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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.

From the Mountains to the Sea ...

## From the Region Director

Our lives have certainly changed since our last issue of *RegioNews*. I hope this one finds all of you doing well and staying healthy. It may have been difficult to adjust to our "new normal," but I hope that you have been able to accomplish some tasks that have made you happy and that you have been able to find peace and comfort, as I have, in stitching.

As you probably know by now, the pandemic has caused many changes in the anticipated scheduling of EGA events all over the country. EGA National has postponed the National Seminar that was scheduled to be held this fall, with its new date still unknown at this point. If you had previously registered for that event, you should have heard from the

National Seminar Registrar about what to do.

Closer to home, the members of your Executive Committee have been work-

ing hard on your behalf. They have decided to postpone the Carolinas Region's Spring Seminar which had been scheduled for this May 2020. The new plan is to hold it at the same venue (the Village Inn in Clemmons, NC) on May 21 - 23, 2021. All three teachers have agreed to teach the same classes offered for this year. Once we have the revised contract from the Village Inn in hand, we will contact each prior registrant to explain your options. We will also re-open registration later this fall.

We are currently working out the plans for holding our Board of Directors meeting this spring. Given the current situation, we will hold that meeting either by phone or electronically. We have several important issues to vote on. As soon as we have worked out the

*(RD REPORT, Continued on page 8)*

### We Need You!

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**You can help Carolinas Region thrive now and in the future.**

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### CALENDAR

#### 2020

**May 22-24** — *Crossing the Carolinas, CAR Seminar*, Clemmons, NC  
*postponed to 2021*

**May/June (TBD)** — *CAR Board of Directors Meeting*, online or by phone.

**Oct 2-4** — *CAR Fall Retreat and Region meeting*, Rock Hill, SC (still in the plans)

#### 2021

**May 21-23** — *Crossing the Carolinas, CAR Seminar*, Clemmons, NC

**Sep 1-5** — *The Magnificent Stitch, EGA Seminar*, Chicago, IL

**Fall** — *CAR Fall Retreat and Region Meeting*, TBD

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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**Historian**

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**RegioNews**

(See Website Coordinator)

**Nominating Committee**

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Vacant ( - 2022)

EGA Chapter Reporting Requirements		
<i>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.</i>		
WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Minutes of board and general meetings (unless included in the chapter's newsletter)	Within the month	Region Director
Membership roster	At the same time you send membership info to National Office	Region Director; CAR Newsletter Editor
National dues and membership information	Renewals no later than May 31 annually. New members immediately upon joining	National Office
Region dues and membership information	Same time as sent to National	Region Treasurer
Chapter newsletters	When sent to members	Region Director; Assistant Region Director; Editor, RegioNews; Region Outreach Chair
EGA Chapter Officer Change List (EGA Form)	Within 2 weeks of election	Region Secretary; Region Director
Education questions/information	As needed	Region Education Coordinator
Annual chapter report	By December 15	Region Director
Annual financial report	By February 15	Region Director; EGA Headquarters

**RegioNews**

The Carolinas Region, EGA, publishes *RegioNews* quarterly. Standard practice is to distribute it to all chapter members in the Carolinas Region via email.

Chapter newsletter editors: Remember to share this newsletter with your members who do not receive email.

Advertising is accepted for 1-year (4 issues) intervals at \$10/year. Contact editor Cathie Barker for details. There is no cost for emailed

newsletters. Subscriptions are available for \$6/year for four printed issues. Send requests to the *RegioNews* editor Cathie Barker and checks, payable to Carolinas Region EGA, to Elizabeth Little, treasurer of Carolinas Region.

Reprint information: All EGA chapters have permission to reprint any material found herein except items that are marked with a copyright notice.

**Financial Reminders**

**Reminder:**  
CAR follows the same prorated dues schedule as is in place for national EGA, as follows:

Prorated Dues Schedule	
If Joining:	Region dues are:
April 1 - June 30	\$4.00 (100%)
July 1 - September 30	\$3.00 (75%)
October 1 - December 31	\$2.00 (50%)
January 1 - March 31	\$1.00 (25%)

# Nominating Committee

## Volunteers needed!

The Nominating Committee for the Carolinas Region consists of three very important volunteers. It is their job to seek out nominees for the officer positions so that a slate can be presented to the members. Keep in mind that the current officers are already almost a year into their three-year term, so it is important for the members of the Nominating Committee to start getting to know the members in order to understand who might be suitable candidates for each position.

Each member of the committee serves for three years, with one member rotating off each year. Last fall, Julia Tison

finished her term but, unfortunately, no one has volunteered to take her place. In a few months, Sallie Folk will also have to rotate off.

In order for this Region to operate at its desirable level, we need to fill both of those Nominating Committee positions. If you are someone who likes meeting new people and helping the Region succeed, please contact a current member of the Nominating Member (either Sallie Folk or Amanda Pelon) or the Region Director (Carole Overton). You will find our contact information in this newsletter.

**We need your help! ■**

### ELECTED OFFICERS

#### **Region Director**

Carole Overton  
319 Deep Run Road  
Aiken, SC 29803  
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sjocdo1@gmail.com  
(Aiken)

#### **Assistant Region Director**

(Vacant)

#### **Treasurer**

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#### **Secretary**

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#### **Education Coordinator**

Janice Wright  
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(Piedmont)



Boston Stitch Party is being rescheduled. Please check the EGA website at <https://egausa.org/event/boston-stitch-party-2020-seminar/> for updated information.

## Ideas from National

**EGA National** has compiled a long list of projects to keep you occupied during this stay-at-home period. Rand Duren, the Electronic Media Coordinator, writes the following:

"I created a blog post compiling a large number of our educational opportunities including free projects, stitch-a-longs, Embroidery Videos, Outreach Projects, Online Classes and more. This post is mainly to provide members and other stitchers with something to do while stuck at home and at the same time to promote EGA. Let me know if you have any questions!"

Follow this link to find a wealth of projects to try:  
<https://egausa.org/stay-in-and-stitch/>

### Volunteers

#### **Are our greatest assets!**

We have crucial positions that need to be filled to keep Carolinas Region a vital part of our lives.

Please don't sit back hoping someone else will step up or assume you are not "qualified."

**Every little bit helps!**

# ARDPosition

## Assistant Region Director: A New Plan!

One of the most important officers in the Carolinas Region is the Assistant Region Director (ARD). This person shadows the Region Director (RD) in order to learn how to take over as RD at the end of the 3-year term and to be able to act in place of the RD should that person be unable to conduct business. As it stands right now, the ARD in the Carolinas Region is also tasked with overseeing the development and

execution of the yearly seminars. With so much being expected, it is not surprising that that position has been empty since our elections in the Fall of 2019. It is critical that we fill this position so that the ARD has time to learn what needs to be done before becoming the RD in the fall of 2022.

After much discussion among the members of the Executive Committee

(EC) and comments from the members of the Region, the EC has decided that it was time to revise the job description in order to attract volunteers to take on the role of ARD.

To that end, the EC will make some recommendations at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting that will need to be voted on at that time. Although these recommendations will be formally presented when the agenda for that meeting is distributed to the members, we would like to summarize the plan here:

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### ASSISTANT REGION DIRECTOR:

Under this new plan, the ARD will continue to shadow the RD to learn the role. This will include serving on the Executive Committee, learning about the Region, keeping informed about Region and chapter activities, and serving as the assistant to the RD. The ARD will be copied on all communications from the RD so that she/he may be kept informed of all situations. This will allow the ARD to serve in place of the RD should the RD be unable to fulfill the duties on either a short-term or long-term basis so that the Region's work may continue uninterrupted.

In addition, the ARD will be responsible for overseeing some of the occasional events that take place during the year. For example, the ARD would coordinate the effort to nominate members for the Gold Thread Award and would be in charge of attracting and applying for classes through the International Teacher Tour. The ARD would also assist with the planning of and participating in Region events such as hosting a booth at the Sewing & Quilt Expo.

Finally, the ARD will work closely with the RD to plan and oversee the operation of Region affairs, providing critical input to help the Region meet its goals.

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### SEMINAR DIRECTOR:

One of the most common reasons that people give for belonging to EGA is to meet and to socialize with others who share and understand their passion for needlework. The Carolinas Region has traditionally held a seminar every spring and a retreat every fall to give people from across the Region the chance to get together. Starting in 2019, the Region changed that plan by hosting a retreat in spring 2019 rather than a seminar. The plan was to host retreats in the odd years and seminars in the even years from that time on. (The current pandemic has altered that plan for the coming year. See the message from the RD at top of this newsletter.)

description of what tasks need to be completed and when they need to be done. The Seminar Director will be assisted by other volunteers who serve as committee chairs, as in the past.

The Seminar Director will serve as a member of the Executive Committee, make reports as to the status of the plans during the planning process, and submit a final report at the end of each event.

No matter what the schedule ends up being, it is clear that setting up a yearly seminar is a very demanding job. Therefore, the members of the EC propose that we develop a new officer position to focus on just that one aspect: To set up and oversee the presentation of the yearly Spring Seminars and Spring Retreats. There already exists a very detailed

It is hoped that this division of responsibilities and creation of a new position will be approved by the Board of Directors at our Spring 2020 meeting. Once that has happened, these 2 positions must be filled immediately if our Region is to continue to meet its goals. Please volunteer to serve in one of these capacities. You will find satisfaction in helping the Region and will have the chance to greatly enhance your circle of friends. **We need your help!**

# CARChaptersNews

## Chapter Articles: New Plan

For about a year, we have been interested to read articles from our chapters describing their activities and been enthralled by the photos of members and their projects. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in sending in these articles as requested. These articles have offered another a great way for us to connect with each other.

Although the original intent and hope was for each chapter to submit an article (and photos?) for each issue of *RegioNews*, we have come to realize that that schedule is difficult for most chapters to meet. We understand that some projects are carried over for months and that some chapters do not meet over the summer, for example. With the re-

quired cancellation of our meetings this year, we understand that writing these articles is even more difficult.

Therefore, we have decided to request an article only once a year, on the following schedule which has been developed so that the entire Region will be sampled during each reporting period:

Chapter	State	Article Due Date APRIL 15	Article Due Date OCTOBER 15
Aiken	SC	X	
Augusta	GA		X
Blue Ridge	VA	X	
Cardinal	NC		X
Charlotte	NC	X	
Chicora	SC		X
Florence	SC	X	
Golden Needles	NC	X	
Low Country	SC	X	
Magnolia	SC		X
Millwood	SC		X
Piedmont	NC		X
Star Stitchers	VA		X
The Laurel	NC		X
Tryon	NC	X	

For starters, we suggest that your article discuss what your members did to stay connected during the “stay at home” period, what you did to promote stitching or to motivate your members to stitch, what kinds of group projects (if any) you tried, etc. Of course, you could also submit some photos. Your actions

might spark some more ideas among the rest of us!

Please remember that if your chapter has an event, activity, or project that you want to share even though it is not your “turn” to do so, we will very happily include it in the next issue of *RegioNews*.

Just send your information to either Cathie Barker (*RegioNews* editor) or Carole Overton (Region Director) any time.

In the meantime, we would like to thank you for contributing to our chapter news section. ■



# CAR Chapters

## Carolinas Region stitchers face the challenge.

Despite the “stay at home” orders and cancellations of face-to-face meetings, the Carolinas Region members have found ways to cope. We have held virtual stitch-ins, communicated through Facebook and texts, shared photos of our work, and found many other ways to support each other and to find comfort in our stitching.

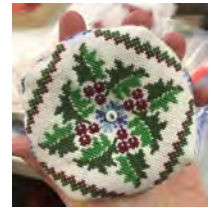


### FLORENCE (Florence, SC)

The Florence chapter could be said to have named 2019 The Year of the Biscornu. Pictured are some of the projects completed by members, from the petite project found in our chapter notebooks to kitted projects to originals.



For National Stitch In Public Day, the chapter stitched at the Barnes & Noble in Florence; this event gained us a new member. ■



### CHICORA STITCHERS (Myrtle Beach, SC)

Chicora Stitchers met at the beginning of March, but April and May meetings have been cancelled, and who knows beyond that? In March we were working on the Lacy Scissors Case, an EGA Petite Project. Here are photos of 3 completed examples.



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President Anne Peacock is offering prizes from the “Chapter Stash” for projects completed in March, April

and May. I for one don't need much encouragement to sit and stitch a lot more! Our board meeting was held by conference call and Tuesday evening stitch-ins are now held using Zoom. ■

### TRYON (New Bern, NC)

As we said in the last RegioNews, Tryon Chapter is trying something new by having members volunteer to teach a class.



Kristine Cooke was our March volunteer. Attached is a picture of a squirrel that she designed and stitched in response to many asking her techniques for stitching furry animals. In her own words:



“It is basically a thread-painting technique, using a photograph of the animal as a guide for shading and fur direction. I also showed our members a way of transferring an image onto fabric when one doesn't have a light box, or wishes to stitch on black fabric. It involves cutting out a paper photo of the animal you wish to stitch, and tracing around the cutout. Then, cutting out large body parts (head, hip, tail), and placing those on the fabric on to trace.” ■

### Congratulations

to the members of The Laurel chapter  
on their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in March! (see pg. 7)

# Executive Committee

## Meet your Committee 2019 – 2022 (part 3)

In the previous two issues, we introduced the members of the Carolinas Region's Executive Committee (EC): Region Director Carole Overton, Secretary Laura Smith, Treasurer Elizabeth Little, and Education Coordinator Janice Wright.

In this issue, we would like to introduce Cathie Barker and Rebecca Witt. Although Cathie is not an elected officer, she has been serving in a number of capacities over the years and, in the absence of an Assistant Region Director, has been meeting with the EC to help us work through all the changes we have had to deal with lately. Rebecca Witt, a member of The Laurel Chapter, will be taking over the website. We're looking forward to working with Rebecca!

### Newsletter Editor

#### Website Coordinator:

Cathie Barker learned to embroider and crochet from her grandmother, her mother and aunts. After moving to Boulder, CO in 1969, Cathie spent the next 10 years as a member of the Handweavers' Guild of Boulder and held several offices in that organization. In 1979, the Barker family sold everything to go live aboard a sailboat off the coast of California for a year before coming back to "ordinary life" where Cathie went back to school.

After completing an AA degree in Theater Arts and a minor in Journalism at Ventura Community College, Cathie worked for a weekly newspaper for two years, then in the publications department of an ocean engineering company for four years. When her daughters left home, Cathie worked as a Stringer for a small-town newspaper, a National Park Ranger, and various jobs at Northern Arizona University where she completed a B.S in Arts Management and a Master's Certificate in Professional Writing.

In 2005, Cathie retired from NAU and moved to North Carolina where she discovered EGA and The Laurel Chapter. In TLC Cathie held the office of Vice President (Programs) and has been Newsletter Editor since 2011.

For Carolinas Region, Cathie has held the position of Website Coordinator since 2012, and *RegioNews* editor since 2015. In spring of 2018, Cathie was elected as interim Secretary to complete the term of office until Fall of 2019. ■

### Webmaster:

Rebecca Witt was an Electrical Engineer for NASA at the Kennedy Space Center. Working in such a technical field, needlework gave her a much needed creative outlet. After retiring and joining The Laurel Chapter of EGA in 2016, she has enjoyed learning many new techniques. ■

### THE LAUREL (Hendersonville, NC)

Oh, to be thirty again! The Laurel chapter celebrated its 30th birthday on March 5, 2020 in Hendersonville, NC.

The two-day celebration began with a workshop on Ukrainian embroidery, "Mini Grace" taught by Terri Bay, on Wednesday.



The following day Terri presented a special lecture on whitework embroidery to the chapter. Whitework in many differ-

ent forms was compared. There were beautiful samples and Terri shared here collection of out-of-print books on whitework.

The celebration continued with a quiche and salad luncheon followed by the cutting of a special birthday cake. There were beaded mountain laurel blossom



party favors for everyone in attendance. A birthday game where each participant chose a birthday



gift followed. Unique decorations made with buttons, sewing needles and thread were on each table.



Two charter chapter members, Alice Johnson and Cathryn Harrell were in attendance. Everyone had a good time and learned something in the process. Janet Stewart & Sue Osterberg ■



## Carolinas Region's upcoming events:

### **Spring Seminar 2020: postponed to May 21-23, 2021 in Clemmons, NC.**

Plans are still being firmed up; prior registrants will be contacted as to options, and registration will be reopened later in the Fall.

### **Spring 2020 Board of Directors Meeting**

Given the current situation, we will hold that meeting either by phone or electronically. We have several important issues to vote on. As soon as we have worked out the details, we will send out the agenda with those issues described and the details about how to vote and/or attend the meeting.

### **Original Sewing and Quilt Expo: August, Raleigh, NC**

This event may also be postponed, however we are cautiously working on preparations. Please contact Carole Overton if you wish to help with this.

### **Fall Retreat 2020: October 2-4, 2020 in Rock Hill, SC**

Carolinas Region Fall Retreat 2020 is still planned for October 2 – 4, 2020, at the Fairfield Inn in Rock Hill, SC. We are trying to put together a plan that will allow for flexibility and little to no cost outlay in case we have to make changes as the time draws near. We'll keep you posted!

(RD

**REPORT: Continued from page 1)**

details, we will send out the agenda with those issues described and the details about how to vote and/or attend the meeting.

Our plans for the Fall Retreat 2020 are also being reconsidered. While we do hope to be able to meet in person as scheduled in October in Rock Hill, we are trying to put together a plan that will allow for flexibility and little to no cost outlay in case we have to make changes as the time draws near.

Finally, while we are still hoping to host a booth at the Original Sewing and Quilt Expo scheduled to be held in Raleigh, NC, in August of this year, we realize that that event might also be postponed. Therefore, we will cautiously work on preparations. If you are interested in helping in those efforts, please contact Carole Overton. We will continue to keep you informed.

I know that your chapters have found ways to keep in touch with each other during your stay-at-home time. I have seen reports of clever ways in which you have been able to share your stories and photos of your stitching projects. Many of you have been working through your stash, reconnecting with long-forgotten projects, and finding joy in starting something new or trying a new technique.

I have found some reassurance in meeting with some of my stitch groups via videoconferencing. I have extended an offer to all of the CAR members to assist them in setting up a videoconference for the various chapters and have also set up some virtual Region stitch-ins which should start in May. Keeping in touch with your friends can help you get through this difficult time.

As you read through the rest of this issue of *RegioNews*, I hope you will think about the importance of EGA

and the Carolinas Region and the impact they have had on your lives. Think about what you learned and the friends you have met through your involvement in this organization. Then think about what you could do to keep the Region moving ahead. Elsewhere in this issue will be a plea for volunteers to fill several important positions. Without your help, we will not be able to accomplish our goals. Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee or the Region Director if you have questions about any of these positions.

Until we can meet again in person, please accept my best wishes for your continued good health, peace of mind, and creative ways to spend your time.

May you find peace amidst the pandemic, comfort from your friends and family, and solace from your stitching.

*Carole Overton*  
Carolinas Region Director