



The Sun News

from The Sun Region of
The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.

www.sunregionega.org

June/July/Aug 2014

RD's Letter

Can you believe it's summer already? Time flies when you have a needle in your hand! We had a terrific time at Crystal River Stitching. As usual, it went by too fast. Everything was very nice. I think everyone had a great time despite the rain that tried to dampen the spirit. My thanks go to the Crystal River Stitching team for planning a terrific retreat / stitching marathon / gathering whatever you wanted it to be. The event turned out to be a very relaxing weekend where we could chat with old and new friends and shop, and maybe take some stitches in between sharing stories.

The Region was successful in their bid for a venue with the International Teacher Tour. We will host Alison Cole for 2 days of classes. Our dates are Nov. 10 and 11. The class(es) are to be selected. Contact your region rep and voice your preference. We can choose between two 1 day classes or one 2-day class. Your region rep must contact Cheri Hammer, Education Chair, by June 10th for their vote to count. We are looking at a venue in either Orlando or St. Pete to hold the class. Students will be responsible for their kit fee, their personal travel expense and meals. The region will sponsor the teacher picking up the expense for her lodging, travel and teaching fee. Stay tuned for more info. Cheri Hammer will have information on how to enroll later.

The pieces for our *Stitchers' Garden* event in 2015 were unveiled to rave reviews. Early registrations have closed but go ahead and visit the Region's website to see the photos of the pieces. Click on the piece's photo to see it up close and personal. It's truly hard to decide which class to take as they are all beautiful and interesting. *Stitchers' Garden* offers 1, 2 and 3 day classes to choose from. There are new techniques as well as a host of new instructors. Some of the classes have begun to fill; so don't delay in registering at Open Registration later this year. More information is in this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

Stay cool and keep stitching.

Jan

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We are EGA. Our mission is "to stimulate appreciation for and celebrate the heritage of embroidery by advancing the highest standards of excellence in its practice through education, exhibition, preservation, collection and research."

Sun Region Officers and Committee Chairs

Executive Committee

Region Director	Jan Clark	rd@sunregionega.org
Assistant Region Director	Betty Baechle	ard@sunregionega.org
Secretary	Lynn Abbey	secretary@sunregionega.org
Treasurer	Kathy Singleton	treasurer@sunregionega.org

Committee Chairs

Bylaws	Adrienne Meyer	bylaws@sunregionega.org
Education	Cheri Hammer	education@sunregionega.org
Finance	Kathy Singleton	treasurer@sunregionega.org
Historian	Judy DeMeglio	historian@sunregionega.org
Marketing	vacant	marketing@sunregionega.org
Newsletter	Linda Anne Buehler	sunnews@sunregionega.org
Nominating	Pat Carrington, Genie Dickinson, Linda Hansen and Deby Talley	nominating@sunregionega.org
Outreach	JoyceAnne Stevens	outreach@sunregionega.org
Parliamentarian	Margaret Kinsey	parliamentarian@sunregionega.org
Roster	Kathy Singleton	roster@sunregionega.org
Social Media Coordinator	Jenna McClooney	socialmedia@sunregionega.org
Ways & Means	Geni Dickinson	waysandmeans@sunregioneg.org
Website	Lynn Abbey	website@sunregionega.org

Seminar Chairs

2015 Seminar	Deby Talley	2015chair@sunregionega.org
2016 Seminar	Donna Christie	2016chair@sunregionega.org

The Sun News is published quarterly - March, June, September and December

Region officers, committee chairs and chapter representatives are reminded that the deadlines for submissions are: March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. Thanks to all of you who sent your articles for insertion in this newsletter in a timely manner. Remember, this newsletter is entirely dependent on you for content.

ARD's Report

Betty Baechle

Oh what fun we had at Crystal River Stitching! Many thanks go to all that helped make it a success. Manatee races and the special goodies served during the races added to the fun. 40, yes 40, opportunity baskets. Some lucky ladies won more than one. Yes, we stitched from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. in the main event room and then moved across the street to the hospitality room and stitched more! We made new stitching buddies, had loads of fun and some actually finished a project they brought.

Now, on to what you need to know about the fall board meeting. The luncheon host chapter is duClay and the program will be hosted by Neapolitan and presented by Joan Thomasson.

Date: September 13-14, 2014

Place: Sawgrass Golf Resort and Spa

Address: 1000 Pga Tour Blvd. , Ponte Vedra Beach, FL., 32082

Directions: Located off State Highway A1A just south of Jacksonville and north of St Augustine

Room rate: \$129.00 plus taxes. Available 2 days prior and 2 days after the meeting date.

Reservations close at our rate on August 12. We have a website dedicated just for our reservations. Have your room mates name and your credit card ready. Hotel amenities include: free parking, in room coffee, newspaper and health club access. There is hotel transportation to the Cabana Club Beach access, golf and Sawgrass Shopping Village. Should you encounter problems let me know and I will assist you. Contact me at: betbaechle@comcast.net



Booking Website:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/sunregionembroiderersguild>

2014 Calendar

Sept 1	next Sun News deadline	
Sept 13 - 14	Sun Region meeting	Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort and Spa Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Oct 18 - 24	EGA National Seminar	Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort Phoenix, AZ

... from pages 4-5

Treasurer's Report notes (YTD vs. Budget)

- ** These items are under separate accounts. Only the net total at the end of the event is reported here.
- * This does not show a prepaid item for 2015 of \$889.75
- *** As approved at April SR board meeting

Treasurer's Report

Kathy Singleton

	Checking	MoneyMkt
Opening Balances (04/01/2014)	19,159.47	52,029.96
Income		
Dues	2.25	
Interest		6.35
Fund Raising	196.00	
Other	125.00	
TOTAL INCOME	323.25	6.35
Expense		
Educ Event	600.00	
Rent	1,342.37	
Officers' Travel	787.09	
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,729.46	0.00
Transfers		
Retreat - Crystal River	-3,653.95	
Seminar 2015	2339.08	
Seminar 2016	-66.05	
Meals	24	
OVERALL TOTAL	#REF!	52,036.31
CLOSING BALANCES (05/23/2014) Regions Bank Accounts	20,682.32	52,036.31
Difference	#REF!	0.00
ck 1089	200.00	
ck 1101	5,085.98	
Total OT items	\$5,285.98	

s/b \$15,396.34

s/b \$5,285.98

YTD vs. Budget

	2014 Budget***	Actual as of 5/26
Revenue		
2 Member Dues	\$1,749.00	30
3 Interest	\$ 50.00	8.56
4 Educational Events		
5 Seminar 2015**		
Seminar 2016**		
6 Exhibit	\$ -	
7 Fund Raising (W&Ms)	\$ 150.00	196
8 Sales (W&Ms)	\$ 900.00	

9	Advertising	\$	-	
10	Community Outreach	\$	-	
11	Contributions (unrestricted)			
12	Contributions (restricted)			
13	Parties/Meals (RM lunches)			
14	Retreats **	\$2,300.00		6134
15	Contributions/Gifts	\$ 120.00		
16	Printing			
17	Other	\$ 150.00		125
	Money Market savings transfer	\$3,000.00		
		\$ 681.00		
18	Total Revenue	\$9,100.00		\$6,493.56
Expenses				
21	Educational Events (GCCs)	\$3,000.00		800
22	Seminar			
	Seminar 2014			
	Seminar 2015 seed money	\$1,000.00		
23	Exhibit			
24	Fund Raising (Ways and Means)			
25	Cost of Sales			
26	Rent (Region Meetings)*	\$ 645.00		452.62
27	Newsletter			
28	Administration			
	RD	\$ 50.00		
	ARD	\$ 25.00		
	Treasurer	\$ 20.00		
	Other	\$ 45.00		
29	Officer's Travel (lodging and lunches)			
	National Meeting-RD	\$1,500.00		423
	Region Meetings	\$2,340.00		364.09
30	Community outreach			
31	Parties/Meals (RM lunches)**			
32	Retreats			
33	Contributions/Gifts			
	EGA Annual Fund Campaign	\$ 100.00		
	National Seminar Opportunity Drawings	\$ 150.00		
34	Printing			
35	Other			
	licenses & Fees	\$ 75.00		61.25
	Taxes	\$ 150.00		
36	Total Expenses:	\$9,100.00		\$2,100.96

*, **, *** notes on page 3

Committee Information

2015 SEMINAR - "Stitchers' Garden" - May 1-3, 2015

It was so much fun to have the unveiling of projects for the 2015 Sun Region Seminar at the Crystal River Stitching event. I am so pleased with the response that we have had so far. While early registration is now closed, you will have a chance to register again in the fall. If you have not yet been to the Sun Region website to see the classes, please take a look over the summer and be ready to sign up this fall. We are going to have a wonderful time! - *Deby Talley, chair*



Hilton Grand Vacation Club International Drive, Orlando

Room rates: Studio: \$99.00 1 King bed Max occupancy 2
 One Bedroom Suite: \$129.00 1 King bed 1 Sofa Sleeper, Max. Occupancy 4
 Two Bedroom Suite: \$229.00 2 King Beds, 1 Sofa Sleeper, Max Occupancy 6

Hotel has no rooms with double-doubles and no rollaway beds are available. These rates are available to us 1 day before and 1 day after. This is a great resort to bring your family while you are busy stitching or you may decide to add on a day to your stay. There are no additional resort fees for this oasis. It's located adjacent to Orlando Premium Outlets with a private gate to go through. Dining is nearby at Downtown Disney along with other restaurants nearby. It's conveniently located for going to other major attractions. Should you decide to eat in, there is a grocery store and drug store across the street from the resort.

To book your room at Hilton Grand Vacations for Stitcher's Garden seminar go to our personalized Online Group Web Page. Click on this link and then click on Book a Room and continue, following their instructions: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/O/ORLINGV-EG0515-20150430/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG
 You can also call toll free 1-800-Hiltons, group code EG0515.

Should you have a problem, feel free to contact me at ard@sunregionega.org and I will contact the hotel.

2016 SEMINAR - *“Red Sails in the Sunset”* - Donna Christie, chair

At this point, plans are going a little slowly, but will be heating up shortly! A Call for Teachers will be going out soon, our work plan is starting to take shape, and a logo has been sent to the Product and Design Committee for approval. I am hoping that I will be able to show the logo at the September Sun Region meeting.

Please keep in mind that various things that you or your chapter can/may volunteer to help with. At the September meeting, I will be putting a more earnest plea out for individuals and/or chapters to step forward and offer their help. So, if there is something that you or your chapter really wants to volunteer to do, please let me know!

EDUCATION - Cheri Hammer, chair

There are lots of educational opportunities coming up. First, Sun Region was fortunate to be selected to host Alison Cole during the International Touring Teacher festivities, post-national seminar. Alison's specialties are in both traditional and contemporary Stumpwork, Or Nué and Goldwork. Further information will be provided as the details are worked out, but we hope that many of you will take advantage of this (almost) once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

Next, don't forget about Sun Region's 2014 Education Grant! This is a wonderful opportunity for your chapter. Each chapter is authorized \$200 toward a group correspondence course or workshop, and that money can be used to offset any of your costs. There are minimum numbers for participation and advertising requirements if your chapter can't make the minimums, so this is also an opportunity for members of your chapter to join up with another chapter and join in on the fun. Check out the Sun Region website for the "rules" and the chapters that are trying to reach their numbers – you may find something you want to participate in!

Finally, we are in the process of collecting the charts for the Sun Region banner that each chapter participated in developing. Hopefully, over the summer each region rep is working with the designer to accomplish this task and at our fall meeting we will start to put this project together. I can't wait to see how this turns out! Just think – we will be able to stitch all or parts of that wonderful banner!

NOMINATING - Pat Carrington (chair), Genie Dickinson, Linda Hansen, Deby Talley

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce to the Sun Region members the slate of proposed officers for the 2015-2018 term of office. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the September meeting. The bio of each nominee is included on the following pages in this newsletter.

Director	Kathy Singleton - Central Florida Chapter
Assistant Region Director	Melody Bryan - duClay Chapter
Secretary	Cheri Hammer - Sand Dunes Chapter
Treasurer	Lynn Abbey - Chain Stitchers Chapter

We want to thank the members of the Sun Region for their help in selecting this slate and to these ladies for being willing to accept the responsibility of these positions.

Sun Region's Proposed Slate of Officers

To serve from October 2015 - October 2018

Kathy Singleton, Region Director



Kathy began stitching at the age of 5. She would spend the weekends at her grandmother's house and she learned embroidery and crochet from her. Mind you, this was free hand embroidery, no counting, no hoops, etc. Her first real project was a chicken scratch apron – yellow – a color Kathy now doesn't really care for. Her grandmother embroidered quilt squares and Kathy would embroider the stamped pillowcases to match. Naturally, surface embroidery remains her favorite stitching.

She continued stitching through the 70's where she was in demand to embroider on jeans, jackets, etc etc. Remember all of that? In the 80s' she started bigger projects, including crewel, pulled thread, and bead embroidery. And that's when the Christmas stocking thing started. She has now stitched a stocking for everyone in her family – that includes her immediate family, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, etc. etc. Now when anyone gets married or has a baby, the question becomes what will the stocking look like. Her niece's fiancée bothered her for a year making sure that he was going to be presented one, thus leading Kathy to believe that is why he married her niece.

Kathy has held lots of positions in EGA having joined Windy Stitchers in Chicago when she discovered a flyer for EGA at a local shop. She's held every chapter position except for president. She is proud of her two terms as National Treasurer and the work that was accomplished there. That experience really broadened her knowledge of EGA's workings and the reasons why some things are done the way that they are. At the region level, she has chaired a region seminar and retreat and currently serves as the region treasurer.

Melody Bryan, Assistant Region Director



Melody's history with EGA goes back a long way. She joined EGA when she was still in high school. She was a charter member of the now defunct LeMoyne Chapter in Jacksonville. She found out about a guild forming from the LNS owner who became a lifelong friend and still is today. She remained active in LeMoyne for a few years but her developing passion was showing purebred dogs and that took over and dominated her life for the next 25 years.

Like many of you – Melody learned to embroider and crochet from her grandmother. She learned to do simple needlepoint at about age 8 or 10. Even though she was very involved in traveling and exhibiting Afghan Hounds, needlework was always a part of her life.

In the mid 2000's, Melody joined the Dixie Chapter in Columbus, GA in which she still retains a plural membership. She decided after moving to Orange Park in 2008 that she should visit the duClay Chapter. She originally joined as a plural member, but has been primary member for a few years now. She has held a couple of offices in duClay and is currently VP/Programs & Education.

These days Melody spends a lot of time doing traditional wool rug hooking. She's been a "hooker" for about 15+ years now. She is a member of the NF Rug Hooking Guild as well as their parent national guild. She is an avid knitter, has a deep love of samplers and the history that goes along with them, and still enjoys doing various types of canvaswork.

Cheri Hammer, Secretary



Cheri has been fascinated with stitching from a very young age. Completely self-taught and self-guided, she gobbled up all of those crafty kits you get as a child. Then she ventured into counted cross-stitch, spending years making little x's on fabric. But then one day she saw a poster for a needle art exhibit, and that totally changed her world! The Sand Dunes Chapter in Northwest Florida held a bi-annual show and that was Cheri's introduction into the wonderful world of EGA.

Cheri joined Sand Dunes in the early 90s, and quickly volunteered to be the night liaison for the chapter. Education is her passion, and she wanted the night meeting attendees to have the same opportunities as the day meeting attendees. Over the years, several times she has held the position of education chairman and/or vice president (in charge of programs).

Cheri has also been her chapter's region representative, and has been exposed to Sun Region operations. She was the Merchandise Night chairman for both the 2000 and 2011 national seminars. She is currently the education chairman for both her chapter and the region.

Lynn Abbey, Treasurer



Lynn was fortunate to be surrounded by threadbenders as a child. Her mother and both her grandmothers knit, sewed, knotted, and crocheted. They shared their skills with her regularly, but sometimes competitively so it was no great surprise that she gravitated toward a threadbending art that did not fascinate her mentors: embroidery.

She learned embroidery in a thoroughly haphazard, self-taught manner until discovering the EGA by accident in 1978 (A neighbor's copy of Needle Arts appeared in her mailbox by mistake!). After that, embroidery became Lynn's passion. She joined the Ann Arbor (MI) chapter and volunteered to be its education officer at her first meeting

In Ann Arbor, Lynn went on to serve as newsletter editor, region representative, and president. From Ann Arbor she moved to Oklahoma and joined the Central Oklahoma chapter where she took over their newsletter. In 1997 she moved to Central Florida and joined the Chain Stitchers chapter where she has served as region representative, president, and other positions; she is currently the chapter's newsletter editor and outreach co-chair. She has served as the Sun Region Secretary for the past 5 years.

OUTREACH - *JoyceAnne Stevens, chair*

Sun Region chapters continue to reach out to the people and communities around them. If your chapter has not yet done any Outreach this year, you may find some really great ideas in the following. Exhibits and stitching in public are good way to demonstrate what we actually do, i.e., stitch. Making stitched items, making monetary donations, and collecting and donating various things are other ways to reach out. Several of the chapters have year long projects they are working on. Sand Dunes is embroidering Christmas stockings. Needle Arts just arrived today and there is a photo of Sand Dunes members on p 8 of the center insert with the fleece blankets they made and donated last year. Sea Grape has knitted/crocheted 109 Baby Caps and 108 Chemo Caps for Lee Memorial Hospital which represents 711 volunteer hours since January. Sand Dollar is making Christmas Ornaments for Atlantic School. Biscayne also donated caps for children, close to 60 to 2 different hospitals. Biscayne has stitched and sent off 60 Kissing Pillows for U.S. Military members and stitched 50 bookmarks for the David Fairchild Elementary.

Bermuda Chapter collected their UFO's and sold them at the February and March meetings, taking in \$300 which they donated to the Blind Society. The Blind Society responded with a gracious thank you and reported they are launching a program of vision rehabilitation therapy so that the donation was both timely and appreciated.

Neapolitan Chapter staged a very successful 3 day exhibit which had been 2 years in the planning with an attendance beyond expected. More programs had to be printed after the first day.

Habitat for Humanity samplers are being stitching by several chapters. Biscayne has so far stitched and personalized 25 samplers this year. Chain Stitchers has been working with Habitat for Humanity for over a decade and stitched more than 200 samplers during that time. So far this year, at least 5 families are awaiting dedication of their new homes and Chain Stitchers look forward to many more in June. Neapolitan also provides a large number of samplers for their local Habitat for Humanity.

Several chapters collect and distribute items such as small toiletries and pop-tops.

Thank you to those chapters that sent reports.

SOCIAL MEDIA - *Jenna McClooney, chair*



For the month of June, Sun & Sea Embroiderers will feature Sara Zander as our "Creative Person of Interest". I will re-post a number of her beautiful crazy quilt and beaded creations from her personal Facebook site. Sara is from San Francisco and is an active member of the Greater Pacific Region of EGA and taught for Sun Region at Mayday Mayhem in 2010.

Please contact me with your suggestions for future "Creative Person of Interest" individuals.

All members are invited to post EGA related photos and information on our Facebook page. Interesting topics include chapter events, workshops, individual member's projects, textiles research, and history. If you need assistance, I would be glad to post for you.

In addition to the above, I would like to "share" photos and information from other needlework Facebook sites. This would include interesting projects, historical information, textiles, new techniques, etc. I currently watch for similar information from other EGA Facebook pages from chapters and regions. I am not able to share or re-post non-EGA advertisements from commercial entities such as shops, teachers, and organizations however.

Please contact me with photos and copy at socialmedia@sunregionega.org

Chapter Reports

BERMUDA

Shina Lyons

The Bermuda Guild has been very busy these past few months... we had a workshop on basket making with wool which was lots of fun and our teacher was a Bermudian so no expense in getting her. (photo at right)

Last month we had a stitch-a-thon and collected over \$2,000.00 for the church's soup kitchen. This month is the end of our year with presentation of all works of stitches and a pot lunch which is always delicious.

During the summer we get together to stitch but there is no set meeting since so many go off island.



BISCAYNE

Karan Quintero

I am still recovering from all the fun I had at Crystal River Stitching. Our guild was represented by Adrienne Meyer, Anna Roman, Schelley Iman-Loch and myself. Three of us were definitely dedicated Manatee Derby Racers, but alas only Adrienne came out a winner both at the races and with winning several Opportunity Baskets.



Our May meeting stitching program featured an Ort Keep using small 8 ounce tomato cans. This design was shared from the designer, Evelyn Riggins, a member of my plural chapter, The Stitch'n Belle's of Aiken, South Carolina, with permission for use by any EGA Chapter when accompanied by newsletter acknowledgement. Members stitched on 10 or 14 mesh plastic canvas with their color choices of yarn and their choices from variations of the Smyrna and Waffle /Norwich stitches. Once stitching was completed, the plastic canvas was wrapped around the can. Then, using the braided joining stitch it was snugly secured to the can. The over wrapping of the edges covered all exposed metal therefore the top and bottom were nice and smooth. Knowing that we all stitch in various places throughout our homes and when we are visiting, members can now color co-ordinate the Ort Keep to the specific room and make a crazy one to have in that travel stitching bag we all have.

Our upcoming June Meeting is our last for the summer. We have requested members to bring in completed Ort Keeps, finished Mary Hickmott's Florentine Samplers (which have been worked on since January) and the GCC Bargello Challenge pieces which are due to be sent for critiques. Several of our members also participated in the GCC Needlework Tool Case being done along with another Sun Region Chapter and we hope to get photos of those in the future.

Our Outreach program continues to be very active with four partner families to receive their personal Habitat for Humanity Sampler on June 14th. To date, we have stitched 60 military Kissing Pillows, 40 cozy caps for Jackson Memorial Hospital Pediatric Unit and 18 for Baptist Pediatric Oncology Clinic. We have delivered over 15 pounds of pop-tops to Ronald McDonald House and 20 pounds of toiletries for families who stay at "The House" while their children are being treated at Jackson Memorial Hospital Medical Center. The David Fairchild Elementary School received 50 stitched bookmarks through the combined efforts of Biscayne and the Royal Palm Chapter of ANG, which brings our total to 200 distributed to this and four other local elementary schools for reading accomplishments.

As we are still in the process of collecting dues, our membership may be affected once new data is received. However, current membership numbers are 50 composed of (1) our sister Auckland NZ Chapter, (49) Primary members, (4) Plural members and two known non-renewals due to relocation and the passing of one member.

Over the summer, Biscayne plans on doing the Colonial Band Sampler which was first featured in the March edition of NeedleArts. The Stitch-In's will be lead by Martha Milnes, one of our two resident Master Craftman members.....our needles are never idle even during the summer!!

Biscayne Chapter wishes all Sun Region members a safe and happy stitching summer!!

CANOPY OAKS

Linda Dean

Canopy Oaks Chapter, in Tallahassee, continues to host some exciting stitching options:

GCC Toolkit – 20 members participated; currently being critiqued by instructor Mary Long

Show and Tell – May meeting included a lovely array of embroidery and many food delights

Basic Hardanger – workshop will be hosted and taught by Pam Doffek in July

Stitch-in-Public – Chapter will host one in August at the library

Summer planning – Annual planning workshop for 2015 will be hosted by President Anne Wright and we each bring a food contribution for lunch; great fun!

Wishing you all happy stitching!

CENTRAL FLORIDA

Gaby Hubbard

Past endeavors:

April - class by member, Linda Ferguson, to learn to make a cubit/stand up.

May - our potluck and Audrey Francini was our speaker with slides, actual pieces and great stories & history of her stitching.

Summer school:

June - Or Nue

July - bead embroidery

August - Crazy quilting with a fabric swap.

CHAIN STITCHERS

Claire Nardone

Chain Stitchers celebrated our 18th birthday at our May 13th meeting. There are still 3 dues paying members that are from our charter. A feat we feel is great considering the snow bird activity we have.

For the summer we plan on stitching more of the Habitat samplers as there are several in the works, their dedication just not scheduled as of yet.

A warm wish to all for a wonderful, safe summer.

duCLAY

Melody Bryan & JoyceAnne Stevens

Spring was nice here is NE FL. We had cool weather right up until mid May and now BOOM!!!! It's summertime temps and great stitching weather.

We started off in March with an awesome "taste of " workshop on Blackwork taught by JoyceAnne Stevens. She developed a complete stitch guide in the double running stitch for a nametag or mini-band sampler designed by MaryAnn Mongilla. The workshop was well attended and one industrious member who shall not be named has already completed a beautiful nametag.

(photo at right of JoyceAnne's sampler, taken by Jackie K.)

Our April "taste of " crewel workshop was postponed till Fall due to member Cathe's impending hand surgery. Please watch for this class to be rescheduled. Our monthly stitch-ins have been well attended and we had a returning member rejoin the chapter in April. We had good participation in membership renewals this year and only lost one member.



The first weekend in May was the Stitching on the River Sun Region retreat. Several members from duClay attended and we also had 4 plural members of duClay in attendance. It was a fantastic time for all. Kudos to member Kathy Singleton and her retreat committee on putting on a smashing event.

(duClay members and friends in photo at right)

Looking ahead to the future – in June, we kick off the summer season by holding our 2nd Annual Summer Stitch in. It will be held on June 7th at the Westminster Woods retirement community. We will have an informal exhibit of finished items and will showcase our 2014 Challenge finishes and WIP's. Lunch will be served.

The end of June we are happy to be hosting a needlepoint class by Janeann Sleeman. She will be teaching a beautiful Sundance design called Dazzling Delight.

In July we will be promoting Christmas in July at our local Orange Park Library exhibit. If you are in our area, please come and visit the exhibit up for the entire month of July.

August will be the "taste of " a perfect Queen stitch. Member Linda M will be teaching a queen stitch scissor case by Carolyn Standing Webb.

We welcome anyone visiting our area to our two stitch-ins every month on the 1st and 2nd Saturday. And, please visit our blog often and see what duClay is up to: <http://duclayega.blogspot.com/>

GULFVIEW

Ann Ashley

I am proud to say that we increased our membership at the last meeting. The numbers now are 35, with 2 dual and 2 life members.

A third of our membership goes north for the summer, some for several months and some for just a few weeks, so conducting classes becomes a challenge. For each month there are two Wednesday designated gathering places, one at a different member's home and the other at a local library. A beaded needle case and "Not exactly black work" from the December Needle Arts are the projects for this summer. Those not in Florida have access to the project leaders via e-mail.

At the May meeting we agreed to share a new "Teneriffe Lace" GCC with Sand Hill Crane Chapter in September.

The chapter keeps busy stitching. It will be interesting to see how many of this summer's projects will be completed when everyone is back home in October.

INDIAN RIVER

Adrienne Meyer

Another wonderful region retreat weekend! Ninety+ Sun Region members and friends gathered May 2-4 at the Plantation on Crystal River for a weekend of stitching, camaraderie and relaxation. Our chapter had over 25% of the attendees and we filled several stitching tables. Despite the rainy start, there was nothing gloomy inside the stitching room. Friendships across the region were renewed and new friends made. As a start for the weekend 28 IRC members and friends gathered at Crackers Seafood Restaurant on Friday evening for a delicious Crystal River dinner. The rain certainly did not dampen our spirits or our appetites!

(Adrienne and fellow manatee race winners in photo at right)

Indian River always has interesting programs. In April we had a visit from a lady who raises alpacas. She spoke about their wool and showed slides of the animals and samples of their wool. May was our 37th anniversary which we celebrated with



a covered dish luncheon and yummy cake. In June members will help each other with suggestions to complete their UFOs.

Every July we celebrate Christmas in July by giving gifts of paper goods, diapers, toys, clothing and money to a local children's shelter, The Haven. The director of the shelter generally talks briefly about its activities and answers questions. This is always a very heartwarming program. July is also the time for our chapter retreat. This year we will exchange "grey elephants." If you are interested and live near Melbourne, a few seats remain and I guarantee you'll have a wonderful time. Breakfast and lunch are provided for \$10.00, as well as unlimited support for your current stitching project.

The chapter just completed the correspondence course Cleopatra's Cat and is preparing to begin Florentine and Tulips.

NEAPOLITAN

Joan Thomasson

no report

SAND DOLLAR

Kathie Dougherty

Our April luncheon meeting featured a DVD showing members completed UFO projects. Last summer we started the challenge and allowed members to register up to 10 UFO's for \$1.00 each. All projects were photographed when registered and when finished. The DVD showed the before and after photographs. The prize was a year's membership to EGA. We were lucky to have Jan Clark attend the meeting and draw the winner- our president Claire Kelly.

This summer we are challenging members to stitch for 100 days. Interested members paid \$2 and pledged to stitch every day from May 25 until Sept. 3. The prize will be a gift card with the amount of money collected to a "yet-to-be-determined" store. Our members who began the GCC "Bargello Challenge" on May 1 will certainly be able to stitch for 100 days!

Our summer meetings are held at a local library and consist of creating Christmas ornaments for the Atlantic School in Daytona. This is an outreach program we have participated in for many years. When the ornaments are delivered to the school next December the children are allowed to pick one and take it home. We also encourage members to complete Habitat for Humanity samplers during the summer meetings.

SAND DUNES

Linda Anne Buehler

Sand Dunes chapter celebrated our 30th anniversary with a Thir-TEA party in May. Appropriately, 20 members and former members met at a local tea house. *(photo showing some of the attendees below)*

Prior to the tea, we finished up our program year of "Pretty and Personalized" accessories. A Shadow Work Satchet was the project in January and February, and a Luxurious Linen Glass Towel was the project for March and April. *(photo below)*



SANDHILL CRANE*Jane Newhouse*

The Sandhill Crane Chapter has been busy. Jenna McClooney taught a beading class at the April meeting. The project was a bracelet using "tila" and seed beads. The members had a choice of choosing her own colors or using a kit provided by Jenna. More and more members are embracing beading to complement their stitching. In April the Chapter also sponsored a class with Margaret Bendig featuring her "Mexican Tile" piece. The class was held at Linda Hansen's house. It was a wonderful class, full of tidbits of techniques that will be useful in other stitching projects besides the specific instruction for the piece. May's meeting was our annual luncheon. Jane Newhouse gave a talk about Renaissance Needlework that incorporated information from Marylynn Doyle's class at 2013 Seminar.

June's program will be a round robin of ways to prepare fabric for stitching including techniques to keep fabric taut. Throughout the Spring, at each meeting Carol Riddler demonstrated different hardanger stitches. Her instructions will conclude at the June meeting.

Members of the Chapter continue to stitch samplers for Habitat for Humanity.

SARASOTA*Ann Fletcher*

Our new officers are working hard to set up a Fall schedule. We are planning on having a retreat At Day Spring, an Episcopal retreat facility on October 21,22,23. We are encouraging members to finish UFO's for our December meeting when we give a gift certificate for winner by popular vote.

We had a Memorial Day Meeting with an interesting program on Bunka Embroidery. Earlier in the year we stitched Carolyn Mitchell's Enchanted stitching needle case with 12 participants. The Bradenton Library gave us space for a small display of our Needle work for the Month of May.

Sampler Group continues to meet all summer as well as our Bead Group and the Stitch & Chat Group.

SEA GRAPE*Julia Nikolich**no report***STITCHING GATORS***Betsy Ann Harris**no report****Late breaking news:***

On Oct 9 and 10, 2014 - Gulfview Chapter is hosting Joan Thomassom in a class. The class is counted canvas and is called " The Rose of Sharon". We are inviting anyone who would like to join us as long as there is space available. The class fee is 25\$ and the kit fee is 85\$. Sign ups will continue through to the last day of June. For more information contact Donna Christie