

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
January 2011

*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in.
A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves. Bill Vaughn*

Happy Holidays, Everyone!

What fun we had at the Holiday Party! I took home a treasure and a "not so much" treasure. (It may make a return trip next year as did several "special" pieces.)

I am looking forward to the Holidays because I am planning to spend time with all 4 of my kids. At 40+ they don't consider themselves kids, but to me they still are. I will help my newest grandchildren, Emerson Lee Jenks and her twin brother, Riley James Jenks, celebrate their first Christmas. They were born November 3, the day after our November NSNG meeting. Their parents, JR and Kara as well as my daughter, Susan, will complete our Chicago celebration. I will travel to Rock Island where my daughter, Mary and her family live for a Quad-City celebration. Then I'll come back here when my son, Ken comes in from Houston for a few days. So, except for the Houston children and daughter-in-law, I will get to see everybody!

I hope that you are lucky enough to be able to spend time with your loved ones.

I look forward to a wonderful NSNG year with fascinating programs and workshops (I've signed up for all of them.)

With warmest wishes for a season of good cheer,
Alice

Sophie Finds a New Home

I want to thank everyone for their generous contributions to "Sophie." She had quite the wardrobe and looked wonderful at the Fine Art of Fiber. Sophie was won by Peggy Miller of Highland Park. It was great, she came back to the show to pick up her prizes and couldn't believe it was all for her. Nearby, was Chris Dearing of IQI, who chatted with Peggy. I thought they knew each other. As it turns out I find out later that Chris mentioned to Peggy (a total stranger) that her daughter really wanted to win just for the dress form. Peggy was kind enough to "Pay it Forward" and gave Sophie to Chris for her daughter. So we had two very happy winners.

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to next year's fabulous creations.

Beth Polonsky

CALENDAR

Tues. Jan. 4 9 - 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops, at Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pfingsten in Northbrook

9:30 am Lecture, Ann Fahl, Ideas of Creativity
afternoon: Book Page Folding. Mini workshop with Val Rodelli)see (see p. 5)

Wed.-Thurs. Workshop, Ann Fahl Come and Dance on your Quilt

Tues. Jan. 11 9:30-1:00 at Barbie Eich's, Work on service kits (see p. 6)

Tues. Jan. 18, 10 am Board meeting at Gloria Dei

Thurs. Jan. 20, noon. Feb. newsletter deadline

Tues. Jan. 25 One Step Beyond at Roberta Skelton's (see p. 4)

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Visit our website: www.needleartsguild.com

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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 or \$25 for 8 issues

1/4 page \$8 per issue or \$50 for 8 issues

1/2 page \$16 per issue or \$100 for 8 issues

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Lectures and Workshops

Please take a look at the remaining lectures and workshops. At this time all workshops are open, please take time to find a class that interests you. A workshop is a good time to learn something new, spend time with some artistic people and a wonderful holiday gift to yourself and a way to support the guild.

Ann Fahl, January 4-6

Ann Fahl is a quilt artist living and working in Racine WI. She has been teaching since 1981, traveling across the US working with guilds, symposiums, retreats and quilters of all ages and experience. Connecting with quilters is an energizing and enjoyable part of her quilting career. Her work has been exhibited in competitions, solo exhibits and invitational shows across the United States, France and Japan.

Lecture: Ideas of creativity. How to listen to your own body's rhythms to take advantage of your most creative moments. She discusses: knowing yourself; idea collecting; scheduling; unstructured thought; and much more.

Workshop: Come and Dance on your Quilt. The process of quilting can be one of the most satisfying and creative parts of making a quilt. Watching the surface of your quilt come alive is exhilarating. It makes all your hard work seem worthwhile. So, instead of sending your quilt out, why not learn to free-motion machine quilt yourself? Try this more free-spirited approach; using little marking and Ann's new book *Dancing with Thread* as a guide. This class is for the student that has some experience with machine quilting and wears dancing shoes. \$110

RaeAnn Collins, February 1-3, 2011

RaeAnn Collins received her BA in Fine Arts (print-making and drawing) from Aquinas College and an MFA in Interdisciplinary Book and Paper Arts from Columbia College in Chicago. While at Columbia, she received the Albert P. Weisman Exhibition Best of Show honor for her thesis entitled *Offering*. In a former life, she worked as a conservation technician (book conservator) at the Ryerson Library in the Museum of the Art Institute of Chicago. Currently she sits on the board of the Down Syndrome Development Council, teaches box making and other workshops at Columbia College and pursues her love of box making and various artistic interests in her studio.

Lecture: Seven Japanese aesthetic principles to enrich your process of creating art

Workshop: Japanese stab binding in a traditional wrap case.

In this workshop we will make 5 Japanese stab bindings and a custom Japanese wrap case to house them.

Day one: We will be learning about materials, tools, and sewing all 5 books.

Day two: We will be constructing the wrap case.

\$110

March 1-3, 2011, Christi Friesen

Christi Friesen is an award-winning artist and author of 8 books on polymer clay and mixed media art. She teaches all over the U.S. and internationally. Her pieces have won top awards in the Bead Dreams contest, the Bead Arts Awards, the International Wearable Arts Exhibitions and others. Her teaching style embraces the joy of creating, stressing the individuality of creativity while imparting the foundations of the craft. Her sense of humor and relaxed teaching style make her classes fun as well as informative.

Website: <http://www.cforiginals.net/>

Lecture: Designing art jewelry with mixed media

Workshop: Beads, Buttons and Blooms: two days of clay with Christi Friesen

Polymer clay is an amazingly versatile medium, combining well with beads and fibers. In this workshop, we will explore hose connections while we create a series of finished polymer clay and mixed media pieces.

The workshop begins with buttons and moves on to more intricate floral pieces that can be used as components for an art necklace, or individually as brooches or focal beads. Finally, we will explore several concepts using embellished polymer clay to add a dimensional component to quilting and fiber arts. Since polymer clay is waterproof, colorfast and lightweight, adding polymer embellishments to fiber projects opens a window of exciting possibilities, and the workshop will wrap up with a foray into these possibilities. In this two-day class, you will learn all the basics of polymer clay sculptural work, as well as finishing techniques to incorporating the clay into art jewelry pieces, fiber works, doll sculpture and more. \$115

continued on p. 4

Lectures and Workshops (continued)

April 5-7, 2011, Rachel Nelson-Smith

Rachel Nelson-Smith, author of *Seed Bead Fusion*, is a master beadweaver whose work is infused with her unique combination of fabrication techniques. Needle and tools shape bold and vibrant works alive with enormous energy and dynamism. Finding inspiration in surrounding nature, pure color, and beads themselves, Rachel creates pieces reflecting the world she sees around her.

Coloring outside the lines, an approach based in freedom allows her to extemporaneously express thoughts as they happen. With wide use of color and energy, physical manifestations are created in beads and wire. Her work has appeared in many books and her own *Seed Bead Fusion: 18 Projects to Stitch, Wire & String* (Interweave Press) was published in 2009.

Lecture: Creative process: sculptural beadwork Workshop: Beon Freo cuff and techniques

Learn several beadweaving stitches, then explore beading freely and answer the question "what if?". Discuss possibilities for your piece including components and overall feel, assembly and finishing. Printed directions with illustration for the base, fringe, and several components are provided. We'll begin with flat peyote and bezeling with tubular peyote, herring bone fringe, and right-angle weave with a small amount of optional wire working techniques. \$155

May 3-5, Kathy Weaver

Kathy received an M.A. in Art and Art History from Bowling Green State University. She has also studied in Vienna, Austria and Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Trained as a painter, Kathy actively practiced her art while raising a family and having a career teaching art in the public schools. Her paintings were of a political nature and involved issues apartheid, feminism and

anti-militarism. In 1998 she gravitated to the medium of fabric as a way to engage a larger audience to view the message of her works. She has exhibited nationally and internationally. Kathy's works are in the collection of the Museum of Arts and Design in New York and traveled with the Quilt National '07 show (where she received the Cathy Rasmussen Emerging Artist Memorial Award). She also has pieces at the Wright Gallery of Art, Grayslake, IL and in The Columbus Museum of Art, exhibition,

Material Matters. Kathy will also be featured in an upcoming exhibit and book, *Twelve Voices*, in Traverse City, MI. Website: <http://www.kweaverarts.com/index.html>

Lecture: My inspiration

Workshop: Fundamentals of Airbrushing

Have you ever wanted to learn how to airbrush? A two-day workshop will afford students an overview of how the airbrush technique can be adapted for both surface design of fabric and for the construction of a whole cloth quilt. Examples of work in both methods will be shown. A survey of various stenciling, masking and spontaneous painting techniques will be demonstrated. Students will have hands on opportunity to use the airbrush to experience these methods of working. Time will be spent making students knowledgeable about various kinds of airbrushes, condensers, inks and paints. Kathy will demonstrate, and we will experiment with, various kinds of substrates on which to airbrush. The proper use of the airbrush, cleaning and maintenance will be taught. \$140

One Step Beyond...

...will be January 25, 2011 at the home of Roberta Skelton, 811 E. Central Rd. #447, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. The meeting time is 9:30 AM. If you plan to attend, please call Roberta at 847-956-4401 to let her know you will attend.

Members' Sale after March 1st Meeting

March 1st will be our annual Members' Sale. If you want a table to sell your art, treasures, excess supplies, books, magazines etc., reserve a space with Linda Iser- lindaiser@gmail.com or 847-478-5014 or Barbie Eich-barbill0665@comcast.net or 847-564-4232 by February 18th. There is no charge for the table to members, but a reservation is required. Please, no free giveaways at this sale. Keep them for another meeting.

Mini-Workshop—January 4, 2011 Book Page Folding with Valerie Rodelli

Our exciting January mini-workshop will teach the technique of "Book Page Folding." Each participant will make their own piece of art by folding the pages of a book in certain configurations. The books can be used for a table, wall, or hanging piece of art. There will be samples to look at for inspiration.

We will start with the actual folding. If you get done folding in the workshop, you can go on to embellishing the book. If not, this can easily be done at home.

A supply fee of \$5 (you can pay at the workshop) will include the book and use of embellishments at the workshop. Some of the embellishments can be taken with you while others you might have on hand at home. This is a fun and old technique. It can also be done in a basic way with children. They'll love it!

This mini-workshop will follow the January 4th meeting and lunch. Come join us!

Call or email Linda or Barbie by December 30th.
Linda Iser- lindaiser@gmail.com or 847-478-5014
Barbie Eich- barbill0665@comcast.net or 847-564-4232
Mini-Workshop Chairs

Mini-Workshop February 1, 2011 Mixed Up Media Cards with Kim Darling

Create one of a kind Valentine or any other occasion cards. You will be using fabric, beads, rubber stamps, and lots of other goodies. Anyone who likes to play will enjoy this workshop.

Please bring fabric cutting scissors and Aleene's Tacky Glue if you have it. There will be a kit provided that will include card stock, envelopes, beads, fabric scraps, brads, glue and assorted embellishments for your use. Please feel free to bring a few of your own fabric scraps or embellishments if you desire. You will create approximately 5 cards. The cost of the workshop will be \$10.00 (you can pay at the workshop).

This mini-workshop will follow the February 1st meeting and lunch. Come join us!

Call or email Linda or Barbie by Saturday, January 28th, 2011.
Linda Iser- lindaiser@gmail.com or 847-478-5014
Barbie Eich- barbill0665@comcast.net or 847-564-4232
Mini-Workshop Chairs

Call For Entry

Small Expressions

Entry Deadline: USA entries: March 7, 2011

<http://www.weavespindye.org/>

Small Expressions is an annual international juried exhibit sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc., to showcase fiber art on a small scale [not to exceed 15 inches (38cm) in any direction]. Small Expressions was established at the 1984 Convergence in Dallas, Texas. The late Diane Itter wrote in her juror statement that year:

"Fiber artists working on a small scale must pay special attention to the limitations involved. In order to succeed, a small scale work must maintain an identity and integrity of its own which excludes works which might be viewed as maquettes for larger works or the sense that the work is cut from a larger work. Careful attention must be paid to choice of design, materials, techniques, and craftsmanship. This does not mean a simplification of ideas or image but rather very careful attention paid to all details, without the risk of becoming precious."

Yeiser Art Center Exhibition Proposals

Entry Deadline: February 1, 2011 (receive)

Exhibition Proposals

Yeiser Art Center

Paducah, KY

Exhibition Season: 2012-13

The Yeiser Art Center, a non-profit visual arts gallery in Paducah, KY is seeking proposals from artists in Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Indiana, and Ohio for possible solo and group exhibitions in the 2012-13 calendar year exhibition season. All media considered. Small stipend available to offset artist's expenses.

Send a CV, artist statement, CD of twenty images with printed image directory, SASE, and other support materials to:

Exhibition Committee

Yeiser Art Center

200 Broadway

Paducah, KY 42001

Service Update

Thanks to all who helped on the Service Projects in 2010. Think about getting more involved in 2011.

We now have a regularly scheduled Service Day and location: the second Tuesday of the month at the home of Barbie Eich:

2476 Greenview Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
847-564-4232

Barbie has a spacious studio with 2 sewing machines, cutting and work tables and space for collaboration. You will want to bring your own scissors, rotary cutter, small mat and ruler (at least 6") if you have them.

This year's projects:

Totes and pillow cases for women in shelters

Literacy bags and pillow cases for children in need

Isolette covers and small blankets (quilts)

Collecting toiletries and stationery for military women

We will be making kits and sewing some of them.

Help is needed cutting, sewing, ironing, sorting, etc. There is something for everyone to do. You do have talent and it's good to share it.

The popular "freebie" table will continue. If you have good trash to share that will be someone's treasure bring it to the freebie table. Remember NSNG as you sort through all that stuff that may need a new home. Magazines and books are especially welcome. If you are bringing items (cotton fabric, flannel & batting) for service projects you can put them directly into Jeanette's car in the parking lot. Look for the Blue Subaru license HOP110.

Nancy and Jeanette will be at the Service table and look forward to meeting you. Also, you can pick up a kit or two at the Service table and bring it back next month.

There is also going to be available a large collection of antique fabric in large pieces which is not suitable for clothing, but it would work for wall hangings and other gently handled items.

Annual Project

We now have the FAOF show and the holidays behind us—how did that happen so fast? Anyway, January is the perfect time to get back to the studio and start a fresh project. How about your annual project entry? The theme "Heads or Tails?" is your jumping off point...opposites, two sides of the same coin, choices, to name a few ideas. The guidelines are in the Standing Rules in the hot pink membership book...check them out.

Don't have an idea yet? Not to worry! You still have 3 months to do the project for the April 2011 meeting. Some additional thoughts/interpretations have been popping up in my head on this theme in the past months—maybe they will trigger an idea for you: Trick or Treat? Paper or Plastic? Heads or Tales? "Top to Bottom".

Happy coin flipping!

Roz DeBoer

Reading and Language Arts Tutor

Vicki Collins, M.Ed.

847-564-1419 (Northbrook)

9 years experience specializing in grades 7-12

Masters of Education, special education, Illinois Teaching Certification (Learning Behavior Specialist) for grades K-12.

B.S. in Communications, secondary education grades 7-12

Approved tutor on the International Dyslexic Association website, Orton Gillingham trained ACT English, reading, and writing

paid advertisement

Summer Seminar 2011

Although winter is here, it is not too early to sign up for Summer Seminar 2011. The dates are June 8 - 12, 2011. We have an exciting lineup of 5 classes with 2 very talented teachers. As of January, registration will be open to non-guild members.

Advertising and publicity outside the guild will begin in January.

Below is a description of the 5 classes we are offering.

Alma de la Melena Cox

Alma is an experienced teacher who is from San Rafael, California. She has taught extensively, taken her inspiration from worldwide traveling and from her interest in photography. Alma has art pieces in many galleries and museums. She is the author of a book called *Collage Fusion: Vibrant Wood and Fabric Art Using Telemadera Techniques*. She has been featured on PBS and Quilting Arts TV and will be teaching 3 classes for us.

Her 3-day class is **"Telemadera Fusion" (June 8 -10, 2011—Wed. through Friday)**. Telemadera Fusion is a combination of Wood and Fabric. Students will make 3 projects with this technique...an 11x11 inch Telemadera Fusion, a 12x16 inch Telemadera Fusion with Art Quilt and a 13x13 inch Telemadera Fusion Photo Album. You will learn the technique and how to apply it to various projects: woodburning, fabric, other embellishments, paint, and varnish applied to a wooden plaque.

The first **1-day class (June 11, 2011, Saturday) is "Fabric and Matte Gel."** Participants will create one 12x16 inch wood and fabric piece of artwork using extra heavy gel medium in matte finish. This will create the look of encaustic and/or impasto painting techniques. In this process, the student can layer in virtually anything, as this technique produces a thick final covering.

Another **1-day class (June 12, 2011, Sunday) is "Wood and Fabric Jewelry and Fabric and 3D paint Card Making."** This is a quick and fun process done with cardstock. The student can produce jewelry out of the cardstock, or just use the paper for other mixed media or bookmaking projects. Beads and other ephemera can be used. Alma will actually bring some clay faces to use with this class.

These are fun and very do-able classes. Alma provides most of the supplies in the supply fee. (www.almaart.com)

Jeanette deNicolis Meyer

Jeannette is a fiber and surface design artist who lives in Portland, Oregon. She has taught for 10 years at the Studio School at the Oregon College of Art and Craft. Her work has been exhibited in several museums, been accepted into many juried shows, and, is in galleries, public agencies, and corporate and private collections. She is very interested in the art process, and fosters a passion for artists developing their own voices. Jeannette will be teaching 2 classes for us.

Her **3-day class (June 8 -10, 2011, Wednesday through Friday) is "Fold, Gather, Clamp, and Wrap—Shibori Basics."** Students will explore not only where the dye goes, but where it doesn't go. This class concentrates on surface design. The participant will experiment with unusual art techniques, and come out of this class with a sampling of techniques for their own portfolio. She supplies most of the materials in the supply fee. This class is customized for us and promises to be informative, experimental, and fun.

The **2-day class (June 11-12, Saturday and Sunday) is "Art Quilt Construction Techniques."** This class is for the artist who wants to use the quilt as an expressive medium. She will teach fabric manipulation, curves, reverse applique, cut-throughs and other construction techniques. These techniques will emphasize the use of translucent fabrics, that will be provided, with the manipulation techniques. The techniques can also be used with other types of fabric. After this class the student will have many more techniques for their portfolio for use in future art quilts.

Jeannette stresses individuality, but gently guides you along the way with design and composition principles. (www.jdmeyer.com)

These classes will be exciting and productive. There will be samples from both teachers at the meeting in January....take a look! Register now to guarantee your spot in your choice of classes. Registration will open to non-members in January 2011. Sign up at meetings or get a registration form online www.needleartsguild.com. Any questions call

847-991-9674 or 847-255-0116.

Beth Polonsky

Val Rodelli

Summer Seminar 2011

Workshops

As the New Year approaches, think about participating in one of our upcoming workshops. The January workshop, machine quilting with Ann Fahl, has only a few spaces remaining. They may fill up at the January meeting, so you might want to sign up before that. All of the bookmaking workshops I have taken have been with our guild. You too will have a chance with our February one. I have taken classes with Christi Friesen and Rachel Nelson-Smith. They are both great teachers and lots of fun. These workshops still have openings. You can see the supply lists on our website and notify me if you would like to sign up.

Barbara Fry

News from Barbara Schneider

Reflections Honfleur, France, var. 13 has been selected for Quilt National 11.

Reflections, Burano, Italy, var. 2 has been selected for the Art in Embassies program and will be exhibited in the U. S. embassy in Vientiane, Laos from early 2011 through mid 2013.

Reflections, Glass Walls, La Defense, Paris var. 2 and var. 4 are included in the newly published *The Art Quilt Collection: Designs and Inspiration from Around the World*, available from Sixth & Spring Books. www.sixthandspringbooks.com

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First Class Mail