



New York Capital District Chapter

SUMMER 2022

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 6
Skylkill Flea Market

July 29
Registration Deadline
for September Retreat

September 9-11
September Retreat

September 28
Joint Meeting

CONTACT INFO

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September 2022 Retreat

We are so excited to be able to plan another weekend retreat at lovely Ararat, situated in Greenville, NY.



This will be a wonderful weekend as it is such a treat to just sit and stitch and not worry about making beds, cooking, or cleaning. Our stitching room has incredible daylight, with huge windows on both sides of the very large room. We'll sit at our tables in one part of this space, and when the breakfast, lunch or dinner bell rings, we just get up and move to a different part of the room. The food is always extraordinary, and we are able to accommodate anyone with special dietary requests.

The site itself is simply beautiful, with a view of the Catskill Mountains. It is a wonderful place to walk around and, depending on the weather, there is a tennis court and outdoor pool. The main residence has a large, central living room with a television and DVD player.

Dates: The retreat dates are September 9-11.

Location: Ararat Center in Greenville, NY, just off Route 32, 18 miles south of Delmar.

Meals: The weekend starts with dinner on Friday, and includes all meals through lunch on Sunday. Snacks will be served every evening. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, juices and water are included and available throughout the day, often with fresh fruit. Breakfast and lunch are served on Sunday and the retreat will end at 3:00 pm Sunday.

Costs: The retreat costs include all meals and meal gratuities. Housekeeping gratuities are up to the individual participant.

- Friday-Sunday: \$306 for a single; \$246 for a double; and \$222 for a triple.

In order to hold this event, we must have full payment from 15 members by July 29. So please don't delay and send in the registration coupon on page 8 with your payment.

Registration for day trippers will open once we meet the minimum number of weekend attendees. At that point, I will send out an email with meal costs and other details.

Contact me at if you have questions or concerns. I look forward to another fabulous retreat weekend with many of you.

- Helen O'Connor, September Retreat Coordinator

Skylkill Chapter 2022 Flea Market to be held on July 6!

Super selection of supplies, materials, tools, storage, kits, yarn, patterns, threads, fabrics, beads, notions—anything stitching! Special Items (Bargain Buys) and Boutique (beautiful hand-stitched items made by members) tables this year. See page 5 for more details.



2022-2024 Board Members

OFFICERS

President Nancy Knowles	Recording Secretary Maryann Gibson
First Vice-President Ginger Iorizzo	Corresponding Secretary Doris Stoll
Vice-President/Membership Agnes Bohl	Treasurer Jennifer Paperman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Coordinator - Beverwyck Terry Case	Parliamentarian Fran Roscello
Coordinator - Day Fran Roscello	Programs Terry Case
Coordinator - North End Doris Halvorsen	Publicity <i>Vacant</i>
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Newsletter Ann Cohan	Website Coordinator Lynne Priestley

OTHER COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Creative Stitches (Education) Maggie Oldendorf	Hospitality - Day Group Maryann Gibson
Email Communications Ginger Iorizzo	Needlework Closet (Exhibit) Maggie Oldendorf
Exhibit <i>Vacant</i>	Registrar Melody Brennan
Habitat for Humanity Liaison <i>Vacant</i>	Summer & Fall Retreats Helen O'Connor

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

It's been a long 2½ years! Although the pandemic is not over and we know that Covid will never go away, it is time to learn how to live with it differently. It's time to resume our lives as they were "before Covid" as much as it is reasonable while respecting the virus and the rules that may surround it. Although stitching can be solitary, we choose to stitch in community. Our Chapter is now meeting live and in-person as well as continuing to offer Zoom meetings. We continue to look at our space needs as the library locations for "Beverwyck" and "North End" are temporary as we cannot meet there year-round (library rules).

Due to Covid, we have not gathered in person for a Joint Meeting since September 2019. We are now very happy to be making plans to hold the next Joint Meeting/Picnic on September 28. This is another time when we can all gather together, share a meal, enjoy one another's company and a program that will inspire us. Please save the date and plan to join us. Plans are also underway for a FALL RETREAT at Ararat! Our Program Committee, under the leadership of Terry Case, is fast at work planning for the fall and coming year. Look for announcements and articles in the newsletter for opportunities.

Our Chapter has multiple positions that are vacant. Please consider offering some of your time to the success of this Chapter.

I'd like to take this time to thank Ginger Iorizzo, our past Chapter president. Ginger didn't sign-up for what she was handed as Covid brought us unprecedented times and Ginger led our group to continued success. Ginger handled all of the curve balls with grace and strength. She encouraged us to keep stitching and pushed for alternative programming online. Ginger's leadership through this time set the stage for us to move forward. I am grateful that Ginger will be continuing on the Board as a Vice President. She has been instrumental (to me) in this time of transition. Please take the time to thank Ginger for her leadership.

I look forward to stitching with you!

Nancy





Summer 2022 Calendar

JUNE

7	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share	8 Crewel**
9	North End	Stitch-In with Show & Share	13 Whitework
21	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share Bethlehem Pubic Library*	13 Counted Thread Eve
23	North End	Stitch-In with Show & Share Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library*	20 Counted Thread Day
			22 Studio Time
			25 Blackwork**

In-Person Meetings!

Some group meetings and study groups are now being held in person. Contact the group coordinator if you have any questions.

JULY

5	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share	11 Whitework
19	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share Bethlehem Pubic Library*	11 Counted Thread Eve
			13 Crewel**
			18 Counted Thread Day
			23 Blackwork**
			27 Studio Time

Zoom Invites

Zoom invitation links will be emailed before events.

Group and Joint Meetings:
Invites will be sent to all Chapter members.

Classes:
Invites will be sent to registered participants.

Study Groups:
Invites will be sent to group members. If you are interested in joining a study group, contact the coordinator listed on page 4.

Board Meetings:
Invites will be sent to board members.

AUGUST

2	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share	8 Whitework
15	Board	Zoom Meeting at 7pm	8 Counted Thread Eve
16	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share Bethlehem Pubic Library*	10 Crewel**
			15 Counted Thread Day
			24 Studio Time
			27 Blackwork**

SEPTEMBER

5	Board	Zoom Meeting at 7pm	12 Whitework
6	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share	12 Counted Thread Eve
8	North End	Stitch-In with Show & Share	14 Crewel**
20	Beverwyck	Stitch-In with Show & Share Bethlehem Pubic Library*	19 Counted Thread Day
21	Day Group	Stitch-In with Show & Share	24 Blackwork**
22	North End	Stitch-In with Show & Share Location TBD*	28 Studio Time
28	Chapter	Joint Meeting Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Delmar Antique Samplers presentation by Marilyn Sassi	

Board Meetings

All members are welcome at board meetings. If you're interested in attending, email Nancy at nycdeganancy@gmail.com and ask for the Zoom link.

* In-person meeting, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

** Mix of in-person and Zoom meeting.






Reintroducing In-Person Meetings

As we learn to live with COVID, more of our meetings will be in person. The Day Group meetings have been successfully held in person since the fall. Now the Beverwyck Group will hold some summer meetings at the Bethlehem Public Library in Delmar. The Blackwork Study Group and the Crewel and Surface Embroidery Study Group meetings will be a mix of in person and Zoom. The Joint Meeting in late September will also be held in person.

Study Groups


Study group invites will be limited to current members of the group. If you are interested in joining a study group, you can contact the group coordinator listed below.

Beverwyck Evening Group
Meetings in the Albany area on 1st & 3rd Tuesday
 Meetings will be a mix of Zoom (7-9 pm) and in person (6:30-8:30 pm).
 Check the calendar on page 3 for specifics.
Coordinator: Terry Case



NOW MEETING IN PERSON!

Day Group
10-2 PM every 3rd Wednesday (Sept-May)
 Blooming Grove Reformed Church, 706 Bloomingrove Dr, Defreestville
Coordinator: Fran Roscello



North End Group
Meetings in the Clifton Park area on the 2nd & 4th Thursday (Sept-June), barring holidays.
 Meetings will be a mix of Zoom (7-9 pm) and in person (6:30-8:30 pm).
 Check the calendar on page 3 for specifics.
Coordinator: Doris Halvorsen



Study Groups and Studio Time
 Study Groups and Studio Time are open to all members and offer unstructured time to gather with other Chapter members for stitching and socializing. Study Groups encourage exploration and knowledge sharing of a particular type of stitching. Check the Calendar page for exact meeting dates.

Blackwork Study Group
 Fourth Saturday of the month; 10 AM - 2 PM
 Contact: Fran Roscello

Crewel & Surface Embroidery Study Group
 Second Wednesday of the month; 10 AM - 12 PM
 Contact: Mary Willmott

Counted Thread Study Group (formerly known as Cross Stitch PLUS)
Day Meetings
 Third Monday of the month; 10 AM - 2 PM
Evening Meetings
 Second Monday of the month; 7 PM - 9 PM
 Contact: Lynne Priestley

Studio Time
 Fourth Wednesday of the month; 10 AM - 12 PM
 Contact: Sherry McCredie

Whitework Study Group
 Second Monday of the month; 10 AM - 12 PM
 Contact: Doris Halvorsen





NOTES FROM THE MAY 2022 BIENNIAL MEETING

How wonderful to gather again after 2½ years! Carol Newhart and Virginia Huerfeld brought us an inspirational program to help us celebrate the needle arts. They brought their quilts to show and shared their inspirations with us.

Sandie Feck was presented with the Past President’s pin as our biennial meeting had been cancelled two years ago. Please take the time to thank Sandie for her time and service as the President. Also, Ginger Iorizzo presented gifts to Louise Butler (VP), MaryAnn Lundy (Membership), and Agnes Bohl (Corresponding Secretary) as they leave the Board.

Ginger Iorizzo presented the slate of officers to the membership present. They were introduced and voted into office. They were: Nancy Knowles (president), Ginger Iorizzo (vice president), MaryEllen Tardiff (2nd vice president/membership), Jenni Paperman (treasurer), MaryAnn Gibson (recording secretary), and Doris Stoll (corresponding secretary). Since the biennial dinner, Agnes Bohl has been appointed to membership.

Terry Case presented Ginger Iorizzo with the Past President’s pin and spoke of the challenges that Ginger faced these last two years.

This was a great night of celebration and renewal. Announcements were made to look out for (live and in-person) summer (and fall) meetings and also to look out for the announcement for the fall retreat at Ararat. This was a very nice way to jump back into meeting in person.

— Nancy Knowles

JOINT MEETING

Talk on Antique Samplers by Marilyn Sassi

Wednesday, September 28
6:30 pm – Picnic Supper
7:00 pm – Presentation

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
85 Elm Ave, Delmar

We will be able to have an in-person Joint Meeting this September. It will be our first in three years so it’s really something to look forward to.

Because Beverwyck is not available, we will meet at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Delmar. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 28, starting at 6:30. As usual, we will start with a picnic. Bring a sandwich or something light. Desserts will be provided by members. Please feel free to bring some goodies to share. Decaf coffee will be available.

The meeting itself will start at 7 pm. Our speaker, Marilyn Sassi, will speak to us about antique samplers and may bring some of her own.

Marilyn, who has a degree in Fine Arts from Russell Sage College, is an expert in regional history and is a professor at both Schenectady Community College and Hudson Valley Community College. She lives at Teller House in the Schenectady Stockade and has filled it with many antiques, some dating back to the 1600’s.

Here’s hoping you can join us for a fun and educational evening!

Skylkill Chapter Invites You to Their 2022 Flea Market!

It’s finally back after the Covid hiatus. Loads – and we mean loads – of stitching stuff, merchandise, etc., which will be sold by the bag (bring standard sized grocery bags, and a pencil). Books (50 cents each), Bargian Basement items and Art of the Needle Boutique Table items (both priced as marked) will be available and not included in bagged pricing.

The sale will be held on Wednesday, July 6 at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church/Fellowship Hall, 1168 Route 55, LaGrangeville, NY 12540 (easily accessed off of the Taconic Parkway, or Route 82). Doors open at 9 am. No admission charge. Cash or check only.

Questions? Get in touch with Ginny Thompson or Arlene Seligman.

Come join the fun and we hope to see you then!!

– Ginny Thompson, Skylkill Chapter





Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework

Not far from here, in the Memorial Hall Museum in Deerfield, Massachusetts, there is a wonderful collection of embroidered items by members of the Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework. You may be familiar with their work through a visit to Memorial Hall or from the book *Deerfield Embroidery* by Margery Burnham Howe.

The Society of Blue and White Needlework was founded in 1896 by Ellen Miller and Margaret Whiting, both of whom were from New England and former students of art in New York City. Their families both moved to Deerfield in the mid-1890s but they had met each other previously. Indeed, they had already collaborated on a comprehensive book, *Wild Flowers of the North-Eastern States* (1895), illustrated with pen and ink drawings. In Deerfield, they became interested in early- to mid-18th century embroidered textiles stored at Memorial Hall. They also sought out early embroidered pieces as they traveled around the area seeking locations for landscape paintings.

Miller and Whiting's goal was to revive Colonial-era needlework so that these skills would not be lost. They decided to develop a village industry, aided by Ellen's younger sister Margaret Miller, who became the secretary for the society, and Mary Allen, who, with her sister Frances, became a nationally known photographer. Miller and Whiting's designs were their own, inspired by but not copied from 18th-century designs. They trained local women to embroider their designs, using linen cloth and predominantly linen threads. Ellen Miller became skilled at dyeing, using not synthetic dyes, but natural ones (see photo). Originally the designs used blue thread only (see example in photo), but influences beyond the Colonial began to make their way into the work, as Whiting described in an 1898 talk: "Rub Oriental art through a Puritan sieve and how odd the result; how charming and individual" (Howe, p. 18). The

stitches were those used by 18th-century embroiderers, linear stitches such as outline, stem, herringbone, Deerfield herringbone, open and closed chain, coral, and more (Flynt, p. 77).

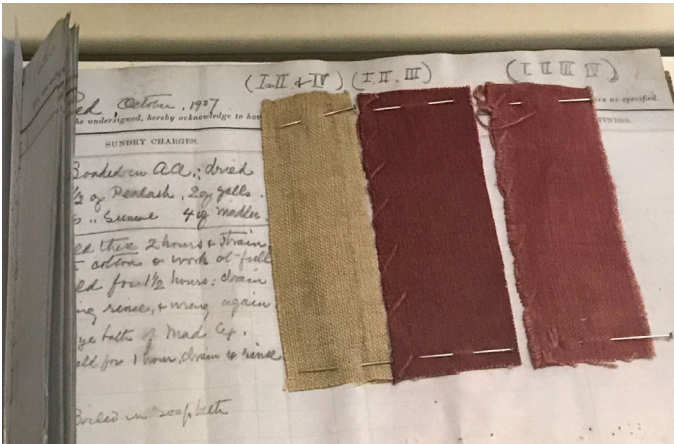


Women who embroidered items as a part of the Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework were paid based on the selling price of an item. The amount was divided into ten parts. The craftsperson was given five parts, Whiting or Miller earned two parts as the designer, two parts were put in a fund to maintain the society, and one part covered the cost of materials (Cahill, p. 73). Works from the Society were identified by the letter "D" within a spinning wheel.

The Blue and White Society was just one of a number of Arts & Crafts movements established towards the end of the nineteenth century and during the first two decades of the 20th. Particularly famous was the William Morris workshop in England, others include the Wiener Werkstätte in Austria, the Roycroft community in western New York, the Prairie School of architecture in Chicago, and, right in Deerfield itself, the Deerfield Society of Arts and Crafts. This society was made up of basketmakers, weavers, photographers, and those who worked with metals.

Whiting and Miller began to enter Society works into exhibitions around the country, including five items in the first Chicago Arts and Crafts Society exhibition, which resulted in a number of orders (Flynt, p. 77). The work was also shown in arts and craft society exhibitions in Detroit, Boston, New Orleans, and elsewhere. At the 1915 World's Fair in San Francisco, one of their works won a silver medal for color and design. It is also possible that Whiting won a gold medal. While there is no record of this accomplishment, she did have in her possession a gold medal from the fair (Flynt, p. 102). The work of the Society slowed down around this period. During the First World War, it was difficult to get linen, and members of the Society were focused on other endeavors. The Society hung on until 1926, when it disbanded due to changing tastes and the declining health of Whiting and Miller.

Continued on page 7



Top of page: Blue and white embroidery from the Society, with the D in a spinning wheel identification mark. (Memorial Hall Museum)
At right: One of Ellen Miller's dyeing notebooks. (Memorial Hall Museum)





For The Stitcher's Soul is moving to a new location!

163 Delaware Ave in Delmar, across from the Hannaford Shopping Plaza.

Store will be closed 6/25–7/5 and reopen in the new location on Wednesday, 7/6.

Grand Re-Opening Celebration on Saturday, 7/30

Trunk shows for four designers:

Rosewood Manor, JBW, The Mindful Needle and Hardanger Designer Donna Olson.

Fabric, Threads, Charts, Accessories, Classes

Slowly adding needlepoint, needle punch and embroidery

Retreat being planned for October 21–23

More open stitch days and live classes coming!

Contact Terri if you're interested in being an instructor.

Owner: Terri Pittman | 518-898-9416 | www.forthestitcherssoul.com | forthestitcherssoul@gmail.com

Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework

Continued from page 6

You will notice that I've listed a Wikipedia article on the Society in the bibliography. I created that article, and have written the vast majority of it. It provides additional information and includes links that will make it easy to explore further. If you do, you may want to add what you learn to enhance the article!

— Trudi Jacobson, Education Chair

Bibliography

Cahill, Susan Elizabeth. *Crafting Culture, Fabricating Identity: Gender and Textiles in Limerick Lace, Clare Embroidery, and the Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework*. Master of Arts Thesis, Queens University, 2007.

Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deerfield_Society_of_Blue_and_White_Needlework

Flynt, Suzanne L. *Poetry to the Earth: The Arts & Crafts Movement in Deerfield*. Hard Press Editions, 2012.

Howe, Margery Burnham. *Deerfield Embroidery: Traditional Patterns from Colonial Massachusetts*. Scribner's, 1976.

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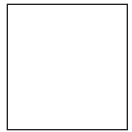
Open Tues - Sat 10am - 4pm

Country Plaza, 1225 Rt. 9G, Suite D
Hyde Park, NY 12538 ♦ 845-229-0246

Pat Athanas email: deerhillfarmxs@optimum.net



The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.
NY Capital District Chapter
PO Box 443
Slingerlands NY 12159



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



September 2022 Retreat at Ararat Center
Friday-Sunday, September 9-11, 2022
Registration Deadline is July 29

Name: _____
Phone: _____
Room Choice: ___ Single ___ Double ___ Triple
Roommate's Name(s): _____
 Room Choice: Single - \$306 Double - \$246 Triple - \$222


Send check (made out to NYCDCEGA) to:
NYCDCEGA, Melody Brennan, PO Box 43, Slingerlands, NY 12159
 Included is SASE for my confirmation OR
 Email my confirmation to: _____

___ You are registered for the September 2022 Retreat.



Jennifer Paperman has converted several of the Chapter pins into needleinders. If you are interested in getting one, they are the same \$5 as the Chapter pins were. Send Jen an email and she'll arrange to get one to you. Attending one of our in-person Chapter events? She can get it to the group leader to pass along to you. And if you want a Chapter pin, she has a few of those left, too. Also for \$5.

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www.facebook.com/nycdcega



The mission of The Embroiderers' Guild of America is to inspire passion for the needle arts through education and the celebration of its heritage.

