

Odds and Ends

UFO's

UFO Challenge: We have over 30 members participating in the UFO Challenge and they have finished up so many wonderful items! In July, it was wonderful to see the items and hear a little bit of background information too. Congrats to Cathy Fowler who won the July UFO drawing. The next UFO is due at either September meeting!

Local Workshops

Looking forward to getting involved. There is an opening for taking over the Local Workshops, If interested, contact Cathy Fowler or one of the Board members. Thanks Cathy and Mark for all you do for the Guild.



Forozan Mirwais's Alexandria Sewing Classes for Refugee Women Lead to Opportunity in the Marketplace

The first public showcase of the class's products will be on Saturday, August 2, at an all-day pop-up market from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King Street, Old

Town, Alexandria, VA. Complimentary Afghan saffron and green tea will be offered.

As a way to “give back”, Ms. Forozan Mirwais launched a free weekly sewing class program in 2024. To date, she has taught three 16-week classes, enabling more than 30 women to learn a professional skill that will allow them to earn much-needed income as they settle in their new country. The classes also provide fellowship and friendship on a weekly basis in what can be a stressful transition.

For the first time they are entering the marketplace, selling original items for both women and children to wear. They also offer a wide assortment of creative fabric products such as aprons (with matching chef’s hats), tote bags, small purses, dresses, pants, pillow covers, and even dolls.

“It is a beautiful experience to meet with other women and to share my knowledge,” said Forozan, recalling the difficulties of her initial years in the U.S. “Sewing gives me joy, and I hope it brings joy and helps new arrivals start their own business.”