

PenWAG Rag

Your President's Thoughts. . . .

Christine Kenworthy & Nell Stinson

Co-Presidents



Hello!

I'm so excited that this month (July) we can return to 'in person' meetings. Covid has been very isolating for all of us. Needless to say, being up on vaccines and boosters is paramount. I live with an immunocompromised husband and have an immunocompromised daughter-in-law A Covid infection for them isn't just a 'bad cold' but possibly Long Covid or death. Please consider everyone in your health care decisions.

Covid has changed us all in a myriad of ways. Hopefully we are reflecting upon this and learning from it. During this 'lull' in normal life, I've gone a bit to the 'dark side', i.e., quilting. There are similar maxims to sewing 'art to wear'. One that really stands out, as I've just relearned, is that you should love your fabric (or at least like it). Working with so-so fabric on a quilt that can take weeks to months to finish becomes a job, not a joy. Time is precious — love yourself and love your fabric.

Nell Lee Stinson

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New Member

Terry Smith

Piedmont, CA



Dear PenWAG Members,

Our July program is you!

Where?

- **Room M50 at the Campbell Community Center, 1 West Campbell Ave., Campbell, CA.**
- Or online via **Zoom**

When?

- At **10:30 AM** (parking can be tight, come a bit early)

We've not had Artwear (our fashion show) in a few years AND we've been creating! As our first in-person scheduled meeting in some time, let's have an Artwear show & tell **just**

for us!

The show will be a hybrid meeting, meaning that we will have a show in person and simulcast on Zoom. Sign-in link for Zoom on the day of the meeting can be found here: [Meeting Sign-in Links – PenWAG](#)

If you are attending in person, please have your vaccinations and boosters current, masks are strongly requested and will be available at the door. Bring your own snack/beverage.

You will be able to show more than one item if we have enough time. We will have folks show one item at a time and then go again once everyone has had a chance. So that we do not all have to stand in line and miss the show, we will hand out **numbered tickets** and folks can get in line a just a few at a time. Be aware that you will be recorded and shown on Zoom.

Out-of-area or not attending in person? Please share your new creations with photos which will be incorporated into a slide presentation.

- Questions? Call Michelle at 408-406-4477

I'm looking forward to seeing what you have been up to!

Michelle Paganini, PenWAG Program Chair



NEXT MONDAY MUSE July 18th Claire De Lucchi

August 2022 Zoom Simulcast: IB Bayo Trunk Show

Date: August 13

Time: 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM PDT

Campbell Community Center (with Zoom Simulcast)

1 W Campbell Avenue

Campbell, CA 95008 United States

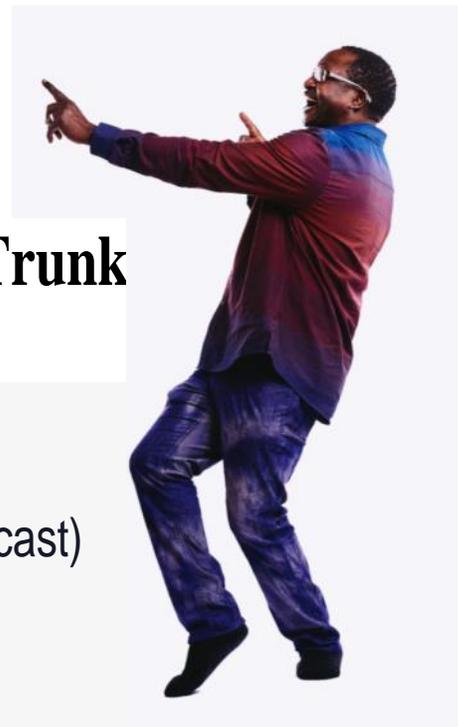
[+ Google Map](#)

Born in Osogbo, Nigeria, the ninth generation of a traditional weaving family, Bayo [pronounced Bio] learned his trade at an early age from generations of cloth artisans. He learned to weave and dye from his mother, and to sew from his father who made traditional clothing for Nigerian royalty.

Bayo began sewing at age five and remembers sitting on his dad's lap at the sewing machine before his leg could reach the pedal. Growing up, he also learned to sell cotton, dye yarn, iron and fold, do beading and hand-embroidery.

Now based in Santa Cruz, California, Bayo adapts his reverse appliqué and quilting techniques to his contemporary fashion and tailoring practice. He combines the hand-woven, hand-dyed, and embroidered fabrics made by his family in Nigeria with other fabrics, new and upcycled, to create the uniquely designed clothing in his I.B.Bayo line.

Bayo also teaches Nigerian Batik and Reverse Appliqué workshops, and gives presentations on his family history, showing clothing that spans from past generations to modern creations.



September 10, 2022 — Dorothy Kaplan

Zoom Simulcast: Wardrobe Tour



Dorothy is well known in the bay area for her fantastic handmade wardrobe. Her work features beautifully executed design details that are guaranteed to inspire. Join us for this one-of-a-kind opportunity to view her curated collection.

This is a live in-person event with a Zoom simulcast

May 14, 2022 PenWAG Members Meeting minutes

Zoom meeting started at 11:00 a.m. by Co-President *Christine Kenworthy*. There were approximately 57 attendees, with 1 new member and 3 guests. Membership is currently at 125 members.

Announcements:

Co-President Christine Kenworthy announced that starting in July, PenWAG would be re-starting “live” meetings, plus having a **Zoom presence**, which will be called **Hybrid meetings**.

Program Chair *Michelle Paganini* covered the upcoming 2022 programs for PenWAG, which are listed on the website.

Program Chair Michelle Paganini also announced that the July meeting is Artwear with members sharing their latest creations. If you can't attend, you can send well lit photos to artwear@penwag.org with a description for a presentation during the meeting.

Michelle Paganini introduced the May 14, 2022 speaker, *Catherine Redford*, speaking on Dorset buttons.

These are the books that were recommended by Catherine:

[Dorset Ring Buttons](#), by Gina Barrett

[Buttons: A Passementerie Workshop](#), by Gina Barrett

[Dorset Button Instruction booklet](#), by Anna McDowell

[50 Heirloom Buttons to Make](#), by Nancy Nehring

[Dorset Buttons](#), by Thelma Jones

[Crafting Thread Shawl Pins & Craft Thread Jewelry](#), by Pat Olski

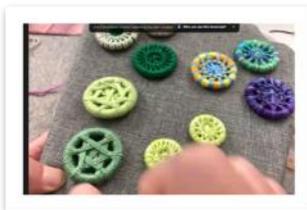
Notes from Monday Muse about Catherine Redford's May presentation on Dorset buttons:

Catherine uses a 1 ½” plastic ring made by thecraftyniusance.com

Cut 4 yards of thick thread or finger-weight yarn. Thread using a large eye tapestry needle. Tie on the end of thread to ring. Holding ring between thumb and index finger cast on 96 snug buttonhole stitches. Join the last stitch thru the first stitch. Slip the stitches to the middle of the ring. Come from behind to front to create spokes imagining a clock. Starting 12 to 6...go around in thirds. The front will show the spokes crossing but the back will need to be fixed by going around the spokes at the center. To finish weave the thread thru the back.



To make clam shell design needle weave thru odd number of spokes going back and front in rows. She showed the simple clam shell and 2 other buttons where she used the shell as a basket or flower pot and added French knots as flowers. Sorry no picture included.



There are many designs. .Can also add beads using a size 6 seed beads with a size 22 tapestry needle. If you want beads along outside of ring ... pick up a bead every 7 stiches when casting on.



Off the Shelf

This is the monthly list of **free PenWAG books** available to members. Be first to contact Claire at claired@pacbell.net and they are yours! Transfer method TBD.

1. Making Wire Jewelry (60 Easy Projects in Silver, Copper & Brass), Paperback, 112 pages
2. necklaceology (How to Make Chokers, Lariats, Ropes & More), Paperback, 144 pages
3. The New Beadwork, Hardback, 112 pages
4. Knitting with Wire, Paperback, 90 pages
5. Knit Kimono (18 Designs with Simple Shapes), Paperback, 128 pages
6. Folk Socks (The History & Techniques of Handknitted Footwear), Paperback, 120 pages
7. Felt It! (20 Fun & Fabulous Projects to Knit and Felt), Paperback, 152 pages
8. Uniquely Felt (Dozens of Techniques, 46 Projects), Paperback, 310 pages
9. Fitting Finesse, Paperback, 144 pages
10. Life is Not a Dress Size, Paperback, 136 pages
11. Make Your Own Great Vests (90 ways to Jazz Up Your Wardrobe), Paperback, 160 pages
12. Notions (Over 50 Great Gadgets You Can't Live Without), Hardback/Spiral, 170 pages
13. Folded Fabric Elegance, Paperback, Autographed, 96 pages
14. Terrific Textures (More than 70 texturing Ideas), Paperback, 98 pages
15. Fashion Accessories, Paperback, 222 pages
16. The Mode in Hats and Headdress (A Historical Survey with 198 Plates), Paperback, 348 pages
17. Infra-apparel (Metropolitan Museum of Art), Paperback, 130 pages
18. ...isms (Understanding Fashion), Paperback, 160 pages
19. Japanese Inspirations (18 Quilted Projects), Paperback, 128 pages
20. Westminster Patchwork and Quilting Book Number 1 (Thirteen Designs), Paperback, 55 pages



Do your research. If not claimed before next listing, these will be recycled or donated.

Happy browsing!
Claire

From the desk of Michelle Paganini: I recently took a class hosted by my wearable art guild, www.penwag.org, on the use of bias and straight of grain tape for embellishment. The teacher was [Lorraine Torrence Designs](#), who does beautiful work. The class was in 2 parts: 1) technique & then build a garment using the techniques, 2) project show & tell with feedback and Q&A.

I dived in enthusiastically with a garment in mind. My intention was to make a baby doll/ empire waist style upcycled shirt dress, in a modified version of the Paganonoo Rebecca Dress. The skirt section is made using upside down sleeves with the cuffs forming the waistband and the sleeve caps the scalloped hem.

The result was a bit of a mixed bag and perhaps a work in progress with quite a bit of learning! What I think works about my dress/design:

- It is super comfortable! It is loose enough that I can sit on the floor to play with my grandson. This was a key consideration from the beginning. I was willing to sacrifice flattering for comfortable.
- The bias tape makes an interesting accent, highlighting the various shapes.
- The color palette --if the front top and bottom were better tied together.



- I was able to continue the bias tape over the pocket for a seamless line.
- The crow patch.
- The button accents.

What I would change next time (or maybe attempt to modify on this one):

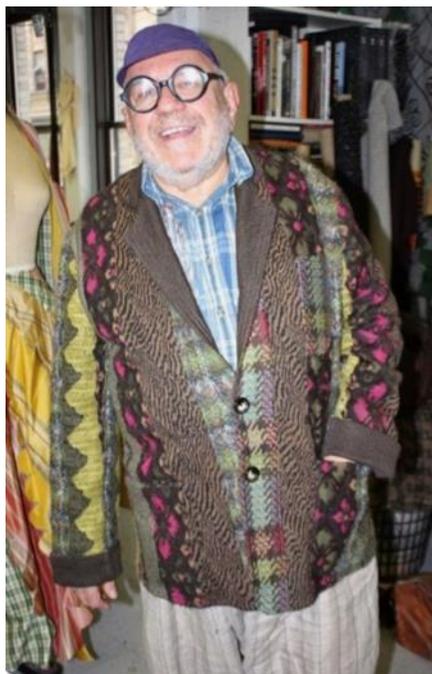
- The bottom (skirt) section is too high in the front and/or too low in the back. Due to the construction techniques used it would be impossible to lower in the front and possible but time consuming to raise in the back (most troublesome).
- The contrast between the top and bottom of the dress is too pronounced in the front, with not enough to tie it together (potentially fixable and second most troublesome).
 - In an attempt to make a more fitted bodice I crossed over the bottom front plackets to take up some of the extra volume. This did not take up enough volume to really work, and makes the bodice look crooked. I would consider on the next one potentially making it a wrap dress in the front with tie closures for a better fit. (not easily fixable)
 - I pinked the edges on the shoulder sleeve seams, leaving them raw at the hem, then decided to add bias tape to the hem. The raw edges poke out under the bias tape and look odd. (not fixable)
 - The scallop at the hem center back is too long, and the color stands out too much. (fixable)

Bottom line: Don't be afraid to experiment with new techniques. I made mistakes on this dress and learned some things along the way. The best way to learn is to do.

Happy upcycling, Michelle

Koos Van Den Akker By Michelle Paganini, PenWAG 5Program Chair

Are you a Koos fan? Did you take one of his classes or make one of his Vogue patterns?



Koos van den Akker

In 2023, I would like to have a retrospective of his work and am looking for one or several enthusiasts with public speaking experience to put together and guide us through a photo montage (many available on Pinterest). Seeing live garments would be a huge bonus! So would any class photos.

You will work with me to select the presentation month and preview your program. Contact me at

michellepaganini@penwag.com.

P.S. do you have another favorite artist or topic you would like to present to the group? Contact me and let's chat!



With Fond Memories

Marie Strait, a long-time member passed away very recently. The cancer she had been dealing with for the past year and a half came back and took her very quickly.

Marie was into all things quilting, having owned a quilt shop and was a vital part of the San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, serving on their Board of Directors. She originally joined PenWAG primarily to serve as a liaison between the Museum and PenWAG, but the wearable art muse finally got to her and it was fun seeing her very wearable forays into art to wear.

We shall miss her, and our condolences go to her sons and their families.



Things to Do & Places to Go

From **LeAnne McWaters**: There is an extensive wearable art (that's what I would call it) display at the **Legion of Honor** in SF thru Sept. 5. Here is a description:

Guo Pei: Couture Fantasy celebrates the extraordinary designs of *Guo Pei*—hailed as China's first couturier—and includes more than 80 works from the past two decades highlighting her most important collections shown on Beijing and Paris runways. Through exquisite craftsmanship, lavish embroidery, and unconventional dressmaking techniques, Guo Pei creates a fantasy that fuses the influences of China's imperial past, decorative arts, European architecture, and the botanical world. Through her stunning fashions, the exhibition reveals the trajectory of Guo Pei's career as remarkable yet emblematic of China's emergence as a leader in the fashion world in the early twenty-first century [Access Day: "Guo Pei: Couture Fantasy" | Legion of Honor \(famsf.org\)](#), [CBS San Francisco \(cbsnews.com\)](#)

Fabric Bargain Market

(Formerly Bargain Garden)



****New, NEW indoor location****

→ **Calvary Methodist Church**
729 Morse St., San Jose ←

- Near Naglee, off The Alameda -
- Ample street parking available -

Saturday, August 20, 2022

Hours: 10 AM to 2 PM

✂ *If it has to do with sewing or stitching, you'll find something at this sale!* ✂

At this event you will find:

- *Used sewing machines & sergers*
- *Patterns, sewing notions, all types of thread, books, and lots of fabric*
- *Vintage items*

Everything at rock bottom prices!

Pay with Cash, Venmo and major credit cards

No checks will be accepted

Bring your own bags

Event Coordinator: *Bonnie George*

Bonnie.g.george@gmail.com

408.221.6606

Sponsored by:

**American
Sewing
Guild**

San Jose Chapter

www.asgsanjosel.org

♦ *See you there & please note the address change!* ♦

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