

**MidAtlantic Fiber Association Representatives Assembly**  
**May 5, 2018**  
4 p.m., Dining Hall  
Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival, West Friendship, Md.

President Karen Miller welcomed the assembly and called the meeting to order. She conducted a roll call by asking representatives (reps) to stand by state and introduce themselves and their guild. As a matter of record, reps signed an attendance sheet that identified the person representing each guild.

**Board members in attendance:**

Karen Miller, President  
Charlene Marietti, VP\Communications  
Theresa Hill, VP\Conference  
Marla Campbell, Treasurer  
Margaret Briggs, Membership Chair  
Mary Strouse, Grants Chair  
Elisa Eiger, Past President

**Guild representatives representing 24 guilds**

Black Sheep Handspinners - Shelly Marino  
Central Virginia Fiberarts Guild - Margaret Briggs  
Chesapeake Weavers - Pat Capogrossi  
Fiber Guild of the Blue Ridge - Kathy Reed  
FiberGuild - Carol Ireland  
Foothills Spinners & Weavers Guild - Diane Baumgartner  
Frances Irwin Handweavers - Patty Chrisman  
Fredericksburg Spinners & Weavers Guild - Aileen Campbell  
Handweavers of Bucks County - Chris Field-Funk  
Harmony Weavers Guild - Carol Ireland  
Jockey Hollow Weavers Guild - Elisa Eiger  
Morgantown Fiber Guild - Lori Wall  
New York Guild of Handweavers - Charlene Marietti  
North Country Spinners - Patty Chrisman  
Palisades Guild of Spinners & Weavers - Elisa Eiger  
Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers - Charlene Marietti  
South Jersey Guild of Spinners & Handweavers - Helena Valentine  
Susquehanna Valley Spinners & Weavers Guild - Cecile Stiner  
Tavern Spinners & Weavers Guild - Kathy Rohacek  
Third Star Fibre Artists Guild - Melissa Mussina  
Triangle Weavers - Daniel Gallagher  
Waterford Weavers - Meg Lundsager  
Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore - Pat Capogrossi  
Weavers Guild of Rochester - Shelly Marino

The minutes of the October 2017 reps' meeting were approved.

### **Officer reports:**

**President Karen Miller** provided a general overview of MAFA, the organization. She also noted that we need another member or two on the Nominating Committee and urged representatives to volunteer for that and/or to think about joining the board in 2019.

**Treasurer Marla Campbell** reported that we have current assets of \$153,172.95 and since this is not a conference year, our only large liability is \$650 for 2018 grant funding.

**VP of Communications Charlene Marietti** provided updates on the new website, which is in progress, and thanked the reps for their roles in providing continuing support for the social media channels.

**2019 Conference Chair Theresa Hill** discussed progress of the 2019 Conference Committee, which had met earlier in the day, and focused on volunteer positions yet to be filled.

#### **2019 Conference Organizers Still Needed** (one or two people) are:

- Goody bag coordinator
- Vendor prizes and other give-aways
- Instructor book signings
- Signage
- Skein competition
- Spinning games

A discussion about the goody bags ensued to explain them to reps unfamiliar with the concept and the process.

- In summary, a 'goody' is a small fiber-related item provided by member guilds to be included in conference attendee tote bags. Member guilds often make these items as a program at some point in the year. They are collected at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival reps' meeting the year of the conference or mailed to the coordinator.
  - The coordinator's team sorts the donations and makes up small plastic bags with about five different 'goodies' to be added to the tote bags when they are stuffed at the conference location.
  - About 500 bags will need to be filled.

**Grants Chair Mary Strouse** provided information, opportunities, and updates on committee members, grant submission timelines, and fellowships.

- **Composition and structure of the committee**
  - Stressing the value of rotating service time on the committee and with a goal of service time on the committee of four to five years, Mary noted that positions will open in January 2019.

- She asks reps to help find and identify people interested in serving on the committee. (Those interested should contact Mary.)
- **Description of eligible organizations and goal of grants**
  - Grants are not restricted to guilds and may include other organizations that provide educational outreach in the fiber arts, as described in the grants section of the website.
- **Changes in grant application deadlines and grant timeline**
  - In summary: Grant application submissions begin Sept. 1 and continue through Nov. 1.
  - Decisions to be made Jan. 15 and awardee programs can begin.
  - Reports due Dec. 31 of grant year.
- **Fellowship application update**
  - Fellowship applications open concurrently with conference registration. (See website for full details.)

### **Membership Chair Margaret Briggs**

- Announced the new groups.io site for MAFA reps and advised them to watch for email invitations to join the group.
- Provided updated membership information: 44 member guilds and 58 associates.
- This is a dues year, so reps will get a dues reminder this summer along with a request for their updated membership list.

### **Other new business**

Karen Miller discussed the role of the MAFA reps. See the new job description at the end of these minutes.

Convergence: MAFA has been invited to participate in an informational meet-and-greet at Convergence 2018. We need a volunteer to man our table there. Contact Karen if you are able to help us out.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene Marietti

## **Role of the Reps**

### **GUILD REPRESENTATIVES**

Guild representatives (reps) are responsible for electing MAFA officers to two-year terms, as defined in the MAFA bylaws. While the officers run the day-to-day activities of MAFA, the guild representatives are the two-way communication link between MAFA and the representative's local guild. They are asked to:

- share MAFA activities and opportunities with their local guild members, and
- inform MAFA about guild activities so that information can be shared among the region's guilds.

Each guild is entitled to one voting representative. A representative may represent more than one guild. Due to the size of the Mid-Atlantic region, which limits the feasibility of physical meetings, most MAFA business is conducted electronically.

Representative assemblies are held two or three times a year. They consist of:

- A teleconference in September or October
- A physical meeting at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival in May
- A meeting at the biennial conference, at which officers are elected

### **Responsibilities of the MAFA Representative**

- Attend representatives' meetings, or if unable to attend, arrange for alternate representative to be present;
- Keep the local guild informed about MAFA activities and opportunities;
- Encourage guild participation in MAFA's biennial conference;
- Provide information about the local guild to the MAFA Membership Coordinator;
- Provide information about guild programs and activities to MAFA; and
- Supply current membership list to Membership Coordinator by October 1 along with dues payment in even numbered years.

### **Term of Office**

Per MAFA's bylaws, representatives shall serve for two-year terms, beginning on October 1 of even-numbered years