



New York Capital District Chapter

SPRING 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 8
Registration Deadline for Scissor Case Lanyard

April 1
Registration Deadline for Embroidered Birds

April 9
Registration Deadline for June Retreat

May 1
Registration Deadline for Biennial Dinner

May 1
Newsletter Deadline

CONTACT INFO

NATIONAL
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Newsletter
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The Changing of the Dues

This year brings two big changes to our annual dues: a cost increase and a new payment method. Let's start by looking at the cost increase.

In the September 2023 issue of *Needle Arts*, EGA President Karen Hamilton wrote about national dues increasing to \$55 in 2024. This is the first increase in 14 years and comes at a time when EGA has been operating at a deficit for several years. In our last newsletter, Chapter President Nancy Knowles explained that not all of our \$60 annual membership dues stays with our Chapter. Membership dues are shared between national (\$39), the Metropolitan Region (\$4) and our Chapter (\$17). With national dues increasing to \$55, our annual membership dues will now be \$76.

If you read the 2/1/24 email from EGA Headquarters, you already know about the second big change. EGA will now email renewal reminders to all members. Chapter members will then go to <https://egausa.org> to renew their membership. Payment of dues may be made by credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Additional payment options may be available when we receive the final membership renewal instructions. Many members will like the ease of the new approach and appreciate not worrying about stolen checks and check washing. But some members may struggle with the new approach. If you have concerns, reach out to your group leader for assistance. If you are still unable to renew and pay online, you may request a form to renew and pay by mail. While this is not the preferred way to renew, it may be the only option for some members.

The annual renewal date for current members will remain as 5/31 while the renewal date for new members will be the last day of the month they join. Kick off for the annual renewal of current EGA members will be April 1, 2024. Please **do not** renew your membership prior to April 1 as it may not be processed correctly. Our goal is to have all members renew by 5/15. Previous grace periods beyond 5/31 will no longer be accepted because a computer is creating the cutoff date, not a person. If you renew your membership after 5/31, you will have to enroll as a new member. This new online process applies only to **primary** chapter members. If you are a plural member, you will still need to send me \$17 for your NYCDCEGA dues.

As the 2/16/24 email from EGA Headquarters suggests, now is the time to make sure you're ready for membership renewal. If you haven't been to the national [EGA website](http://www.egausa.org) recently, please log in to make sure your user name and login still work. If they do, you are ready to go when the time comes to renew your membership. If you can't log in or have never been to the Members Only section of the EGA website, please follow the information [here](#) to set up your password and login. If you have difficulties with the process, email National at egahq@egausa.org or call 502-589-6956.

Details of the new renewal process are still being worked out so Chapter members should carefully read ALL emails from EGA Headquarters. You can also find info on the [Join Us page](#) of egausa.org and the [FAQs for Dues Renewals](#) section. As we learn more, we'll send out emails and group leaders will share information at the monthly meetings. If you have concerns or questions, please reach out to me, your group leader or other Board members.

- Lynne Priestley, Membership Chair • lpriestley053@gmail.com • 732-245-7242



2022-2024 Board Members

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nycdeganancy@gmail.com

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Exhibit

Vacant

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Letter from the President

Dear Members,

Exciting changes are on the horizon! Please read this newsletter carefully as there will be more detail outlined in the individual notes.

Our biennial dinner is around the corner in May. As always, there will be a special program and vote for new officers to the board. The positions of President, Vice President, Recording and Corresponding Secretaries will be on the slate. Please be sure to thank Ginger Iorizzo (vice president), MaryAnn Gibson (recording secretary), and Doris Stoll (corresponding secretary) for their service to EGA. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let one of the members of the Nominating Committee know (Diane Madrigal, Nancy Sprissler, Nancy Newkirk).

As you already know (national) EGA is undergoing many changes and one of those changes is how we will pay our annual dues. This has been well advertised through email and *Needle Arts*. This year will begin online payment through national and yes, there will be a mail-in option for those who do not have access to the internet. If you need help with this, please contact Lynne Priestley (membership chair), your group leader, or ask any of the board members and they will be happy to assist you.

I look forward to seeing you at a meeting or at the biennial dinner meeting.

Keep Stitching,

Nancy

Facebook

Visit our Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/nycdcega





Spring 2024 Calendar

MARCH

4	Board	Zoom Meeting @ 7 pm	7	Needlepoint
5	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	11	Counted Thread Eve
14	North End	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	11	Whitework
19	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	13	Crewel
20	Day Group	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	18	Counted Thread Day
21	North End	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)*	27	Studio Time
23	Chapter	Beaded Ribbon Scissor Case Lanyard with Sandie Feck		

In-Person Meetings

Beverwyck:
Bethlehem Pubic Library

North End Group:
Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library

Day Group:
Blooming Grove Reformed Church

APRIL

1	Board	Zoom Meeting @ 7 pm	4	Needlepoint
2	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	8	Whitework
11	North End	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	8	Counted Thread Eve
13	Chapter	Embroidered Birds with Natalie Hart Fryzer	10	Crewel
16	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	15	Counted Thread Day
17	Day Group	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	24	Studio Time
25	North End	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	27	Blackwork

Zoom Invites

Zoom invitation links will be emailed before events.

Group 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.

MAY

6	Board	Zoom Meeting @ 7 pm	2	Needlepoint
7	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	8	Crewel
9	North End	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	13	Whitework
15	Day Group	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	13	Counted Thread Eve
21	Chapter	Biennial Dinner and Election	20	Counted Thread Day
23	North End	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	22	Studio Time
			25	Blackwork

Cancellation Policy

Beverwyck Evening Group: The coordinator, Terry Case, will send out an email if a meeting is cancelled.

Day Group:
If the East Greenbush school district is closed, the meeting is cancelled.

North End Group:
The coordinator, Doris Halvorsen, will send out an email if a meeting is cancelled.

JUNE


4	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (Zoom)	6	Needlepoint
6-9	Chapter	June Retreat at Ararat	10	Whitework
13	North End	End-of-Year Party (In Person)	10	Counted Thread Eve
18	Beverwyck	Stitch-In, Show & Share (In Person)	12	Crewel
			17	Counted Thread Day
			22	Blackwork
			26	Studio Time

* Date moved to third Thursday due to Easter Week.






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,
tcase5@hotmail.com, 518-472-9506



Day Group
10-2 PM every 3rd Wednesday (Sept-May)
 Blooming Grove Reformed Church, 706 Bloomingrove Dr, Defreestville
 Day Group will be canceled if East Greenbush schools are closed.
Coordinator: Fran Roscello,
FranRoscello@nycap.rr.com, 518-283-4002



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,
davhlv@aol.com, 518-371-3956



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

.....

**We welcome those of all skill levels
 and interest in any needle art technique.**

Study Groups and Studio Time
 Study group invites will be limited to current members of the group. If you are interested in joining a study group, contact the group coordinator listed below. Check the Calendar on page 3 for meeting dates.

Blackwork Study Group
 Fourth Saturday of the month; 10 AM - 2 PM
 Contact: Fran Roscello at FranRoscello@nycap.rr.com or 518-283-4002.

Crewel & Surface Embroidery Study Group
 Second Wednesday of the month; Start at 10 AM
 For meeting location or Zoom invite, contact Mary Willmott at marywillmott2@hotmail.com or 518-462-0131.

Counted Thread Study Group
Day Meetings
 Third Monday of the month; 10 AM - 2 PM
 Meetings at Jenni Paperman's home
Evening Meetings - Zoom
 Second Monday of the month; 7 PM - 9 PM
 Contact: Lynne Priestley at lpriestley053@gmail.com or 732-245-7242.

Needlepoint Study Group
 First Thursday of the month; Noon - 4 PM
 East Greenbush Community Library
 Contact: Fran Roscello at FranRoscello@nycap.rr.com or 518-283-4002.

Studio Time
 Fourth Wednesday of the month; 10 AM - 2 PM
 Meetings at For the Stitcher's Soul
 163 Delaware Avenue, Delmar
 Contact: Sherry McCredie at smccredie@outlook.com or 518-469-8499.

Whitework Study Group
 Second Monday of the month; 10 AM - 12 PM
 Contact: Doris Halvorsen at davhlv@aol.com or 518-371-3956.





PROGRAMS

SPRING CLASSES: 10 am – 2 pm with a lunch break | A Space for Art, 60 Remson Street, Cohoes

Beaded Ribbon Scissor Case Lanyard with Sandie Feck

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Save your needlework from scissor punctures or accidental snipping of threads by storing your scissors in this pretty little scissor case which is always at hand when worn around the neck. The scissor case is made using jacquard-style ribbon and embellished with a beaded trim. The case is worn around the neck on a 32" silk lanyard and will hold a pair of scissors up to 4" long.

The kit contains: ribbon, fleece, seed beads, large bead, cording, thread, needles, pins and instructions. You will have the opportunity to choose the ribbon you'd like to use. You bring scissors, magnification and lighting as needed, and your lunch.

Registration deadline is March 8. The cost will be \$10. Use the registration coupon on page 9 to mail your check by the March 8 deadline.



Embroidered Birds with Natalie Hart Fryzer

Saturday, April 13, 2024

These three felt birds were originally designed for our Creative Stitching – Teaching Children to Stitch program. This was a fun project the kids enjoyed and is doable with only basic sewing skills. If the kids could do it, you can do it! Each bird uses a variety of embroidery stitches and instructions will cover tips for assembly.

Registration deadline is April 1. Class limit is 12 students so sign up early. The \$5 kit fee includes patterns, instructions, enough felt for three birds, one skein of DMC #5 pearl cotton, assorted print fabric for tail feathers and fiber fill. There will be an additional assortment of DMC colors to choose from, but feel free to bring your own threads. Pearl cotton #5 & #8 are best but you can also use stranded floss. You'll also need sharp needles, scissors and lunch. Use the registration coupon on page 9 to mail your check by April 1.



Empire QuiltFest EQFX: Diamonds and Daffodils

April 27–28, 2024

Saturday 9 am to 4 pm | Sunday 10 am to 4 pm

empirequiltfest.org

Fulton Montgomery Community College
2805 State Highway 67, Johnstown NY 12095

2024 EGA National Seminar Preserving Needle Art

August 14–18, 2024 | Hilton Hotel, Atlanta, GA
egausa.org/event/ega-national-seminar-2024/

Registration will be open until May 15, 2024

First come, first served registration will eliminate the waiting period to receive class assignments. You will know immediately upon successful payment confirmation if you are in a class or not.





Chapter Biennial Dinner Meeting and Election of Officers

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 – Italian American Community Center

- 6:00 pm Doors open – Drinks may be purchased at the bar
- 6:30 pm Dinner served
- 7:30 pm Election of Officers
- 7:45 pm After-Dinner Program (TBD)

Our Biennial Dinner Meeting will be held from 6–9pm on Tuesday, May 21 at the Italian American Community Center, 257 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany. Following the dinner, there will be a brief business meeting and the election of the following officers: President, First Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. The Program Committee is still working on the details of the after-dinner program. An email will be sent once the plans are finalized.

Registration Deadline is May 1. The cost for members will be \$30 per person and \$44 for guests. (The Chapter is underwriting part of the dinner for members.) Dinner includes salad, dessert and a choice of three different entrees: Chicken Francaise, Sliced Roast Beef and Eggplant Parmesan. There will also be a cash bar.

For questions about the dinner or the event, contact Terry Case at tcase5@hotmail.com. Please fill out the coupon on page 9 and mail it, along with your check & meal choice, to Louise Butler by May 1.

Royal School of Needlework's International Summer School 2024



The Royal School of Needlework will be teaching embroidery at the Sayre School in Lexington, Kentucky. The courses will be taught in person by expert RSN Tutors from July 13–28.

Participants will learn a variety of techniques from beginner to advanced levels and have the opportunity to meet the RSN's Chief Executive Susan Kay-Williams. Other exciting perks of joining in Kentucky include:

- An RSN welcome gift
- Conference dinner
- Scheduled talks by Dr. Susan Kay-Williams
- Access to exclusive Online Talks

Take advantage of Early Bird pricing before March 31. Please note that spaces are limited. To browse all International Summer School classes (plus online options) and read more information, visit: royal-needlework.org.uk/courses/international-summer-school-2024/classes/.

OUTREACH REPORT

Update on Sampler Reproduction Project

We are working with Sarah Stevens, the Peebles Island textile conservator, to reproduce an 1838 sampler from the Senate House State Historic Site in Kingston, NY. In January, a small group met at Peebles Island to examine the sampler and discuss the project. The majority of our time was spent trying to determine the original thread colors. The sampler is in fairly good condition despite its age, but the years have affected the colors. To see the most accurate color, we looked at the back and then found the best match to DMC floss. From that work, a key was developed with a symbol for each color.

We are now in the first phase of the project which involves charting the original. There are three teams of two that each meet one day a week. The work is moving slowly but steadily as we carefully examine the sampler, then refer to the key to add the appropriate symbols to graph paper. The sampler is stitched over two threads on 28 ct linen — except when it's over one! — and can be difficult to see clearly. But with the aid of our magnifying glass we are making progress.

– Terry Case, Outreach Chair





June 2024 Retreat at Ararat Center

This year's retreat will include a four-day, three-night option. We haven't offered this since COVID put a pause on our retreats and we're very happy to be able to have this option once again.

Whether you stay with the three-day option or treat yourself to four days, this will be a wonderful weekend. It's always a treat to sit and stitch with friends 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 and plenty of space to walk around and stretch your legs. If you need to stretch your arms and shoulders, Ann Cohan and Helen O'Connor will be leading morning and afternoon breaks with "Simple Stretches for Stitchers." Last summer, several members also shared their own stretches and gentle exercises. So if you have some favorite movements you want to share, we would love to try them out. If you need a stitching break in the evenings, the main residence has a large, central living room with a television and DVD player.

Dates: The retreat dates are Thursday, June 6 through Sunday, June 9.

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

Meals: The four-day option starts with dinner on Thursday, and includes all meals through lunch on Sunday. The meals for the three-day option start with dinner on Friday. 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.

- OPTION 1: Four-day Weekend, Thursday–Sunday
\$451 for a single; \$361 for a double; and \$328 for a triple.
- OPTION 2: Three-day Weekend, 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 12 members for the three-day option and eight for the four-day by April 9. So please don't delay and send in the registration coupon on page 9 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 518-729-0382 or hjoc09@gmail.com if you have questions or concerns. I look forward to another fabulous retreat weekend with many of you.

– Helen O'Connor, June Retreat Coordinator



2023 Fall Retreat Photos by Donna Logan.





EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FROM EGA NATIONAL

EGA National

Here are some of the new offerings from EGA National:

Virtual Lecture Series

Upcoming lectures:

- [Curiously Wrought – A Closer Look at Needleworked Buttons with Gina Barrett](#) on Saturday, April 14, 2024, at 1:00 pm. Registration March 28–April 12 at 1:00 pm.
- [Mediterranean Folk Art Embroidery: A Brief Tour of a Vibrant World](#) on Sunday, June 9 at 1:00 pm. Registration May 20–June 7 at 1:00 pm.

If you have missed a lecture that you really wanted to hear, check the past lectures section of [this page](#) to see if the lecture was recorded. If it's available, you can watch it for \$5.

GCC Lightening Rounds

The new set of GCC Lightening rounds for March through May 2024 hadn't been announced yet at the time of writing. Keep an eye on this page: <https://egausa.org/lightning-rounds/>.

Scholarships

Several of the EGA educational scholarships have upcoming deadlines. Consider applying for one of them! You will find these and other scholarships and awards listed on this webpage: <https://egausa.org/scholarships-and-awards/>

The Penny Evans Memorial Scholarship

(Applications due May 1, notification by June 1)

- For EGA members for an embroidery related class, study project, or similar education offering by EGA, The Royal School of Needlework or the City and Guilds of London Institute, in the U.S. or the U.K.

The Marjorie Jones Scholarship

(Applications due April 1, notification by May 1)

- Awarded to benefit students of crewel embroidery taking a crewel class at EGA's National Seminar or an EGA region seminar.

The Research Fellowship Grant Award

(Applications due June 1, notification by Sept 1)

- Awarded for in-depth research in all areas of embroidery and allied textile arts, and to create a basis for dialogue between EGA and other grant and research institutions.
- Grants of up to \$1,000 are awarded annually.

RSN (Royal School of Needlework)

The Stitch Bank

The RSN has been expanding its stitch encyclopedia, The Stitch Bank. The newest expansion is explained on their website: "This winter we are adding 25 stitches from the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. For this we have been working with Jacqui Carey, author of *Sweet Bags and Elizabethan Stitches*. These include stitches from the period that have fallen out of use as well different ways of working familiar stitches." Some of the stitches included in this project are Elizabethan Plaited, Ladder, and Holly Braid Stitches, Elizabethan Tubular Ceylon, Elizabethan Half and Turn, and Elizabethan Corded Brussels.

Each of the over 350 stitches includes an overview of the stitch, detailed visual and video directions, visual examples, references, and three attributes that are searchable in their own right: the structure of the stitch, the use of the stitch, and the embroidery technique in which it is used.

— Trudi Jacobson, Education Chair

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Pat Athanas email: deerhillfarmxs@optimum.net





Security Tips for Writing Checks

Have you seen the recent news reports about the increase in check theft and check washing? In our last newsletter, Treasurer Jenni Paperman shared the story of how our Chapter fell victim to check washing, the steps she took to get our money back and protect our accounts, and tips on what we could do to avoid this in the future. Keep these tips in mind when you register for Chapter events:

- Use a black gel ink pen instead of a ballpoint pen to prevent check washing.
- Use a security envelope or wrap check in non-transparent paper to make sure the check cannot be seen.
- Go inside the post office to mail your check.
- Hand deliver check at a meeting when possible.

Beaded Ribbon Scissor Case Lanyard

A Space for Art – Saturday, March 23

Registration Deadline is March 8, 2024

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Send check (made out to NYCDCEGA) for \$10 to:

Louise Butler, 125 Westchester Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065-7500

June 2024 Retreat at Ararat Center

Thursday–Sunday, June 6–10, 2024

Registration Deadline is April 9, 2024

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Room Choice: ___ Single ___ Double ___ Triple

Roommate's Name(s): _____

Four-day Option: Single – \$451 Double – \$361 Triple – \$328

Three-day Option: Single – \$306 Double – \$246 Triple – \$222

Send check (made out to NYCDCEGA) to:

Helen O'Connor, 111 Marlboro Rd, Delmar, NY 12054

Embroidered Birds

A Space for Art – Saturday, April 13

Registration Deadline is April 1, 2024

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Send check (made out to NYCDCEGA) for \$5 to:

Louise Butler, 125 Westchester Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065-7500

Biennial Dinner Meeting & Election of Officers – 5/21/2024

Registration Deadline is May 1, 2024

Member's Name: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Entree Choice (choose one):

___ Chicken Francaise ___ Sliced Roast Beef ___ Eggplant Parmesan

Guest's Name: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Entree Choice (choose one):

___ Chicken Francaise ___ Sliced Roast Beef ___ Eggplant Parmesan

Member: \$30 | Guest price: \$44

Total Enclosed: _____

Send check (made out to NYCDCEGA) to:

Louise Butler, 125 Westchester Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065-7500

PLEASE NOTE YOUR MEAL CHOICE & SAVE FOR YOUR RECORDS

Biennial Dinner Meeting & Election of Officers

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Italian American Community Center
257 Washington Ave Extension, Albany

6:00 pm Doors open

6:30 pm Dinner served

7:30 pm Election of Officers

7:45 pm After-Dinner Program

Your Entree Choice:

___ Chicken Francaise

___ Sliced Roast Beef

___ Eggplant Parmesan

Your Guest's Entree Choice:

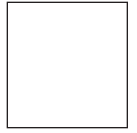
___ Chicken Francaise

___ Sliced Roast Beef

___ Eggplant Parmesan



The Embroiderers'
Guild of America, Inc.
NY Capital District Chapter
5 Albright Place
Delmar NY 12054



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**163 Delaware Ave
Delmar**

Across from the
Hannaford Shopping Plaza

**Wed & Sat 10-4 pm
Thurs 12-4:30 pm**

Open stitch during store hours
and on Wed Evenings 6-8pm

For the Stitcher's Soul

*Our mission is simple...
to keep the different needle arts alive
by providing quality stitching products
and by sharing the love of stitching
with anyone who wants to learn.*

Fabric, Threads, Charts, Accessories, Classes
Slowly adding needlepoint, needle punch and embroidery

New classes: See Calendar of Events on website

*Instructors in embroidery, Needlepoint and Blackwork wanted.
Contact Terri if you're interested in being an instructor.*

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

