

## From the Region Director

A warm hello to all the stitchers in the Carolinas Region (CAR). The days are beginning to get shorter, even while the days get hotter. It must be close to the Dog Days of Summer, which for us, means days of stitching with a cool drink close by.

**Membership renewal:** Happily, we have made it thru the 1<sup>st</sup> interaction with renewing our memberships online through the National website. Did it all go smoothly? For the majority of us, yes. For others, it required a bit more effort – both at the Chapter level and at the National level. I warmly thank you for giving the change a solid try. It was a big stretch for all of us, and you did it. EGA is a unique organization in that there are not only

Primary members, as in most organizations, but also Plural and Life members that complicate the computer programming world. So, Life members and Plural members remain a WIP, for a little while longer.

**Growing our chapters:** While reading the latest edition of *NeedleArts*, I notice a little 'attention' getter. Did you know that the series of webinars "Growing Your Chapter" is on YouTube? Each webinar features a

large and a small chapter that share what they are doing to attract new members. I strongly urge you to take a bit of time to check them out.

One type of event that has helped our chapters to grow is hosting a table at fiber fairs and quilt shows. CAR has a Festival Box that contains what you need to set up a table and show off your chapter's pieces as well as pro-

*(RD REPORT, Continued on page 2)*

**Save the Date!**  
**Carolinas Region Fall Retreat:**  
***Pines & Needles***  
**October 25 - 27, 2024**  
**Aberdeen, NC**  
**Hope to see you there!**



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### CALENDAR

#### 2024 – via ZOOM

- Tue, August 13:** CANCELLED
- Sat, August 17:** Stitch-in, 10 am
- Tue, September 10:** Stitch-in, 2 pm
- Sat, September 21:** Stitch-in, 10 am
- Tue, October 8:** Stitch-in, 2 pm
- Sat, October 19:** Stitch-in, 10 am

#### 2024 - 2025

- August 14-18:** *Preserving Needle Art*, EGA National Seminar, Atlanta, GA
- October 25-28:** *Pines & Needles*, CAR Fall Retreat 2024, Aberdeen, NC
- April 25-27, 2025:** CAR Spring Retreat & Region meeting, Lake Junaluska, NC

(RD REPORT: Continued from page 1)

vide information about EGA. There is also a budgeted item of up to \$100 per year to help offset a festival fee, however, many times you can get a free table. Contact Janet Noble, [education@egacarolinas.org](mailto:education@egacarolinas.org), to let her know you would like to use the box.

**Let's talk increasing prices.** I know you have seen them when you get gasoline, food, dine out, or whatever you have to purchase. Well, something that the retreat team has discovered is that the days of hotel room being down below \$100 a night has almost disappeared. Going forward, you will need to budget for hotel rooms that cost closer to the \$150+ amount than a lesser amount. It is not what I wanted to tell you; it is something you need to know. Some chapters hold their own retreats and might be locked into lower rates, which is great. The thing is, when we look for a hotel to host the CAR Retreats and Seminars, there are different needs. Some days I really miss the past . . .

**There is so much embroidery stuff to do, watch, or learn.** Check out the EGA website, [egausa.org](http://egausa.org): Have you gone for a tour of *Through the Needles Eye*? What about peeking in to check out Fiber Forum's pieces? Then there is the YouTube session "Know My Name – How Schoolgirl Samplers Created a Remarkable History".

**Seminars and retreats:** National's Seminar is very close; planning for our own Fall Retreat is almost completed. Both reflect a dedication to CAR & to EGA. Have you put in that work also? I know that Chapter Presidents and their officers have worked hard to keep your chapter busy with projects, events, displays, and learning. Are you ready to step up to keep your chapter vibrant? What about your region? Will you step forward to help? Dee Pierce of the Florence Chapter is the Nominating Committee Chair. Get in touch with her. ([nominatingchair@egacarolinas.org](mailto:nominatingchair@egacarolinas.org))

**Award and achievements:** Janet Noble is the Carolinas Region Gold Thread awardee. She has given a lot to EGA, to CAR, and to her skill of stitching as she is a Master Craftsman in Counted Thread, and in Canvas Embroidery. She is beginning her work on Silks and Metal Threads. By the way, when you look at the photos in the Master Craftsman page, the Blackwork is Janet's Third step design for Counted Thread. Congratulations Janet!

**A bit of Fun...** In closing, I found a new acronym. You know WIP, PHD, and FFO (Fully Finished Object). Well add to that SABLE – Stash Accumulated Beyond Life Expectancy. Hmmm. . . . I look forward to seeing you at our Fall Retreat, October 25-27, 2024.

*Yours in stitching,  
Gail Smith*

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# CAR Fall Retreat 2024

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

Hotel reservation link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/2rv8kewk>

From the mountains to the sea - here we go.

- We've seen the mountains of North Carolina, now we'll be headed to the sands of North Carolina.
- With a needlework shop (Moore than Needlepoint) only 13 minutes away.
- And the Village of Pinehurst, a lovely walking place with restaurants, boutiques and gift shops 10 minutes away.
- AND breakfast is included.

**NOTE:** We are still finalizing the details and preparing the registration packet, so we are not quite ready to take your reservations yet, but we wanted to give you the basics so you can save the date!!

## SAVE THE DATE ! ! ! !

WHAT: **Carolinas Fall Retreat 2024**

THEME: ***Pines and Needles***

WHEN: **25 - 27 October 2024**

WHERE: **Aberdeen, North Carolina (next to Pinehurst)**

MORE WHERE: **Hampton Inn & Suites**

RETREAT REGISTRATION FEE: **\$25**



We hope to send out the registration details soon. Get ready to join us for a wonderful and relaxing week-end of stitching!



# Let's Go CAR Shopping!

## Looking Back and Looking Ahead

Carole Overton, CAR Website/Zoom Coordinator  
website@egacarolinas.org

If all goes according to plan, by the time this issue is published the Carolinas Region will have enjoyed its 20<sup>th</sup> virtual shop tour! Twentieth tour? Wow! I never imagined that we would have so much fun when I first suggested these tours 4 years ago. You might have been on that first visit: to Sandy's X-Stitch on the Go, in Hendersonville, exactly 4 years ago. What a thrill it was to be able to go shopping during Covid!

Since that time, we have travelled virtually around the country, visiting a variety of shops in our region and beyond. We have seen new products, new approaches to stitching, new features and products . . . I don't know about you, but these visits certainly motivated me to stitch, knowing that there were more sources to feed ~~my~~ ~~insanity~~... ~~my habit~~... my hobby!

Some of you may be wondering why the number of shop tours has slowed in the past year. There are several reasons: Once we returned to "in-person" activities after Covid, shop owners became very busy and, presumably, did not have to rely on virtual tours as much.

In addition, as evidenced by what has happened in our own region, many shops have closed in the past few years. It has also been hard to find shops willing to participate: In my effort to schedule these tours for you, I have contacted 43 shops – including a number suggested by our members. These shops have included cross stitch, needlepoint, knitting yarn, beading, fabric/quilt, brick-and-mortar and online only. Of those 43 contacts, we have managed 20 tours, and that number included a few return visits. [If we have not yet toured a shop that you have suggested, the shop either did not reply or was not interested.]

So what does it take to produce a shop tour? Let's take a look behind the scenes.

When I hear of a shop that might be worth visiting, I spend time looking at its website. Does it offer a variety of products and things that our members might be interested in? How do they do business (in person, by phone, by email)? Are they easy to contact (via the website, phone, email, social media)? Is the website easy to use?

If the shop seems to fit our "criteria," I add it to my list of possibilities, writing down all of the contact information. I try to find the name of the owner so I can communicate directly with her/him.

Then I send the owner an email (followed up by a letter when email does not get a response) explaining who we are and what we would like to have happen, and asking if she/he is interested. This letter also gives a synopsis of what we want to have happen on the tour.

If the owner is interested, I ask to schedule a convenient date/time for the tour and for a short practice session to take place about a week before the tour. Scheduling the tour itself takes some care, as I am always conscious of the fact that our members have chapter meetings and other commitments. I try to vary the date and time of the tours, but I also have to respect the needs of the shop owner. Sometimes it is quite a juggling act!

The practice session gives me a chance to explain my plan for the tour and gives the owner a chance to practice moving the camera around part of the shop so we can work out any bugs in the process. It has been a great way to break the ice with the owner, and it doesn't hurt that I get a quick peek at the shop!

Once the tour has been scheduled, I write up the details and send out the broadcast message to those on the "shop tour" list so they can save the date. Then I schedule the ZOOM session and, a day or two before the tour, send the link out.



# Let's Go CAR Shopping!

## Continued...

I prepare the questions that I want to ask the owner during the tour. These questions are designed to help our members get to know the shop's owner and services. Although I tend to ask the same basic questions to all of the owners, I try to tailor the list to be sure to cover aspects of the shop or the person that I think are special or that our members might be interested to learn about.

On the night of the tour, I open the ZOOM session, admit the members, and host the tour itself, trying to keep up with the questions posted in Chat and looking for raised hands when someone wants to ask a more detailed question.

After the tour, I send a thank you message to the owner. I also download the list of attendees from ZOOM so I can

keep track of the number of people (statistics are always helpful for reports about our region's activities).

I always update my database of shops to keep track of when we toured and how many tours we have offered.

If all of this seems to be a lot of work, it is! I love providing these tours for our members, but am finding it more difficult to keep track of it all. If you would like to help with any aspect of this process, including admitting members to the ZOOM session and/or helping field questions during the tour itself, I would love to talk to you!

I can't promise any future tours, but I am always interested to hear about shops you think might be worth pursuing. Who knows where the next shop tour could take us?

## Snippets: *From Chicora Chapter's newsletter, "Chicora Chatter"*

### Resources for inspiration, stitches, and a free pattern

The Royal School of Needlework has been developing online collections that catalogue their acquisitions. You can see their "First 100" on their website. The collection offers close-up photos and full descriptions of each piece as well as the stitches used and a link to those stitches in the RSN Stitchbank. First 100 | RSN Collection & Archive ([royal-needlework.org.uk](http://royal-needlework.org.uk)) ([rsnstitchbank.org](http://rsnstitchbank.org))

For inspiration: Mary Corbet has discussed embroidery on eggs in the past. Check out one of her latest post with "*Stumpwork Embroidery on an Ostrich Egg*". Inspirational Diversion: Stumpwork Embroidery on an Ostrich Egg – ([NeedlenThread.com](http://NeedlenThread.com)).

Krista West of Avlea Folk Embroidery is offering EGA members a free cross stitch design from her new book "*Everyday Folk: Over 175 folk embroidery designs for the home inspired by traditional textiles*". She also gives directions for an easy to make drawstring bag featuring this design. Guest post: Free *Little Leaves* Drawstring Bag by Krista West | Embroiderers' Guild of America ([egausa.org](http://egausa.org))

Krista recently did a virtual lecture for EGA, "*Mediterranean Folk Embroidery: A Brief History of a Vibrant World*". The lecture is recorded and now available to view at your convenience.



*Did you know that Members-at-large  
can be a member of the National Nominating committee?*





# Congratulations

**CAR's 2024 Gold Thread Awardee:**

**Janet Noble**

Janet Noble, the current Director of Education for the Carolinas Region, EGA (CAR), was named as this year's Gold Thread Awardee for our Region! Janet has served as Assistant Region Director and Region Director for CAR, and as National President for EGA. Her dedication to EGA, its mission and its members, has been an inspiration to many of us, and we thank you, Janet, for all you have done. We are very proud of you!!

**Four CAR Chapters have Milestone birthdays this year!**

Charlotte: 45 years

Florence and Tryon are both 35 years old.

And our newest chapter, EGA at VATech, is one year old!

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



## Getting Older with Technology

Now that the majority of us have computers, cell phones, social media accounts, do electronic banking or shopping, and even automatic payments, there is something to think about in the Wills & Last Testaments department.

When your day comes, who will be authorized to cancel the above accounts? What do you want done with all those photos on your phone? Do you want your social account deleted? And where do you have all your PINS, passwords, usernames, account numbers? Is your head whirling yet? Mine was, especially



after reading the article addressing this little matter.

I would urge you to read the article at [SavvySenior.org](http://SavvySenior.org) and then have a few discussions with partners and children. The rise of technology has made our lives easier in many ways (forgive the frustration levels for now). Jim Miller, [SavvySenior.org](http://SavvySenior.org), wrote the article as well as a book (which I have not read) titled *The Savvy Senior*. His article gave me food for thought, so I hope this little note does also.

*Yours in stitching, Gail Smith*

# This 'n That: Carolinas Region Reminders and other tid-bits

## 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.



### DMC Discontinued Colors

Discontinued	Alternative
3880	3722
3881	3364
3882	801
3883	722
3884	4
3885	312
3886	35
3887	3837
3888	3041
3889	445
3890	3846
3891	3844
3892	970
3893	540
3894	907
3895	648

These colors were released in 2013 in sets of 16 colors; they were discontinued in 2021. Some of them are still available individually at DMC, 123Stitch, or other locations.

### DMC Discontinued Solids

Discontinued	Replacements
504	3813
731	732
776	3326
781	782
806	3760
868	801
971	740
3773	407

## ? Did You Know ?

National Embroidery Month is February  
 National Stitch-in-Public Day is the 1st Saturday in February  
 National Embroidery Day is 31 July  
 World Cross Stitch Day is 9 August

## 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 October 31, 2024.**

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



# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 4/28/24, Lake Junaluska

Gail Smith (RD) Called the meeting to order at 9:58 am

## Voting Delegates in Attendance:

Gail Smith (RD); Janet Noble (Director of Education); Carole Overton (Website); Elizabeth Little (Treasurer); Julie Anderson (ARD); Cathie Barker (Region News); Millie Stroble (Outreach); Marguerite Ewing (Secretary).

## Chapter Delegates:

Aiken Stitching Bells:	Susan MacRae (P) Belinda Ebert (RR)	Lowcountry:	Terri Goodwin (RR)
Charlotte:	Susan Banbury (P) x Connie Miller (RR)	Magnolia:	Nancy Gannon (RR)
Florence:	Julia Tison (P) Sallie Folk (RR)	Piedmont:	Carol Rauch (Proxy for RR)
Golden Needles:	Barbara Hinson (RR) Janie MacGown (RR)	The Laurel:	Carlie Holdredge (Proxy for P) Roberta Smith (RR)

**Special Guest:** Karen Hamilton (EGA National President).

**Role was called and a quorum established.** Minutes for 15 Oct 2023 were read. Carole Overton made the motion to correct these minutes to reflect the EC be included as voting members. This motion was seconded by Julie Anderson. Minutes were approved with this correction.

**Julie Anderson (ARD)** Reported that the Golden Needle Awards pieces are due by 5/1. All were encouraged to make nominations. Julie also asked for thoughts on the Fall retreat. Where and when were the main ideas needed.

**Elizabeth Little (Treasurer)** reported our present CD has rolled over and discussed the financial report.

**Janet Noble (Education)** Reported that there will be no teacher events this year. She encouraged members to attend the National Seminar in Atlanta. The zoom lecture with Kat Diuguid on *Blending Colors in Stitching* was well attended and asked for suggestions for future zoom sessions.

For this retreat, 51 members were registered with 49 in attendance. There were 7 first timers; she encouraged input for future Retreats and Seminars.

**Carole Overton (Website)** Reported that the website has been updated. She will assist Chapters in establishing and maintaining their individual chapter websites. These websites should be checked for accuracy quarterly. Each chapter should start brainstorming what they want to include on their website. At the CAR's Fall Retreat, the chapters will start to explore the process of building their websites in a working session.

The zoom stitch-ins will continue. These sessions are fun. A lot of information is shared at them.

We will continue to search for other zoom events. Everyone is encouraged to

***Board of Director Meeting Minutes, continued on page 7***

send us possible shops to tour or people to interview.

**Cathie Barker (RegioNews)** Reported that the next edition will come out in mid-May. Input and articles are encouraged to be submitted by 5/1.

**Millie Stroble (Outreach)** Provided a handout on changes to Outreach. Outreach has changed to show that actual contact with the public is needed in order to be considered Outreach. Stitch in Public, Fairs, Craft shows would all be good examples of Outreach.

**Gail Smith (RD)** Reported that a nominating committee is needed ASAP as we rotate off October 2025. Three people are needed, and recommendations will be accepted. Recommendations should be e-mailed to Gail (regiondirector@egacarolinas.org). There are possible candidates for the positions of Bylaws and for Treasurer.

Next was a discussion of future retreats and seminars. She suggested she check into Lake Junaluska for next Spring's meeting. It was agreed.

There has been some turmoil in the Region. Gail encouraged stitchers to remember the rule "Praise in Public-Correct in Private".

The Tryon Chapter was having issues with the changes in dues. They have lost a couple of stitchers, who are just going to get together and stitch. Those members saw no gain in benefits with the increase in dues. The Chapter is staying in touch with those members.

With all the changes from National concerning dues, the job description for the Treasurer position needs to be amended and the By-Laws changed. This also needs to be done for Membership positions. We don't need to wait for the By-Laws update in 2028. New plural members who are outside the region may have two dues dates. The one for their main chapter and then one for the region. They will need to pay full region dues. Please help them remember these two dates.

Gail announced the winner for the slogan contest for the ad for the Atlanta National Seminar. The winner was the Charlotte Chapter. For the next National Seminar, this item will be included in the budget. The next National Seminar for 2025 will be in Dallas, Texas. The theme will be "*Needlework Faire*"

**Congratulations for milestone Chapter Anniversaries :**

Charlotte	45 Years	Tryon	35 Years
Florence	35 Years	EGA at VATech	1 Year

**News from National.** Regions and Chapters will receive membership reports on a monthly basis. Please review these updates and make sure all is correct. Dues can now be paid online.

Paper checks are still acceptable. Renewal will always be the last day of the month a member renewed in, and members will be sent a reminder by e-mail a month before renewal is due.

The "Grow Your Chapter" zoom sessions will continue on the 4th Saturday of the month. There is a wealth of knowledge available on the website. National is working on a faster website; Karen Hamilton reported that EGA now has its own servers, that they no longer share servers.

Diane McGill reported that there is a Lace Museum being created in the Raleigh area.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58





# CAR Upcoming Events

## Zoom and In-Person Events

August - October, 2024		
ZOOM Events		
Date	Starting Time	Event (on ZOOM)
Tuesday, Aug. 13	CANCELLED	CAR Region Stitch-in
Saturday, Aug. 17	10:00 am	CAR Region Stitch-in
Wednesday, Aug. 21	7:30 pm	CAR Chapter Presidents chat with Gail Smith, Region Director (CARPZ)
Tuesday, Sep. 10	2:00 pm	CAR Region Stitch-in
Wednesday, Sep. 18	7:30 pm	CAR Chapter Presidents chat with Gail Smith, Region Director (CARPZ)
Saturday, Sep. 21	10:00 am	CAR Region Stitch-in
Tuesday, Oct. 8	2:00 pm	CAR Region Stitch-in
Wednesday, Oct. 16	7:30 pm	CAR Chapter Presidents chat with Gail Smith, Region Director (CARPZ)
Saturday, Oct. 19	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
Oct. 25-17, 2024	CAR Fall Retreat, “Pines and Needles,” in Aberdeen, NC
Apr. 25-27, 2025	CAR Spring Retreat and Region Meeting, Lake Junaluska, NC

### Volunteers

Are our greatest assets!

How can you help 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!

### 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	Dee Pierce ( -2027)	nominatingchair@egacarolinas.org
Nominating 2	Vacant ( -2028)	
Nominating 3	Vacant ( -2029)	