

From the President

Stacy Cantrell

Hello everyone! And when I say everyone . . . I mean over 360 strong! Our guild is growing and that's a wonderful thing. I'm having a great time at our in person guild meetings.

Your energy and positivity is heartwarming. Remember though, if you can't make an in person meeting, we have the recorded version in the members-only section on our guild website.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we have created a new social media committee. They are already hard at work posting to our social media platforms. This is an awesome resource for our members. It is a free advertisement to highlight members' work, and for potential new members to find out about us and see all the wonderful things our members do. We also share fiber information, information about workshops, exhibitions and more. Please follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/PotomacFiberArtsGuild> and Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/potomacfiberartsguild/>.

Our Programs/Workshops committee is gearing up to find new places for workshops and also bring in new and exciting artists to present and teach. Please consider volunteering! It's a great way to meet other members, get firsthand information on upcoming artists, and even help choose and communicate with potential artists.

And . . . as always, the fabulous yarn donation sale is continuing until we adjourn after June for the summer. I'll have "The Yarn Shop" open at every meeting until it's gone. 100% of the proceeds goes to the guild!

Don't forget that our annual elections are happening at the May meeting. If you are present, you get to vote. Another incentive to come to the meetings. The officers up for re-election are: President - Stacy Cantrell, Vice President - Angela Ruslander, Secretary - Janet Lee, Treasurer - Ruth Quah. Come and vote, or just heckle me - I like both ;-)

Looking forward to seeing you at the May meeting!

Stacy

Upcoming Guild Meetings for 2022-23

Guild meetings are held in person and recorded for those members who are unable to attend.

St. James Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, MD 20854

Library opens at 9:30
Business meeting starts at 10:00
Program starts at 10:30

May 13, 2023

Deborah Silver - Weaving

Deborah Silver is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. She discovered her love of weaving while attending the Cleveland Institute of Art, attaining a BFA as a Fiber major and Drawing minor.

After a weaving internship, Deborah learned the craft of antique furniture upholstery. She then combined her skills to open her own fiber art business. She worked closely with interior designers, creating site-specific fiber commissions for private residences, businesses, and religious institutions.

Currently, Deborah designs and weaves pieces using the split-shed technique, transforming traditional patterns into a signature method of hand-weaving. All weft yarns travel from selvedge to selvedge, differentiating this cloth from tapestry. Her work is inspired by the increased cross-culturalism in the world which has been facilitated by technology, the ancient realm of road and trade, now advanced to hyper-speed.

Deborah's weavings have been shown in numerous local and national juried exhibitions. In 2015, she received a Cleveland Jewish Arts and Culture Fellowship award. In 2017, she received third prize in the ARTneo national juried competition. She received the Complex Weavers Award and First Place at Complexity 2018. Deborah is also the recipient of a 2019 Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award.

Deborah teaches split-shed weaving workshops internationally. In 2019, she published [The Technique of Split-shed Weaving](#), a book that illustrates pictorial weaving using the split-shed process on four-shaft looms. Her articles have been published in Complex Weavers magazine.

Deborah Silver will give a PowerPoint lecture including an explanation of the split-shed weaving process, how to form a split shed on different loom types, and the myriad structures that can be created using a split shed on just four shafts. Deborah will also show examples of her woven art and discuss her creative process. In addition, she will bring dozens of woven samples for attendees to peruse.

June 10, 2023

Cindy Grisdela – Art Quilting

Cindy Grisdela, from Reston, VA, is an award-winning fiber artist with over 30 years' experience creating eye-catching quilts. She specializes in Improv piecing and design and using color fearlessly in your quilts.

Cindy has been teaching and lecturing in person since 2014 and online since April 2020. Her classes use Improv techniques to engage student creativity and encourage making original quilts without patterns or templates. There's no way to make a mistake!

She comes from a long line of women who have expressed themselves using a needle and thread, although curiously there weren't any quilters in her family. Creating with various forms of fabric and thread has been a part of her life since childhood, and she is self-taught as a fiber artist, with lots of experimentation along the way.

Cindy is the author of *Artful Improv* and a new book, *Adventures in Improv Quilts*. She appeared on The Quilt Show with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims in 2021 with segments on Improv blocks and curves.

For more information, please visit Cindy's website and blog at www.cindygrisdela.com or follow her on Instagram [@cindygrisdelaquilts](https://www.instagram.com/cindygrisdelaquilts).

Have you ever wondered how to create an Improv Quilt without a pattern? Where do you start? How do you know when it's finished? Author and award winning artist Cindy Grisdela will share her tips and tricks in this entertaining lecture about the process for working improvisationally from start to finish.

Upcoming Workshops

Extended Workshop: Multiple structures using a straight threading – May 13, 14, and 15, 2023

Deborah Silver

Break out of blocks with split-shed weaving. Weave curves and blend colors using continuous wefts on a 4-shaft loom with no special equipment. In this workshop, students will create multiple combinations of weave structures using only four shafts and a straight threading. Only tie-ups and treadling are changed between samples. Most of these combinations would normally require a minimum of eight shafts. Students will experiment with combinations of twills, summer and winter, double weave, Han damask, taqueté and more! Woven samples include continuous, complementary, and supplementary wefts, as well as wefts which combine to produce shading for pictorial weaving. This is the same color-blending process Deborah Silver uses to create her art. Students will also learn to make a cartoon on cloth that will advance with the warp and will not wrinkle when beating.

Although students will not be able to complete all the samples in class, they will leave with the ability to complete them at home with all the drafts and instructions.



Mini Workshop: Improv Play with Line and Shapes – June 10, 2023

Cindy Grisdela

Learn versatile improv techniques to create improv circles, angled stripes, and inset strips. In addition, we'll talk about choosing color effectively and using simple design principles to create dynamic compositions. Students may choose to create a quilt like the one shown, or they may combine the elements into their own design.

Basic sewing skills and a machine in good working order are necessary. This workshop is best for intermediate to advanced quilters ready to take the next step to creating original designs.



From Our Members – What We’ve Been Up To!

Tikvat Israel Congregation

Shirley Waxman

A concert was recently held at my Synagogue where I was honored for all the work I have created, such as Torah covers and marriage canopies. At the end of the concert, the Rabbi displayed a challah cover he had received as a wedding gift and asked that anyone having a piece of my work to please display it. I was overwhelmed by the explosion of pieces that appeared throughout the room. This is a photograph of the people wearing my work.



Another Residency!!

Stacy Cantrell

I was awarded a 4 week residency during the month of November in the Champagne region of France, which is about three hours east/southeast of Paris. The residency is open to all mediums, not just fiber.

Chateau d'Orquevaux has been the property of The Attias family since 2002. Ziggy Attias, Châtelain since 2016 has made his success as an Artist, Designer, Entrepreneur, Award-Winning filmmaker, and father of three daughters. His days are now spent in the French countryside dedicated to his dream, the residency program of Chateau d'Orquevaux. As Founder, Ziggy took on this project in the hopes of creating a community and home for artists of all mediums, backgrounds, and stages in their journey. The International residency has grown remarkably over the years and has now proudly hosted artists from all over the world. The residency has received applications from over 125 countries.

<https://www.chateauorquevaux.com/>

I will be working on a series of wall “relief” panels of various versions of “The Green Fairy”. They will all be crochet in the Art Nouveau style – sort of like relief versions of the posters from the era. Inspiration for the work comes from Abrey Beardsly, Alfonse Mucha, and many others!

The Chuppah

Shirley Waxman



This is a marriage canopy I created for my Granddaughter's upcoming wedding - she loves purple. It incorporates the Vermont mountains where they love snowboarding, along with the Hebrew words representing snow which are the Seventh marriage blessing - "Love and Friendship, Peace and Harmony". The intertwined trees contain their names in Hebrew, representing their entwined lives. The fish are one of the oldest Jewish symbols - "The eyes of a fish never closes, representing the watchful eyes of God."

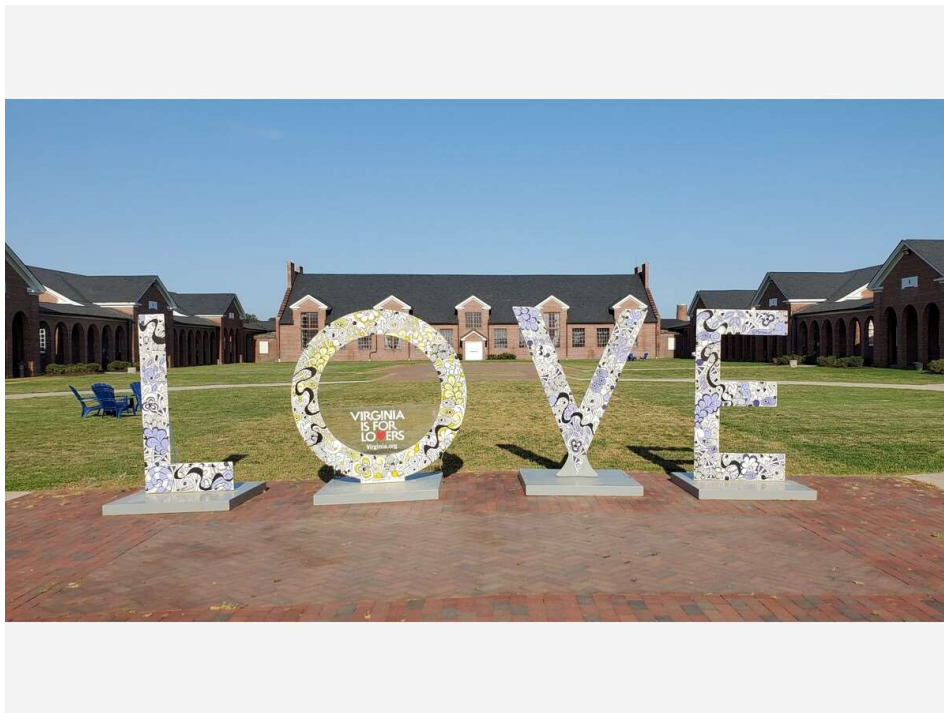
The bride and groom stand under the canopy. It represents the roof of the new home they are creating. The four people supporting the poles represent the community who are responsible for helping the couple become part of the community.

When the ceremony ends, everyone shouts MAZAL TOV! Good Luck!

LOVEworks sign at the Workhouse Arts Center

Marisela Rumberg

The LOVEworks sign at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton has a fresh new look thanks to the meticulous work of fiber artist Marisela Rumberg. The full article can be found here . . . <https://mvonthemove.com/g/mount-vernon-va/n/155306/workhouse-loveworks-sign-gets-fresh-new-look>



Art League of Germantown Juried Show Win!!

Kendra Biddick

Kendra Biddick won a first place award for a new fiber piece in the 10th annual Art League of Germantown Juried Show at the Kentlands Mansion. Way to go, Kendra!!



Croatian Needle Lace

Val Hildebrand

On a recent trip to Croatia, I discovered this astounding fiber work. The women on Hvar Island, along the Dalmatian coast, do needle lace with threads from the agave plant. Sailors who had visited Mexico brought the agave to the island and it now grows wild there. These pieces are quite large - 9 inches or so.



Guild Member Fiber Events

Tyson's Corner Center Mall Exhibit

Joan Hutten

Joan Hutten is one of four Workhouse Arts Center artists selected to show her work at the Tyson's Corner Center Mall until June 6. The exhibit is located on the second floor level next to the entrance to Macy's.

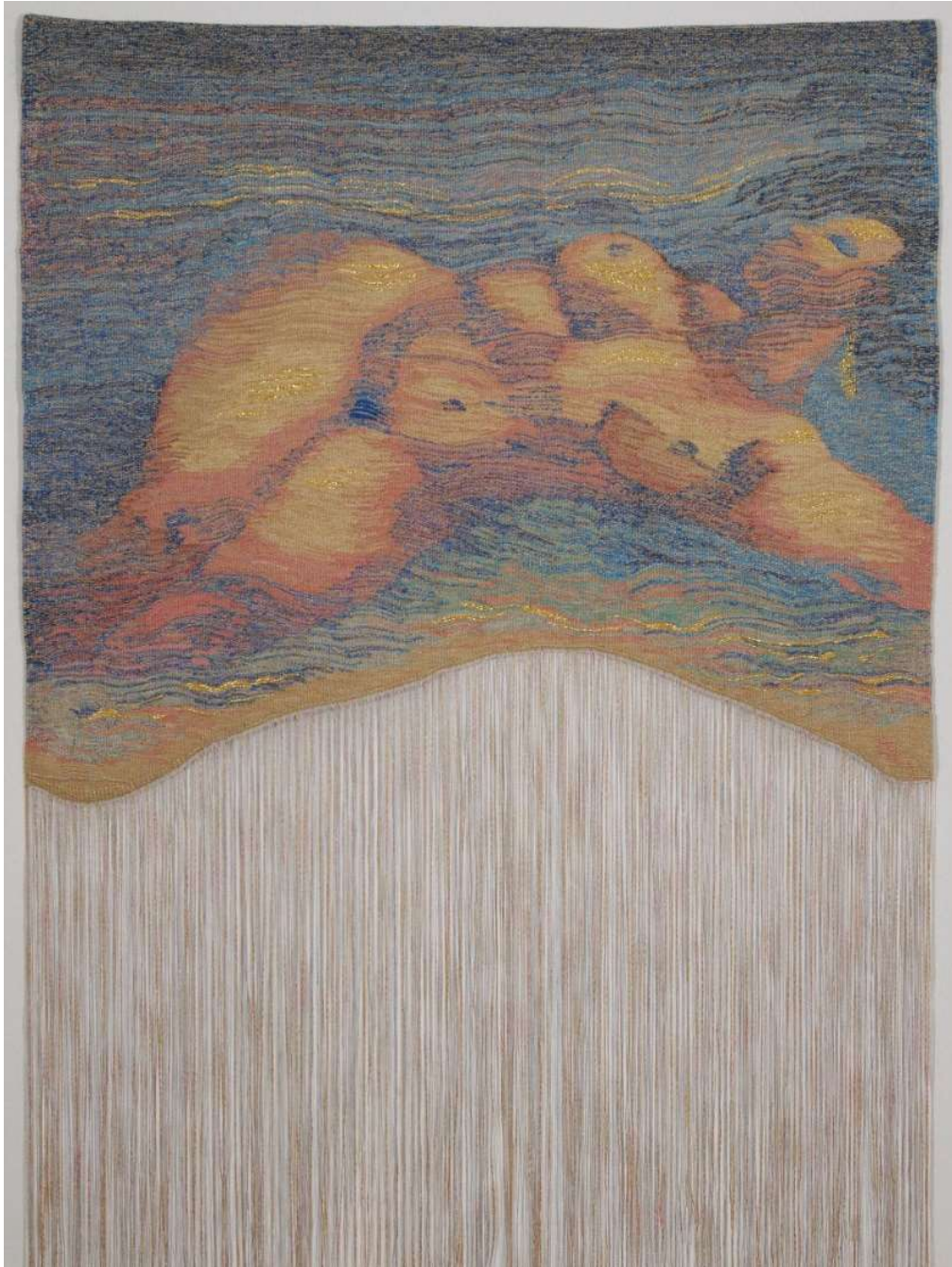


Photo: Joan Hutten, *Verdant Goldilocks Planet, Kepler 422b*, dyed and woven paper, cotton and rayon fiber

American Tapestry Alliance Biennial 14

Heather Larsen

Heather Larsen's latest tapestry, "Adrift (Who Will Decide for Me?)" has been invited to participate in the American Tapestry Alliance Biennial 14 to be held from May 12 through July 20, 2023 at the Appalachian Center for Crafts in Smithville, Tennessee.



Adrift (Who Will Decide for Me?) 2022 44.5" W x 65" L (with fringe) x 1"
(wool, rayon, cotton, silk, Tencel, lurex, Japanese metallic thread)

Creative Crafts Council Exhibit – Strathmore Mansion, Bethesda

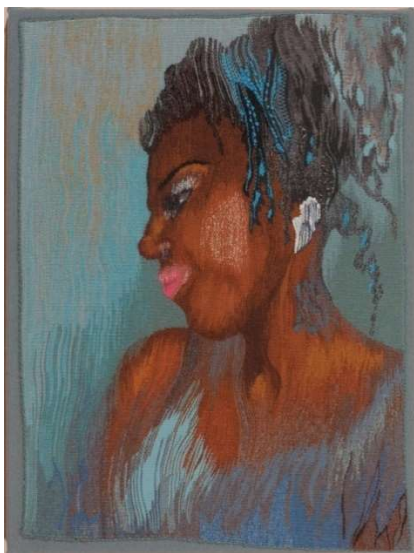
Numerous Guild Members

All I can say is WOW - you all are beyond amazing!! So many of our guild members had their work accepted into the juried Creative Crafts Council exhibit this year. The following pieces are just a subset of the total works that were accepted into the exhibit (and these are included because people directly submitted them for the newsletter). Many more examples have been posted to our social media platforms, so be sure to take a look at those as well. I am seriously impressed with the talent you all have.

Congratulations to Susan Lapham, Clover Kemp, Helen Blumen, Cindy Grisdela, Joni Seidenstein, Myania Moses, Linda Colsh, Barbara Eisenstein, Janet Barnard, Heather Larsen, Holly Cole, Debra Lee, Kendra Biddick, Diane Wolman, Saarialiisa Ylitalo, Hillary Steel, Eileen Doughty, Gladys Seaward, Dominic Nash.

The 2023 Creative Crafts Council 34th Exhibition will be held from May 9 - July 29, 2023 at the Mansion at Strathmore located at 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. The reception will be held on May 11th from 7 to 9PM.

Heather Larsen



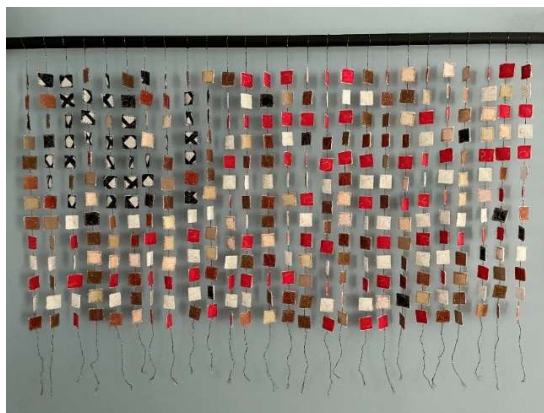
"Caprice" 2019 18" x 24" x 1" (wool, cotton, silk, rayon)

Clover Kemp



Indigo Shibori Collage 45" H x 38" W

Eileen Doughty



"E Pluribus Unum"

Fiber Talks, Exhibits and Other Things of Interest

Sharing Honors and Burdens: Renwick Invitational 2023

Renwick Gallery, Washington, DC – May 26, 2023 – March 31, 2024



Sharing Honors and Burdens: Renwick Invitational 2023 focuses on fresh and nuanced visions by six Native American or Alaska Native artists who express the honors and burdens that connect people to one another. The more than 50 artworks in the exhibition arise from traditions of making that honor family, community or clan, and require broad community participation. Six artists — Joe Feddersen (Arrow Lakes/Okanagan), Lily Hope (Tlingit), Ursula Hudson (Tlingit), Erica Lord (Athabaskan/Iñupiat), Geo Neptune (Passamaquoddy) and Maggie Thompson (Fond du Lac Ojibwe) — analyze the present moment by evoking historical practices and potential futures. Their works are often culturally specific, yet they communicate across cultural boundaries.

For additional information, visit their website at <https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/invitational-2023>.

Textiles & Tea

From the Handweavers Guild of America website: Each week the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA) hosts Textiles & Tea, a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. In our 45-minute discussion we focus on their artwork and their creative journey. We allow 15 minutes at the end of our conversation for questions from the audience. Textiles & Tea will take place every Tuesday at 4:00 PM (ET) and is broadcast via Zoom and Facebook Live. These broadcasts are free to view and open to all.

For more detail about the talks, and to sign up, go to the HGA website (<https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/>) or Facebook.

Fiber Conferences and Events

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival – Celebrating 50 Years!



The Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival will be held on May 6th and 7th at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, MD. Guild members MaryAnn Robinson and Janet Stollnitz will have lots of their hand-dyed yarn in the Dyed Dreams booth in Barn 3, Booth 3. Joanne Bast and Mary Shultz have a booth in Barn 4. And Lisa Check of Flying Goat Farm, will be in Main C5. In addition to the many vendors, be sure to see the many varieties of sheep, sheep to shawl, sheep dog demonstrations, and much more. For information about the Festival go to www.sheepandwool.org.

MAFA 2023

The Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association (MAFA)'s conference will take place June 22 - 25, 2023 in Millersville, Pennsylvania. With dozens of classes in weaving, spinning, dyeing, felting, basketmaking, and other fiber arts, MAFA 2023 is sure to be a fun and inspiring experience. Shop the vendor marketplace, peruse the fashion, fiber art, and hat exhibits, take part in the towel exchange, enjoy yoga in the afternoon, and make new friends — there's a lot to look forward to!

The MAFA 2023 conference will be held at Millersville University, Millersville, PA. The campus is located between Harrisburg and Lancaster, in south-central Pennsylvania's historic Lancaster County.

From the Librarian

Becky Dahlman

We have some new books joining the library in May. Please come visit the library if you're interested in checking any of them out!

Quilting: [Gee's Bend: The Women and Their Quilts](#)

Bookbinding: [The Penland Book of Handmade Books](#)

Crochet: [Couture Crochet Workshop](#) by Lily Chin and [The Crochet Workbook](#) by Sylvia Cosh and James Walters

Stitching: [Beginner's Guide to Traditional Japanese Embroidery](#) by Julia D Gray, [The Art of the Needle](#) by Jan Beaney, [Stitch Magic](#) by Jan Beaney and Jean Littlejohn, [Handsewn](#) by Margaret Rowan (includes tailoring info, so also related to Wearables)

Dyeing: [The Modern Natural Dyer](#) by Kristine Vejar

Weaving: [In Celebration of Plain Weave: Color and Design Inspiration for Inkle Weavers](#) by Annie MacHale

Just a quick reminder of how the library works, for anyone who hasn't taken advantage of all of our great benefits - the library is open at each guild meeting, starting at 9:30 (or often earlier). You can also plan ahead by taking a look at the online library catalog at <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/potomacfiberarts>. This link can also be found in the members-only section of the guild website. Books can be checked out for a period of one month, and are due at the next guild meeting. Please take advantage of this fantastic resource!

An Update from the Social Media Committee

The social media team has been ramping up the Guild's presence on social media - [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). The goals are to bring more attention to the Guild and to the work Guild members produce. We are currently posting photos and information about Guild workshops and meetings, and about shows and exhibitions that feature Guild members. We also reached out to the Study Group coordinators for permission to post work from their presentations. Soon we will be reaching out to our Guild instructors (who are listed on our website) to work with them on posting their information on our social media pages.

We would love to showcase more work from our talented Guild artists. If you would like to submit photos of your work for our website, Facebook or Instagram pages, please use this [link](#). You will need to supply photos and some basic information about your work and we will take it from there!

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/potomacfiberartsguild/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=potomac%20fiber%20arts%20guild>

Website - <https://potomacfiberartsguild.org>

Submit Photos for Posting -

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHulhof1E1tUjBz2PSMeS56S2tEuM3xX1pBl4AYDJG2RvX6Q/viewform>

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the members of the social media committee:

Margot Anderson
Sheila Biallas
Stacy Cantrell
Bethany Cecere
Laritza Rodriguez

Other Guild Updates

Donations for Sale at Guild Meetings

Stacy Cantrell

Just as a notice, we are only selling yarn, fabric and book items due to unique circumstances from special donations. It is a temporary thing. We cannot handle members bringing items in to sell every month that they want to donate. I love that everyone wants to do this, but please, try and hold off until our next large sale. If you bring items and they don't sell, then we get stuck taking them. I don't have that much room in my basement. Lol. Thank you for understanding. I also see this as a need for another big sale sooner than later. I will make a point to address this in the near future. Thanks!

New Bylaws Committee

Stacy Cantrell

A new bylaws committee has been formed to review the existing bylaws and discuss any needed updates and changes. The committee, which includes me and several past Presidents, plans to meet on May 10th to go over the changes. I will send out an email with the changes and guild members will vote on them at the June meeting.

Fiber Arts Stores and Sales

Sparkbug Hollow

Lauren Torstrom



39506 Bolington Rd
Lovettsville, VA 20180
571-560-0220

info@sparkbughollow.com
www.sparkbughollow.com

Hello from Sparkbug Hollow! We are a new fiber arts store in Lovettsville, VA. We carry spinning, weaving, and knitting equipment. We carry Maurice Brassard, Harrisville Designs, Ashford Wheels and Looms, SweetGeorgia Yarns and Fiber, Chiaogoo, CocoKnits, Junction Fiber Mill Yarns, Malabrigo Yarns, Kelbourne Woolens, Kremke Soul Wool, Imperial Yarns and more! We will be getting shipments of Lopi, Fiber Co. and Amano yarns later this month.

You can browse what we have in stock here:

<https://www.sparkbughollow.com/shop>. Please note some of the Ashford products drop ship directly from Ashford, but everything on the website under \$100 is currently in stock at our store. We have several spinning wheels and rigid heddle looms available to try.

We host a Fiber Night on the first and third Friday of each month. You can find updates and upcoming events on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/sparkbughollow/>

We also offer classes, additional details are available here:

<https://www.sparkbughollow.com/classes>. We plan to have another batch of classes for August – December, including an Inkle weaving classes! If there is a class you've been hoping to take in person, let us know!

We offer 5% off for guild members. If shopping in store, just let us know which guild you belong to. If ordering online, you can use the code PFAG5.

Fabric Sale – Silk and Cotton Slightly Damaged Kimonos and Ikat Fabric!

Nancy Weiman

Very Special Fabrics!

Silk and Cotton, lightly damaged Kimonos for your creativity

Ikat Fabric by the yard

Assorted Textile Pieces

Two Days Only!

Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 13 from 10 – 3 PM

Or call for appointment

ARISE BAZAAR

7169 Old Alexandria Ferry Road

Clinton MD 20735

Behind Andrews Air Force Base

301-806-0337

arisebazaar@gmail.com



Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery



Located at the Torpedo Factory
105 N Union Street
Studio 29
Alexandria, VA, 22314
703-548-0935

The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery is open seven days a week from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The gallery exhibits all forms of fiber work, including weaving, knitting, crocheting, sewing, surface design, felting and more, in 11 juried shows each year. Our textile artists use materials such as yarn, fabric, paper, thread, wire, metal, and glass to create unique and original jewelry, wall hangings, clothing, sculpture, accessories, and many other inventive works of art.

A selection of Gallery members' works is shown on the Gallery's website and, also in the email message that is sent out to subscribers about each new show. If you are not a subscriber to the Gallery's e-list, subscribe [here](#).

As always, Guild members are welcome and encouraged to apply to join the Gallery. The Gallery is a cooperative of Guild members and offers artists a wonderful exhibit space to showcase and sell their art. Our jury committee selects one-of-a-kind pieces for each show and artists are allowed to set their own prices. Commission is a very affordable 25% on sales. For more information about Gallery membership, please contact Carol Brobst, Membership Manager, at membership@potomacfiberartsgallery.com

Membership

If you know someone who would like to join our guild, please invite them to a meeting or refer them to our website, <http://www.potomacfiberartsguild.org/guild>. For answers to membership questions contact membership@potomacfiberartsguild.org

Outreach

Our Guild promotes excellence in design and fine craftsmanship in the fiber arts. Part of that mission is to provide educational opportunities to the general public to promote a better appreciation of the fiber arts. Contact outreach@potomacfiberartsguild.org with your ideas and suggestions. We like to feature these Community Outreach opportunities in the newsletter, so please also send information and especially photos of your participation to newsletter@potomacfiberartsguild.org. [Financial support, in the form of a mini-grant, is available to members to help fund outreach](#) projects. For more info contact Julie Haifley, the Outreach Committee Chair.

Hospitality

The Hospitality Committee eagerly looks forward to the day when we can offer some good old fashioned PFLAG hospitality again. Until then we will see you on Zoom.

Newsletter

The Newsletter is posted to the PFLAG website and is accessible via the link in the email sent to subscribed members.

To access the current issue of the newsletter, click the emailed link. You can also view it by logging in to the Members area at our website. Click the big green oval that says click here for the latest issue.

Newsletters are published just prior to the meeting month of the first month of the current issue. Send your fiber experiences, workshop impressions and more. Email the editor at newsletter@potomacfiberartsguild.org.

Inclement Weather Policy for In-person Meetings

In the event of a severe weather emergency affecting an in-person PFLAG monthly meeting, program or workshop (mini and extended), the Guild will follow the closing guidelines issued by Montgomery County Government for events involving Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF). (Please note this is not the Montgomery County Public Schools notice). If severe weather threatens, please visit the [CUPF Emergency Closing Information](#) website.

If CUPF facilities are closed and/or events are cancelled or delayed, PFLAG events will be cancelled. As with any endeavor, members should be guided by their own best judgement in deciding whether to venture out in difficult weather.

Officers and Board Members

President	Stacy Cantrell
Vice President	Angela Ruslander
Secretary	Janet Lee
Treasurer	Ruth Quah
Membership	Dolly Perkins
Librarian	Becky Dahlman
Newsletter Editor	Joanne Seyl
Social Media	Margot Anderson
Outreach Chair	Julie Haifley
Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery	Clara Graves
Previous President	Gail Hamill

Committees

Equipment	Ruth Quah
Hospitality	Edna Graham
Librarian	Becky Dahlman
Membership	Dolly Perkins
Newsletter	Joanne Seyl
Social Media	Margot Anderson
Outreach	Julie Haifley
Programs/Workshops	Angela Ruslander
Webmaster/Registrar	Laritza Rodriguez
Assistant Registrar	Floris Flam
Study Groups	Anita Sama
Handbook	Janet Stollnitz
Website Content	Kristine Kingery

Organization Representatives

Artisans United (AU)

Creative Crafts Council (CCC)

Handweavers Guild of America (HGA)

Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association (MAFA)

Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQQA)

Gail Robin

Dominie Nash

Janet Stollnitz

Karen Miller