



Cactus Needle

The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.

Tucson Chapter www.tucsonega.org

Vol. 43 No. 04

May 2025

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."

ELECTED BOARD 2025-2026

President

Janet Hintz

VP, Programs

Gretchen McGill

Secretary

Bonnie Heidler

Treasurer

Beth Avney

Region Rep

Raynelle Duhl

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By-laws:

Laura Cotter

Community Outreach:

Kathleen Garza

Hospitality:

Doris Fello

Membership:

Helen Salkowski

Education:

Laura Cotter

Ways/Means:

Tammy Krassy

Workshops:

OPEN

Librarian:

Suzanne Knepper

Newsletter:

Susan Willis

Newsletter Ads:

Susan Willis

Publicity:

Michelle Wood

Kathleen Magee

Beading:

Shawn Brown

Sharon Marchant

Historian:

Susan Willis



So, here it comes. Summer's heat is around the corner, and we turn to stitching with cool blues, greens, purples, and yellows.

Wait. Yellows?

Everybody needs a little bit of sunshine, right?

As you may have heard, our International Teacher for 2025 has been cancelled. National could not arrange a viable schedule for her. However, there has been a flurry of activity here in our Tucson EGA to identify local teachers who are available for two-day workshops. Is there something you have always wanted to learn? If you have ideas or are interested in jumping in to help with the ideas we already have, please contact me or Bonnie Heidler (bonnieheidler@gmail.com).

We also need ideas for Meeting Programs. You don't have to teach one, but Gretchen would love to hear your thoughts.

Meanwhile, the Program for our May 1st meeting will be all about hardanger, which is a traditional Norwegian embroidery style. Nancy Hahn and Suzanne Knepper will be teaching us introductory hardanger skills. If you are already an accomplished hardanger stitcher, you will surely be welcome to help newbies like me.

The Chapter will provide fabric and threads for the program. Participants need to bring a size 24 tapestry needle and small sharp scissors. A small hoop is optional. The deadline to sign up is Friday, April 25. So, contact Gretchen at casademcgill@gmail.com if you would like to join in so she can plan for your supplies.

Have you finished your "slow stitching" from last month? Can't wait to see what you have come up with during Show & Share at the May meeting! We are starting to wind down our year. June will be the last formal EGA Meeting until September. That doesn't mean that we won't have stitch-ins throughout the summer – I will be reminding you as they come up.

So, best wishes and safe travels to our members who are fleeing the heat for northern climates. We here in Tucson will carry on but will miss all of you. Looking forward to seeing you in person or on Zoom soon!

Janet

HOSPITALITY

Doris Fello

Maura Robinson, Michelle Wood and Cindy Miranti will bring treats for the May 1st meeting.

NEWSLETTER

Susan Willis / willissg.tega@outlook.com

The newsletter deadline for the **June** issue is **May 20, 2025**.

MEMBERSHIP

Helen Salkowski



Please welcome our newest members to EGA: Adria Rosen, Suzanne Shema and Darla Thompson. Also, welcome Marilyn Evans, a long time EGA member who just joined our Tucson Chapter as a Plural member.



May is “Membership Renewal” month for most of our chapter members. Here are some things to keep in mind...

For those of you with Tucson as your Primary Chapter: During the month that your membership expires National will email a renewal reminder to you and a link to the National website to make renewals easier.



New this year: Lifetime members will renew their Chapter and Region membership online. National will email you a reminder and a link to renew.



Plural members (those who belong to another Primary Chapter and have Tucson as their second chapter): During the month that your Tucson Chapter membership expires I will be sending you a reminder and an itemized amount due, and instructions so that you can renew directly with our Tucson Chapter.

If you have questions about renewal please contact me, and I will do my best to help you. Hope to have you all back with us for 2025/2026!

Helen



Thanks Raynelle!

At our April 3rd meeting, Raynelle Duhl demonstrated how to create a Slow Stitching piece. We had over 30 stitchers participate, and I am looking forward to seeing the completed pieces at our upcoming Show and Tells. Raynelle brought a huge stash of supplies for us, and it was fun to see the variety of ideas and approaches members took to create their pieces. Thank you, Raynelle, for contributing your time, energy to teach this fun and quick approach to stitching.

Future Programs - Help Needed

I am still in search of a program for June – if you have any ideas or skills that you are willing to share, please contact me (Gretchen McGill) at casademcgill@gmail.com. Also, Suzanne Knepper has donated several yards of Congress Cloth to our chapter. I would like to use some of it for one of our future programs (most likely in the fall). I am searching for ideas and teachers:

- ❖ Do you have an idea/project that could be used in a future program? You do not have to teach the program; we are looking for suggestions:
- ❖ Would you like to teach a Congress Cloth project to your fellow stitchers? I have project ideas and supplies.
- ❖ Do you have a program idea that does not involve Congress Cloth? I am open to anyone who wants to share their love of stitching with our chapter.

PROGRAMS - continued



Our May 1st program will be an introductory Hardanger project (shown above), taught by Nancy Hahn and Suzanne Knepper. The finished piece can be used as an ornament or coaster. Depending on interest, we are considering offering a full day Hardanger workshop in the future.

The chapter will provide fabric and threads. We are using hardanger fabric and colored pearl cotton (size 5 and 8) from our chapter's "stash" of donated materials.

Nancy and Suzanne have created instructions (4 pages) that will allow you to follow the steps needed to complete the piece. We recommend that you print out or follow these on a screen during the program. Look for them later this week in your email from Janet.

Black and white copies of the instructions will be available at no cost with ADVANCE NOTICE. Color copies are \$2 per set (our cost) and will be collected at the meeting. If you would like a printed copy (B&W or color) please let Gretchen know at casademcgill@gmail.com by Monday, April 28th. To reduce cost and paper waste, there will not be extra copies available on May 1st.

All participants will need to bring a size 22 or 24 tapestry needle and small sharp scissors. A 4" hoop is optional but recommended to keep the fabric taut.

If you have yet to signed up and would like to participate in this program, please email Gretchen at casademcgill@gmail.com by Friday, April 25.

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

stitchingjules.com

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



Thursday, July 24 & Friday, July 25
 from 9am-5pm at Cathey's Down the Block at 5851 E. Speedway Blvd.
Kimberbell's Two-Day "Merry Christmas Y'all" Pillow Sit N' Sew!
 \$149 includes machines, project kit, continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and refreshments both days!
This year's Christmas in July features Kimberbell's "Merry Christmas Y'all" pillow class on Thursday and Friday! Students will enjoy hands-on learning while creating this adorable Western themed Christmas pillow with classmates in a fun team-sewing environment.

Saturday, July 26
 from 11am-2pm at Cathey's Down the Block at 5851 E. Speedway Blvd.
Cathey's Traditional Christmas in July Extravaganza
 \$49 includes lunch, snacks, and refreshments
[\$10 will be donated to Tucson Chicks n Chaps!]

The party continues on Saturday with the traditional customer and staff challenge showcase PLUS entertainment, amazing treats, prizes, and of course a visit from Santa Claus! Anyone can attend Saturday's Extravaganza! Participation in the challenge is not required!

This year's event benefits



Tucson Chicks n Chaps is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for local families affected by breast cancer. They are also passionate about promoting the sport of rodeo and the Western lifestyle. The organization believes in empowering women to embrace their strength and define their future. They strive to make a difference in our community by providing support and resources to those in need. Visit tucsonchicksnchaps.org for more information.

REGISTER FOR ALL THREE DAYS FOR \$198
 Call or stop by any location to register!

Visit catheys.com for the customer and staff challenge information coming soon!



At Kimberbell's two-day machine embroidery event, you'll receive the Attendee Project Kit to make this adorable Western Christmas pillow!

Cathey's
SEWING & VACUUM

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

WAYS AND MEANS

Tammy Krassy

The EGA/ANG Luncheon was a great success! The Opportunity Baskets were impressive and there were many happy recipients. I want to shout out to all our terrific members and their friends who contributed such fabulous items to make those baskets so spectacular and to all the volunteers who helped put them together so beautifully.



Whenever you feel the urge to stash thin, we are always happy to accept your contributions for future major events like the luncheon and our regular meeting opportunity basket. Contributions also allow us to provide free materials for programs and to encourage and support new stitchers to try the craft.

TREASURER

Beth Avney

Thanks to our elegant, delicious and informative Tucson EGA/ANG Luncheon on March 27th, we finished “in the black” netting almost \$570 for our chapter. In comparison, two years ago we didn’t make a profit at all.



Thank you to the members of the Luncheon Committee and in particular to the Ways & Means Committee - our beautiful baskets and lovely Silent Auction items made the day a prosperous one!

Thank you,

🍷 Beth

BEADING

Sharon Marchant
Shawn Brown

Our April beading meeting was all about CRAW. We learned several different methods of doing this stitch and a lot about the geometry of a cube. Nine intrepid beaders took on the challenge of learning this stitch that has a reputation for being difficult to learn. We are happy to report that all nine beaders successfully beaded in CRAW. As always, we are here to help anyone that got home and found they didn't have it mastered quite as well as they thought or for anyone who missed out and would still like to learn. Check out the photos of all the beautifully colorful CRAW rope!



Great attendance at our April bead meeting!

Our intrepid members that took on the challenge of learning CRAW:

Connie Lagergren, Michelle Wood, Kathleen Garza, Rachel Wisdom, Raynelle Duhl, Cindy Miranti, Kathy Paul, and Kathleen Magee, Sarellen Loomis

Samples of the resulting CRAW.



CRAW stitch troubleshooting and more terrific samples from our members.



An advanced CRAW project (in-work) from Sharon Marchant



BEADING - continued -

Our next EGA beading group meeting will be on Thursday, May 8th, 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 lunch or snacks - and food pantry donations are always welcome.

In May we will be building upon our knowledge of Right Angle Weave (RAW) that we learned in February by doing a RAW bezel around a Rivoli or Cabochon. If you weren't at February's meeting, you can still do the May project.

Since we typically bead longer, more independent projects over the summer to accommodate summer travelers, the plan is to learn how to do a RAW bezel in May and then use the summer to bead a Cubic Right Angle Weave (CRAW) rope (using the CRAW technique we learned in April) and a beaded toggle clasp (further building on our CRAW skills) to go with our bezeled item(s) to create a necklace. Individual help will be available to help you make a beaded bail to attach your bezeled item(s) to the CRAW rope at the end of the summer or as our first program in the fall (depending on how far we get over the summer). Even if you can't be there for all of the summer meetings, you can still work on this project if you are interested – we can provide help at any stitch-in that you can attend.

Supplies needed for the May meeting will be a small amount of coordinating size 11/o seed beads, 15/o seed beads, and 11/o Delica beads, as well as something to bezel around. For this program, you can bezel around anything small and either round or oval. Examples would be a Rivoli (a sparkly crystal in sizes 12mm and up), a cabochon (gemstone, glass, or polymer clay), or even the flat-backed glass "rocks" used to keep your flowers upright in a vase. If you have questions about any of the supplies, contact Shawn or Sharon before the meeting. Sharon will be providing for purchase both a small assortment of 16mm Rivolis and the sizes of beads required for the RAW bezel technique. Unless the item you are bezeling is quite large, you will only need a very small quantity of beads of each size to do the bezel. However, if you choose to use the same beads to build your CRAW rope and toggle clasp over the summer, you will then need more beads. Looking forward to building more skills with you all next month,

Shawn and Sharon

Stitch in Public: A variety of stitch in public gatherings occur throughout the month. Please come out and join with other stitchers to enjoy good company and get some stitching done in a social environment.

2nd Saturday: Saturday get together meet from 10:00am to 2:00pm at public libraries. It is a great opportunity for all members to gather to stitch in public. Its timing, the weekend after the meeting, provides a great opportunity for those who can't make the general meeting to catch up on chapter activities with those who have attended the meeting. See the Save the Date tab at the EGA website ([www.https://tucsonega.org](https://tucsonega.org)). Select Meetings and Workshops for location.

3rd Tuesday: This evening gathering meets from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm and is held at two Barnes & Noble locations: Broadway and Rosemont and Foothills Mall. A great opportunity for all members (especially those who work or have other daytime commitments) to come out for some social stitching time.

Every other Friday: This afternoon gathering meets from 1:00pm – 4:00 pm and is held at the Starbucks at 4702 E Grant Road, the Southeast corner of Grant and Swan. Originally a beading group that was not affiliated with our chapter, they welcomed all members to come out for a social afternoon of stitching fun. Check the Save the Date tab on the website for dates, or if you know someone who works at Raytheon we meet when they work or count every other from the next meeting on May 9, 2025

NEEDLEWORK • CLASSES • GIFTS • CARDS • TOYS

It's COOL to Stitch When It's HOT

The heat is on, so stay cool with your next needlework project!
The West has everything you need to "keep your cool".

STORE HOURS: Monday through Saturday 10am to 4pm	River Center @ Craycroft 5615 E. River Road, Suite 101 Tucson, Arizona 85750 www.thewestinc.com
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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.

the West INC

520.299.1044

SEMINAR 2027

EGA Seminar 2027

September 15-19, 2027



Seminar 2027 hosted by PSR at Lowes Ventana Canyon, Tucson.

If you're interested in volunteering, opportunities will be available for committee chairs soon.

Suggestions for teachers are also welcome, especially local (regional) teachers for mini-classes Tuesday evening.

Watch for information on a member challenge to craft the theme for the seminar!

For more information or to get involved, please reach out to Pam Brummit at e-mail: brummit75@gmail.com.

Let's make this event a success together!

Thanks,
Pam Brummit
2027 Seminar Chair

SAVE THE DATE - 2025
May to mid-August

- May 1** Tucson Chapter EGA Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- May 8** Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- May 9** Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- May 10** Saturday stitch-in at Martha Cooper Library
1377 N. Catalina Ave., Tucson AZ 85712
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- May 20** Evening stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
At both Foothills Mall and Broadway/Rosemont
- May 23** Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 PM

- June 5** Tucson Chapter EGA Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- June 6** Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- June 12** Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- June 14** Saturday stitch-in Martha Cooper Library
1377 N. Catalina Ave., Tucson, AZ 85712
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- June 17** Evening stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
At both Foothills Mall and Broadway/Rosemont
- June 20** Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- July 3** **Stitch-in only. Chapter meeting and programs on summer hiatus.**
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- July 10** Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- July 12** Saturday stitch-in location to be confirmed
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- July 15** Evening stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
At both Foothills Mall and Broadway/Rosemont

July 18

Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

August 7

**Stitch-in only. Chapter meeting and programs
on summer hiatus.**
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

August 9

Saturday stitch-in Location to be confirmed
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

August 14

Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am – 2:00 pm