

Peninsula Fiber Artists

December 2022

Liisa Fagerlund conducted our December gathering at the home of Caryl Fallert-Gentry, with potlucking cancelled due to the increased incidence of illness. Others attending were: Evette Allerdings, Jeri Auty, Irene Bloom, Donna Lee Dowdney, Lynn Gilles, Maggie Grate, Katherine Holtgraves, Erica Iseminger, Annie Karl, Brita Kimmerly Eva Kozun, Donna Lark, Cindy LeRouge, Carol Olsen, Debra Olson, Janice Speck, Terri Wolf and Linda Carlson.

Topics:

January meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m., Fort Worden, with Northwind Art's new education coordinator and a tour of the new spaces for fiber arts. Room 306 unless otherwise announced: watch your email for updates.

Embroiders' Guild of America journal

The Needle Arts two-page spread and cover feature regarding our summer 2022 show in Tillamook OR was received by Linda just hours prior to the meeting and posted on the group Facebook page. A print-out was passed around. (Follow-up: an announcement of this honor was sent to the Sequim Gazette, PT Leader, Peninsula Daily News and arts editor of the Seattle Times after our meeting. A copy of the press release was posted on our email.)

Fiber Habit Window: March-April

Donna Lark and Annie are curating the spring window, theme being "Masks." (And costumes, should you be ambitious.) Donna showed and discussed her Seahawk mask sculpted of merino wool and Annie showed a papier mache mask made long ago and a hooped piece with a mask image. They will email how-to's for submitting information regarding what members may be creating for this window, and deadlines for providing information for Carol Olsen (website) and Linda (publicity).

Fiber Habit Window: May-June

The theme is "Collaboration," and participants will be creating art from the unfinished projects or unused materials turned in to Evette at the January meeting. What you turn in will be packaged in one of the plain brown bags Evette earlier provided and distributed to another member anonymously.

What's for Lunch

Participating in the late March-May exhibit at the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center? Feb. 1 is the deadline for notifying Caryl of your project. See the website and minutes from earlier meetings for details. The focus is food, given that we are honoring the late Gene White, a school lunch advocate and the source of the mink coat that formed the basis for other projects to be included. Projects can be wall-hung or displayed on plinths or mannequins.

Show & Tell

Linda showed "Candy Wrappers," a scarf destined for What's for Lunch made by sandwiching bits of sari silk (purchased during our exhibit in LaConner) between sheets of Pellon 551 Sol-U-Film and then stitched with variegated and metallic threads. She added to the original piece using different brands of water-soluble material and discovered that some such as Solvy have a different hand. She does not recommend combining brands on the same project. It's probably also not good to combine different weights of the Pellon material on the same project.

Jeri announced she will be speaking at Fidalgo Island Quilters in Anacortes the second Monday of March, providing a retrospective on her progression through quilting. The group, which has already hosted Liisa, is also seeking other quilters as speakers.

Erica showed the cherry inner bark, stripped from a tree immediately after it was cut down, that she will use for a mask for the forthcoming Fiber Habit window.

Lynn showed two pine needle baskets made while in Florida with waxed quilting cord.

Evette announced she will teach two early 2023 classes at Northwind Art and has been testing projects, to ensure students can complete them in the three-hour class period. She has also been invited to speak twice in March at the Washington State University Sewing & Stitchery Expo in Puyallup (<https://sewexpo.com/>).

Maggie showed progress on coasters made in class with David Owen Hastings.

Brita showed a quilt featuring a face, inspired by the work of Freddy Moran.

Donna Lark is now creating wall hangings, and she showed several nuno felted with wool and silk. The shrinkage is 50 percent. She also described some of the tools she uses for felt sculpting (e.g., with the Seahawk mask): crystal vases and dishwasher connection tubing, among others.

Donna Lee Dowdney reported she had seen Donna Lark's work at an Anacortes event last summer and was so impressed by the children who gravitated to Donna's display and brought their parents to it. She has also taken classes on pop-up books and encouraged us to visit the Bainbridge Museum of Art to see its collection of one-of-a-kind books. Caryl said videos of that collection are also online, and Eva said docents can be asked to create a video "tour" of specific titles. (See <https://www.biartmuseum.org/exhibitions/open-sesame-the-magic-of-artists-books-revealed/>)

Katherine showed a quilt with circles under construction.

Terri made very small quilts featuring holiday trees for the Uptown Port Townsend merchants' sale Dec. 9. She also showed "Red Shoes," another art quilt based on her oncology nursing experiences.

Cindy took an online class with Gail Harker (<https://gailcreativestudies.com/>) about bookmaking, and hers features examples of embroidery stitches. She painted with acrylics on felt, and the book is embellished with unusual beads. She briefly mentioned some of the challenges of teaching remotely, either via correspondence or online. One example: how to ensure participants have the correct materials.

Liisa displayed a whole-cloth quilt painted with thickened dyes that was inspired by madrona trees near Lake Crescent. She had the image photographed and made into a swimsuit, which she showed but declined to model. She used the same service that Caryl reported on at our last meeting. Caryl said she's also trying a new vendor, Printify (<https://printify.com>) for garments.

Caryl discussed "Toss Salad," a quilt made with images of vegetables. She quilted the center of it prior to adding outer pieces and recommends that approach for large quilts. She also showed a smaller quilt, "Scarborough Fair," which shows macro photography of the blossoms of her garden's parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme.

The meeting concluded with an exchange of miniature art pieces organized by Kathie Cook who due to illness was unable to attend, with a demonstration by Caryl of photography, and with the sale, exchange and giveaway of art, books, cards, fabric and jewelry.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Carlson