

From the Region Director

The past few months have been filled with EGA-related activities. It is nice to be able to sit for a few minutes to reflect on what has gone on. This message will just list the events; you can read all of the details in other articles in this newsletter.

Original Sewing and Quilt Show
I spent the summer preparing for our booth at the Original Sewing and Quilt Show in Raleigh. By the time the show took place in August, we had worked out a plan, asked for donations from all of you, bought or

created all of the necessary accoutrements, and packed up for the event.

**Please Join us on Zoom
Saturday, January 22
10:00 AM**

to help CAR chapters work for positive change.

(see page 17)



We're stronger together!

We set up on Wednesday afternoon before the 3-day show started. Although I was hesitant when the planning started, I found the experience to be exhilarating and heartwarming. I hope you will consider joining us next time.

Chicago Bound: EGA Seminar

About two weeks later, I was off to Chicago for a week of meetings and the National Seminar. I was leery about plane travel and about being with such a large group for a week, but everyone stayed masked and kept their distance. It was wonderful to be with others and to focus on the joy of stitching.

I was able to take a class at that seminar (Terri Bay's Harlequin) which fed my need to start a beautiful new

(RD REPORT, Continued on page 2)

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CALENDAR

2021 – via ZOOM

Mon, November 15: CAR Shopping Tour part 2, 7 pm

Sat, November 20: Stitch-in, 10 am

Sat, December 4: Virtual Class, 1-4 pm

Nov-Dec: See Page 18...

2022

Spring (TBD): CAR Spring Retreat (via ZOOM)

Fall (TBD): CAR Fall Retreat

Aug 24-28 — Broadway Bound, EGA National Seminar, New York City

(RD REPORT: Continued from page 1)

stitch project. Suffice it to say that I still have a lot of work to do on it, but I do plan to finish it!!

Crossing the Carolinas

Two weeks after returning from Chicago, it was time to pack up for our Region seminar in Clemmons. This event was also a wonderful experience. Christine Haimann, our Seminar Director, had thought of everything and all of the members of the seminar committee and the volunteers made sure the event went off without a hitch. The classes were great; sit-and-stitch was a well-attended and welcoming activity; and all of the related opportunities were lots of fun.

Virtual Shop Tour

We have just sponsored another virtual shop tour (A Needleworkers Shoppe, an online-only store). Because we ran out of time before we saw everything, we have scheduled another visit with the shop for November 15 at 7 PM.

Virtual Class, Upcoming

On December 4, we will sponsor a virtual class: *Ring Around the Rosey* by Wendy Moore. We had 3 colorways to select from for this cute canvas ornament. We look forward to learning to tame Jessica stitches as we work on this project.

Virtual Stitch-ins

Don't forget that we still are getting together for our CAR virtual stitch-ins twice a month. We will meet on Tuesdays, November 9 and December 14, at 2 PM and on Saturdays, November 20 and December 18, at 10 AM. We hope you can join us. Remember that if you are not already on the distribution list for our ZOOM events, you can send an email to me at: regiondirector@egacarolinas.org.

IDEA: Strengthening EGA

EGA National is focusing on ways to strengthen our organization, starting with a plan called IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility). The CAR's IDEA team has participated in training and is now planning an approach to help the chapters attract new members, retain their current ones, and increase levels of participation so that offices can be filled and the chapters can thrive. You can read more about this effort elsewhere in this newsletter. For now, save the date (January 22 at 10 AM) so you can join us in taking steps to strengthen our chapters.

Looking Ahead

We are already looking ahead to future events: We will have 2 retreats next year and are about to start planning another Region seminar for 2023. We can always use help so if you are looking for ways to get involved, please let me know.

Get Involved

Speaking of getting involved, there is a very important way that you can make your voice heard: Your current Region officers have only one more year to serve. We need to have a slate of nominees by next summer so that we can hold elections at our fall Board of Directors meeting. Our newly revised job descriptions are available on our Region website. Read through them and find the position that you can best fill. I guarantee that you will make some wonderful friends, meet a lot of people who share your interests, and feel good about helping our Region support its members.



Belonging

Whew! Now it's time to reflect on the reasons we belong to EGA: We have wonderful resources to improve our skills, such as classes, lectures, and chapter meetings. We can meet others who share our passion and who can give us advice and support. We can become involved so we can in turn help others. Belonging to such an organization is a great way to connect with others, put our skills and experience to good use, and make the world a brighter, happier place. Thank you for joining me on this journey.

Best wishes, and happy stitching!

Carole Overton

Carolinas Region Director

Tidying Up A Few Things

By Gail Smith, ARD

Just when I think I am finished with that re-occurring theme of 1 – 2, I must admit that it has happened again! What?! Again?! Oh, most certainly. But, to the best of my powers, this will be the last of it.

My last 1-2 that happened as I was driving home from the Fall Seminar. Just how is it that I have attended 2 seminars in less than a month's time, after all these years of not attending any type of stitching event? It was a 1-2 punch of stitchers, meeting new people, being in a new location, doing new things, & sleeping in very different hotels! Whew! What an experience, and yet, it was so very good for the stitcher in me to experience all of it.

Retreats & Seminars have a way of empowering the stitcher inside all of us. It is the encouragement of others to finish that project; the acceptance of others, that we belong; knowing that there is someone else who has en-

countered this or that challenge & who will willingly share what they learned to overcome that challenge.

So that was a thought. Then the other night I was working on a small piece. It was an old kit that I had to find the threads to complete it. A couple of Gentle Arts, a couple of Weeks Dye Works; not too many colors but a few. I didn't want to go out & buy all the colors it called for because I had a "few" skeins of DMC & why couldn't I just use that instead? However, I did dig around in my stash & found that I had some GA & WDW, as well as some House of Embroidery to fill in. There was one color that was no longer made, so at a stitch-in I decided to ask if anyone had this color. As it turns out, another stitcher did & gave me some floss.

As I was stitching with that floss, it suddenly hit me of the generosity she shared. Then I was wondering, how many of us have unselfishly offered our stash to others? Oh, we give our



opinion freely about projects, colors, stitches – things that are not tangible, but how about physical things? A needle; hanks of floss that you just *love*; hoops or stretcher bars & tacks; scissors?

It is with our actions, deeds, & words that we put love in action. It is the caring & staying in touch with each other that keeps the threads of friendship alive. The sharing of adventures – going to a new shop, learning a new stitch (new to you, but your friend has known it for a long time), making something special for someone else.

As the days get darker, keep your light bright. Stay in touch with each other. Send that text or email, or better, pick up the phone & spend some 'therapy' time with each other.



NewsFromNational

Education opportunities and more

Cheryl Christian is retiring as the editor of *Needle Arts*, so EGA is looking for someone to take over as editor. If you or someone you know is interested, please send an email to EGA President Karen Hamilton at president@egausa.org by October 31, 2021.

Don't forget to check the EGA National website. There are many new classes and resources, lectures, and other opportunities to enhance your skills, excite your senses, and spark your creativity.

If you are looking for some other opportunities to enhance your skills or to try new techniques, look at our EGA National website (egausa.org) and at the listings available from the Smithsonian Institution: <https://smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing/studio-arts/>

BoardOfDirectorsMeeting

September 24, 2021: overview

Several important items came out of our Board of Directors (BoD) meeting in September. For those of you who were not able to attend, here is short summary.

The Board approved all of the motions that were presented. The motions were to (1) change the name of the Education Coordinator's position to Director of Education; (2) approve the revised job descriptions that had been updated to reflect our current operation and to allow for future changes; (3) approve the continuation of chapter program grants for 2022; and (4) approve the proposed 2022 budget.

Carole Overton, our Region Director, reviewed the Region's participation in the Original Sewing and Quilt Expo that was held in Raleigh in August. Using a series of slides with photos from the show, she and Gail Smith, ARD, explained how the donations of floss and free charts from our members were used. You can read more about our participation in the quilt show on page 12 of this newsletter.

As a result of our experiences at the Raleigh show, the CAR Executive Committee is going to put together our own "festival kit" that our chapters can borrow when they have a booth at any kind of fair, festival, or trade show to help them promote EGA and their chapter. Specifics about this kit are

given on page 13 of this newsletter.

One of the highlights of our BoD meeting was when each chapter was asked to report on what they did and how they fared over the past year and a half. We also wanted to know what concerns they had and what good things had happened.

It became clear that each chapter is facing similar challenges: their members are aging and they are not getting many new members; members are unwilling to take on the officer roles; and many members no longer want to participate in chapter projects, preferring to just work on their own pieces. We will be working together to address these concerns in the coming months.



The Executive Committee reported that we will have 2 retreats in 2022, probably a virtual retreat and Board of Directors meeting in the spring and hopefully an in-person retreat and BoD meeting in the fall.

At the time of the meeting, we were unsure if we would be able to offer a

seminar in 2023 since we had gotten no volunteers willing to plan and present the event. Since it takes more than a year to plan a seminar, we would have to get a full committee in place by the end of this seminar in order to make it feasible. [Thanks to Laura Smith's persistence, by the end of this seminar she was able to confirm commitments from enough volunteers to form a complete seminar committee. Let the planning begin!]

Carole reminded everyone that we need to have a slate of officers to elect next fall when the terms of the current officers expire. Our current ARD, Gail Smith, is going to be nominated to become the Region Director. We are soliciting people to fill all of the remaining slots: Assistant Region Director,

Secretary, Treasurer and Director of Education (voting members of the Executive Committee). Appointed (non-voting) positions are also available, including Web Coordinator, RegioNews Editor, and Seminar Director. Other positions needed include Education Committee members, Zoom

Coordinator, Nominating Committee Chair and two members, Outreach Chair, and Bylaws Chair.

A copy of the minutes on pages 14 - 17 of this newsletter gives more details.

CARSeminar2021

At last!

After delaying it for a year and a half, the Carolinas Region was finally able to hold its seminar on September 24 – 26, 2021, at the Village Inn in Clemmons, NC. Originally scheduled for the Spring of 2020, the event was postponed twice before we felt it was safe enough to meet. Although we followed CDC guidelines, stayed masked, and kept our distance, those restrictions did not impede our excitement at being able to gather again. It was a wonderful weekend!

Our appetites were whetted on Thursday and Friday when some of us went

on a pre-arranged sampler tour at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts in Winston-Salem. This lovely museum houses a very interesting collection of antique samplers, and the do-

cents were able to give us some background information about them which enhanced our appreciation of these lovely works.

Our Board of Directors meeting on Friday afternoon was very informative. Four motions were presented and approved, and after reviewing this

year's accomplishments, plans for the future were discussed. There is a discussion of the items covered in this meeting elsewhere in this newsletter.

Approximately 65 people attended the seminar, with about half of them taking one of the 3 classes offered and the other half taking the sit-and-stitch option. We also enjoyed the normal seminar events – merchandise night, opportunity baskets, education exhibits, and more.

We had a buffet luncheon on Saturday, at which time we recognized a number of people who had contributed to our region. This meal gave us time to unwind in a relaxed setting without the anxiety of having to find a restaurant and get back in time for class.

When we needed a break from stitching, there were several things to catch our attention: We had borrowed the Lincourt Hearts study box from EGA National. This collection of 34 hearts, each stitched in a different technique or using different threads, included information about each technique and



provided a good way to compare them.

The education exhibit also included the stunning display of projects that Janet Noble had submitted for her Master Craftsman programs in Counted Thread (awarded spring of 2021) and Canvas (in progress). Kim Sanders had also brought a few of her lovely projects from her Master Craftsman in Smocking program.

The most memorable part of the seminar may have been the chance to talk to people face to face after such a long period of isolation. Throughout the weekend, the hum of conversation, the peals of laughter, the sharing of stitching projects, and the joy of being with people were constant reminders of the importance of belonging to a group such as EGA, where we can meet and connect with others who understand us and who share our passion.

The weekend flew by and, before we knew it, we were packing up for the trip home. Seminar 2021 was the perfect way to re-ignite our love of stitching. We hope you can join us next time!



CARSeminar2021:ThankYouToAll!

From Carole Overton, Region Director

The Carolinas Region was finally able to enjoy its long-awaited seminar at the end of September. We met at the Village Inn in Clemmons, NC, a new venue for us but one that offered many positive features. It was a wonderful weekend filled with the delights of seeing old friends and making new ones, conducting region business, and having lots of fun along the way.

I will review some of the highlights elsewhere in the newsletter, but for now I would like to thank all of those who made the weekend such a success.

Christine Haimann, our Seminar

Director: Christine worked tirelessly for 2 years to keep up with the changes in scheduling caused by the pandemic, making sure the brochure was updated and keeping the registrants informed of the changes. She took charge of the arrangements, prepared the handouts, arranged for the education exhibit, decorated the luncheon tables, coordinated the on-site activities, and made sure the weekend ran smoothly. We are greatly indebted to her for all of her efforts. The weekend was wonderful, Christine! Thank you so much for all that you did!!

Members of the Seminar Committee (Christine Haimann, Elizabeth Little, Nancy Gannon, Chris Sloane, Sue Osterberg, Rosemary Kostansek,

Julia Tison): Many thanks to the members of the seminar committee, who volunteered to help two years ago and stuck with us through the continu-

al rescheduling and who, when the time came, worked really hard to make sure their jobs were taken care of. We could not have held this event without you. We especially thank you for all that you did during the event itself, those little things that made such a big difference – conveying messages from “HQ” to the participants in the meeting rooms; helping us cover the board room or accomplish various tasks (hanging and taking down the banner, setting up or taking down the stash boxes and opportunity baskets), etc. Your help made the weekend run smoothly and helped everyone enjoy the seminar.

Volunteers: Some of you signed up from the beginning to volunteer in various ways. Some stopped by during the seminar to ask if there was something you could do for us. Still others just sat down to help when you saw that help was needed. To all of you, we want to give you a huge hug to say “Thanks!”. Whether you worked all day or for just a few minutes, please know that we greatly appreciated all that you did. You embody the spirit of EGA and helped to make our seminar a very delightful activity.

Members of the Executive Committee: Gail Smith, Elizabeth Little,

Laura Smith, Janice Wright, Cathie Barker, Christine Haimann): From the beginning of our planning, the members of our Executive Committee worked together to determine the best plan, came up with solutions to problems along the way, and helped to design the event. During the seminar

itself, you might have been “visited” by Laura Smith, who worked tirelessly to fill up the list of open positions – we are very pleased to see that she was so successful that we now are starting to plan our next seminar (to be held in 2023 – more about that elsewhere in this newsletter). You might have seen various members of the EC conferring from time to time during the weekend as we exchanged ideas about this and future events, always keeping in mind what our members might want or expect. I am so grateful to my cohorts on the EC. Thank you for inspiring me and encouraging me to keep going! (Thank you, too, for my lovely gifts at the end of our Saturday night festivities!)

Hospitality Room Hostesses and

Providers: The Village Inn offered us the free use of a hospitality room that was furnished with a small kitchen, a large table with chairs, and several arm chairs and a sofa. It turned out to be a great place to take a break from our stitching or to get a change of scenery as we continued to stitch or to sit and chat with others. We enjoyed some delicious refreshments that helped to recharge our batteries. Many, many thanks to the chapters who provided the delicious array of snacks and drinks: Piedmont, Blue Ridge, Cardinal, and Florence.



Thank You - Thank You - Thank You

Members of the Piedmont chapter served as hostesses throughout the weekend, restocking the supplies and making sure the room was ready for us. From what I heard as I walked around during the seminar, this room was one of the highlights of our weekend. Many, many thanks to all of you!

Piedmont Chapter: The Piedmont chapter was also responsible for the lovely scissors fobs that were given out as favors at Saturday's luncheon. These beaded beauties will be treasured by all of us. As soon as I got home, I put my fob on my newest pair of scissors - I am sure everyone else found the perfect use for theirs, as well. Thank you so much for giving us a wonderful and beautiful memento of the weekend.

Chapters: We had the excitement of vying for one of the 11 lovely opportunity baskets that were provided by our chapters. There were such intriguing items in each one that it was very difficult to decide just where to put our tickets. It seems that as much thought was put into the containers as was put into the contents. Many thanks to all of those chapters and their members whose efforts and creativity made this activity all the more exciting. Thanks, too, for all of those who purchased tickets. I know that the participating chapters were grateful for your support.

Teachers: We were very lucky to have 3 wonderful teachers for this event: **Barbara Ellis** (Damsel of Cuff), **Joyce Houck** (Blue Bird of Happiness) and **Mary Knapp** (substituting for Peg Dunayer, Garden of Stars). The classes

went very well and the participants sang the praises of their teachers. It was exciting to see the class pieces progress over the course of the weekend. The teachers helped to make the weekend a great success.

Merchandise Night: It was fun to see what was for sale during our merchandise night event. Those who came to shop had a great selection of items to choose from. Thank you to all vendors and buyers.

Saturday Night Fun: Although I supposedly served as the Master of Ceremony for our Opportunity Basket drawings, I was eventually surpassed by Gail Smith, our Assistant Region Director, who helped to ensure that there was plenty of laughter and who took over when I was banned from drawing tickets after complaints that I kept drawing high numbers instead of low ones (sigh!).



I extended this portion of the weekend by holding more drawings to give

away a number of EGA-related items that I had purchased when I thought I would be able to visit each chapter in person. The evening ended after our three Master Craftsmen (Sue Osterberg - Beading, Laura Smith - Color, and Janet Noble - Counted Thread) gave us some insight and encouragement about entering the master craftsman program. Thanks to all participants in these evening activities for the fun, excitement, and much-needed laughter.

Participants: We were so happy to have approximately 65 people in attendance. It was truly heartwarming to see so many people after such a long isolation period. We reconnected with former friends and met many new ones over the course of the weekend. A number of people brought stash boxes so we could go "shopping." Because these items were being given away free, many of us went home with an assortment of patterns and supplies that seemed to replace the things that we had brought to give away ourselves. Only another stitcher would understand the excitement of coming across a gem in someone else's stash!

To all of you who attended and participated in any capacity: I am so grateful to all of you for your presence, your friendship, and your support. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for believing in the Carolinas Region and for spending that time with us. You made my weekend extra special in every way.

*Carole Overton
Carolinas Region Director*

Crossing the Carolinas, In-person Seminar, Sept. 2021



First things first: checking in at the registration desk.



Hospitality room: laden with goodies and awaiting those who wanted a break.



Seminar office: where the exhibits lived and business got done.



Stash give away table: a very popular place!

Classes (right):

1. Blue Bird of Happiness
2. Damselfly cuff,
3. Garden of Stars



**September 2021
In-person Seminar
in Clemmons, NC.**

*Right: Sit 'n Stitch
room. Lot of pretty
stitcheries in pro-
gress!*



1. *Banquet luncheon in progress.*
2. *Banquet table decorations.*
3. *Laura Smith presenting gifts to Carole Overton.*
4. *Christine Haimann, seminar chair, enjoying her gifts.*
5. *Laura Smith is explaining her classes at her teacher showcase table on merchandise night.*
6. *The Gail and Carole show— save the best for last and leave them laughing when you go!*

Fun night for everyone!



CARChapter Happenings

What our chapters are doing

Chicora Stitchers (Myrtle Beach, SC)

After we all got our vaccines, and the weather began to cooperate, we finally were able to meet in person in April, and our first meeting place was President Anne Peacock's covered carport, since the church we had been using was not available for several reasons. We spaced our chairs, wore masks, and just enjoyed everyone's company. It meant that we could resume the programs we had planned previously.

The first one was Autumn Fireworks, a design by Anne-Marie Anderson-Mayes, [www. Beautifulstitches.com.au](http://www.Beautifulstitches.com.au). Melanie Scott and Anne Peacock made sure we had a lovely choice of color combinations, and Melanie led us in the project. We enjoyed it so much that we voted to work on another of Anne-Marie's designs, Pathways of Colour. The cost of the directions is very reasonable, and the proceeds go to relief from the terrible fires in Australia.



Also, Jane Toll introduced us to paper piercing (or paper pricking), where you pierce holes into the paper you are working on and stitch through the holes according to the design directions. She chose a Christmas Tree, which was pretty but possible to complete in one session, and the results were delightful.



Molly Lane and Marge Johler have found temporary places for us to meet, and Anne's carport is always available! Fortunately we are a small enough group to fit into most rooms. Marge also continues to host the Tuesday evening ZOOM meetings, so we have managed to keep busy and already have plans for next year's programs.

We are very excited to have had a new needlework store open in the area, Barefoot Needleart. The owners are coming to talk to us in November.

Opportunity Basket Winners: at Crossing the Carolinas

Florence-Christmas basket-Pam Carriker
Golden Needles 1-Marilyn Brown, Aiken
2-Cardinal tote Laura Smith
Laurel 1- red bag Janaye Bryson
2- basket-Cathryn Harrell
Piedmont pollinator- Barbara Decker

Star Stitchers - Mitzi Malcolm
Charlotte Patriotic basket- Connie Miller
Lowcountry- Patty Hawthorne
Cardinal conglomerate basket-Theresa Underwood
Magnolia-Mary Finch, Millwood



Millwood Chapter (Columbia, SC):

Mary Finch and Alison Johnson (new member in the Millwood Chapter) repair the Funeral Pall for Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Columbia, SC.



ZoomingAlong

CAR Zoom events and info about Zoom

Virtual Shop Tour, Part 2 A Needleworkers Shoppe Monday, November 15, 7 PM Join us!

The Carolinas Region recently sponsored a virtual shop tour with Deb Berger, the owner of A Needleworkers Shoppe, an online-only shop. Because Deb had so much merchandise to show us, we ran out of time before we could see it all. Therefore, we have scheduled a second session with her on Monday, November 15, starting at 7 PM. Join us then to see what else she has to offer.

CAR Virtual Class:



The Carolinas Region is sponsoring a canvas ornament class, **Ring Around the Rosey**, taught by Wendy Moore. This ZOOM class will be taught on **Saturday, December 4, 2021, from 1:00 – 4:00 PM**. Registration for this class has closed.

Important Information from ZOOM

If you use your computer to access ZOOM events, this message is for you: As of November 1, ZOOM will require you to make sure you have an updated version of the program. Specifically, your version of ZOOM must be no older than 9 months. If you are using an older version as of November 1, ZOOM will make you update before you can join a meeting or take any other actions. You can save time when you have a meeting to attend if you update your version ahead of time.

If you choose not to do so ahead of time, you will be required to update the first time you try to access ZOOM on or after November 1. In this case, be sure you try to access ZOOM early enough to allow for the update before your meeting starts.

The good news is that if you update now, you will not have to do so again for 9 months.

If you use a smartphone or tablet to access ZOOM, the system will automatically update so you do not have to worry about this message.

If this message is confusing and you would like some help, send an email to regiondirector@egacarolinas.org to ask for help.

CARBoothAtSewing&QuiltShow

Big success

Six stalwart volunteers worked at the CAR booth at the quilt show in Raleigh in August. Gail Smith, Laura Smith, Janet Noble, Patty Schmid, and Carole Overton set up the night before the show opened and worked on Thursday, the first day of the show. Gail, Janet, and Carole worked the rest of the show and were joined by Nancy Gannon on Friday afternoon. All of us came away with a sense of awe and agreed that it was an extremely worthwhile experience.

We estimate that we spoke to about 250 people during the 3-day show. Of those, fewer than 10 had ever heard of EGA. We clearly have more work to do as an organization to let people know we exist!

It was very heartwarming to see the reactions of many of those stitchers when they learned that we focused on hand stitching, not machine stitching: Some women got tears in their eyes;

others stayed at our booth for 10 or 15 minutes to talk with us about stitching, show us photos of their projects, ask us questions about techniques, etc. Some were very reluctant to leave us in order to visit all of the other booths.

We are very grateful to all of our members who responded to our plea to send us skeins of floss and those free charts that they have been holding onto for years. We received about 2,000 skeins of floss and at least 150 charts.

So what did we do with them? We gave a free chart and related skein of floss to each of the 130 people who filled out a form requesting more information about EGA and our chapters, and we offered skeins of floss to those who stopped to talk to us even if they did not fill out a form. You should all know that the people who received these items were extremely grateful and very touched, some to the point of tears. Those gifts that probably meant so lit-

tle to us meant the world to them. Thank you for your generosity.

We learned that there are areas within our region that are not well served by chapters – for people who live in those areas, the closest chapter meets at least 2 hours away. We are encouraging our chapters to keep an eye out for people who may want to join but who live far away. We can work with you to consider setting up a satellite of your chapter so that those who live at a distance might be encouraged to participate. Please contact Carole Overton, your RD, if you encounter such a situation: regiondirector@egacarolinas.org.

We had such an uplifting experience this year that we are planning on participating again next year. We do not know where the next show will be located, but please consider joining us if it is to be held anywhere near you.



Janet Noble, Laura Smith, Gail Smith, and Patty Schmidt “manning” our booth. The CAR cart/rack and “smalls” case at right end of booth.

The CAR Festival Kit

Chapters may use the kit for festivals, etc.

You may know that EGA National has a “festival box” with some supplies that they share with regions and chapters that set up a booth at a quilt show or other type of festival so they can tell people about EGA. Our Region borrowed that box for use at the Sewing and Quilt Show in Raleigh.

While preparing for that show, we also made or bought some other supplies that we thought would be helpful in our booth. We have decided that we can make those items available to any of our chapters who are going to have a booth at a trade show. We are calling it the “CAR festival kit” because it includes several boxes and other containers.

The following items are currently available:

- our new vinyl CAR banner with several hanging options
- a display rack that transforms into a small cart to transport items, with simple directions for using, along with a small backdrop cloth and 4 weight bags to stabilize the rack
- an acrylic case for displaying smalls – the top and 3 sides are acrylic; the only open side should face the inside of the booth so you can access the smalls but others can not
- 3 plastic trays to hold handouts, with samples of the handouts we used at our booth

- a set of maps showing each of our 3 states with the location of each chapter clearly marked
- a set of twin sheets that we used to cover some of our items at night and to cover cartons during the day to give us more display space
- a supply of pens in case you have forms for people to fill out (we do not intend to have you give these away but we have good supply in case some go missing)
- a covered box that people can put their filled-out forms in, if needed
- 10 pairs of white gloves in case you have to handle needlework

In the future, we plan to add a table cover and possibly some other items.

There will be no cost to borrow these items. It is our hope that we can meet a representative from your chapter at some mutually convenient place to give you the “boxes” and again to get them from you when you are done with them so we do not have to send anything through the mail.

If you would like more information or want to arrange for the use of our kit, please send a message to regiondirector@egacarolinas.org.



Display at left end of table in our Booth at the Quilt Show. Patty Schmidt and Carole Overton enjoying their “shift”.



**Carolinan Region, EGA
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, September 24, 2021 at 2 p.m**

Call to Order: Region Director Carole Overton (regiondirector@egacarolinas.org) called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Present: Region Director Carole Overton, Assistant Region Director Gail Smith, Treasurer Elizabeth Little, Education Coordinator Janice Wright, Secretary Laura Smith, Seminar Director Christine Haimann, Bylaws Chair Becky Buie; Outreach Chair Mildred Strobel, and Website/Newsletter Coordinator Cathie Barker.

Chapter Delegates present: Aiken Stitchin' Belles (Yvette McCord-P, Belinda Ebert-RR); Blue Ridge (Betsy Hanson, proxy for P, Theresa Underwood, proxy for RR); Cardinal (Carolyn Doerr, proxy for P, Martha Derbyshire-proxy for RR), Charlotte (Chris Sloane-P; Connie Miller-RR); Chicora (none); Florence (Marguerite Ewing-P, Julia Tison, proxy for RR); Golden Needles (Patty Schmid-proxy for P, Evelyn Southards-RR); Lowcountry (none); Magnolia (Mildred Strobel, proxy for P, Nancy Gannon-RR); Millwood (Mary Finch-P, Janaye Bryson, proxy for-RR); Piedmont (Linda Eason, proxy for P, Kathy White, proxy for RR); Star Stitchers (Christine Haimann-P); The Laurel (Kim Sanders-P, Sue Osterberg-RR); Tryon (none)

Guests present: Marilyn Brown, Michelle Burroughs, Maxine Martin, Diana Parfitt, Jane Wiggins (Aiken); Patty Hawthorne, Linda Herbert, Margaret Wiesemann (Cardinal); Jessica Vaughn (Lowcountry); Janet Noble (Millwood); Cathryn Harrell, Rosemary Kostansek (The Laurel)

Quorum: There being more than one-third of the delegates present (26 of 37), a quorum was declared.

Minutes: Minutes from the Spring Virtual Meeting on May 22, 2021 were approved as previously emailed.

Motion to Change the Title of the Education Officer:

The members of the Executive Committee move that the Carolinas Region change the title of the Region's Education officer from "Education Coordinator" to "Director of Education."

Rationale: Following common practice of EGA National and other Regions.

Discussion: This change in title makes our region more consistent with other regions and National EGA.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve Revised Region Officer Job Descriptions

The members of the Executive Committee move that the revised job descriptions be approved.

Rationale: Updating the job descriptions to reflect current needs.

Discussion: If approved, these revised job descriptions will replace the previous versions, most of which were last revised more than 10 years ago. These newly revised descriptions reflect our current practices and provide room for future changes over the next few years.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Assistant Region Director's Report: Gail Smith

(asstregiondirector@egacarolinas.org)

Gail thanked members for their contributions of floss for the Quilt Expo in Raleigh. We received 130 forms with contact information for potential new members. Over 250 people visited our booth. Gail stated, "I believe in EGA, embroidery education, and YOU."

Treasurer's Report: Elizabeth Little

(treasurer@egacarolinas.org)

Statements for the operating account and seminar account were previously emailed. There were no questions. A proposed budget was distributed.

Motion to Continue Chapter Program Grants

The Executive Committee moved that the region continue the Chapter Program Grants for 2022 in the amount of \$150 per chapter for those requesting it.

Rationale: to continue our policy of supporting embroidery education for chapters

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve the Budget

The Executive Committee moved that the 2022 proposed budget be accepted as presented.

Rationale: standard operating procedure

The motion was approved unanimously.

(MINUTES, Continued on page 15)

MINUTES: Continued from page 14)

Education Coordinator's Report: Janice Wright
(education@egacarolinas.org)

EGA National will provide up to \$300 for one or two lectures or classes on Zoom to be completed in 2021. We will plan a virtual half day class in November with a minimum of ten people.

2022 events - the Executive Committee recommends having two retreats. There is not enough lead time to plan a seminar.

- A. Virtual Spring Retreat will take place mid-May to June.
- B. Fall Retreat will take place in person in Rock Hill, SC in late September or early October. We will look into one of the facilities that we have booked in past years.

2023 events – We will plan an in-person seminar for Spring 2023 if a team of volunteers can be recruited to plan and host the seminar. This team needs to start working right away in order to have enough lead time to book a venue and request proposals from teachers.

CRESS scholarship applications will be due April 15, 2022.

Outreach Chairman's Report: Mildred Strobel
(outreach@egacarolinas.org)

A printed report was distributed. Mildred thanked chapters for their work on Outreach projects. Presidents are asked to send information to her by November 1, 2021 for her report to EGA National.

Seminar Director's Report: Christine Haimann
(seminardirector@egacarolinas.org)

65 people are attending the seminar at Clemmons. Total revenue is \$19,000. Refunds are approximately \$4,000. New items for this seminar are:

1. First Timer Meeting right after the region meeting on Saturday. We have fifteen first timers.
2. Banquet – Rocking chair decorations will indicate a reserved seat at each table. The region will retain the small rocking chairs.
3. The hotel graciously provided a Hospitality Room (Room 115). Thanks to Piedmont, Cardinal, Blue Ridge, and Florence Chapters for supplies.
4. Opportunity baskets will be located in the Sit and Stitch Room.

Old Business: Carole Overton

- A. A slideshow of Carolinas Region EGA's accomplishments for 2021 was presented. The following items were included.

1. Recruited and elected our Assistant Region Director, Gail Smith
 2. Presented a new website to improve our online marketing and provide access to region information in an effective and timely manner.
 3. Instituted a MailChimp newsletter to improve communication among all region members.
 4. Presented a wide variety of Zoom events to promote embroidery education, motivate members to stitch, and provide time for socializing.
 5. Updated job descriptions for region officers and committee chairmen
 6. Created a new region banner
 7. Sponsored a booth at Quilt Expo Aug 5 – 7 at the Raleigh Convention Center with six volunteers. We thank Carole Overton, Gail Smith, Patty Schmid, Janet Noble, Nancy Gannon, and Laura Smith. We appreciate chapters' donations of over 2,000 skeins of floss and over 200 free charts to be distributed to visitors to our booth. Over 250 people visited our booth with 130 showing interest in EGA by completing a form giving us their contact information. Fewer than ten people had heard of EGA. It was noted that our region has geographic "holes" where there are no chapters. We will pursue establishing chapters or satellite groups in these areas if there is enough interest. Creating a Festival Box for the region was discussed. This would include the cart that converts to a display rack built by Stu Overton, tablecloths, an acrylic case to display small embroideries securely, several laminated copies of maps of chapters, ideas for make it/take it projects.
- B. Chapter presidents and their representatives reported on chapter activities in 2021. These reports answered the questions:
 1. How did you meet? How often? What did you do?
 2. Did you provide any education programs, classes, and/or lectures?
 3. Did you gain or lose any members? Did you gain members through contacts made at the Quilt Expo?
 4. Do you have any concerns?
 5. Did any good things happen?

Most chapters continued to meet on Zoom and some were able to meet in person. Most provided some type of education programs. The universal concern expressed by chapter presidents is recruiting members.

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Carolinas Region, EGA, Board of Directors Meeting, Friday, September 24, 2021 at 2 p.m (page3)

MINUTES: Continued from page 15)

Chapter articles: Chapter articles and photos are due for the MailChimp newsletter by October 15, 2021 for the following chapters: Cardinal, Chicora, Magnolia, Millwood, Piedmont, Star Stitchers, and The Laurel. All other chapters' articles and photos will be due April 15, 2022.

Several chapters celebrated milestone anniversaries in 2021: Aiken (20 years), Cardinal (40 years), and Lowcountry (40 years).

Open Positions

1. Website Liaison/Website Coordinator – job description is in revision to reflect changes to the website.
 2. Newsletter editor
 3. Nominating Committee has three openings.
- Please contact Carole Overton if you want to know more about any of the positions.

Virtual Region Events: 13 CAR Shopping Tours, three Board of Directors meetings, 21 Executive Committee meetings, three lectures, two classes, six CAR Chats, 32 Region stitch-ins. There was with approximately 877 total attendance for all events. Twelve of fourteen chapters were represented at virtual events.

Officers for 2022: Quoting from the Bylaws: "No member shall be eligible to serve more than one complete term consecutively in the same office, and no member shall hold more than one elected office at a time."

For the term beginning in 2022, Gail Smith will be our new Region Director. Other positions available are Assistant Region Director, Secretary, Treasurer and Director of Education. These are voting members of the Executive Committee. Appointed (non-voting) positions are also available, including Web Coordinator, RegioNews Editor, and Seminar Director. Other positions needed include Education Committee members, Zoom Coordinator, Nominating Committee Chair and two members, Outreach Chair, and Bylaws Chair.

There was no other old business.

New Business: Carole Overton

Laura Smith was recognized as the Gold Thread Award winner for Carolinas Region in 2021. She also received the National Gold Thread Award.

The Executive Committee is working on updating Carolinas Region's Policies and Procedures.

Early registration for EGA National Seminar 2022 in New York is open until October 5, 2021. Seminar information is found at the EGA National website (egausa.org) under Events.

Our next virtual event is a CAR Shopping Tour on Monday, October 18 at 7 pm. We will tour an online shop. There will be a Region Stitch-in in October, two Region Stitch-ins in November, and two in December. We also hope to offer a virtual class before the end of the year. Check the calendar on the Carolinas Region website www.egacarolinas.org for the calendar.

National has developed New Member Kits including a tote bag, EGA stickers, a brochure detailing member benefits, and a copy of *Needle Arts*. As of this summer, all new members will receive these kits.

There is a new needlework shop in Columbia, SC called Forest Acres Needlepoint. The Stitch and Frame Shop in Rock Hill is changing ownership and has found a buyer.

There was no other new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Submitted by Laura Smith, Secretary

Attachments:

1. CAR Operating Account Statement 09-15-21
2. CAR Seminar Account Statement 09-15-21
3. Proposed Budget 2022
4. Education Report
5. Outreach Report
6. Action Items for Chapter Presidents – Sept 2021

Addendum - Action Items for Chapter Presidents – Sept 2021

1. Remind your members of the CAR Shopping Tour of an online shop on October 18 at 7 pm.
2. By October 15, 2021, chapter articles are due for RegioNews for the following chapters: Cardinal, Chicora, Magnolia, Millwood, Piedmont, Star Stitchers, and The Laurel. All other chapters' articles will be due April 15, 2022.

(MINUTES, Continued on page 15)

MINUTES: Continued from page 16)

ADDEMNUM Continued:

3. Remind your members to sign up for EGA National Seminar in New York before early registration ends October 5, 2021. Early registrations determine which classes fly.
4. Send new member contact information and updated email addresses for all members to Carole Overton (regiondirector@egacarolinas.org) and Cathie Barker (website@egacarolinas.org)
5. Send Outreach activities information to Mildred Strobel (outreach@egacarolinas.org) by November 1, 2021 for her report to EGA National. If you have photos of Outreach projects, please include them.
6. Familiarize your chapter members with the Region Officer Job Descriptions. If anyone has appropriate skills and experience, please let Carole Overton know.

Sharing **IDEAs**: Solving common problems

At our recent Board of Directors meeting, each chapter reported on its accomplishments and problems. Every chapter cited the same concerns: They are losing members, having difficulty filling the officer and committee positions, and seeing some reluctance among members to participate in chapter activities. In short, there seems to be an increased lack of enthusiasm among members which is affecting chapter operation. In addition, the chapters are having trouble attracting new members.


The Carolinas Region recognizes these concerns and wants to help the chapters work for positive change. **To this end, we have scheduled a ZOOM meeting for Saturday, January 22, starting at 10 AM. All Region members are invited to attend, but we especially hope that all chapter presidents and region reps will join us.**

Marge Kelly, the National EGA Vice President, will attend the meeting to review some important findings from the diversity, equality, inclusion, and accessibility survey that was disseminated earlier this year. Those findings will lead us into a discussion of specific ways in which we can begin to tackle the issues listed in the first paragraph of this section.

As part of this National initiative, each Region has created an IDEA team (Inclusion, Diversity, Equality, and Accessibility). The CAR's team consists of Carole Overton, Gail Smith, and Sue Osterberg. These members recently participated in about 9 hours of training and have been discussing ways to help the Region move forward.

We would ask you to **save the date (January 22, 10 AM)** on your calendar so that you can be part of

**Please
Join us on Zoom
Saturday, January 22
10:00 AM**
to help CAR chapters work
for positive change.



We're stronger together!

the solution. Your ideas are always welcome as we work together to ensure that our chapters and our region continue to thrive.



Region Happenings

CAR Seminar 2023 Team

Thanks to Laura Smith and her persistence, we now have enough volunteers to form a complete seminar committee!! As a result, we are starting the process of planning another CAR seminar for 2023. (Yes, 2023 -- about a year and a half from now. Planning these big events takes a lot of time!) We so appreciate all of you!

- Seminar Co-Directors - Christine Haimann (Star Stitchers) and Janice Wright (Piedmont)
- Dean of Faculty - Janet Noble (Millwood)
- Seminar Registrar - Connie Miller (Charlotte)
- Volunteer Coordinator - Chris Sloane (Charlotte)
- Teacher Showcase/Merchandise Night - Margaret Wiesemann (Cardinal)
- Class Angels Coordinator - Sue Osterberg (The Laurel)
- Faculty Amenities - Julia Tison and Marguerite Ewing
- Registration packet and handouts – Carole Overton
- Publicity – This position is still open

Chapter participation: We need chapters to volunteer to take on each of the following tasks:

- provide banquet table decorations and favors
- contribute supplies and/or hostesses for our hospitality room, should we be able to have such a feature

During the seminar, we will need volunteers to work at the registration table and assist in many other ways. If you would prefer a job for which work can be done at home in advance, you can assist the Seminar Co-Directors with recruiting ads for the seminar brochure, work on some preliminaries for Merchandise Night, or contact any of the chairmen above to see what help they need.

The committee will meet in the beginning of November to start the planning process. We will keep you informed as we go forward.

Congratulations

to Mary Dell Telander, the 2021 winner of the Roxie Hodgkin Award! Mary Dell's name was randomly selected from the names of all of those registrants who applied for the scholarship which covered the registration and kit costs for someone attending this seminar. She is a member of the Aiken (SC) Stitchin' Belles.

123 Certificates

EGA Chapter Reporting Requirements

Attn: Chapter presidents, region reps, and editors: it is your responsibility to be sure your membership officer, secretary, and treasurer know when and where to send these items.

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Minutes of board and general meetings (unless included in the chapter's newsletter)	Within the month	Region Director
Membership roster	At the same time you send membership info to National Office	Region Director; CAR Newsletter Editor/website Coord.
National dues and membership information	Renewals no later than May 31 annually. New members immediately upon joining	National Office
Region dues and membership information	Same time as sent to National	Region Treasurer
Chapter newsletters	When sent to members	Region Director; Assistant Region Director; Editor, RegioNews; Region Outreach Chair
EGA Chapter Officer Change List (EGA Form)	Within 2 weeks of election	Region Secretary; Region Director
Education questions/information	As needed	Region Education Coordinator
Annual chapter report	By December 15	Region Director
Annual financial report	By February 15	Region Director; EGA Headquarters

Carolinas Region Executive Committee

Region Director	Carole Overton	803-599-9549	regiondirector@egacarolinas.org
Assistant Region Director	Gail Smith	678-432-5600	asstregiondirector@egacarolinas.org
Education Coordinator	Janice Wright	336-209-3230	education@egacarolinas.org
Secretary	Laura Smith	704-560-9223	secretary@egacarolinas.org
Treasurer	Elizabeth Little	704-982- 7119 (w)	treasurer@egacarolinas.org
Committee Chairs			
Bylaws	Becky Buie	803-865-2121	blbuie@sc.rr.com
Community Outreach	Millie Strobel	843-766-9360	outreach@egacarolinas.org
RegioNews	Cathie Barker	828-692-7891	regionews@egacarolinas.org
Seminar Director	Christine Haimann		seminardirector@egacarolinas.org
Website Coordinator	Cathie Barker	828-692-7891	website@egacarolinas.org
Nominating Committee			
Nominating	Rosemary Kostansek (-2022)	828-298-4017	nominatingchair@egacarolinas.org
Nominating 2	Vacant (-2023)		
Nominating 3	Vacant (-2024)		



Upcoming CAR Events

Join us for some fun, informative events

As of this writing, there are a number of Region events on the schedule:

November - December, 2021		
Date	Starting Time	Event (on ZOOM)
Tuesday, November 9	2 PM	CAR Region Stitch-in
Monday, November 15	7 PM	CAR Shopping Tour Part 2: A Needleworkers Shoppe, an online store.
Saturday, November 20	10 AM	CAR Region Stitch-in
Saturday, December 4	1 PM - 4 PM	CAR Virtual Class: Ring Around the Rosey: (registration is closed)
Tuesday, December 14	2 PM	CAR Region Stitch-in
Saturday, December 18	10 AM	CAR Region Stitch-in
SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, January 22, 2022	10 AM	CAR Region meeting to discuss survey results and look at ways to enhance membership and chapter functions.

We hope you can join us!

Financial Reminders

Reminder:
CAR follows the same prorated dues schedule as is in place for national EGA, shown at right:

Prorated Dues Schedule

If Joining:	Region dues are:
April 1 - June 30	\$4.00 (100%)
July 1 - September 30	\$3.00 (75%)
October 1 - December 31	\$2.00 (50%)
January 1 - March 31	\$1.00 (25%)

RegioNews

The Carolinas Region, EGA, publishes *RegioNews* quarterly. Standard practice is to distribute it to all chapter members in the Carolinas Region via email.

Chapter newsletter editors: Remember to share this newsletter with your members who do not receive email.

Advertising is accepted for 1-year (4 issues) intervals at \$10/year. Contact editor Cathie Barker for details. There is no cost

for emailed newsletters. Subscriptions are available for \$6/year for four printed issues. Send requests to the *RegioNews* editor Cathie Barker and checks, payable to Carolinas Region EGA, to Elizabeth Little, treasurer of Carolinas Region.

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