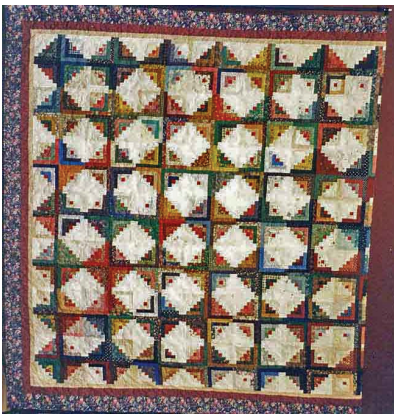




Sewing in the Threads of Sun City Lincoln Hills Needle Arts History 1999-2012

1999-2000

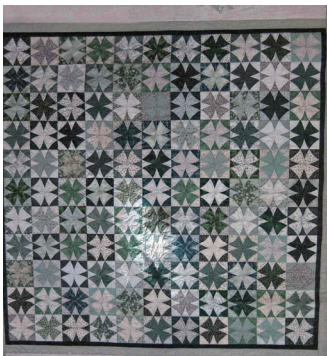
- It didn't take long for a small group of women sharing a common interest to form what is now a thriving, creative group called Needle Arts in Sun City Lincoln Hills. The first gatherings were held in homes, but in early 2000 when Orchard Creek Lodge opened, group meetings were held in the new sewing room. The association provided sewing machines, certification classes were offered, and members worked on a variety of projects. "Threads of Friendship" became the definitive title of this new group.
- Soon more serious organization was needed and the first board of officers was elected and the first breakout groups emerged e.g. quilting, knitting and crochet, and community service.
- Many are not aware that the first Holiday Craft Fair was held on November 4, 2000, and it was Needle Arts members who offered their creations and baked goods for sale.
- Thirty women attended the first Holiday Party—a cookie and gift exchange in a private home.



2001 Opportunity Quilt

2001-2002

- With almost explosive growth more breakout groups were formed, meetings were moved to the Orchard Creek ballroom, and activities included guest speakers, field trips, and classes. The Opportunity Quilt raffle became a major annual fundraiser and our completed projects were proudly displayed in the main hall window.
- The Craft Fair continued; however, other artists copied our success and scheduled a similar show the day before.
- Community service projects flourished. Sheridan School received sweaters, uniforms, and shirts with embroidered logos. The Lighthouse received baby blankets, layettes, and afghans.
- Because of the significant increase in members, a larger venue, the Orchard Creek Ballroom, was used for the Holiday Brunch.



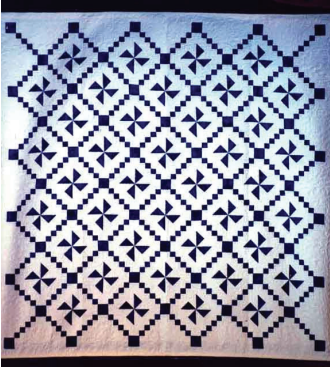
2003 Opportunity Quilt

2003-2004

- Membership grew to 120, then to 140. With the increased use by the breakout groups, Needle Arts members began monitoring the use of the sewing room.
- The Craft Show grew beyond the scope of just Needle Arts members and the LHCA assumed responsibility; however, the original organizers continued to lend their expertise.
- With the opening of Kilaga Springs, the Holiday celebration morphed into our popular Holiday Tea held at Kilaga Springs.



2004 Opportunity Quilt



2005 Opportunity Quilt

2005-2006

- With membership approaching 200, the general meetings shifted to newly built Presentation Hall at Kilaga Springs.
- The first Mentor Day was held with demonstrations and exhibits offered by members of the various breakout groups in the Orchard Creek Ballroom. This event provided an opportunity for everyone, members and non-members, to see our remarkable accomplishments.



2006 Opportunity Quilt

2007-2008

- An official logo for the Sun City Lincoln Hills Needle Arts was created and displayed on tote bags and shirts purchased by members.
- Our Annual Spring Luncheon featured a silent auction and fashion show with member models.

2009

- Yes, the great life here in Sun City Lincoln Hills has given Needle Arts the opportunity to grow to over 250 members. Following is a list of our current breakout groups and years they began:
 - * Applique - 2001
 - * Beading - 2001
 - * Community Service - 2000
 - * Cross-stitch - 2000
 - * Hardanger - 2000
 - * Knitting/Crocheting - 2000
 - * Machine Embroidery - 2001
 - * Needlepoint - 2001
 - * Rug Braiding - 2007
 - * Evening Quilting - 2000
 - * Day Quilting - 2000
 - * UFO - 2011
 - * Wearable Arts - 2005
- Over these past years our strongest tie, "Threads of Friendship" has enabled us to provide an atmosphere of sharing and learning. We have dipped into our treasury to fund many local charities and our creations have been featured in many shows and shops. Nationally known speakers enjoy sharing their expertise with our members. Our purpose to promote and preserve the heritage of needle arts continues to be a rewarding task for everyone here in Sun City Lincoln Hills.

2010-2012

- The Needle Arts group continues to expand with membership at over 300. Groups are thriving with the Wearable Arts group providing entertainment while demonstrating their creativity. Members are involved in projects and continue to support their organization.
- Retreats are offered for the members that take place at several venues. Knit and crochet groups have added groups. Nationally known speakers presented programs on topics from knitting, needlepoint, embellishments, wearable arts, and quilting. Mini-workshops were given by our members.
- Community Service continues to provide quilts to local organizations. In 2012, they participated in the Adopt-A-Child program helping 14 families and 49 children. The newsletter is now sent over the Internet via email along with a website for just our members.