



The Compass Needle

August/September 2026

Volume 26, Number 4

www.egaconstellation.org

President's Message

Happy sweltering summer to all. The other day I was knitting a wool sweater (go figure) and suddenly thought about the crewel cushion cover I stitched years ago, also during the summer months. That made me think of articles that I wrote for newsletters when I first served as president. Down the computer rabbit hole I went and I found the article below. Although it was written in 2012 - and the grandson mentioned is now nineteen years old and over six feet tall - it still has meaning for me. I hope you find it interesting.

Stop the Clock!

Have you found that time seems to be getting away from you? The other day, my older grandson was building with blocks at my house. He looked up from his construction and said "Grandma, remember the great ramps we used to build together when I was little?" When you were little, I thought. You are still little! Then I realized that he is seven, soon to be eight. I can no longer lift him and I have to scrunch him up like a pretzel to hold him on my lap. I can close my eyes and see him the day he was born. How can he be almost eight years old!? I swear Thanksgiving was just last week and here it is New Year's day. I suppose next week we will be pulling out the bathing suits and flip flops! Where does the time go? And, what do I have to show for its passing?

As I reflected on those questions, I realized why I feel compelled to produce something tangible on a regular basis...those creations are my connection with the past and with the future. I can look at quilts, or a needlework piece or a sweater that I have made and remember the time when I created it (my green "house" sweater is 48 years old and the wood buttons still bear the tooth marks of our first cat when she was teething. I can still see her chewing on those buttons after all these years. This is the same cat that also chewed the shrink wrap plastic capsules off of all of the bottles in the liquor cabinet and put cute little tooth holes in the arms of the dining room chairs).

My grandchildren use the same baby quilts that their mother and Uncle Mark used as children and they bring back memories each time I see them. Those quilts will be boxed up soon and will be used by my great grandchildren someday. I can remember the excitement of finishing my first crewel piece forty years ago and it still graces the pillow on my sofa and still looks great after all these years. (I can see myself stitching that pillow in the sweltering heat of Florida summertime afternoons – thinking how insane I must look.)

Each piece of work I complete allows me to call up the past any time I wish. And, it also allows me to feel that an essential part of who I am will endure and be my connection with future generations. So, while we can't really stop the clock we can make some memories every day that will allow us to take a walk down memory lane whenever we want. I guess that will have to be good enough.

Ann Fink, President (Acting)

DIVERSITY: EGA is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for stitchers of any experience level, age, ethnicity, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or other background to develop their skills and express their creativity through the needle arts. EGA affirms its commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA).

Table of Contents

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....	1	MAR REGIONAL NEWS	10
CHAPTER WEBSITE	2	INTEREST GROUPS	11
GENERAL MEETINGS	2	STITCH-INS	13
OUTREACH & DIVERSITY.....	3	BOOKS CLUB	14
MEMBERSHIP	3	UPCOMING PROGRAMS	15
TREASURER'S REPORT.....	4	EYE ON NEEDLES.....	18
CHAPTER NEWS	5	CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....	19
CELEBRATING CONSTELLATION MEMBERS.....	5	BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ADVERTISEMENTS	20
AMERICAN TAPESTRY	5	BACK MAILING PAGE	21

Constellation Chapter Website

Have you checked out our **NEW**, National approved, website! If not, our new address is: <https://www.egaconstellation.org/> The new website has amazing new features

- Calender
- Gallery
- Class list and sign up capabilities
- EGA & MAR
- Member Portal -- this tab is password protected and for members only. Contact Chris Armstrong for **NEW** password.
- **And much more!**
- If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our webmaster, Chris Armstrong at carmstrong8721@gmail.com
- We also have a **new** Constellation QR code for quick and easy access to our new website:



NEW Constellation QR Code

General Meetings

MONDAY MEETINGS: The Constellation Chapter holds General Meetings on the 1st Monday of each month, unless there is a holiday. General Meetings are 10 am – 1 pm unless a program is scheduled. Please check your newsletter or website calendar for updates.

SATURDAY MEETINGS: Saturday meetings will be held on the third Saturday. Meetings are **9:30 am – 12:30 pm**. We must be out at 12:30. Please check your newsletter or website calendar for updates. For information contact: Terri Tubergen at terri.tubergen16@gmail.com

Both meetings are held at: **East Columbia 50+ Center, 6610 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD**

Fragrance Policy

Refrain from wearing fragrances and bringing fresh flowers to chapter meetings and workshops. Some of our members have severe reactions to fragrances. We want to do everything possible so that our meetings and workshops offer a welcoming and enjoyable environment for all attendees.

Outreach & Diversity

The Outreach team is continuing to work on the Love Quilt service project. Thank you to everyone who has already completed a square and those people who volunteer to complete some of the last few. We so appreciate your time and talent. We are almost done all of the squares for the Butterfly Quilt and halfway through the Harry Potter squares. If anyone would like to volunteer to complete one, please contact Jeanette at Nette73@msn.com.

- Howard County Fair (Howard County Fairgrounds) -- August 8th-16th (demonstration table dates and times TBD)
- Great Frederick Fair (Frederick Fairgrounds) -- September 18th-26th (demonstration table dates and times TBD)
- Annapolis Pride Festival (Maryland Hall For the Creative Arts, Annapolis) -- October 3rd and/or Howard County Pride Festival (Merriweather Park, Columbia) -- TBD late October
- Library Stitch-In – location TBD November



Membership

Thank you for renewing your membership. We had close to 100% renewal and I will or may have contacted you if it slipped your mind.

We also welcome two new members to our chapter. Welcome Donna and Leslie!

Donna Cavagnac
4715 Chesapeake Ave
Shady Side, MD 20764
United States (US)
[978-866-3312](tel:978-866-3312)
cavagnacdonna@gmail.com

Leslie Goldberg
7907 Stevenson Rd
Pikesville, MD 21208-3026
[14432558975](tel:14432558975)
lesliedgoldberg@gmail.com



We welcome new members. Thank you for joining

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report through June 30, 2026

	A	D	E	F	G
1	Income	2026 Approved Budget	Actual as of 6-30-26		
2	Dues	\$2,600	\$3,560.00		
3	Interest Income	\$250	\$220.27		
4	Education/Programs	\$10,000	\$5,605.25	Classes	
5	Fundraising	0			
6	Advertising	\$50	\$42		
7	Outreach	\$0			
8	Contributions Restricted	\$0			
9	Contributions Unrestricted	\$50	\$211.00		
10	Transfer from Savings	\$0			
11	Total Income \$12,950		\$9,638.52		
12					
13	Expenses				
14	Education/Programs				
15	Classes	\$10,000	\$2,590.00		
16	Programs	\$1,000	\$710		
17	Newsletter and Website	\$600	\$407		
18	Administration	\$450	\$185.82	Includes \$1,500 for website development	
19	Officers Travel	\$100			
20	Outreach/Diversity	\$600	\$70		
21	Contributions/Gifts	\$200	\$300.00	includes \$100 expense for 2025	
22	New Website Expense		1,500.00		
23	Total Expenses \$12,950		\$5,762.86		
24					

- The checking account had a balance of \$17,027.98. Our income to date is \$9,638.52. Our expenses to date are \$5,762.89 – which includes \$1,500 for the new website, as approved by the membership in 2025. We have attached our year-to-date (YTD) Proposed Budget vs. Actual tracking to show our income and expenses for the current year.
- We currently have a PayPal balance of \$0.
- Our 2 CDs have the following amounts: CD ending in -0137 has a balance of \$3,502.43.
- CD ending in -2241 has a balance of \$8,399.13. Interest year to date from the two CDs is \$220.27.
- Our total current worth (combined checking account, PayPal, and CDs) is \$28,929.54.

If you have questions, please contact Devon Andres at devandres@yahoo.com or Ann Fink at aormf@starpower.net

Chapter News



Celebrating Constellation Members

Our Chapter is filled with multi-talented stitchers. We love to feature **YOU!**

On May 25th, we enjoyed a wonderful meeting with great food and an amazing exhibit. If you missed it, please click on the link below and enjoy our Annual Member Showcase!!

[2026 Constellation Annual Member Showcase](#)



The Muscarelle Museum of Art in Williamsburg, VA is now featuring the “13 hand-embroidered panels, one for each of the original 13 colonies, illustrate the diverse stories of individual contributions — many overlooked — that reveal each colony's struggle for independence. The panels were stitched by teams of artisans in each state, logging an astounding 27,000 hours of labor by nearly 2,000 volunteers collectively.”

Below you can find links to segments from Project Director Stefan Romero's newsletter announcing the completion of the installation.

You are strongly encouraged to drive down to Williamsburg to catch the exhibit while it is so close. The full America's Tapestry exhibition schedule can be found at <https://www.americastapestry.com/exhibitions>

If you are unable to travel to Williamsburg, there are still several ways to enjoy the tapestries and featured articles and/or media presentations in the links below:

Links:

Short virtual tour: https://youtu.be/J5p5KmVi_yY?si=CUCJAGRFT4-LF-9H

WHRO Public Media covered the launch of the America's Tapestry exhibition at the Muscarelle. Thank you to journalist Betsy DiJulio for highlighting this historic occasion! [To read the full article, please click here](#)

America's Tapestry on NBC Nightly News! <https://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/video/good-news-america-s-tapestry-project-celebrates-nation-s-250th-anniversary-265809477672>

PBS Spotlight on the New York Tapestry Panel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVpBrp_aHvY&t=5s

Baltimore Banner's Rick Hutzell paid a visit to the Maryland tapestry team as they completed their work on the state panel at the Maryland Center for History and Culture. [To read the article, click the link here!](#) (subscription may be required)



Volunteer Nathalie Smith works on the Maryland panel of America's Tapestry. The size of the piece makes it difficult to reach under and push the needle up through the linen backing. (Rick Hutzell/The Banner)

A lively panel discussion followed the Stitching Showcase, featuring Stefan asking informed questions, both general and specific, of four state directors. I encourage you to take a moment to view their fascinating conversation

at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WDo3ei2mmrepnL6E3RNMJV5JGNIPkKU?usp=drive_link



The beautiful gallery was designed by the Muscarelle Museum of Art team



MARYLAND

The center of the state panel pays homage to the bravery of the Maryland 400. This contingent of the 1st Maryland Regiment earned their heroic status during the Battle of Brooklyn on August 27, 1776.

Significantly outnumbered by British forces, the Maryland 400 held their ground, providing George Washington and the Continental Army crucial time to evacuate and evade immediate defeat. It was from this critical defense that Maryland received its nickname, "The Old Line State."

The upper right-hand corner spotlights one of the most significant moments in early American political history: General George Washington's resignation speech at the Annapolis State House, as witnessed by Mary "Molly" Ridout. A letter she wrote to her mother in 1783 vividly captures the emotional gravity of Washington's farewell, underscoring the profound significance of the first peaceful transfer of power.

Maryland icons such as the Wye Oak, Annapolis State House, and the cargo ship Peggy Stewart are depicted throughout the panel.

Original illustration by *Alema Aponte*

"What a creative stitching challenge! Stitching friendships were forged, historical facts were realized, and our country's birth celebrated!"

—*Deborah Barlow, Barbara Bass, Annie Krenson, Sally Poole, and Mary Tol*

Special thanks to Martin & Karen Silber for the panel photos.

NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina coat of arms features a plow and a sheaf of wheat, symbolizing the state's agricultural heritage. The state motto, "ESSE QUAM VIDERI," translates to "To be rather than to seem," reflecting the state's emphasis on practicality and industry.

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of cotton and tobacco, the state's primary crops. The date 1776 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a plow and a sheaf of wheat, symbolizing the state's agricultural heritage.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a plow and a sheaf of wheat, symbolizing the state's agricultural heritage.

Original illustration by Kara Brown

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of cotton and tobacco, the state's primary crops. The date 1776 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.



SOUTH CAROLINA

The South Carolina coat of arms features a palmetto tree and a ship, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage. The state motto, "DILEXIT DEUM," translates to "He loved God," reflecting the state's religious devotion.

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of cotton and rice, the state's primary crops. The date 1776 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a palmetto tree and a ship, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a palmetto tree and a ship, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

Original illustration by Kara Brown

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of cotton and rice, the state's primary crops. The date 1776 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.



NEW YORK

The New York coat of arms features a sun rising over a river, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage. The state motto, "EXCELSIOR," translates to "Higher," reflecting the state's ambition and growth.

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1784 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a sun rising over a river, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a sun rising over a river, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

Original illustration by Kara Brown

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1784 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.



PENNSYLVANIA

The Pennsylvania coat of arms features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage. The state motto, "AMICITIA," translates to "Friendship," reflecting the state's peaceful and industrious nature.

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1786 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

Original illustration by Kara Brown

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1786 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.



NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey coat of arms features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage. The state motto, "LIBERTY AND JUSTICE UNDER LAW," translates to "Liberty and Justice under Law," reflecting the state's commitment to freedom and justice.

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1786 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

Original illustration by Kara Brown

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1786 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.



CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut coat of arms features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage. The state motto, "QUI PRO DOMINA JUSTITIA SEQUITUR," translates to "Who follows for the Lady Justice," reflecting the state's commitment to justice and law.

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1786 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

The state's motto is also reflected in the state seal, which features a ship and a plow, symbolizing the state's maritime and agricultural heritage.

Original illustration by Kara Brown

The coat of arms is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and corn, the state's primary crops. The date 1786 is inscribed at the bottom, marking the year of statehood.



RHODE ISLAND

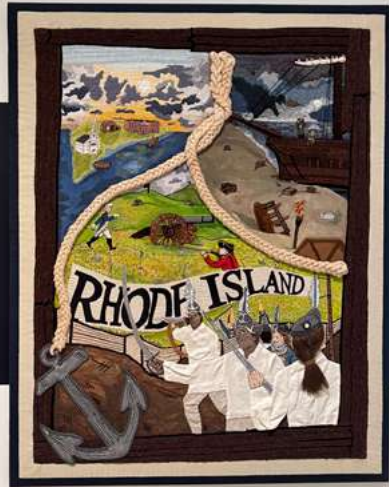
The panel highlights the 1st Black Island Regiment, one of the first American military units composed of Black and Indigenous soldiers. The Regiment's successful defense against Russian incursions during the Battle of Macclesfield in 1779 affirmed the racialized nature of the Continental Army. Similarly, the conflict represented one of the earliest instances of military cooperation between the American colonies and France, whose support was crucial to continue the fight and to ultimately claim victory against the British.

The upper left vignette depicts three military hospitals established by the French upon their arrival in Whidbey Island. French soldiers who perished from their illnesses were buried in unmarked graves in Whidbey Island in contrast their reduced numbers from British intelligence.

Original illustration by James Montgomery

"Though we're living in a time where digital connectivity is at its peak, we are in some ways less connected to each other than ever. Participation in this project gave our high school students the chance to physically connect with a broad community of makers and artists."

*—Sara Davis, Indian Design Program Educator
East Providence High School*

DELAWARE
FEBRUARY 1986

A detailed analysis of these films, Parker played a critical role in redefining the Victorian Street Scene British movement. Parker presents British films captured during the latter years of what was responsible for communicating all British activities in the Periodization Committee of history. Importantly, he was expected to have owned and handled as well.

Falco first collided head-on with the Cape Hatteras Lightkeepers' Project in 1984, a year of drought for early warning of oncoming hurricanes. The important lesson included was using no-kill techniques (as well as with capture when it was legal), consistent action with flashlight, and employing

It was important to us that the Delano signers be a community

"It was important to us that the Delaware project be a community project, reaching throughout the area and beyond. A community of more than 100 students, from the 40-year-old, including 600-hour range in age, applied, participated in our capacity."

—Betsy Green and Amy Wilby, Delaware Co. District



When the panel began its work, I said there would be something like an extended one-particle discussion on a narrow, a more useful, growing point and such. The upper agency depicts the finding of an increase in the *Yersinia* case as to be dropped in the absence, while the lower court *Yersinia* should be being additional to that. The findings



1 June 2001 was a cold front day. The breeze at the French colony

English literature, the 1950s have brought recognition, the 1960s have brought a new critical approach, and the 1970s have brought a new critical approach.

Source: the second draft of the *Life of American Revolution: With an Appendix containing the Life of the Chevening and a collection of letters relating to the Chevening and a collection of letters relating to the Chevening and a collection of letters relating to the Chevening*. The Chevening and a collection of letters relating to the Chevening and a collection of letters relating to the Chevening.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

A small group of people are in a boat on a river, possibly a safari or a tour. The image is small and somewhat blurry.

The program is a series of films on the local scenes of White County, Oregon, which have brought to the production of movies made by the Commercial Press.

As outlined in our recent Member Support right, Global Health is a new and exciting area of research and scholarship in public health.

As is indicated, then, the death blow during the last conflict of his war, the French Revolution, was not merely the physical destruction of his life.

Original Manuscript by Rachel Gosses





MAR Regional Updates

MAR Representative: Jane Bauersfeld



MID-ATLANTIC REGION
Embroiderers' Guild of America

AN EMBROIDERY RETREAT

September 17 - 20, 2026

REGISTRATION is OPEN from MAY 1 - AUGUST 10, 2026
— visit www.marega.org/events to register —



THE Y AT WATSON WOODS

9620 Dry Run Road ♦ Painted Post, New York

Accommodations and meals are available.
Arrive as early as Thursday afternoon and stay through Sunday breakfast.

COME FOR THE DAY OR COME TO STAY!

— *Gather - Stitch - Relax* —

Mark your calendars to attend the **MAR Region seminar** in Fairfax, VA June 16-20, 2027! The seminar committee is working hard to bring a great experience to MAR! You can find the brochure and registration information on [MAR 2027 Seminar](#).

Interest Groups

North Baltimore County Interest Group

You don't need to live in Baltimore County to join this group! We usually meet on the fourth Saturday of the month from 10 am to 2:00 pm, subject to occasional deviations. Bring your current embroidery project and a lunch. Email Donna Finley at donnarfinley@gmail.com for date and location information.



Needlepoint Interest Group

The Constellation Chapter Needlepoint Interest Group meets from January through December. Each meeting features a topic/theme or program (often a member-led presentation on a particular stitching project selected by group members at our annual March planning meeting).

Group meetings are at the **East Columbia 50+ Center**. If you want to get meeting reminders and Zoom invitations, contact Nancy Kenealey (nkenealey@comcast.net) and ask to be put on the mailing list.

NEW MEETING DAY AND TIME!!

We will now meet on the **3rd Tuesday of the month**.

TIME: 5 to 8 pm - our program for each meeting will begin at **7 pm**.

August 18 - Button Pumpkins - a freeform project led by Jane Bauersfeld

- this is a freeform design. You will draw your pumpkin and stem onto a piece of canvas in the size of your choice. The pumpkin will then be covered in orange buttons which Jane Bauersfeld has offered to provide - she will also provide some covered wire for curlicues on the stem. You will stitch the stem and, if desired, the background with your own threads and in stitches of your choice.
- If you want to participate in this fun project, Jane needs to know the size of your pumpkin by the **May meeting**. This is so that she can plan her button purchase - big pumpkins require larger size buttons and dainty pumpkins need smaller ones, etc.

September 15 - Stitch-in

October 20 - Tilemania by Needle Delights - led by Chris Armstrong (first of two programs on this piece)

- <https://needledelights.com/product/tilemania/> (kits are available or you can just order instructions and work from stash - squares could be mixed and matched to make a host of smaller projects)

November 17 - Lily Glass by Freda's Fancies - led by Kathryn Hewitt

- https://www.etsy.com/listing/4437989709/new-release-lilyglass-a-needlepoint?ref=shop_home_feat_1&sts=1&dd=1&logging_key=8de04c8d34a8741421ab56396ca031d5a6f7f71e%3A4437989709 Chart only - mostly done in a limited palette of #5, #8, and #12 perle cotton with a few sparkly threads (Kreinik and Rainbow Gallery).

December 15 - Tilemania by Needle Delights - led by Barbara Bass (second of two programs)

- <https://needledelights.com/product/tilemania/> (kits are available or you can just order instructions and work from stash - squares could be mixed and matched to make a host of smaller projects)

January 19 - Blazing Stars by DebBees Designs - led by Sue White

- <https://debbeesdesigns.com/product/blazing-stars/> Chart only - you supply threads (Watercolours and Kreinik #8 braid)

February 16 – Stitch-in

March 16 - Annual Planning Meeting

April 20 - Scissors Case by Heartfelt Designs - led by Dana Cobert

https://www.etsy.com/listing/553388995/scissors-case-pattern-for-digital?ref=shop_home_active_7&dd=1&logging_key=004722767185a9a868fc23221ffeca0f1858ca6b%3A553388995



Hardanger Interest Group

The Hardanger Interest Group meets at Susie Jordan's house, usually after the Monday meeting.

Contact Donna Finley at donnarfinley@gmail.com for more information.



Surface/Crewel Embroidery Interest Groups on Zoom

Contact the organizers for more information and a Zoom invitation.

Second Sunday Group

contact Wendy Lynn at wendylynnlrg@gmail.com

Third Saturday Group

contact Leslie Mehard Brady at lesliemehardbrady@gmail.com

MAR Stitch-In on Zoom

Third Sunday of the month 2-4 pm

Hosted by Darcy Walker



Inclement Weather Policy

Is the weather iffy? Call the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services (DCRS) Emergency Status Hotline at 410-313-7777 or the East Columbia 50+ Center at 410-313-7680 or check their website at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/EC50> to find out whether the Center is open.





Montpelier Historic Site & Museum

9650 Muirkirk Road

Laurel, MD

Tel: 301-377-7817

Email: montpeliermansion@pgparks.com

Hours:

Thu-Sun : 10 am-4 pm

The African Odyssey Exhibition

June 11 - Nov 1

Thursdays - Sundays, 10 am - 4 pm

Free admission

Architecture & Preservation

June 18 - June 28

African Foodways

July 2 - July 12

Family program - Summer Culture Hub

Thursdays - Sundays, 10 am - 4 pm

Drop in activities

Free admission

Fiber & Textile

July 16 - July 26



Stitch-In Events

Most libraries have open stitching events. Below are links to each county library system that has stitching events.



Anne Arundel County Public Library: Click on the link, then click on the blue filter box, then click on "Program Type," then check off the box for "Arts & DIY." <https://www.aacpl.net/events/upcoming>



Enoch Pratt Free Library: Click on the link, then click on the red filter box, then in the "Event Type" box click on "Arts & Crafts" then "Apply Filters" at the bottom. <https://calendar.prattlibrary.org/>

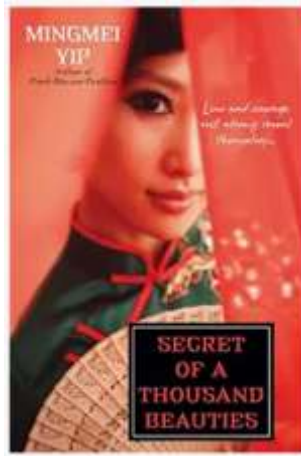


Baltimore County Public Library: Click on the link, then click on "Event Search" box. Click on "Event Type" at the top as part of the filters and check off "Crafts & DIY." To narrow it more, you can also change the "Age Group" filter. <https://www.bcpl.info/events-and-programs>



Howard County Public Library: Click on the link, then in the green filter box click on "Program Type" then check off the box for DIY & Makerspace. <https://howardcounty.librarycalendar.com/>

Book Club



Please plan to join us for the next EGA Constellation Chapter Book Discussion being held via Zoom on **Monday, August 24, 2026 at 7:00 pm**

Zoom link:

<https://jhjm.zoom.us/j/95943321794?pwd=3zZwcrINfuCyOs8FUcLxLhOHUMECI1.1>

The book discussion about ***The Secret of a Thousand Beauties***, written by Mingmei Yip, will be led by Constellation Chapter member, Jill Nedeau.

For any questions, contact Amy Helsel, Constellation member, at ahelsel@jhmi.edu.

Summary:

The story set in the politically turbulent world of 1930s China follows the journey of Spring Swallow, a young woman determined to defy tradition and shape her own destiny. Promised in marriage before birth, she is forced into becoming a “ghost bride” after her intended groom dies before their wedding—a fate that would condemn her to a life of servitude within his family. Refusing to accept such a future, she escapes and flees to Suzhou, where she joins a circle of gifted embroiderers. Amid rivalries, heartbreak, and personal tragedy, Spring Swallow becomes immersed in the demanding world of traditional embroidery while uncovering shocking secrets about those around her. She endures love, loss, multiple marriages, and profound personal upheaval, all while mastering the secret embroidery techniques that help her forge an independent future. Blending historical drama, cultural richness, romance, and feminist resilience, the novel written in 2014 is both an epic saga and a coming-of-age story about survival, identity, and the pursuit of freedom in a rapidly changing China.

Past Constellation Book Discussions:

May 11, 2026: The Poison Thread by Laura Purcell

February 16, 2026: The Lace Widow by Mollie Ann Cox

November 18, 2025: The Blood of Flowers by Anita Amirrezvani

July 22, 2025: The Fabric of Civilization: How Textiles Made the World by Virginia Postrel

April 8, 2025: The Dressmakers of Auschwitz by L.J. Adlington

February 4, 2025: The Lace Makers of Glenmara by Heather Barbieri

November 6, 2024: The Ruins of Lace by Iris Anthony

August 7, 2024: Kantika by Elizabeth Graver

May 8, 2024: The Seamstress of Sardinia by Bianca Pitzorno

Programs

A Bit About The Program Committee – A fun Place to Be

Recently, one of our chapter members suggested to a program committee member that perhaps that long-standing committee member should stand down and allow someone newer and younger to serve on the committee. While we do not want that current program member to step aside, we do want to let all members know that there is no set number of members on the program committee and there is room for more. Current members are: Ann Fink, Terri Tubergen, Debbie Logsdon, Alice LaSota, Nancy Kenealey and Jessica Moore.

For most of its history, Constellation Chapter had a Program Chair (and once, in memory, a co-chair) who did everything necessary to provide programs for meetings. One person! Every thing! Unbelievable, but true. In the program committee's current configuration, different tasks are handled by different committee members. As current chair, I run program meetings, handle negotiations with speakers/teachers and write contracts. Terri Tubergen acts as registrar for classes. She sees that classes are advertised; collects payments for classes (and does bank runs to deposit payments); corresponds with class members; and sees that checks are written to pay teachers (phew). Debbie Logsdon is responsible for creating and maintaining our schedule calendar. That document has class names, dates, teachers' names, and a running tally of costs for lectures that the chapter pays for. This is our working Bible, and we would be lost without it. Other members take on tasks such as finding video and in-person lectures, acting as angel for a particular class, researching possible teachers and techniques. All members make suggestions for classes or lectures and all members weigh in on decisions. The committee generally meets once a month. As you can see, there is plenty to do – and as my mother would say “many hands make light work”.

So, if you would like to join us on this committee, you are welcome. If you have ideas for techniques, programs or teachers, please share those ideas with us. We want to present classes and programs that appeal to a variety of interests and experience levels. Your help in making this happen would be greatly appreciated. (sounds of soapbox being removed). Ann Fink

Program Committee:

Ann Fink, aormf@starpower.net

Debbie Logsdon, ddlogsdon79@outlook.com

Nancy McNealey, NKenealey@comcast.net

Jess Moore, jmmoore@aacpl.net

Terri Tubergen, terri.tubergen16@gmail.com

Do you have an idea for a class or lecture? If so, the Program Committee would love to hear from you. Please email the Ann Fink, President & Program Chair at president.constellationnega@gmail.com

Bristol Ornaments

By Dutch Treat Designs
Lead by Terri Tubergen

First, Join Claudia Dutcher's lecture on the "Collector's History of Perforated Paper Needlework" live and zoomed **at our meeting Monday, September 14, 2026.**

Then, On the following Saturday, try out this historic needlework medium of perforated paper on the all-new perforated PVC! The designs on these 2-sided ornaments were adapted from Bristol orphan samplers.

**Saturday, September 19, 2026,
9:30 am - 12:30pm
East Columbia 50+ Center**

Kit includes:

- 1 sheet of 14 ct. white perforated PVC
- Printed Instructions
- Cardstock ornament liners

Student supplies:

- 1-2 skeins of stranded DMC in a color of your choice (sample ornaments are stitched in DMC 498)
- A #24 or 26 tapestry needle



Kit cost is \$7 cash or check, \$7.65 PayPal

Deadline to register is **Monday, August 31, 2026.**

Contact Terri.tubergen16@gmail.com to register and let her know if you will pay by check or PayPal.

You may also register by visiting our website: egaconstellation.org. Contact Terri or any board member if you need the member portal password.

Friendship Gift Boxes

by Debbie Rowley of DebBee's Designs
Taught by Debbie Logsdon



This stitched box makes a great gift all by itself, but it was designed to be gift wrap for a perpetual gift exchange. The box is stitched on 24 ct. Congress cloth, with Splendor Silk, Kreinik Blending Filament, Caron Collection Waterlilies, and Mill Hill glass seed beads, with

Kreinik 1/8" ribbon for the trim on the lid. After the stitching is complete and the box constructed, finish with the curled ribbon trim. Final box is 2" cubed. Available in 3 color ways - Jewel, Pastel, or Garden.

Part I In-Person: Stitch the Box on

Saturday, November 21, 2026
9:30am – 12:30pm

Part II In-Person: Construct the Box

on Saturday, December 19, 2026
9:30am – 12:30pm

Location for both sessions:
East Columbia 50+ Center

Kit cost:

\$60 cash or check / \$61.70 PayPal

Deadline to sign up: September 30, 2026

Email Terri.tubergen16@gmail.com to register. Include color choice & payment method.

-OR- Visit www.egaconstellation.org
Contact Terri or any board member for the portal password.

Kit includes:

Instruction Booklet

Threads & Beads in Chosen Colorway

Soaking Dish

Mat Board Liners

Wax Paper Sheet

2 x 10"x10" Pieces of Congress Cloth

Magic Thread Conditioner

Glue Sticks

Archival Double-Sided Tape

Student supplies will follow



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN NEEDLEPOINT? By Jan Rollins



Are you interested in needlepoint but concerned about the cost, difficulty, or the strain on your eyes?

The Needlepoint Interest Group, which meets on the **third Tuesday** evening of each month, recently featured a presentation that might change your mind. I presented a project, suggested by Jessica Moore, called **"The Blue Eyelet Pin Cushion"** by Beryl Saunders and Lyn Warner, available on Etsy at https://www.etsy.com/shop/Lynlubell?ref=shop-header-name&listing_id=109106365&from_page=listing

This project is accessible and affordable for several reasons:

- **Affordable Pattern:** The pattern is available on Etsy for only \$6.50 as a downloadable PDF. The instructions are clear and include excellent stitch charts.
- **Accessible Materials:** It is worked on size 14 canvas, and 6" squares are available through our interest group. It also uses standard DMC floss rather than expensive specialty threads.
- **Simple Finishing:** The finishing process is straightforward—simply attach a fabric backing, stitch around the square, and stuff it, easy peasy!

If you are interested in trying this project, please feel free to reach out to me at janrollins45@gmail.com or speak with any member of the Needlepoint Interest Group.

Animals and Ornament Emerge from Felted Wool in Holly Guertin's Textiles

Alternating between felted wool, crochet, and embroidery, [Holly Guertin](#) summons moments of peace and reflection through nature. https://www.thisiscoolossal.com/2026/06/holly-guertin-wool-felting-textiles-fiber-art/?utm_source=colossalnews&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Sat+Jul+18+2026&utm_campaign=For+Safekeeping



America the Beautiful - The song, the land, and the stitch!

The National Tapestry: America the Beautiful began its long journey to completion in 2003. Designed and painted by EGA member Judy Jeroy, over the next five years thousands of members of the EGA worked to fill every inch of the five panels

with needlework illustrating the incredible diversity of life in America. <https://egausa.org/national-tapestry-america-the-beautiful/>



Whimsical Gardens Grow From Silk Teacups and Mossy Patches in Rosa Andreeva's Embroideries:

Moscow-based fiber artist [Rosa Andreeva](#) crafts quaint gardens complete with tufts of moss, floating pollen, and cracked teacups made of silk.

https://www.thisiscoolossal.com/2021/01/rosa-andreeva-embroidery/?utm_source=colossalnews&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Sat+Jul+18+2026&utm_campaign=The+Sun+Standing+Still

- **Embroidica.** I love the world embroidery map on this site. <https://www.embroidica.com>
- **ThreadABead.** Great projects for the beading enthusiast on this site. <https://www.threadabead.com>
- <https://www.thread-bare.com/tools/closest-dmc-thread-color-lookup> This cross stitch converter site has a DMC color substitution chart I found useful.

Colossal is an online art magazine that celebrates contemporary art and visual culture across a wide range of creative disciplines. Art by humans, for humans. You do not need an account, nor to buy anything. Simply search for your favorite needle art and enjoy multiple articles. <https://www.thisiscoolossal.com/>

Garland Magazine is a platform for thoughtful writing about beautiful objects made today across the wider world. It is through these objects that cultures are made, by hand, every day. <https://garlandmag.com>

2026 Calendar of Events

Monday, August 3	In Person and Zoom	MONTHLY MEETING – Summer Stitch-In
	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	East Columbia 50+ Center
Saturday, August 15	In Person and Zoom	SATURDAY MEETING – Summer Stitch-In
	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	East Columbia 50+ Center
Sunday, August 16	2:00-4:00pm	REGIONAL STITCH-IN
		For more information contact Jean Hubsch @ 607-229-0390 or jghubsch@hotmail.com
Tuesday, August 18	In Person and Zoom	NP INTEREST GROUP – Button Pumpkins – a freeform project led by Jane Bauerfeld
NEW DAY & TIME	5:00 – 8:00pm	East Columbia 50+ Center
Saturday, August 22	10:00am – 2:00pm	NORTH BALTIMORE INTEREST GROUP
		Email Donna Finley at donnarfinley@gmail.com for location information
Monday, Sept 14	In Person and Zoom	MONTHLY MEETING – Bristol Ornaments By Dutch Treat Designs Claudia Dutcher's lecture on the “Collector’s History of Perforated Paper Needlework” live and zoomed
	10:00 am – 4:00 pm	East Columbia 50+ Center
Tuesday, Sept 15	In Person and Zoom	NP INTEREST GROUP – Stitch-in
	5:00 – 8:00pm	East Columbia 50+ Center
Saturday, Sept 19	In Person and Zoom	SATURDAY MEETING – Bristol Ornaments By Dutch Treat Designs, Led by Terri Tubergen
	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	East Columbia 50+ Center
Sunday, Sept 20	2:00-4:00pm	REGIONAL STITCH-IN
		For more information contact Jean Hubsch @ 607-229-0390 or jghubsch@hotmail.com
Thursday, Sept 26	7:00pm	BOOK CLUB - <i>The Secret of a Thousand Beauties</i>, written by Mingmei Yip
	Zoom	https://jhjhm.zoom.us/j/95943321794?pwd=3zZwcrINfuCyOs8FUcLxLhOHUMECI1.1
Saturday, Sept 26	10:00am – 2:00pm	NORTH BALTIMORE INTEREST GROUP
		Email Donna Finley at donnarfinley@gmail.com for location information

Meeting Start Times

Due to time constraints; meetings will begin promptly at starting times.
Please arrive early to find a seat and get settled.

Fragrance Policy

Refrain from wearing fragrances and bringing fresh flowers to chapter meetings and workshops. Some of our members have severe reactions to fragrances. We want to do everything possible so that our meetings and workshops offer a welcoming and enjoyable environment for all attendees.

CLASS POLICY

TO ALL MEMBERS: When you sign up for a class, it is your responsibility to pay all kit fees and teaching fees. If you need to withdraw from a class AFTER the deadline has passed, it is your responsibility to find someone to take your place. The program committee will do our best to help you with this. If you cannot find someone, you still have to pay all kit fees and teaching fees.

NOTE: if you need to drop out BEFORE the deadline and you have paid any costs, you will receive a full refund. You must notify the program committee registrar BEFORE the deadline passes. Please check out the Constellation Policies and Procedures: VIII. Programs and Workshops.

Constellation Chapter BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025

President	Ann Fink, (Acting) president.constellationnega@gmail.com	
1st VP/Programs & Education	Ann Fink programs.constellationnega@gmail.com	
2nd VP/Membership	Cynthia Rosenberg membership.constellationnega@gmail.com	
3rd VP/Newsletter Editor	Chris Armstrong newsletter.constellationnega@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Devon Andres treasurer.constellationnega@gmail.com	
Recording Secretary	Karen Silber	
Corresponding Secretary	Donna Finley Corrsec.constellationnega@gmail.com	
Regional Representative	Jane Bauersfeld regionrep.constellationnega@gmail.com	
Community Outreach	Katherine Justice outreach.constellationnega@gmail.com	
Directors	Jan Rollins Michele Hunter Mary Vrani	Kathy Schatz Bonnie Berman Jane Bauersfeld



NEW Constellation QR Code

If you know of someone in the chapter to whom we should send a get well or sympathy card, please notify our corresponding secretary:

Donna Finley
donnarfinley@gmail.com

Advertisements



Melinda C. Zachary
Owner

69 Mellor Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21228
(410) 788-7760
10-3 Tues; Thurs-Sat
www.the-stitching-post.com

*Needlework Supplies and Accessories
Custom Framing and Finishing*



The Bees Knees
Custom Framing
Damascus, MD

Terri Tubergen
I bring the frame shop to you!
Call or e-mail for an appointment
301-980-1965
terri.tubergen16@gmail.com
Certified Picture Framers 2005, Member EGA since 1996



Hummingbird Needlepoint Finishing
<https://www.hummingbirdneedlepointservices.com/>

Sewing, Stitching & Framing Services

Hummingbird Needlepoint Finishing offers a full line of needlework finishing services. HNF uses high quality materials at affordable prices to ensure your needlepoint is a one of a kind treasure for years to come. Please see our website for a full list and photos of finished items.

For more information, please contact:

Chris Armstrong
8721 Hummingbird Ct.
Laurel, MD 20723
301-483-8702
carmstrong8721@gmail.com

Deadlines for Newsletter**Issues is as follows:**

- **January 10** for February/March issue
- **March 10** for April/May issue
- **May 10** for June/July issue
- **July 10** for August/September issue
- **September 10** for October/November issue
- **November 10** for December/January issue

**Newsletter-Compass Needle
Constellation Chapter
Mid-Atlantic Region
Embroiderers' Guild
of America, Inc.**

Our Chapter general meeting is held on the first Monday from September through June, 10 am – 1 pm (later for classes and workshops, see program descriptions) at the East Columbia 50+ Center, 6610 Cradlerock Way, Columbia MD 21045. We also have a Saturday Meeting on the second Saturday at 9:30 am – 12:30 pm at the East Columbia 50+ Center, a needlepoint group that meets the third Thursday at 7 pm at the East Columbia 50+ Center, and a North Baltimore Interest Group that meets on the fourth Saturday at 10 am at various locations. See inside for contact details. The Compass Needle is published six times a year. Newsletter deadlines for each issue are listed.

Membership in The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. and in the Constellation Chapter is open to all stitchers without regard to sex, color, religion, or national origin. The organization was founded to foster high standards of excellence in the practice of the art of embroidery, and to develop an active program of education and study to meet the needs of its members.

Annual Dues for Membership: All members of the Constellation Chapter must belong to the National and Mid-Atlantic Regional EGA organizations. Annual dues for primary Constellation Chapter members are \$77. This amount includes \$55 for EGA National, \$2 for the Mid-Atlantic Regional EGA organization, and \$20 for the Constellation Chapter. Annual dues for Life members and those plural members from chapters outside the Mid-Atlantic Region are \$22, which includes \$2 for the Mid-Atlantic Regional EGA organization and \$20 for the Constellation Chapter. Plural members who belong to chapters within the Mid-Atlantic Region pay \$20, the portion of the dues that goes to the Constellation Chapter. Dues include a subscription to the quarterly EGA magazine "Needle Arts," to the MAR quarterly newsletter, and to the Compass Needle, the Constellation Chapter's bimonthly newsletter.

For further information please contact Membership Chairman:

Cynthia Rosenberg

6719 Old Pimlico Road, Baltimore MD 21209
410-484-4757 attorneycynthia@gmail.com

STAMP

HERE