



Needlenews



Marin Golden Threads
Marin County, CA

Greater Pacific Region
Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc

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Board Members

President

Karen Nadeau
karen.nadeau@comcast.net

1st Vice President -

Workshop/Education

Kathryn Beebe
kathryn.beebe.jx7j@statefarm.com

2nd Vice President - Program

Andria Knapp
andriak@earthlink.net
Laurel Knapp
mtnlaureldesign@msn.com

Secretary

Lori Love
ljlwilmunder@yahoo.com

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cwhoggan@comcast.net

Regional Rep

Sandi Deckinger
sandiugust@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor & Webmistress

Gauri Tandavan
tandavan@earthlink.net

Membership

Susie Kelly –
susiekelly@sbcglobal.net
Andrina Ruzick
adruzick@verizon.net

Hospitality

Katie Woolard
winter_13@rocketmail.com

Sunshine

Julie Oyle
julie.oyle@marin.edu

Historian

Open

President's Message

I hope you're finding life is back to normal after all the holidays. I've actually found some time to complete a few stash projects. I'm trying to use my older patterns and books before increasing my collection. Since I go to Needle in a Haystack for a 2010 meeting once a month, that's a real challenge!

I stitched the February crewel project ahead of time. One of the aspects of it was to trace the pattern onto the fabric. The instructions recommended a mechanical pencil, which I used. It turned out great, and the markings were pretty much gone by the time I finished stitching. Genius that I am, I discovered another pattern I had that used the same technique. The difference being the crewel was done on twill and my new piece on regular old linen. A mechanical pencil didn't trace at all. Genius that I am, I decided to use a regular #2 pencil. It traced all right! And when I started using white perle cotton the lead transferred itself onto my beautiful white thread. Instead of snowy white, it looked like slushy gray. Again, genius that I am, I decided to rinse it in Oxyclean -- after all the times I heard that guy on TV yelling at me he must know something. It actually worked, my thread was snowy white and all the pencil markings disappeared. There were only 2 colors in the piece, and the green didn't fade. Phew, was I relieved!

We've got a lot of interesting and challenging ideas in front of us this year. I'm excited about all of them. I am so grateful that you come up with these ideas and then we see them through. It would be wonderful if Andria's outreach for Haitian earthquake victims can become a reality. Julianne is stepping in marvelously to fill Billi's shoes as our Coast Guard Spouses liaison. I think we're going to see that relationship become permanent and beneficial to both groups. The fundraising plans for this year will be a great opportunity for our chapter to make money and learn some new skills and have some interesting programs.

One of the things being discussed by the 2010 National Seminar committee is having a memorial wall. The intent is to put up an extremely simple display (sheet over a rod?) and allow attendees to post something about stitchers we've lost over the years. The posting can be as simple as a post-it. In the 5+ years I've been a member, we've lost a couple of lovely ladies. Wouldn't it be nice to remember them at Seminar? If you've got any ideas of a format to display all of the MGT memories, or would like to offer names, or share some memories, please get in touch with me. In the big scheme of things, I'm still a relatively new member; so I'm not great on coming up with the names.

I was thinking the other day - if a woman's work is never done, why bother starting?

Love, Karen

Calendar

- March 27** **9:00 a.m.** -- Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. -- General Meeting
 Global Technique
- April 24** **9:00 a.m.** -- Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. -- General Meeting
 Global Technique
- May 22** **9:00 a.m.** -- Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. -- General Meeting
 Work party for Seminar 2010
- June 26** **No Meeting – Fair Setup**



Happy March Birthday to:

Kim Davis
 Gauri Tandavan
 Anna Walsh

Happy April Birthday to:

Julie Gardin

Have a great birthday everyone!

Julie Oyle, Sunshine Office

Hospitality



- March 27th: Marianne Vollenweider and
 Susie Kelly
- April 24th: Ruth Cardin and Mary Seaver
- Mary 22nd: Lori Love and
 Julianne Mibach



March Meeting Global Sampler

The Marin County Fair theme this year is *Going Global*. In conjunction with that theme, our March program will encompass international needlework techniques with the goal of our members having an international project to enter into the fair. Laurel has been busy charting and stitching a sampler to teach. So far, there are Bargello, Blackwork, Kogin and Punto Antico stitches. I'll be adding Hardanger, Swedish Weaving, Sashiko and Assisi along with some other cool stitches I've found.

April Meeting Punto Antico Biscornu



We'll be working on a biscornu using Punto Antico which is a classic Italian embroidery technique. This should be a fun technique to learn.

May Meeting Work Party

I've spent the last couple of weeks collecting the supplies we'll need to make items to sell at Seminar 2010 this September. I think we have some great ideas. We'll spend the morning putting them all together.

June No Meeting – Fair Setup

July Meeting Annual Picnic at Fran Thorsson's House

Our annual picnic will again be held at Fran Thorsson's house in her wonderful garden.

Arrive between 11:00 and 11:30 and lunch will be at around noon. Bring an entree, salad, fruit, beverage or dessert to share.

Fran's address is 2311 Novato Blvd. From Hwy 101, take the Atherton Ave/San Marin exit and head west. After you pass San Marin High School, turn left onto Novato Blvd. Fran's house is about 1 block down on the right. There is an open area to park in front.

If you have never been to Fran's you will be amazed at her lovely garden. If the weather is warm, the garden will be shaded and cool. If the weather is cool, bring a jacket. Fran has hosted our picnic for many years and we thank her once again for her hospitality.

Scissor update from the February Program

Cheri has a sample of the 10" and 9" Kai scissors that Sandie, the finishing teacher, recommended at the February program. Members may try them. We have gotten a price reduction:

10" regularly \$69.00 we get 59.75 when we purchase 1-10 or 56.50 purchase of 11 or more.

9" regularly 64.99 we get 56.50 when we purchase 1-10 or 53.25 with purchase of 11 or more.

Please contact Cheri Hogan if you are interested.

Membership News

All memberships have been through May 2010!!

Marin County Fair 2010: Going Global

Your Fair Coordinators would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who donated so generously to the "Stitching Angel" awards. We collected over \$275 for this effort, so will have some wonderful cash awards in a variety of categories.

Report from GPR Meeting



The educational meeting was held the first Saturday in February. There were discussions about retaining members and welcoming new members. Suggestions included spot-lighting one or two members a month in the newsletter to increase awareness of everyone's skills; and, designating a "greeter" to at each meeting.

Group correspondence can be "free" if done through region, and remember, one can apply for a scholarship for a class or meeting through Region and National. Check the magazine and website for more information.

The June meeting will be a Teacher's Show Case and member Show and Tell. More information will be available.

Each guild has been asked to supply Cd's covered with needlework for the National Convention in September. Please bring partially completed projects, or small completed projects to the meeting. I will mount them on the CD's and bring to the Region Meeting in June.

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**Marin Golden Threads
663 Old Quarry Rd N.
Larkspur, CA 94939**

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The Chapter Goals are:

To educate and promote the highest standards of technique and design in needlework;

To encourage interest, enjoyment, and creativity in doing all forms of fancywork or handwork;

To promote cooperation and interchange of ideas among those who are engaged in or interested in needlework in all parts of the world.

Membership is open to everyone who is interested in and/or who enjoys any of the textile arts. Dues are \$48.00 per year for regular members and \$11.00 per year for plural members (in Region). Members are not only invited to attend chapter meetings, but are entitled to attend Guild-sponsored workshops at a minimum fee. Guests are invited to attend one meeting. Further attendance requires either regular or plural membership. Our library is available to members for their use. Guild members receive *Needle Arts*, a quarterly national publication of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc., as well as the bi-monthly newsletter, NEEDLENEWS.

Meetings: **Regular monthly meetings are held at Valley Baptist Church, San Rafael, on the fourth Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. unless noted in the Calendar.**

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Gauri Tandavan, Editor