

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
November 2011

I have found that sitting in a place where you have never sat before can be inspiring.
--Dodie Smith

President's Message

The Fine Art of Fiber is nearly here, my favorite event of the year! Each time I am enthralled and amazed at the creativity and expertise of our members. I am pleased that we will have more than 200 works of art to display. Although the parking fee is high, every member can see the show for free by simply volunteering for a two and a half hour shift to help make this the most successful show ever. If, like me, that long on your feet is difficult, we have several "sit-down" jobs that need to be done. Besides the joy of helping your guild, you get a free parking pass for your efforts. So, if you haven't already done so, sign up at our November 1 meeting.

While you are at the Fine Art of Fiber, be sure to check out the Boutique and do your Holiday shopping from our talented members' merchandise.

There is till time to create a little something for the Silent Auction. We even accept things at the show, although it would be nice if you'd tell us in advance that you are doing so. The funds from this help us to have the wonderful programs we so enjoy.

Be sure to pass out or send postcards for the Fine Art of Fiber to all your friends and at any meeting you attend. More will be available at the November 1 meeting.

This November we are trying something a little different than we've done before.

Lil Rev, a/k/a Marc Revenson, comes highly recommended by quilt guilds and other groups in Wisconsin for his musical interpretation of quilting in America. I'm sure we are in for a treat.

As I write this, Halloween is not yet upon us, even though I celebrate all month with jewelry and specific clothes. Last weekend at the Chicago Area Polymer Clay Guild retreat near Oregon, IL, the wild turkey foraging for berries near the workroom window reminded me that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Our family is planning to all gather then. It gets more and more complicated to arrange, but I'm looking forward to seeing all 4 of my kids and most of my 8 grandkids.
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CALENDAR

Tues. Nov. 1 9 - 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops, at Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pflingsten in Northbrook
9:30 am Lil' Rev Scraps of Quilting Music
Afternoon: Beading Bee with Barbara Fry, see p. 7
Thurs. Nov 3 FAOF setup. See p. 6
Thurs-Sun, Nov. 3-6 Fine Art of Fiber at the Botanic Garden. See p. 6 for times and details
Tuesday Nov. 8, 9:30 am Work on service project at Barbie Eich's. See Service p. 7
Tues. Nov. 15 10 am Board Meeting at Gloria Dei
Tues. Dec. 6th 11 am-3 pm Holiday Potluck Party at Gloria Dei. See p. 7
Tues. Dec. 13th Noon. Deadline for January newsletter

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Since we do not have a December newsletter, I want to extend my Happy Holiday wishes to all of you. Be sure to start the season of merriment by coming to our Holiday Party on December 6 for fellowship and good food (our members are great cooks or they buy great food for the potluck luncheon). The optional, but always fun gift exchanges are an annual highlight.

On a more somber note, I was saddened to hear of the death of Carol Laureys who had been a member since 1974. Her quiet attentive presence will be missed. She always sat near the slide projector and/or computer so that she could see well and she seldom missed a meeting. Her distinctive silver hair was always perfectly coiffed. Goodbye, my friend. I hope you are stitching something beautiful in Heaven.

See you all on November 1.

Alice

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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November 1, 2011

Scraps of Quilting Music

Lil' Rev

Lecture only

Lil' Rev, a/k/a Marc Revenson, is a Milwaukee based multi instrumentalist, singer/songwriter, storyteller, music historian, teacher and entertainer. He tours nationally giving workshops on the ukulele and harmonica. He will present a one-man show celebrating the quilting tradition in America. Just a few of the subjects that he touches on are: The AIDS quilt, quilters of the old west, the quilters of Gees Bend, quilts that are sent to Iraq as well as the story of a quilt from the Civil War.

Urgent! Do you have a music themed quilt?

Next month's entertainer, Lil' Rev, has requested that I ask guild members if they have a music themed quilt they would like to display as a backdrop for his show.

He usually brings his own quilts but they are packed and being shipped to his next venue in South Carolina.

If you have one, please contact me at cathdola@gmail.com with the information.

Thanks so much!
Cathy Mendola

January 3-5, 2012

Shelley Brucar

For January we have our very own Shelley Brucar who started sewing at age 12 and never stopped. After home-ec class in junior high school, she started making all of her own clothes. Perhaps what she loved best was going to the fabric store, looking at all the colors and textures of the fabrics—and touching every bolt. Trained as a clinical social worker, Shelley is a self-taught fiber artist, picking up ideas, techniques and inspiration from various workshops and from other artists.

While pregnant with her first child, Shelley couldn't find a crib quilt that she liked so decided to make her own. A few visits to quilt shops was all it took to get hooked. That was the beginning of traditional quilting for Shelley, 23 years ago. She quickly lost interest in following someone else's pattern and began designing her own quilts, enjoying the greater freedom this allowed. In 2004, Shelley started Hand Made Memories, offering quilts for all occasions and specializing in custom photo and memory quilts. Within a year, her focus turned to art quilts. She now creates her own hand-dyed and screened fabric and uses painting, photo transfer, threads, and other surface design elements that the piece demands.

Shelley's work has been juried into art shows nationally and internationally, and she has taught art quilting at local shops and guilds. She has been published in *1000 Artisan Textiles*, *500 Art Quilts*, *Quilters Newsletter Magazine*, *SAQA Transformations 09: Reflections*, and *SAQA Portfolios 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17*.

Lecture: Explorations in Paint

Workshop: Explorations in Paint

Her workshop will allow us to experiment with different textile paints; opaque vs. transparent and also explore different methods of applying the paint: such as dry fabric vs wet fabric, etc.

Future Workshops

Feb. 8-9, 2012 Akemi Nakano Cohn

Katazome (stencil paper & rice paste resist)

The workshop is to introduce rice paste resist of Katazome basics. The technique is typically applied on lovely kimonos and has been used for over 400 years.

The focus is to study traditional Japanese design through books and slides, then we will develop our own designs. We will cut our own stencils, make the rice paste and apply it through the special stencils onto fabric. We will also be doing some painting on fabric as well. \$90 + \$18 supply fee. Total \$108

March 7-8 Michelle Sales

Kakishibu (persimmon juice dyeing techniques)

The workshop will explore the ancient art of persimmon juice dyeing known as kakishibu in Japan. Kakishibu is a non toxic dye made from the juice of unripe persimmon fruit. It has been used in Japan for about 3000 years and has most recently enjoyed a revival partly due to its non toxic nature. Each participant will be creating an 'Ikkanbari' covered basket using Japanese Kozo paper. The baskets will then be dyed using kakishibu. We will explore and create stencils using various non toxic modifiers to create unusual colors with kakishibu. These colors can be used to paint fabric, wood and paper that can be incorporated into baskets or other objects.

This is a great follow up to the katazome workshop the previous month as I'm sure we could use the stencil cutting knowledge along with the rice paste resist in creating designs with the kakishibu! \$90 + \$35 supply fee. Total \$125

April 4-5 Susan Sorrell

Organic Inspiration (Embroidry)

We will learn to 'think in threads.' We will search for new ways of working in embroidery and mixed media. Organic designs will be the focus of the workshop with a twist. No prior experience in embroidery is needed as Susan will focus on very basic stitching. \$100

May 2-3 Valerie Goodwin

Favorite Places

In her workshop you will name a favorite place of yours. It could be your city, your state, a favorite vacation spot, an ancestral birthplace. Wherever you feel is your 'favorite place.' You will then create a small map using fabric, paint and thread. Using a fun and simple series of painted and collaged, mixed media techniques you will create the feeling or ingredients of a place.

January Mini Workshop

January 3, 2012

Chain Maille Box Chain Bracelet with Cindy Heineman

The Chain Maille Box Chain Bracelet Mini Workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 after our meeting and lunch. Cindy Heineman will be teaching this workshop. The project we will be making is a bracelet using the Chain Maille technique, which will be constructed out of either brass, copper, or anodized aluminum links. The cost of the workshop and kit will be either \$8.00 or \$20.00. \$20 will include 2 pair of flat nose pliers. Both kits will include all materials to make the bracelet. You may bring 2 pair of your own flat nose pliers if you have them (see Cindy at the November meeting to see what the pliers look like). There will be a few pair to borrow at the workshop that will need to be shared among those participants that do not have them. It is recommended that you either purchase or bring the pliers. No previous experience is needed. Attendance is limited to 12 participants.

To sign up, call Linda Iser—847-478-5014 or email at lindaiser@gmail.com. When you sign up, please let Linda know if you need the 2 necessary pliers. Payment is required at time of sign up.

Linda Iser- lindaiser@gmail.com or 847-478-5014

Barbie Eich- barbill0665@comcast.net or 847-564-4232

Mini-Workshop Chairs

Members' Sale

The Annual Members' Sale will take place on Tuesday, March 6th.

More information about reserving a space and other details will be available in the January newsletter.

Call For Entry

Quilt Visions 2012: Brainstorms. Deadline: February 13, 2012 (online). Visions Art Museum: Contemporary Quilts + Textiles. San Diego, CA October 20, 2012 - February 17, 2013. 12th international, juried Quilt Visions biennial. Jurors will select work that exemplifies innovation in quilting and surface design techniques as well as excellence in composition and craftsmanship. A full color exhibition catalog will be published.
www.quiltvisionsbrainstorms.org

Pacific Currents. Wearable Art Fashion Show and Exhibit 2012. Deadline: February 15, 2012 Handweavers Guild of America. Long Beach Convention Center
Long Beach, CA. Runway Fashion Show: July 18, 2012

Exhibit: July 19-21, 2012. International juried exhibit featuring one-of-a-kind fashion that shows understanding of the body and body movement, along with runway presence and overall suitability of the technique and/or materials. The exhibit will be on view at HGA's Convergence® 2012 Long Beach conference.

Submitted work is limited to works made using fiber techniques (interlaced, felted, stitched, dyed, coiled, knotted, pulled, spun, etc.) and can be of any material. All work must be of exhibition quality, completed within the last two years (since January 2010), and not previously published in any national or international print publication.

Work executed under classroom/educational guidance or supervision is not eligible.

For each entry, send an 8 inch x 8 inch (20.3 cm) square touch panel with edges finished neatly and ready for display. An identification tag needs to be attached to the back of the square. Entries submitted without a square will not be considered.

Entry Fees: \$25 HGA member, \$40 non-HGA member, Student, no fee.

Sales: Work on exhibit will not be for sale.

http://www.weavespindye.org/pages/convergence2012/pdf/Fashion_2012_Entry.pdf

Longitude - Yardage Exhibit Handweavers Guild of America
Long Beach Convention Center
Long Beach, California
July 18-21, 2012

Deadline: February 1, 2012

An international juried exhibit featuring lengths of constructed or embellished yardage. The exhibit will be on view at HGA's Convergence® 2012 Long Beach conference.

Eligibility: This exhibit is open to all artists working with constructed and/or embellished yardage.

Prospectus available on website: http://www.weavespindye.org/pages/?p=convergence2012/Yardage_2012.html&loc=8-109-00

Small Expressions 2012. Handweavers Guild of America. Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
May 10 - August 12, 2012

Deadline: January 25, 2012

Small Expressions is an annual, international, juried exhibit featuring high quality, contemporary small-scale works. Small Expressions is sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc., to showcase small scale works created using fiber techniques in any media, not to exceed 15 inches (38 cm) in any direction including mounting, framing or display devices.

Juror: Carol Shaw-Sutton, an artist and Chair of the Fiber Program at California State University, Long Beach where she was recently nominated Outstanding Professor of the Year, 2011.

Eligibility: Three pieces may be entered per artist. Works exhibited in previous Small Expressions exhibits are not eligible.

Submitted work is limited to works made using fiber techniques (interlaced, felted, stitched, dyed, coiled, knotted, pulled, spun, etc.) and can be of any material. All work must be of exhibition quality, completed within the last two years (since January 2010), and not previously published in any national or international print publication prior to the entry deadline.

Work executed under classroom/educational guidance or supervision is not eligible.

http://www.weavespindye.org/pages/?p=convergence2012/Small_Exp_2012.html&loc=8-109-00

Fine Art of Fiber

It's that time again!

Opening Night is Thursday, November 3, 6:30-9:00 PM

Regular show hours are Friday – Sunday, November 4-6, 10:00 – 5:00

- This is *your* show. Come and see what everyone has been up to.
 - Bring your family and friends too
 - Bring a stepladder and a staple gun (if you have them) to help hang the exhibit on Thursday
 - Its never too late to bring something to contribute to the raffle or to the silent auction. Bring your creations to the show or to the November meeting.
 - Small exhibits always happily displayed at our education table, too.
 - Congratulate everyone on their amazing creations
 - If you want to know more, check out the Fine Art of Fiber section in your Membership Handbook.
- For anyone who doesn't know:
Chicago Botanic Garden is located at 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL 60022.
Take the Edens Expressway (I-94) to Route 41, exit Lake Cook Road and travel 1/4 mile east to the Garden.

“Be Inspired - by NSNG”

The Education Table binder is complete ready for the Fine Art of Fiber, and looks spectacular. The variety is amazing – and representative of our Guild.

Thank you to everyone who submitted work to make this possible – Barbara Schneider, Betty Becker, Bobbye Weisgerber, Gale Wessel, Jan Kent, Joy Lavrencik, Julie Rivera, Kim Darling, Marcia Lee Hartnell, Mary McManus, Meredith Montross, Shelley Brucar, Sue Babbs and Suzanne Ditzler.

There is scope for this binder to grow in future years into multiple binders, so if you like the binder when you see it, you would be very welcome to submit samples or photos to be included.

Sue Babbs (suebabbs@comcast.net
847- 446 5251)

Fine Art of Fiber Education Table

Volunteers

I am very excited about the demonstrations at the Education Table this year, and looking forward to seeing them. Thank you so much to the following who have volunteered:

Friday	
10:00- 12:30	Sue Babbs - Bobbin Lace Making
12:15 - 2:45	Beth Polonsky - Loom Weaving
2:30 -5:00	Donna Koranek - Hand Spinning
Saturday	
10:00- 12:30	Val Rodelli - Book Folding
12:15 - 2:45	Suzanne Ditsler - Hand Needle Felting
2:30 -5:00	Alice Jenks - Beading
Sunday	
10:00- 12:30	Stephanie Nordlin - Machine Needle Felting
12:15 - 2:45	Holly Green - Hooked Rug Work
2:30 -5:00	Suzanne Ditsler - Hand Needle Felting
	Elizabeth Mini - The Real Mini-Quilting

Do come along and encourage us at this table when you visit the show!

We will, of course, still need other volunteers who are prepared to chat to visitors and tell them about our wonderful Guild. Please contact me if you would like to help in this way.

More Touchy-Feeley Things for the Table

If you have workshop or other samples, which you would be happy for us to place on the Education Table, please bring them to me at the show. We cannot guarantee that they will not be handled, so please don't bring your prize pieces!

Sue Babbs (suebabbs@comcast.net
847- 446 5251)

Holiday Pot Luck Party Tuesday, December 6th

Don't miss our annual Holiday Party Tuesday, December 6th at Gloria Dei, from 11am - 3:00pm. Bring your favorite dish to share. The guild will provide coffee, tea and soft drinks.

After lunch are the always entertaining grab bags. These are conducted through a Chinese Auction. The first uses wrapped gifts (\$15-\$20 approximate value)—hopefully needlework related, sometimes only vaguely. Followed by a White Elephant exchange, also wrapped. This a great opportunity to regift some of your "special" items from home. The grab bags are optional.

This is a great occasion to mingle with fellow guild members. Come meet new members and hang out with old friends all while enjoying wonderful food and guaranteed laughs. Please join us in celebrating the holiday season.

Exhibit with Shelly Brucar

Shelly will have some of her work in the Fiber Artists Coalition at the Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts, 201 Schaumburg Court, Schaumburg, IL

Nov 1 through Nov 30 with Artist Reception Saturday Nov 26 – 3:00-5.

Phone 847-895-3600 for more info.

Service Update

Thank you to all who who have been sewing pillowcases, literacy bags, tote bags and Preemie quilts. You are angels!

We need flannel, cotton, denim, batting, cottons, and people willing to sew. We will meet at Barbie Eich's home on Tuesday, November 8th from 9:30 to 1:00. Barbie lives a few blocks from Gloria Dei at 2476 Greenview Dr. in Northbrook. Please come join us. We have 4 sewing machines and a huge table for cutting.

Beading Bee

Join me after the November 1 meeting (and after lunch) to spend some time beading. This is not a class and has no charge. Bring something you would like to work on or learn something new. If there is something you would like to learn, or something you would like me to bring, let me know ahead of time. All beginning and experienced beaders are welcome to join me!

Barbara Fry

FAOF Raffle Update

I have received many beautiful items for the FAOF Raffle.

"Less is more" is *not* the mantra for this year's raffle. We need to fill those shelves. The more hand made items we include in the raffle, the more tickets we will sell at the show. The more tickets we sell, the more North Suburban Needlearts can subsidize our programming. And you all know that we have the best programs!

So I appreciate your support and will take contributions at the November meeting as well as during the FAOF set up. And if you forget, you can still add your donation on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

And thank you to the 30+ members who sold their raffle tickets. Presales can be turned into the guild throughout the show, but please turn in the money in a sealed envelope marked "Presales."

Thanks for your support.

Beth Polonsky

Workshops

We have five remaining workshops for January through May. See pages 3 and 4. These are great opportunities to learn something new or add to your skills. Taking a workshop is a good way to get to know more guild members. If you have never taken a workshop in NSNG, I challenge you to choose one and see what you have been missing! Read the class descriptions and supply lists on our website, then decide what you would like to try. You can sign up by sending me your registration form and check, or by giving it to me at a guild meeting. I hope to see you in one of our workshops!

Barbara Fry, Workshop Chairman

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First Class Mail