

CONSTELLATION CHAPTER EGA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 2023

Zoom Meeting Hosted and Recorded By Mary Tod

In-Person Meeting Recorded By Bonnie Berman

Meeting called to order at 10:03 AM by Susie Jordan, President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

In person: Mary Tod, Alice LaSota, Jan Rollins, Susie Jordan, Nancy Kenealey, Bonnie Berman, Carol Crumley, Donna Finley, Heidi Snyder, Karen Olsen, Judith Todes

There were a total of 33 members present plus 1 guest (including Board Members). There were an additional 10 members viewing/participating on Zoom. Quorum was satisfied.

Opening Statement

Susie Jordan, President, reported 2023 was a good and hard year. Susie thanked everyone for their hard work.

Programs (Attachment #1)

Submitted by Alice LaSota, 1st VP/Programs

- See Attachment #1

Treasurer (Attachments #2, 2.1)

Submitted by Mary Tod

- See Attachments #2, 2.1

Membership

Submitted by Nancy Kenealey, 2nd VP/Membership

- The Constellation Chapter currently has 147 members. This is 12 more than last year at this time when we had 135 members.
- Nancy is stepping down as Membership Chair and Cynthia Rosenberg has accepted the position.
- Nancy Kenealey reported that a discussion between Ann Fink and herself brought up the question if there should be an upper level for the amount of members. We do not want to outgrow our space or not be able to provide everyone with the services they need. The Diversity Committee is discussing the possibility of adding special interest groups in Anne Arundel, Frederick, and Montgomery counties, and possibly others.

Newsletter

Submitted by Karen Olsen, 3rd VP/ Newsletter Editor

- Karen reported that the newsletter is going well.
- There have been a lot of submissions.
- The newsletter is trying to cut down on the number of pages.
- The newsletter has been streamlined and now has consistent formatting.
- The deadline for the upcoming newsletter is November 10th.

Region

Submitted by Edie Catto-Fink

- National is offering a \$30 membership for anyone 25 and under. They would have to get *Needle Arts* digitally.
- Jill Nedeau and Jane Bauersfeld volunteered to be co-Regional representatives for 2024.

Outreach (Attachment #3)

Submitted by Susie Jordan, President

- See Attachment #3
- There have been three successful stitch-ins at the Glen Burnie Library. There are plans for four stitch-ins at the Glen Burnie Library in 2024.
- Upcoming stitch-in at Montpelier on November 12th.
- Susie will plan stitch-ins at the Baltimore City Libraries.
- Had very successful representations at the Maryland Sheep and Wool festival and the Annapolis Pride festival.
- A stitch-in was held at the Frederick Historical Society.
- There were two stressful but successful summer camps at the HCCA. No one has volunteered to teach at the camp next year.
- There was an outreach in St. Mary's County.
- Outreach Committee: Jeanette Farrell, Chair, Susie Jordan.

Diversity (Attachment #4)

Submitted by Judith Todes

- See Attachment #4
- IDEA Committee: Edie Catto-Fink, Judith Todes, Katherine Justice, Yvonne Borresen.
- Region Board will have \$100 grants for IDEA since it is required by National.

New Business

Slate of Board Members (Attachment #5)

Presented by Susie Jordan, President

- Cynthia Rosenberg – 2nd VP/Membership
- Devon Andres and Sue White – Co-Treasurers
- Mary Tod, Jeanette Farrell and Kathy Schatz – Directors
- Only Board Members that have termed out or resigned are replaced.
- Ann Fink made a motion to accept the Slate of Officers as proposed. Nancy Kenealey second. There were no objections. Motion carries.

Nominating Committee

- Susie made an appeal – volunteers are needed for the Nominating Committee.

Proposed 2024 Budget (Attachment #6)

Presented by Mary Tod, Treasurer

- See Attachment #6.
- Outreach budget increased to cover advertising publications such as postcards, flyers, business cards.
- Since the news of the 2024 increase in National dues, some chapters are having an “Angel Fund” to help members who cannot afford the increase in dues.

- Penny Haviland made a motion to accept the budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Jan Rollins. There were no objections. Motion carries.

Announcements

- Susie announced there will be no microwave in the hotel rooms at Camp WannaStitch.
- Michelle Hunter and Jill Nedeau volunteered to be the ANCAC representative. Meetings are monthly. This is not a Board position.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM.

Approved: Minutes were approved at the January 16, 2024

Programs and Education Report 2023 Annual Business Meeting

Programs for 2023 were organized by a Program Committee, including Alice LaSota, chair, Barbara Bass, Ann Fink, Debbie Logsdon, and Terri Tubergen. We met monthly and shared in the duties of contacting and scheduling lecturers and teachers, writing and creating flyers for the newsletter, and teaching. Alice attended chapter board meetings, communicated with the Howard County Center for the Arts, and wrote the Program Messages for the newsletter. Terri handled the very critical, detailed job of registration, which included keeping a record of registrants, collecting fees, and answering many questions.

In 2023, we hosted the following lectures: The Unbroken Thread Sampler Collection by Kathy Andrews, Measuring Millimeters on a Gold Napoleonic Dress Coat by Liz Tapper, Mountmellick Embroidery by Shelley Wells, Needlepoint Discovers Handmade Paper by Dawn Donnelly, and Kantha Indian Embroidery by Ekta Kaul.

Classes and teachers included: Four Petite Projects (Battenburg Lace taught by Barbara Bass, Hardanger taught by Donna Finley, Assisi taught by Katie Franetovich, and Swedish Weaving taught by Terri Tubergen); For the Orts in Your Life folding orts container designed and taught by Canby Robertson; Snutki Polish Eyelet taught by Terri Tubergen; More Color Play designed and taught by Jennifer Riefenberg; Batik to Stitch taught by Laura Smith; Amber Waves of Grain needlepoint designed and taught by Mary Tod; Mountmellick Embroidery designed and taught by Debbie Logsdon; Taste of Gold Kimekomi taught by Ann Fink; and Kumihimo Braiding taught by Terri Tubergen and Alice LaSota. Finally, it was our distinct privilege to host Alison Cole teaching Woodland Stitchery as part of the EGA International Teacher Tour.

In June, we had our annual member showcase, a hybrid presentation using our Epson projector and enhanced by our new portable microphone, thanks to Mary Tod and Chris Armstrong. Social activities included the annual May Tea featuring Louise Grady's teacup collection and potluck buffets at the June and December meetings.

The same Program Committee will continue to work through 2024. We have the year almost fully planned and are looking forward to the Constellation Chapter learning experience.

Alice LaSota
Programs and Education

Budget vs. Actual as of November 6, 2023

	2023	YTD		2023	YTD
	Budget	Actual		Budget	Actual
INCOME			EXPENSES		
Dues*	\$6,388.00	\$7,077.50	National Dues	\$3,510.00	\$3,841.50
Interest*	\$20.00		Region Dues	\$218.00	\$250.00
Educational	\$10,000.00	\$14,697.61	Educational	\$11,200.00	\$16,494.72
Events*			Events*+		
Seminar (MAR)			Seminar* (MAR)		
Exhibit			Exhibits*		
Fund Raising*	\$2,300.00	\$1,263.30	Fund Raising*		\$300.00
Sales*			Cost of Sales		
Advertising*	\$130.00	\$132.00	Rent*	\$965.00	\$1,390.00
Community	\$700.00	\$825.00	Newsletter &	\$150.00	\$0.00
Outreach*			website*		
Contributions,	\$400.00	\$0.00	Administration*	\$300.00	\$440.75
Restricted*					
Contributions,	\$240.00	\$1.00	Officers Travel	\$300.00	\$0.00
Unrestricted*					
Parties/Meals		\$1,822.00	Community	\$900.00	\$952.00
			Outreach		
Retreats			Parties/Meals	\$2,000.00	\$3,360.91
Contributions/Gifts			Retreats		
Other*		\$272.75	Contributions/Gifts	\$100.00	\$50.00
Transfer from			Membership	\$200.00	\$63.00
savings			Expenses*		
			IDEA	\$100.00	\$275.97
			Other*	\$235.00	\$470.63
TOTAL INCOME	\$20,178.00	\$26,091.16	TOTAL	\$20,178.00	\$27,889.48
			EXPENSES		

Treasurer's Report for Annual Meeting

November 6, 2023

As of November 6, 2023, the checking account has a balance of \$14,682.58. Our income to date is \$26,091.16, and our expenses to date are \$27,889.48, leaving us with an expected year end deficit at this rate of \$1,798.32. I have attached our year-to-date (YTD) Budget vs. Actual tracking to show our income and expenses for the current year.

We currently have a PayPal balance of \$0.00.

Our 2 CDs have the following amounts: CD ending in -0137 has a balance of \$3,205.72, at a rate of 0.9963%, and matures March 23, 2024. Interest paid in 2023 so far is \$18.64.

CD ending in -2241 has a balance of \$5,545.68, at a rate of 0.9963%, and matures July 8, 2024. Interest paid in 2023 so far is \$45.77.

Our total current worth (combined checking account, PayPal, and CDs) is \$23,433.98.

Mary Tod

Treasurer

Outreach/IDEA report August 2023

Camps went well. 20 kids and 8 staff learned some stitching. All the students in the needlepoint camp finished their projects in class.

- Challenge going forward. We offer a technique based camp where there is a specific correct way to do something. This was hard for the camp staff to wrap their brains around. Consultation with HCCA will have to happen before we do camps again.
- Each camp spent approx. \$100 in addition to donated supplies.
- We were paid \$825 as a teaching fee.
- We need to turn in photo release forms to HCCA when registration is going on.

Coming up

- Stitch in at the Glen Burnie Library Oct 28.
- A love quilt this fall – Jeanette will organize

IDEA

Winchester Chapter is demonstrating at the Shennandoah Valley Fibre Festival in September. A query for volunteers has been sent out.

The ANCAC team is meeting on Aug 23 – the local chapter coalition

OUTREACH/IDEA

Submitted by Judith Todes

Report:

We have developed exciting plans for the future. One barrier to new people coming to EGA is them having to come into a room full of strangers while doing something unfamiliar. We have a two-pronged plan to combat this problem. First, we are developing very small projects for needlepoint, cross stitch and surface embroidery, that we can bring to small groups of people to introduce them to our crafts. Once they get a taste of it in a comfortable setting, we will invite them to join our EGA meetings. Then, when they attend the meetings, we will greet them at the door to the building so they do not have to enter a room full of strangers alone. We are also continuing to do demonstrations at fairs around the area. We are all excited about this plan.

Mission Statement:

Constellation Chapter's Diversity Team is committed to increasing awareness of EGA and the needle arts by reaching out to as many diverse communities as possible. We plan to do demonstrations at various events as well as offering classes for small groups. Although it will take time and on-going work we believe that by reaching out to as many communities as possible we will ultimately see an increase in the demographic diversity of our chapter.

Treasurer's Report for Annual Chapter Business Meeting

November 7, 2022

As of November 6, 2022, the checking account has a balance of \$13,611.76. I have just transferred our PayPal balance into checking, so there are no funds to report for PayPal at this date. Our income to date is \$14,404.45 and our expenses to date are \$12,316.06, leaving us with an expected year end surplus at this rate of \$2,088.39. However, there will be expenses that have not occurred yet that will still be paid for this year, such as the kits for the Crystal Snowflake class and an additional room rental invoice to be paid before year's end.

Our 2 CDs have the following amounts: CD ending in -2241 has a balance of \$5,499.45, at a rate of 0.05%, and matures December 8, 2022.

CD ending in -0137 has a balance of \$3,186.84, at a rate of 0.03%, and matures February 23, 2023.

Our total current worth (combined checking account, PayPal, and CDs) is \$22,298.05.

Mary Tod

Treasurer