

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
October 2014

You can accelerate your development by giving yourself a fresh set of challenges, or the same set viewed from a different angle, every day. Explore a different path – if it's a dead end, explore another. Paul Foxtan

Val's Musings

Our new guild year is off and running. Our meeting was bursting with activity. There was definitely a buzz in the air....new people, new programs, catching up with all of the activities, and "show and tell," to name a few. It was good to see so many new faces (some of whom joined) and many long-standing members.

So just what is creativity? Mirriam Webster defines it as "the ability to make new things or think of new idea." How do you get it? How do you develop it? Are you born with it? My feeling is that it is an ongoing process in all of us. Giving it some attention during our busy lives is the difficult part. There are no rules for how much time you need to spend on creativity. Some of us have more time than others. It is a state of mind.a way of looking at the world in all of its aspects. Sometimes just doing a bit of journaling of our ideas is a starting point. Creativity can be an outlet for many emotions: happiness, sadness, fear, loneliness, etc.

So, let's jump right in and nurture this part of each of us. If you do just a small thing with the guild, you will be nurturing your creativity. By year's end, you will have grown in your personal journey. So the challenge is to make some new things or just think of a new idea for you to work on. Make a list of things to think about, things to do or try...and then start doing just one of them. Don't worry about failures, just do something creative. It's fun!

"Negativity is the enemy of creativity." David Lynch
Valerie

CALENDAR

Tues. Oct. 7 9 - 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pflugsten in Northbrook

9:30 am Lecture, Laura Murray, Creating the wow factor with surface design

Afternoon Mini Workshop: Barbara Fry, Bracelet with tila beads (see p. 5)

Wed-Thurs, Oct. 8-9 9:30 am Workshop Laura Murray, Wonderful world of Painstiks at Gloria Dei

Tues. Oct. 14, Service projects, Barbie Eich's, see p. 6

Tues. Oct. 21, 10 am Board Meeting at Gloria Dei.

Thurs. Oct. 23 noon. Deadline for November newsletter.

Tues. Oct. 28, Service projects, Jeanette Page's, see p. 6

Future:

Nov. 6-9 Fine Art of Fiber. Details on p. 4

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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

Laura Murray, October 7 - 9, 2014

<http://lauramurraydesigns.com>

Artist, entrepreneur, teacher, and author, Laura began her experimentation with textile color and texture in 1989. Her work, which appears in books, magazines, quilt calendars and DVDs, includes award-winning quilts at International Quilt Festival, and American Society of Quilters.

Laura's passionate response to surface design resulted in a stencil collection and series of stamps of her favorite images, and authoring a book, *StarBuilder Inspirations*. Recently she developed a technique using stamps, paintstiks, and fusible web to easily create seemingly complex designs without sewing.

Laura and her husband, Jim, travel frequently to vend at large quilt and sewing shows across the country.

Trunk Show: Creating the Wow Factor with Surface Design

This will showcase a variety of surface design techniques in wall-hangings, clothing, handbags, and more.

Workshop: Wonderful World of Paintstiks

The workshop begins with the basics of Shiva Artist Paintstiks on fabric by learning how to create subtle batik effects or dramatic prints on plain fabrics. This hands-on approach will give you the confidence to make the fabric of your dreams, with no need to settle for "not quite right" fabric choices. Students will create a series of samples illustrating rubbing, stenciling, drawing directly, and shading techniques.

We will then shift to the use of three different structured collaging methods, using paintstiks, stamps and fusible web to create unique and amazing designs that are arranged and fused to a base fabric with no sewing required.

Each student will produce unique designs. The projects completed are suitable for use in quilting, garment or home decorating projects.

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.

Show and Tell

It is always interesting to see our members work up close and personal during "show and tell" at the meetings. We have made a few changes in our procedures to help it move along a little better.

We will have a table set up in the front of the room for you to display your items on during the general meeting. Use of the table is optional. You can put your item on this table when you arrive, then pick it up on your way to the microphone. We ask you to limit your "show" to 1 item. (This will challenge the more prolific artists, but it is an experiment). We are trying this out for now. We will see how it works out for a few months, as some of our meetings are already longer than others. If you have a "tell" we ask you to make it fairly brief. We are trying to tweak the process and make it more efficient for all.

We want to give all our members an opportunity to show their works of art. Please be courteous and respectful of each and every one.

After you finish with your "show and tell," put it back on the table and everyone can look at it closely after the meeting. Thank you for all your wonderful creativity.

Fine Art of Fiber

Write these dates down on your calendar...

Wednesday, November 5 (6:30-8 PM) Boutique setup

Thursday, November 6 (8:30 AM on) more Boutique setup,

Thursday, November 6 (9:00 – 10:00) Deliver exhibits

Thursday, November 6 (9:00 on) Exhibit set up

Thursday, November 6 (6:30-9 PM) Opening Night

Friday – Sunday, November 7-9 (10-5) Show, Sales, Lectures

And there's still time to add your creations to the Silent Auction or to the Raffle prize. All donations are accepted right up to the day of the show.

Volunteering for the show...

We're still looking for volunteers for the show. And don't forget, if you volunteer, we have free parking passes to the Garden...a \$25 value. So come and sign up whether you have items in the show or not. We'll have sign-up sheets at the October meeting. If you have piece(s) in the Exhibit, you must work one shift, and if your piece(s) are for sale, you must work two shifts. If you have items in the Boutique, you must work two shifts. But you're welcome to work more if you just enjoy talking to the people who come to the show.

Area Exhibitions

October 1-22. 17th Annual Textile & Fiber Arts show at McHenry County College, 8900 US Hwy 14, Crystal lake, IL. Galleries 1 & 2 and The Epping Gallery in Bldg A. Mon-Thurs 8 am-9:30 pm, Fri 8 am-4:30 pm, Sat. 8 am-2 pm. Closed Sundays and October 14th.

October 19. 28th The Fine Line's Annual One-of-a-Kind Wearable Art Show and Luncheon at Q Center in St. Charles, IL. Boutique sales begin at 10, luncheon at noon followed by raffle. Fashion show begins 1 pm. \$65. You must buy tickets in advance. For details: <http://fineline.org/uncommon-threads/>

Nov. 1. Interwoven Expressions—Unexpected Fibers. Original textiles and works in fiber by 28 juried artists. 30th annual exhibit and sale. Sand Creek Country Club, 1001 Sand Creek Drive South, Chester-ton, IN 46304. Sand Creek Country Club is located off the Porter Avenue exit (east) of Route 49 in Chester-ton, Indiana. Hours: 9 am to 5 pm.

Handicap Parking...

If you are volunteering for the show and need handicap parking, please let Gale Wessel, Laine Cobb or Valerie Rodelli know by October 7 (the next NSNG meeting). We need your license plate number and the make/model of your car.

Education...

The education tables will again be in the Exhibit hall this year. Sue Babbs has filled her quota of demonstrators, but you're welcome to come and sit and talk to the public. Or bring in your latest project so Sue can display it on the table or in her new display book. Sue would especially like to show the felt lamps again.

Raffle...

Remember to buy or sell raffle tickets before the FAOF show. If you sell your tickets in advance of the show we can keep ALL the proceeds in our Guild, and don't have to give a percentage to the Garden.

Finally...

Come and enjoy the show. There's a lot more information in our Membership Directory and Handbook (the orange book) if you have questions. And check out the FAOF web site (www.fineartoffiber.org) for silent auction, boutique and fashion show forms as well as pictures from past shows. You can also send your friends and family the link for the Garden's web site (www.chicagobotanic.org/fiber). It has all the show times and special events.

Directory corrections & additions

Please note that Leah Rosenthal's name and email are incorrect. Her name should be Leah (not Lea) and the email address should be leah.rosenthal2@gmail.com. Jeanette Page's email should be pagejeanette@gmail.com. Cindy Heineman's phone number is 847-579-0300. You can make these corrections yourself or you can bring your new directory to the October meeting and I can affix a small label.

Late renewals and new members:

Barbara Bonamasso
2916 Fairway Ct.
Glenview, IL 60025
847-724-5621
barbbonamasso@yahoo.com

Janet Hubbard
425 W. Aspen Drive
Oak Creek WI 53154
414-791-6171
janhub53@yahoo.com (continued p 5)

Directory additions
(continued from p. 4)

Joan Kamberis
5155 N. Tripp
Chicago, IL 60630
773-272-4689
No email

Susan Lutz Kenyon
1232 Terre Dr.
Libertyville, IL 60048
847-680-3162
slkenyon@aol.com

Mary Libby (Bib) Neiman
P O Box 8026
Wilmette, IL 60091
847-675-2520
marylibby@onsurface.com

Ann Poe
4608 Wild Cherry Rd.
Crystal Lake, IL 60012
815-459-0771
poeann@gmail.com

Julie Ressler
2210 W. Morse Ave
Chicago, IL 60645
773-364-7245
julieragsdaleressler@gmail.com
julieressler.com

Workshops

The new season has gotten started and there are still workshop opportunities available. While some are nearly full, changes will occur as conflicts arise. If you are interested in any of our workshops, please contact me and I will sign you up or place you on the waiting list. Be sure to check our website and read the class descriptions and supply lists to decide if a workshop is right for you. You can also check the teacher's website for further information.

Barbara Fry, Workshop Registrar

Mini Workshops

I thoroughly enjoyed all the quilts that Barbara Schneider from SAQA brought to our meeting in September and I hope everyone had a chance to take a look. October brings us Barbara Fry's lesson on making a bracelet using tila beads, two hole square beads. The workshop is \$15 and includes all supplies but you do need to bring your positive attitude. The workshop is currently full and has a waiting list. I do encourage you to contact me if you would like to join the waiting list as plans can change at the last minute.

In November we will be making clay pendants and I will be bringing the pottery studio to you. We will be making and decorating 3 round pendants with stencils and glazes. 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 the round cutter. Any special stamps or stencils that will work with that size range, you are also welcome to bring. 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.

Upcoming events include a chain maille bracelet, a needle felted pin incorporating a zipper and jewelry work with ribbons. I hope you will be able to join in!

Please contact me at djpotter3@comcast.net if you would like to sign up for any workshops or if you have any questions or suggestions for future workshops. If you prefer to reach me by phone, please call at 847-550-9322. However, I have discovered by finally catching them in the act, that my cats can step on my answering machine and, with enough footwork, erase all my messages. As they have yet to figure out how to log in to my computer, email is always a good bet.

Donna Koranek

Annual Project

Ladies, it's that time again to start planning your entry for NSNG's annual project. I know you are excited about this year's theme as evidenced by your show of hands at our September meeting!

Coincidentally, "A Show of Hands" is the official theme for this year's project. So...get your creative juices flowing, put your hands in motion and we'll all look forward to seeing your handiwork at the December meeting! Just remember, a threaded needle must be used somewhere in the project.

Doris Rudoff

We were saddened to learn only recently that Doris Rudoff, an active member of our guild, passed away on July 14th. She was a charming lady who will be missed by all who knew her. You may read her obituary at:

http://www.kelleyspaldingfuneralhome.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2613987&fh_id=12888

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

Service Update

Thank you for bringing completed kits to our last meeting. What a nice surprise to receive so many pillowcases and quilts for our wonderful projects! In addition, many of you took kits home with you. We are so grateful. Our Service Days will be held on the 2nd Tuesday at Barbie Eich's home at 2476 Greenview Dr. in Northbrook on 10/14 at 9:30. Call 847 638-4232. We finished the Literacy Bags for the Wheeling Township Halloween Party for disabled children at Barbie's in September! The 4th Tuesday, 10/28, we will meet at Jeanette Page's home at 2339 Dehne in Northbrook at 9:30. Call 847 564-1057. Lunch will be served. We would really love your help!

We are in need of Christmas fabric for our Holiday pillowcase project for the YWCA in Evanston. We are asking our generous Guild members to bring 1 yard of children's holiday fabric to our October meeting for this worthy endeavor. Many thanks!

Nancy Calandra Jeanette Page Barbie Eich

First Class Mail