

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
September 2011

Experimentation keeps new ideas rising to the surface. ~ Joseph Orr

President's Message

Welcome back!

We are about to launch into another exciting year in our North Suburban NeedleArts Guild. Program chair, Cathy Mendola, has assembled a wonderful variety of programs and workshops for us.

Our first lecture, September 6, Weaving for a New Age, features Kat Allison & Cindy French who have developed a special loom that only has 2 threads to weave in at the end of the project. The first day's workshop will be with a variety of fabric, threads, felted pieces etc. The second day will be bead weaving with the special loom. We need to get our registration in for this workshop as it entails having enough looms for us all.

The rest of the year features many innovative ways of working with fabric, dyes and threads. Cathy's descriptions at the meetings will tell you all about them. All of the speakers have websites. If you don't have a computer, go your Public Library and look them up. I plan to take lots of workshops!

As a special treat this year we will have a musical program about quilting in the USA in November, just after the Fine Art of Fiber which is November 3 -6 at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

At the Education Exhibit at the FAOF this year, Sue Babbs is assembling some binders featuring the things we do in our Guild. Have you sent your contribution to her? Her goal is something from everyone. She tells about it on page 6.

The summer has flown by. It started in May when my second grandson graduated from the University of Illinois, a fourth generation Illini. He even has a job in his field, Material Science Engineering! His sister is starting her sophomore year there, majoring in Creative Writing. My 3 grandchildren from Texas visited in July. We did some tie-dye and polymer clay together. And, of course, the twin babies in Chicago are developing new skills daily. At 9 months they have mastered sitting up unaided and are starting to crawl and try to stand up. Their parents are wonderful about sending photos to my cell phone. What a joy to get a message featuring a smiling baby!

I have finished my apron for the Women's Journeys in Fiber Exhibit at the Fine Art of Fiber. Now I just have to quilt the two quilts I'm entering and do my contribution for Sue Babbs' notebook. The smaller quilt is an appliquéd wreath that I started many years ago when Nancy Pearson came to our Guild and taught hand appliquéd. I finished the appliquéd

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CALENDAR

Tues. Sept. 6, 9 - 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops, at Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pfcngsten in Northbrook

9:30 am Lecture, Kat Allison and Cindy French

Lecture: Weaving for a new Age

Afternoon: Mini Workshop Crocheted Bead Bracelet

See p. 8

Wed.-Thurs. Sept. 7-8 Workshop, Kat Allison and Cindy French, Multi media Weaving (Wed), Bead Weaving (Thurs)

Tuesday Sept. 13. 9:30 am Work on service project at Barbie Eich's. See p. 5

Tues. Sept. 20, 10 am Board meeting at Gloria Dei

Thurs. Sept. 22, noon. October newsletter deadline

Tuesday, Sept. 27 One Step Beyond at Alice Jenks's house. See p. 6

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and put it away. It resurfaced this summer and I decided to finish it.

We also need contributions for the Silent Auction and for our Raffle project. The Botanic Challenge is another opportunity to showcase our work. Gale Wessel tells about that on page 4 of this newsletter.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful Guild Year.

On a more somber note, I am sad to note the passing of three long-time Guild members, Betty Wyld, Ruth Zuckerman and Marion Beam over this summer.

Betty has not been active for several years, but was a delight when she was. Ruth was always interested in learning new things and was a regular workshop student. Marion was an inspiration to us all, still producing things for the Women's Journeys in Fiber after her 90th birthday. May they rest in peace.

See you September 6.

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

Mary McManus, ed.

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September 6-8, 2011

Kat Allison & Cindy French

Cindy: A traditionally trained Appalachian craftsman in almost any fiber technique you can name, although she has resisted learning to crochet, Cindy has been perfecting her craft since early childhood. She has logged more than 20 years teaching college mathematics and statistics and has almost as many years teaching traditional fiber classes that include quilting, weaving, appliqué, beadwork and other jewelry techniques. Together Cindy and Kat wrote and self-published *Copper Loom—A New Approach to an Ancient Craft*, and Cindy's work was recently included in *Beaded Jewelry—The Complete Guide* by Susan Ray.

Kat: A traditionally trained craftsman with a fiber focus, Kat has been sewing her whole life. She has taught fiber crafts in the many places she has lived. Her work has been shown in the Bead and Button Embellishment show, the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival and the Pacific International Quilt Show. In addition to the above-mentioned book co-written with Cindy, Kat's work has been included in several publications including *Wire in Design—Modern Wire Art & Mixed Media* by Barbara A. McGuire; *Beaded Jewelry—The Complete Guide* by Susan Ray; *Beadworks Magazine* and *The Best of Beadwork*, both from Interweave Press.

Lecture: Weaving for a New Age

Workshop:

Day 1- Multi media weaving

Day 2- Bead Weaving

During this workshop you will learn how to warp the loom for single needle and 2 needle weaving. Day 1 you can choose to do traditional weaving or a more experimental mixed media weaving including different fibers, paper, needle felting etc. Day 2 will be all bead weaving and you will learn how to do some alternatives to straight bead weaving. The beauty of weaving on their loom is that you only have 2 warp threads to be woven in when you remove the piece from the loom. Kat and Cindy will have a finished piece on a loom to show us how to remove it.

October 4-6, 2011

Judith Larzelere

Judith prefers to be called Jude. 25 years ago, she chose strip piecing and machine quilting as her method of working as a visual artist. She likes the balance of deliberate planning coupled with uncertainty about the exact look of the completed piece. Color interaction and color expressiveness are the two most enjoyable parts of the quilting process for her. She loves sharing this joy with others through making quilts. Jude conducts workshops around the country as well as Canada and has been published in numerous magazines & books. She has had quilts exhibited nationally as well as internationally and her work is held in permanent collections, most notably the American Craft Museum in New York.

Lecture: Color, Color, Color

Workshop: Strip Piecing with Extreme Fabrics

Jude asks the question: Do you have a stash of beautiful, bold batiks or colorful hand dyed fabrics just piling up and you don't know what to do with them? Then this workshop is for you! We will learn to make design prototypes before we cut. We will alter and re-work our designs until they are perfectly suited to our fabrics. Then we will learn her strip piecing and quilt-as-you-go method to create a small wall hanging.

From Tracy McCabe Stewart

To my fellow needle artists and friends,

It is with mixed feelings that I tell you that my husband and I are relocating to San Jose, California this summer. I had hoped to make the September meeting to say goodbye to everyone, but it looks like we will be making the move in early August.

I want you all to know what an incredible contribution that this guild has made to me; as a place to learn, share work and ideas and spend time with lovely, creative, fun people. I will miss this community dearly. I know all of you will miss my outstanding audio-visual technology skills ;-)

I hope that people will stay in touch. My email remains: tracy@mccabestewart.com

The very best to each and every one of you,
Tracy McCabe Stewart

Fine Art of Fiber

**Thursday: November 3, 2011, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
(Preview Night)**

Friday – Sunday: Nov.4 – 6, 2011, 10 am- 5 pm

Its time to complete your creations for the Fine Art of Fiber exhibit and the "In the Garden" Challenge. *Everyone* can have one piece exhibited (and maybe more if there is space). All you have to do is to volunteer somewhere in the show for one shift (or two if you are planning to offer your piece for sale). Completed entry forms for the exhibit can be given to Gale Wessel at the September 6th Guild meeting or mailed directly to Chris Deering (7310 N Claremont, Chicago 60645) by September 15. A photo of your submission must be attached to the form. If your project isn't complete by September, photograph what you have done so far.

If you want your Annual Project piece displayed at the show, you will also need to submit a completed form and photograph in September. And if you are entering piece(s) into the Garden Challenge separate form(s) and photograph(s) for each submission are required also. Just remember that the Garden Challenge can be no larger than 60 inches (length plus width), should hang on the wall, and should have a garden theme.

See the FAOF website for all the necessary forms and guidelines for the Exhibit, Boutique, Fashion Show, and Silent Auction at <http://fineartoffiber.org>. For those of you who don't have internet access, we will try to have a few of each form at the September 6th meeting. We'll also have volunteer sign-up sheets – your choice of hanging, taking down or helping during the show.

Boutique - There have been a few rules changes for the Boutique so read the entry forms carefully. The due date for entry has been moved up to September 12th. Price tags will be at the September 6th & October Guild meetings. If you can't make either meeting, call Pat Rued (847-267-1407) and she can mail the price tags to you.

Raffle – The Raffle needs more stuff! Think about making something small to attach our raffle structure this year, and remember to buy or sell raffle tickets before the FAOF show. If you sell your tickets in advance of the show we can keep ALL the proceeds in our Guild, and don't have to give a percentage to the Garden.

Education - If you would like to sit and demonstrate your work for an hour or so during the show, please sign up with Sue Babbs (847-446-5251). You get time to work on your latest project and talk with others about how much fun we have in this guild.

Silent Auction - Please consider making at least one item for the silent auction – items need not be big or expensive, just beautifully made by you! Jan Swimmer or Gretchen Alexander will accept your pieces right up to show time.

Fashion Show – If fashion is your thing, you might want to enter something in the always popular Friday and Saturday fashion shows. The deadline for entry notification is October 1.

Discounted Personal Memberships of CBG - Our Guild has Plant Society membership of Chicago Botanic Garden to allow us to exhibit there. A significant benefit for each NSNG member as a result of this is a \$10 discount on any of the levels of membership of the Garden. Remember this when you renew your Garden membership.

A Sad Summer

This summer we lost three longtime members, all of whom had been heavily involved with the guild.

Betty Wyld passed away June 24th in West Virginia where she had moved a few years ago to be closer to her daughter. Betty had twice been president of the guild, back when we were the North Suburban Embroiderers. In addition to many types of needlework, her interests included gardening, writing, genealogy and photography. For as long as she was able, she was an active participant in One Step Beyond. Condolences may be made at www.barlowbonsall.com.

Ruth Zuckerman died on July 3rd in a local hospital. Ruth had served on the board in past years. She was interested in everything, and seldom was there a workshop Ruth did not want to take. These included dyeing, machine embroidery, doll making, surface design, garment construction, and bead making. She was a Lyric Opera lecturer and a member of Northwestern University's Community Council for International Students which helps students to understand our culture. She had many more interests and accomplishments, too numerous to list. Condolences may be made to her husband, Richard Zuckerman, 1013 Harvard Terrace, Evanston, IL 60202-3306.

Marion Beam passed away in her sleep on August 9th. She had been active in needlearts right up to the end, although for the last year or so had been unable to attend meetings. Marion was especially interested in garment making, was always ready for a challenge and had contributed much to Women's Journeys in Fiber. She was a talented writer who, among other things, had written profiles of guild members for the newsletter. She will be remembered for her stylish clothes and for her love of high heels (until, to her regret, she was no longer able to wear them). Condolences may be sent to her daughter, Elizabeth Mata at elizabethmata@csbasociacion.org. We do not have an address for her.

Service

Are you looking for a quick project to sew that would help various community needs? The Service Table will have kits available to make:

*Pillowcases for the YWCA,

*Book bags for children at the San Lucas Settlement House,

*Premie blankets and Isolette covers for Rush-Presbyterian Hospital Neonatal Unit and

*Tote bags for a battered women's shelter.

To make additional kits we are looking for donations of flannel, batting, denim, cotton material and 30" by 30" of upholstery fabric.

In addition, Service Days are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Barbie Eich's home located at 2476 Greenview Drive in Northbrook from 9:30-1:00. We gather to work on completing kits. If you would like to join us on September 13th, call Barbie at 847-564-4232.

Remember to bring "treasures" you unearthed over the summer for the "Freebie" table!

We look forward to working together to make a little difference in someone's life,

Nancy Calandra and Jeanette Page

Fine Art of Fiber Education Table Volunteers

We find that people are fascinated to see us working and very curious about what our Guild has to offer. I have been making bobbin lace at FAOF for years, but am very conscious that this is not a mainstream activity of NSNG. We need other people demonstrating their skills too.

I would like people to volunteer for one shift (2 to 2.5 hours long) to show visitors how you create what you love to do. With all the fine art on the walls around us, we cannot have wet or messy activities involving paint, glue, dyes etc. at the tables, but if you do 'dry' activities such as sewing, embroidery, needle-felting, beading, folding books, free-motion quilting or stitching (IQI will be demonstrating traditional quilting) please volunteer to spend a shift showing others what we do as members of NSNG.

We will, of course, still need others who are prepared to chat with visitors and tell them about our wonderful Guild.

Please contact me if you would like to volunteer (rather than be volunteered!!)

Sue Babbs suebabbs@comcast.net

847- 446 5251)

Fine Art of Fiber Education Table Needs Your Samples and Photos!

I am slowly receiving pieces from Guild members for inclusion in a binder to be displayed on the Education Table at the Fine Art of Fiber. This binder (or binders) will highlight the breadth of work created by members of NSNG.

Guidelines for piece to be included in binder:

- All work should be less than 6.5 inches x 9 inches. If you wish, pieces can be smaller, but larger pieces will be trimmed to fit.
- Work has to be good enough for you to have your name associated with it! Bound edges aren't necessary. If it is a sample from a workshop, please give teacher's name too.
- Please write a brief (legible) description of your pieces or photos, explaining the technique used, and the fibers involved.
- Photographs should be submitted to me electronically where possible, preferably as .jpeg files of sufficient resolution to be blown up without looking grainy.
- Please make sure your name is on all submissions.

Please give your pieces to Gale Wessel at the September meeting, as I will not be there. To ensure inclusion in the binder all pieces and photos must be with me by end of the October meeting.

Many thanks to everyone who has already submitted work, and thank you, in anticipation, to everyone else!

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

Workshops

Believe it or not, our new season is about to begin! We have seven widely varied workshops with some great teachers from around here and around the country. All workshops have openings, so check them out in this newsletter and on our website.

I especially want to encourage you to check out the one for September 7 and 8—loom weaving with Kat Allison and Cindy French. This will be an opportunity for most of us to learn something new. The first day will be multi-media weaving and the second day bead weaving. The workshop comes with a loom designed by the teachers. If you would like to join us for this fun-filled 2 day workshop remember that you will have to order your loom directly from their etsy site. If this presents a problem for you please contact Cathy Mendola (dola3217@att.net) They will be bringing a few extra looms for those of you who wait until the last minute.

October Workshop - Strip Piecing with Extreme Fabrics with Judith Larzelere.

This workshop is designed for those of you who have some wonderful examples of hand dyed fabrics and/or batiks that you've been collecting.

Contact me if you would like to sign up for any of our workshops.

Barbara Fry, Workshop Chairman

One Step Beyond...

...will be September 27, 2011 at the home of Alice Jenks, 1120 Greenfield Lane, Mt. Prospect. The meeting time is 9:30 AM. If you plan to attend, please call Alice at 847-255-6796 or email her at queenalice-jenks@aol.com to let her know you will attend.

One Step Beyond is an informal gathering for the purpose of meeting like minded individuals to socialize and to work on a project if desired. This is an open come-when-you-can function.

For sale
Cricut Image "Best friends" \$25.00
Mary Allen 847-272-3642

(paid advertisement)

Call For Entry

Form, Not Function: Quilt Art at the Carnegie. A juried exhibit of contemporary quilt art. Deadline: October 15, 2011 (online) or (postmark). Carnegie Center for Art & History, New Albany, IN, January 6 - March 3, 2012. Entry Fee: \$30.00 for three works; \$10.00 for each additional work.

For the ninth year, the Carnegie Center for Art & History invites artists to submit entries for Form, Not Function: Quilt Art at the Carnegie, an exhibition exploring the world of contemporary art quilts.

All works must be quilted (two or more distinct layers held together with stitches); other techniques and mediums may be incorporated. Works must be ready to hang on the wall, including the hanging rod. Works must be original and completed since January 1, 2008. There is no minimum or maximum size. www.carnegiecenter.org/ProspectusFormNotFunction2012.pdf
www.carnegiecenter.org

The Decorated Book. A nationwide, juried exhibition for book artists. Deadline: October 24, 2011 (postmark). The Athenaeum of Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA. December 2, 2011 to March 9, 2012

Concept: The Athenaeum of Philadelphia is a library and museum founded in 1814. Its legacy collections, surviving from the 19th and early 20th centuries, include rich holdings in designed bindings. The Decorated Book invites artists, through the medium of the book, to explore and respond to book covers from the legacy collections of the Athenaeum. Selected items from the designed binding collections, including work by Margaret Armstrong, Olive Grover and the studio artists of Decorative Designers, are emphasized in this call. See scans of their work at www.philaathenaeum.org/competition. The proposed books may be edited or one-of-a-kind, artist books, book objects, altered books or zines but must in some way respond to the specified items from the designed binding collection posted on the Athenaeum website and on view at the museum.

There is no fee to submit a proposal for this competition. Prospectus: www.philaathenaeum.org/Decorated_Book_Call_for_Entries.pdf
www.philaathenaeum.org

Animal Fibers: Art Informs Shibori

Deadline: 15 September 2011 (online) Acceptance Notification: 15 Oct. Delivery of Artwork: in Hong Kong by 15 Nov. Online Entry Form & Payment: <http://tinyurl.com/8isscall> Images to: animal.submissions@shibori.org. 8th International Shibori Symposium 2011: Hong Kong. Hong Kong Design Institute, 4 Dec 2011- 1 Jan 2012

An international exhibition of fiber art works showcasing shibori's inherent transformative power on material, from 2-D to 3-D. With its shape changing and volume shifting abilities, the shibori process interplays uniquely with animal-based fibers. This exhibition also comments on contemporary global innovations in materials that have been with humans since primeval time. An accompanying exhibition, "Animal Fibers in Chinese Tradition," curated by Edith Cheung, will visit the resourcefulness and beauty of traditional historical works created in China, addressing humankind's relationship with animals in a shared environment.

The departure theme for this international exhibition is art work made from animal fiber, animal hide, or a combination of both, utilizing the principles of shaped or resisted shibori dyeing techniques. These works should be inspired by the transformative properties of materials and their potential to change surface and structure, exhibiting visual and/or dimensional transformation.

Entry Fee: \$25 per entry. Up to three (3) entries may be submitted per artist or collaborative group
Curators: Jean Williams Cacicedo and Jorie Johnson
http://8iss.files.wordpress.com/2011/07/iss11-animal-call_2.pdf

The Crochet Guild of America Design Competition Deadline: August 31, 2011 (receive). CGOA Design Competition, The Crochet Guild of America, CGOA Conference, Greensboro, North Carolina. September 2011.

Eligibility: The competition is open to all current CGOA members, at all membership levels, excluding judges.

Entries must be primarily crocheted. Other fiber, needle and crafting arts may be incorporated in your design, but the overall impression must be crochet. Any materials may be used. Entries must be original designs that have not been previously entered in this competition or previously published in any print or electronic media.

Download Prospectus: www.crochet.org/CGOA_2011_Design_Comp_Info.pdf

September Mini Workshop

September 6, 2011

Crocheted Beaded Bracelet with Stana Coleman

The Crocheted Beaded Bracelet Mini Workshop will be held on Tuesday, September 6th after our meeting and lunch. Stana Coleman will be teaching this workshop. The project we will be making is a stunning soft single crocheted bracelet which will be covered with beads. The bracelet is approximately 1" wide. The cost of the workshop is \$15.00 and will include all materials and supplies. Your kit will have all the beads pre-strung on pearl cotton so you can get right into working on the technique of the project. No previous experience is needed. Attendance is limited to 12 participants and will fill up quickly.

To sign up, call Linda Iser ~ 847-478-5014 or email at lindaiser@gmail.com. Payment is required at time of sign up as this will be a very popular workshop.

October Mini Workshop

October 4, 2011

Triangle Beaded Pendant with Barbara Fry

The Triangle Beaded Pendant Mini Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 5th after our meeting and lunch. Barbara Fry is teaching this workshop. The project we will be making is a beautiful triangular beaded pendant. When completed, you can wear the pendant on your own chain. The cost of the workshop is \$15.00 and will include all materials to make the bracelet. All you need to bring is a positive attitude! No previous beading experience is needed. Attendance is limited to 12 participants and will fill up quickly.

To sign up, call Linda Iser ~ 847-478-5014 or email at lindaiser@gmail.com. Payment is required at time of sign up as this will be a very popular workshop.

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