

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
November 2014

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.
Albert Camus

Val's Musings

It's hard to believe that another month has gone by. But nature's landscape has been evidence that time marches on. The Fall palette of colors is inspiration in itself. Beauty and color surround us every day at this time of year.

So what do we do with our time in an artistic way? Some of us work in groups and some singly. Sometimes we attend an art show or gallery to feed our need for art and creativity. It could be as simple as taking a walk, listening to music, reading, cooking, or whatever it is that feeds the creative part in each of us. During these times it is important to be aware and recognize the process of being creative. It's good for the mind and soul, in small doses or big blocks of time, if you are really lucky.

I have a suggestion to nurture this in each of you. Our guild has our showcase, for all of our various creations, in November at the Chicago Botanic Garden. The show runs from Thursday, Nov. 6 (6:30 -9) through Sunday Nov. 9. It's an opportunity to do that creative/artistic thing in a beautiful setting. There are three organizations involved, so there is something for everyone. There are also some special groups, like Women's Journey's in Fiber. This year their theme is "masks." We hope you find time to visit the show. Bring your friends and enjoy the show, not to mention the beautiful gardens.

Most of us are very busy with the business of life. That is good, but can create anxiety for all of us. However, as T.S. Eliot said "Anxiety is the hand maiden of creativity." So try something creative this month.

As a reminder to all, the November general meeting will be one week later due to elections. It will be held on November 11, same time and place. Also, please take note of the details for the Annual Project and Holiday Party which take place December 2nd. Details are in this newsletter. There will not be another newsletter until after the event in December.

See you at the Fine Art of Fiber.

Valerie

CALENDAR

Thurs Nov. 6 6:30 pm - 9 pm Opening night FAOF

Fri Nov 7-Sun Nov. 9 10 am-5 pm **Fine Art of Fiber.**

Chicago Botanic Garden see www.fineartoffiber.org

Tues. Nov. 11, 9 - 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pflugstein in Northbrook

9:30 am Lecture, Sara McIntosh: Leather Work & Fiber Arts Collaboration.

Afternoon Mini Workshop: Donna Koranek, Clay pendats (see p. 5)

Tues. Nov. 18 10 am Board meeting at Gloria Dei

Tues. Dec. 2 10:30 am at Gloria Dei. Annual Potluck Party. See p. 3 for details

Thurs. Dec. 11 Noon January newsletter deadline

Please note that the next meeting is November 11, one week later than usual.

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NSNG Board 2014-15			
President	Val Rodelli	847-991-9674	rodvd@aol.com
1st Vice Presidents	Sue Babbs Rhonda Newman	847-446-5251 847-564-4357	suebabbs385@gmail.com mail@rhondanewman.com
2nd Vice President	Cindy Heineman	847-579-0300	cindyheineman@gmail.com
Meeting Facilitator	Jan Swimmer	847-902-1551	janswimmer@gmail.com
Secretary	Carol Levenberg	847-780-4405	clevenberg@levenberg.net
Treasurer	Sandra Geis	630-690-8975	geissan@comcast.net
Membership	Joan Nasiatka	847-272-9172	jcnpeanuts@yahoo.com
Annual Project	Marla Wolf	847-837-0888	townline_marla@sbcglobal.net
Publicity	Cathy Baillet	847-486-1773	c_baillet@msn.com
Workshop Registrar	Barbara Fry	847-827-7166	bgirls1@aol.com
Mini Workshops	Donna Koranek	847-550-9322	djpotter3@comcast.net
Hospitality-Workshops	Arlene Winkel	224-778-5258	arbuzz01@aol.com
Hospitality-Guild	Julie Rivera	847-869-7708	riveradesign@mindspring.com
Historian	Beth Polonsky	847-255-0116	beth30154@gmail.com
Service	Jeanette Page Nancy Calandra	847-564-1057 847-541-0016	pagejeanette@gmail.com rjcnmc74@comcast.net
Newsletter-Website	Mary McManus	708-771-4523	marym@mcmanusdesign.net
FAOF 2014	Gale Wessel Laine Martin Cobb Val Rodelli	224-475-0727 847-272-2059 847-991-9674	GKWessel@comcast.net laine.m@comcast.net rodvd@aol.com

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Advertising rates:

1/8 page \$4 per issue or \$25 for 8 issues
 1/4 page \$8 per issue or \$50 for 8 issues
 1/2 page \$16 per issue or \$100 for 8 issues

Mary McManus, ed.
 marym@mcmanusdesign.net or
 mrmcmanus@gmail.com

Sara McIntosh, November 11, 2014

www.chicagoschoolofshoemaking.com

I began making shoes in the early '70s as an exercise in sustainability and part of the "back to the land" movement. We were growing our own food, milking a cow, building our log home and generally exploring all the aspects of a self-sufficient lifestyle. It was with that mindset I tackled the project of making shoes. Go to the NSNG website to see how the story continues to the point where Sara started a shoemaking school and is one of the few people in the USA who makes custom fit shoes and boots from scratch, by hand.

Lecture: Leather Work & Fiber Arts Collaboration

I will describe the process and techniques of making shoes by hand, and the types and qualities of leather that make it a wonderful medium with which to create. I will talk about the applications of leather that pertinent to fiber arts and needlework. There will be multiple examples of projects to show that will hopefully inspire creations, and I will share my philosophy of creativity and how it applies to my self-made lifestyle.

Naomi Adams, Jan. 6 – 8, 2015

Naomi S. Adams is an award-winning, contemporary textile artist. Her artwork has been shown internationally, nationally, regionally, and locally in diverse venues ranging from galleries to public works installations.

Naomi holds an M.F.A. in Studio Art Fibers from the University of North Texas. Her work was included in Quilt National 2011, and received the "Most Innovative Use of the Medium" Award.

In addition to her body of textile work, Naomi's artist's books have been featured nationally in juried shows.

She is the Assistant Professor of Art and Fiber Media at Idaho State University.

Lecture: Trunk Show of Naomi's Work

Enjoy an exploration of Naomi's color rich 3-dimensional textile work and artist's books.

Workshop: Textile Bookmaking

Dive into the world of creating your own unique textile artists' books, journals and sketchbooks.

The class will focus on two binding techniques with a wide range of uses and implications. Emphasis will be placed on special methods and ideas for using textiles to create unique handmade books.

Investigate the use of sewn bindings including the Medieval Long Stitch and Sewn Tape bindings.

Holiday Potluck Party & Annual Project

Tuesday, December 2nd

Don't miss our annual Holiday Party and Annual Project, Tuesday, December 2nd at Gloria Dei, from 10:30am - 3:00pm. Bring your favorite dish to share. The guild will provide coffee, tea and soft drinks.

10:30	Drop off your annual project for display
11-noon	Voting for the Annual Project
11-12:30	Lunch
12-12:30	Votes counted and winners announced
12:30-3	Grab bag exchange

After lunch are the always entertaining grab bags. These are conducted through a Yankee Swap. The first uses wrapped gifts (\$15-\$20 approximate value)—hopefully needlework related, sometimes only vaguely. Please wrap in gift bags or boxes for faster opening. Followed by a White Elephant exchange. This a great opportunity to regift some of your "special" items from home. The grab bags are optional.

This is a great occasion to mingle with fellow guild members and vote for your favorite Annual Project. Come meet new members and hang out with old friends all while enjoying wonderful food and guaranteed laughs. Please join us in celebrating the holiday season.

Annual Project A Show of Hands at Holiday Party December 2

If you're happy and you know it
Clap your hands,
If you're happy and you know it
Clap your hands,
If you're happy and you know it,
Then really show it, with your entry in NSNG's
Annual Threaded Needle Competition
"A Show of Hands"

At the Guild's December holiday party special awards await the winning entries:

First Place: \$100 Gift Certificate toward an NSNG workshop*

Second Place: \$75 Gift Certificate toward an NSNG workshop*

Third Place: \$50 Gift Certificate toward an NSNG workshop*

Schedule on December 2:

Set up entries 10:30 am

Member voting / lunch 11:00 – 12:00

Grab Bag Exchange 12:30

*Gift certificates expire 5/31/15

Pat Kroth

Pat Kroth will be at One of a Kind at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago December 4-7, Booth 4067. Stop by and say hello!

She will also will have work in Midwestern Fiber at Vale Craft Gallery through November 9, 2014.

In addition, Pat will be creating a fiber art installation at the Anderson Art center in the 3D gallery in January.

She's collecting cast off materials: brown, tan, gray, black, rust greens(neutral -nature colors).

If you have any bits of yarn, cording, jute, twine, fabric selvages, string, etc., please put them in a bag labelled for Pat Kroth and leave it with Pat in the boutique at the FAOF or you can mail them to Pat Kroth 2755 Hula Dr Verona, WI 53593. Unused materials will be donated to local school art programs.

The artwork will be constructed on site in January. Contact Pat if you want to make a later contribution. krothp@juno.com Thanks!

Fine Art of Fiber

Its that time again!

Opening Night is Thursday, November 6, 6:30-9:00 PM

Regular show hours are Friday – Sunday, November 7-9, 10:00 – 5:00

This is *your* show. Come and see what everyone has been up to.

Bring your family and friends, too.

Bring a stepladder and a staple gun (if you have them) to help hang the exhibit on Thursday.

It's never too late to bring something to contribute to the raffle or to the silent auction. Bring your creations to the show.

Small exhibits always happily displayed at our education table, too.

Congratulate everyone on their amazing creations.

If you want to know more, check out the Fine Art of Fiber section in your Membership Handbook.

Service Update

We delivered 95 literacy bags to Wheeling Township for the Halloween Party for disabled children and they were extremely grateful. Thank you to all who helped us achieve our goal. We appreciate all who contributed Christmas material for our pillowcases. We were able to sew more than enough for the YWCA in Evanston, helping women and children in crisis. We continue to sew Premie quilts, lap quilts and tote bags and will have kits available for you to work on at home.

Although we collect cotton material, denim, and flannel, we are asking that in November, donations of fleece for our crochet-edged blankets for the little ones will be our focus.

Orphans of the Storm animal shelter is looking for gently used towels, blankets and comforters for their dogs. We will collect these at the Service table. Of course the freebie table is always open! Ongoing is our collection of cards, those free cards you receive when you donate to a cause, for the brave soldiers of Armed Forces.

We are not scheduling Service Days in November or December.

Nancy Calandra, Jeanette Page, Barbie Eich

Mini Workshops

Many thanks to Barbara Fry for teaching the October mini workshop making a tila bead bracelet. With my leftover beads I was able to make a simple pair of earrings to match! Below is the list of classes for the remainder of the year. Please contact me at djpotter3@comcast.net to sign up for any workshop or if you have a project you would be willing to share next year.

In November we will be making clay pendants and I will be bringing the pottery studio to you. We will be forming, stamping or stenciling, and glazing 3 pieces. If you have a shaped cutter or press mold you would like to use between 1 1/2" and 2 1/2" in size, please bring it, otherwise we'll be working with a round cutter. You are welcome to bring any special stamps or stencils that will work with that size range. The class fee is \$15, clay, glazes and firing included, with a limit of 15. Since we will be working with wet clay and glazes, you may wish to bring an apron. The pendants will have to go through 2 firings, so they will be available for pick up at the next guild meeting.

December is our holiday luncheon so no workshop will be held. In January Cindy Heineman will be teaching a chain maille bracelet. Participants will need two pairs of flat nosed pliers. If you don't have them, please contact Cindy at cindyheineman@gmail.com

so she can provide them. Before January's lecture bring your pliers to Cindy so she can apply Tool Magic with enough time to dry. Next year we will have a chainmaille artist, so take this class and brush up on your technique. There will be several color choices. The \$15 fee is payable to Cindy Heineman.

Beth Polonsky will be teaching the February workshop on a needle felted pin which incorporates a zipper giving it a stylish and unique look. All materials will be provided and the fee is \$12. Keep in mind that Doame Hyde's workshop is 2 1/2 days so if you have signed up for it, you will not have time for this mini workshop.

March is our member sale so no mini workshop. Please contact me if you would like to participate in the sale so adequate tables will be provided for all. Keep in mind the workshop for March is also 2 1/2 days. This will not prevent you from participating but be mindful of your time to allow for lunch and clean up of your area. April's workshop is taught by Stana Coleman who will be teaching a ribbon folding technique which can be used to make a pin. Details on supplies and fees to follow. May is the pot luck, no workshop.

Congratulations, Shelley Brucar!

Shelley Brucar has work appearing in the book, *1000 Quilt Inspirations: Colorful and Creative Designs for Traditional, Modern, and Art Quilts* by Sandra Sider. The book will be published in February, 2015.

Barbara Schneider

Barbara will have several pieces in one of the solo shows at World of Threads in Oakville, Ontario in Canada from November 1-30, 2014. One of her new shaped tree ring pieces, Line Dance: Tree Ring Patterns, var. 11 will be part of Quilt National 2015. Her 6th Quilt National!

She will also have a solo show at Lakeside Legacy Arts Park, Crystal Lake, IL from December 5-22, 2014.

Area Show

December 4-7 The 14th Annual One of a Kind Show and Sale at the Merchandise Mart.

More than 600 talented artists from across North America will bring their imaginative handmade creations to this year's show, offering a wide range of media and categories.

Hours:

Thurs. Dec. 4 11 am to 8 pm

Fri. Dec. 5 11 am to 8 pm

Sat. Dec. 6 10 am to 7 pm

Sun. Dec. 7 10 am to 5 pm

Our own **Pat Kroth** is among the artists whose work is showcased. For ticket information, see: <http://www.oneofakindshowchicago.com/attend/tickets/>

North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
Mary McManus, ed.
7430 Harrison St.
Forest Park, IL 60130-2019

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