

## Red Berries Don't Have to Be Red



I have this nature photo that I wanted to make into a fabric piece. I liked the composition and the colors – leaf branches with a sprig of pinkish/red berries. When I started on the leaves, I chose patterned batiks, and tried to match the colors to the leaves in the photo. Trouble was, it was hard to replicate the multiple colors of the leaves as well as the partial decay that is so typical of late fall.

Then when I went to tackle the berries, the fabric I had set aside just did not seem to work. I realized I had been trying to be too literal. I had already deviated on the “realness” of the leaves, so why did the berries have to be the same color as the photo?

I have always had trouble interpreting an image in a way that is other than realistic; my brain says it should be as I see it. But many impressionists have successfully disagreed (Wolf Kahn comes to mind). A sky does not have to be blue; grass does not have to be green; and red berries don't have to be red!

– Luan Wold, NSNG President



### NSNG Spring 2021 Calendar

Monthly Guild meetings are **Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am (CST)**.

Zoom invitations will be sent by email.

**DETAILS INSIDE & ON OUR WEBSITE: [www.nsng.org](http://www.nsng.org)**

- **March 2:** Travel lecture by Shila Desai. Workshop with Bill Keller to follow.
- **Thurs, March 11: Zoom Meet-Up** – Open Topic *plus* Collecting and Using 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:** Presentation by paper artist Helen Hiebert. Paper Weaving Workshop to follow. **REGISTER NOW!**
- **June 1:** Virtual gathering with expanded Show & Tell.

**MORE ZOOM MEET-UPS on page 4**



**New!**

**May 4th Speaker and Workshop:**  
**PAPER WEAVING**  
with  
**Helen Hiebert**  
See page 6.



## Donna Sweeney

These are three pillows I made during 2020 using machine and embroidery stitching. The first two were from classes on Craftsyt. The third one (*on right*) uses Indian Sari fabric and is a combination of Lisa Binkley's class: *Art of Hand Stitching Beads on Cloth* through the Mendocino Art Center, and Catherine Redford's class on *Folk Art Embroidery* through Stitches. Both these classes were on Zoom. I love doing the hand embroidery. I used the following stitches: running stitch, buttonhole stitch, seed stitch and chain stitch. And I really had fun with the buttons and beads on the Sari fabric pillow!



## Robin Buscemi Rivera

The four tubular peyote amulet bags/necklaces are by a designer Anne Paxton. They were made atop a tube of taped, rolled paper with Miyuki delica 11 beads. (*Left shows the front with backs above.*) Clockwise from left: Santa, Botticelli's Venus and Botticelli's Springtime and the last one is Jeanne d'Arc.

**Contribute to our SHOW & TELL pages!**

Thank you for sharing. We love to see your projects! Email images, stories and other announcements to Jan Harrington, [janqharrington@gmail.com](mailto:janqharrington@gmail.com)



## Cynthia Boudreau

• I started this quilt in Heidi Parkes' workshop in November. The fabrics were some I had dyed in a former Jane Dunnewold class. The applique and quilting are stitched by hand. The design was inspired by blowing leaves off a pear tree! Remember those warm autumn days?! It took sub-zero temperatures to finish the quilting! This is my first quilt – which has made me appreciate quilters so very much.

• Here is my first lined zipper bag from Bill Keller's fabulous workshop. I am making more!



## Ruth Stockdale

My Ella Improv cowl is shown below. This was the finished product that we did as a follow-up to Cecelia Campochiaro's workshop sessions. The cowl incorporates both marling and sequence knitting – the marling to blend colors and the sequence to create the spiral pattern. I used Shadow yarn from KnitPicks for this. It is 100% merino lace weight in 6 different colors.

Each of Cecelia's sessions was packed with inspiration, encouragement, and techniques.



She was very flexible about adapting her presentation on-the-fly to handle questions. She even added one additional session because there was so much to discuss. I know that Three Bags Full brought in a batch of Cecelia's recommended yarns just before the workshop.

I had already purchased my KnitPicks supply by that time, but now I plan to see if they still have any of her curated selection. There are so many directions to take with the techniques I learned that I would like to try more projects with her recommended materials.

***A big thanks to NSNG for offering such amazing programs!***



## Pam Novey

Here are my two llama pieces from Jan Harrington's mini workshop. I made these llamas for my daughter and granddaughter. My daughter often visits New Mexico and goes hiking using llamas to carry the gear. This wool is a new medium for me to work in, and I'm enjoying the handwork and working in mixed media.





## ZOOM Meet-Up March 11: Collecting and Using Vintage Textiles

Many of us have a stash of vintage fabric, antique linens, handkerchiefs, or retro inspired fabrics. Don't be afraid to repurpose them! Jan Harrington used the vintage tablecloth for an improv wall hanging and feedsacks to create a garden mini. **Join us on March 11.** We will talk about our vintage textiles, but we also just chat!

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

Mon, March 8 – Hand Work

Tues, March 9 –  
Knitting and Crochet

**Thurs, March 11 –  
OPEN TOPIC plus Collecting  
and Using Vintage Textiles**

• Tricia Baldwin coordinates our virtual meet-ups. Please email Tricia at [meetups@nsng.org](mailto:meetups@nsng.org) to receive an email invitation with Zoom link and if you have questions or ideas for future meet-ups.

## 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: [slkenyon@aol.com](mailto:slkenyon@aol.com), [ekguillette@gmail.com](mailto:ekguillette@gmail.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](mailto:baldwintricia2@gmail.com), [ekguillette@gmail.com](mailto:ekguillette@gmail.com)



## March Service Notes

• Cardz for Kidz is an organization that encourages volunteers to create handmade cards for hospitalized children. To learn more about this Chicago-based



nonprofit and what is involved in making and donating cheery cards to children in hospitals – visit their website: [CardzforKidz.com](http://CardzforKidz.com).

Use your creative talents and collections of trims, buttons, and papers for the cards to bring a little joy to a child in the hospital. Please share your cards with us during Show & Tell.

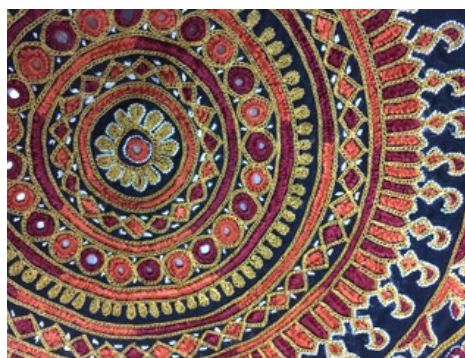
• What are your acts of service to your community? Please let us know the nice things you are doing for your community.

• We have kits for making a simple backpack. If you can read instructions, you can make one. The completed backpacks will be given to youngsters living at shelters. If you would like a kit for the backpack, a baby or lap quilt, a pillow case, instructions for baby caps, or Days for Girls kit items – please call or e-mail me to arrange for delivery.

• The chart with donation quilt sizes is now posted on our website.

**Thank you for all you do for others.**

– Service Chair, **Gretchen Alexander**,  
[gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net) or  
847-257-2507.



## 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 commonly, marriage. This lecture will explore the colourful culture of eight tribal groups, traditional purposes of embroidery, and their distinct styles.

**Shila Desai** is the founder and owner of Canadian-based E.Y.H.O. Tours, specialising in world textile travels. Shila is drawn to the textiles of her ancestral lands of Gujarat-Kutch in India, and those of her place of birth, Kenya. She has travelled to far-flung regions to research traditional textiles and explore the history and culture of marginal artisanal communities.

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](mailto:bkforge@sbcglobal.net)

See page 6 for workshop registration information. **All of our meetings, lectures & workshops are Central Time.**

Visit our website – [www.nsn.org](http://www.nsn.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](http://valeriegoodwinart.com)**

## Paper Weaving with Helen Hiebert

• **LECTURE** **Tues, May 4, 9:30 am:**

***The Secret Life of Paper***

Internationally recognized paper and book artist Helen Hiebert will share examples of her most recent work, including her limited edition artists books, videos and installations, including as the Mother Tree Project, her traveling community installation about motherhood, and the *Secret Life of Paper*, a short film about abaca, a papermaking fiber. She will also discuss her adventures in writing how-to books, teaching online and using social media in the paper world.



Helen Hiebert constructs installations, sculptures, films, works in paper and artists books using paper as her primary medium. She teaches, gives lectures and exhibits her work internationally. She is the author of five paper craft books, writes a popular blog, The Sunday Paper and hosts the podcast Paper Talk. Helen lives and works in the Colorado Rocky Mountains.

• **Paper Weaving WORKSHOP: Wed, May 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm;**

**Thurs, May 6: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Explore the basics and push the boundaries of paper weaving as you weave straight and curved strips, add a warp, make shaped weavings and cut windows to reveal paper layers. Helen will show examples of her work and that of other artists for inspiration, and we will weave create structural paper weavings, such as cards, books and lanterns. Use your own papers, purchase a kit containing gorgeous Japanese papers, or mix and match!

• **Workshop Fee: \$150**

• **Website with link to blog: [helenhiebertstudio.com](http://helenhiebertstudio.com)**



### Workshop Registration

Registration is open for the new **May 2021 Paper Weaving workshop with Helen Hiebert**. The April workshop with Goodwin is full. If you are interested, you can be placed on the waiting list and see if a spot opens up.

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 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](mailto:registration@nsng.org) or 847-404-9673.

• **Visit our website – [NSNG.org](http://NSNG.org) – for workshop details, supply lists and registration form.**

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1st Vice-President	<b>Cynthia Boudreau</b>	630-240-9445	cboudreau@gmail.com
1st Vice President	<b>Debby Henning</b>	262-215-6769	debby.henning@mac.com
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Mini-Workshop Chair	<b>Elizabeth Khoodikians-Guillette</b>	708-386-6004	ekguillette@gmail.com
Publicity Chair	<b>Frances Krueger-Jackson</b>	773-784-8766	fran@franniesfelts.com
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Special Events Chair	<b>Tricia Baldwin</b>	847-650-7908	baldwintricia2@gmail.com
Hospitality Chair	<b>Sue Miller</b>	847-975-9680	orchid1245@gmail.com
Fine Art of Fiber Chair	<b>Nona Flores</b>	847-869-1362	ncflores52@gmail.com
FAOF Assistant Chair	<b>Valerie Koppenhaver</b>	224-522-3000	koppenhaver@comcast.net
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Webmaster	<b>Valerie Koppenhaver</b>	224-522-3000	koppenhaver@comcast.net
Past President	<b>Penny Burns</b>	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 "Quick-books."
- **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](mailto:gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net), or Mary Jo at [mjeckhart@me.com](mailto: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 dues are currently reduced to \$30 for the remainder of the membership year, which ends on July 31, 2021.

• **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](mailto:jmtuzz@gmail.com)



### 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 April issue will be sent out in late March.**

**(Submission deadline is March 20)**

Please contact Newsletter Editor **Jan Harrington** with Show & Tell, announcements or corrections: [janqharrington@gmail.com](mailto:janqharrington@gmail.com)

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.nsn.org](http://www.nsn.org)**

INSTAGRAM: [#needleartschicago](https://www.instagram.com/needleartschicago)  
[#northsuburbanneedleartsguild](https://www.instagram.com/northsuburbanneedleartsguild)

FACEBOOK: **North Suburban NeedleArts Guild**