

# Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild  
April 2016

*In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours. Mark Twain*

## Val's Musings

Happy Spring to everyone! With Spring holidays here and bulbs peeking up from the ground, can warmer weather be far behind? I think not, but Mother Nature has fooled us before.

While our guild year is nearing an end, there is still plenty to do, accomplish, and talk about. Please read further on in this newsletter to learn of our new slate of officers for 2016-17. There is also a link to our by-law revisions. The by-laws will be voted on in April and the slate of officers in May.

We have discussed several design principles and elements this year.....color, line, shape, balance and some others. Now what? When looking at a piece of art, we have a reaction, connected to the visual elements of the piece. These elements are the design principles. But it is the "composition" that ties into the visual reaction. Look at any art piece for the structure of it. Does your eye remain on the piece without going off to nowhere? Does it keep your attention? Can you figure out the main parts and how they relate to each other? The composition can be symmetrical, asymmetrical, horizontal, vertical, diagonal, framed, radial, grid form, and several other compositional types. This holds true of whatever medium you choose to work in. In some art pieces it is obvious, like a patchwork quilt that is in grid form. But some are much more difficult to determine. They might have more than one compositional concept in the piece, but somehow tie it in together in the whole, perhaps with a border or frame.

This subject could go on infinitum. I hope I have peaked your interest in looking at art in a more informed way, and that you might be able to analyze just what you are seeing in a piece of art. Or better yet, use these to help you in making your own art!

"The act of creating is a healing gesture, as sacred as prayer, as essential to the spirit as food to the body." Jan Phillips

Valerie

## CALENDAR

**Tues. April 5, 9 - 9:30 am** Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pflingsten in Northbrook

**9:30 am Lecture: Rosalie Dace** Eye to Eye

**After lunch: Mini Workshop Sue Kenyon,** Crocheting a Hat  
(see p. 6)

**Wed.-Thurs April 6-7 9:30 Workshop Rosalie Dace,** Branching out, at Gloria Dei

**Tues. April 12 10:00 Service Projects at Jeanette** Page's, see p. 6

**Tues. April 19 10:00** Board meeting at Gloria Dei

**Thurs. April 21 NOON** Deadline for May newsletter

**Tues. April 26 10:00 Service Projects at Jeanette** Page's, see p. 6

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1/8 page \$4 per issue or \$25 for 8 issues  
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## Rosalie Dace, April 5-7

Rosalie Dace is passionate about design, color, pattern, and texture. She enjoys looking at, feeling, and working with fabric and other textiles. She has a lifelong interest in textiles and embroidery, and a degree in English and Art. Her home is in Durban, South Africa, and feels her home base informs her work, and her teaching style. She is a full time quiltmaker who values traditional, while believing a quilt should say something about its time and place in history. Her inclusion in the Houston International Quilt Festival, The Pacific Quilt Festival and other numerous exhibitions and galleries are only the beginning of her accomplishments. She has won several awards including Best of Show at the South African Quilt Festival and travels around the world to teach. She is a national quilt judge, and developed a training program for judges. Her commitment to the needlearts and the global community has been demonstrated by her involvement in embroidery training programs for Zulu women, and teaching patchwork and quilting to residents of a nursing home.

Website: [www.rosaliedace.co.za](http://www.rosaliedace.co.za)

Lecture: Eye to Eye. In Rosalie's lecture you will find your own Inner Artist. Discover how artists' eyes interpret and present their work. A visual feast of paintings, drawings, and other works from celebrated artists including Klee, Kandinsky, Matisse, Klimt, Hunderwasser, and several old masters, shows us how we all use the same elements of design in our various works, be those paintings or traditional or contemporary quilts.

Workshop: Branching Out

In Rosalie's 2 day workshop you will discover the different shapes, patterns, lines, textures, colors and symbolism of trees while experimenting with design and composition. You'll use various piecing and appliqué techniques to make a beautiful quilt top. Some techniques covered will be foundation piecing, block making, and appliqué. There will be a feast of visual inspiration as well as discussions on embroidery, quilting, and finishing. Nature has crafted trees to give shelter, shade, food and inspiration for artists for centuries. So branch out and try something new by making a stunning, well-designed quilt top based on trees.

## Carol Ann Waugh May 3-5

Carol Ann Waugh's fiber art has been juried and invited into more than 50 national and international exhibitions during the past 5 years. She is the author of five books on quilt-making and fiber art. Her newest one, *Stupendous Stitching*, was published in the Spring of 2012 and is now in its third printing.

Her art has been featured in many books and magazines. She has appeared as the featured artist on The Quilt Show, PBS's Quilting Arts, and other television specials. She teaches classes online at [craftsy.com](http://craftsy.com), extending her student population to more than 35,000 students from around the world

Lecture: How Did I Get Here From There? From a career in business consulting to full time studio fiber artist, Carol Ann's lecture will be will about her 7 year journey sharing some lessons learned about moving from a left brain to right brain life. Besides showing the progression of her work from traditional to art quilts, Carol will also talk about being a professional artist and give you ideas about applying specific marketing and business tools that can help you achieve your own short and long term artistic goals.

Workshop Description - Wednesday: In *Stupendous Stitching*, you will make a piece of wall art. You will be combining couching, hand embroidery and decorative machine stitching to help you create fabulous textures and colors on batik cotton fabric. This is the class you need to explore and use all those hundreds of "decorative stitches" included in your sewing machine. You will also learn a new way to finish the edges of your piece with rattail cord and learn the secrets of mounting your art so it will hang on your wall beautifully. You will leave this class with a finished masterpiece.

Workshop Description - Thursday: The self portrait workshop will teach you how to create a self-portrait in fabric. You will learn how to create a face and transfer that drawing to a pattern. Select appropriate fabrics and construct a portrait that can be taken home for final finishing. No particular skills are required other than the ability to let loose your imagination and have fun. By the end of the day, you will have broken out of your barriers and will approach future compositions with a new found confidence and freedom to play, create, and be as original as you are — in your artwork and in life!

## 2016-2017 Speakers and Workshops

**September 6, 7, 8, 2016**

**Rosi Robinson**

Website: <http://rosirobinson.com/>

Rosi Robinson is an English batik artist who lectures and teaches throughout the world. Her batik pictures are principally figurative and look like water color paintings. Working mainly on cotton, and occasionally paper, she applies washes of dyes, working from light to dark, capturing the detail under wax at each stage. Rosi's lecture will present traditional and contemporary batik fabrics from around the world, a variety of work from modern batik artists, and a selection of her own work.

**Workshop: Introducing a Painterly Approach to Batik** (2-1/2 days)

The workshop will provide a variety of traditional and contemporary waxing techniques on cotton fabric and paper using hot liquid wax and fiber-reactive dyes.

**October 18, 19, 20, 2016**

**Laurie Swim**

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

Laurie Swim is an award winning Canadian textile artist whose work expresses the beauty of the world around us, while also commenting on our society and culture. She crafts individual elements, assembles them, builds layers, and uses meticulous stitch work (machine or hand) to shade and punctuate each piece.

Lecture: The Joy of Quilting – A Retrospective,

Laurie shares the story behind her work, including her community led memorial art quilts.

**Workshop: Exploring the Textural Landscape**, 2-1/2 days.

This workshop will include several innovative methods of applique and different effects for creating landscapes. You will develop samples for future reference and create a small landscape quilt.

**November 15, 16, 17**

**John Mullarkey**

Website: <http://malarkycrafts.com/>

John Mullarkey is a weaver, spinner, and fiber artist, passionate about tablet weaving and spreading its virtues and possibilities. His work has been displayed in museums and featured in international fashion shows.

Lecture: What To Do With Bands: A Review of All the Great Uses for Bands.

As a band weaver, he is often asked what he will do with all the bands he weaves—the lecture is his answer to that question.

**Workshop: 2-1/2 days**

During John's two and a half day workshop you will learn to read and design tablet weaving drafts; and then weave a friendship bracelet. As your skill and confidence grow, the workshop will focus on weaving diagonal patterns, using a circular warp setup. This workshop is for those interested in learning how to tablet weave. No previous tablet weaving experience is required.

**January 3, 4, 5, 2017**

**Mary Ray**

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

Mary Ray, Crafts.com teacher, adjunct instructor at Appalachian State University, and contributing editor at Threads Magazine will present a trunk show featuring a selection of garments and accessories that inspire and teach about fabric, design embellishment, and technique. Mary will show her award winning pieces while relating stories of her creative life and travels along the way.

**Workshop: A Creative Approach to Garment-Making** 2-1/2 days

In the workshop, you will make a jacket adapted to your personal style and body type, brush up on tried and true sewing techniques while finding ways to break the rules as well, make simple fitting adjustments, add distinctive details, and finish your jacket beautifully inside and out.

*continued on p. 5*

## 2016-17 Speakers and Workshops

continued from p. 4

**February 7, 8, 9, 2017**

**Lisa Binkley**

Website: <http://lisabinkley.typepad.com/>

Lisa Binkley exhibits her award-winning work nationwide. She is well known to members of NSNG and is pleased to be returning to present to the Guild again.

Lecture: Bead Embellishment Design for Fiber Art

The focus of her lecture is the wide variety of approaches fiber artists can take to planning and hand stitching bead embellishment designs for their artwork.

**Workshop: Exploring Embellishment** 2-1/2 days

Lisa's workshop will begin with a small printed fabric panel that is just begging to be embellished. You will explore a variety of bead embroidery stitches, thread embroidery stitches and approaches to design while developing unique embellishment plans for a mini quilt or embellished panel. Experienced beginners through advanced stitchers will find this a satisfying workshop.

**March 7, 8, 9 2017**

**Roz DeBoer**

Website: <http://roslyndeboer.com/>

NSNG Member Roz DeBoer is a textile artist specializing in landscape art quilts. Her artwork has traveled across the US and around the world. From close-up pieces that show fine details to panoramic vistas, Roz's art illustrates her passion to achieve the precise color and textural elements found in nature.

Lecture: Confessions of a Fabric Manipulator: Texture as I Feel It

Roz describes her textile journey from 2008 to the present in her lecture.

**Workshop: The Fabric of Nature and the Nature of Fabric** 2-1/2 days

The workshop is an exploration of a variety of fabric manipulation techniques. If you can sew a seam, wield a threaded needle and have a desire to play with fabric, fibers, and other materials, you have the skills for this class. Precision cutting and piecing are not necessary.

**April 4, 5, 6, 2017**

**Ann Loveless**

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

Ann Loveless creates art quilts capturing the beauty of Northern Michigan. Ann's lecture will introduce her work and the different techniques that keep her work fresh and exciting. Ann is presenting three separate workshops. You can sign up for any or all of the workshops as each one is a stand-alone event.

**April 4 Half day workshop: Spring Fabric Mosaic**

You will make a 4" x 6" mosaic like art quilt involving fusible web and free-motion machine quilting.

**April 5 – 1 day workshop: Impressionistic Art Quilts.**

You will make a 14" x 18" art quilt by cutting and layering fabrics under polyester tulle and free-motion machine quilting. Choose to make a design of poppies or an autumn landscape.

**April 6 – 1 day workshop: Fabric Collage – Lake Scene**

Make a 10" x 14" art quilt using a raw edge applique technique, fusible web, free-motion machine quilting, and including non-traditional quilting fabrics such as linens, gauze, and sheers.

**May 2, 3, 4, 2017**

**Joni-Dee and David Ross**

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

Joni-Dee and David Ross are long time life partners and partners in Handmade North Carolina Baskets in Summerfield, North Carolina. Joni-Dee designs the basket patterns and David produces the hardwood components for their business.

Lecture: Nantucket Baskets: An American Tradition

Beginning on Nantucket Island, these baskets have a unique place in American history. Tied to lighthouses and the whaling industry, Nantucket baskets have evolved to incorporate contemporary colors, patterns and designs.

**Workshop** participants will be able to choose from a group of baskets and trays especially selected because they can be completed within the two and half day workshop. Joni-Dee and David will provide hands on assistance and encouragement.

## Service Update:

Your response has been remarkable for the Madagascar Project and we only have a month and a half to go. Here is what we need at this time. For the shields we are looking for cheerful and colorful cotton fabrics. For the liners we need flannel in patterned and dark colors to disguise stains. Please wash your donations without fabric softener. We are in particular need of panties in girl sizes 10-16 and women sizes 5-8, also in dark colors. Also needed are Ziploc baggies without the bulky zipper, washcloths in dark colors, and small, hotel-sized soap. For the beading projects being taught to the women, beads and beading materials can be donated as well.

Also we would appreciate donations of all types of yarn which we use in various service projects.

We will meet for Service at Jeanette Page's home located at 2339 Dehne Rd. in Northbrook at 10:00 on Tuesday, March 29th, April 12 and 26. We hope to see you there! Email Nancy at [rjcnmc74@comcast.net](mailto:rjcnmc74@comcast.net) if you plan to come.

The Freebie Table will be open for business in April!

## Shop Discounts for Members

NSNG members will receive a 10% discount at AVP Jewelry and Beads. Just show your membership card. There are two Chicago locations: 3960 N. Elston Ave. and 4224 N. Monticello Ave. More info at [www.avpjewelry.com](http://www.avpjewelry.com).

Other NSNG Supporters:

AYLA's Originals, Evanston, 10% discount show NSNG card

Bodacious Beads, Des Plaines, 10% discount show NSNG card

Facets of Isis, Palatine, 10% discount show NSNG card

Jo-Ann Fabrics, apply on-line, 10% discount (show NSNG card to confirm at first purchase) Jo-Ann's card

Studio Beads, Deerfield, 10% discount on Seed beads only, show NSNG card

Vogue Fabrics, Evanston 10% discount show Vogue card (available at NSNG Membership)

I encourage all members to ask the stores you frequent if they will give our Guild a discount. Then spread the word!

Julie Rivera

## Mini-workshops

Thanks to all the members who braved last month's weather and came out for the members' sale. I found some great items and passed some of my own along to others. I appreciated all the sellers understanding with our limited table space.

There are still a few spots available in April's workshop where Susan Kenyon will teach us how to crochet a hat and will discuss the importance of getting the correct gauge. This not a class to learn crochet; you should already know how to do a chain stitch and single crochet stitch. Please bring 1 skein of Red Heart worsted weight yarn in a solid color other than black (no variegated colors please). The fee is \$10.

Summer is on its way, as is our summer picnic which will be held on July 12th. This year I will be teaching the group how to make a needle felted bird. I will provide a kit that includes your core wool, foam block and needle. You can choose your own colors from an assortment of wool I will be bring, but the needle and foam are yours to take home. The fee is \$10. Lunch is provided by the guild but members should bring a salad or dessert. We had a great turn out last year so please sign up to attend! Since lunch will be ordered please be sure to sign up at least one week before the event.

I will have sign up sheets for Susan's class and the picnic at our meetings. I can take your payments at the time of sign up; checks should be made out to the class instructor. I can also be reached by email at [djpotter3@comcast.net](mailto:djpotter3@comcast.net) or phone at 847-550-9322 for sign ups or ideas for future classes.

I am always amazed by the many varied talents in our guild and am thankful to all of our many teachers. If you have a talent you would like to share, please don't hesitate to contact me, it's not too early to be thinking about next year.

Donna Koranek

## Constitution and by-laws

The revised Constitution and by-laws will be voted upon at the May meeting. You can read or download this at:

<https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/8165650/ConstitutionBy-Laws2-1-16.pdf>

## Nominees for NSNG Board

President - Beth Polonski

2nd Vice President - Liz Zweiner

Treasurer - Laine Cobb for one year only

Membership - Janet Rivara and Joan Bratton

Meeting facilitator - Penny Burns

Special Events - Jane Brown

Advisor - Valerie Rodelli

FAOF Valerie Koppenhaver - the third person on FAOF committee along with Gale Wessel and Valerie Rodelli.

All other offices will remain the same until the next nominating session next year.

## Workshop Registration

For the remaining workshops this year, there are spaces available in April's workshop with Rosalie Dace, and on May 5 with Carol Ann Waugh. Please let me know if you are interested in either workshop.

If you would like to be added to a waiting list, you may notify me via email or at the meeting. If you are notifying me at the meeting, please fill out a registration form (on the registration table) and note which waiting list you would like your name added to.

If you are signed up for a workshop, you will hear from me via email and regular mail a few weeks in advance of the workshop. If at any time you find your schedule has changed, and you need to cancel, please notify me via email or phone as soon as possible.

Our workshops are wonderful learning opportunities, and a great chance to get to know other guild members – hope you can join us at some point!

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## Why we should use hashtags

Hashtags started out being used primarily by Twitter as a way to find trending content but have since moved into other areas like Facebook, Google+, Instagram, etc. Hashtags are a way to categorize and search better for all things relating to one subject on social media.

How to use a hashtag in relation to NSNG & Fine Art of Fiber:

When taking a photo of a guild meeting, project or the FAOF show & posting them onto your Instagram or Facebook account, please add the relevant hashtags to your photos so that when people search for information on us, they can find these photos & can see what we are all about. The hashtags to use are the following:

#NSNG or #needleartsguild (notice no spaces)

#FAOF or #fineartoffiber (notice no spaces)

There is a Facebook page for NSNG (search for North Suburban NeedleArts Guild on Facebook) and for Fine Art of Fiber (search for Fine Art of Fiber on Facebook). Please make sure to like these pages. This way when notifications get put up about upcoming shows & meetings, not only does it remind you of an upcoming meeting, your friends may possibly also see the information on the meetings, giving our group publicity.

We also have Instagram accounts. They are FineArtoffiber and NeedleArtsGuild (caps don't matter, no spaces). Please search for them and like these pages as well. When using your own Instagram account, you can link to the NSNG and FAOF Instagram accounts by typing @fineartoffiber or @needleartsguild when adding a comment to your picture. As you start to type the word, the correct account should show up in the list below where you are typing. Make sure you are clicking on the correct account by making sure the logo is correct.

People are using hashtags more frequently. It is a way for us to get some free publicity but only if people are using them and using them correctly. The biggest thing to make sure of is that there are no spaces after the hashtags.

Cindy Kuo

## Annual Project

Inside, outside, day or night, NSNG ladies show your might—with a threaded needle of course! Now is the time to start planning your Annual Project entry.

This year's theme is "Seen/Scene Through a Lens."

Members will vote on the entries at the December holiday party. Don't forget the valuable prizes that await the winning entries:

1stPlace \$100 gift certificate toward a 2017-2018 guild workshop

2nd Place \$75 gift certificate toward a 2017-2018 guild workshop

3rdPlace \$50 gift certificate toward a 2017-2018 guild workshop

Marla Wolf

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**First Class Mail**