



General Membership Organizational Meeting

**Zoom Meeting:
Saturday, Sept 12, 2020, 4:00 pm**

Agenda for Sept 12, 2020 Organizational Meeting of the Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Introduction of Officers
4. Review the Guild's Mission Statement
5. Membership: Review the survey
6. Committees within the Guild
7. Website
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Program Planning
10. Demonstration of One-Needle Shoe-Lacing
11. Adjournment; Show and Tell will follow the meeting

Organizational Meeting

In Attendance:

President: Colleen Blaisdell

Vice-President: Eileen Colligan

Treasurer: Debbie Wykosky

Secretary: Christine Manges

General Members: Judy Borger, Katie Drake, Karen Duncklee, Donna Dunn, Sharon Hutchinson, Val Galvin, Marjorie Kauffman, Pat Koontz, Joyce Krueger, Sandy Kub, Linda LaMontagne, Karen Levendusky, Janice Lyle, Kris McDermet, Carolyn Newcomer, MaryEllen O'Connor, Diane Pecha, Dottie Pepe, Carol Rizzo, Pam Rowan, Gail Seay, Sherry Stills, Meg Stump, Dianne Tobias, Peggyann Watts, Cathy Winship, Nancy Young.

1. Call to Order

President Colleen Blaisdell called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

2. Agenda

There were no further items to add to the agenda.

3. Introduction of Officers

Colleen Blaisdell introduced the guild officers:

President: Colleen Blaisdell
Vice-President: Eileen Colligan
Treasurer: Debbie Wykosky
Secretary: Christine Manges

4. Review the Guild's Mission Statement

Secretary Christine Manges read the Mission Statement aloud to the members:

The mission of the Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild is to educate others about rug braiding, and maintain the art and craft of rug braiding.

The specific objectives and purposes of this organization shall be:

- a. to provide fellowship among those interested in all aspects of rug braiding
- b. to educate others in the techniques of rug braiding
- c. to train teachers of rug braiding
- d. to promote education in the craft through speakers, classes, conferences, and exhibits
- e. to further the artistry of rug braiding through yearly rug challenges
- f. to seek exhibit opportunities for members to show their braided rugs
- g. to create rugs as a group that will either be sold to raise funds for the guild, or donated to institutions or individuals

5. Membership:

President Colleen Blaisdell reviewed the results of the member survey, which was given to local members.

Dues: \$20/year

Monthly meetings: best time 10 am Saturday: Oct 17, Nov 14, Dec 12

After a braid in, **most important** to me are:

Monthly zoom w/ Show & Tell & Chat (70%)

Monthly Guild meetings (50%)

Virtual Studio Tours or Interviews w/ well-known Braiders or other Wool Artists (30%)

Teaching & Learning: online classes, demos (25%)

6. Committees:

Vice-President Eileen Colligan reviewed the committees for the guild, and said that there will be the option to sign up on the membership form on the website (when it goes live in 7-10 days). Each committee needs a Chairperson.

- a. **Program Committee** (plan monthly meetings, speakers, demos, exhibits)
- b. **Education Committee** (two parts: teaching rug braiding, and teaching teachers)
- c. **Membership Committee** (monthly attendance records, greet new members, create membership list)
- d. **Retreat Committee*** **Active when the pandemic is over*
- e. **Conference Committee***
- f. **Media Committee** (website, newsletter, social media)
- g. **Nominating Committee** (submit nominee list in April for open officer positions)
- h. **Charity Committee** (organize group rugs, for sale or donation; braid in scholarship)
- i. **Finance Committee** (help Treasurer make the budget, approve expenses)

7. Website:

Secretary Christine Manges said that the website is almost ready: an email will go out to all prospective members when it is live, in 7-10 days.

8. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Debbie Wykosky stated that she will be opening a new bank account for the guild next week.

9. Make plans:

Secretary Christine Manges brought up the following points:

a. **Rug Challenges:** 2020 was supposed to be Braided Sculpture. After that were 2021 Braided Hats, then 2022 Braided Food. Do we make 2021 Braided Sculpture, or do we skip it altogether? An informal discussion resulted in the consensus that 2021 will feature both hats and sculpture!

b. **Online Courses:** Planning on an online Beginner class, starting in October.

c. **Programs:** Speakers, Studio tours, Online exhibits, and interviews with a retrospective of braided art were all brought up as possibilities for upcoming programs.

d. **Upcoming Events:** Rugs=Food=Love Project drawing on Dec 14, 2020.

10. Demonstration:

Christine Manges did a brief demonstration of One-Needle Shoe-Lacing.

11. Adjournment

President Colleen Blaisdell adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm; Show and Tell followed the meeting.