



The Sun News

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

website: www.sunregionega.org

Dec 2015 & Jan/Feb 2016

RD's Letter

Hello again everyone.

It's the holidays again. Whichever ones, and however you celebrate them, I hope that they are joyful and peaceful and filled with all of the good things that you love about this time of year. I'm anticipating a busy season this year and I'm just hoping that I get all of my stitching finished. Of course I've left it all until way too late but it just seems like I was too busy earlier in the year. I'm sure that none of you are having that same problem.

On top of everything else, I've had a lot of things to do for EGA. Hopefully you've all seen and read my report from the national board meeting which occurred in conjunction with the national seminar in San Antonio. The strategic planning is under way and there is a lot of work to do. I'm in charge of one of the goals – operations. This includes a number of things – staffing, the office facility, the makeup of EGA itself, and the P&Ps. My committee divided up all of the areas that need to be looked at – and I got the P&Ps. What fun this is going to be. At the moment, we are writing up the action plan for everything. This will help us find areas that need to be coordinated between committees, etc. Work starts in earnest in January. If anyone wants to specifically help me, let me know.

And I'm hoping that all of you are aware of the huge stash that we currently have. Lots of linen, Aida, threads (including a full set of Anchor threads), full kits, partial kits, patterns, notions, etc. - twenty boxes worth of it. It was fun to go through it all and sort it out but now we need to sell it. As a reminder any of the linen, threads, beads, kitting bags, etc. that a chapter would like for their educational needs is free to the chapter. Just let me know. The kits and remainder will be posted on eBay as soon as Lynn and I can get to it. And not all at once. It's way too much to do all at once. I have sent a list of the complete kits to every president and chapter rep. I encourage every Sun Region member to take a look at the list of linen and kits to see if there is anything you

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The mission of the Embroiderers' Guild of America is
to inspire a passion for the needle arts through education and its heritage.

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need. As I get other items listed, I will send out those lists also. And, I will let everyone know when the eBay site is up and running.

I have a few visits scheduled to chapters – one in December and one in January. If I haven't been to your chapter, I'm trying to get there as soon as I can. It's important that all of you have a chance to meet me and I love meeting all of you. Talking about national EGA has become an important part of my visits to the chapters but I also need to know what the Region can do to help. And a chapter meeting is that best way for me to do that.

Happy and Safe Holidays to all of you and your family.

Kathy Singleton
Sun Region Director

ARD's report

Melody Bryan

Happy Holidays to everyone!

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends and some time with your needle too.

Our 2016 Spring Sun Region Board meeting will be held in Sebring FL at the Inn on the Lakes on April 15 thru April 17th. If you want to come and enjoy this lovely family owned property for a day or two extra – our room rate has been locked in if there is availability in the hotel. Our rate is \$99 per night for a double or king room and is not guaranteed for lake view. If you want lake view, you might be able to pay extra and get lake view. Our block is set up and ready – just call ((863) 471-9400 I could not find a toll free number listed for them. Please let me know if you have any issues.



They have a wonderful relaxing patio/pool area overlooking the lake, in house bar and restaurant. Breakfast in the restaurant is included for registered guests of the hotel.

Our room block guarantee expires on March 15, 2016 so please make your reservations early. You can always cancel should you have a problem and can't attend.

The Biscayne Chapter is hosting the luncheon as well as providing the program for Saturday night. There will be a \$5 per person charge for the kit provided by Biscayne.

For the fall board meeting we will be back on the gulf coast in Safety Harbor just north of St Pete. We will be at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa and our room block is set up and ready for Sept. 16 – 18th 2016. Room rate is \$99 per night and our luncheon will be a buffet this time. I have secured this room rate for a day or two before and after and what better place to come and spend some time with friends stitching. Some spa amenities are included and this is a lovely historic property on the quiet side of the Tampa Bay. They have an onsite restaurant and walking trails.

Wishing everyone in the Sun Region a joyous holiday season!

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
Newsletter	Linda Anne Buehler	sunnews@sunregionega.org
Nominating	Jane Newhouse, Karan Quintero and alternate	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	vacant	waysandmeans@sunregioneg.org
Website	Lynn Abbey	website@sunregionega.org
2016 Seminar Chair	Donna Christie	2016chair@sunregionega.org

2016 Sun Region (region events) Calendar*

March 1	next Sun News deadline
April 17 - 18	spring Sun Region meeting Inn on the Lakes - Sebring, FL

*see page 18 for new Sun Region chapter events calendar

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.

EGA National Board Meeting - Fall 2015

Kathy Singleton, Sun Region RD

Hello everyone and welcome to my report from the EGA national board meeting held in conjunction with the national seminar in San Antonio. Following is my summary of the board meeting events and the information that you should know. I feel that it is important that all EGA members know and understand what their national board is doing. This particular meeting was very important and contains information that should concern every EGA member.

Summary of Day 1 – Strategic Planning

Alexis De Sela and Marion Lee from Core Value Consulting were on hand to conduct this strategic planning session for EGA. They had been hired at the last board meeting and had conducted surveys. Our first activity was to go over the responses to both of the surveys. Both of these showed that EGA has concerns that need to be addressed if we are to continue to be an important part of the embroidery community.

The second session focused on a new Vision and a new Mission statement for EGA. The board came up with four words to describe what EGA is all about: Education, Preservation, Heritage and Inspiration. These were then used to create a new vision: Where Needle Art Lives. This is an active vision, not passive, and explains what EGA is about in a few words. This is something we can use on all types of communications.

A new mission statement was developed. A mission statement should be something that anyone in the organization can remember easily and that describes what the organization is about. The board was asked what the current mission statement is and no one could repeat it from memory. So, a new one was developed: The mission of the Embroiderers' Guild of America is to inspire a passion for the needle arts through education and its heritage. This was voted on and adopted by the board. So, scrap the old one and start using this one.

The third session started after lunch and focused on who are EGA's customers and what they value in EGA. From there, the focus was on determining three to five strategic goals for EGA. There were five goals that the board felt that EGA needs to address:

Online presence	Patty Smith-Gardner, Chair	Alexis
Marketing and Branding	Margaret Steincamp	Marion
Membership Retention and recruiting	Linda Ann Walker	Alexis
Fund Development	Janice Wood	Marion
Operations Plan	Kathy Singleton	Alexis

These committees were set up and chairs elected. Each committee will report to either Marion or Alexis. These committees will work on objectives and action items over the next few months. The hope is that their work will translate into a number of changes that will make EGA stronger and attractive enough to recruit new members.

Now, here are my thoughts. EGA has never really had a strategic plan that they followed through on. This is a great step and Alexis and Marion did a great job getting the board to focus on the issues confronting EGA. Our membership continues to decrease and along with it the income. EGA can always raise dues but that is a double-edged sword. So the best thing to do is to increase membership by becoming more attractive to more people interested in needle arts. This will involve two things: changes and the expenditure of money. If EGA does nothing, that is what it will become. The Phillips bequest has come at a great time and affords EGA the chance to make the changes that will make EGA vibrant and attractive in the coming years. Personally, I want EGA to fight to stay alive. It will take work and money and a willingness on the part of all of us to accept the needed changes. EGA now has the money and just needs all of us to be ready to help EGA move forward.

Summary of Day 2 – Board Meeting

The day started with the Regions meeting which is a meeting of the RDs. They are updated on the various committee meetings: Executive, Finance and Personnel. And then the RDs discuss their agenda items.

Finance committee reported that the 2014 audit is finished, that 2015 fiscal year is running close to budget, EGA received \$85000 income from the Phillips Trust, two bequests were received – one for \$10,000 and one for

\$25000, the 2016 budget was presented but needs discussion, and a \$600 check was sent to Children of Alopecia, the charity chosen by President Gwen Nelson as her fundraiser.

The personnel committee is making the IT position at headquarters a full time position.

The meeting continued as a full board meeting. Reports from all officers, directors, RDs and standing committees were read, updated and accepted. Trademark and copyright registrations continue. The anti-discrimination provision of the EGA bylaws will be updated at the March 2016 meeting as discussed. Membership cards will be discontinued and instead put on the address label of Needle Arts. The ESP cancellation policy was updated to be more in line with that of seminar, giving students 90 days notice that the class is a go. Discussion regarding the policy for when seminar teachers can't fulfill their obligation occurred. A joint seminar with ANG was discussed. The 2016 budget was discussed and approved. This should be on the web site soon. Changes were made to the national seminar policy to address the teachers visa costs, online registration service costs, timing of cancellation of classes and that the EC has the authority to create and amend seminar teacher contracts. The board also adopted the mission statement and the goals as decided in the planning session

It was also announced that there are currently 850 pieces from the collection on the web site. The Online Studio of EGA has been doing very well and more classes are to come. Membership stands at 8900 with 283 chapters. The budget for 2016 was adopted. The budget continues to show an excess of expense over income. The amount for 2016 is a loss of \$60460. Due to the Phillips estate income and other bequests, the loss for 2015 is projected to be around \$25000 which is considerably less than anticipated.

Feel free to email me (rd@sunregionega.org) or call me (321-297-2675) if you have any questions or concerns. I'm always willing to talk or listen.

Important information from your Treasurer

Changes to the Sun Region Dues Collection Policy and Procedures

At the Spring 2015 meeting of the Sun Region Board of Directors, the finance committee recommended that the region no longer collect prorated dues. The rationale was that it cost more to mail and process most of the prorated checks than the face value of those checks. The Board approved the recommendation and made it retroactive to the beginning of calendar year 2015.

The Sun Region dues form has been updated to incorporate this change. Links to the updated form can be found in in the "Forms the Treasurer Needs" paragraph of the Chapter Notebook section (<http://www.sunregionega.org/chapter-notebook/>) of the region website or by searching the website for "dues." The form is also a part of the Region Representative's Notebook, which is also available on the region website (<http://www.sunregionega.org/region-notebook/region-representatives-notebook/>)

Instructions for paying region dues are on the form. In a nutshell, the region will collect dues just once a year, in the second calendar quarter of the year. After April 1, chapter treasurers should collect dues from renewing members (and also from any new members who join in the second quarter). The region's \$3 dues for renewing and new members should be sent to the region treasurer by May 31. In the event that a new member joins after May 31 (a non-renewing member changes his/her mind and decides to renew), a second check should be sent to the region treasurer.

Members who join between June 30th of the current year and March 31st of the following year do not have to pay region dues until they renew their membership. This change in the region's pro-rating policy does not affect the pro-rating policies of either a chapter or the national organization.

If anyone has any questions about this change, please contact me.

- Lynn Abbey

Treasurer's Report: Activity Period: 9/1/2015 - 11/30/2015

	Checking	MoneyMkt	
Opening Balance	23,463.98	57,067.64	
Income			
03 Interest	0.00	11.96	
04 Educ Event	-450.00	0.00	
15 Contributions	16.00	0.00	
Money Market Savings Trans.	0.00	0.00	
Transfer from Reserves	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL INCOME	-434.00	11.96	
Expense			
21 Educ Event	1,028.00	0.00	
26 Rent	0.00	0.00	
28 Administration	139.29	0.00	
29 Officers' Travel	483.15	0.00	
33 Gifts	-100.00	0.00	
35 Other	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,550.44	0.00	
SEPARATE ACCOUNTS			
2015 Seminar (net)	-100.00		
2016 Seminar (net)	4,907.00		
2017 Retreat (net)	0.00		
Reg. Meeting Luncheons (net)	-124.82		
Fundraising/Ways & Means	584.00		
TOTAL SEPARATE ACCOUNTS	5,266.18		
TOTAL	26,745.72	57,079.60	
OPEN ITEMS			
Receivables	0.00	4.77	
Payables	150.00	0.00	
TOTAL OPEN ITEMS	-150.00	4.77	
TOTAL (W/O OPEN ITEMS)	26,895.72	57,074.83	
CLOSING BALANCES (Regions Bank Account Statements: MM as of 9/30; checking as of 11/30)	26,895.72	57,074.83	

Treasurer's Report: Budget v. Actual as of 11/30/2015

		Year to Date (actual)	2015 Budget	Year-to-Date v. Budget
Income				
02 Dues		1,708.50	1,700.00	8.50
03 Interest		25.82	50.00	-24.18
04 Educ Event		5,400.00	0.00	5,400.00
15 Contributions		16.00	120.00	-104.00
17 Other		0.00	150.00	-150.00
Money Market Savings Trans.		0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00
Transfer from Reserves		0.00	2,285.00	-2,285.00
TOTAL INCOME		7,150.32	7,305.00	-154.68
Expense				
21 Educ Event		2,764.44	3,000.00	-235.56
26 Rent		835.07	850.00	-14.93
28 Administration		424.65	140.00	284.65
29 Officers' Travel		1,811.37	2,840.00	-1,028.63
33 Gifts		-100.00	250.00	-350.00
35 Other		175.76	225.00	-49.24
TOTAL EXPENSE		5,911.29	7,305.00	-1,393.71

Committee Information

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

Come join us for a fun-filled weekend April 29-May 1, 2016 in St Petersburg, FL. Time to register for your preferred class or classes is limited as Open Registration will close in January. Classes are currently assigned on a first-come first-served basis, so register now and don't miss out! Visit www.sunregionega.org to view the brochure and download registration forms.



Enjoy embroidery & beading classes with exceptional teachers:

- Sandra Arthur - Needlepoint - Canvas
- Katherine Diuguid – Creative Metal Threads
- Dawn Fisher – Counted Thread
- Sylvia Murariu – Canvas, Multi media, & Romanian Point Lace
- Gwen Nelson – Beading & Needle Weaving
- Carol Lynn Stratton – Stitch Techniques, Color, & Design

...but wait, there's more:

- Experience part of the EGA collection first hand! For the second year in a row, Gwen Nelson will introduce selected pieces at the banquet.
- Friday evening reception - Join in for the kick-off of a great seminar. Wear your dock side shoes and see who's come into port. Meet the teachers and see who will be in class with you or meet those that just want to join in the fun packed weekend. A cash bar will be set up for you to wet your parched throat. A wonderful selection of appetizers will be waiting for you
- Stay at a destination that offers wonderful dining, shopping, art, & music venues.
- Experience the beautiful Hilton St Petersburg Bayfront Hotel in sunny St Petersburg, Florida.
- Take pleasure in the views of the marina & the beautiful waterfront.
- Meet your new EGA President & Vice President.
- Fundraising will feature exceptional opportunity baskets.
- ...and oh yes... there will be sunsets!

If you haven't booked your hotel, please do it right away!

Hilton St Petersburg Bayfront Hotel
call 800-445-8667 for reservations

You will help us manage our room block and eliminate the situation where we run out of rooms, or can't fill the number of rooms that we committed to. Please provide the names of all individuals staying in the room &

EDUCATION - *Deby Talley, chair*

Several things are going on in the education world this quarter.

1. It was voted on at the last region meeting to use the Phillips Grant money to develop video classes that will be available for the entire region to use. We are working on a trial video and once that is done and we see what needs to be improved and we will advertise for teachers to submit ideas for video classes and techniques. The committee consists of Deby Talley, Education Chair, Lynn Abbey, advisor, Kathie Dougherty, and Aline Lauzon.
2. A committee was also formed to discuss the use of profits from the 2015 Sun Region Seminar. One area being looked at is the development of a scholarship fund to be used for first time attendees to a Sun Region seminar. The committee is Deby Talley, chair, Betsy Ann Harris, Schelley Iman-Loch and Rebecca Lockenbach.
3. As a way to use some of the remaining education money from prior years, it was voted to set up Sun Region Sunshine GCCs! The region will pay the fee and postage for region wide GCCs. See below for more details.

Say "Hello" to SUNSHINE GCCs

You know about Lightning Rounds – the Group Correspondence Courses offered quarterly through the national website? At the fall meeting of its Board of Directors, Sun Region created a companion program: Sunshine GCCs.

The idea behind Sunshine GCCs is simple: After receiving its share of the profit from the 2011 National Seminar in Naples, FL, Sun Region decided to fund a ten-year program of educational grants to the region chapters. The program has been successful, but not as successful as it could be. Some chapters have never applied for a grant because their members have never selected a GCC; more have said that, even after advertising their GCCs on the region website, they've been unable to find enough people to sign up to qualify for the grant. Individual members have observed that some GCCs are chosen many times, while others never are. The Sunshine GCC program aims to fix these problems.

The existing chapter-oriented Education Grant program will continue unchanged. The application and procedures will be available on the website by mid-December. Any and every Sun Region chapter can apply for a 2016 education grant. However, in addition to the chapter-oriented grants, Sun Region will act as a clearing house for members who want to take a particular GCC.

It will work this way: If a Sun Region member is interested in taking a Group Correspondence Course that isn't being offered by a chapter, then that member can ask Sun Region to make that GCC a Sunshine GCC (there'll be a form on the website or the member can send an email to either webmaster@sunregionega.org or education@sunregionega.org.)

Sunshine GCCs will be listed on the website along with the number of Sun Region members who have expressed an interest in that course. Once a Sunshine GCC has been listed on the website for at least 60 days and has collected ten interested and ready-to-stitch members, then the region will issue an education grant and the course can begin in earnest.

Sunshine GCCs won't expire. If it takes a year to find ten Sun Region members who want to take the course, that's okay. Once one member expresses an interest in a GCC offering, that GCC will be on the Sunshine list until nine other members join in. (Recruiting is not merely allowed, it's encouraged!)

So, if you've been waiting to take a particular GCC or you know someone who has, please take advantage of this new Sun Region program.

Deby Talley, Education Chairman and Lynn Abbey, Webmaster

OUTREACH - JoyceAnne Stevens, chair

Sun Region chapters are finishing up their year long outreach project and adding up totals. Chapters are looking ahead and planning their outreach projects for 2016. There are a lot of ideas in the reports that follow in case your chapter is looking for ideas.

Remember: National Stitching Public day is the first weekend in February.

In 2015, Biscayne Chapter members continued to enthusiastically support Outreach activities for the Miami community. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami celebrated their 1000th Home Dedication in November 2015! Biscayne members attended the festivities to congratulate the Habitat Staff and all their Partner Families. We celebrate our members who have stitched over 800 embroidered samplers for Habitat partner families over the past 18 years. Our members continue to stitch Kissing Pillows for U.S. Military men and women and families deployed overseas. The embroidered "Hearts" are sent to Yellow Rose Chapter in Houston, Texas. In November, Biscayne Chapter held a food drive for Riviera Church's Food Pantry to show our appreciation to the Pastor and her congregation for hosting our monthly meetings. Members continue to: knit and crochet caps for children at the Jackson Memorial Hospital and Baptist pediatric oncology clinic; collect pop-tops and toiletries for Ronald McDonald House; collect cancelled stamps for the Leprosy Mission Canada; save General Mills Foods coupons for education for Faith Fellowship Elementary; and donate "gallons" of pennies for challenged adults at the Community Habilitation Center.

Central Florida Chapter will donate another 15 pink ribbon bookmarks to the breast cancer patients at the Outpatient Infusion Department at UF Health Cancer Center (ORMC) in December. A total of 68 bookmarks will be donated during 2015. Our Chapter held a Stitching in Public day on Sunday, October 11th, at the Jo-Ann's store on Colonial Drive (across from Fashion Square Mall) from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Members in attendance were Judy Griffin, Kathy Singleton, Vickie Chin, Holly Carpenter and I. We set up a small display of finished work that attracted three women who were interested in our group. We gave printed handouts with information about our next meeting to each of them. As always, we had a good time stitching together and meeting new people. Work continues on a 9'x5' wall hanging composed of needlework hearts donated by Chapter members for the newest Ronald McDonald House being built in Lake Nona, Florida. The wall hanging will be finished in March, 2016. The new Ronald McDonald House is set to open in April, 2016.

Chain Stitchers: The 2015-2016 Habitat For Humanity building season will get underway during the holiday season, when the weather's cooler and the snowbirds are back. Our local Habitat affiliate which helps families in a 2,000 square mile area has reorganized itself into three geographically focused regions with the goal of tripling the number of houses they can build each year. Chain Stitchers is gearing up to make a lot of samplers in 2016 chain Stitchers

duClay Chapter held a month long needlework exhibit during September at the Orange Park Library where we hold our meetings. 5 members stitched in public at the Westminster Woods Fall Festival. Donation of money and teenage gift were given the Quigley House, the women's and children's shelter in Clay County. Our program chairman and region ARD, Melody Bryan was invited by the local ANG chapter to talk about EGA. In addition to talking about educational opportunities offered by EGA she was able to show several pieces stitched by duClay members from classes and GCC's.

Indian River Chapter have stitched and delivered to Patrick Airforce Base 176 Kissing Pillows. This effort was combined with the sewing group from the Indian River Colony Club (which is a retired military living community who finishes the pillows for us. Next year our goal will be 200 pillows. Fran has kits and hoops ready to drop off to the VA in Viera next month for Military Outreach. Doreen reports that she has received 2761 toiletry items for the homeless, which is 511 more than our goal of 2250. We will raise the goal for 2016. Our next library exhibit is in February in Fee Avenue library. We have 5 Habitat for Humanity donations ready for the next few dedications.

Neapolitan Chapter will be collecting Toys for Tots program at our Holiday Luncheon which usually brings in between 30 and 40 gifts for needy children in our area.

Sand Dunes will be presenting around 65 Christmas stockings to the Children's Advocacy Center for the holiday party they have for the children each year.

For the year 2015, through November, Sea Grape Chapter has donated 1,686 hours to Lee Memorial Hospital in Ft. Myers by knitting 198 baby caps and 205 chemo caps for patients. Many members have also contributed yarn to keep those needles flying.

Sun Region Opportunity "basket" for National - Jane Newhouse

The Sun Region basket for the San Antonio Seminar was generous and big. There were lots of tickets in drawing bag. The highlight of the basket was a \$250 Visa gift card. Sun Region donated \$100 to add to the monetary donations from 3 chapters.

WAYS & MEANS

Sun Region has a Stash Sale going on!!!

If you want to see the lists, contact your chapter president, chapter rep or the RD. We now have lists of linens, full kits, small kits, mill hill items, and small plastic bags to make kits. Supplies are also available to chapters (for free!) to use for chapter programs and projects; contact the RD for these.

WEB SITE - Lynn Abbey

The Sun Region website has a new look!

For the past month or so, I've have been gradually updating the region's website. I've adopted a simpler look that's designed to load more quickly and adapt itself to smartphones, tablets, laptops, and wide-screen desktop monitors.

I've reorganized everything, too. In addition to menus and submenus across the top of the page, there's a "ribbon" on the front page with Chapter and Region sections that offer "shortcuts" to the information chapter and region officers might be looking for. There's also an Education Opportunities section on the ribbon where visitors can find information about GCCs, workshop, and Sun Region's new online education initiatives.

There's also a search box above the menus on every page. Think of it as "Sun Google." Type a word or phrase in the search box and the power of Google's search engine will find every place on our website where your word or phrase occurs.

Every Sun Region chapter has a section on the website. I'll be working with our newsletter editors and region representatives to fill those sections with timely information.

The site isn't finished---websites are *never* finished!---but I think it's a good start (or restart). If you have questions or suggestions, please let me know. A website can't be everything to everyone, but it can always become better tomorrow than it is today.

(And if you'd like to learn how a website works or help me make it better, I'm always looking for assistant webmasters!)

Visit the Sun Region website at www.sunregionega.org !!!

Chapter Reports

BERMUDA

Shina Lyons

Hello from sunny Bermuda!! We have been having some nice cool days which is nice after the very hot and humid days of summer, so great to get back to stitching.

September we started off our year with a day of stitching . It is nice to get together with our day and evening groups , some of us don't see the others at the monthly meetings.

October meeting was just stitching and lots of things to talk about regarding the up coming year!

November we had a workshop making "button flowers" .. It was taught by Shina who found them at a rug hooking camp. We also had a Saturday stitch in and it was "BYUB" (bring your own bag). This was a first and it was very well attended so we will have another one some time in the year.

December meeting is just stitching but we have an all day stitch in at a hotel on Saturday . This is always fun and a wonderful lunch.

January is our UFO table sale! We have been keeping this going through the year and the money we collect goes to a charity here in Bermuda .

February we are having a workshop on a tassel. This was a project that one of our members took at the needle school in London many years ago. She is not well, so asked to get rid of her stash; the tassel supplies were in her stash, so we are going to use them for this workshop.

Do hope everyone has a lovely, happy and safe Christmas holiday season.

BISCAYNE

Shelley Iman-Loch

November was a busy month for our chapter. We had our business meeting. That was followed by Janet Edgar's talk about fabric and its many incarnations. It was a great presentation, and we all left with a better understanding of what is available to us for our embroidery projects.

In the up coming months we are having our holiday party. It should be tons-o-fun. There will be a potluck, two small projects, an ornament show, Red Bags Part II, and much more. Everyone is always excited and we all see friends, old and new.

Due to our January meeting falling on New Year's Day we will not be having a meeting in January. We talked about several ideas for moving the meeting, then one of our members suggested that we cancel the meeting all together. They voted and passed a motion to cancel our January 2016 meeting.

In February, we will be having our stash-to-stash sale. This one promises to be a large sale. We are already working on pricing the items and getting them cleaned up for sale.

CENTRAL FLORIDA

Gaby Hubbard

Upcoming meetings:

Dec 3, Christmas luncheon, with our finished Colonial Band Samplers from the EGA Needlearts.

January 8th will be needle weaving

February & March will be different finishing techniques.

CANOPY OAKS*Rebecca Lockenbach*

Canopy Oaks Chapter kicked off the year with our September meeting and a time of sharing our recently finished or almost finished in progress stitching. Below are two members who shared their needlearts works.



Lucy Patrick showing her 3-dimensional fabric art piece



Carole Fiore with chili peppers needlepoint

Then in October we did a practice needlepoint session led by Carole Fiore. The purpose was to get out the kinks for our May 2016 LeMoyne exhibit and workshops. In November, Besty Tabac was our guest presenter and she guided us through the beauty of greeting card embroidery.

We are looking forward to our December potluck luncheon / cookie exchange including the White Elephant gift exchange. In January we will have a basic embroidery session with Pam Doffek and in February we will meet at the Woodville Public Library for our annual Stitch in Public event.

Remember to mark your calendars for May 2016. Our Opening Reception is Friday, May 6, and Gallery talks are scheduled for Saturdays, May 7, 14 & 21, and Wednesday, May 25. Workshops will be set for Saturdays, May 7 & 14. Spring is a beautiful time of year to be in North Florida, and we hope to see you at our LeMoyne exhibit. If you have questions or need more information on our lovely city, just contact me at Lockenr@comcast.net

Wishing one and all a great holiday season.

duCLAY*JoyceAnne Stevens*

duClay members have been busy these last few months of 2015. Lauren Sauer taught her 2 day class, "Along the River James needlecase" in September. Lauren delighted us with stories while we stitched and gifted us with several small "extra" designs. She brought many of her stitched projects for us to enjoy. That weekend was followed with a visit from Kathy Rees who was on her way to the national ANG seminar. We spent a enjoyable and relaxing Saturday stitching and talking with Kathy, complete with finger foods from our favorite caterer Brenda. We are looking forward to our Christmas luncheon on the 2nd Saturday in December with exchange of gifts and a drawing for the big prize from the chapter challenge.

Looking ahead to 2016, our chapter SAL for linen will be Excursion #1 by Amy Mitten. 2/3 of our members are participating including many of our "away" members. The group leader is also an "away" member who lives near Atlanta. Not to leave out the canvas stitchers, we were so inspired by the wonderful designs of Kathy Rees that we decided on a canvas SAL also where the stitcher could make their own choice of design. This will be especially exciting as the projects develop and every one will be different. Our program chairman has some wonderful programs lined up for the coming year and members are busily selecting projects for their 2016 challenge list.

It looks to be another great year for duClay. Keep up with us on our blog <http://duclayega.blogspot.com>

GULFVIEW

Ann Ashley

December is for celebrating. On the 9th, our regular meeting day, we will gather for a festive luncheon. In addition to the good food and spirits, the RD, Kathy Singleton, will do the honors of swearing in our new president, Rose White, and the reelected secretary, Betsy Agey, and treasurer, Marjorie Linn, unanimously elected at the November meeting. Santa Claus will be present to help pass out favors and wrapped Christmas tree ornaments in an exchange format. The rest of the month will be spent stitching all the gifts planned for family and friends. January and February are for recovering and learning something new - a "blackwork" sampler in January and a "Florentine" needle case in February.

Our meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 1030. We stitch after a refreshment break, some people learning new, some working on UFOs. Working with friends makes the task much more enjoyable.

INDIAN RIVER

Adrienne Meyer

Plans for upcoming Indian River Chapter meetings look like fun! January brings back the Stash Marketplace. Members clean out their stitching closets and bring in those projects they do not expect to use in the coming year. Other members purchase those same items to supply themselves with projects for stitching through December.

In February we will celebrate Hari Kuyo to honor our primary embroidery tools - our needles. We follow a 400 year old Japanese tradition of burying our bent, broken and discolored needles in a block of tofu to thank them for their service. The tofu provides a soft resting place for the needles that have served us well.

Our Procrastinators Anonymous group proved very popular in 2015 and will be continued in 2016. Members will again select five partially completed stitching projects in the hope they can all be completed before November 2016. All the participants in 2015 completed at least three of the five projects. The IRC Sampler Sleuths will work on Emie Bishop's "Welcome" sampler and other members will work on the GCC Hummingbird and Honey-suckle by Luan Callery.

NEAPOLITAN

Karen Rockenbach

We had a very busy November!! Gary Clark visited us and taught his Turkish Delight. Our general meeting in November featured a beaded Christmas icicle ornament. We look forward to our annual Christmas luncheon on December 8th. This year we will be visiting Seasons 52. Members are encouraged to bring show and tell and also a toy for Toys for Tots. In January we will start our group correspondence class, "Meadow Medley" by our own Luan Callery. We meet the 3rd Wednesday of month for our general meetings. Our program for January features Gretchen Schultz and her embroidery on quilts. The February program will feature Trini Folliot discussing her classes at the Royal School of Needlework. On February 2nd and 3rd we are having Libby Sturdy teach us her Bejeweled Trees. Trees 4 and 5 have been selected. Our big event for February is our biennial show, "The Art of Needlework" in the auditorium at Moorings Park. This is located at the corner of Goodlette-Frank Road and Moorings Park Road. Dates are February 18 - 20, 2016. Donation of \$5.00 at the door. *Flyer on page 99 of this newsletter.*

SAND DOLLAR

Kathie Dougherty

Our December general meeting is our Ornament Exchange. If you bring a handmade wrapped ornament, you can select an ornament. We have a short business meeting and then the fun begins. We also have a pot luck lunch and collect food and money for three local charities, including the church where we meet.

The following week is our annual Holiday Lunch and this year's theme is "Sand Dollar, You Are My Cup Of Tea." The committee always outdoes prior years with favors and surprises. It's one of the highlights of the year.

In January 2016 we are starting a canvas bell pull. This is a repeat of an education program from about 10 years ago and several new members requested the project. At our November meeting, members who completed the original project displayed their bell pulls. This motivated 18 members to sign up for this round.

Our President Claire Kelly is completing a very successful 2nd and final term. For the past 4 years she has skillfully guided our group and lead us with great grace and patience. Our current Vice President, Mally Trzeciak has been elected President and Patti Seim elected Vice President. We continue to be fortunate to have members step up and lead.

February is our annual Stitch Away Day and features our talented members teaching new techniques and projects. It is always a success and a great stitching experience.

SAND DUNES

Linda Anne Buehler

We've been having fun with our "Potpourri of Projects", or POP! In September, Cheri Hammer taught The Sampler Nametag, stitched on linen banding with Pepper Pot silk. In October, Barbara Harrison taught the Terracotta Dawn bracelet, done with super duo beads. In November, Debbie Sewell taught "Silver Threads and Golden Needles: The Bare Necessities, A Needlework Tools Case", a canvas work project.

We're changing things up for our Holiday Party this year and going to a new venue, The Twisted Grape, on a Saturday afternoon. We're inviting spouses and friends and relatives, stitchers and non-stitchers alike! We'll still hold a short business meeting to elect officers and vote on the 2016 budget. And, we'll still hold an ornament exchange and show off our show-and-tell!

In January and February, chapter members will be working on a creative bead embroidery project, making the top for a small metal box using various bead embroidery techniques. Since the kit won't include beads, members will be raiding their bead stashes and undoubtedly shopping for more beads! I can also see some trading going on!

We've also got a beading interest group meeting during our monthly stitch-ins, and we're hoping to get started on the "Keeping in Shape" beaded necklace GCC soon.



SANDHILL CRANE

Jane Newhouse

The Sand Hill Crane Chapter will be busy for the next couple of months.

December is our Christmas party and installation of officers for the coming year. Returning as president is Carol Harrison. The new vice president and program chairman is Jane Newhouse. Elaine Cota, treasurer and Linda Skaja, secretary are returning. The new sun Region representative is Linda Hansen. There will be an ornament exchange at the luncheon.

January marks the start of the "Meadow Medley" GCC led by Linda Hansen. The group is also continuing with the GCC "Bargello Challenge" led by Betsy Goker.

February will have a change of pace. The group will have a lecture on Elizabethan Embroidery by Christine Brunner.

SEA GRAPE

Betty Baechle

Our year long sampler project comes to an end at the Christmas potluck luncheon when show and tell of the samplers happens along with other wonderful stitched items. Time to forget the diet and indulge in all the goodies brought to the luncheon.

January we begin stitching on the Samarkand Box. There are several color choices for this project. Finishing will be discussed and demonstrated at the March meeting.

February we will begin a needlepoint piece called Wisteria. Wisteria and forget-me-knots are part of this graceful design.

Kathy Rees will be coming in April to teach Serenity. We have five color choices, so there is something for eve-

ryone.

On the 4th Saturday of the month several members stitch at the Edison home. Last month we sat on the porch during the annual Airing of the Quilts. A beautiful day to stitch with the quilts blowing gently in the breeze.

SARASOTA

Clemmie Rounds

Sarasota Chapter EGA, had its Annual Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 1, 2015. We had 40 members attending and everyone went home happy because Santa came early with all sorts of gifts. We once again had opportunity baskets and other prizes, played a Poem game, more prizes and goodies and the food was delicious. What a way to start the Holiday Season. Opportunity baskets prepared by Jeanne Polzin.....Oh what fun we had!!



Starting the new year 2016 fresh, we will resume our weekly stitching days, which includes the Sampler Group and stitch ins almost every Monday and Tuesday of the months to come.

In January, our general meeting program will include an outreach presentation and our education portion will be a pin keep designed by Denise Harrington Pratt with Chris Millar teaching the project.

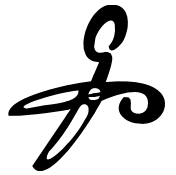


Pin Keep stitched and finished by Chris

In February, members will carpool and attend the fabulous Neopolitan Exhibit and will share their experience of the trip at the monthly meeting.

Eleanor Langlois will once again, by popular demand, teach the Family Plaid Christmas ornament.

Clip & Mail



**April 16, 2016 Sun Region Meeting - 11:30 a.m. Luncheon Reservations
Inn on the Lakes, Sebring**

Name _____ Chapter _____

E-Mail _____ Phone: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

**Mail your reservation and check for \$20.00 (payable to Sun Region EGA)
to be received by April 1, 2016 to:**

Luncheon choice:

Chunk Chicken Salad
Made with breast of Chicken, Rosemary, Sour Cream Mayo, Celery, Red Onions and Grapes
Served on Garden Salad

Chicken Sandwich
Boneless Breast of Chicken Grilled on a Butter Toasted Bun with Our Key Lime Mustard Sauce
Served with French Fries and Coleslaw

Portobello Sandwich
Portobello Mushroom sandwich served with a mixed green salad

Circle one:

Y N I will be participating in the Saturday evening program hosted by Biscayne chapter
(\$5 kit fee due at meeting)

*Sun Region Chapters' Events Calendar **

December

- 3 Central Florida - Christmas Luncheon
Sand Dollar - General meeting
- 4 Biscayne - Holiday Party
- 5 Bermuda - All day stitching at Pompano Beach club
- 8 Sand Dollar - Stitch-in at New Smyrna Beach Library
- 17 Sand Dollar - Stitch-in at Port Orange Library
- 19 Sand Dunes - Holiday Party

January

- 1 Biscayne - no meeting
- 7 Bermuda - Meeting and workshop
Sand Dollar - General meeting
- 8 Central Florida - Meeting (needle weaving)
- 10 Sand Dunes - Stitch-in and Beading Special Interest Group
- 11 Biscayne - Board meeting and work party for favors and program at the
April Sun Region board meeting
- 12 Sand Dollar - Stitch-in at New Smyrna Beach Library
- 21 Sand Dollar - Stitch-in at Port Orange Library
- 25 Sand Dunes - Meeting (Exploring Bead Embroidery)

February

- 4 Bermuda - Meeting
Sand Dollar - General meeting
- 5 Biscayne - Stash-to-stash Sale
- 9 Sand Dollar - Stitch-in at New Smyrna Beach Library
- 14 Sand Dunes - Stitch-in and Beading Special Interest Group
- 18 Sand Dollar - Stitch-in at Port Orange Library
- 18 Neapolitan - "The Art of Needlework" exhibit - *see page 19 of this newsletter*
- 19 "
- 20 "
- Bermuda - All day stitch in at Pompano Beach club
- 22 Sand Dunes - Meeting (Exploring Bead Embroidery)

- * this is a new feature in The Sun News
- * if you don't see your chapter's information here, please ask your Region Rep to submit it to the newsletter editor
- * for times, locations and/or to contact the particular chapter, please see the Chapters section of the Sun Region website www.sunregionega.org

The Art of Needlework

An Exhibit of Contemporary Embroidery



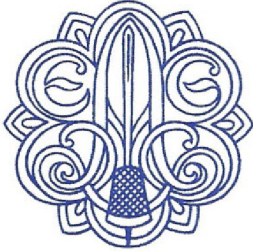
February 18, 19, 20
Opening Thursday 12:00 – 4:00
Friday and Saturday 10:00 – 4:00

Moorings Park Auditorium
120 Moorings Park Drive
at the
Intersection of Goodlette Frank
and Granada Roads

Exhibits
The Boutique
Demonstrations
The Tea Cup Auction

Presented by Neapolitan Chapter
Embroiderers' Guild of America
Entry donation \$5.00





Founded 1958

The Embroiderers' Guild of America

fostering the highest standards of excellence in the practice of the art of embroidery through an active program of education and study, and preserving the heritage of the art of embroidery

November 16, 2015

Ms. Lynn Abbey

Re: Donation to EGA in Honor of Gwen Nelson

Dear Lynn,

I want to thank Sun Region for their donation to EGA in honor of Gwen Nelson. As you indicated in your letter, this donation is earmarked for the EGA collection -- to be used for the acquisition or preservation of pieces. I am grateful that you chose to honor Gwen in this way.

I know that Gwen has an intense interest in the collection and delights in being able to take selections around the country to share with our members. I have heard many comments from people who have been able to see those pieces up close and in person and it definitely makes a huge impact on them. I hope Gwen is able to continue doing this for many years to come.

Thank you for this donation; it's a wonderful tribute to Gwen and I know that she will be pleased to learn of it!

Sincerely,

Leslie Gagliardi, President