

# Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild  
January 2015

*When curiosity is alive, we are attracted to many things; we discover many worlds ~ Eric Booth*

## Val's Musings

Happy Holidays to all of you and a happy, prosperous, and healthy New Year. It's unbelievable that I am wishing you a Happy New year....2015! Remember how we were so concerned about Y2K, a short 15 years ago?

Well, time does go by fast and we are all busy with our daily lives. This is a time of year for goal-setting for the next year. Long term goals and short term goals. Realistically, they probably won't all be accomplished, but it's good to put them on a list and refer to it.

Yesterday I was at a meeting where we did a short meditation to get a bit more centered before starting on business. Well, I'm not a changed person as a result, but it was helpful to just calm down for a bit and go inside ourselves. It makes one think of just what is important in our lives and where we want to spend our psychic energy.

I hope that *creating* might be one of your goals for next year. Why not push that creative envelope and see what you really can do. You might be surprised at the result and have some fun while doing it.

There is still plenty of time to grow and learn, working on those goals we've set. Bookmaking, quilting, beading, colored pencils and knitting are still to come for this guild year. We also want to get to know our newer members. What better way than to participate in some way? It can be intimidating at first (as I well know), but we are a friendly group.

Try something like a mini-workshop, service, show and tell, or jump right into a monthly workshop.

"You can't just give someone a creativity injection. You have to create an environment for curiosity and a way to encourage people and get the best out of them." Helen Robinson

Valerie

## CALENDAR

**Tues. January 6 9 - 9:30 am** Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pflingsten in Northbrook

**9:30 am Naomi Adams.** Trunk show of Naomi's work.  
**Afternoon Mini Workshop: Cindy Heineman** Chain Maille Bracelet, see p. 5

**Wed-Thurs, Jan. 7-8 9:30 am Workshop Naomi Adams**  
Textile Bookmaking at Gloria Dei

**Tues. Jan. 13, Service projects, Barbie Eich's,** see p. 6

**Tues. Jan. 20, 10 am Board Meeting** at Gloria Dei.

**Thurs. Jan. 22 noon.** Deadline for February newsletter.

**Tues. Jan. 27, Service projects, Jeanette Page's,** see p. 6

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Loose Ends and Gathered Threads is the newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild which meets in Northbrook, Illinois. It is published 8 times per year, monthly except for June, July, August and December. Copy deadlines for the upcoming issue will be included in the calendar of each newsletter.

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

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## Fine Art of Fiber

This year we had another successful show thanks to all the hard work of our exhibitors, vendors, and volunteers. We had about nine thousand people visit the show, and we distributed almost three full boxes of our NSNG brochures. Our proceeds were about the same as last year, but the silent auction did exceptionally well. And we received a lot of press attention this year with articles in *The Glencoe Anchor*, *Pioneer Press*, *Splash Home*, *The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* and the *Chicago Tribune* (with articles on the show as well as the Women's Journeys in Fiber exhibit).

The viewer's choice winners were: First Place – Bed of Roses by Donna Derstadt, Second Place – Baby Steps to Baltimore also by Donna Derstadt, and Third Place – By the Lake by Chan Soon Kang.

Thank you again to all who contributed to the show and to our partners at IQI and WGNS for another great year.

## Workshops

A new year begins bringing more opportunities to participate in workshops. Some are full or nearly full, so contact me before signing up. I can also add your name to a waiting list as there will probably be changes. Check our website for descriptions and supply lists to help you decide.

Barbara

## Naomi Adams, Jan. 6 – 8

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.

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## Diane Hyde, Feb. 3 - 5

Diane started making and selling her retro-vintage-look jewelry in 1989, and she has pretty much done it all since that meager start-up with \$25 worth of components. She's participated in Fine Art shows, had her work in galleries, sold a line to Von Maur Department Stores in the Midwest, had a rep sell her designs all over the U. S., did several trunk shows for Nordstrom's Department Stores, and for five years, had pieces in a major San Francisco-based mail order catalog — she even made the back cover with three of her pieces once! When she and her husband, Cam, did those art festivals and shows through the early years, quite often other jewelry artists would ask if she would sell some of her components for their own jewelry lines. Diane was flattered and intrigued with the idea and tucked it in the back of her mind. Everything changed in 1995 when Diane took a class to learn square stitch at a local bead store. After that class, beading was all she wanted to do. Since her previous jewelry designs utilized metal stampings, chain, and vintage-type components, she wanted to utilize many of those same components by incorporating them into her beadwork.

In 1999, with all of those people in mind who wanted to buy her components years before, Diane started a new business called Designer's Findings. She had come to realize many findings and components were not readily available to most jewelry designers and bead artists. She had been buying directly from manufacturers and then sending the items to plating companies for the color finishing. Diane wanted to offer those and other 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 the following books; *Beading Across America*, *Sherry Serafini's Sensational Bead Embroidery* and *Showcase 500 Beaded Jewelry* (the latter 2 from Lark Pub.), and Heidi Kumml's book *The Spirit of Bead Embroidery available from Kalmbach Books*. Her new book is *Break the Rules Bead Embroidery*, and two of her projects are featured in *Beading All Stars* (both from Lark). Diane's three-dimensional 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.

Diane has realigned Designer's Findings to focus mainly on providing items and inspiration for bead embroidery artists. Three websites are available to peruse, with the most recent one for the unusual found object styled beadwork she has dubbed 'Bead-punk'.

### **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 starting Tues. 3rd at 1pm Bead Embellished Purse with Three Dimensional 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.

Website: <http://www.dianehyde.com>

## 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!)

## New Speaker for April 2015

### April 14-16, 2015 Not Lisa Engelbrecht

Very sadly, the lovely, lively Lisa Engelbrecht left this life too soon. So we had to find an alternative teacher at short notice, which has not been easy. Thankfully, the talented Sherrill Kahn has agreed to step in.

### April 14-16, 2015 Now Sherrill Kahn

<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

## January Mini-Workshop

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](mailto: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.

## Service

Happy New Year! We were busy in December finishing up the Christmas pillowcases, Christmas quilts and pajama bags for the women and children in the Y Safe House. They were received with gratitude and joy. Also delivered this month were 16 preemie quilts and 29 hats to the Rush Neonatal Unit.

We will concentrate on making lap quilts for Winchester House Nursing Center in January and February. Kits will be available at the Service table at our meeting, along with pillowcase, tote bags and preemie quilt kits. We will meet at Barbie Eich's home on January 13th and at Jeanette Page's home on January 27th from 9:30-12:00.

Call Barbie at 847 638-4232 and Jeanette at 847 564-1057 if you are able to help. We would love for you to join us!

Nancy Calandra Jeanette Page Barbie Eich Marcia Hartnell

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**First Class Mail**