



Cactus Needle

The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.

Vol. 42 No. 11

Tucson Chapter

www.tucsonega.org

December 2024

ELECTED BOARD 2025-2026

President

Janet Hintz

VP, Programs

Gretchen McGill

Secretary

Bonnie Heidler

Treasurer

Beth Avney

Region Rep

Raynelle Duhl

APPOINTED BOARD

By-laws:

Laura Cotter

Community Outreach:

Kathleen Garza

Hospitality:

Doris Fello

Membership:

Helen Salkowski

Education:

Laura Cotter

Ways/Means:

Tammy Krassy

Workshops:

Martha Hirsch

Historian:

Open

Librarian:

Suzanne Knepper

Newsletter:

Susan Willis

Newsletter Ads:

Open

Publicity:

Michelle Wood

Kathleen Magee

Saturday Meetings:

Diane Miller

Rachel Wisdom

BREAK-OUT GROUPS

BEADING:

Shawn Brown

Sharon Marchant

EGA MISSION STATEMENT

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

Dear Stitchers,

I cannot believe how quickly this year has flown by. I started the year with the goal of completing several unfinished projects and managed to successfully complete many of them. Although I have managed to start a few ones that have allowed my pile of unfinished projects to grow, it is a wonderful problem to have.

The past two years have been amazing as your chapter president. I love our members and cherish the many wonderful friendships that I have found here. I consider it a real blessing in my life to have found this group that shares my passion for needlework. While I will now longer be president of the chapter, I will still be an active member, and I look forward to watching our group continue to grow and thrive as I continue to grow in my own embroidery journey.

I wish Janet and the newly elected board members success in their endeavors to serve our chapter. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season filled with love and laughter while you create treasured memories with your family and friends.

Love, Michelle Wood



Hello to all of you! I hope that your holidays were happy and that you got all the threads, needles, linen, canvases, and other assorted goodies that you were dreaming about.

So, New Year's Day is on Wednesday and then, the very

next day, is our first EGA General Meeting of 2025. Yikes! We are looking forward to welcoming some new members and guests to start off the year.

Also, we will be doing Show & Share earlier in the meeting! So come on in about 10ish, bring your beautiful work for us to see, grab a cup of coffee and a snack, and settle in for a fun get together.

See you then!

Janet Hintz

Meetings are at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish, 5150 North Valley View Road, Tucson, 85718

- **General Meeting:** First Thursday of the month, O'Leary Hall Social gathering at 10 am; meeting at 10:30 am
- **Beading Interest Group:** Second Thursday of the month at 10 am, Classroom 6

HOSPITALITY

Doris Fello

We will have three members bringing treats in January. **Doris Fello, Diane Smith** and **Betsy Smullen** will be providing them for our nibbling pleasure.

NEWSLETTER

Susan Willis

Newsletter deadline for the January issue is January 20th.

MEMBERSHIP

Helen Salkowski

Thank you to all who have persevered through the new on-line renewal process.

Hello Stitchers,

Our first two programs in 2025 will be EGA Petite Projects. The chapter will be providing kits for both programs and RSVPs are needed to ensure we have adequate supplies.

For the Thursday, February 6th Dorset Button Project send your RSVP to casademcgill@gmail.com by Thursday, January 30th.

Additional reminders for this deadline will be sent in future emails.

In March we will hold our Second Annual Stash Spring Cleaning (also known as "The Annual Resale of Member's Excess"). Please start bringing in your excess inventory to any meeting.

Below are more details and links for our upcoming monthly program activities:

**January 2, 2025
Introduction to Crewel Embroidery
Designed by Leslie Mehard Brady**



Suzanne Knepper, our own EGA Master Craftsman in Crewel Embroidery, will be teaching the basics of using this Petite Projects from the EGA website.

Log in to the EGA national website and use this link <https://egausa.org/app/uploads/2024/08/protected-petite-project-intro-jacobean-crewel.pdf> to print or view on-line the 12-page instruction sheet.

This project is designed for confident beginners to experienced intermediates and will expose embroiderers to seven crewel embroidery stitches.

We will provide a kit with a printed copy of the design, a piece of 9"x9" tight-weave fabric and wool yarns (colors will vary from the example depending on what Suzanne can pull together from her stash).

If you would prefer the traditional linen twill, please feel free to bring your own.

You will need to provide a #22 chenille needle, a #18 or #20 tapestry needle, a 6" hoop, and your preferred method to transfer the pattern to the fabric. If you would like to duplicate the colors shown in the photo above, feel free to provide your own wool yarn. You can find the recommended Appleton yarns in the instruction sheet.

**February 6th, 2025
Dorset Buttons
Designed by Hope A. Wright**

In February, we will try our hand at Dorset Buttons, another EGA Petite Project.

The buttons originated in the early 1600's in Dorset, England and continued to provide income to local families until the industrial revolution in the mid 1800's. They were typically made from locally sourced materials such as ram's horn rings and linen thread. We will be using metal rings (sourced from Amazon) and pearl cotton thread (sourced from our member donated supplies).

These fun little trinkets are easy and fun to make and can easily be completed at our meeting. We will be providing the metal rings and pearl cotton in various colors and sizes, but feel free to bring your own if you have a particular color scheme in mind.



You can download the Petite Project instructions, after logging in to the EGA National website, <https://egausa.org/app/uploads/2023/08/protected-petite-project-dorset-buttons-2023.pdf>

**March 6th, 2025
Tucson Chapter EGA
2nd Annual Stash Spring Cleaning**



The Ways and Means Committee will be hosting our 2nd Annual Stash Spring Cleaning (also known as "The Annual Resale of Member's Excess") at our March Meeting.

More details on this opportunity to pick up other member's stuff are forthcoming.

In the meantime Tammy Krassy and crew will be collecting your excess floss, yarns, hoops, patterns, kits (never touched or in process), or any other needle type crafts supplies at any meeting. It's an opportunity to declutter your home of embroidery supplies that you no longer want or need and your unused stash will support our Tucson EGA chapter and open your home for more embroidery kits! Bring your stuff to any meeting!

See you at our January meeting.

BEADING

Sharon Marchant
Shawn Brown

Our next EGA beading group meeting will be on Thursday, January 9th, at St Thomas the Apostle Parish, 515 N Valley View Rd, Tucson, AZ, 85718, from 10 am to 2 pm. As usual, all EGA members are invited to join us, not just the ones who bead. Also, you're welcome to bring a lunch or snacks - and food pantry donations are always welcome.

In January we will be continuing our work on Sarah Toussaint's IBW Tribe Dodecahedron, which is a lovely three-dimensional ball pattern made up of 12 different beaded pentagons. We will be focusing on assembly, so please bring at least two finished pentagons to the meeting so we can get you started on assembling them.

At our December beading group there were snowflakes a-plenty. The two designs available both work up quickly, so there were several that were finished at our meeting or shortly thereafter. There is nothing like a quick project at the holidays that can be used as earrings, gift tags, a simple thank you gift, or gorgeous holiday decoration. Snowflakes are so versatile and can be on display all winter!



In progress and finished snowflakes from (clockwise from top left): Cindy Salkowski, Michelle Wood, Sharon Marchant and Shawn Brown, Deb Williams, and Alma Gholsten



More beautiful in progress and finished snowflakes from (clockwise from top left): Pam Brummit, Connie Lagergren, Joan Van Loozenoord, Mar Lor (she used glow in the dark beads!), and Linda Baca.

We hope you all have a fabulous holiday season and look forward to assembling our pentagons with you in January!

Shawn and Sharon

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Raynelle Duhl

The results of the region election are as follows:
 Vote totals for slate of officers for 2025-2027:

- Number of chapters in region: 17
- Number of chapters voting: 13
- Number of "Yes" votes: 13
- No abstentions

I officially turn over region control to the new slate of officers:

- * Region Director: Linda Geddes, SCCEGA
- * Assistant RD: Cathy Farley, Azure Verda EGA
- * Treasurer: Jan Woolsey, Threaded Needle EGA
- * Secretary: Kandy Nunn, Baldy View EGA

Regards,

Mari Bangs, Outgoing PSR RD, 2023-2024

LIBRARY DISPLAYS AROUND TUCSON

January continues the display of members' embroidery at the Sahuarita Library, 670 Sahuarita Road West, Sahuarita. You can see all of the beautiful pieces hanging on the wall, including our fabulous 10th Anniversary Banner.

February 2025 will feature members' work at the Columbus-Eckstrom Library, 4350 E 22nd Street, in a glass display case. Please bring your pieces for inclusion to the January 2025 meeting.

Thanks to all the members who secured these spaces for us and for setting up and taking down the displays!

OUTREACH

Kathleen Garza

When you question if what you are doing is outreach, keep in mind the mission statement of the organization: *To inspire passion for the needle arts through education and celebration of its heritage.*

If your activity is promoting passion for needle arts in others, educating others in needle arts or in someway celebrating the long heritage of needle arts throughout the world, then you are doing Outreach.

Please continue to keep track of the hours that you spend in reaching out to others to share the joy of stitching. Remember that any type of volunteer stitching, sewing, knitting or other needlecraft that goes to charity is counted as Outreach hours. Also, any stitching-in-public or teaching any type of needlecraft qualifies as Outreach hours. Keep in mind to mention EGA as you make donations or teach to remind people of our organization.

Saturday Stitch-ins

Thank you to Diane Miller and Rachel Wisdom who have volunteered to organize Monthly Stitch-ins held at local libraries.

Saturday, January 11, 10:30 am to 1:00 pm
Martha Cooper Library, 1377 N. Catalina Ave. Tucson, 85712

Saturday, February 8, 2025
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Martha Cooper Library, 1377 N. Catalina Ave. Tucson, 85712



Pima County Fair

It's that time to start planning for the Pima County Fair. We will be demonstrating at the fair on April 26 and 27, 2025. I will be gathering more information about field trip day to see if we want to participate on Friday April 25, 2025.

Following the January meeting program, I would like to meet with people who are interested in helping with fair prep.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Please feel free to email, call or text with any questions. Kathleen Garza, Outreach Chair.

LIBRARY

Suzanne Knepper

Please contact me to arrange borrowing books from the library. Here is the list of books available in our extensive library:

<https://cloud.collectorz.com/egalibrarytucson/books>

In addition, we have several hundred books listed on our website: www.tucsonega.org [Member Resources Library Books](#)

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

tucsonega.org
psrega.org
egausa.org
[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

stitchingjules.com
[Instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com)
antiquepatternlibrary.org
archive.org
threadabead.com
rsnstitchbank.org/stitch

Tucson EGA Chapter website
Pacific Southwestern Region website
EGA National website
EGA Stitch A Long / Facebook **Stitch A Long (SAL)** group. Region now has a Facebook page, so, look us up and like the page.
EGA Tucson- Facebook page
listing of floss tube videos (cross stitch)
#tucsonstitchers or #TucsonEGA
Antique Pattern Library
Antique and vintage book resource
Patterns for beaded objects
Royal School of Needlepoint stitch bank for reference to many stitches



OESD Stitch Trip

1 Day Lecture & Two-Day Hands-on Event!

Our embroidery expert will be your guide, as you create and embellish accessories that are perfect for taking with you on the go! These five fun travel-themed projects will delight and excite you as you learn new embroidery techniques.



Where: Down the Block / 5851 E. Speedway Blvd.

LECTURE DEMO!

When: Thursday, February 6 from 10am-4pm

Cost: Early Bird Special \$79 before Jan 15th

\$99 after Jan 15 includes continental breakfast, lunch, refreshments, and goodies!

TWO DAY EMBROIDERY EVENT!

When: Friday, February 7 & Saturday, February 8 from 9am-5pm

Cost: Early Bird Special \$129 before Jan 15th \$149 after Jan 15

includes continental breakfast, lunch, refreshments, goodies, machines and supplies for both days!

To register, call or stop by any Cathey's location.



5701 E. Speedway Blvd.
(520) 721-4000

5851 E. Speedway Blvd.
(520) 504-5858

8700 N. Oracle Rd.
(520) 797-7177

18805 I-19 S. Frontage Rd. B103
(520) 300-5002

Cathey's Store hours: Monday-Friday 9am - 6pm / Saturday 9am - 4pm / Closed Sunday

catheys.com

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Merry STITCH-mas

Just in time for "Stitch-mas" – a gift card from **The West**. Shopping done!

STORE HOURS:
Monday through Saturday
10am to 4pm

River Center @ Craycroft
5615 E. River Road, Suite 101
Tucson, Arizona 85750
www.thewestinc.com



Our vision and mission is to improve the quality of life in the Tucson area and provide grants to qualified Tucson-area non-profit organizations.

520.299.1044

February 1, 2025, Saturday - Bouquet with Nancy Cain

February 2, 2025, Sunday - Boho Chic with Nancy Cain

March 25 - 26, 2025, Tuesday - Wednesday - Batik to Stitch with Laura Smith

We have three wonderful workshops approaching! Don't miss your opportunity to ensure your seat in the workshops of your choice! We are advertising to other chapters and are already receiving non-member interest and registrations for Nancy Cain and Laura Smith. All three workshops are now open for registration from non-chapter members. Bring your checkbooks to the January meeting or mail your registrations now!

As a member of our chapter, your registration fee is subsidized. You only pay \$50 above your kit fee cost. (Aside from the chapters with which we have a reciprocal agreement, non-chapter members pay what we estimate to be the full prorated cost per student.)

Please note these important deadlines:

January General Meeting:

Balance is due for those who registered with a deposit for Laura Smith workshop. No refunds for the Laura Smith workshop after this date.

February General Meeting:

Please note: No additional registrations for the Laura Smith workshop after this date unless filling the seat of another registered attendee. We report the total number of kits required for our workshop.

Currently, all workshops have seats available. Once the workshops have filled, I will maintain a waiting list. After the deadline, if no one is on the waiting list, members must find their own replacement.

If you register for more than one workshop, please write a separate check for each one. Please do not mail cash by mail. I will accept cash payments in person at our general meetings.

As at previous workshops, we will order our lunches from Beyond Bread. I will forward the menu to attendees about two weeks ahead of the workshop. I will ask attendees to order and pay in advance. Of course, attendees may always bring their own lunches.

At no cost to us, Laura Smith has sent us a display which shows some fabrics made at the Batik to Stitch workshop. For us, she has added a Southwest gecko fabric to the back of the display. I will bring this to our next meetings for your viewing pleasure!

Here is a summary of fee information for chapter members.

Saturday, February 1 - Bouquet with Nancy Cain

Kit fee: \$145

Registration fee for chapter members: \$50

Total of kit fee and registration for chapter members: \$195

Sunday, February 2 - Boho Chic with Nancy Cain

Kit fee: \$135

Registration fee for chapter members: \$50

Total of kit fee and registration for chapter members: \$185

Tuesday-Wednesday, March 25-26 - Batik to Stitch with Laura Smith

Kit fee: \$75

Registration fee for chapter members: \$50

Total of kit fee and registration for chapter members: \$125

February 6th: No additional registrations after this date unless filling the seat of another registered attendee.

Bouquet Workshop, February 1, 2025 with Nancy Cain



Level: intermediate, Technique: peyote stitch

Boho Chic workshop, February 2, 2025 with Nancy Cain



Level: intermediate, Technique: Peyote and Netting stitches

Batik to Stitch, March 25-26, 2025 with Laura Smith

You are invited to join us for *Batik to Stitch*, a two-day class with Laura Smith on Tuesday, March 25 and Wednesday, March 26, 2025. We will meet from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm with a lunch break at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, 5150 N. Valley View Rd, Tucson, AZ. If you have questions, please contact Martha Hirsch.



Left: Batik sea turtle embellished with couching, seed stitches, and colonial knots. Notice the dark blue lines of the optional crackle background. The turtle tjak is 5 inches long and 4 inches wide.

Batik can create complex, stitchable designs with color layering on fabric. Wax is applied to fabric with a stamp called a tjak (pronounced “chop”). Several choices of images are offered—a turtle (shown), irises, dragonfly, butterfly, gecko, owl, sunflower, daylily, and small geometric design. Students can make two to four pieces. Colors are painted in layers alternating with more wax. An optional crackling technique gives a marbled effect seen as navy blue lines in the turtle design above. Safety measures are emphasized throughout the class.

Students learn the subtleties of the batik process on Day 1. On Day 2, they create stitch plans for their designs or make more batik images. Each student receives individual guidance for developing design elements and using subtle color concepts to unify the design. A shared class stash of threads, beads, tulle, and mixed media is available giving the full range of color options for embroidery and embellishment.

The Kit

Prepared for dyeing (PFD) cotton for up to five images

Paint, brushes and non-latex gloves

Hand stitching threads and needles

Students will share the waxing setups, irons, ironing boards, and a Class Treasure Chest of sequins, beads, and a variety of threads for a wide range of color options.

Students to Bring

At least a one-inch stack of clean, recycled paper grocery bags, newspaper, or newsprint paper for stamping and ironing out wax. Bring usual stitching supplies, scissors for paper and for embroidery. On the first day, we'll need two fans for the whole class for drying paint. On the second day, we'll need one iron and ironing board for every five students.

Tjaps (Chops) Available for the Class



Butterfly Tjap



Dragonfly Tjap



Irises Tjap

Other tjaps depict a sea turtle, dragonfly, square geometric design, gecko, owl, lily, and sunflower. Each student may use as many tjaps as they wish to create batik.



Teacher Bio

Laura Smith is an embroidery innovator, nationally known designer, and teacher. She holds the Master Craftsman in Color from the Embroiderers Guild of America (EGA) and has won the Carolinas Region and National Gold Thread Awards for service in 2021. She has served as chair for the Master Craftsman in Color Program from 2006 - 2018, Chairman of Fiber Forum (2011 - 2015), seven terms as president of her chapter, and has held every chapter office. She is a former Executive Director of an arts center and holds an MBA as well as an undergraduate degree in chemistry -- valuable for understanding paint, wax, and mixed media materials.

Website: www.Stitch4Fun.com

Email: 4LauraSmith@gmail.com

PLEASE WRITE A SEPARATE CHECK FOR EACH WORKSHOP!

Mail checks payable to Tucson Chapter EGA to:

Nancy Cain workshop ~ Bouquet ~ February 1, 2025

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter members pay \$195. Non-chapter members pay \$225, kit fee included.

Nancy Cain workshop ~ Boho Chic ~ February 2, 2025

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Registration fee: Chapter members pay \$185. Non-chapter members pay \$215, kit fee included.

Laura Smith workshop ~ Batik to Stitch ~ March 25-26, 2025

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter members pay \$125. Non-chapter members pay \$180. Kit fee included. Chapter members ONLY: May register with a deposit of \$65 with balance of \$60 due January 2nd.

SAVE the DATE

- January 2, 2025** Tucson Chapter EGA Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- January 3, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm
- January 9, 2025** Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- January 11, 2025** Saturday Stitch-in at the Martha Cooper Library
1377 N. Catalina Ave. Tucson, AZ 85712
10:30 am to 1:00 pm
- January 17, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm
- January 21, 2025** Evening Stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
At both the Foothills Mall and at Broadway/Rosemont
- January 31, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm
- February 1 - 28** EGA Embroidery Exhibit at the Columbus-Eckstrom Library
- February 1 - 28** EGA Embroidery Exhibit at the Sahuarita Library
- February 1, 2025** National Stitch in Public Day
at venues around the Tucson area, TBD
- February 1, 2025** Workshop, Bouquet with Nancy Cain
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
- February 2, 2025** Workshop, Boho Chic with Nancy Cain
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
- February 6, 2025** Tucson Chapter EGA Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- February 8, 2025** Saturday Stitch-in at the Martha Cooper Library
1377 N. Catalina Ave. Tucson, AZ 85712
10:30 am to 1:00 pm
- February 13, 2025** Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- February 14, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm

SAVE the DATE, continued

- February 18, 2025** Evening Stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
At both the Foothills Mall and at Broadway/Rosemont
- February 28, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm
- March 6, 2025** Tucson Chapter EGA Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- March 13, 2025** Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- March 14, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm
- March 18, 2025** Evening Stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
At both the Foothills Mall and at Broadway/Rosemont
- March 25-26, 2025** Workshop, Batik to Stitch with Laura Smith
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- March 27, 2025** Stitchers Luncheon
Ventana Canyon Lodge, Tucson
11:00 am to 2:00 pm
- March 28, 2025** Bead stitch-in, Starbucks, SE corner of Swan and Grant,
1 pm to 4 pm