

New Year 2010!

In our last meeting there was talk about the John Flynn multi-frame system. You can learn more about this at www.flynnquilt.com

President's Message

The New Year has begun and I am looking forward to it being a great year for all of us. The Stone Soup Dinner was lots of fun. Almost everyone brought something to Show/Tell, the BOM blocks were won by Sara and the third installment of the mystery quilt was distributed, and of course there was a new BOM pattern given out, and lots of ideas were bantered about for workshops this coming year. Several new members were welcomed and the soup was great as usual. Last but not least we had the drawing for the two opportunity items. The "Sweater Quilt" was won by Esther Raiger. She will be stopping by our next meeting to pick it up. The "framed wall hanging" was won by Julie Oyle, one of our newest members.

The executive board met on Tuesday, January 12th and the process has begun to plan our workshops and dates for this coming year. We will discuss some of our ideas at the meeting on January 23rd, plan to come and be part of the process. We are always looking for new ideas. Just before the holidays I delivered to LITA (Love is the Answer) the many outreach items that we had created in the past few months. There were over 30 lap quilts or throws, plus the 30 items that had been created by the MSC4Kids group including fleece scarves, wheelchair throws and hats. I also depleted our card supply by donating these to LITA. A heartfelt thank you to all that helped in making the items; I know that each one will

be enjoyed by the recipient. Our next meeting will be on Saturday January 23rd. We will have supplies available for anyone that wants to make themselves a name tag. If you have something special that you want to use bring it. You will need basic sewing supplies and scissors (bring scissors to cut paper as well as fabric). Bring a snack or something to share for lunch.

The consensus of the board is that maybe we should discontinue the Monday night potluck dinners, serving coffee and dessert instead; this will discuss this at the Saturday meeting as all of us are amenable to doing what works best for the group. February 1st is the Monday night meeting in February. Plan to come, bring your enthusiasm, and go home with a Valentine card to keep or send. We will have cards and many supplies, Jane will give us help and ideas. Each participant should again bring their sewing kits and paper scissors. Jane said it would be great if everyone brought 9 pieces of paper pre-cut 3" x 3" and prepared with fabric. To each piece glue either a pink, red or purple piece of fabric. If you have ribbon or other trims that you want to use bring them along.

You will find more information about upcoming events in the newsletter and events will be posted on the web as soon as we firm up dates. I look forward to seeing each of you soon.

Laura

Our favorite new Group: the Marin Stitching Club For Kids

The holiday party was a great success, with Barsha, Claire, and Laura helping a dozen members create more than 30 items (hats, lap blankets and more) that were donated (along with personal notes from the artists) to deserving recipients. It was a focused and fun effort and one that meant a lot to the girls participating here's just one Mom's "report" on the event.

"Thank you so very much for including Malia in Saturday's Holiday Outreach Sew and Social. Malia felt so good about making gifts for others in need and had a lot of fun! At Sunday school class yesterday the lesson was on giving and Malia shared this project to the class and felt so very proud and happy about it. Debbie Coyle"

The schedule will soon be set for this year's MSC4K activities which we hope will include more interaction with the guild "at-large". What a great way to "grow" some future members!

Guild Upcoming Events:

February 1 - we'll be creating very special Valentine's cards - mark your calendar for this Monday evening (6PM) event as well as all of the Monday and Saturday regular meetings to be held at Aldersgate - and see Laura's letter for details.

In a recent email from Elaine Reichert:

Please let the Guild know about two remarkable fabric exhibits currently at the de Young Museum. Upstairs is a spectacular collection of Amish quilts.

On the main floor, across from the desk where you pay to go in, is a side gallery/educational hall. I happened in out of curiosity and was treated to an amazing installation. They have an artist in residence program that operates in that space. This month's artist is a woman called Suzanne Husky. Her installation is called Forest and features a forest made of fabric trees. They're amazing and delightful. Great inspiration for utilizing fabric and scraps to create fun and beautiful sculptures. She'll only be there through Jan 29. There's a Friday evening at the museum reception for her on the 29th. You can access this gallery free.

Elaine Reichert

2010 Calendar

Annual Calendar Dates, mark your calendar.

January 4 Stone Soup
January 23 – Name Badges, UFO' & more
February 1 – cards & postcards
February 13
March 1
March 13
April 5
April 17
May 3
May 15
June 7
June 19

No meeting July 5
July 17
August 2
August 21
September 6
September 18
October 4
October 16
November 1
November 20
December 6
December 18

DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS????

Please send news updates, information of interest, calendar events or other items for the newsletter to Marnie at kidartistry@aol.com
THANKS!

What a great time of year to go through our "stashes" and come up with a bag of items we don't need to contribute for MNAG outreach projects.

We'll be having a lot of new "Jr." members who will want to create quilts, blankets, hats and more for some of our most deserving recipients. So, if there is a pile of forgotten yarn or fabric hiding somewhere in your house, think about bringing it by at our next meeting! It will be appreciated!

January 23: "Getting To Know You"

During our January meeting (**NOTE: It will be on the 23rd instead of the 16th due to the Martin Luther King Day holiday**) we will be spending time together creating our own name "badges". There will be a variety of fun materials and suggestions for possible approaches/techniques available so that, as long as we remember how to spell our own names, this should be a fun and easy way to kick off the year. See Laura's letter for details of what you should bring. Do bring any "show & tell" items you'd like to share - along with lunch.

See you then!!

Knitting & Wearable Art

doodlebug in San Anselmo is the meeting place for two monthly activity groups. Everyone is encouraged to attend and to bring friends! There isn't a charge for MNAG members and you can take advantage of the 10% discount to MNAG members on any of doodlebug's yarn, buttons or other supplies. You can just sit and sew or knit or join in on a new project, either way, it's fun!

January 12 - Knitting Challenge (choosing our personal "new" projects for the year - including one that helps us learn/try something new! Bring ideas, suggestions, pleas for help, etc.)

January 26 - Wearable Art Round-up (We'll be sharing great sources for materials and ideas so that we can move forward on those projects we've been "meaning to" undertake).

doodlebug is located at 641 San Anselmo Avenue in downtown San Anselmo. Directions are available at the website, Our meeting place is off the courtyard "behind" the store, off of Kientz Lane.
www.doodlebugmarin.com.

New Year's Resolutions (Some Options for Consideration!)

- Clean up sewing room and donate surplus scraps for outreach and MSC4K projects.
- Focus on at least one project incorporating "recycled" materials.
- Spend time creating with someone you barely know.
- If you are really NEAT, try a spontaneous or even messy project - or at least something without a pattern.
- Conversely, for those of us who fight discipline and boundaries - work with a pattern.

- Come up with one viable fund-raising idea for MNAG and help make it happen.
- Put all of the MNAG meetings on the calendar and plan to be there - at least once, bring a friend.
- Remember to breathe, enjoy "the process" and celebrate your accomplishments.

Update from Sara Zander:

We recently learned that Sara Zander has broken her leg during a very busy time for her. Please join us in wishing her a speedy recovery from a very inconvenient injury! Sara's recent response to a mention of her activities in the newsletter should help highlight the untimeliness of an already unfortunate accident:

Thanks for the nice mention in the MNAG newsletter. I've felt so privileged to be allowed to touch, work on and enjoy the gorgeous historic crazy quilts at the SJMQT the past few months. I'm now an 'official' Volunteer Conservator for the quilt collection and spend long but wonderful days going blind with hair-fine (really!) needles, single strand silk threads and 'insect pins' attaching transparent silk scrim to stabilize areas of damage. Rewarding but taxing work.

Although it may already be sold out, I wanted to alert the membership of MNAG that I will be teaching an all day Crazy Quilt Stitch workshop at the Museum on January 23rd. Kit costs, details are available from the Museum staff at the web site or by phone. And, thinking a bit ahead, I have been honored to be chosen as a teacher at the 2010 Embroiderers' Guild of America national Seminar, taking place the second week of September at the Downtown Marriott in S.F. I have a 4 day and a 1 day class, both bead embroidery, and details can be viewed at www.ega-usa.org web site. Even if members aren't interested in taking one of the 45 classes offered (open to members only), they would undoubtedly love to visit the merchandise mall on Wednesday, the four exhibits of embroidery and quilting from across America, or come for a very special presentation (speaker and subject are a surprise-brochure not printed yet) on Tuesday night, which are open to the public.

MNAG

Statement of Purpose

- To educate & promote the highest standards of technique & design in the needle arts.
- To encourage interest, enjoyment and creativity in doing all forms of needle arts.
- To promote cooperation and interchange of ideas among those who are engaged in, or interested in, needle arts in all parts of the world.

about marin needle arts guild

We welcome new members to MNAG and will be actively working to expand our membership with the addition of a Junior Division of the guild during 2009. We welcome new members of all ages with interests in a wide variety of needle arts and encourage you to join us for a meeting sometime - just to "try us out"!

Marin Needle Arts Guild

The Marin Needle Arts Guild was formed for the purpose of educating and promoting the highest standards of technique and design in the Needle Arts. The Guild, a non-profit membership organization, brings together quilters, needle artists and fiber artists. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in the Needle Arts. Current members include educators and award-winning crafts-people, as well as many enthusiastic amateurs who enjoy learning new skills, sharing ideas and enjoying the company of fellow enthusiasts. Special Interest Groups within the guild are Quilting, Stitchery, Wearable Art, Beading, Teddy Bears, Knitting and Hand Applique. Besides providing opportunities for these groups to develop their skills, there are many chances for them to teach those who are interested in learning something new.

Our goal, in fact, is to promote the Needle Arts through education. This year, 2010, we are concentrating our efforts on helping new members learn a variety of skills. There will be workshop classes the 3rd Saturday of most months. Members are always available to help anyone interested in learning a new skill, or improving their techniques. Beginners are encouraged to come join us for a fun filled day of learning and productivity. We also invite members to bring guests who may enjoy a particular event.

We are committed to community service and there are always outreach projects to work on, a few examples include:

- Quilts to be donated to the community
- Activity Blankets to make for hospitals
- Knitted scarves for the Veterans
- Quilts being created and sent to returning Veterans
- Socks & Mittens for children to have in the winter months.

Each year we work together to produce an "Opportunity Quilt" and to sell raffle tickets for the chance to win this stunning quilt. Proceeds from the Opportunity Quilt Drawing help provide education for the membership and community at large and, in addition, provide grants and scholarship to schools and individuals interested in promoting the Needle Arts.

The Guild enjoys a strong record of philanthropy and leadership in the community and has donated countless quilts and wearable items to area charitable organizations, hospitals and patients.

Meetings are held Social Hall at the Aldersgate Methodist Church, One Wellbrock Heights, San Rafael, California. Additional meetings are held at doodlebug in San Anselmo and occasionally at other locations.

Special Interest Group meets throughout the year setting their own meeting days and times. The Guild schedules workshops, seminars and field trips throughout the year for its members.

To receive membership information send a SASE to:

Membership
Marin Needlearts Guild
P.O. Box 6015
San Rafael, CA 94903.

or see our website at <http://www.mnag.org>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have recently had a number of new members join the guild and we hope that you will join us in welcoming them to our wonderful organization. We have already begun to enjoy the energy and enthusiasm these and other new members have brought to MNAG and look forward to a fun new year.

LaDonna Dorsey
Karen Tripte
Julie Oyle

as well as our new business affiliate:

Stonemountain & Daughter (Suzan Steinberg) - see info in affiliate listing.

Planning Upcoming Meetings

The board is working on plans for meetings and workshops throughout the year and welcomes your ideas and other input. During a lively discussion at our Stone Soup Supper a number of great ideas were "tossed into the hopper" including projects like:

- *Quilt Binding
- *Fabric Manipulations /smocking
- *Jewelry - wire wrapping, beads, etc.
- *Making containers/wrapping packages with fabric
- *Re-Do (recycled) Jewelry
- *Using Color for optimal effect
- *Using Pattern (ditto)
- *Hand Quilting
- *Creating Fabric Books
- *Painting on Fabric
- *Spectacular Sachets
- *Sewing/embellishing Vests
- *Recycled t-shirts/sweatshirts/etc.
- *Making Chatelaines

Be sure to bring your ideas to our next gathering or just send an email and they will definitely be taken into consideration!

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