

PenWAG Rag



Two Presidents' Thoughts. . .

Leilani Bennett & Marcia Manzo

Co-Presidents

In lieu of the usual president's column this month, Marcia and Leilani would like to thank the wonderful, generous members who have volunteered to participate in leadership positions in 2022. As you see, several Board chairs are giving their time for yet another year. Some long-time members have stepped up to the plate now that they have more personal time due to recent retirements, and best of all, two brand new remote members are on board to continue making PenWAG a vibrant collective of creatives. Along with the rest of the membership, we thank them for their generous spirits!

'Tis the Season of Giving

In years past we were able to get together after a general meeting for a gratifying and fun afternoon and work on donations to *Next Door Solutions for Domestic Violence*. We aren't able to do that again this year but the needs of organizations like Next Door have not diminished due to Covid. Rather, they have increased dramatically because of the increased pressures of the pandemic on families at risk.

If you can, please remember to make a donation to Next Door (or a similar organization of your choice).

www.nextdoorsolutions.org.

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Recent new members are:

Jane Foster Walnut Creek, CA
Jorel Thomson Menlo Park, CA
Michele Kasper Palo Alto, CA
Loretta Gilmartin Santa Clara, CA
Margaret Nava Monterey, CA

The 2021 PenWAG Board is pleased to nominate the following *slate of members for the 2022 Board*:

Also per the PenWAG Bylaws, **this slate will be voted upon at the December 11 General Meeting** by a quorum of members (via live Zoom poll).

Any questions regarding this slate may be addressed to Claire De Lucchi, Secretary (clairede@penwag.org)

Co-Presidents (sharing Presidential duties, 1 vote):	<i>Christine Kenworthy & Nell Stinson (NEW, local)</i>
Vice-President:	<i>Claire De Lucchi (formerly Secretary)</i>
Secretary:	<i>Debbie Bretschneider (NEW, local)</i>
Co-Treasurers (sharing Treasurer duties, 1 vote):	<i>Wren Clark & Martin Gorfinkel (continuing)</i>
Program Chair:	<i>Michelle Paganini (continuing)</i>
Membership Chair:	<i>Anne Vogel (continuing)</i>
Social Media Chair (Formerly Publicity/Newsletter):	<i>Jane Wolfe (NEW, remotely located)</i>
Member at Large:	<i>Laura Kohler (continuing)</i>
Member at Large:	<i>Jackie Cruz (appointed late 2021, continuing, remotely located)</i>
Ex-Officio (non-voting):	<i>Leilani Bennett & Marcia Manzo (per PenWAG Bylaws)</i>

SEE PAGES 11-12 FOR MORE BOARD CANDIDATE BIO INFO

Just in time for the holidays ...

the perfect **gift** for a Wearable Art Kindred Spirit is a **PenWAG Membership!** Our wonderful Webmaster *Kevin* has added a new feature on our website under the Join PenWAG menu item called:

One-Year PenWAG Gift Membership

On this page is a box to include a Gift Message to the recipient. I will mail the recipient of your gift, a card with your message along with a New Member packet.

Thank you! *Anne*, Membership Chair

Harriet Riddell, November 2021

Program Title: Interacting with the world with a Sewing Machine,

Description: Textile Performance Artist Harriet Riddell specializes in observational drawings with a sewing machine. Harriet wheels her machine around the world, illustrating life in different places and the people she meets. Harriet will do a live stitched portrait of a PenWAG member during her program.



See the next page for more comments!



Family portrait by Harriet Riddell



Textile art by Harriet Riddell

Judi Seip Says This about Harriet: This stitching is of Dana, my granddaughter.

Harriet stitches people and scenes. She does not use any pen or pencil, she stitches as she is viewing somebody or some scene. She will go to a country or a place, set up her sewing machine with the battery that operates it on the table she carries along with her stool. She will then focus on somebody or some thing and start stitching. Harriet has work available on Etsy including signing up for a custom stitching which I did. Some in PenWAG may remember Dana who has been in ArtWear several times. She is now 17.

Dana sat at my computer on a zoom call with Harriet who lives in England. Harriet started with stitching her eyes, engaging Dana in conversation the whole time. That way Harriet could see her expressions and the things that turned her on. She totally captured Dana beautifully in this stitching. You may notice that she stitched some words into the length of her hair including her favorite teacher which is her art teacher, and some things about swimming which she has done competitively since kindergarten. She also loves cars and anything mechanical so that comment is in her hair also. It was amazing to watch Harriet work, particularly with the conversations she carried on as she was stitching. Near the end, she asked Dana to hold up her hands. Dana did a thumbs up which worked out very well. Then there was a little screech on our end when Dana noticed that she was even putting in the friendship bracelets that Dana had on both hands and then her watch as well. All of this was done in 55 delightful minutes.

After the Zoom call, Harriet used a piece of shiny fabric for her blouse, stitching it over the body part, and even spiced it up with a few sequins. This is on a 12 x 16 piece of canvas.

One of Harriet's significant trips was through India. She has written a charming book that is full of illustrations of her stitchery and her India trip. She would set up in a market or on a boat or any place at all and just start stitching anything she thought was interesting

More information:

1. Her own site (+ Facebook & Instagram): [https:// institchyou.com/](https://institchyou.com/)
2. Her book "InStitchYou" which I bought after seeing her on Zoom: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/831953408/harriet-riddell-india-book-institchyou-a>
3. Some of her work for sale. If you click and swish on each square, you will see not only additional stitchery but also many photos of her setting up her sewing machine in a market street, on a boat, etc., to stitch a portrait or scene. Check out: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/InStitchYou>



December Program: Member Show and Tell

This is your opportunity to share your creations and inspire others. Share what you've done in workshops, on your own, etc. by sending your **clearly lit photos** to:

Judi Seip (judiseip@gmail.com)

Deadline for submission would be **Nov 27**.

*****Extra encouragement for holiday projects, not just wearable art.

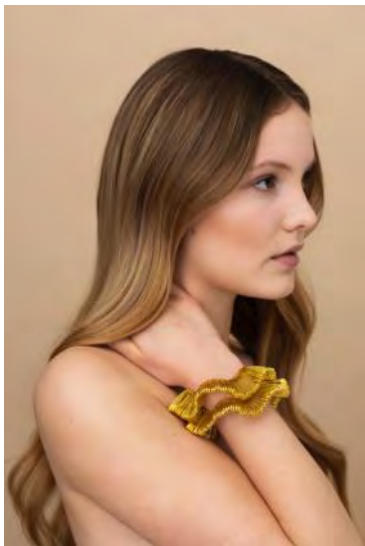


January 8, 2022

**Program: Tonje Halvorsen and the Safety Pin -
The Love Story 11:00 – 12:30**



This is a talk about how Tonje became an artist and fell in love with the safety pin as a medium. She will share her journey beginning with how it all started, her success and challenges, and her working process. She will also share how an idea and garment are formed



Workshop: Tonjeinnea Curvy Bracelet 1:15 – 4:15

In this workshop you will learn how to create with safety pins. It is a workshop both for the experienced craftsperson wanting to try something new and for the beginners who are curious about giving this craft a try. We are going to walk through the basics of the craft, so no prior knowledge is needed.

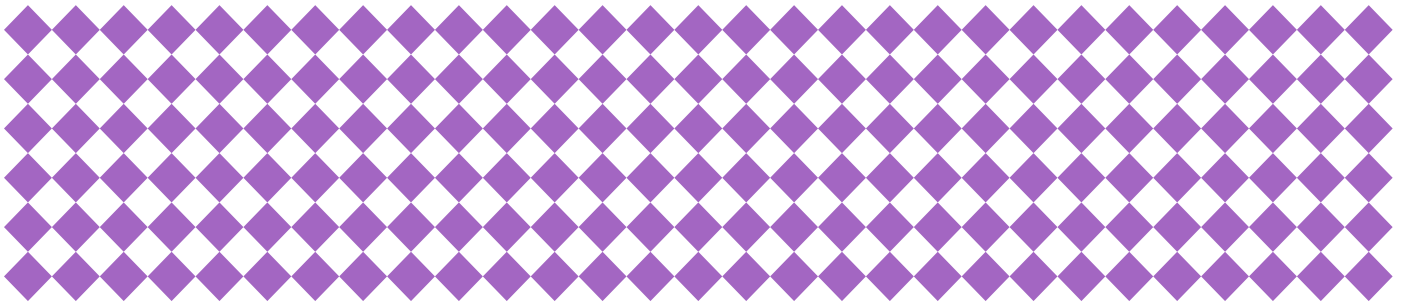
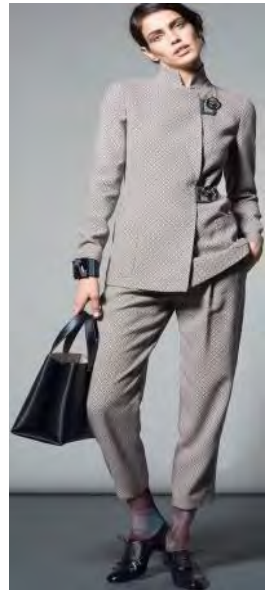
We will go through the different techniques of how to create textures and art pieces using safety pins (28mm). After the introduction we will create curvy bracelets with help and guidance from Tonje.

Supplies: This project will use 28mm safety pins. You can purchase your own (how much will be posted later) or get a kit directly from Tonje for \$20 (link to come later.)



We promised you some great speakers and **Lorraine Torrence** falls into that category.. Lorraine is a well known and talented patternmaker and instructor. You can visit her work at www.lorrainetorrence.com

She will be joining us in **April 2022**. Stay tuned for details!



Artwear for Ourselves – July 2022

Wouldn't it be great to see each other's work in person? That is the plan next July, an entire meeting (our first in person) dedicated to show and tell, providing we can. I envision a bit of a runway style show with outfit descriptions read by an MC (*Kevin Roche?*). Something we can make special for our out-of-the-area members. Do you have a vision for this type of show? *Looking for a coordinator and team to get us organized and ready to go.*

Contact Michelle Paganini at Michelle@paganoonoo.com.

From **Michelle Paganini**, Program Chair:

I am planning a “BEST OF” meeting and want to hear from you! **Send your entries to**
Michelle@paganoonoo.com

What are your favorites? Patterns, online fabric shops, blogs, podcasts, inspiring artist web-sites, Pinterest searches/pages, Books, Blogs, Notions, Magazines, embellishment tools, etc.? Use the following format:

Category: (what is it?)

Website or purchase info: (how can we find it?)

Why is it a favorite? (be specific and give examples)

Submitted by: (your name)

For example:

Category: Podcast

Website or purchase info: <https://lovetosewpodcast.com/>

Why is it a favorite?

You wouldn't think a sewing podcast would work, but it is entertaining and informative every time. Covers a wide range of sewing topics, also features interviews with artists and organizations. Given by Helen of Helen's Closet Patterns & Caroline of Blackbird Fabrics. Favorite episode – Get your SewJo Back #87

Submitted by: Michelle Paganini



LOOKING FOR STUDIO TOUR VOLUNTEERS

Don't you love to see other people's creative spaces, how they store things, what they put out for inspiration? Consider sharing your creative corner or room with the rest of the Guild. Let Michelle know you are interested, and we will figure out how to make it happen for 2022. Michelle@paganoonoo.com. P.S. volunteering is good motivation to get that space organized!

NEXT MONDAY MUSE November 15

Monday Muse and the 5 Challenges of 2021

Claire De Lucchi

We call this year's 5 challenge options "Alphabet Soup":

- **A is for Artist inspiration** - did one of our recent artists provide a spark which got you fired up? *Laura Murray, Dorothy Yuki, Suzi Click, April Sproule* or any of the upcoming 2021 roster . . .
- **B is for Bought it during the pandemic** and now finally transformed it into something fun to share...
- **C is for a Class project** or technique you learned at PenWAG or online and you made something of it!
- **D is for a Deferred challenge** from any of the last few years which you finally unearthed and finished.
- **F is for Finishing a UFO** of any type, provenance or vintage!

Although A, B, C, D and F look like letter grades, it is merely a coincidence! If you share any challenge result with the rest of us, you definitely have earned a spot on the PenWAG stage for a few moments of celebration and some oohs and ahs!

October General Meeting Minutes - by Claire De Lucchi, Secretary

Zoom Meeting opened at 11:01AM by *Leilani Bennett*, Co-President/VP. Approximately 57 people were in attendance, including a few non-member guests. *Andrew Trembley* briefly explained the Zoom menus for attendees.

Leilani welcomed members and guests and included the names of 5 new members.

Marcia Manzo, Co-President/VP, requested the members who sewed isolation gowns for hospitals over the last 18 months to please email her at President@penwag.org.

Members were reminded of the special *FabMo* benefit sale of the fabulous wearable art resources from the *Kaaren Antoun* estate on Sat Oct 30 from 1-4pm. Sign-ups for shopping slots were being handled per the email sent out to members and in the newsletter article

Announcements to be shared with members can be emailed to Newsletter@penwag.org and President@penwag.org.

Marcia updated the members regarding the status of the slate of Board Members / Officers for 2022, including the renaming of the Publicity Chairperson role with that of Social Media Chairperson. The slate also includes 2 remote board members and possibly Co-Presidents. Additionally, there could be a need for a member vote in November to update voting procedures in the By Laws to reflect the 100% remote meeting mode versus the in-person votes pre-Covid. More to follow separately.

Claire De Lucchi, Secretary, shared that there was a team reviewing and recommending to the Board any By Laws changes to reflect the new virtual mode of operation as well as to incorporate legal and regulatory changes since 2007 regarding personal information protection. She also reminded members about the *Monday Muse Zoom* every 3rd Monday of the month from 7 PM until 8:30 PM.

Michelle Paganini, Program Director, then described the upcoming Programs including a peek at some of the featured speakers for the first half of 2022. She then introduced the format for the member gift making "how-to" videos (felted stuffed toys cats, triangle bag/purse, using vintage linens and felted scraps) by Michelle and Marcia, at 11:20 AM, thereby ending the business portion of the meeting. NOTE: After the gift-making video sessions, a live online poll collected a 96% positive response to keeping the future October meeting topic of handmade member-demonstrated gift-making in a round table format.

Candidate Info for Upcoming Election



Candidate Christine Kenworthy, Hillsborough CA, for Co-President

I am a long-time member of PenWAG but this is my first time serving on the Board. I am a recently-retired psychologist and was also a nurse. I'm an accomplished surface design artist, having studied silk painting in Paris and most recently have been studying shibori techniques. I have owned a batik studio and have had wall hangings displayed in a Southern CA art museum.

Candidate Nell Stinson, San Mateo CA, for Co-President

I have been a member for years and will be serving on the Board for the first time. I too am very recently retired from the medical profession as an Ob/Gyn doctor. I started hand embroidering in the 70's—the hippie years—then discovered knitting. Sewing came along when the children needed Halloween costumes. My creative passions now are shibori, surface design and weaving.



Candidate Claire De Lucci, Fremont CA, for Vice-President

I have been a member since 2006 and in that period of time have served PenWAG wearing many hats, including past President three years, and Secretary two years. I recently retired and I and my husband will be moving to our retirement home in Aromas, CA, which includes five acres of grapes and a working winery. My favorite type of sewing is what I call "technical sewing" - the challenge of achieving sculptured and shaped effects in garments.



Candidate Debbie Breitschneider, Saratoga CA, for Secretary

I have been a member of PenWAG for several years. I very recently retired as City Clerk for the City of Saratoga, California. I am a fine sewist and my passion is historical period costume.

Candidates Wren Clark & Martin Gorfinkle, San Jose CA, for Co-Treasurer

I have been a PenWAG member for years and agreed to be treasurer three years ago as long as *Martin Gorfinkle*, my husband, could be the co-treasurer. On the PenWAG board, together we get one vote. Each of us has been treasurer for a number of non-profits in the past. I've sewn for years and Martin bought his own sewing machine 6 years ago. Over several years, Martin and I have produced 1000 fleece vests for preschoolers and donated them to *Sunnyvale Community Services*. Now I experiment with painting on fabric, then using that fabric in clothing.



Candidate Michelle Paganini, San Jose CA, for Membership Chair

I took early retirement from Silicon Valley industry and started my own business, *Paganoonoo Designs*. It was the natural outcome for my passion for repurposing. I lecture, teach and design all the patterns for Paganoonoo Designs. You will also likely see me vending at sewing expos throughout the Western States. I have been a PenWAG member for 14 years and this will be my second year as Program Chair.

Candidate Anne Vogel, San Jose CA, for Membership Chair

I've been a member of this inspiring organization for 7 years. The last 4 years I have been Membership Chairman. I enjoy the exposure I get to many types of wearable art and I truly learn something wonderful from every speaker presentation! PenWAG feeds my creative spirit.



Candidate Jane Wolfe, Vancouver WA, for Publicity

I am a fiber and ceramic artist and author ([Improve Your Relationships](#)). Currently I am President of a Creative Wearables Group, a member of the Art Quilt Group and on the board of Columbia Arts Network (CAN). I also teach Applied Improvisation to businesses as part of the Quantum Leaders staff.

Candidate Jackie Cruz, Cardiff-by-the-Sea CA, for Member-at-Large

Thanks to the wonders of Zoom, I am one of the new remote members and live in Southern California, just two hours south of the LA fabric district. That accounts for my shed full of fabric. Sewing has been my creative outlet my entire

Candidate Laura Kohler for Member-at-Large

I am retired and an expert quilter and beader. I make beautiful pieced and beaded ecclesiastical robes and wall hangings.

Happenings at the Museum

Visit the **San Jose Museum Quilts & Textiles** located at 520 S. First Street. For information www.siquiltmuseum.org Our new hours are as follows:

Thursday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Friday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. Evening hours admission is 'Pay What You Can!')

Saturday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

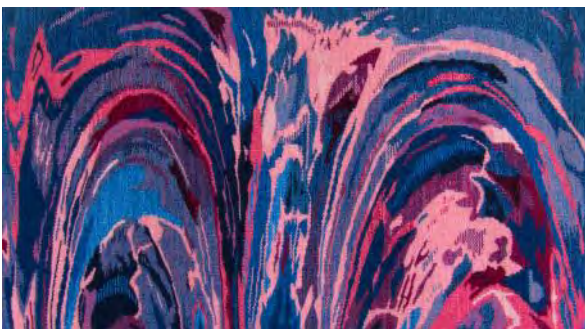
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Timed reservations are recommended but not required; masks are required, regardless of vaccination status.

Layered and Stitched: 50 Years of Innovative Art

September 22, 2021 – January 2, 2022

Layered & Stitched: 50 Years of Innovative Art, by Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA), is a showcase of 50 art quilts by renowned master artists around the globe. Seminal works show the evolution of the art quilt from the earliest pioneers to contemporary artists experimenting with new forms, materials, and digital technologies. This exhibition traces the development of this exciting art form as it started with isolated makers, primarily in Ohio and California, into an international movement involving thousands of artists. Featuring a balance of abstract and representational styles, these artworks represent the extraordinary range of talented artists working in contemporary quilt art



More Impact: Climate Change: Tapestry Weavers West

September 22, 2021 – January 2, 2022

More Impact: Climate Change, curated by Deborah Corsini and Alex Friedman, features tapestries from members of Tapestry Weavers West that reflect on our changing global environment and the detrimental consequences of climate change, woven in a

variety of tapestry techniques and styles.

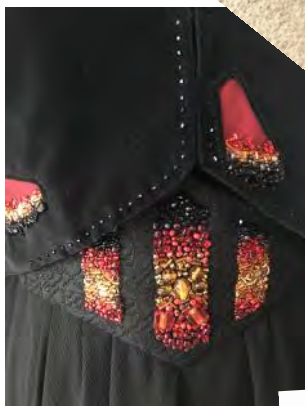
Credit info:

Layered & Stitched image: BJ Adams, *Traveling from Dawn to Dusk*, 2009 (file name: *Adams_2009.jpg*)

More Impact: Climate Change image: Bobbi Chamberlain, *Metamorphosis*, 2001 (file name: *MoreImpact_ClimateChange_Chamberlain_web.jpg*)

c

Ronda Chaney's Canada College student's work inspired by the Balrog from *Fellowship of the Ring*. Since it is a fire demon -it's meant to look like fire.



What, Where & When

Meeting Time

PenWAG meets on the *second Saturday* of every month. Members will get an invitation to register for our Zoom meeting. See the newsletter at www.penwag.org for program information (there's a public copy available also).

Monday Muse

We have an inspirational meeting for the third Monday of the month, 7:00—8:30 p.m. See the newsletter article for details.

Facebook Page

If you like PenWAG, you can now “like” our *Facebook page*. Come see the pictures from the Show & Tell, and news about upcoming events. Click on the link to get there: <http://www.facebook.com/penwag> (you can look at this even if you don't have a Facebook account). *Lynnette Viste* and *Andy Trembley* are “admins” for the page. Let us know what you'd like to see! The PenWAG Board will help decide what is posted. Stay tuned as we continue to explore the world of social networking!

Google Docs

We also have *Google apps* for nonprofits (for free) to store our documents in the cloud, e.g. newsletters and minutes. You can synchronize the *PenWAG Google calendar* with your calendar.

PenWAG website

www.penwag.org

CALLING ALL MEMBERS: do you have a website or other social media to be listed here? Send it to lenore@penwag.org

April Sproule [Sproule Studios](http://www.sproulestudios.com)

Caroline Nixon <http://www.handmadetextilesbycaroline.co.uk>

Diane Ericson [Diane Ericson Design](http://www.dianeericson.com)

Dorothy Yuki www.dotsrainbow.com

Susan Helmer www.susanhelmer.com

Willa Scholten <http://facebook.com/WILLAs-creative-collection-105234725027873>