interests you we encourage you to join the candidacy and share your strengths with us. I will be happy to assist the new President in any way!

The Valley Fiber Arts Guild has the mission of outreach and education, we would like to hear your stories of being an ambassador for natural fiber arts. Do you have suggestions for how we can connect up more in the Matsu community? We would love to hear them! Talk with you soon!

Natalie

Upcoming Events

VFAG Spring Retreat

April 22-24, 2022 @
Camp Maranatha.

Mother's Day at The Muskox Farm*

May 8, 2022 (*Tentative)

Other Events

Art on Fire—June—
Transportation Museum

Palmer Garden & Arts
Fair—July—Palmer

Fiber Festival—July—
Alaska State Fair
Grounds

Alaska State Fair—
August—Alaska State Fair
Grounds

Fall Retreat—October—
Camp Maranatha

Out of the Box—
November—Palmer Train
Depot

Event Updates!

Spring Retreat—April 22-24, 2022

There have been some changes to the program for retreat. We will still be at Camp Maranatha (5 Horseshoe Lake Rd. Mile 1, Big Lake, AK) and the dates remain the same. Register early and save your seat! <https://valleyfiberartsguild.regfox.com/2022-spring-alaska-fiber-art-retreat>. Natalie has been busy planning retreat but it has been decided that we will be saving classes and workshops for the Fall retreat (October 28-30, 2022). The price for retreat includes dinner on Saturday night prepared by Camp Maranatha and there are rooms and cabins available for everyone to spend the night. Let's take the Spring retreat as an opportunity to relax and create with fellow fiber artists before we embark on all of our big Summer plans!

Annual Meeting—May 7, 2022 @10am

The VFAG annual meeting will be held at Turkey Red in Palmer on May 7, 2022 at 10am. Elections will be held for all open positions and the board has voted to have the meeting catered by Turkey Red. Please mark your calendar and send in your RSVP so that we can plan for how many to expect. Members can contribute to a tip pool for our servers. RSVP via e-mail to info@valleyfiberarts.org or text President Natalie Wolfe at 907-312-3107. As a reminder Turkey Red is located at 550 S. Alaska St. in Palmer, AK.

The following positions are open, nominations are listed next to the position:

President: Needs nominations

Secretary: Amanda Johnson

Newsletter Editor: Grace Beargie

Workshop Coordinator: Needs nominations

Mother's Day at The Musk Ox Farm

The guild is still tentative for this event. We are not sure if the Musk Ox Farm is holding this event this year but we hope to have more details soon.

*The guild is always looking for volunteers at events. Going forward if there aren't volunteers then the guild will not participate in the event. Please reference the March newsletter for volunteer opportunities or e-mail info@valleyfiberarts.org.

Updates

Guild Equipment Rental Program

In March the guild completed an inventory of rental equipment. Guild rental equipment is currently housed at Michelle Olsen's Tower Ranch in Butte. At this time the rental program is suspended until revisions to the program are complete.

Dues

As a reminder it is time to pay guild dues if you have not already done so. Dues are \$30 and can be paid through the guild website (<http://new.valleyfiberarts.org/home/guild-membership-dues/>), by check (mail to Valley Fiber Arts Guild P.O. Box 876098, Wasilla, AK 99687), or in person at any guild meeting. Julia Lenz will be checking for unpaid dues and will e-mail reminders for payment to any members who still need to pay their dues for the year.

General Announcements and Points of Interest

Handweavers Guild of America presents Textiles & Tea for 2022

The Handweavers Guild of America, Inc's (HGA) interview series, Textiles & Tea takes place every Tuesday at 4PM ET. HGA has invited some of the most respected fiber artists in the field to join them for an hour long conversation where they will discuss their artwork and their creative journey. HGA invites you to make a cup of your favorite tea and listen in as they talk about fiber, creativity, inspiration, process, and so much more. Textiles & Tea is broadcast via Facebook Live and Zoom. Cost: Free [Textiles & Tea - Handweavers](#)

Coverlet Project Update



Starting in May 2021 twelve VFAG members started weaving on a friendship coverlet project in overshot patterns. Each weaver has chosen a different pattern to warp on their loom and then weaves twelve 20" squares in the various colors chosen by their weaving friends. Everyone is aiming to complete all the squares by May of 2022. In May everyone will meet to exchange squares so each weaver will have 12 squares in the color of their choice but in 12 different patterns. Each individual will then piece the squares into a coverlet.

During Show and Tell at the March meeting Pat Miller wowed us as she unfurled her roll of all twelve squares in gorgeous colors.

Ukrainian Belt Weaver turns to making Camouflage Net Walls for the troops

A woman in Ukraine has turned her talents as a weaver into gathering with a group of women to weave camouflage nets for the fighting troops. Here is a link to an article about their efforts:

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/03/05/world/ukraine-etsy-support-trnd/index.html>

Support Ukrainian Fiber Artists

Looking for a way to support the Ukraine fiber artists? Try searching on Etsy, Pinterest, or Ravelry to find fiber items or patterns to purchase.

Easter Project Ideas

Looking for a new project idea? Easter is on April 17 this year how about crocheting or knitting a sweet bunny, chick, or ducky to tuck into an Easter basket. Or maybe crochet a whole easter basket. Check Ravelry.com for project ideas. Search on "Easter Toys" in the patterns section and you will be overwhelmed with great ideas. Here is one Easter Bunny by Phillip Ha:

