

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
February 2017

Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.
George Bernard Shaw

The best laid plans...

So on Facebook I joined a site called one Year of Stitches 2017 inspired by www.brwnpaperbag.com. I joined to push myself. I needed to take the leap and continue with this new journey of hand stitching that I started several years ago with a class with this month's teacher, Lisa Binkley.

I have always loved mindless machine work. It was fast and I saw results. Most of the time I just spent my day staring at the design wall. I still fight with myself to hand stitch the bindings, to slow down, and to contemplate every stitch I take.

I am happy to say that over the years, the pace has gotten slower. Wet felting, beading, embroidery, and bead embroidery, has made me slow down and think, almost meditate, about the pieces I am working on.

And then I think back to the many teachers who have come to guild. I realize that the second class I ever took from guild was with Susan Shie back in 2000 who stressed that stitches do not have to be even and uniform. And in another guild I heard a lecture on folk art by Toni White. She emphasized that the fiberart you create is yours and only yours and that there are no rules. How freeing that was, and I try to live up to that sentiment with every piece I create. Who cares if my seams don't line up. They are my seams!

Which gets me back to the Year of Stitches project. As life gets in the way, I haven't quite started. But my friend and participant in the Year of Stitches, Cindy Kuo said, "so you'll just finish 365 days after you start!"

So once again--I just throw out the rules!

I encourage you to check out Year of Stitches, even though you may not want to participate. You will be inspired.

Beth

CALENDAR

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

9:30 am Lecture Lisa Binkley Bead Embellishment Design for Fiber Art

Afternoon: Begin Lisa Binkley workshop, Exploring Embellishment

Afternoon: Mini workshop, Button bracelet with Alice Jenks. See p. 5

Wed.-Thurs. Feb. 8-9 Continuation of workshop at Gloria Dei

Tues. Feb. 14, 10:00 Service Projects at Jeanette Page's, see p. 6

Tues. Feb. 21, 10:00 Board meeting at **Northbrook Public Library, Pollak Room A**

Tues. Feb. 21, 10:00 Service Projects at Jeanette Page's, see p. 6

Thurs. Feb. 23, NOON Newsletter deadline

Tues. Feb. 28, 10:00 Service Projects at 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

1/4 page \$8 per issue

1/2 page \$16 per issue

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Lisa Binkley, February 7-9

Lisa holds a B.S. in Textiles & Design from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Master's in Urban Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Formerly a public policy analyst, she has maintained an active fiber art studio since 2000 and exhibits her award-winning work nationwide. Her work has been selected for inclusion in major exhibitions including those of the American Quilters' Society, International Quilt Association, Crafts National, CraftForms, and Wisconsin Artists Biennials. Lisa and her artwork have been featured on local and national television, in internationally-distributed books and magazines, and in many local publications. Her art is represented in private and corporate collections. Lisa enjoys sharing her passion for fiber and beads through her artwork, classes, and lectures, and she teaches throughout the U.S. 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.

2 1/2 day Workshop starting Tuesday - Exploring Embellishment. Due to its popularity, there are two sessions of this workshop. The second is scheduled for Feb. 21-23. Please e-mail Sylvia Dresser or see her at the registration table.

The 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 experience.

Website:

lisabinkley.typepad.com

Roz DeBoer, March 7-9

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.

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

This 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.

Newsletter articles requested!

We are still looking for members to share the experiences they have had in workshops across the country. Many of our members belong to other organizations such as SAQA and the American Sewing Guild. We would love to hear about these from you. If appropriate, please include an internet link in your article so we can explore other fiber opportunities.

In addition, we would love to have reviews of your recommended books related to fiber arts.

NSNG invites you to submit articles to Mary McManus, our newsletter editor, in an email to marym@mcmanusdesign.net. No formatting is required. Just type into the email itself, as it will be reformatted for the newsletter.

Calls for Entry

The International Quilt Festival/Chicago 2017 is quickly approaching and will be April 6-8, 2017 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois.

The following are two calls for entries that will be shown there:

Mod Squad:

Registration open now through February 3, 2017

Exhibit focuses on the Modern quilt

Must be made between January 2014 and

February 2017

Quilts should be a minimum of 36" x 36" and no taller than 86"

Quilters must be from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Manitoba or Ontario

Register online at

<http://www.callforentriesmodsquad.com/>

Traditional Mid-west and Canadian Quilts:

Registration open now through February 3, 2017

Exhibit showcases traditional quilts and their makers

Quilts must be made between January 2014 and February 2017

Quilts should be a minimum of 36" x 36" and no taller than 110"

Quilters must be from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Manitoba or Ontario

Register online at

<http://www.callforentriesmidwestguilds.com/>

We will notify all quilters who submit a quilt what the jurors have decided on February 17. We encourage all skill levels to submit their quilts.

Exhibits to visit

Fabric of Survival:

The Art of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz

Exhibit to open at Jewish Museum Milwaukee

1360 N Prospect Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53202

February 17 – May 26, 2017

<http://jewishmuseummilwaukee.org/>

Esther Nisenthal Krinitz was 15 when she defied Nazi orders, separating from her family as they and the other Jews of their Polish village reported to a nearby train station. Making their way to a village where they were unknown, Esther and her younger sister survived the war by posing as Polish farm girls. They never saw their family again. Nearly four decades later, determined to show her daughters the family she had lost, Esther turned to needle and thread to create a series of 36 hauntingly beautiful, exquisitely detailed works of fabric collage and embroidery – a legacy born of love, loss, and a the sheer force of memory.

Ice Tapestries and Shibori Quilts

Kay Sorensen (quilter and former NSNG member)

Kay invites all the members of NSNG to see her show at the Anderson Arts Center in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

She will have 8 rooms of her original design quilts... or approximately 80 quilts All of these recently created quilts started with white fabric she painted or dyed.

The opening reception at Anderson Arts Center, 121 66th St, Kenosha, WI will be held January 29th, 2017 from 1-4 pm. Kay will be in attendance at the reception and hopes to see many of her NSNG friends there.

The show will be open Tuesdays-Sundays 1-4 pm through March 19th.

Book and Magazine Sale

Last summer we had a very successful Book and Magazine Sale that provided Service with \$800! We will have another sale at this year's Summer Picnic. We ask that you save your books and magazines for us until then.

Workshop Registrations

There are spaces remaining in all of our workshops for the 2016-2017 year. The Beading workshop in February and the Nantucket Baskets workshop in May have been so popular that we have scheduled second sessions of both of those! The second beading workshop runs Feb. 21 - 23, and the second basketry workshop runs May 2, 5 and 6.

Please remember that our workshops are also open to non-members, if you know people who might be interested. There is a small additional fee for non-members.

I will be taking registrations via regular mail, and also at our monthly meetings. If you want to register at the meeting, please be prepared to wait until I can check your registration.

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 (or regular mail if you requested that) 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, as many of our workshops have waiting lists.

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

Sylvia Dresser, Workshop registrar

Northbrook Library Craft Swap

The Northbrook Library (website:northbrook.info) holds a Craft Swap in January.

Donations of any sort of craft material are taken in the Pollak room:

- . Friday, January 27, 1:00-5:00pm,
- . Saturday, January 28, 10:00am -4:00pm

And/or collect FREE craft supplies!

- . Sunday, January 29
- . 2:00-4:30pm, Pollak Room

P.S. If you want an early entrance pass to the swap, donate craft supplies on Friday or Saturday.

Mini Workshops

Please join us in February for a button bracelet workshop taught by Alice Jenks. Alice will provide buttons, elastic cord and needles. Feel free to bring your own favorite buttons to use. Alice has assured me this is a low tech workshop, create a beautiful bracelet to wear or share. The workshop fee is \$5. Thanks, Alice, for stepping in at the last minute to share your talents!

In March, Janet Haugan and Cathy Baillet will be teaching linoleum block printing. We will spend the first half of the mini workshop carving a simple design on a 4 x 6 linoleum block, then we'll print them. There will also be some already carved blocks available for people to use if they wish to try other designs. We'll be using black ink, and card stock in several colors. The ink is washable, but you may want to bring an old shirt or apron to wear. You will leave the workshop with your carved block, a linoleum cutter with 2 gouge tips and any prints you make. The fee for this workshop is \$15 due at sign up. Sign up will be closed after the February meeting due to the need to order supplies. Class is limited to 10 and there is currently one spot available. If you cannot attend the workshop, your supplies will be available for pick up at the April meeting.

All mini workshops begin following lunch after the general meeting. Please contact me at djpotter3@comcast.net or 847- 550-9322 or 847-738-9322 (cell) if you have an interest in participating in a workshop or if you have an idea for an upcoming workshop. As always, thanks go out to our teachers for sharing their knowledge and time with us, and thanks to our workshop attendees for their support of their efforts.

Donna Koranek

Service

Thank you to all who have contributed in so many ways to our Service projects: washing, tracing, cutting, sewing and donating. You are wonderful! Our Madagascar project is in full swing. Visit the Days for Girls website for information on goals and instructions.

Needed for the Madagascar kits:

*Flannel in darker patterns. Please wash.

*Bright sturdy cotton for bags

*Panties- briefs in darker colors {Hanes} Girl's sizes 10-16, Women's sizes 5-8

*Washcloths in dark colors

* Gallon Ziploc bags-without the zipper closer

*Twill tape for drawstrings

* Bars of soap

We meet every Tuesday (except for guild meeting days) at Jeanette Page's home located at 2339 Dehne Rd. in Northbrook at 10:00. We invite you to join us!

Nancy Calandra and Jan Kent

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First Class Mail