

# Gilding the Needle

*"A few stitches today – an heirloom tomorrow"*

A chapter of the Embroiderers' Association of Canada  
(EAC) eac.ca

## President's Message - Winter, 2013

It has been a busy fall. There are so many things to reflect back upon, I am having problems organizing my thoughts.

Learn a Stitch program teachers have been busy teaching us many new ideas. Thank you everyone who has taught this Fall or volunteered to teach in the New Year.

I had never tried shisha work or ribbon embroidery before. It was fun. As well I have learned new ways to use more familiar stitches. I am beginning to create a beautiful flower garden in threads - and can see from the list that we are not yet half way through the Crazy Quilt stitches. I can hardly wait to see what is coming next.

Please remember if you have ideas you wish to teach as part of the Learn a Stitch to see Ros or Anjali.

The Trunk shows have been fantastic. The cross stitch display was so varied and gorgeous and the stories that accompanied the North American native art pieces added so much to the variety of work. There are lots more Trunk shows to come in the New Year.

Show and Share has been done on alternative weeks. The completed pieces are inspiring. I am always amazed at how talented all our members are. Thank you Mary Lou for organizing the Fall workshops. The last Show and Share included finished pieces from both Andrea Graham's and Margaret Vant Erve's workshops. Wow!

Seeing all these finished pieces helps encourage me to complete my UFO's. I look forward to the afternoon meetings in January and February when we will all have time to finish up some of those projects hiding in the bottom of the box. The Fall afternoon project groups are busy places. The work being completed is diverse as well as beautiful. I am partial to cats, and have seen examples in both the Elizabethan sampler, and the Zen doodles that I would love to complete.

Winter is a wonderful time to complete these dreams, and Jack Frost has been painting my yard. Maybe I too will have a completed thread cat by Christmas. ( Notice I did not say which year.)

Members also shared their time at many events outside our Guild meeting this fall. Volunteers have had displays showing needle arts work, and advertising our Guild at Homesteader Days, Sheep to Shawl, ACRAM and Creative Festival.

The main event though was our Needle Arts Fair. The Needle Arts Fair was an enormous success as a result of so much work by so many. Without everyone's support this event would never have happened. A special thanks to Theresa. Please see her article in this newsletter. (page 7) The question is: "How will she top this next year?" I can hardly wait to see. We have three new members. We want to welcome Janet, Eva and Jean. It is wonderful to come Mondays and visit with everyone - new members and present members. (You thought I'd say old- ha.)

*Continued page 2*

Member of Ontario Network of Needle  
workers  
(ONN) [onguilds.ca](http://onguilds.ca)



## Catarauqui Guild of Needle Arts

Member of Embroiderers'  
Association of Canada

meets

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays

9:30 am — 3:30 pm

at

**Edith Rankin Memorial Church Hall**  
4080 Bath Rd.  
Kingston, On

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**December, 2013**

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**2013 -2014  
Executive  
of  
Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts**

Suite 802  
829 Norwest Road  
Kingston, ON, K7P 2N3

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Diane Dukoff

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**Hospitality**

Irene Hodge

assisted by: Barbara Jackson, Ann Miller, Tricia Vretteas

**Programme**

Roslyn Hanes

Shyam, Anjali

**Workshop** Mary Lou Wilson

If you have any friends or acquaintances who are interested in learning more about embroidery, please invite them to one of our meetings. We'd love to meet them. Though Simone's recent guests were a bit young to join, it was great to meet them. Who knows, in twenty years or so we may see their work at our Show and Share too.

Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon is almost here. We will have a Town Hall meeting in the morning before we shop, eat and learn. Please bring your questions and ideas to our morning meeting. Eileen and Guylaine will be selling books and magazines after. Please let them know if you have print donations you will be bringing that day, so they can plan how much space will be needed for the Big Sale.

Then we eat. Everyone is invited to bring goodies to share. Plan on staying for the special afternoon show. You never know what new ideas you will learn.

See everyone Monday.

*Diane Dukoff*



### On the Bookshelf

Thank you to all the guild members who are faithful at returning their books. It makes it much easier to keep track of the library.

There will be a book sale at the Christmas pot luck; that will make space in the crowded library cabinet. Thank you to the volunteers who helped us sort out the 359 books and DVDs that constitute our library.

We have a catalogue that you can use to research a title that you might be interested in, it is also available electronically.

Eileen Hanson & Guylaine Bélanger

### *From Your Newsletter Editor .....*

As always, I would like to encourage everyone to participate in the Newsletter by giving me items for publication. Several members have contributed to this issue and I would like to thank them very much.

Please note that on page 7 a new contest has been announced. I hope there will be lots of participation.

Hope you enjoy this issue of your Newsletter and I extend to one and all my very best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas Season.

Elizabeth

## **First Meeting of the Year**

Members arrived at our first meeting in September full of enthusiasm and anxious to get started on our new learn-a-stitch programme. This year we will be learning stitches to complete a crazy patch project. After a warm welcome from our new president Diane Dukoff, members got down to business, selecting patterns and fabrics for their special project. The day concluded with demonstrations showing how to assemble crazy patches. Members left the meeting with lots of good ideas, some with patterns and fabric but all with homework - to have their crazy patch project ready for the next meeting when we would learn the first of many stitches to adorn our work. Should be some great pieces of work on display by next June.



## **Afternoon Classes**

At our second meeting in September we learned and practiced the first of many stitches we will be shown in order to complete our crazy patch project.

After lunch we started our afternoon classes. This year during the fall session members chose between a lovely Elizabethan sampler, instructor, Linda Burke and an introduction to the wonderful world of designing with zen doodles, instructor, Theresa Lawrence. Irene Hodge also offered an introductory to needlework for new members unfamiliar with stitching. Those not participating in afternoon classes were encouraged to spend the afternoon working in a sewing circle and getting some of their UFO completed.



This year the programme directors have decided to have a “theme truck show” once a month. The first truck show theme was cross stitch and many members participated bringing in new and old samples for everyone to enjoy.



## Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts Winter 2014 Programme

January 6	AM	Learn a stitch: chevron variations - Theresa Lawrence <b>Show and Share</b>
	PM	Royal School of Embroidery (crewel section study group) - Theresa Lawrence UFO group - Diane Dukoff/Sally Fink
January 20	AM	Learn-a-stitch: African motifs - Irene Hodge <b>Theme truck show - crewel work</b>
	PM	Royal School of Embroidery (crewel section study group) - Theresa Lawrence UFO group - Diane Dukoff/Sally Fink
February 3	AM	Learn[-a-stitch: knotted stitches - Anjali Shyam <b>Show and Share</b>
	PM	Royal School of Embroidery (crewel section study group) - Theresa Lawrence UFO group - Diane Dukoff/Sally Fink
February 17	AM	Learn-a-stitch: detached buttonhole - Jocelyne Ezard <b>Theme truck show - weaving (e.g. cloth, baskets)</b>
	PM	Silk Fusion - Beth Abbott Royal School of Embroidery (crewel section study group) - Theresa Lawrence UFO group - Diane Dukoff/Sally Fink
March 3	AM	Learn-a-stitch: herringbone variations - Donna Hamilton <b>Show and Share</b>
	PM	Silk Fusion - Beth Abbott Celtic canvas work - Mary Lou Wilson UFO group - Diane Dukoff/Sally Fink
March 17	AM	Learn-a-stitch: buttonhole variations - Ann Miller <b>Theme trunk show -Blackwork</b>
	PM	Silk fusion - Beth Abbott Celtic canvas work - Mary Lou Wilson UFO group - Diane Dukoff/Sally Fink

As in the Fall, **show and share** will be on the first meeting of the month and on the second meeting there will be a **group theme trunk show**. Each time we will feature one type of embroidery or work from a particular country or another craft/art. Please bring along what you have, new or old, pertaining to the topic. Even if you have brought it in before, it will be great to see it again and there will always be members who missed it the first time or who are new to the group.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are pleased to welcome new members

### Janet Wagg

Janet has owned and operated the Wilton Road Motel in Odessa for the last 27 years. She is pretty much tied to home and office but has managed to find time to pursue some of her other interests such as spinning and weaving. Her biggest concern at the moment is not to pursue another hobby that requires a whole new level of “stash”. She already has SABLE (stash above and beyond life expectancy!) and is hoping that the needle arts guild will provide her with another opportunity to use some of it in a new and exciting way.

### Eva Krugly-Smolka

In her teens and twenties Eva did a fair amount of needlepoint and cross stitch, then her career as a high school science teacher and later as a professor at Queen’s got in the way. Now that she is retired she can get back to doing the things she didn’t have time for in her almost twenty-five years in Kingston. These include getting back to doing needlework and lots and lots of reading. Reading Monica Ferris’ needlework mysteries inspired her to join the guild. She feels she is starting at square one and so is looking forward to learning old as well as new things. Eva is very appreciative of the warm welcome she has received.

We are also pleased to welcome back

### Jean Clair

Long time member, Jean took a break from the guild for a few years but we are very happy that she has decided to return.

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## **Knowledge & Needles**

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**Ann McDonald**  
613-475-4843

e-mail: [balych@kos.net](mailto:balych@kos.net)

190 Smith St., Brighton, ON K0K 1H0

## Needle Arts Fair

We had our 10th Annual Needle Arts Fair on October 5. Approximately 200 people attended. This year there were 17 vendors offering wool for both knitting and felting, threads in every colour of the rainbow, hooking supplies, beads, quilting fabric and supplies and a variety of patterns for every need. There were even beautiful hand made cards - in other words, everything your heart desired! The display of members' work was, as usual, very much appreciated by those who attended and members staffing the demonstration table were happy to answer all enquires about the guild. There were also workshops/demonstrations on framing, canvas work and Swedish weaving as well as a lecture on cotton. The door prize draws conducted throughout the day were also very popular. To sum up, it was a great day and hats off to Theresa Lawrence and her committee for all the hard work that they put into making this event a success.



## Needle Arts Fair

I'd like to **Thank You** for helping out at our Needle Arts Fair 2013. Particular thanks to Tricia Vretteas who chaired our advertising committee, Donna Hamilton who helped with the poster and post card set-up and Mickie Beauchamp who got us organized with directional signs. All of your ideas concerns and suggestions were greatly appreciated.

The purpose of our Fair is four fold—to exhibit our work; encourage new members; purchase goods that we are able to see and talk to the vendors; and to make a profit for the guild. We succeeded in all four areas.

Most vendors completed the survey forms I left with them. It is the only way we can see if we are meeting their needs and happy vendors are return vendors. There are a couple of issues that I will definitely be able to remedy for next year, space in the centre core being the biggest complaint. I just never imagined how much stuff the vendors bring (which was great for us). Looking at an empty room; measuring it; and even with just the tables in place I thought everyone would have lots of space, my apologies. Having wall space for everyone is not possible, but we will try to accommodate as many as possible in the future.

The café, for those who missed out on soup or sandwiches, again I apologize. In the past we have provided food with entry fees and this was a complaint of attendees not wanting a luncheon. So with the help of the Seniors Centre Café we embarked on a new adventure. I had to give them some kind of numbers for food prep and my WAG was off. I think all will agree that it was great not having to take on this task ourselves.

Ideas for next year—at the Town Hall Meeting in December I would like to take some time to discuss the direction we want to go forward. Theme? Advertising? Poster Design? How to Increase the number of attendees? So please come prepared to talk about this. It is your Fair.

The date has been set and the venue booked for next year, **Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2014**, at the same location—Kingston Seniors Centre. So mark your calendars and if you have any suggestions for other vendors or improvements we can make please, please let me know.

*Theresa*

### *Poster and Postcard Design Competition*

#### *Needle Arts Fair 2014*

Design a poster /flyer/postcard for next year's  
Needle Arts Fair

We are looking for something eye catching.  
It can be a sketch, pictures of members' work,  
Colourful. Something people will notice.

Did I mention there would be prizes?

Deadline for entries February 17 2014

### Andrea Graham - Felting Landscape Workshop

Andrea Graham is a multi media artist residing in rural Ontario. She exhibits, teaches and lectures internationally and is recognized for her technical skill and innovation. Twenty-three members took part in her one-day workshop which was subsidized by the seminar fund. There were both beginners and advance felt makers who rolled, rolled and rolled some more. I think it was a surprise to some just how much work there is in making the ground felt. We all went home with a piece of felt that we will turn into our own special piece of fibre art using the techniques Andrea taught us for making such things as tree trunks and rocks. As a matter of fact, several excellent pieces were on display at our very next guild meeting. I am sure all in attendance will agree that it was a very interesting and fun filled day. Thanks you, Mary Lou, for once again making all the arrangements that made this day so successful and enjoyable for all of us.



## Margaret Vant Erve - Two-Day Workshop - Picket Fence

Margaret grew up on a farm in the Ottawa Valley. She studied textile art at Sheridan College and the Ontario College of Art and a small private embroidery school. Her textile repertory includes botanical studies in silk, hand embroidery along with painted and machine embroidered quilts. Fourteen members participated in this workshop. Each student painted their silk then stitched flowers using various stitches. Margaret is an excellent teacher and as you can see from the group picture, everyone had an enjoyable and productive daytime. A few members even had their project completed and on display at the very next show and share. Thanks again, Mary Lou, for making all the arrangements for another very successful workshop.



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# BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Travel Network for Women of Like Minds

Volume 1

Have you ever thought about travelling to somewhere your husband, friends, family have no interest in going or the single supplement makes it financially too expensive? We have a solution. Heidi Pivnick, an Ottawa travel agent, and Pat Caffery are launching a service to help you. We are organizing trips to places of interest to all of you and we will pair you up with a roomy if you wish. Although these trips are focusing on women and their interests, husbands/friends/significant others will not be excluded if the tour is of interest to them as well.

We have been receiving lots of suggestions for destinations and have put together three trips for 2014. They will all include points of interest to fibre artists and perhaps one if not all will spark an interest and you will join us. They include:

- ♦ **March 30th to April 6th, 2014 — The Ultimate Destination Workshop, Grand Pineapple Beach Resort in Negril, Jamaica. Offering hands on workshops in Traditional Hand Hook Rugs and Embroidery.**
- ♦ **August 15th to September 1st, 2014 — The Textile and Rug Trade, Hi-Lites of Turkey, hosted by Heidi and Pat. A combination of sightseeing of the famous sites of Turkey and visits to outlying areas to view rug making and textile manufacturers.**
- ♦ **December 3rd to 10th, 2014 — Christmas Market River Cruise by Avalon . From Prague to Frankfurt.**

We are already looking forward to 2015 and have received many suggestions: Ireland, South America, Africa, India, Asia, Scandinavia and another Christmas Market River Cruise. The River Cruise is scheduled for December 1st to 9th, 2015 — Christmas Market River Cruise by Avalon, from Prague to Frankfurt . Join Heidi and Pat on this itinerary.

Heidi is already taking deposits for The Ultimate Destination Workshop. Rooms are based on double occupancy and single occupancy is available on request. Room rate, land only, for accommodations, meals and unlimited drinks is \$920.00 US per person in Beach Side Cottages. Air will be at a special fare reflected by our numbers and arranged at a later date. A **refundable**, deposit of \$200.00 per person will secure your participation.

If you are interested in any of these packages, please contact Heidi Pivnick at 613-314-6953 or email: [heidipivnick@gmail.com](mailto:heidipivnick@gmail.com)

## SACRED STITCHES DISPLAY IN TORONTO

On Thursday, October 31, I had the opportunity to go to Toronto and see the Sacred Stitches displays at St. James' Cathedral. The exhibits were in celebration of the 100th anniversary of The Ecclesiastical Needleworkers of the Diocese of Toronto. I was there on the last day of the display in their Diocesan Hall where the ladies displayed some pieces that they were working on, either refurbishing or making new vestments in the old tradition. They had made a new copy of an old black chasuble (like a poncho) and an intricate and colourful one stitched with vines and grapes in gold threads and soft colours. This one was a beauty.

The second display which ended on November 1, was in the church and was spread out throughout. There were frontal altar cloths, one in particular was very intricate. It was originally made in the U.K. at the London School of Needlework in 1951 and had recently been repaired in Toronto. There were copes (like a long cape) which were quilted works with particular themes and others made for specific occasions or geographical areas and reflected these. Some vestments were dalmatics worn by deacons (similar to chasuble above, but with sleeves). I was glad my husband wasn't with me as he might have gotten some ideas about some I could make for him. He is a deacon in our church.

One piece that particularly impressed me was what was referred to as a textile tapestry. It was made by the Pomegranate Guild for Judaic Textiles for the celebration of their 25th anniversary and designed by one of its members. It consisted of some blocks with medium-sized crystal beads in their centers surrounded with cloth in the same colours as the beads which represented breastplates of the twelve tribes of Israel. I took some pictures with my cell phone at this point. The center blocks were different vivid colours such as gold, aqua, red, etc. These, however, were framed in amazing crazy patch blocks. They were stitched in blue threads representing the colour of the High Priest's robe, with beads, shisha mirrors and embellishments on fabric of the same colour. It was hemmed with 72 stitched pomegranates and gold bells. What a work of art!

There were wall banners, a red pall (coffin cover) and many other displays which were all interesting in their inspiration and history and very enjoyable to see and read about. The major religions were represented in some form through their traditional wear and displays.

*Jocelyne Ezard*



## *Workshops - looking forward*

### *Evenweave doily*

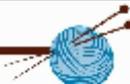
April 7 Edith Rankin Church  
 Instructor: Christine Allan  
 Fee: \$30 - due by March 3  
 (colour choices will be available)

### *Fancy Bird --Stumpwork*

April 17 & 18 2014 Odessa Fair Grounds  
 Instructor: Mary Lou Wilson  
 Course cost \$90 + Kit Fee \$25 = \$115  
**\$50 non-refundable deposit due January 20, 2014**  
**Total balance due March 17, 2014**  
 for more information contact Theresa

### *And in the Fall .....*

- There will be a Carolyn Mitchell one-day canvas workshop - project to be determined
- Carolyn Mitchell will also give a two-day workshop on colour theory for embroiderers

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## EAC and ACRAM

On Saturday October 7, 2013, I attended the one day annual meeting for the Atlantic and Central region chapters of EAC on our Guild's behalf.

This meeting happens once a year. There was a member representing most of the EAC chapters from Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.

(The Western Area EAC guilds have their own meeting once a year as well.)

This year it was hosted by the Simcoe County Embroidery Guild. This guild includes members from the Barrie/Orillia/ Midland area.

The next ACRAM will be held Monday May 12, 2014 in Ottawa, Ontario just prior to the next EAC Seminar.

What happens at it - It was divided into two sections. During the first section of the day two representatives from EAC shared information. During the second section of the day, each guild shared ideas.

During the first section of ACRAM, the two representatives ( the Vice President from EAC Beryl Burnett and A/C regional director June Barry shared a variety of information about EAC.

They asked us to remind everyone about the website and Eblast. [www.eac.ca](http://www.eac.ca)

They noted that EAC Future Seminar - dates and places would be:

2014 A Stitching Symphony Ottawa Valley Guild of Stitchery ( May 13 to 18)

2015 – Stamped Stitches Calgary Guild of Needle and Fibre Arts

2016 – Inspiring Threads Five Ontario Guilds

2017 – (to be announced) St. John's Guild of Embroiderers – NL

During the second section, each of the Guild representatives shared information about their guild, pieces of work their guilds had completed, and a project that had worked in their guild. They discussed programs their guild was doing, and individuals that had come to their Guild to teach. There was also the opportunity for each Guild to ask questions and share concerns.

I met a lot of very nice people, and one special cat - Jack. The Simcoe guild provided overnight accommodations for Friday and Saturday night. They also fed us all our meals while we attended the meeting. They were wonderful!

I met individuals from all the guilds and learned that many of our concerns are shared by them as well. Some guilds are large enough that they have both a daytime program, and an evening program. They are finding that people who belong to the evening program join the daytime program when they retire.

I brought ideas/names back with me to share with our members who set our guild programme- Roz, Anjali and Marylou. Thank you Beth and Kristeen for permitting me to share our guild's Learn a stitch outline as the example idea from our guild.

I was also given a disk about last year's seminar that I gave to our librarian. If anyone would like to view it, please ask Eileen or Guylaine

If anyone would like an emailed copy of the Vice President's report from ACRAM, or a copy of the minutes ( I only have a draft copy), please let me know. I will email them to you.

Diane

# FALL IN REVIEW

