

# Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild  
May 2019

*Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.  
Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## President's message

When I had my clay studio in the 80s out in a Chicago neighborhood, it got quite lonely. I felt like I was designing in a vacuum. So I went to Lill Street Studios (when it was still on Lill Street!) and started taking a class. The camaraderie I felt with people there got me out of my slump. Everyone was so welcoming and generous. When I came to my first NSNG workshop, Barbara Fry made me feel like we were old friends, so I started coming to the meetings. People made me feel so welcome that I stayed! The last workshop with Marjolaine was just another of those times where the sharing and encouragement was as important and affirming as the work itself. I am honored as always to be a part of this amazing group.

Penny

***Please be reminded that while attending an NSNG event at the church, we are asked to park in the back lot, east of the church, unless you need access to the handicapped parking in front. Thank you!***

## CALENDAR

**Tues. May 14 9:30 am** Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pfcngsten in Northbrook

**9:30 am Lecture Lynn Koolish**, All about fabric dying  
**After the meeting: Annual Potluck**

**Afternoon: Workshop, Lynn Koolish**, Fabric dying for color, pattern and texture

**Wed. Thurs. May 15-16 Continuation of workshop** at Gloria Dei

**Tues. May 7, 21 & 28 10:00 Service Projects** at Jeanette Page's, see p. 3

**Tues. May 21 10:00** Crossover Board meeting at Gloria Dei

**Future:**

**June 24-28 Summer Seminar**, see p. 7

**Tues. July 9 Summer Picnic**, see p 7

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 NSNG Board
- 3 Lynn Koolish
- 3 Member challenge
- 3 Service update
- 3 Fine Art of Fiber
- 4-6 2019-20 Speakers and workshops
- 7 Summer Seminar 2019
- 7 Workshop registration
- 7 Mini workshops
- 8 Nominations for the Board
- 8 Potluck after May meeting

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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

Mary McManus, ed.

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## Lynn Koolish, May 14-16

Lynn comes to us from Berkeley, California and is known for her bright colors and hand dyed fabrics. In her current work Lynn is applying improvisational design with piecing techniques to create a sense of spontaneity. Lynn teaches throughout Northern California and nationally at venues including the International Quilt Festival in Houston and the Quilter's Affair in Sisters, Oregon. She has authored 5 books and has produced a DVD about Printing on Fabric.

Lecture: All About Fabric Dyeing. Reflects on Lynn's 20 year odyssey as a fabric dyer. Lynn will present a non-technical view of the dyeing process and how she uses hand dyed fabrics in fiber art.

Workshop: 2-1/2 days. Fabric Dyeing for Color, Pattern and Texture will explore how to create unique and dynamic fabrics using fiber reactive dyes. Lynn will also share a variety of techniques including easy to wash out resists such as soy wax, flour paste, gel glue, oatmeal and many more! You'll dye, overdye, and play with an infinite variety of colors, textures and patterns. Leave with amazing pieces of cloth just begging for you to design into extraordinary works of personal art.

## Member Challenge

Introducing our new 2019 Member Challenge: **Over the Moon!** Once a year, we challenge our members to create a needle-art piece based on a common theme. Interpretation is up to you! Your piece may be large or small, with your choice of materials, as long as you make use of a needle and thread (or yarn...or floss... or threadlike material) in some way. Your creations should be ready in time for our December meeting, and workshop gift certificates will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners. We hope you join us...it's great fun with great prizes.

Hey diddle, diddle...pick up thread and needle!  
Questions? Contact Liz Zwiener

## Service Update

First of all, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all the guild members who helped us throughout this year on our many projects. Our latest tally of Days For Girls items we are sending to Madagascar is 2084! Impressive total for sure! We also sent pillowcases and baby quilts numbering in the 100's to WINGS, a shelter for battered women, and to Stroger Hospital and the Rush Neonatal Center. These are incredible numbers NSNG contributed to those in need. On behalf of my team, we want to thank you for your generosity of materials, talent, and time. You are wonderful people.

We will meet on May 7th, 21st and 28th at Jeanette Page's home, located at 2339 Dehne Rd. in Northbrook at 10:00. Please let her know if you are able to come to work, and if you are staying for lunch.

We are taking a break this summer and will begin again in September.

At the May meeting we will have pillowcase and quilt top kits available for you to work on this summer. If you wish to work on Days For Girls, email me and I will bring shields for you to sew at home.

Once again, thank you for all you do.

Nancy Calandra      rjcnmc74@comcast.net

## Fine Art of Fiber

Thursday, November 7 through Sunday, November 10, 2019

This is the 30th anniversary of FAOF so let's have another amazing show! You have the whole summer to work on your Exhibit and Boutique entries – and your 30th anniversary 6" pearl piece - which are all due by Monday, September 12, 2019. Be sure to include a color-correct 4" x 6" photo of each piece you submit to help the selection committee with hanging decisions. Volunteer sign-up will be happening at the Sept and Oct guild meetings.

## 2019-20 Speakers and Workshops

### **Susan Bruebaker Knapp, Sept. 3-5.**

Susan grew up in Mt. Lebanon, Pa. and has a masters in journalism from the University of North Carolina. She now lives near Charlotte, N.C., with her husband, Rob, a journalist, and two daughters. Susan created a graphic design and communications business prior to beginning quilting as a hobby. She now teaches nationally and internationally, hosts "Quilting Arts TV," and has been featured in national magazines, as well as producing numerous patterns, five video workshops and two books—*Point, Click, Quilt!* and *Appliqué Petal Party*. Nearly all of Susan's work is realistic in style, and starts with original photographs. She uses two primary techniques—whole cloth painting, and fused appliqué and then heavily free-motion thread sketches the surface before quilting.

Lecture: *Point, Click, Quilt!*, an inspirational and detailed look at her process from photo to thread sketching and quilting.

Workshop: 2-1/2 days. Wholecloth Painting from Original Photos is geared to all experience levels. Learn the basics of painting on fabric to make a whole cloth painted quilt. Working from original photographs, you will use acrylic textile paints to recreate them on fabric.

### **Rosalee Dace, October 22-24**

Living in Durban, South Africa gives Rosalee an exciting and colorful view of the world that she hopes to share with anyone seeing her work or coming to her classes. Her inspiration comes directly from the world around her and her life. She wants to help students feel excited by what they are able to do, and to develop a belief in their own abilities.

Classes are for participants to have fun while they learn, and to go beyond where they thought possible. Each person in class produces individual work within the general theme. For this reason there are no patterns or kits.

Lecture: *By the Way* reveals her journey and approach to creating art.

2-1/2 day workshop in which students will bring the magic of French painter, Henri Matisse, into quilts while working with large areas of joyful color and sensuous line. After discovering the variety of this celebrated artist's work, you will make a few paper cut-outs before starting a large color-filled composition. Emphasis will be on the use of large areas of pure color, curvilinear line, pattern and clear shapes, all exciting ideas to

piece, applique or fuse in fabric. This is an ideal approach to simplifying design as well as responding to color, line and shape. You will be asked to bring a sewing machine to this workshop.

### **Mirka Knaster, Nov. 19-21**

Mirka's life began along the Adriatic Sea, with childhood summers later spent at the Atlantic Ocean. She was educated on the east and west coasts of the U.S, lived in the Andes, Blue Ridge Mountains, and Hawaiian Islands, and travelled through much of Latin America, Europe, Asia, southern Africa, New Zealand, and beyond. In 2005, Mirka moved to the northern Sonoma coast, where the Pacific Ocean has a major impact on daily sensory experience.

Mirka has exhibited in many juried shows. Her books and articles have been published since the 1970s in a variety of fields. She has served as a contributing editor and consulting editor for magazines, journals, and encyclopedias, and she leads an annual Korean Textile Tour in Seoul and surrounding areas.

Lecture: *Threads of Splendor: Fiber Arts in Korean Culture*. Mirka is fascinated by how textiles have always been central to human life telling stories about the cultures that create them, marking stages of the life cycle and expressing the relationship people have to their environment.

2 day Workshop. *Composing in Small Spaces: The joys and Benefits of Creating Mini-Art*. Skip the patterns and designs others create and go for your own originality, using nothing but what's at hand. No shopping for new fabric, yarn, paper, or thread. Work with what you have and what others share. You will start small, with textile cards you can send or give as a personal gift of art.

Working on a small scale can stimulate new ideas and provide an opportunity to experiment, trying out techniques and materials without a major investment of time and money.

Create abstract compositions to fit inside (5x7) Strathmore photo frame cards. Each card comes with a deckle-edge envelope. Depending on the arrangement created, the cards can remain simply a loosening-up exercise or they can be put to good use for holidays, birthdays, and other occasions. You will go home with four or more cards that are finished in class or further elaborated at home. They can be entirely fresh and different from what you usually create or an expression of your signature style.

### **Lyric Kinard, January 15-17**

Lyric is an award-winning artist who was 2011 International Association of Professional Quilters Teacher of the Year and is the author of the book *Art + Quilt: Design Principles and Creativity Exercises*. She has written extensively for *Quilting Arts Magazine*, appeared on Quilting Arts TV, and The Quilt Show with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims. She teaches around the world and online.

In her past life she was a musician, earned a BA in English Literature, and has also formally studied architecture. She currently lives in Cary, NC with her husband and some of her five children.

Lecture: Elements of Art. Kick-start your creativity and learn about the basic elements and principles of good design. Learn why some colors fizz while others explode. This lecture will help you learn a few simple tools from the artist's kit that will help you take your work, whether traditional or contemporary, to the next level.

Workshop 2-1/2 days. Practical Design Applications, a master class for textile artists. You've studied basic design and have a good grasp of the elements and principles of art. Now learn practical ways to apply this knowledge to your work as a textile artist. This workshop includes: Warm-ups to help you bypass roadblocks; exercises to generate unique abstract design ideas; objective analytical skills as they apply to design and composition' and finally, professional presentations for mounting and framing your textiles will be practiced and explored.

### **Huib Petersen, February 4-6**

Huib was born and educated in Doorn, The Netherlands. Needlecrafts first caught his attention as a child growing up in a small town in Holland. Encouraged by his mom and grandmom and the local needlecraft store owner, he picked up crocheting, knitting, tatting, macrame, bobbin lace, needle lace and embroidery with ease.

In 1995 he moved from Holland to San Francisco, and opened a small arts and crafts workshop and gallery on Nob Hill. Inspired by a chance encounter with 19th century Russian bead work, he discovered the beauty and challenges of designing with beads. He uses different sizes of beads and a variety of traditional beadwork stitches to create sculpted bugs, butterflies, birds, flowers and sea creature in their environment. The result is a unique kind of wearable art that offers

the intricacy of embroidery and lace, the depth of a theater set and the durability and brilliance of glass. His work is featured in *500 Beaded Objects* and has been shown at major shows in San Francisco, Santa Monica and Pasadena.

Lecture: What Got Me Here. A visit with the artist, in which he will tell you about his life and how it brought him here, a man in a mostly woman's kind of world. He will introduce you to his work with slides and samples as well as talk about what influences and inspires him.

2-1/2 day workshop: Russian Summer: A 3 dimensional butterfly rests in a Russian bead lace necklace. The butterfly is stitched in a diagonal and tubular peyote stitch. This very versatile diagonal stitch is also used for the leaves. In this hands-on workshop, you will learn the basics and uses of peyote stitch. During the workshop, Huib will discuss the many ways this technique can be used for decorative and wearable art. Students are encouraged to find ways to incorporate these techniques in their own artistry and projects. Level: Intermediate/advanced.

### **Marilyn Moore, March 3-5**

Marilyn's first love is basketry, and basketry related jewelry. Since 1979, she has taught for guilds, conferences, conventions and craft schools around the country and been featured in many publications. After living in Seattle, Washington for many years, she has recently moved to Iowa City, IA, to be closer to members of her family. Her most recent work is focused on working with wire in new and unique ways.

Using textile techniques including basketry, knitting and crocheting she has developed a style that is recognizable by its intricacy, and color blending, and her work has been shown in galleries around the country.

Lecture: Wire as Fiber: Where Technique Meets Inspiration, Color, Form and Texture These are just three of the things that have influenced Marilyn's work over the years. Explore the use of color by cultures, and artists who use it as a means of expression.

2 1/2 day Workshop: Wire as Fiber: An Integration of technique and inspiration If you like to play with fire, combine that adventurous spirit with the experience of working wire cloth and wire. Experiment with textile techniques and a variety of wires, as well as different meshes of copper, bronze, and stainless steel wire cloth. Students will explore the process of inspiration and technique using fine colored wires, which can be purchased from Marilyn or brought from your

own stash. Included in the class will be the use of the torch as a tool for preparation of the materials. Wire cloth and wire will be used to create baskets and jewelry to excite the senses. Students may wish to get involved in a large project or produce a number of samples with technique in mind.

Twining with fine colored wires, knitting and crocheting with wire, working with wire cloth, embellishing with beads and pearls, will make an exciting adventure for students. Beginners and more experienced students will find something to inspire and send them on new creative journeys.

### **Jackie Abrams April 14-16**

Jackie has been a basketmaker since 1975, when she first apprenticed to an 81 year old traditional white ash basketmaker. Since 1990, she has been exploring the possibilities of contemporary basketry. She exhibits her work at galleries and museums, and has been included in numerous books. Her work is in many collections, most notably the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museums Scotland. Her community development work in Africa has inspired her work and her life.

Lecture: Baskets, Travels, Experiences. A humorous and thoughtful look at the influences in both Jackie's art and life, reflecting over 40 years of growth, inspiration, and interdependence. Included are images from her travels in the United States, Australia, and Africa, as well as the colors, textures, and people who had an impact on her work.

2 1/2 day workshop: Bias for All. Paint and create your own basket materials using acrylic paint on heavy cotton paper, a very user-friendly material. Learn about surface design techniques and tools, while applying colors and creating textures.

Then investigate the possibilities of bias plaiting, a wonderfully versatile technique. Weave baskets that are symmetrical or sculptural, with graceful curves or angular shoulders, with corners, feet, double walls, or covers. Learn about the rules that can certainly be broken, and how to apply this technique to other flat materials.

Both beginning and more advanced basket makers are welcome to explore the possibilities. Experimentation and laughter are all encouraged. There will be enough materials for weaving in both the class and at home.

### **Liz Alpert Fay, May 5-7**

Liz earned a degree in Textile Design from the Program in Artisanry at Boston University in 1981. After graduating, she spent seventeen years creating art quilts, exhibiting nationally and in Japan in such shows as Quilt National and at the American Craft Museum in New York. Her quilts can be found in both private and corporate collections, as well as in many publications including *The Art of Quilt* by Robert Shaw.

In 1998 Liz became intrigued with traditional rug hooking, and since then has been actively pushing the medium in new directions. Besides creating colorful hand hooked rugs with cut outs and irregular edges, she also creates large-scale contemporary hooked art works and installations. These works continue to be purchased for private collections, and selected for juried shows and invitational museum exhibitions. From 2001-2014, Liz was Co-Chair and Artist Director of Newton Hooked Art Shows where she actively promoted innovation in hooked art and produced annual juried shows.

Her work can be found in numerous collections including, the White House, Washington DC; The Museum of Arts and Design, New York and private collections in the US, New Zealand and Canada.

Lecture: Liz Alpert Fay/Art and Inspiration

This presentation takes you along on Liz's artistic journey from inspiration to completed artwork. Her large-scale works are a contemporary approach to one of our country's oldest textile techniques, traditional rug hooking. Examples of both commissioned work and personal projects will be shown

2-1/2 day Workshop: Rug Hooking: Painting with Wool. Come try your hand at painting with wool. Using fabric strips created from beautiful hand dyed and colorful wools, students will design and create a small artwork that takes them through all the steps used in creating a full sized rug. The group will explore the use of different textures, patterns, and types of hooking materials. She will discuss the history of rug hooking and examples of both contemporary and antique rugs will be shown. Sources for materials and the variety of equipment available will also be discussed.

## Summer Seminar 2019

Registration is now open!

Join us for a wonderful immersion experience in June.

We are offering both a 3 day and a 5 day workshop (9:30- 4pm each day). Workshops are held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. See our website for images and more information.

### **3 Day Workshop: June 24-26, 2019**

#### **Exposed Spine Book Binding Explorations with Debby Henning**

The art of book making is one of the oldest art forms that is experiencing a big resurgence. In this workshop we will work with several painting techniques and surface types to create unique designs for covers and pages for a variety of book structures.

Participants will create sample books with several different exposed stitched binding styles that can be utilized as a reference library for their future projects. We will complete a collection of smaller samples and 2-3 complete books during this 3-day workshop. It will be packed with some very useful tips, techniques, shortcuts and how-tos for creating a range of book binding styles.

If you have always wanted to learn how to create a hand bound book, this will be a great starting point. Experienced book makers will also gather techniques that are useful and helpful throughout this workshop and bring their bookmaking skills to the next level.

## Workshop Registration

One workshop left to go this year (there are a couple of spaces left), and then on to next year's exciting offerings!

Registration for the 2019-20 workshop year begins at the May NSNG meeting. I will be taking registration forms there, so please line up and be ready with your form and your check or credit card. I keep the forms in the order in which they come in—in the event that a workshop is already full, your name will go on the wait list. Please be patient when turning in the forms!

If you cannot attend the meeting, please mail in your form no earlier than the date of the meeting, May 14. Any forms postmarked earlier than that will go on the bottom of the pile.

Looking forward to another great year of learning!

Sylvia Dresser

847-945-6095

sylviadresser@gmail.com

### **5 Day Workshop: June 24-28, 2019**

#### **Stitching the Digital Print with Barbara Schneider**

Create richly embellished artwork through intense machine stitching on your own images printed on fabric. The workshop will cover the creation of your artwork from photography through digital manipulation, printing, stitching, backing and finishing. You will create 2 pieces in class, a small sampler and a larger (11 x 14) piece. Each day will include demos on techniques, presentation of various artist's work and lots of time to practice and explore. Individual time with teacher will be part of the process. Students can use their own photographs or choose from a selection of the teacher's images. In preparation for the workshop, please send the teacher an email with an attachment of the image you plan to work on. Image should be 8 x 10" @ 300 pixels. We can discuss whether it will work well and then the teacher will have it printed for use in workshop. If you prefer, a selection of the teacher's images will be available for you to choose from.

## Mini Workshops

Please let Susan Kenyon slkenyon@aol.com know as soon as possible if you would like to participate in this. Payment can be made with cash or check. Checks should be made out to the teacher.

May 14 – Potluck --No mini workshop

July 9 – Sharon Malec --- Freeform Crochet -- \$15

Crochet designer, Margaret Hubert, describes freeform crochet as a method of creating a fabric by using stitches, in a variety of yarns, in a multi-directional manner.

Stay after the NSNG picnic and join Sharon to take your crocheting in new directions. Bring scraps of variety yarns. If you have them, also bring a variety of hooks, a stick or branch, and beads with larger holes. Sharon will show you how to incorporate these in your freeform crochet.

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.

## Nominations for the Board

These nominees will be voted on at the May meeting:

Treasurer: Sylvia Dresser

Secretary: Joanne Baumann

2nd Vice President: Luan Wold

Workshop Registrar: Jenny Ross

Hospitality: Susan Miller

In addition to the above, the next newsletter editor will be Jan Harrington. This is not an elective position but rather is appointed by the president.

## Potluck after May meeting

Our potluck luncheon will be held immediately following the May meeting. Please bring a favorite dish to share. Coffee, tea, soft drinks and water will be provided.

If you are inclined to wearing hats, please do. You can dress up or dress down. Hats are not required, but a Spring bonnet can cheer us all after this extra long winter.

Because we will be on a tight timeline for the meeting, potluck and workshop, we will be sitting at tables for the meeting, then setting them for the potluck. The workshop will begin after lunch, approximately one o'clock. Help with moving tables and chairs as needed will be appreciated.

Come and enjoy good food and conversation with our fellow guild members at our year-end meeting.

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**First Class Mail**