



Carolinan RegionNews

www.egacarolinas.org

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The Carolinas Region, EGA includes 15 chapters located in North Carolina, South Carolina, and parts of Georgia and Virginia representing about 300 members.

Message from the Region Director

The Circle Continues In the CAR

Submitted by Gail Smith, Carolinas Region Director

Can you feel the change in the weather? The sun rising a little later than it did at the beginning of July. So many of us were baking in the heat as July melted away. But the change continues and that’s a good thing.

National’s seminar is coming up in mid-November. It will be held in Dallas & should be quite, quite interesting to attend. The classes are diverse and should challenge you just a bit. For all attending, make the most of the classes, meet old ‘seminar’ friends, and take time to wander the exhibitions.

Our own Fall Retreat 2025 will be held in Rock Hill, SC, the 26-28th of September. There are 2 classes being held as well as a weekend of working on the projects you bring. Read the retreat brochure for the schedule and information: https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Fall-Retreat-2025-6-9_FINAL.pdf

Calendar/Events/Important Dates	
9/26-28/2025	CAR Fall Retreat, Rock Hill, SC
11/12-16/2025	EGA National Seminar, Dallas, TX
10/9-14/2026	EGA National Seminar, Orlando, FL

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The mission of the Embroiderers’ Guild of America is to inspire passion for the needle arts through education and the celebration of its heritage.
<https://egausa.org/>

July 31st was National Embroidery Day. Did you stitch a bit on that day? I certainly hope you did, not because it is a special day, but because you were able to stitch. You had time, you had a project, you had the ability to stitch. I stitched on the 31st at my weekly stitch-in, working on a project for someone else. The comraderie we shared as we stitched & chatted made this gathering a very special time. I hope you have this special day on your calendar & will join stitchers across the nation, next year for sure.

I would like to congratulate Heather Rushford, Piedmont Chapter president, and the whole chapter on their new & *original* logo. While the chapter was chartered in 1977, they never had a logo to reflect the area they encompass. The new design reflects the Triad area of Greensboro, High Point, and Winston-Salem. [Editor's Note: Find out how Heather came up with the design on pp. 4 – 6 of this newsletter.]

The Carolinas Region is in need of a couple more volunteers to help grow & guide it. The Director of Education chair needs to be filled as Janet Noble is not allowed to continue, according to the bylaws. She has done a grand job but is ready to move on. Janet has shared her knowledge in so many areas of stitching, as well as her passion, but know that is NOT a requirement of the position. Help bring new teachers for zoom classes or in person; arrange for speakers to talk about all sorts of things, things that will educate us or expose us to new concepts out in the world.

We are still looking for that person who will step forward to become the Seminar Chair. There are a number of other regions and chapters who hold full seminars – up to a week's length, numerous teachers, diverse classes. Why? Because their members are willing to work together to host a seminar. IF we had a seminar chair now, the seminar would be held in 2027 at its earliest. Who would like to begin talking about CAR holding a seminar again? It's not going to be held tomorrow, but with a Seminar Chair, the discussions could begin.

So, now you know how I have spent a good deal of my time, since we last chatted. There is a bit of information here as well as a request for aid in steering the CAR into the next year.

Yours in stitching,

Gail Smith
Carolinas Region Director

CAR Elections for New Officers

Submitted by Carole Overton, CAR Website/ZOOM Coordinator

It is hard to believe that the current term for the Carolinas Region's Executive Committee is coming to an end! It seems like only yesterday that I handed off the leadership to Gail Smith. What a long way our region has come since then!

Although the 3-year terms of all of the current officers are supposed to end this fall, sadly we do not have volunteers in place for three of these positions: Region Director (RD), Assistant Region Director (ARD), and Director of Education. For now, Gail Smith has agreed to serve as our Region Director (RD) for up to 18 months more, and Julie Anderson will extend her stint as Assistant Region Director a little longer, as well. The position of Director of Education will become vacant after our Board of Directors meeting. It is critical that we get volunteers to fill these positions so that our Region will be viewed as being healthy and in good standing with the organization.

Fortunately, we have three wonderful candidates to fill other positions! The chapters will be asked to vote on these nominations at our September 28 Board of Directors meeting. In preparation for that vote, we asked the nominees to introduce themselves:

FOR SECRETARY: Dee Pierce, Florence Chapter

Dee was born in Cleveland Ohio and has lived in Hartsville SC for 28 years. She has been a member of EGA (Florence chapter) for 3 years. She writes: “I enjoy cross stitch, beading (both on material and a loom) and basic embroidery. I have been married for 41 years, have 3 grown children and eight grandchildren. I am retired from Coker University and have been a secretary for over 25 years. Other things I am active in are: bicycling (I just completed my 14th week-long bike ride), ballet classes (starting my 6th year), gardening (flowers, herbs, vegetables and blueberries) and am a life time member of Girl Scouts (I’ve been active for 40 years and am a co-leader of a troop).”

FOR TREASURER: Nova Shultz, The Laurel Chapter

Nova joined EGA around 1990 in Ohio “when working with a wonderful lady who knew I was interested in embroidery. She invited me to a meeting. The group was just sending in a group correspondence course, a hedabo piece. They were all wonderful and I realized there was much more to embroidery than surface and counted cross stitch. I'm now a member of the Laurel Chapter in Hendersonville, NC where I'm currently serving as the treasurer of the chapter. I'm constantly amazed at the wonderful pieces that are brought in for show and tell each month. I love learning about various techniques but am master of none. In addition to the talents of the group, they also share a willingness to teach and learn from each other. Their care is what brought me to the group after being an EGA member-at-large for a number of years. It's good to know like-minded people and to participate with EGA in the pursuit of expanding this beautiful craft.”

FOR BYLAWS CHAIR: Jeni Huebner, Piedmont Chapter

Jeni has been an EGA member since 2017. She lives in Winston-Salem, NC, and is a primary member of the Piedmont chapter, where she serves as Region Representative, and a plural member of CyberStitchers. She reports that she didn't grow up stitching, but dabbled once in crewel when

she was 12, and then did some smalls in cross stitch and surface embroidery in her high school hippy days. She was officially bitten by the cross-stitch bug 15 years later when her mother-in-law gave her a mini sampler to stitch up on a long road trip home to Arizona from Kansas. She hasn't looked back. Anything counted is of interest, large and small. With a background in art history and calligraphy, antique samplers hold a special place. She is also starting to dabble in designing her own pieces, if she isn't tweaking other contemporary designers' pieces.

THANK YOU

Thank you to these members and to all of our volunteers for helping to keep our Region going forward. Remember that your chapter will be asked to vote on this slate at our September meeting. PLEASE consider stepping up and volunteering your own services to fill our other vacancies. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

CAR Chapter News: One approach to developing a new logo

Submitted by Heather Rushforth, President, Piedmont Chapter

The Piedmont Chapter of the EGA was founded in 1977 and I joined in 2009, but it was not until I became President in 2023 that I noticed that our chapter did not have an official logo. Other chapters had nice logos they used on business cards, banners, nametags, and pins. It became a personal quest for me to create one, and I began looking at other chapter's logos and brainstorming with members. We got lots of ideas but none of them seemed to fit all of our needs. Our name "Piedmont" does not lend to an easy logo like the Cardinal Chapter or the Dogwood Chapter. (And all those simple state emblems were already taken!). Other symbols for our cities were thought of like jeans for Greensboro (Home of Wrangler) or a dresser for High Point (Home of the International Furniture market), were brought up, but we have members from all 3 cities in the Piedmont Triad area each with their own distinctive features and history. So we were reluctant to adopt one emblem to represent one city.

Then one day I recalled the 5 rules of flag design which I thought applied to our logo's design needs:

1. **Keep It Simple.** – I wanted a design that could be easily printed, stitched, drawn, made into banners and pins, and recognizable no matter how small or large.
2. **Use Meaningful Symbolism.** - The Piedmont is about our location so that should be reflected in the design
3. **Use 2 or 3 Basic Colors.** - 3 colors representing the 3 cities would work well.
4. **No Lettering or Seals.** - To be approved, new logos need to include national's new logo, so I had to ignore this one!

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5. **Be Distinctive or Be Related.** - We did not want to be like other logos: Many are too complicated to stitch, or have just the name of the Chapter with an image of needle and thread.

Keeping these ideas in mind, I went into Canva and began designing using basic shapes with approved colors from [National](#). I also invited all our chapter members to submit logos for consideration as well. After several meetings and chapter feedback, the final logo was voted on and sent to National for approval.

Our final approved logo uses the outline of the state and 3 stars to represent the 3 cities in their general location and relationship to each other: Greensboro (green - of course) Winston-Salem (yellow - noting Wake Forest and the Moravian founders) and High point (blue - the city flag color). The star shape also hints at the Moravian star as a unique image in the area. (Originally, they were triangles but that could be confused with the “Triangle” area of Raleigh/Durham/Cary).

This logo includes our chapter name and the National logo (required) but simple variations can take the 3 stars alone to modify and use those as a name tag or pin. This smaller image can also be printed, stitched, sewn, or beaded (see below). The simple design invites members to personalize a version for themselves in a nametag like adding unique stitches, words, or other images.

I hope this inspires you to design your own logo or redo yours!





CAR Chapter News: Florence Displays at Hartsville Market, June 14, 2025

Submitted by Marguerite Ewing, Florence Chapter



CAR Chapter News: Aiken Needlework Display, September 2025

Submitted by Susan MacRae, President, Aiken Stitchin' Belles Chapter

The Aiken Stitchin' Belles Chapter is pleased to once again present an exhibit of Needlework in partnership with the American Needlework Guild (ANG) Chapter in Aiken. This exhibit will be held at the Aiken County Historical Museum beginning September 5th and running through September 28th. Come and see beautiful examples of many needlework techniques displayed in the former Winter Colony home known as "Banksia," now the Aiken County Historical Museum (<https://www.aikencountymuseum.org/#gsc.tab=0>). All are welcome!

CAR 2025 Spring Retreat: Teaching Tables (Part II)

Submitted by Carole Overton, CAR Website/ZOOM Coordinator

You may recall an article in the previous issue of *RegioNews*, where we reviewed the CAR Spring 2025 Retreat's Teaching Table events [access the May 2025 issue here: https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2025_RN_2QTR.pdf].

These teaching tables were a big hit: Every two hours, a "teacher" would present information about an aspect of needlework, based on a combination of the study of the issue and her own personal experiences. We received permission from each teacher to publish her notes in our region newsletter. This month, we are including the next two handouts. Click on the link below to access the handout:

Threads (prepared by Betsy Morgan): https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Threads-for-Embroidery_Betsy-Morgan.pdf

Frames (prepared by Leslie Brady): https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Frames_Brady.pdf

Take a look! You are sure to find out something you didn't know!

Books, Books, and More Books

Submitted by Gail Smith, Carolinas Region Director

The Dogwood chapter (in the Tennessee Valley Region) recently lost an accomplished stitcher & sewer, Alice Fraser. Alice led a group called Stitching With A Twist & many of us were members of SWAT! It was a group that tried many different things, things that Laura Smith & Fiber Forum play

with. Do you remember the zentangle tree that was in TNE display back in the 2016? That was a SWAT project, before my time.

If you are looking for some needlework books, Alice’s library has been priced for sale on a “first come” basis. Lynette Maton is the contact person at egadogwood@gmail.com. See the list on the attached pdf: https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Alice-Fraser-Book-list_Dogwood.pdf

Speaking of Books, Have You Read These?

Submitted by Carole Overton, CAR Website/ZOOM Coordinator

Over the past few months, we have been compiling a list of needlework-related books that our members have suggested. While the bulk of them come from the Charlotte chapter, we have been adding others here and there as we hear about them. The next time you want to take a break from stitching, try reading one of these:

See the Charlotte Chapter’s booklist: <https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Charlotte-Book-List-2025.pdf>

Suggestions from other members:

Bassera, Jazmina	Cross Stitch
Bauer, Margie	The Embroiderer’s Handbook
Canadeo, Anne	While My Pretty One Knits
Chiaverini, Jennifer	The World’s Fair Quilt
Ryan, Jennifer	The Wedding Dress Sewing Circle
Lee, Amanda	The Quick and the Thread
Strasdin, Kate	The Dress Diary

We will continue to publish suggested books of interest, so feel free to send your recommendations to newsletter@egacarolinas.org

SAVE THE DATE: CHARLESTON MUSEUM SEWIST EXHIBIT 2027

Narrative Threads: Sewists of South Carolina’s Past and Present

April 17, 2027 – January 16, 2028

Connecting contemporary sewists with the needleworkers of South Carolina’s past, The Charleston Museum presents a fresh perspective on this historic art form. View the work of today’s sewists alongside the pieces from the Historic Textiles Collection that inspire them, and learn about the nature of artistic expression through decorative sewing.

<https://www.charlestonmuseum.org/exhibits/upcoming>

Approximately 30 South Carolina needleworkers have volunteered to participate in the Charleston Museum Sewist Exhibit to be on display in 2027-2028. These stitchers were invited to meet with Virginia Theerman, the museum's Curator of Historic Textiles, in order to view items in the museum's collection with the goal of selecting a piece to use as an inspiration for a project they would create. There were no rules other than to use the museum's piece as inspiration: The new design could be an exact replica of the original, reproduce some portion of it, or make something very different that was inspired by the original. When the exhibit is hung, the originals will be displayed alongside the new works so that visitors can see that modern sewists can be inspired by the past. We look forward to seeing how these pieces develop.

CAR Spring 2025 Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes

Submitted by Marguerite Ewing, CAR Secretary

The Carolinas Region held its spring Board of Directors meeting on April 27, 2025. To access the minutes of this meeting, please click on this link: <https://www.egacarolinas.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/4-27-25-CAR-BOD.pdf>

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
1. Minutes of board and general meetings (unless included in the chapter's newsletter)	Within the month	Region Director
2. Membership roster (Life and Plural members)	Within the month	Region Director; CAR Newsletter Editor; Website Coordinator
3. Region dues and membership information (Life and Plural members)	Within the month	Region Treasurer
4. Chapter newsletters	When sent to members	Region Director; Assistant Region Director; CAR Newsletter Editor; Region Outreach Chair
5. EGA Chapter Officer Change List (EGA Form)	Within 2 weeks of election	Region Secretary; Region Director
6. Education questions/information	As needed	Region Director of Education
7. Annual chapter report	By December 1	Region Director
8. Annual financial report	By February 15	Region Director; EGA Headquarters

Carolinas Region Executive Committee		
Region Director	Gail Smith	regiondirector@egacarolinas.org
Assistant Region Director	Julie Anderson	asstregiondirector@egacarolinas.org
Director of Education	Janet Noble	education@egacarolinas.org
Secretary	Marguerite Ewing	secretary@egacarolinas.org
Treasurer	Elizabeth Little	treasurer@egacarolinas.org
Committee Chairs		
Bylaws	Becky Buie	bylaws@egacarolinas.org
Community Outreach	Millie Strobel	outreach@egacarolinas.org
<i>RegioNews (Interim Editor)</i>	Carole Overton	newsletter@egacarolinas.org
Seminar Director		seminardirector@egacarolinas.org
Website Coordinator	Carole Overton	website@egacarolinas.org
Nominating Committee		
Nominating	Dee Pierce (-2027)	nominatingchair@egacarolinas.org
Nominating 2	Nancy Gannon (-2028)	
Nominating 3	Katrina Lawrimore (-2029)	