

# Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild  
February 2019

*Creativity flourishes when we have a sense of safety and self-acceptance ~ Julia Cameron*

## President's message

Let me say right up front—no, I didn't finish the quilts for my grandkids. The process of making them is too enjoyable; I can't rush it. Luckily, they'll never know that they are now birthday presents! I am already moving on to design my next projects. I'm running around taking close up photos of patterns in my world. Tree bark, cement, iron gates. It's so much fun to blow up the images and see what new imagery appears, unrecognizable from its original form. I'm excited to find out where they lead me.

Penny Burns

## CALENDAR

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

**9:30 am Lecture Lisa Binkley** Lecture: Continuous Threads

**Afternoon: Mini Workshop Cindy Heineman**, Kumihimo, see p. 5

**Afternoon: Workshop, Lisa Binkley** Continuous Threads

**Wed. Thurs. Feb. 6-7 Continuation of workshop** at Gloria Dei

**Tues. Feb. 12, 19, 26 10:00 Service Projects at Jeanette Page's**, see p. 5

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

*Stay warm and dry!*

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Visit our website: [www.nsn.org](http://www.nsn.org)

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## Lisa Binkley, February 5-7

Lisa holds a Bachelor Degree in Textiles and 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 has been teaching throughout the United States since 2007. Her award winning artwork has been selected for national and international exhibitions including those of the American Quilters' Society, the International Quilt Association and many others. Her art is represented in many media forms and is included in many public, private and corporate collections.

**Lecture: Continuous Threads.** Lisa will bring examples of her original art work and discuss her development as a fiber artist. In addition to talking about her inspiration, the various techniques she uses, and information about each piece individually, the lecture will focus on the many ways that our lives feed our creative process. Because much of her work includes beads, Lisa will also share a brief history of beads and their evolution as a medium for creative expression from tens of thousands of years ago through today.

### **Workshop: Continuous Threads** 2-1/2 days

In this workshop you will create your own ornate starry night mini beaded garden while learning or refining a wide range of bead embroidery techniques. During the first half day, participants will work with a 5 x 8 night sky fabric panel, provided in a kit provided by Lisa, and piece and/or appliqué it with other fabrics from home to create your own unique art quilt base. During the next two full days, you will embroider your quilt with flowers, foliage, and borders, which are also provided in the kit, using a variety of bead embroidery techniques and a colorful assortment of beads and buttons. The quilts can also be embroidered and quilted by hand or by machine if desired. Class suitable for all, but some level of bead embroidery is helpful, and comfort with hand stitching is essential.

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

## Pam Talsky, March 5-7

Pam loves everything about weaving, from gathering and preparation of materials to creating beautiful, mostly functional, vessels. Pam has earned many awards, among them the AMB Best Coiled, Teacher award in coiled and natural baskets, and recently the American Basket Maker's coveted viewer choice award in 2010. She has also won 3 first-place awards in the National Coiled Basket Association. Pam has donated her time to weave a series of teepees for Ronald McDonald house and has traveled to Dharmashala, India to teach local women pine needle basketry so they have a self-sustaining income through their craft using local Cher pine needles. Pam teaches around the country and in her studio. She also has baskets in the permanent collection of the Hoard Museum in Ft. Atkinson and has exhibited at the Dickel Museum in Amana, Iowa. Her work has been featured in the National Basket Organization Quarterly Review and in Fiber Art Now magazine.

### **Lecture: The Art of Pine Needles; from Here to India and Back**

Pam will share her impressive journey to many countries teaching basket making, and how she even travels to harvest her own western red and Alaskan yellow cedar barks and Sitka spruce root.

### **Workshop: Pine needle baskets** 2-1/2 days

The first half day of the workshop, participants will create India Bangles. You will coil 2 bangle bracelets in your choice of a large selection of colors. These will be designed to uniquely fit you while you learn some basic techniques. The following 2 days of the workshop will give you the choice of making either Branching Out, Ocean Currents or White Tail Tricks. Each basket will be truly one of a kind, whether you chose to work from a footed hardwood base, coil with beads, add waxed linen lace or finish with an antler shaped handle of your choice. You will end the workshop experience with unique conversation piece bangles and a very special pine needle basket work of art!

## Inclusivity in the Fiber World

A recent blog post in the knitting universe set off a rather large discussion about diversity and inclusion in the Fiber World. Indigenous People and People of Color who teach and design are often overlooked. Models in magazines and other photos tend to be white women and men of average size, who do not have obvious disabilities.

There was also mention made in this discussion of the exploitation of textile workers both in the past and currently in the fashion industry – those very cheap clothes we have access to come with both a human and environmental cost.

While these issues are long standing and will take a lot of work and a lot of time on the part of many people to resolve, there are some little things we can do now. Personally, my first step is to follow a wider range of people on Instagram as I learn about them.

We had a discussion at the Board meeting about this topic, and would like to make an effort in 2020-21 to bring in a more diverse group of teachers, and of course to recruit new members whenever and wherever we can. We will start off by working within our current boundaries – morning meetings in Northbrook – and possibly with some new ideas in future to attract people from other parts of the Chicagoland area and also people who cannot attend during the day. Stay tuned!

Sylvia Dresser

## Stuffed:

### Fiber Art Installation by Pat Kroth

Exploring the concepts of Need and Want, Excess and Waste with recycled and new clothing.

Anderson Arts Center 6603 Third Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin

January 27- March 3, 2019

More info at: [www.andersonartscenter.com](http://www.andersonartscenter.com) or [www.krothfiberart.com](http://www.krothfiberart.com)

Donated jeans have been “stuffed” with new packages of socks, t-shirts, underwear and other clothing. All serviceable clothing items will be donated to The Beacon Homeless Day Resource Center in Madison and Shalom Center in Kenosha, WI after the exhibit closes.

To participate, bring a package of *new* socks, t-shirts, or underwear (men, women’s or children’s) to the exhibit and place it in the overalls in the designated area by the exhibit.

Many thanks to Candace Hoffmann, the Anderson Art Center, and everyone who offered their support, encouragement and donated clothing to make this installation possible. Special thanks to Jennifer Wolfe and the students at Verona Area High School for their assistance.

## Barbara Schneider Exhibits

Still Lifes in Indigo: Exploring the Wabi-Sabi Spirit

An exhibit of 26 pieces showing as part of the Gifts of Art program at University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor, MI from March 18 – June 7, 2019. The pieces will be on display in the Cancer Center.

<http://www.med.umich.edu/goa/exhibits>

Still Lifes in Indigo: Exploring the Wabi-Sabi Spirit

An exhibit of 17 pieces as a Special Exhibit at the International Quilt Festival, showing at Stevenson Convention Center, Rosemont, IL from March 28-30, 2019.

<http://www.quilts.com/quilt-festival-chicago> (No specific information up as yet)

It is exciting that *all* of the pieces in the series will be out on exhibit at the same time.

I hope that you can see one or the other exhibits.

## Workshop Registration

There are only 4 workshops left this year—time to sign up for something!

At the February meeting, I will be taking registrations. Please be patient and be prepared to wait in line so that I can look at the forms and make sure they are correct. I will take registrations before and after the meeting, but not during the meeting itself or Show and Tell. Registration is available by mail also. If you want to make sure there is space in the workshop you are interested in, please send me an email or call.

There is space in the workshops in February, March and May. I do maintain waiting lists for those workshops which are full, and often there are cancelations and people on the waiting list get in. I am also begin to take registrations for the Summer Seminar workshops.

If you find you have to cancel, please contact me via email or phone. Our policy is that we turn to our waiting list first, which I maintain.

I hope you find at least one workshop that piques your interest, they are wonderful learning opportunities and of course great ways to meet other guild members.

Sylvia Dresser  
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sylvadresser@gmail.com

## Service Update

We are preparing the materials needed to make the Days For Girls kits and will have them ready for our February meeting. You can take home fabric to iron and cut for bags and shields, serge the bags and liners, and sew the bags, liners, and shields. We will also collect gallon size zip-loc baggies (no zipper please) right now.

We will meet at Jeanette Page's home located at 2339 Dehne Rd. in Northbrook on February 12,19, and 26 at 10:00. We request you contact Jeanette if you plan to join us for lunch.

We have pillowcase kits for you, and the Freebie Table will be open!

We hope you are able to join us on Tuesdays!  
Nancy Calandra

## Mini Workshops

Please let Susan Kenyon slkenyon@aol.com know as soon as possible if you would like to participate in any of these. Payment can be made with cash or check. Checks should be made out either to Susan or the teacher. If the check is made out to the teacher it will be held until the workshop.

February 5 – Cindy Heineman – Kumihimo – \$15

The fee includes the square disks

There are three openings

March 5 – Jenny Ross – Creating Your Own Hand Embroidery Sampler – \$15

The fee includes all necessary materials

There are openings

April 16 – Wendy Gray Raven – Mosaic Art-to-Wear – \$30

The fee includes everything necessary to make two pendants, a 2x1 inch rectangle and a 1-1/2 inch square, with chains.

There are openings

There will not be a mini workshop in May, but we will have one in July after the picnic. Let Susan know if you would like to teach in July.

Please Note: The date for the July picnic is July 9. In the NSNG directory, the date for the picnic is listed as July 10 which is a Wednesday.

## **30 Year Anniversary for FAOF!**

It's the 30th anniversary for our show at the Chicago Botanic Garden! The show started in 1989 as the Holiday Garden of Quilts. We would like to make a big deal about this so if you have ideas, please share them with Val Koppenhaver, Joan Bratton or Shelley Brucar. We want to hear from you.

AND.... Start thinking about what you want to create for FAOF 2019! There are so many ways to get involved. You can have work in the exhibit and in the boutique. You can volunteer your time for the Education table, the Silent Auction or the Fashion Show. And you can hang around any time over the weekend and enjoy talking to visitors about art! We're looking forward to our 30th beautiful show.

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**First Class Mail**