



The Sun News

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

www.sunregionega.org

March/April/May 2015

RD's Letter

As I sit here watching it rain, again, I'm wondering where the warm weather is. Thank goodness we don't live up north and all we're getting is rain and a cooler than normal winter. I also wonder where the time goes. It seems like the Sun Region election was last month. But, I am feeling more comfortable with my duties as your region director.

We have a new Education Chair, Deby Talley and a new Roster Chair, Jineen Kulzycky. I thank both of them for volunteering to take on these positions. By the time you get this edition of the Sun News, Jineen will have sent out an updated roster. And, hopefully, Deby will have heard back about our ITT application. The region did again send in an application to have an ITT class at the region level. The reps voted to apply for Tanja Berlin to teach needle painting and our second choice is Gary Clarke with his Turkish Delight class. The lottery is scheduled to take place by March 16, so we should be able to make an announcement at the region meeting. That's also where we'll decide the financial arrangements and a venue for the class. I've also heard of two chapters that applied. Good luck to everyone in the lottery.

Trying to fit in visits to all of the chapters in the region is a challenge. If your chapter is having an event or special occasion and you'd like me to visit, please let me know. I'd love to get to know everyone and to have time to talk with you about EGA. We need to have good back and forth communications between the chapters and the region. That's what will make us strong and help us to survive. Visiting the chapters is one way that I can make sure that the region is serving you and your needs.

Please see Cheri's article as the outgoing education chair and the announcement of the winner of the scholarship to the IEC in Williamsburg VA this fall. Congratulations to the winner. We'll look forward to your presentation and article about the program.

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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."

(Continued from page 1)

My goals for my term are an emphasis on education and programs with increased communications between us all. More educational opportunities at the region level are a goal. Many chapters do not have the means to bring in teachers for classes even though there are many individuals that have an interest in attending them. Offering them at the region level can help those individuals and I believe that we should all have the opportunity to attend seminar level classes. If you have any ideas please let the Education Chair or myself know. This could be teachers you'd like to see here in the region or an offer to host a class in your area, etc.

Better programs make a better chapter. They help us retain members and recruit new ones. To that end, the region reps are being asked to share great programs at the region board meetings. These can be projects, lectures, etc. Any interesting program fits the bill. My job will be to keep a file of these for future reference by the chapters. So please help your reps bring these to the region meeting. We're asking for a copy of the program for every attendee at the meeting.

The next region meeting is March 28 and 29 in Orlando. It's a great place to spend the weekend. As always, anyone can attend the region meeting. We start with lunch on Saturday and then meet the rest of the afternoon. Saturday evening is a project or program by the host chapter. And the meeting continues on Sunday morning, usually finishing by noon. The host chapter for this meeting is Chain Stitchers. I hear that the favors for the luncheon are pretty cute. If you've ever wondered what goes on at these meetings, please join us for all or part of the meeting. We'd love to see you there.

Kathy Singleton
Region Director

2015 Calendar

Mar 28 - 29	Spring Sun Region meeting	The Castle Hotel - Orlando, FL
May 1 - 3	Stitchers' Garden	Hilton Grand Vacations Club Resort Orlando, FL
June 1	next Sun News deadline	
Oct 17 - 18	Fall Sun Region meeting	Bayfront Hilton - St Petersburg, FL

Sun Region Officers and Committee Chairs

Executive Committee

Region Director	Kathy Singleton	rd@sunregionega.org
Assistant Region Director	Melody Bryan	ard@sunregionega.org
Secretary	Cheri Hammer	secretary@sunregionega.org
Treasurer	Lynn Abbey	treasurer@sunregionega.org
<u>Committee Chairs</u>		
Bylaws	Adrienne Meyer	bylaws@sunregionega.org
Education	Deby Talley	education@sunregionega.org
Finance	Lynn Abbey	treasurer@sunregionega.org
Historian	Karan Quintero	historian@sunregionega.org
Marketing	vacant	marketing@sunregionega.org
Newsletter	Linda Anne Buehler	sunnews@sunregionega.org
Nominating	Kathy Faries, Jane Newhouse, and Karan Quintero	nominating@sunregionega.org
Outreach	JoyceAnne Stevens	outreach@sunregionega.org
Parliamentarian	Margaret Kinsey	parliamentarian@sunregionega.org
Roster	Jineen Kulzycky	roster@sunregionega.org
Social Media Coordinator	Karan Quintero	socialmedia@sunregionega.org
Ways & Means	Anne Fletcher	waysandmeans@sunregionega.org
Website	Lynn Abbey	website@sunregionega.org
2015 Seminar Chair	Deby Talley	2015chair@sunregionega.org
2016 Seminar Chair	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 send your articles for insertion in this newsletter in a timely manner. Remember, this newsletter is entirely dependent on you for content.

ARD's report

Melody Bryan

I hope everyone is ready to "March" into Spring.

February was certainly frosty here in NE FL and I know most people are ready for warmer temps. What better way to warm up than by attending the Spring Sun Region meeting in Orlando March 28 & 29th. The region meetings are open to anyone in good standing with EGA. Come and see how your board works for you.

The meeting will be held at the Castle Hotel, Autograph Collection by Marriott. These are special boutique hotels and there are only a few sprinkled around the country. Our room block closed on February 25th, but if anyone still needs reservations – please contact me and I will try to help. You may still sign up and attend the luncheon thru March 10th. The cost is \$22 and the check should be made out to Sun Region EGA and mailed to me along with the clip & mail coupon appearing below.



Clip & Mail



**March 28, 2015 Sun Region Meeting - 11:30 a.m. Luncheon Reservations
The Castle Hotel, Orlando**

Name _____ Chapter _____

E-Mail _____ Phone: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

**Mail your reservation and check for \$22.00 (payable to Sun Region EGA)
to be received by **March 10, 2015** to:**

Melody Bryan, ARD
(email website@sunregionega.org)
for snail-mail address)

Circle one:

Y N I will be participating in the Saturday evening program hosted by Chain Stitchers chapter.

Treasurer's Report: Activity Period: 11/30/2014 - 2/28/2015		
	Checking	Money Mkt
Opening Balance	16,331.96	52,051.43
Income		
02 Dues	26.25	0.00
03 Interest	0.00	6.59
04 Educ Event	0.00	5,000.00
07 Fund Raising	0.00	0.00
08 Sales	0.00	0.00
14 Retreats	0.00	0.00
15 Contributions	0.00	0.00
17 Other	0.00	0.00
Money Market Savings Trans.	0.00	0.00
Transfer from Reserves	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	26.25	5,006.59
Expense		
21 Educ Event	2,370.09	0.00
22 Seminar	0.00	0.00
24 Fund Raising	0.00	0.00
25 Cost of Sales	0.00	0.00
26 Rent	450.00	0.00
28 Administration	61.25	0.00
29 Officers' Travel	0.00	0.00
31 Meals	0.00	0.00
33 Gifts	0.00	0.00
35 Other	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,881.34	0.00
SEPARATE ACCOUNTS		
2015 Seminar (net)	18,335.00	
2016 Seminar (net)	-87.29	
Reg. Meeting Luncheons (net)	0.00	
TOTAL SEPARATE ACCOUNTS	18,247.71	
TOTAL	31,724.58	57,058.02
OPEN ITEMS		
Receivables	0.00	0.00
Payables	167.29	0.00
TOTAL OPEN ITEMS	-167.29	0.00
TOTAL (W/O OPEN ITEMS)	31,891.87	57,058.02
CLOSING BALANCES (11/30/2014 Regions Bank Account Statements)	31,891.87	57,058.02

2014 Actual v. 2014 (restated) Budget

Category	1/1/2014 Actual	2014 Budget (restated)	12/31/2014 Difference
INCOME			
02 Member Dues	1,739.25	1,749.00	-9.75
03 Interest Inc	26.03	50.00	-23.97
04 Education Events	1,950.00	0.00	1,950.00
06 Exhibits	0.00	0.00	0.00
07 Fund Raising	332.00	150.00	182.00
08 Ways & Means (Sales)	4.40	900.00	-895.60
09 Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
10 Outreach	0.00	0.00	0.00
11 Contributions - Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	0.00
12 Contributions - Restricted	0.00	0.00	0.00
14 Retreats	7,642.00	2,300.00	5,342.00
15 Contributions & Gifts	25.98	120.00	-94.02
16 Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00
17 Other	126.00	150.00	-24.00
Money Market Savings Transfer	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00
Transfer from Reserves	0.00	681.00	-681.00
Total Income	11,845.66	9,100.00	2,745.66
EXPENSES			
21 Educational Events	5,843.34	3,000.00	-2,843.34
22 Seminar	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
23 Exhibits	0.00	0.00	0.00
24 Fund Raising Expenses	154.72	0.00	-154.72
26 Rent	827.62	645.00	-182.62
27 Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00
28 Administration			
28 Administration:RD	0.00	50.00	50.00
28 Administration: ARD	0.00	25.00	25.00
28 Administration:Treasurer	11.27	20.00	8.73
28 Administration: Other	52.33	45.00	-7.33
29 Officers' Travel			
29 Officers' Travel:National	423.00	1,500.00	1,077.00
29 Officers' Travel: Regional	711.59	2,340.00	628.41
30 Outreach - Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
33 Gifts - Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
33 Gifts - EGA Annual Fund Campaign	0.00	100.00	100.00
33 Gifts - Nat'l Seminar Opp. Drawings	-50.00	150.00	200.00
33 Gifts - Other	339.84	0.00	-339.84
34 Printing - Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
35 Other - Expenses:Licenses & Fees	106.25	75.00	-31.25
35 Other - Expenses:Taxes	0.00	150.00	150.00
Total Expenses	8,419.96	9,100.00	-680.04
Net Difference:	3,425.70	0.00	3,425.70

Committee Information

EDUCATION - *Cheri Hammer, chair*

Your education committee has been busy, busy, busy! As you know, last fall, Sun Region brought in Alison Cole as part of the International Touring Teacher (ITT) program and the class was a resounding success! In fact, it went so well that the region is once again applying for an international teacher in conjunction with the national seminar, so stand by for further information when it becomes available.

In addition to the ITT program, the region also provided a \$1000 scholarship opportunity for a lucky Sun Region member to attend the 2015 International Embroidery Conference (IEC), Threads through Time. We had very good participation, and the competition was very close. The scholarship winner was Donna McFarland from the Indian River Chapter! We look forward to her article on the conference in an upcoming edition of Sun News, and to her presentation at a Sun Region meeting.

Another activity since the last newsletter was submission of a proposal to national for the Gay Phillips Education Grant. We were successful with our proposal, so we will receive \$5000 to be used toward bringing touring teacher(s) into the region and offering classroom opportunities to all members within the region. The classes/lectures will be held in multiple geographic locations throughout the region to maximize availability to Sun Region members. This activity is still in the planning stages.

And don't forget there is still a \$200 education grant available to all chapters during this calendar year. The educational opportunity can be something other than a GCC or a workshop – just be sure to get it pre-approved. Details for grant application are available on the Sun Region website.

Finally, this will be my last newsletter article as Education Chair. Deby Talley is your new Education Chair, and she brings a wealth of knowledge and talent to this position. She will do a great job for you!

HISTORIAN - *Karan Quintero, chair*

The year of 1987 brought the seminar once again to, "Back to College II" held at Rollins College from June 23-25th. Everyone was welcomed by the Sun Region Director, Clarke Harrison, in the opening message enticing all to have a "FANTASTIC TIME". The atmosphere encouraged attendee's to relax, visit in the halls, stitch in their pajama's and enjoy the varied great food offered after a short walk to the dining room. The registration fee was \$135 which included a double room in a building with AC and elevators, six meals and four coffee/tea breaks (*doesn't sound bad to me*). All classes were held in the lounges of the McKean building and members were strongly encouraged to bring lighting and advised all meals would be cafeteria style. The rooms were on a first come/first serve basis with basic linens provided, therefore, members requiring extra towels had to bring them (*with all we pack, a few extra towels, not a problem*). The brochure also listed local museums and restaurants for those who chose to investigate the area.

Ten classes were offered: 1) Clancy by LeE Brady -canvas(\$19), 2) Seminole Bands-patchwork by Ellen Carlson (\$4), 3) Open Canvas Potpourri- linen by Regi Kaye (\$20), 4) Silk & Metal Ultrasuede Purse-transfer surface stitching by Rena Gordon (\$25), 5) Victorian Bag-salem cloth & tatting by Francye E. Farley (\$6.50), 6) Spring-congress cloth counted & pulled thread by Jonalene Gutwein (\$24), 7) Amelia Angel-canvas by Gelendore McLaughlin (\$15), 8) Angel with Harp-linen by Martha Pearle Vogt (\$22.50), 9) The Dirndl Marie-Dollmaking-hand sewing by Ulla, Baron Von Schoeler (\$40) and 10) Victorian Opulence-crazy quilting by Deanna Powell

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(\$20). Lots of techniques and lots to learn.

The seminar was held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Activities included a Sun region meeting, Goody Bags filled with items from 41 sources, a Meet the Teachers session, a Banquet with door prizes from 27 sources were given to the best of Embellished Clothing worn by members present and when members were not attending classes, there was an exhibit of needle art and a Book Store where members could easily stock their personal libraries.

Every effort was given to secure the 105 registrants one of their three choices and 18 of 20 Sun Region Chapters were represented. How financially successful was this seminar? Who knows because our file lacks that information. What we do know is that this Seminar Committee was lead by Co-Chairs -Sara Fike & Louise Sundstrom (Indian River) and included Treasurer-Alethea Walker (Treasure Chest), Faculty-Ruth Cooke (duClay), Registrar-Peg Emerson & Louise McWilliams (Sea Grape), Facilities-Julia Thibodeau (Central Fla), Hospitality-Edna Sutch (Gulfview & Coral Springs), Brochure-Florence Flum (Biscayne), Participants' Notebook-Lois Ebert (Neapolitan), Book Store-Ruth Stuver (LeMoyne), Exhibit-Lois Coleman (Hibiscus) and Goody Bags-Mary Lou Stransky (Sand Dunes) who all worked hard and were very successful in organizing this memorable time for the attendee's!!

OUTREACH - JoyceAnne Stevens, chair

Several Sun Region chapters participated in Stitch in Public activities during February. Canopy Oaks stitched on Valentines Day. Eleven Central Florida members stitched at 5 local libraries in Orange and Seminole Counties. Chain Stitchers stitched at the Leesburg Market, Gulfview stitched at the Regency Park Library, Sand Dollar stitched at the Hobby Lobby in Daytona and Sand Dunes stitched at Books a Million. Response was varied and several chapters are rethinking their locations for next year.

The stitched samplers for Habitat for Humanity remain an important outreach project for Sun Region chapters. Biscayne contributed samplers to 10 new Habitat home owners in February. Chain Stitchers are busy stitching for upcoming dedications. Gulfview and Neapolitan continue to support Habitat with stitched samplers. Indian River contributed 14 samplers last year and so far this year 5 new homes are in progress.

Soldier Kissing pillows are another on-going project for Biscayne, Indian River, and Gulfview.

Gulfview in addition to their very successful exhibit back in November and December held a mini exhibit at the Regency Park Library and Indian River currently has an exhibit at the Melbourne Library. Indian River will have a beading exhibit at the Suntree/Viera Library in March, an exhibit at the Satellite Beach Library in June, and an exhibit in the Malabar Library in November. Sea Grape held a Needle Art Exhibit February 12 -14 in celebration of its 40th anniversary. About 100 pieces were on display. Also on display were a number of baby caps and chemo caps that Sea Grape members have made. All together Sea Grape members have donated 263 chemo caps and 243 baby caps for a total of 1895 hours in 2014.

Central Florida has begun stitching Breast Cancer Ribbon bookmarks for women receiving chemotherapy at local Orlando hospitals and cancer centers. Central Florida has started putting meeting notices in the newspaper and is also working Jo-anns Fabric stores to arrange needlework demonstration days.

Chain Stitchers has encountered an unusual situation with their local Habitat affiliate. Habitat is developing a "brownfield" site for returning military and veterans. Since the homes are temporary residences, Chain Stitchers is looking at a different type of dedication item.

Indian River collected and delivered 47 needlework kits and 27 hoops to the Viera Veterans Clinic.

Sand Dunes 2015 Outreach project will repeating last year's very successful project of Christmas stockings for the Children's Advocacy Center.

Sarasota has been doing free stitch-ins at the Jacaranda Library in Venice. So far they have done beading, needlepoint, cross stitch, and silk ribbon embroidery. Classes were limited to 10 people with several members volunteering to teach and help.

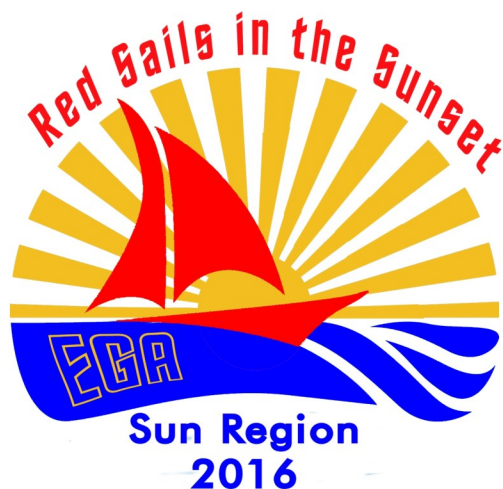
Several chapters collect items which are donated to various groups. Biscayne also knits or crochets caps for pediatric oncology patients, collects used stamps, coupons for education, pop-tops, pennies, and toiletries. Gulfview members knit, crochet, or quilt blankets for the Linus Project. Indian River collects toiletries for the Daily Bread initiative in Melbourne and has so far collected 44% of their goal. They are planning to increase their goal. At Christmas, Sarasota collects goodies such as soaps, cosmetics, razors for Bethesda House in Sarasota.

All in all, a tremendous amount of outreach by EGA members and chapters in Sun Region. Thank you to everyone for everything you do.

SOCIAL MEDIA - *Karan Quintero, coordinator*

Hello Sun Regionites!! I have been learning the ropes and working with Jenna McClooney for the past several months. One of my goals is to increase the "likes" of our page, which I am happy to report has grown to 325 "Likes", up by 1.2%. Another goal is to spread the word about EGA National, Sun Region activities, share the creativity of our many talented members and non-members within the region, and give you a link to glimpse into other sites you might find creatively interesting. I would appreciate any feedback or links of interest you would like me to investigate. Contact me at socialmedia@sunregion.org

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



"Red Sails in the Sunset" is ready to launch in May!!

Please come to visit our table at "The Stitchers' Garden". We will be accepting registrations during the weekend, and all the class and hotel information will be on the Sun Region website beginning that weekend as well.

Early registration will be from May 1 - June 5 ---- please register early to make sure you get the class you want!

We have exciting teachers and wonderful classes!

Please plan to "sail" with us!!

2015 SEMINAR - "Stitchers' Garden" - Deby Talley, chair

Stitchers's Garden 2015!

Can you believe this is almost here?



Have you registered yet? We still have room in the stitching studio and we might be able to get you into a class if you would like to join us. Please contact our registrar Joyce Anne (2015registrar@sunregionega.org) or me (2015chair@sunregionega.org) for more details.

If you have not already done so - please make your hotel reservation at the Hilton Grand Vacations Club Resort!!!! Remember that you must reserve directly with HGVC - International Drive. Contact them directly at 1-866-782-9442 and request the Embroiderers' Guild of America Sun Region Group #EG0515 rate.

And how is your nametag coming along? Remember there is no pattern or style - it is a reflection of your garden!

Merchandise night will be Friday night, May 1 from 7-9. Does your chapter want a table or do you know someone who wants a table? Please see Cheri Hammer's article below for details.

We are very sorry to report that we had to cancel Pat Donaldson's classes due to her death. We send our sympathy to her family and friends.

Stitchers' Garden Merchandise Event

Here is your opportunity to fatten your chapter treasury, your individual bank account, or one of your closest and bestest friend's pocketbook. It's a wonderful opportunity to get your name and your "wares" in the hands of many needleworkers! At the Stitchers' Garden seminar we will be holding a Merchandise Event from 7-9 p.m. on Friday evening, May 1st. We'd love it if you'd come join us. The rate for a table is \$30, and you can be sure that you will make more than that!

If you would like to sign up, please send a check for \$30 to our seminar treasurer:
Gaby Hubbard
(email website@sunregionega.org for snail-mail address)

If you would like further information, please contact Cheri Hammer at sledgetoo2@cox.net.

And no, you don't have to be registered at seminar to attend – it's open to all!
See you all there – shopping!!!

WAYS AND MEANS

Please see Kathy Singleton's email, sent evening of March 1 to all chapter region reps (pictures and form included), about remaining Ways & Means items to be purchased prior to and during the March region meeting.

Chapter Reports

BERMUDA

Shina Lyons

Hello from winter in Bermuda... I think we might be a little warmer than Florida, but since I love the cooler weather I am happy!!!

Well our year is over half way finished; it's hard to believe, but we will be having our elections in June for new officers and that means new ideas.

We had a wonderful Marathon stitch in at the most beautiful hotel in Bermuda on Saturday. This is a day where nobody worries about their home, children, husbands or work... We stitch, talk and have a great lunch, then stitch the rest of the day while looking out at our beautiful water. We keep adding more people to this day since it is such a great day.

At the beginning of February we had 15 members sign up to do the Quaker Ball by Denise Pratt. We have asked that nine squares be finished by our March meeting and then 9 by April so we can finish them before the end of the year.

Our January meeting we had our UFO sale, but since there was lots left over, it was decided to put it out every month and if someone forgot to bring they can bring their UFOs each month. Then at the end of the year the money raised will be given to a charity...this way hopefully there will be a lot more to give. Until next time, Happy stitching!

BISCAYNE

Shelley Inman-Loch

Biscayne Chapter will be celebrating its 40th Ruby Jubilee Birthday on March 6th. The members have been gathering pictures of themselves in the 1970s, and there will be a slide show. (I'm sure there will be a lot of hilarity and fun.) Of course, red velvet cupcakes and ruby colored punch will be served after a lunch of sandwiches and chips. Biscayne members will also receive a surprise gift that will be the basis of a three-part program in April, May and June. You will have to read future articles to discover what the big surprise will be.



On February 7th and 8th, Joan Thomasson came to teach our chapter Marigolds and Moorish Tiles. The class had a wonderful time working on this fabulously colorful piece, and we all learned some new techniques. One of our members even had to work out how to embroider with a cast on her wrist. Needless to say, she was not to be denied, and she figured out how to do it! She was up to speed in no time.

Everyone is so excited to continue working on Marigolds that the group has already scheduled a "Marigolds Revisited" get together on March 7th. It was a pleasure to host one of our local celebrities for this exciting and challenging class. I hope to be able to show you all some finished pieces soon.

CANOPY OAKS

Rebecca Lockenbach

Canopy Oaks Chapter in Tallahassee has been busy since the Fall of 2014 Sun Region meeting. Programs included Finishing Techniques in November presented by Canopy Oaks member Carole Fiore and included a demonstration on how to make cording given by Pam Doffek, our annual Cookie Exchange and Gift Exchange and project sharing in December, "Alms Purse" designed by Becky Quine program in January, and Stitching in Public at the Leon County Eastside Library in February, and Embroidery Tools presented by our mother and

daughter duo Connie and Michelle Morris in March. We are looking forward to learning more about framing from Mike Sena of the M Gallery in April and ending our business year with our Show and Tell and brunch in May. We have kicked off our annual GCC which is Liesel Schwalm, and are looking forward to sharing our progress with you in the coming months.

At right is a photo of our display at the Leon County Eastside Library. It depicts the versatility and talent of our members.



CENTRAL FLORIDA *Gaby Hubbard*

January was an abstract heart project by member Bernadette Kirchner. February was a blackwork heart by Julie Fera. When finished, both projects could benefit our Ronald McDonald project.

Ginny Chambers is our new Outreach Chairman and we have begun bookmarks for breast cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. She also arranged several libraries where our members stitched in public on February 7th.

CHAIN STITCHERS *Claire Nardone*

Chain Stitchers has been busy planning for 2015!

Our Outreach Chair, Lynn Abbey has been in contact with Habitat for Humanity for an exciting new project in Lake County. They are creating "re-entry community" housing where returning military veterans may be able to obtain temporary housing until they get back on their feet. We hope to be a tiny part of their main office.

February 14th a few of us stitched in public at the Leesburg Saturday Morning Market. It was very cold and didn't have a lot of patrons but we did speak to anyone who would listen. We were also welcome to come back any Saturday we wish. I hope to do this a few times this year.....before the Sun Gods decide to bake the streets. (See photo at right)



Our programs will be exciting as we will learn the painted canvas that Joan Tomasson shared with us at the last Region Meeting and a beginning Casalguidi project followed by our chapter birthday party.

Chain Stitchers is happy to be participating in the Market Night at A Stitchers Garden. We will be bringing all sorts of goodies we hope you will enjoy.

duCLAY *Melody Bryan & JoyceAnne Stevens*

duClay welcomes new officers for 2015:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Linda Meyer |
| VP/Programs | Melody Bryan |
| VP/Membership | Ellen Lamm |
| Treasurer/Blog Mistress | Jackie Kahrs |
| Secretary | Cathe Gordon |
| SR Rep | JoyceAnne Stevens |

Soon we'll be "springing" forward and heading full speed ahead into 2015.

duClay has been busy in the new year starting a new SAL on a Laura J Perrin counted canvas piece.

We recently had the pleasure of hosting European sampler specialist Lorraine Mootz from Celle Germany for an informal talk and introduction of several antique samplers from her personal collection. These samplers are in the US because they have appeared or will appear in future issues of Sampler and Antique Needlework Quarterly magazine.



GULFVIEW

Ann Ashley

Our chapter has been very busy and will continue in this manner. There were 26 members at the February meeting, this from a total membership of 35.

“Stitch in Public” took place in the early afternoon on 28 February at the Regency Park Library on Little Road in Port Richey, with a large turn-out as usual.

At the same facility, a free Stitching Series is planned for four consecutive Saturday afternoons starting on March 21. The chapter provides the fabrics, threads and teachers. The library does all the advertising and sign ups. In the past years we have had 6 to 8 students, many with no prior experience in embroidery.

Meanwhile, our members are busy stitching on a variety of projects. At each monthly meeting a new project is introduced, and members try to keep up with the program. In February, Sudoku Serendipity was started. Tulips, as seen in a recent NeedleArts Magazine, will begin at the April meeting, and a 6 month GCC “Star Spangled Ball” will be introduced in May. On March 11th we celebrate the Chapter’s birthday by going to Harold Seltzer’s Steak House for lunch.

Several of our members will be at the “Stitcher’s Garden” in Orlando.

INDIAN RIVER

Adrienne Meyer

Indian River Chapter members have been busy this year. Our traditional January program is a large stash sale. Members bring their stash lemons to be sold and other members purchase them to make stash lemonade. The leftover articles are presented to the two Satellite Groups for possible sale; finally the remainder of the stash articles is donated to a charity.

A new motivational program was begun with Jineen Kulczycky leading Procastinators’ Anonymous. Those who wanted to participate compiled a list of five of their UFOs and presented one dollar for each item, vowing to complete them by our November general meeting. Several items on member lists have already been displayed as done at Show & Tell. One dollar will be returned in November for each completed item.

Chapter librarian Wendy Wright suggested a contest wherein participants would enter a guess about how many books were checked out in 2014.

In February Lee Ferguson led the group in stitching a badge holder for our pins. The badge will be finished during the March meeting. The chapter also celebrated Stitch in Public Day with members stitching in Barnes & Noble, Starbucks and other public venues. (Ed: Adrienne stitching in public pictured at right.)

We have several groups meeting regularly in addition to the two Satellite Groups. IRC holds Monday and Friday stitch-ins in members’ homes and we have an active beading group meeting monthly.



So far seven Habitat for Humanity dedications are scheduled for 2015. IRC presents a stitched sampler to each new homeowner. The chapter also hopes to teach needlework to both adults and children in the community this year.

NEAPOLITAN

Karen Rockenbach

Hello from Southwest Florida.

At our December Christmas luncheon we installed our new officers for 2015 -16:

President, Judy Winterhalter
1st Vice President, Bunny Sorchevich
2nd Vice President, Maria Giovine
Treasurer, Suzi Bloemker
Secretary, Trini Folliot
Region Representative, Karen Rockenbach

In January, Ann Hocking of The Quilted Turtle in Naples presented her program on her Art Quilts. Barbara Ellis taught us "Romancing the Heart" in a two day workshop. It is a beaded necklace featuring a raku pottery heart. Very beautiful!! After our January meeting we adjourned to an afternoon workshop on Styrofoam easter egg finishing taught by Clemmie Rounds of both our and the Sarasota chapter. Everyone brought their finished embroidery and we learned how to finish the most beautiful eggs with ribbons, braids, etc.

February brought a wonderful program by our member, Gretchen Schultz. She is an avid collector of antique sewing tools. She presented a slide show to compliment a table full of sewing tools.

Several members are working on our group correspondence class, Cutwork, Shadow Work and Trapunto by Lu-an Gallery. We started this at our January stitch-in.

In March, Joan Thomasson will be teaching a pilot class on her "Deep in the Heart of Texas". This will be a 3 day class.

We are still continuing our outreach by stitching samplers for Habitat. We will supply approximately 110 samplers starting last November and continuing until March 2015. We received an email from Charity Navigator, the nation's largest and most utilized evaluator of charities, that has ranked Habitat for Humanity of Collier County as number one for Community and Housing Development in the nation. We are so glad to be part of this organization.

SAND DOLLAR

Kathie Dougherty

Two years ago when we started to plan our 35th Anniversary Celebration it seemed so far away but now it is here! We are celebrating at our April meeting and the committee promises surprises and prizes galore. Our historian is planning a retrospective program to commemorate 35 years. Members can participate in a challenge project with a winner selected by anonymous vote. Since coral and teal are the contemporary 35th anniversary colors our projects will reflect those colors. A potluck luncheon will round out the day.

Last summer we held a "100 days of stitching" challenge and we plan to repeat it this summer. It was very popular and we finished many projects.

Our GCC "Bargello" projects have been returned by the teacher and we are on to the next GCC - "Cutwork, Shadow Work and Trapunto Basics".

SAND DUNES*Linda Anne Buehler*

The Sand Dunes program for January and February was the "B"argello Scissor Case. Now, we are looking forward to the final project of this year's Stitching B - "Bee Happy Pincushion Box & Stitching Accessories."

Some chapter members took a road trip to the Needle But in Montgomery, AL to shop for materials for their Bargello Challenge GCC projects and "work" will begin this month. Next month, we will have the opportunity to pilot a class for Kathy Rees - chapter member and nationally known designer/teacher.

A Habitat for Humanity sampler was recently presented, and we'll soon begin work on mini-stockings for the Children's Advocacy Center in Niceville.

***SANDHILL CRANE****Jane Newhouse*

The Sandhill Crane Chapter has been busy this spring, and there are still wonderful programs to come.

In January Julie Johnson showed the Chapter how to make ribbon candy ornaments out of vinyl canvas using a double-sided cross stitch so the front and back had the same finished look. The materials for the ornament were the Christmas favor at our December luncheon.

Cathy Weber taught the program in February. She demonstrated how to make a small needlepoint pin, a hyacinth hearts brooch. She supplied the lavender canvas, the Waterlilies fiber and a pin back. The pattern was designed by Susan Albury of Hanging By A Thread.

Betty Fogarty leads the March class with a pulled thread petite project.

Lynn Pittenger is our go-to member for finishing. She will be demonstrating how to make a decorative tassel using materials from our stash.

May is beading month again. Jenna McClooney will be teaching the members how to make a beaded cabochon. She has been learning the Raiku pottery technique and will be supplying handmade cabochons to those who want to try something new.

In June Betsy Goker will be doing a bargello class for new members and those of us who need a refresher class.

The Chapter has a stitch-in every month on the third Wednesday morning at the West Branch of the Hernando Public Library.

The Chapter has updated the pattern used for the Habitat samplers. The logo, the name of the sponsoring county, and the family name will be on the sampler and it still fits in an 8x10 frame like the old pattern.

The Chapter will be making cross stitched bookmarks for St. Jude's Hospital using the Sullivan USA pattern.

SARASOTA*Ann Fletcher*

Sarasota Chapter just finished our exhibit and 3 introductory classes at the Jacaranda library to try to get new members. We did cross stitch, needlepoint, and silk ribbon embroidery. The classes were 10-13 people for each segment.

Our programs include one member displaying free form embroidery done by her Mother. The work was very folk like and done on burlap and quite large. All were very expressive and colorful. In March we have Denise Harrington Pratt from Maine on the 24th, 25th and 26th. We also have set up a stitch-in for October 20,21,& 22 at an Episcopal retreat called Day Spring.

We are continuing our bead group on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Attendance has increased.

Each month some member teaches a small project. In March we will learn to make Cockade Ribbons, in April we will do a Cathedral window pin cushion. We also have an opportunity basket drawing at every meeting. Usually everything is donated by members. We have had everything from stands to lights as well as threads and books. It helps our treasury.

SEA GRAPE*Betty Baechle*

We started the new year with our January luncheon. We always make sure to invite Neapolitan members to join us so we can visit with our sister chapter. Prior to enjoying the wonderful food we had a chance to see needlework brought in by our members. The members voted on who would win the Roxanne Badenock Silver Thimble Award. After lunch we listen to Rose Ford's presentation on the Bayeux Tapestry.

January is also the start of our year long project. We are stitching "The Sampler by the Sea" designed by Barbara Bolton.

February we had our exhibit "A Celebration of Needleart". There were stitching demonstrations, boutique, and silent auction in addition to all the display of needlework.

We continue stitching on the bands on our year long project at our March meeting.

Outreach group keeps on knitting baby and chemo caps. They are donated to Lee Memorial Hospital. Last year we donated 463 caps.

SUWANNEE STITCHERS *Betsy Ann Harris (no report)*