



Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild General Meeting

**Agenda for Zoom Meeting:
Saturday, February 1, 2024, 1 pm EST**

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** -- Rissa Moore, President
2. **Approve/Add to: Agenda**
3. **Amend/Approve Minutes of Last Meeting** – attached
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Sherry Chilcutt, Treasurer
5. **Guild Name Change**

Our VFRBG board has voted unanimously to broaden our image to be more inclusive and change our organization name to Rug Braiders International. Too often, prospective members are confused by our place name and believe membership is only open to southeastern Pennsylvania residents. In addition, this name change will make us fully compliant with insurance guidelines to protect our guild. A name change clarifies who we are today and avoids confusion regarding who is sponsoring braiding events. Our name change will be effective in early March.

6. **Committees:**

- a. **Conference** : Co-Chairs: Donna Witmer, Sherry Chilcutt
Stella Niagara Center of Renewal in Lewiston, NY on April 24-27, 2025.
Conference registration opens to guild members on Sunday, Feb 2 at 12 noon EST
- b. **Education:** Chair: Christine Manges
Review of Conference Classes; upcoming online classes
- c. **Exhibit** Chair: Pam Rowan
Exhibit Committee had its first meeting and is requesting funds to assist with shipping.
 - a. **Rug Challenge:** "Braided Water"...Will be shown at the Spring Conference 2025. You don't have to be there to make a challenge rug!
 - b. **State and County Fairs:** Check out your State and County websites for opportunities.
 - c. **Sauder Village Rug Hooking Week**, Aug 12-16, 2025
- d. **Finance** Chair: Donna Witmer
- e. **Fundraising/Scholarship** Chair: Kris McDermet
7 scholarships were made available for the conference.
Scholarships for half the cost of beginner rug braiding classes are available starting Feb 1.
- f. **Media** (website, social media) Christine Manges; Lisa Kilgo; Sonia Miranda
Our Facebook Address: www.facebook.com/groups/308491603694553 OR search
for Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild.
Our Instagram Address: #rugbraidingvf.
Send photos to Instagram Coordinator, Sonia Miranda: bukiah@gmail.com
- g. **Membership** Co-Chairs: Marlene Breitenbach & Mary Ragno
Current members: 201
Presentation on Member Statistics

February 1, 2025

VALLEY FORGE RUG BRAIDING GUILD

SUMMARY COMPARISON (Snapshot) OF YEARS 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

	<u>February 2025</u>	<u>April 2024</u>	
<u>Total Membership</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>180</u>	
<u># Members -US</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>155</u>	
<u>#Members- CAN</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>	
<u># Members- Intl</u>	<u>3 (Germany, Australia, Norway)</u>		
<u># NEW members</u>	<u>71</u>		
<u># RENEWING members</u>	<u>129</u>		
<u>TECHNIQUES</u>			
<u>L-O</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>99</u>	
<u>R-O</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>33</u>	
<u>BOTH</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	
<u>DON'T KNOW</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>25</u>	
<u>PLAIT</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>NO RESPONSE</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	
<u>REASON FOR JOINING</u>			
<u>Learn to Braid Rugs</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>35</u>	
<u>Advance my skills</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>128</u>	
<u>Exhibiting my work</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	
<u>Becoming a Braid Teacher</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	
<u>Sharing my Work</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	
<u>REFERRAL SOURCES</u>			
<u>Member many years</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>0</u>	
<u>Friend</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>53</u>	
<u>Facebook Page</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>31</u>	
<u>Instagram page</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>=</u>	
<u>Internet search</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>32</u>	
<u>Braid teacher</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>=</u>	
<u>Other</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>47</u>	

Marlene Breitenbach, Mary Ragno, Janet Lyle – Membership Committee

h. Nominating Committee

Chair: Mary Hibbard

i. Programs

Chair: Christine Manges

Zoom Coord: Judy Fahnestock

Special Events: (Speakers get \$200 for their presentations)

<u>2/22</u>	<u>Creating Images in Braids, with K.McDermet & C.Manges</u>
<u>3/15 or 3/22 or 3/29</u>	
<u>4/12</u>	
<u>5/17 or 5/31</u>	<u>Janet Fitzgerald on Barbara Fisher</u>
<u>6/28</u>	<u>Reducing Textile Waste with Cookie Washington</u>

Demos at Guild Meetings: (Demonstrators get \$25 as a thank you).

<u>2/1</u>	<u>Small Braided Heart: Rissa Moore</u>
<u>3/1</u>	
<u>4/5</u>	
<u>5/3</u>	<u>LO vs RO Braiding: Pam Rowan & Christine Manges</u>
<u>6/7</u>	

Outside Events of Interest:

- **Pam Rowan's Franciscan Braid Retreat, Feb 27-Mar 2, 2025**
Franciscan Guest House, 26 Beach Ave, Kennebunk, Maine 04043
More info: email Pam: braidarug@gmail.com
- **March 11-13, 2025 in Elverson PA:** Karen Drevyanko is the braid-in coordinator and will talk to us about the event.
- **New England Braids**, Methuen, Massachusetts, October 10-12, 2025
www.rugbraiding.wordpress.com or contact Carol Broadbent at carolbraids@gmail.com

6. **Adjournment**, followed by **Show & Tell!**

Attachments:

- Minutes of Last Meeting
- Treasurer's Report

Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild January 4, 2025 General Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – President Rissa Moore called the meeting to order at 1:00pmEST. There were 42 attendees.
2. **Approve/Add to the Agenda** – No additions to the agenda. Motion to approve by Gail Stephens. Seconded by Marion Morrison. The agenda was approved.
3. **Demo** – Nancy Young and Pam Rowan demoed Braiding with Woolen Socks.
4. **Amend/Approve Minutes of Last Meeting** – No amendments to the minutes. Motion to approve by Peggyann Watts. Seconded by Gail Stephens. The minutes were approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Sherry Chilcutt presented the Treasurer's report and reported that we are over \$3000 positive for the year. She also reported that PayPal has redone the connection to Quick Books.
6. **Committees**
 - a. **Conference** – Sherry reported that the conference registration will begin in early February.
 - b. **Education** – Christine Manges reported several new classes have been listed on the website.
 - c. **Exhibit Committee** – Pam Rowan reported that the Exhibit Committee be announcing a meeting soon.
 - d. **Finance** – No report.
 - e. **Fundraising/Scholarship** – Kris McDermet reported that the committee will meet on January 8 at 5:30. Scholarships to the conference and the Tea Cup Auction will be discussed.
 - f. **Media** – Christine showed the conference info on the website. Send any website corrections to Christine (thebraidingpost1@gmail.com).
 - g. **Membership** – Mary Ragno reported that we have 201 members and that she sees lots of interest in braiding on other braid sites. She suggested leaving our flier in libraries and at braid events.
 - h. **Nominating** – Mary Hibbard reported that we need a Vice President for 2025-2026. Contact Mary (mhibbard@frontiernet.net) if you are interested.

i. **Programs-** Christine Manges presented the current schedule of Special Events and Demos which are listed in the agenda.

7. **Adjournment** – President Rissa Moore called for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Carlson and seconded by Rose Robertson Smith. The meeting was adjourned at 2:03pmEST followed by show and tell.

Submitted by Karen Levendusky 1/26/2025

Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild

Statement of Activity

July 1, 2024 - January 30, 2025

	TOTAL
Revenue	
40000 Contributed income	
40010 Donations from individuals General Fund	972.17
40020 Donation for Scholarship Fund	1,375.00
40030 Donation for Gift Card	-971.17
Total 40000 Contributed income	1,376.00
41000 Program Revenue	
41010 Membership Fees	3,675.00
41020 Class Revenue	7,940.13
41030 Speaker Fee Revenue	56.56
41040 Retreat Revenue	796.00
Total 41000 Program Revenue	12,467.69
Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue	575.00
Total Revenue	\$14,418.69
GROSS PROFIT	\$14,418.69
Expenditures	
60000 Contract & professional fees	
60040 Speaker fee expenditures	1,034.98
60050 Teacher Fees	7,052.59
Total 60000 Contract & professional fees	8,087.57
60100 Advertising & marketing	196.86
60200 Office expenses	
60225 Paypal Fees	347.76
60210 Bank fees & service charges	0.00
Total 60225 Paypal Fees	347.76
60230 Wix Fees	131.82
60245 Software & apps	239.90
Total 60200 Office expenses	719.48
60400 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	3,292.65
Total Expenditures	\$12,296.56
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$2,122.13
NET REVENUE	\$2,122.13

Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild

Statement of Financial Position

As of January 30, 2025

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10000 Mercury Checking	18,927.91
10100 Mercury Savings	2,782.70
10200 Paypal	1,148.88
Total Bank Accounts	\$22,859.49
Other Current Assets	
14000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$22,859.49
TOTAL ASSETS	\$22,859.49
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
21000 Other Current Liability	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00
Equity	
30100 Unrestricted Net Assets	20,737.36
30200 Temp Restricted Net Assets	0.00
Net Revenue	2,122.13
Total Equity	\$22,859.49
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$22,859.49