

## From the Region Director

### Here Comes Tomorrow

For those of us who attended the Carolinas Region Spring Retreat, our laundry is all washed & put away, the suitcase or travel bag is back in the closet, and it is back to our normal lives. The projects we worked on, might just be put away for the next Region Retreat, or are they still being worked on today? Have you looked at any of the pictures you took? Did you share them with others who didn't go? Ah, sweet memories . . .

It was an upbeat, noisy, friendly, caring group of stitchers at the Terrace Hotel, in Lake Junaluska (no, *not* Juneau, Alaska). The auditorium (a word I had never had to spell before this)

lighting was just sooo very right for us. The white table clothes reflected the light, making a bit easier on the eyes. Oh! Stitching – there were projects of all disciplines, sizes, shapes, & complexity. I was tickled to learn that 12 of the 15 chapters were able to attend. Plus, there were 2 other regions, from outside our region, who attended. Our special guest was National EGA President Karen Hamilton.

Now, the theme was BYOPP & PJ's – Bring Your Own Petite Project & PJ's. Why PJ's? We were having a pajama party Saturday night! But, let's get back to the PP – Petite Project – part of this. The dictionary defines petite as, among other things: *Small in size or scope; tiny; synonym: small.* For the most part, that was the size of the projects. Except for someone, who's ini-

*(RD REPORT, Continued on page 2)*

**Coming up in August,  
right in our own backyard:**

**Preserving Needle Arts**  
**August 14 - 18, 2024**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**Hope to see you there!**

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### CALENDAR

#### 2024 – via ZOOM

- Tue, June 11:** Stitch-in, 2 pm
- Sat, June 15:** Stitch-in, 10 am
- Tue, July 9:** Stitch-in, 2 pm
- Sat, July 20:** Stitch-in, 10 am
- Tue, August 13:** CANCELLED
- Sat, August 17:** Stitch-in, 10 am

#### 2024

- August 14-18:** Preserving Needle Art, EGA National Seminar, Atlanta, GA
- TBD:** CAR Fall Retreat 2024,

tials are SM. Her petite project was a queen size bed-spread! SM & I had a 'petite' discussion about what constitutes *petite*. It was a 'petite' discussion, to be sure! You should see a picture of SM's *petite* project in this newsletter, as well as what it looked like when she had it packed up to be able to work on it.

Spring Retreat is over & Fall Retreat is being planned as well as Spring Retreat 2025. Remember in 2024, the Region is holding only retreats to help your pocketbook as you attend National Seminar 2024 in Atlanta. Atlanta will be the closest National Seminar held for those of us living in CAR. I hope to see you there.

Make a note: National Seminar 2025 will be in Dallas, TX 12-16 November; National Seminar 2026 will be in Florida – dates to be determined; National Seminar 2027 will be in the Pacific Southwestern Region (PSR) – dates to be determined. 2028 should be in Louisville as EGA will be 70 years old.

Have you attended any of the National Lectures? There is no waiting list as a lecture can hold up to 500 stitchers! The topics cover a range of subjects, so check out the offerings at EGAUSA.ORG . There is a small cost of \$5 per lecture, but if you listen to Fiber Talk, there is a \$5 coupon code you can apply, so you may listen to 1 lecture for free.

There is more to talk about, but this needs to get out to you. Keep checking the website, [EGACarolinas.org](http://EGACarolinas.org) for information & the Board of Directors meeting minutes.

Gail Smith  
CAR RD

[regiondirector@egacarolinas.org](mailto:regiondirector@egacarolinas.org)

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## Looking Forward to Fall 2024



### We need your ideas!

By Julie Anderson, ARD; [asstregiondirector@egacarolinas.org](mailto:asstregiondirector@egacarolinas.org)

#### Greetings to all and Happy May,

First off, I hope that all who attended our region retreat at Lake Junaluska last week enjoyed the stitching, scenery and friends. We had a huge room full of light and space. We had to decide whether to stitch or visit friends around the room - most of us did both. We had a needlework store 10 minutes away.

And we had Karen Hamilton, our EGA President, who spoke of the happenings in EGA and encouraged us to attend the national seminar in Atlanta this August. We can drive!!

**With that event behind us, our region now looks to the next retreat sometime in the fall**, hopefully in late September to mid-November.

So now we've had a retreat on the western side of our region, and we're looking for a happy place on the eastern side. We don't have a lot of time. **And we need your help.**

Our most favorite and desirable wish is to have a needlework store in the area. And restaurants are always a good idea! We need a hotel with 40ish rooms, 2 meeting rooms - one for stitching and a smaller room for meetings, free breakfast is always a hope.

**The Board will do the legwork, I'm just looking for suggestions of places that we could contact.**

Hope to see many of y'all in Atlanta. Julie  
Questions or Ideas - call or write. 843-987-1038



# Spring Retreat '24

## Wonderful weekend, lovely setting

Carole Overton, CAR Website  
website@egacarolinas.org



The Carolinas Region held its spring 2024 seminar from April 26 – 28 in a new and enticing location on Lake Junaluska near Waynesville, NC. The setting was superb: on the edge of a beautiful lake with the mountains in the background! The walking track around the lake just cried out for us to enjoy the scenery, and being able to treat ourselves to ice cream or custard along that walk didn't hurt, either!

On the way to or from the retreat, many of us stopped to shop at Sandy's X-Stitch on the Go in Hendersonville. Her shop is filled with projects, accessories, threads beyond imagination, and the friendliest owner you would ever want to meet! What better way to start or end the weekend?!

The shopping didn't end there, however. Lake Junaluska is next to Waynesville, a scenic town filled with interesting shops and restaurants to explore. Perhaps the best attraction was Anabella's, a needlework shop in a lovely log cabin about 2 miles from the hotel.

There was almost no need to leave the hotel for entertainment, however, as our meeting room was large, well set up, comfortable, and very well-lit. Many people did not even need to use their lights!

There was plenty of space to walk around the room to see what everyone else was working on. With almost no planned activity, there was lots of time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. The weekend was

filled with happy voices, lots of laughter and, believe it or not, lots of stitching!

To top it all off, when we were tired of stitching, we could take a break on the row of rocking chairs on the balcony just outside our meeting room, overlooking the lake and distant mountains!

The theme for the weekend was "Bring Your Own Petite Project and PJ's." Although there were various petite projects in evidence, and some were even worked on, the room was filled with other types of marvelous projects in a range of techniques, glorious colors, different materials, and amazing talents. Being among those stitchers and their projects was so inspiring!

There were great Hoppportunity baskets (this retreat was held soon after Easter, after all!), and tickets were eagerly purchased on Friday and Saturday.

**L**ake  
**A**uditorium  
 hoppportunity bas**K**ets  
**E**levators  
 time to **J**ust stitch .... with friends!  
 mo**U**ntains  
 Way**N**esville  
 rest**A**urants  
**L**et's Make a Deal  
 re**U**ning with old friends  
**S**andy's X-stitch on the Go  
 ma**K**ing new friends  
**A**nabella's cross stitch, quilting, paper crafts

We were so honored to have Karen Hamilton as our guest this weekend. Karen is the outgoing National EGA President (her term will end at the EGA seminar in Atlanta this August). She explained her "securing the future" initiatives and encouraged us to stay involved. She also discussed some of the issues that EGA is facing and asked us to continue to support our chapters, region, and national organization as much as we can. It was so heart-warming to see that our members brought Karen



# Spring Retreat '24

## Continued...

into our stitching community as if they had always known her. It seemed like everyone there spent time chatting with her and sharing what they were working on. In her comments, she thanked us for the warm reception she had received.

Before Karen made her comments, our Region Director, Gail Smith, presented her with a gift from the region that blended with our “pj’s” theme. Gail had made two beautiful pillowcases. She embroidered “CAR” on one of them and stitched the date on the other. She had cleverly found material that represented each state in our region: The body of one case was made with South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia fabric; the other was made from North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina fabric. For both cases, she placed the fabrics so that the patterns of adjacent states were adjacent on the cases. The gift was the perfect reminder of our region!!

Saturday night’s festivities brought peals of laughter, eager participation, and tempting prizes. A number of brave souls did appear in their pj’s, setting the tone for relaxing and having fun. Scattered between bouts of ticket-pulling for the basket winners, Gail led us in a game of “Let’s Make a Deal!” She prepped the group by explaining that she was going to call out one item at time that might be in our stitching bags, and the first person who could produce that item would have a choice of the contents of an envelope or a wrapped package. The struggle to be first was fast and furious, and the dilemma of which option to choose was a difficult one for each winner. This activity was a wonderful chance for us to have fun – and mind you, while all of this was going on, many people continued to stitch! Nothing can stop us! [Afterward, Janet Noble predicted that, if we do this again, people are going to come loaded down with bags of items from the hardware store. Will there also be a run on U-Hauls? Wait and see!]



*This pillow case has a blue South Carolina cuff, the red strip is Georgia, & the white case is North Carolina. Georgia & North Carolina border South Carolina.*



*The 2nd case has a white North Carolina cuff, a light green Virginia strip, & a blue case of South Carolina. Virginia & South Carolina border North Carolina .*

*“CAR” was chainstitched on the South Carolina fabric. “April 2024” was chainstitched on the North Carolina fabric.*

The weekend ended with our Board of Directors meeting, during which a number of important topics were addressed. Hopefully, the attendees left the meeting with a better understanding of the region’s plans and a renewed sense of purpose as they go back to their own chapters.

This was a wonderful weekend in a lovely setting. If you missed this retreat, we hope you will make plans to attend future CAR events. There’s no telling what we will get up to next!



# SpringRetreat '24

Wonderful weekend, lovely setting



Millwood Chapter - Marilyn Sears checking her epattern on her phone.



The Laurel Chapter - Kar Wulf-Lamphear working on a beading project of her own design.



Cardinal Chapter - Linda Hebert working on her stocking, which has been in her stash for 20 years!



Piedmont - Becky Hardy, Cardinal - Carolyn Brewer & friend Sue Felton, Diane Makgill share the joys of stitching with others.



Lowcountry - Julie Anderson, Piedmont - Jenifer Huebner, and EGA National President - Karen Hamilton.



Seated: Florence chapter members - Julia Tison & Salli Folk, seated next to Millwood member - Becky Buie. Standing: The Laurel Chapter member - Cathie Barker & her daughter Janet Bickle. In the background: Aiken Stitchin' Belles member - Carole Overton talking to Golden Needles - Elizabeth Little.



Florence - Marguerite Ewing & Charlotte - Evelyn Southards working on their projects.

# SpringRetreat '24

Wonderful weekend, lovely setting



*This is Susan MacRae's 'petite' project when it is out of its pillow case!*



*Aiken Stitchin' Belles - Susan MacRae, Member-at-large - Brenda Hartley, & Aiken Stitchin' Belles - Belinda Ebert. The big cream-colored item is Susan's idea of a 'petite' project.*



*Karen Hamilton, EGA National President, opens her gift of two coordinating pillowcases (see page 4), and then watches as Gail Smith, CAR Region Director, explains the significance of the fabrics and the method of embroidery used on these lovely pillowcases.*



## Hoppportunity Basket Winners

**Left to right:**

*Aiken (Days of Wine & Chocolate) - Kate Wendorf  
Millwood (Game Night) - Sallie Folk  
Charlotte (Halloween) - Terri Goodwin  
Florence (Start to Finish) - Becky Hardy  
Piedmont (Stitch 'n' Sip 'n' Snack) - Carolyn Brewer  
Aiken (Bath by Candlelight) - Julia Tison  
The Laurel Chapter (Relax & Unwind) - Helen Firor*

**Not pictured:**

*Golden Needles (Strawberry Fields) - Karen Hamilton*

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# Chapter OUTREACH Refocused

By Mildred Strobel, CAR Outreach Chair, outreach@egacarolinas.org

## **National EGA has refocused what outreach should look like and what they would like to see reported.**

Outreach now needs to focus on how we are participating in community opportunities where we are able to promote our chapter, in order to educate people about who we are and what we do. Outreach should also promote the Embroiderers' Guild of America and let it be known that we are a group that educates people about needle arts and teaches others how to become a needleworker. These are the only types of outreach activities that need to be reported to EGA.

Here are some examples of how to do this: 1) Find a place where you and several chapter members are able to meet in a public setting and have once-a-month "stitching in public" events with literature about your chapter and National EGA. You may want to have some sample fabric

and thread with a simple pattern so people may sit with you and try stitching along with you. 2) Set up a display in a library or another public area with work your chapter members have completed. Provide a short explanation of the type of needlework it is and again provide info about your chapter and National EGA. Several chapters did this last year. Some have been able to gain new members by doing this. 3) Participate in local quilt shows or other craft-type activities to promote EGA.

These are the only types of outreach activities that will need to be reported to me. Please include the number of members participating in these activities.

However, you are all encouraged to continue all of your wonderful charitable outreach initiatives. Remember good things are always good to do. The only difference is that you do not need to report those activities to me.

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## **Raleigh Lace Museum: *Dedicated to the art of Lacemaking***

The Kristin S. Conrad Lace Center Foundation has leased the ground floor suite of the Historic Mason Temple Building at 133 Fayetteville Street, downtown Raleigh, NC. The 4,500-square-foot facility will house the Raleigh Lace Museum, the first on the East Coast dedicated to the centuries-old art of lacemaking. The Foundation has relied on continued donations from art patrons and friends over the past two years to fulfill its mission of providing a permanent museum space and a center for instruction, lectures, and weekly demonstrations.

Donations are more than ever welcome to provide the funds to make the Lace Center and Museum a place by and for the handicraft community - visit <https://www.ksclcfoundation.org/donate>

The center contains an extensive library, bobbin lace masterpieces spanning over 400 years, and various other forms of lace, such as needlepoint lace and tatting. Eying a June opening, current remodeling, curatorial work, and interior design are underway, making the museum also an artful place for receptions, semi-formals, reunions, workshops, and much more.

We will issue an update with the exact opening date in the near future.

### **How to Reach Us**

Dr. Hugo Uyttenhove - Director

Email: [hugo@ksclcfoundation.org](mailto:hugo@ksclcfoundation.org)

Tel: 919-349-5455

Mailing address: [8004 Connestee Court, Raleigh, NC 27612](https://www.ksclcfoundation.org)



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# Embroidery Connecting Generations

## Something Old: Nana Ashton's Bridal Handkerchief

By Kathleen Ashton

What started out as a simple request for “Something old, something new...” has become an important family tradition. No one knew that when Nana Ashton (Jeannette Ashton, née Gregory) gave her granddaughter Kristen a lace-edged handkerchief to carry on her wedding day (for “something old...”), that same handkerchief would be used in her other grandchildren’s weddings.

The simple white handkerchief is edged with several rows of white lace, a craft that is known as tatting. Details about the handkerchief and the tatting have been lost to time. No doubt that when Nana gave the handkerchief to Kristen, some of those details were discussed but unfortunately, they were not recorded. We believe that Nana did the tatting herself and that it was probably done in the 1940s. We don’t know why Nana added the lace edge to the handkerchief or why she held onto the handkerchief. Kristen carried Nana’s handkerchief when she married Kyle Scarbro on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Nana and Pop came from Pennsylvania to North Carolina to attend Kristen and Kyle’s wedding.

Nana had two granddaughters and when Kristen’s sister Maura was planning her wedding in 2019, she wanted to carry Nana’s handkerchief. Maura’s desire to carry Nana’s handkerchief was not surprising. Maura’s middle name is Jeannette, in honor of her grandmother. Sadly, Nana passed away in December of 2018. Before Maura’s wedding, Nana’s, Kristen’s, and Maura’s initials were embroidered onto the handkerchief in light blue thread. No one is really sure if the choice of thread color was related to “something borrowed, something blue...” or because Kristen and Maura are Tar Heels (maybe that was just serendipity). Maura carried Nana’s handkerchief when she married Matt Greg on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

In addition to two granddaughters, Nana also had three grandsons who were every bit as important to her as her granddaughters and Nana’s handkerchief found its way into their weddings. In the summer of 2022, as Nana’s grandson Dustin Herbert and his fiancé Megan Schlegelmilch were planning their wedding, Nana’s handkerchief was offered to Megan. Megan graciously accepted the offer, honoring the loving relationship between Dustin and Nana.



It was a bit of a challenge to find someone to embroider Megan’s initials on Nana’s handkerchief. We are grateful to Gail Smith from Carolinas Region of the Embroiders’ Guild of America (EGA), who answered a question on the EGA website and agreed to embroider Megan’s initials on the bridal handkerchief. Megan carried Nana’s handkerchief around her bouquet when she married Dustin Herbert on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Nana’s grandson Dylan Herbert (Dustin’s brother) became engaged to Nicole Praga in the summer of 2023 and their wedding will take place on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Although Nicole did not know Nana, she knew how much Nana meant to Dylan and she will carry Nana’s handkerchief around her bouquet when she and Dylan marry.

Thankfully, Gail agreed to embroider Nicole’s initials on Nana’s handkerchief. But Gail did much more than add Nicole’s initials. She was a loving steward of Nana’s handkerchief and this family tradition. She embroidered the wedding dates for each of the brides under their initials on the handkerchief, which added richness and history to the handkerchief. She washed it with care and gave us instructions (and soap!) on how to care for it, ensuring that the handkerchief will be around for future brides to have their initials added.

**HANDKERCHIEF: continued ON page 9**



Those of us who knew Nana Ashton are sure that she would be both surprised and pleased at what became of her gift for “something old, something new...”. The handkerchief itself and the tradition that brides’ initials are embroidered on it and they carry it at their weddings serve as a loving tribute to Nana and a connection to her and each other in her family.

## This ‘n That: Carolinas Region Reminders

### Come stitch with us on ZOOM!

Second Tuesday of every month from 2 to 4 PM  
Third Saturday of every month from 10 AM to noon

Bring your show and tell, get help with your needlework questions, meet a great group of stitchers, and have fun! Oh, yes, bring your stitching to work on!!

The ZOOM links go out to anyone who has signed up for our region’s mailing list and specified that they want to get notices about the virtual stitch-ins. If you have questions, contact [zoom@egacarolinas.org](mailto:zoom@egacarolinas.org) for more information.



**We’re stronger together!**

### ***What’s Happening in Your Chapter?***

Won’t you please share your happenings with others in our region so everyone can enjoy and learn from your chapter’s experiences? Including a few photos will add interest!

**Please send your articles for the next *RegioNews* on or before July 25, 2024.**

**Email articles and photos to [regionews@egacarolinas.org](mailto:regionews@egacarolinas.org)**

### **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.”

**Contact Gail at [regiondirector@egacarolinas.org](mailto:regiondirector@egacarolinas.org) to find out how you can volunteer. Every little bit helps!**



# CAR Upcoming Events

## Zoom and In-Person Events

June - August, 2024		
ZOOM Events		
Date	Starting Time	Event (on ZOOM)
Tuesday, Jun. 11	2:00 pm	CAR Region Stitch-in
Saturday, Jun. 15	10:00 am	CAR Region Stitch-in
Wednesday, Jun. 19	7:30 pm	CAR Chapter Presidents chat with Gail Smith, Region Director (CARPZ)
Tuesday, Jul. 9	2:00 pm	CAR Region Stitch-in
Wednesday, Jul. 17	7:30 pm	CAR Chapter Presidents chat with Gail Smith, Region Director (CARPZ)
Saturday, Jul. 20	10:00 am	CAR Region Stitch-in

If you are not yet on our ZOOM events invitation list, send a request to [website@egacarolinas.org](mailto:website@egacarolinas.org) to be added to the invitation list.

In-Person Events—Planning Ahead	
Aug. 14 - 18, 2024	National Seminar, “Preserving Needle Art”, Atlanta, GA

### A list of the stitching days:

- Stitchin in Public Day is Feb 2
- National Embroidery Month is May
- National Embroidery Day is Jul 31
- International Cross Stitch Day is August 11

## Volunteers

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**Every little bit helps!**

## 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.

## EGA Chapter Reporting Requirements

**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.

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
1. Minutes of board and general meetings (unless included in the chapter's newsletter)	Within the month	Region Director
2. Membership roster (Life and Plural members)	Within the month	Region Director; CAR Newsletter Editor; Website Coord.
3. Region dues and membership information (Life and Plural members)	Within the month	Region Treasurer
4. Chapter newsletters	When sent to members	Region Director; Assistant Region Director; Editor, RegioNews; Region Outreach Chair
5. EGA Chapter Officer Change List (EGA Form)	Within 2 weeks of election	Region Secretary; Region Director
6. Education questions/information	As needed	Region Director of Education
7. Annual chapter report	By December 1	Region Director
8. Annual financial report	By February 15	Region Director; EGA Headquarters

## Carolinas Region Executive Committee

Region Director	Gail Smith	regiondirector@egacarolinas.org
Assistant Region Director	Julie Anderson	asstregiondirector@egacarolinas.org
Director of Education	Janet Noble	education@egacarolinas.org
Secretary	Marguerite Ewing	secretary@egacarolinas.org
Treasurer	Elizabeth Little	treasurer@egacarolinas.org
Committee Chairs		
Bylaws	Becky Buie	bylaws@egacarolinas.org
Community Outreach	Millie Strobel	outreach@egacarolinas.org
RegioNews	Cathie Barker	regionews@egacarolinas.org
Seminar Director		seminardirector@egacarolinas.org
Website Coordinator	Carole Overton	website@egacarolinas.org
Nominating Committee		
Nominating	Vacant ( -2027)	nominatingchair@egacarolinas.org
Nominating 2	Vacant ( -2028)	
Nominating 3	Vacant ( -2029)	