

MidAtlantic Fiber Association
Representatives Assembly Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2023
via Zoom

Board Members Attending:

Margaret Briggs, President
Patty Chrisman, Vice President
Joanna Brandt, Treasurer
Valerie Clark Bolton, Secretary
Marla Campbel, Membership Chair
Angela Fishman, Grants Committee Chair
Helena Valentine, Past President

Guild Representatives Attending:

Diane Baumgartner, Foothills Spinners & Weavers
Margaret Briggs, Central Virginia Fiberarts Guild
Joanna Brandt, Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore
Aileen Campbell, Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild
Marla Campbell, Central Virginia Fiberarts Guild
Pat Canaday, Tryon Guild
Pat Capogrossi, Chesapeake Weavers
Georgette Champagne, Fredericksville Spinners and Weavers Guild
Jean Chestnut, Three Rivers Fiber Focus
Patty Chrisman, Essex County Spinners
Valerie Clark Bolton, Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers
Barbara Diefenderfer, Weavers' Roundtable
Jane Eisenstein, Handweavers Guild of Bucks County
Nancy Everham, Harmony Weavers Guild
Angela Fishman, Three Rivers Fiber Focus
Debbie Hadfield, Three Rivers Fiber Focus, Washington Spinners & Weavers Guild
Carol Ireland, Fiber Guild
Pat Jeski, Paumanok Weavers Guild
Meg Lundsager, Waterford Weavers Guild
Kathy Mayer, Jockey Hollow Weavers Guild
Jude Parsellis, Palisades Guild of Spinners & Weavers
Sandi Petty, Tavern Spinners and Weavers
Karen Spertzel, Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore
Carol Steuer, New York Guild of Handweavers
Dornan Trainer, Triangle Weavers Guild
Tracy Troutman, Lancaster Spinners & Weavers Guild
Helena Valentine, Harmony Weavers Guild, the New York Guild of Handweavers, and the Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers
Stephanie Woolever, Southern Tier Lamb to Loom

Meeting began at 7:03 pm.

Welcome (Margaret Briggs, President) Welcome Reps and thank you for attending this meeting! This is our first meeting in the new board term, so I'd like to welcome our new board members - Secretary Valerie Clark Bolton and Treasurer Joanna Brandt, and our previous Secretary Patty Chrisman has moved up to Vice President.

We also have a new guild - Southern Tier Lamb to Loom, from New York. I know we also have a number of new Reps, so welcome to all of you, and I'd like to point you to the Reps Resources tab on the MAFA website, and in particular the Reps Corner where you will find links to minutes, newsletters, and other resources. New Reps, please take a few minutes to read the Role of the Rep document <https://mafafiber.org/wp-content/uploads/Reps/MAFA-Role-of-the-Rep-20230207.pdf>. Most importantly, we want to remind you to forward the bi-monthly MAFA News to your members, as well as other important notices. We'll include a note at the top of things that should be shared.

Minutes (Valerie Clark Bolton, Secretary) The minutes of the Reps meeting and election of July 25, 2023, were unanimously approved as published upon motion by Jane Eisenstein, second by Sandi Petty.

Treasurer's Report (Joanna Brandt, Treasurer) Joanna submitted the following report: Balances as of October 24, 2023: (Also, please see end of fiscal year (9/30/23) Balance Sheet attached to these Minutes.)

Checking:	\$40,326.06
Money Market:	\$209,830.77
MAFA Recovery Fund:	\$1,100.00
PayPal:	<u>\$118.57</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 251,375.40

2023 Conference Final Report (Margaret Briggs, Acting Conference Chair)

As reported in July, the MAFA 2023 in-person event was successful. Given that this was our first in-person event after the pandemic, and with all the uncertainty that entailed, we approved an overall MAFA budget with a significant loss of \$15,000 - \$18,000, or in other words, the board approved putting some of the MAFA nest egg to work to keep registration costs down. The fact that we successfully presented the 2023 conference with a much smaller loss than anticipated is a big win. At the end of the fiscal year on September 30, 2023, our net income from the conference was -\$1,885. Higher enrollment was a major factor.

2025 Conference Kickoff Report (Margaret Briggs, Acting Conference Chair)

MAFA 2025 will be held June 26-29, 2025, at Millersville University. The Conference Committee had its first planning meeting last week, and we're very happy that many of our experienced coordinators are back. We also look forward to bringing some new faces onto the committee.

For 2025, we particularly need volunteers for the following important roles. For more information about what's involved, or other ways to help plan the next conference, please check out the 2025 volunteer page at <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2025/volunteer-2025/> then email conference@mafafiber.org.

- **Ads and Donations Coordinator** – contacts advertisers and organizations and manages submitted ads and donations.
- **Volunteer Coordinator** – coordinates and manages volunteers before the conference and onsite.
- **Weekend Classes Coordinator** – solicits, schedules, and coordinates up to a dozen 2 to 3 hour classes for day trippers on Friday afternoon and Saturday during the conference.
- **Goody Bags Coordinator** - collects and sorts goodies donated by guilds so they are ready to stuff in the conference totes. [NOTE since the meeting, we have a volunteer for Goody Bags.]

The RFPs for 2025 Instructor Workshop proposals will go out November 6th. If you are interested in teaching at MAFA 2025, or if you have an instructor to suggest, please email Chris Field-Funk at education@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Virtual Report (Margaret Briggs, Virtual Chair)

Since beginning in September 2022, the MAFA Virtual program has been very successful. We held 19 classes between September and May, 6 free lectures, and we offered the two-day “Mini” virtual conference. At the end of the fiscal year on September 30th, our net income from all virtual programs was over \$16,000. That income will cover the cost of free lectures and low enrollment classes in the future.

Virtual events resumed in September. The first two classes were scheduled for October and November, and we expect to offer more classes January through June 2024. Classes will be posted at lessonface.com/mafa as we get them scheduled.

MAFA Free Lectures will continue with four to six lectures per year. We have two lectures scheduled for this Fall - one was in September and the next will be "Craft Activism, Memory-Making, and Political Action" with Hinda Mandell, on November 28th. Patty Chrisman will organize lectures for 2024. Lecture registration is also on Lessonface.

MAFA Movie Nights continue on second Wednesdays, and attendance has been very good, ranging from 25 to over 100 attendees. Find details and links to previous videos on the MAFA website Virtual tab, or email Kate Ohara at movies@mafafiber.org.

The current tentative plan is to schedule another MAFA Mini for 2025.

We are looking for a Virtual Committee Chair or co-chair. The chair is an appointed board position, and responsibilities include: managing the overall schedule and budget, soliciting and scheduling classes, coordination with Lessonface to post classes and follow up on registration, coordination of moderators, and helping do all of this for the Mini. A new chair needs to be

committed to the virtual program, tech savvy, and this position would be best suited to someone who has organized programs and workshops with visiting instructors for one of our larger guilds. If anyone is interested in discussing this, please email Margaret at virtual@mafafiber.org.

Membership Report (Membership Coordinator Marla Campbell, and Patty Chrisman)

Sara Robbins stepping down. Marla will assume the role of Membership Chair. Patty will serve as the Rep Liaison or Ombudsman and will handle the Free Lectures and Round Tables. Please send any suggestions for Roundtable discussions to Patty at vp@mafafiber.org.

Marla reported the following:

- Member guilds: 55
- Associate members: 228

As a reminder this is not a Dues year. Dues will be due in 2024.

Grants and Fellowships (Angela Fishman, Chair) gave the following report:

Five Fellowships at the Hands On Conference were awarded. Two have completed their requirements and have been compensated. The remaining three are still working on their projects.

We currently have not received any Micro or regular grants. If anyone is aware of any grant opportunities, kindly submit to Angela at grants@mafafiber.org. Even small grants are welcome.

Also, if you are interested in joining the Grants Committee, we'd love to have you join us. It's a great way to get to know how other guilds and groups are doing in their communities. If interested, please contact Angela at grants@mafafiber.org.

Communications Report (Communications Chair - Nancy Everham)

While Dave is out, Margaret and Karen Borga will manage the MAFA-hosted guild websites.

Other Business

Between the Virtual Conference and the Main Conference, MAFA made money which has allowed MAFA to remain financially stable and will help keep costs and conference fees down.

Reps Open Discussion:

Aileen Campbell is seeking ideas from other guilds on guild activities, events, and programs.

Adjourn Upon motion by Nancy Everham; second by Debbie Hadfield. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

The next Reps meeting will be in May 2024.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Valerie Clark Bolton, Secretary

FY 2023 Balance Sheet

1:35 PM
10/23/23
Cash Basis

MAFA Balance Sheet As of September 30, 2023

	Sep 30, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking Bus Adv Plus	
MAFA Recovery Fund	1,100.00
Checking Bus Adv Plus - Other	40,825.56
Total Checking Bus Adv Plus	41,925.56
Money Market	209,830.77
Total Checking/Savings	251,756.33
Total Current Assets	251,756.33
TOTAL ASSETS	251,756.33
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	238,562.82
Net Income	13,193.51
Total Equity	251,756.33
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	251,756.33