

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
February 2015

*Without craftsmanship, inspiration is a mere reed shaken in the wind.
Johannes Brahms*

Val's Musings

Did you ever think about all the cycles we go through in life? There are seasonal cycles, life cycles, business cycles, health cycles, body cycles and so on. Some just seem to happen without much notice. Others are more anticipated and planned and we make choices based on them. How many of us in this region go South for warmer weather, when we don't like the winter weather cycle here?

So, thinking about cycles, I think of my own art and interest cycles throughout my life. There was a period when I sewed clothing, did hand embroidery, sewed home decor items, and dabbled in many other things. There were the non-sewing things like macrame and stained glass.

Then came the art cycle. Even within that cycle, there were changes. I realized that the concepts of design are the same across the board, whether it is bookmaking, painting, quilting, bookmaking, knitting or crocheting, beading, or whatever art form you are interested in pursuing. Design principles are universal.

I've taken classes in various disciplines. Some yielded pieces that I'm proud of, some went into the garbage. But they are all part of the art cycle in my life. There was a time when I didn't appreciate certain types of art, but that has changed too. Somehow it is all fitting together much better as I explore more.

Come and explore with the guild. Enter a new cycle in your life!

"Creativity is always a leap of faith. You're faced with a page, blank easel, or an empty stage." Julia Cameron

Valerie

CALENDAR

Tues. February 3 9 - 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pfingsten in Northbrook

9:30 am Diane Hyde. Lecture: My creative process and what I learned along the way.

Afternoon Mini Workshop: Beth Polonsky Needle felted pin with zipper,, see p. 5

Tues afternoon, begin Diane Hyde workshop: Bead Embellished Purse

Wed-Thurs, Feb. 4-5 9:30 am, Continue Workshop with Diane Hyde Bead Embellished Purse, at Gloria Dei

Tues. Feb. 10, Service projects at Jeanette Page's. See p. 4.

Tues. Feb. 17, 10 am. Board meeting at Gloria Dei

Thurs. Feb. 19 noon. Deadline for March newsletter.

Tues. Feb. 24, Service projects, Jeanette Page's, see p. 4

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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.
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 mrmcmanus@gmail.com

Diane Hyde, February 3 - 5, 2015

<http://www.dianehyde.com>

Diane started making and selling her retro-vintage-look jewelry in 1989, and has her work in galleries, has participated in Fine Art shows, sold through various department stores and a major San Francisco-based mail order.

In 1999, Diane started a new business called Designer's Findings, through which she offers alternative components, methods, and ideas to challenge people's creativity, along with helping to solve some of the tedious finishing problems inherent with beadwork.

Diane's eclectic work is featured in many books, including her new book, *Break the Rules Bead Embroidery*, and in *Beading All Stars* (both from Lark, published 2014).

Diane's 3-D John William Waterhouse art purses have been featured in *Haute Handbag* magazine. Scent of a Rose was a finalist in the 2007 annual Bead Dreams competition at the Bead & Button show in Milwaukee.

Lecture: My Creative Process and What I Learned Along the Way

Visuals and discussion for many of the pieces in Diane's body of work will be discussed. Where the inspiration came from, and what problems arose with each one, and what I learned from the 'making' of them - both positive, and negative.

2 ½ day Workshop: Bead Embellished Purse with 3-D Focal Vignette

Basic bead embroidery techniques, and three dimensional fabric manipulation techniques will be highlighted to create a one of a kind, beautiful art handbag featuring a focal vignette of an Art Nouveau woman. Students will create a multi-fabric, bead embroidered handbag attached to a rigid frame. The bag will be fully lined. The prepared kits will feature a choice of images and metal purse frames.

Students should have some knowledge of bead embroidery techniques, and basic sewing / stitching experience with fabrics, and perhaps crazy quilting stitches with beads or floss or ribbon.

Laura Wasilowski, Mar. 3 - 5, 2015

<http://artfabrik.com>

Laura Wasilowski is a contemporary quilt maker and creator of hand-dyed fabrics and threads. Her pictorial art quilts (created from fused fabrics and then hand-embroidered or machine quilted) are collected and exhibited internationally. The whimsical wall pieces often chronicle her life.

Owner of the dye shop, Artfabrik, Laura is also a lecturer, surface designer, quilt instructor, pattern designer, and author of *Fusing Fun*, *Fuse-and-Tell*, and her latest book: *Fanciful Stitches, Colorful Quilts*.

Lecture & Trunk Show:

Chicago School of Fusing - Guided Tour

Take a campus tour of the famous Chicago School of Fusing. This mythical university is devoted to the promotion of the fine art of fusing, a non-traditional method of assembling quilts with fusible web. Laura Wasilowski, Dean of Corrections at the School, guides you around the campus buildings, introduces you to the fascinating fusing curriculum, and shows you the exciting campus life of the student fuser.

Tuesday ½ Day Workshop: Tiny Homes

Create a little house quilt and receive a degree in Architecture from the Chicago School of Fusing at the same time!

Explore fusing: free cutting, layering, collage building, improvisational design, and more. The result is a whimsical neighborhood placed in a colorful landscape setting and made from a kit of pre-fused beautifully hand-dyed fabrics.

(No sewing machine is needed.)

Wednesday & Thursday Workshop: Couching Thread, Hidden Needle

A well placed embroidery stitch brings a quilt to life. It lends the quilt surface color, pattern, definition, and texture.

You'll create several small art quilts while learning an improvisational method of construction with fused fabrics. These fused quilts act as your canvas for hand stitchery and take your work from flat to fabulous!

With the emphasis on basic embroidery stitches like running, seed, French knots, and lazy daisy, students will also learn more complex hand stitches, stitch combinations, and stitch variations. Learn about embroidery stitch choices, placement, and inventing new stitch ideas.

(No sewing machine needed!)

Sherrill Kahn April 14-16, 2015

<http://www.impressmenow.com>

Sherrill is a retired art teacher, with 30 years' experience in teaching drawing and painting. She has taught throughout the world, and has written seven books, about fifty magazine articles, produced a DVD and has six fabric lines.

She loves to teach more than anything.

2 ½ day Workshop: Colored Pencil Techniques

Open to total novices and more experienced alike Sherrill will teach colored pencil techniques. She has spent thousands of hours doing colored pencil work and can see its use in every imaginable creative project.

Currently, colored pencils are being used on digital images, fabric quilts and wall hangings, in fine art, mixed media, and more.

On Tuesday afternoon, we will work on color theory—making hundreds of colors with just 3 pencils! After our techniques lesson, we will take a digital picture and layer colors on the picture. Next, we will use colored pencils, oil pastels and roll-up crayons to do rubbings on fabric.

Cost: \$90 + \$0 supply fee. Total \$90

Service

We have been working hard sewing lap quilts for the residents of Winchester House. We are asking you to return your quilt tops at the February meeting. We hope to deliver 25 lap quilts to the nursing center for Valentine's day. Thanks for all your help!

We will have our Service Days at Jeanette Page's home on February 10th and 24th. Please call Jeanette at 847 564-1057 if you plan to attend.

Nancy Calandra and Jeanette Page

International Quilt Festival Chicago

The International Quilt Festival/Chicago will be held March 26-28 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois where you will find inspiring classes, incredible shopping opportunities, and an array of beautiful traditional and contemporary quilts and works of fabric and fiber art on display.

The class catalogue is available online for browsing and enrollment at www.quilts.com

Special Exhibits include "Midwest Marvels," "Chicago-area Modern Quilt Guild Friendship Star Challenge," "Selections from the Book 500 Traditional Quilts," "In the American Tradition," "Ruby Jubilee," "Hands All Around," "In Full Bloom," "Quilts: A World of Beauty," "SAQA: Celebrating Silver," and "SAQA: Redirecting the Ordinary."

For additional information on the show, visit www.quilts.com or call 1-713-781-6864.

Call for Entry - Anyone wishing to enter their work in the above show should visit the website, www.quilts.com and look under the Entries Tab for the Chicago Show for detailed information. The exhibit to enter is Midwest Marvels and is open to quilters in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Michigan. The quilts must have been made since January 2013 and must be a minimum of 36 x 36.

For further information on submission visit the website www.quilts.com look for the Chicago Show for deadline and detailed information.

Question may be directed to Becky Navarro at beckyn@quilts.com or Deann Shamuyarira at deanns@quilts.com

Mixed Media Fiber Installation by Pat Kroth

Anderson Arts Center
121 66th St. Kenosha, WI 53143
262 653-0481 www.andersonartscenter.com
January 25 - March 22, 2015

This onsite installation in the 3-D gallery is the artist's reflection on the tornado that traveled through Verona and southwest Wisconsin in the early morning hours of June 17, 2014. It is constructed of branches, debris, fibers, and includes sound recordings and interviews with Verona residents.

The artwork is over 11' in diameter and viewers are invited to experience it, inside and out.

Pat Kroth, a member of NSNG, is a contemporary fiber artist who resides in Verona, WI. She draws inspiration from nature, and the people, places and experiences she encounters. Her work can be found in the Wisconsin Percent for Arts Program, private and corporate collections. She exhibits at regional art fairs and her work has been shown internationally in juried and invitational exhibitions. She is represented by Vale Craft Gallery in Chicago, IL and The Artisan Gallery in Paoli, WI. She is currently the regional co-representative for Studio Art Quilt Associates, Illinois-Wisconsin.

This artwork is created with many thanks to the residents of Verona, WI for their generous participation.

Mini Workshops

Thank you Cindy Heineman for teaching our chain maille class in January. Our supplies were plentiful enough for a necklace which I hope to be sporting at our February meeting. Beth Polansky will be teaching our February workshop where we will be making a needle felted pin which incorporates a zipper in the design. The fee is \$15 and includes all supplies needed to create your pin, but it would be helpful if you could provide your own scissors. Please keep in mind the February workshop with Diane Hyde is a 2 1/2 day workshop so if you have signed up for that you will not be able to participate in the mini. Participants can eat lunch after the meeting and the mini workshop will take place after that across the hall in the small room.

Our annual member sale is held in March. I had taken some names of participants at our November meeting but I would appreciate it if you could confirm your attendance with me and indicate whether you would require half or all of a rectangular table. You can begin set up as early as 8:30 with the sale starting at 9:00. Tables will be covered during the meeting but can be reopened when we are finished. Again, that month will have a 2 1/2 day workshop so all sale tables will need to be cleared by 12:30 so they can be used by the workshop attendees.

In April, Stana Coleman will be demonstrating ribbonwork. Stay tuned for more details and required supplies.

Please contact me at djpotter3@comcast.net or 847-550-9322. Email is preferred.

Donna Koranek

Workshops

There are still opportunities to learn something new or expand your skills. The April workshop with Sherrill Khan has a few openings. Enrollment in the Chicago School of Fusing in the two March workshops is still possible. There may be an opening in Diane Hyde's embellished purse class February 3-5. Please contact me at bgirls1@aol.com if you are interested in any of these—they could fill up quickly!

Barbara Fry

Annual Project Update

Our "Show of Hands" annual project was quite successful. Guild members really showed their threaded needle talents as reflected by the varied and unique interpretations of the theme.

We hope everyone appreciated the display of the entries at our holiday party meeting and will be encouraged to participate in the next Annual Project competition. *Shhh*, our lips are sealed about proposed themes but get ready to thread your needles in the near future!

This year's winners were:

1st Place Barbie Eich

\$100 gift certificate for a 2014-2015 guild class

2nd Place Val Rodelli

\$75 gift certificate for a 2014-2015 guild class

3rd Place Marcia Hartnell

\$50 gift certificate for a 2014-2015 guild class

North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
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Needleartists Wanted Call for submissions!

North Suburban Needlearts Guild is looking for interested members who would like to join an exciting group that plans and organizes speakers, workshops, activities, and of course parties.

NSNG is looking for members who would like to join the board. There are several positions that will need to be filled for the 2015-16 Needleart Year. If you are interested, or know someone with great organizational skills, please let me know.

Beth Polonsky

Chair- 2015-16 Nominating Committee

First Class Mail