

Cactus Needle

The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.

Tucson Chapter

www.tucsonega.org

Vol. 44 No. 02

FEBRUARY 2026

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

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Bonnie Heidler

VP, Programs

Gretchen McGill

Secretary

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Hospitality:

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Workshops:

Maura Robinson

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Newsletter:

Susan Willis

Seminar 2027

Pam Brummit

Publicity:

Beth Mayo

Beading:

Shawn Brown

Sharon Marchant

Historian:

Loni Campbell

Hello Fellow Stitchers and Beaders.

Well, the first month of the year is over. We started out with a huge turnout at our January meeting even though it was on a different day! There were 49 beaders and stitchers at the meeting. And we have two new members. Welcome Carol Mason and Colette Gorcica. If you are at February's meeting, please go up and say hi to them.

Speaking of new members, we have close to 100 members. If anyone has a friend who is a beader or stitcher, please invite them to a meeting. This year we have lots of great activities and I'm hoping we can reach 100 by the end of the year. It is a lofty goal because we do have attrition, but I feel confident we can make it. We have welcomed several new members recently, so let's hope the trend continues.

February is the start of our programs and workshops. At our February meeting, Hannah Rosner, who does incredible beadwork and embroidery work using beads, will be coming to Tucson to teach three workshops. The festivities start at our February 5th meeting. Hannah will be doing a presentation about Tambour work. There will also be a trunk show. After the meeting, Hannah will teach the first of the three workshops...Royal Ruffle. This is a beaded bracelet. Then on Friday, the Tambour Beaded Iris Pendant/Brooch workshop happens, followed by Saturday's 3D Goldwork and Beadwork Orchid Pendant/Brooch. All the workshops will be at St. Thomas where we meet.

Because the beaded bracelet workshop is being offered right after the General Meeting, and we must be out of O'Leary Hall no later than 3:30 PM, we will have a shortened business meeting. We also will start the business meeting a little earlier than usual at **10:15 AM sharp**. And, we won't have Show and Share this month. Bring whatever you were going to bring to the February meeting to the March meeting, as well as whatever you would be bringing to the March meeting.

There is also one other thing going on in Tucson in February...the Gem and Jewelry Show. For those who stitch, you will find cool things to add to your pieces. For those who bead, it will be a candy store of goodies for you. Hope to see you there.

I look forward to seeing you all in February. It should be an exciting year for the EGA Tucson Chapter!

Bonnie

HOSPITALITY

Doris Fello

Refreshments for the February 5, 2026, meeting will be provided by:

Loni Campbell, Phillis Scott and Sheila Ronstadt

Doris

MEMBERSHIP

Helen Salkowski



We have five new members this month!

Let's welcome Claudia Troncoso, Carol Mason, Colette Gorcica, Lucille Hurley, and Katrina Duran.

When you see a new face at our meeting, please stop and say hello, and remember to wear a nametag. 😊

Helen

PUBLICITY

Beth Mayo



As in recent years, we once again have the opportunity to exhibit our gorgeous stitching at Irina's library, the Sahuarita branch. Be thinking about which pieces you would like to display.

Irina and I will collect your work at the April General Meeting (4/2) and they will be hanging in the library from May 2nd until June 27th.

Beth



Please be sure to vote for the changes to the EGA National Bylaws by January 31st. You should have received the link from National directly. You will need your EGA membership number to vote.

Thank you,

Raynelle
Region rep

PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY PROGRAM ***Tambour Embroidery - Hannah Rosner***



Hannah Rosner, a nationally recognized beader and embroider, will be presenting our February program. We will be exploring the rich history of Tambour Embroidery, also called Luneville or Arie, and watching a little video demo.

Stick around for her trunk show and you can also join her for one (or more) of three workshops that she is teaching on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Check out the Workshop portion of this newsletter for more information on these opportunities to expand your skills. No need to RSVP is needed for the Tambour program.

The above piece was Hannah's tambour entry to TOHO challenge.

MARCH PROGRAM (rescheduled from January)

Much appreciation to the Board and members for working around my last-minute cancellation of the January program. Thankfully my husband has a diagnosis/treatment plan, and he is on the mend. Thanks to all who sent me notes of concern. I really appreciated it.

The January presentation has been moved to March, and the other Spring programs will shift out for a month. (thanks to Shawn, Sharon, Beth, Cindy, Melody and Heather for being so accommodating).

Uncovering the Treasures of EGA's Website - Classes and Projects, and Blogs, Oh My!



Do you know what a GCC or a Lightning Round is? Or the difference between a Virtual Class and an Online Studio Class? Are you familiar with EGA's forums, special interest groups and free projects web pages?

Our membership in EGA offers us a wealth of resources to expand our stitching knowledge and skills, but navigating the website can be challenging.

At our March meeting, Gretchen McGill will be sharing tips and techniques to help you take advantage of the many opportunities offered on the EGA website. No supplies or RSVP needed.

APRIL PROGRAM

Beaded Medallions using Brick Stitch - Sharon Marchant & Shawn Brown



EGA recently added a new series of free projects under the heading “Outside the Hoop.” The series focuses on entry-level projects that utilize techniques familiar to stitchers, but without a hoop. The first project in this series is the Colorful Beaded Medallions designed by Lisa Yang, author of “Wire Wrap Jewelry Making for Beginners.”

Our beading group leaders, Shawn and Sharon, will be teaching this project for our April program. This project uses the beginner friendly beading technique called Brick Stitch to create a round medallions, perfect for jewelry. If you’ve wanted to try your hand at beading, this will be a great way to try it.

RSVPs will be collected in March.

FUTURE PROGRAMS – Stay tuned for more details

MAY - Blackwork - Cindy Minati and Beth Mayo

Our June 2025 Survey indicated that over 50% of respondents were interested in learning Blackwork. In April Cindy and Beth will teach attendees basic Blackwork techniques while we create a bookmark.

JUNE – Wool Applique - The Woolie Group

Wool Applique was another technique respondents were interested in learning. Heather and Melody will teach us Wool Applique as we complete a project in June.

Please contact me to arrange to borrow 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

<https://psrega.org>

egausa.org

facebook.com

(SAL)

us up

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**

group. Region now has a Facebook page, so, look and like the page. **EGA Tucson-** Facebook page

listing of floss tube videos (cross stitch)

#tucsonstitchers or #TucsonEGA

Antique Pattern Library

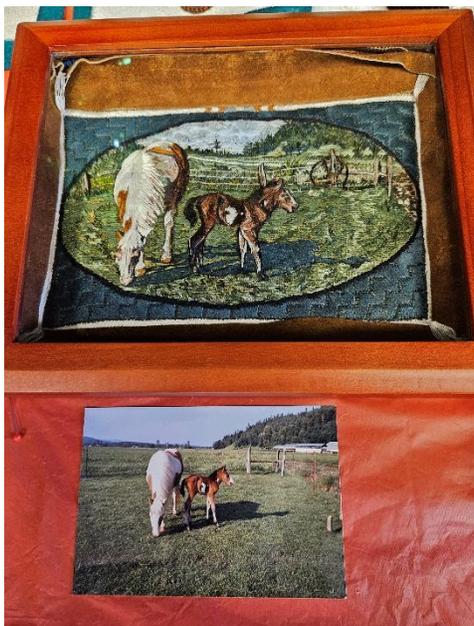
Antique and vintage book resource

Patterns for beaded objects

Royal School of Needlepoint stitch bank for reference to

many stitches

SOCIAL MEDIA



A very talented member artist took an old picture and painstakingly recreated it in embroidery.

Top is embroidery.

Bottom is original photo.



BEADING

Happy New Year! At our January Beading Meeting we learned the beautiful, versatile, and simple tubular chenille stitch. We worked on a Chenille Bracelet by Carole Cowie and lots of progress was made. I expect we will see several finished bracelets at upcoming show and share sessions.



Chenille Bracelet beadwork by
Kathleen Garza,
Joanna Mann, Collette Gorcica, Deb Williams,
Marian Hill, and Bonnie Heidler



More chenille bracelet beadwork by Pam
Brummit,
Helen Salkowski, Rachel Wisdom, Denise Kelly,
and Sharon Marchant.

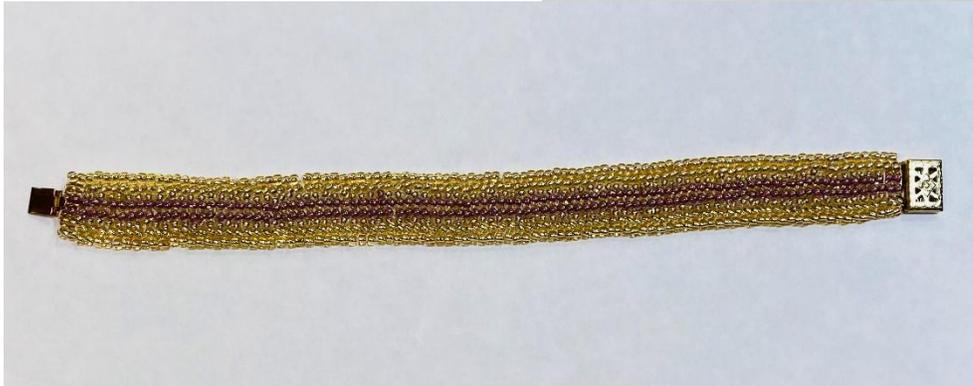
Our next EGA beading group meeting is on Thursday, February 12th from 10 am to 2 pm at St Thomas the Apostle Parish, 515 N Valley View Rd, Tucson, AZ, 85718. As usual, all EGA members are invited to join us, not just the ones who bead. **Please don't forget to bring your food pantry donations.**

For the next three months we will be learning different types of Herringbone stitch – flat herringbone, tubular herringbone, and structural herringbone. In February we will start with flat herringbone stitch by making a bracelet designed by our very own Sharon Marchant.

NOTE: The pattern will be emailed to all members before the beading meeting.

Our beading project for February:

Flat Herringbone Bracelet
by Sharon Marchant



To make the flat herringbone bracelet, you will need the following materials

(Sharon will bring supplies for purchase):

- Size 11 seed beads- Color A, 6 grams
- Size 11 seed beads-Color B, 4 grams
- Size 15 seed beads-accent color, 3 grams
- Beading needle and thread (does not have to be Fireline)
- Clasp or button closure

Between the Hannah Rosner classes, the gem show being in town, and this beautiful bracelet, February is going to be a fabulously beady month! See you in class,
Shawn and Sharon

Shawn and Sharon

EDUCATION

NEW VIRTUAL EDUCATION COURSE: Online zoom in real time gold work embroidery course.



Registration Dates: Jan. 12, 2026, 9 a.m. Eastern to March 13, 2026, 9 a.m. Eastern

Class Dates: April 25 and 26, 2026

This Virtual Education Course will take place on Zoom on Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26, 2026. Both days start at 11:30 a.m. Eastern and end at 6:30 p.m. Eastern (8:30-3:30 AZ)

Skill Level: Intermediate

Cost: Class registration is \$90 plus the kit fee of \$45 plus postage, which includes hard-copy instructions. Postage is \$10 for the US. \$145 total. There will be no refunds for cancellations.

NEW ONLINE COURSE: Video presentations but not live. Can watch anytime.



Students will learn the embroidery stitches that enhance the front of this linen-covered box. Also included are the essential instructions for making the box, including how to stitch the box together and even an optional decorative edge. [Learn more.](#)

Registration: February 4 - March 4, 2026

Class schedule: May 6 - June 3, 2026

LIGHTENING ROUNDS: Register by end of February!

REMINDER: We will do the dragon surface embroidery project (Uncommon Stitches) as a GCC in Fall 2026. Registration will open in April.



[Keeping in Shape with Gwen Nelson](#), [Mark and Paint on Canvas and Fabric with Laura Smith](#), [Perfectly Counted Crosses with Carolyn Standing Webb](#), [Pulled Stitches Clover with Jane Ellen Balzuweit](#) and [Uncommon Stitches with Melinda Sherbring](#).

Cindy

Workshops



The chapter will host Hannah Rosner February 5, 6, and 7, 2026. Space is available for last minute signups. Please contact Maura Robinson at 571-266-2558 for more information.

Coming attractions:

Terri Bay will offer two Hardanger workshops in November 2026. Stay tuned for more information in late Spring.

OUTREACH

2nd Saturday: Saturday get together meets from 10:00am to 2:00pm at public libraries. 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.

3rd Tuesday: This evening gathering meets from 5:30pm to 7:30pm 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 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. Join us for a social afternoon of stitching fun. All beading and needleworkers are welcome.

St. Thomas the Apostle Carnivale - Sunday February 1st

We will be supplying volunteers to the “social activities” table at the Carnivale. As a volunteer you will talk to people about social activities at the Church as well as inviting church members to join us at EGA. There will be brochures to give out.

I sent an email to those who signed up at the January meeting to volunteer on this day. I'm looking for 2 volunteers per shift. Shift 3 is already taken. If you would like volunteer for one of the shifts, [email](#) me, Kathleen.

SHIFT 1: 8:15-9:15 a.m.

SHIFT 2: 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

SHIFT 3: 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

National Stitch in Public Day - February 7th, 2026

This year we will meet at Mercado San Augustin to stitch in public from 10am to 1pm. It is located at 100 S. Avenida del Convento, Tucson, AZ 85745. They have a beautiful open patio area where we can sit and stitch. You can order from the coffee shop or from other restaurants if you are hungry.

So, everyone who is not already busy on National Stitch in Public day, either with the Hannah Rosner workshops or the Gem Show, come and share your passion for needlework with the public.

Pima County Fair 2026

Volunteers

The Pima County Fair is our biggest Outreach event each year. It is great fun to talk to the public and share our passion for Needlework. As always, our booth will have small kits to use for teaching and a give-a-way. Remember, all volunteers receive a [free](#) ticket to the fair and [free](#) parking.

We still need volunteers to cover the shifts at the Fair

April 18 & 19 and April 25 & 26.

Shifts are from 10:30am - 2pm and 1:30pm - 5:30pm

[Email](#) me, Kathleen, if you can volunteer.

Enter Your Work at the Fair

Everyone should have received an email with the information about applying to enter items for exhibition at the Fair.

To enter items:

Go to the Pima County Fair [web page](#). Then, hover over **Fair** on the brown menu bar at the top of the page. On the drop down menu, click on **Competitive Entries**. Open the **2026 Home Arts Application** or **2026 Fine Arts Application** from the list.

From this website you can fill in the submission forms. Keep in mind there is a modest fee (\$2-4) for entry

If you have questions, please [email](#) Cindy Miranti as entered things last year and knows what to do.

TUCSON EGA NEWSLETTER SUPPORTERS

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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

NEEDLEWORK • CLASSES • GIFTS • CARDS • TOYS



Classes in March, Sign Up Now!

Back by popular demand, "The Accidental Hat"! This adorable javelina will be the featured canvas for a series of classes in March 2006, led by Eileen Aird. Eileen received Honorary Mention for this project at the 2025 ANG exhibit. Classes filled up fast last time, so call today to get more details and put your name on the list for "The Accidental Hat"!

STORE HOURS:
Monday through Saturday
10am to 4pm

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

the West
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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.

520.299.1044

SAVE THE DATE
February thru March- 2026

- February 05 Tucson Chapter EGA Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, O'Leary Hall
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- February 06 Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- February 12 Tucson Chapter EGA Beading Meeting
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Classroom 6
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- February 13 Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- February 14 Saturday stitch-in at Martha Cooper Library
1377 N. Catalina Ave., Tucson, AZ 85712
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- February 17 Evening stitch-in, The Café at Barnes & Noble
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
At both Foothills Mall and
Broadway/Rosemont
- February 20 Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- February 27 Bead & Needlework stitch-in, Starbucks
SE corner of Swan and Grant
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

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