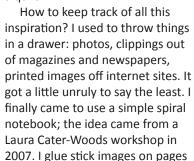
NSNG Loose Ends & Gathered Threads-

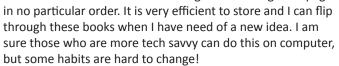
NEWSLETTER of the **WORTH SUBURBAN NeedleArts GUILD** • FEBRUARY 2021

Inspiration Notebooks

Inspiration is such a big part of the whole art process and I am always interested in what kinds of things inspire people. I find inspiration everywhere: not just nature, but also tile patterns, iron railings, stairways, patterns on pillows and rugs, fractals, architecture, etc. I once used the lines of a sculpted ceiling in

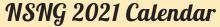
a Gaudi apartment in Barcelona as inspiration for a border design on a quilt.





Check out page 2 for more about inspiration.

- Luan Wold, NSNG President



Monthly Guild meetings are Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Zoom invitations will be sent by email.

DETAILS INSIDE & ON OUR WEBSITE: www.nsng.org

- Feb 2: Presentation by Cecelia Campochiaro on Sequence Knitting. Workshop to follow.
- Feb 9 (10 am): Mini Workshop with Bill Keller Zipper Pouch
- Thurs, Feb 11 Zoom Meet-Up RETRO LOVE
- March 2: Travel lecture by Shila Desai. Workshop with Bill Keller
- Thurs, March 11 Zoom Meet-Up VINTAGE TEXTILES
- March 23 (10 am): Mini Workshop with Susan Lutz Kenyon -Rib Stitch Afghan Crochet Border
- April 6: Presentation by Valerie Goodwin, mixed media artist. Favorite Places Workshop to follow.
- April 22: Mini Workshop with Tricia Baldwin Quilt Piecing with Fusible Interfacing
- May 4: Jackie Abrams presentation and workshops have been cancelled. New program to be announced.

MORE ZOOM MEET-UPS on page 5







Valerie Koppenhaver

- I made these birthday gifts for a girlfriend who has begun to explore cake decorating during Covid: Cupcake apron, whisk dish towel, a cupcake towel topper (holder) and a free-standing lace decoration hanging from the apron strings – all done on an embroidery machine.
- Make your own fabric out of leftover thread, ribbons, lace... sandwiched between two layers of water soluble stabilizer and randomly free-motion stitched on a regular sewing machine to hold the scraps together. Wash away the stabilizer and voila! fabric that can be used almost as a lace, in this case, as an appliqué on a sweatshirt. (Free pattern from Mood fabrics!)







Inspiration





A Photograph

This piece was inspired by the picture of a friend's property on the West Coast, a huge parcel of land on the Pacific Ocean that includes an estuary and all the undulating hills of the Northern California coast. It was done on a regular machine, but upside down, with the threads that will show on the front, loaded onto the bobbin. I made it during the NSNG workshop a few years ago with Carol Naylor from the UK.

Valerie Koppenhaver

"I'm most inspired by the materials I use: the leaves, the dyes and the fabrics.

They all have their own personalities."

Caroline Nixon – TextileArtist.org

What Inspires YOU?

Inspiration is a large part of our creative process, as noted by Luan on page 1. Some of us shared ideas during a recent meet-up. Here are a few resources compiled by **Mary Jo Eckhart:**

- "Fiber Talk" website which includes free podcasts. Go to *Wetalkfiber.com*
- Google "fiber" &/or "textile" lectures for others
- Follow and subscribe to newsletters and blogs of artists you admire. Listen to Ted Talks.
- Visit art museums and craft schools
- Browse through or re-read art/craft books & magazines
- Revisit old sketchbooks, journals and notebooks or start a new one.
- Look at those UFOs unfinished objects and contemplate why they never got finished. Could the finished portions become the jumping off point for a new piece or become part of a future piece?
- Fondle your materials. We're attracted to textiles for the way they look, but also for how they feel.

"Inspiration breathes the creative soul into our minds and hearts."

The word *inspire* comes from the French word *inspirare*, meaning "to breathe." This quote is from the book of essays, "The Soul of Creativity: Insights into the Creative Process" edited by Tona Pearce Myers.





A Thrift Store Find

I love to explore thrift shops. This little girl's dress inspired a small wall hanging and a larger improv quilt. When I visited Malahide Castle in Ireland, I was struck by the orange walls. The color is known as "Malahide Orange" and is now one of my favorites. I scored 2 large pieces which I used in the improv quilt along with turquoise – my new favorite color combo.

- Jan Harrington





Julie Rivera

Here is my llama piece from Jan Harrington's mini workshop. It was a lot of fun to dress her. The blanket is felted scraps I had and I knit her the scarf. The hand embroidered flowers are from a scrap of fabric my mom gave me. The background is stabilizer fabric from an Obi, an orange decorator fabric (the two together were a real pain to stitch). The blue is my hand dyed silk. Love my llama – she makes me smile. Great pattern, Jan.

Weavers Guild Program with Melissa Leandro

The Weavers Guild of the North Shore is inviting NSNG members to a Zoom presentation with Melissa Leandro on **March 4th at 10 am.**

Melissa Leandro (Miami, FL) is a Chicago-based artist who works between the mediums of drawing, painting, and textiles. Leandro's textile works are produced through the process of digital Jacquard weaving, dip dyeing, stitching, embroidery and cyanotype printing.

She generates imagery by observing and documenting her travels to new cities and landscapes, as well as capturing her everyday surroundings within her own home and neighborhood. By continuous-



as well as capturing her everyday Fade Meadow by Melissa Leandro. Jacquard surroundings within her own home weaving, cyanotype, dye, stitching, embroidery

ly absorbing the movements in familiar and foreign environments, Leandro layers her textiles through over dying, patching, mending, heavy embellishing, and bleaching to abstract the subtleties of particular places and people.

There is never a direct pictorial representation, but instead Leandro draws us into her richly colorful and surreal landscapes, which explore personal, familial, and cultural experiences from her everyday life and family histories.

In her lecture presentation she will discuss the roots of her many nostalgic and imagined symbols seen in her work; where they come from and how they are ingrained in her cultural identity. Leandro holds a BFA and MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) and is currently teaching at the Institute as a lecturer.

• For a Zoom link to this free program, please contact **Stojana Keta**, sketa@att.net







Marcia Hartnell

I made this charity quilt using the Garlic Knot pattern — a great scrap stash buster! The Christmas tree wall hanging was a free pattern from Jordan Fabrics. I carefully poked holes in it to add lights. The fractured panel quilt is a design from Timeless Treasures using a panel called Farmstead from Wilmington prints.



Contribute to our SHOW & TELL PAGES!

We would love to see what you are working on. Have you made something new? Tell us where YOU find inspiration. Email images, stories and other announcements to Jan Harrington, *janQharrington@gmail.com*

Master Knitting Class with Cecelia Campochiaro

Cecelia Campochiaro appeared on the knitting scene in 2015 with her debut book, *Sequence Knitting*. Knitting was a casual pastime until she had an "ah-ha" moment in 2010 and realized that interesting textured fabrics could be created by the simple repetition of a sequence of stitches. This idea evolved and led to her writing



Sequence Knitting, which is a reference book about this mindful approach to knitting.

In the years since Sequence Knitting debuted, she has continued to develop new ideas in knitting. Sequence Knitting is about texture, and her new book Making Marls, is about color. Making marls, the act of working multiple strands to-

gether as one, is an old technique, but has never before been written about as an important technique in hand knitting.

Cecelia lives in Silicon Valley, where for many years she developed specialized microscopes used in computer chip manufacturing. Textiles, photography, and the arts have been a lifelong passion running in parallel with her technical life. In high school and college, even though her main studies were in the sciences, she studied drawing, printmaking, ceramics, and photography. Today she is fully dedicated to the fiber world and "unventing" new ways to make amazing knit fabrics.

• LECTURE Tues, Feb 2, 9:30 am: Sequence Knitting and Making Marls

Cecelia will share her journey from high tech to textiles, sequence knitting, making marls, and self-publishing.



• Master Class on Making Beautiful Hand Knit Fabrics with Sequence Knitting, Fine Striping, and Marls WORKSHOP:

Tues, Feb 2, 2:00 - 3:30 pm;

Wed, Feb 3, 10:30 am - Noon & 1:30 - 3:00 pm;

Fri. Feb 5, 10:30 am - Noon & 1:30 - 3:00 pm;

Mon, Feb 8, 10:30 am - Noon

As knitters, we create fabric. By combining sequence knitting, different fibers, fine stripes, and marls, an extraordinary range of interesting and beautiful, reversible fabrics can be created with hand knitting. This master class will immerse students in how sequence knitting works, how to develop a desired gauge and hand, and how to work with yarns of different colors and thicknesses. It will also cover how to work with marls as a color work technique. Students will receive multiple patterns they can make, including a small cowl that uses marls and sequence knitting.

• Workshop Fee: \$200 • Website: ceceliacampochiaro.com

Mini Workshop with Bill Keller: Lined Zipper Pouch

Bill Keller will teach you how to make a lined zipper pouch using supplies you already have on hand. Most pouch tutorials specify a certain length of zipper, and usually you don't have that size in stock and have to wait till you get one to follow the pattern. He will show you how to measure your zipper and design your own pattern and make the pouch around that size. If you have a long plastic tooth zipper, you can also shorten it to make a more useful size (or two zippers). If you only have metal tooth zippers, you need to build your pouch around that size. They can be shortened but require special tools and parts. He will demonstrate several methods to prepare the zippers to make the sewing super easy.



Tues, Feb 9, 10:00 am - Noon • \$10 Fee

Don't have any zippers in your sewing stash? Look in that bag you are waiting to take to Goodwill, or maybe in your mending pile, you know, that garment you really should stop wearing. Zoom meet-

ings have really taken their toll on what we are wearing daily.

Find some zippers in your stash and get some fabrics you like to make a custom zipper pouch you can use every day. Bigger pouches benefit from heavier weight fabrics, home dec, canvas or denim all work well. Fabric needs to be bigger in at least one dimension than the length of your zipper (if it is metal). If you only have quilting weight fabrics, you will need some interfacing, either iron-on or sew-in will work. Nothing is worse than a floppy pouch.

• To register for mini workshop, email Bill Keller and Elizabeth Guillette: bkforge@ sbcglobal.net, ekguillette@gmail.com

Share your talents! Mini Workshops are taught by Guild members and payment goes directly to them. If you are interested in teaching a virtual workhop, please contact **Elizabeth Guillette**, **ekguillette@gmail.com**

Connecting and Learning



Sue Babbs

I was not able to be present at the December Guild Meeting as my husband had cataract surgery that morning. So my joking entry - *Mada Bound Hats* - for the Annual Project *(Mad About Hats)* was not submitted. It was definitely a case of quantity not quality as, during the pandemic, I have crocheted 38 hats. Most of the yarn came from the freebie table, so I thank whoever donated it!

Many of you know that I am passionate about the island of Madagascar, and the hats will either be sold to raise funds for the people of Toliara or given to them as a present. The Malagasy do suffer from cold in winter as the temperature drops at night and in most cases their houses are not heated at all.

NSNG Service Notes

- Some of us are continuing to work on Days for Girls kit-making in our own homes. Sue Babbs has lots of bags and liners cut if anyone wants to come and collect them to work at home. Contact Sue if you would like to help, suebabbs385@gmail.com
- Days for Girls International is holding a special virtual event to celebrate their accomplishments – even during the pandemic – on Thurs, February 11 at 3 pm CT. Celeste Mergens, the CEO and founder, will share



stories and set a vision for the future. There will also be a chance for you to ask

questions and interact with the team. To sign up, click the Eventbrite link in the email sent with this newsletter.

- Share your charity quilts and projects with us during our Guild meeting Show & Tell, or send to Jan Harrington to put in a future newsletter.
- Feel free to contact Sevice Chair, **Gretchen Alexander**, with any other service related items, **gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net or 847-257-2507.**

ZOOM Meet-Up Feb 11: RETRO LOVE

Many of us were inspired in our needle art skills by family members. This knitted skirt was made by Tricia Baldwin's mother, Dorothy, who taught her at an early age to knit, crochet and sew. There was no pattern and she used scraps of yarn. She also knit the clothes for her Tammy doll. And, yes, in the late 1960's Tricia fit into this skirt and wore it often to high school.

- Do you have projects from your childhood, or ones that remind you of a loved one? Share your memories during this **RETRO LOVE meet-up.**
- In March we will talk about Collecting and Using **VINTAGE TEXTILES.** Don't be afraid to repurpose those old treasures.
- The Knitting group discovered that most of us are "Bi-Stitchural" (i.e. we knit and crochet). We've changed the name of the group to ensure that we include both.

NSNG Zoom Meet-Ups: 9:30 - 11:30

NSNG Zoom Meet-Ups: 9:30 - 11:30

Wed, Feb 10 - Knitting and Crochet

Thurs, Feb 11 - RETRO LOVE

Mon, Feb 15 - Hand Work

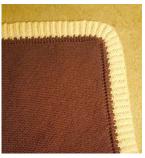
Mon, March 8 - Hand Work

Tues, March 9 - Knitting and Crochet

Thurs, March 11 - Collecting and Using

Vintage Textiles

• Tricia Baldwin is coordinating our virtual meet-ups. Please email Tricia at *meetups@ nsng.org* to receive an email invitation with Zoom link or if you have questions.



Mini Workshop with Susan Lutz Kenyon: Rib Stitch Afghan Crochet Border

• Tues, March 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am • Fee: \$10

This border looks like you've gone around the afghan many times. With the Rib Stitch technique you only go around once. The workshop covers tips on how to do this edge on crochet, knit, and fleece afghans. For the class sample, either crochet or knit a square approximately 7 inches using medium weight (size 4) yarn that

is also smooth, solid color, and neither white or black. For the border use the same type of yarn but a different color than the square. Skill level is Beginner Medium.

• To register for this mini workshop, email Susan and Elizabeth Guillette, *ekguil-lette@gmail.com*, *slkenyon@aol.com*.

Mini Workshop with Tricia Baldwin: Quilt Piecing with Fusible Interfacing

• Thurs, April 22, 9:30 - 11:30 am • Fee: \$10

Tricia Baldwin will teach you how to use fusible interfacing to make quilt piecing fun, fast and successful!

Have you ever seen a Waterfall quilt, wanted to make one but the thought of sewing hundreds (thousands?) of small squares together is daunting? Fusible interfacing is the answer. This is not a new technique, but Tricia has tips, helpful techniques, and experience to guide you. This is an invaluable tool to have in your quilter's toolbox. The focus will be on piecing, but we



will also briefly cover how interfacing is used in applique and t-shirt quilts.

• To register for this mini workshop, email Tricia and Elizabeth Guillette: baldwintricia2@gmail.com, ekguillette@gmail.com

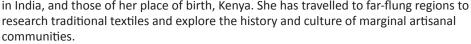




Kuchi Embroidery of India with Shila Desai

• LECTURE Tues, March 2, 9:30 am

Travel to the semi-desert of India's Kutch region where tribal embroidery is a conduit for personal, social and spiritual expression. Traditionally, embroidered articles were an integral part of a girl's dowry. For royals and nobility, they conferred status. Specific items were embroidered, ornamented with mirrors, and exchanged to mark life passages, most the colourful culture of eight tribal groups,



Through her business, Shila introduces textile enthusiasts to the diversity of traditional material cultures. Bringing creators and appreciators together helps to sustain these communities. Recently, the pandemic has delayed Shila's launch of a handmade textile non-profit, Tana Banna, that will channel funds back to artisans.

Shila is a Chartered Accountant (U.K.) by training. Upon emigrating to Canada in 1988, Shila and her husband founded and ran an international technical apparel manufacturing company. Her experience with the contemporary textile production cycle spurs her efforts to sustain traditional handmade models. In addition to leading and collaborating on tours to the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia, Mexico, SE Asia, Morocco, Turkey, and East Africa, Shila is a sourdough baker, award-winning writer, and a dressmaking dabbler.



WORKSHOP with Bill Keller: Alabama Chanin™- Inspired T-Shirt

Tues, March 2, 1:00 - 4:00 pm; Thurs, March 4, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

• Workshop Fee: \$50

Bill Keller will be teaching how to make your own Alabama Chanin™ - inspired garment. He will be demonstrating how to create a t-shirt using a stencil you design and create, or a pattern he will provide. The stencil is used to apply textile paint to one layer of knit material. A second layer of material is placed underneath and they are sewn together using the painted areas as a guide. Finally, selected areas are cut away to reveal the fabric beneath. Examples of different looks will be shared and discussed.

This is not a class on garment construction which is why we are using purchased t-shirts. If you wish to create a different garment, he will discuss the process and some additional



considerations, but you will be on your own to construct it. He advises to start small and not embark on a huge project for your first attempt. The project will hint at the many possibilities for future explorations.

There will be 2 sessions, each 3 hours long, with a day in between to allow for making the stencil and allowing the paint to set.

NOTE: The stencil for the shirt I am wearing was purchased from Alabama Chanin™ and WILL NOT be the one used in class. I will be using my own designs. The stencil I provide to students (if they choose to use it) will be my own design and/or non-copyright protected. My hope is that each student will create their own stencil design.

- Bill Keller, bkforge@sbcglobal.net

See page 7 for workshop registration information. All of our meetings, lectures & workshops are Central Time. Visit our website – www.nsng.org – for more information, registration forms and supply lists.

Favorite Places with Valerie Goodwin



Valerie Goodwin is a mixed media fiber artist and architect, whose works of fine art are included in museum and private collections. Most of her work is inspired by a love of aerial views of landscapes and cities. Many of her quilts are based on maps. Goodwin's art has moved through various stages from traditional quilting to an interest in abstract expressionism and, currently, it is inspired by real and imaginary landscapes and cities. In some cases, her work shows an architectural sense of space with an archeological perspective. In others, the network of the city and its built form is more prominent. Valerie received degrees in architecture from Washington University and Yale University.

- LECTURE Tues, Apr 6, 9:30 am: A Dialogue Between Quilting and Architecture Valerie is a practicing architect and this lecture focuses on the common ground between architecture and quilting: Shape, composition, ordering systems, color, texture, and pattern.
- Favorite Places WORKSHOP: Wed, Apr 7, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm; Thurs, Apr 8, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm; Fri, Apr 9, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (Half-hour break for lunch each day) Using a fun and simple series of painted

and collaged mixed media techniques, you will create a mixed media fiber art map. The instructor will guide you through a series of steps that will provide opportunities to learn about design while giving you the freedom to experiment within a structured framework.

NOTE: Because this class will require that students bring a map of their chosen favorite place, some pre-planning and communication with each student will be required so that each person brings a map that is usable in this workshop.



- Workshop Fee: \$150 (includes supply kit)
- Website: valeriegoodwinart.com

Workshop Registration

You can still register or join the waiting list for the Winter/Spring 2021 workshops. All are open for NSNG member registration. Non-member registration opens two months before the workshop, dates are on the workshop registration form. Check with Jenny Ross, the NSNG Workshop Registrar, before sending payment to make sure that space remains in the workshop. If you signed up for a workshop and are not able to attend, let Jenny Ross know, she will see if your spot can be filled from the waiting list. If there is sufficient interest, additional sessions of popular workshops may be offered.

If you prefer to pay with a credit card that can be arranged. You will be responsible for paying the workshop fees and the credit card processing fee. Your registration is not complete until the completed registration form, a signed participant agreement and payment have been received.

• Please contact Jenny Ross at *registration@ nsng.org* or 847-404-9673.

Visit our website – *NSNG.org* – for workshop details, supply lists and registration form.

RESCHEDULED!

ONLINE TRUNK SHOW with JOHN MARSHALL

Thursday, Feb 25 • 10:00 am - 9:00 pm

Featuring examples of
John Marshall's artwork as well as
traditional Japanese clothing
and textiles, exquisite metallic
yarns and other unique
and enticing items.

NSNG members will receive a 20% discount on any purchase!

To view the show, go to www.johnmarshall.to/NSNG



Note: Due to health reasons,
Jackie Abrams has had to cancel her
program and workshops in May.
We will let you know when new ones
have been scheduled.

NSNG Board • 2020 - 2021

President 1st Vice-President	Luan Wold Cynthia Boudreau	847-644-4705 630-240-9445	luanwold@gmail.com cboudreau@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Debby Henning	262-215-6769	debby.henning@mac.com
2nd Vice-President	Maggie Weiss	847-571-1385	msmaggie6@comcast.com
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Membership Chair	Janet Tuzzolino	847-707-1739	jmtuzz@gmail.com
Workshop Registrar	Jenny Ross	847-404-9673	jenny60060@comcast.net
Mini-Workshop Chair	Elizabeth Khoodikians-Guillette	708-386-6004	ekguillette@gmail.com
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Member Challenge	Susan Kenyon	847-680-3162	slkenyon@aol.com
Special Events Chair	Tricia Baldwin	847-650-7908	baldwintricia2@gmail.com
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FAOF Assistant Chair	Valerie Koppenhaver	224-522-3000	koppenhaver@comcast.net
FAOF Assistant Chair	Bill Keller	773-610-7005	bkforge@sbcglobal.net
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Service Chair	Gretchen Alexander	847-257-2507	gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster	Valerie Koppenhaver	224-522-3000	koppenhaver@comcast.net
Past President	Penny Burns	312-590-1646	pburns@jbosh.com

Board Position Vacancies

NSNG will have six board positions to fill for the 2021-2022 Guild year. The board year begins at our May board meeting.

Being on the governing board of our Guild is a volunteer position. We operate as a professional group to provide direction and a framework for gathering and operating.

The open positions will be the following:

- Treasurer: Basic bookkeeping, tax filing, monthly reports. Helpful if you are familiar with "Quickbooks."
- Secretary: Keeps minutes of monthly board meetings and sends out to board.
- 2nd Vice President, Programs: Search for and contract with artists to provide lectures and workshops (for Sept 2022-May 2023 Guild year)
- Workshop Registrar: Organizes and receives registrations and payments for workshops
- Membership Chair: Keeps running record of members, processes membership forms and creates annual directory.
- **Hospitality Chair:** Books hotel and local transportation for visiting artists as well as arranging assistance during workshops.

Gretchen Alexander and Mary Jo Eckhart are serving as the nominating committee for the board positions that are coming open. If you have suggestions or questions, please contact either Gretchen, gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net, or Mary Jo at mjeckhart@me.com

NSNG Membership Information

The purpose of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild is to foster the art of needlework and to encourage a high standard of design, innovation, and technique in various forms of fiber arts. New ideas and techniques are developed through lectures, workshops and other group gatherings. Members are encouraged to show their own talents at meetings.

- APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP: Contact membership chair Janet Tuzzolino for an application. Annual membership dues are \$50.
- **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY:** The annual directory includes names and contact info for all members, calendars, NSNG By-Laws and other information about our Guild. The pdf of the 2020-2021 directory was sent to current members. Updates will be sent as needed.
- Please contact Janet if you have a change of address, phone or email address or news about a fellow member of the Guild.
 - Janet Tuzzolino, 847-707-1739 or email jmtuzz@gmail.com

NSNG

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

The newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild is published monthly. A digital copy is sent out via email a few days before each meeting. It's also available on our website.

The March issue will be sent out in late February (Submission deadline is Feb 20)

Please contact Newsletter Editor Jan Harrington with Show & Tell, announcements or corrections: janQharrington@gmail.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.nsng.org

INSTAGRAM: @needleartschicago #northsuburbanneedleartsguild

FACEBOOK: North Suburban NeedleArts Guild