

**CONSTELLATION CHAPTER EGA ZOOM BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
August 1, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by President Alice LaSota.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alice LaSota, Mary Tod, Leslie Carson, Sandra Connolly, Jan Rollins, Lesley Soto, Debbie Logsdon, Carolyn Everly, Cynthia Rosenberg, Nancy Kenealey, Carol Crumley, Jill Fritz, Tara Roberts

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Mary moved to accept. Leslie seconded, approved with minor correction.

PROGRAMS:

Programs are in flux due to COVID. Leslie is working on moving previously scheduled programs to either online or later dates.

Saturday September 12 will be a ZOOM lecture by Wafa Ghnaim on The Language of Palestinian Embroidery.

Our fabulous virtual showcase is scheduled for September 14 at 10AM. Alice has been working very diligently on this. Still time to send in your photos.

Lesley Riley will present a lecture on wet cyanotype via ZOOM in October

MEMBERSHIP:

We currently have 112 names on our membership spreadsheet; however, 8 of them have not yet paid dues for the new year. Two have indicated that they will pay, and 6 have not responded to two attempts to contact them via email. Nancy is continuing to pursue this to determine everyone's intentions.

We had two new members join in July.

TREASURER:

The checking account currently has a balance of \$19,075.92.

CD ending in -2241 has a balance of \$5,405.64, at a rate of 1.9852%, and matures May 8, 2021.

CD ending on -0137 has a balance of \$3,131.02, at a rate of 2.526%, and matures December 23, 2020.

Our total current worth (combined checking account and CDs) is \$27,612.58.

NEWSLETTER:

The next newsletter will be out in September and will explain the voting procedures

REGION:

The next Regional Meeting and SMART Day will be Hosted by Brandywine Chapter at the Double Tree by Hilton 4727 Concord Pike Wilmington DE on Saturday October 17 2020. The class will be from 8:30am to 4:30pm

The scheduled class is "Flower Cuff" by Orna Willis (www.adornbyorna.com). Deadline to register for this class is August 15, 2020. Orna has agreed to teach this class virtually if COVID prevents us from meeting in Wilmington.

The Regional meeting will be held at 7 PM on October 17 2020. If we are unable to meet this meeting will be held virtually. Time TBD.

Ann Wilson has signed a contract for Camp Wannastitch on January 14 to 18 2021. Location will be at Clarion Resort Fountainbleau in Ocean City MD. Hotel rates will be the same as last year. Ann has set up the following email address for questions about Camp Wannastitch. MARCampWannastitch@gmail.com
The summer MAR Newsletters should be out in August with updates on these events.

OUTREACH:

Love Quilts

Both are in progress. Ann Fink is working on the Disney Princess quilt. Hope Corrigan is working on the Star Wars quilt.

Book Marks

Bookmarks are in progress. I will work on a plan to collect them and deliver them to the House of Ruth in Baltimore as the time gets closer.

Future projects

I think now is not a good time to start a new project. Hard to get the information out to members right now. Let's see how things look in January.

OLD BUSINESS:

Voting by acclimation was discussed and suggested. We will have a voice vote at our annual meeting.

Discussion of inviting people who signed up for the Cynthia Jackson class to ghost the presentation as the class is full.

Discussion of recording lectures. Decided that lectures, with the approval of the lecturer, will be recorded and available for 2-4 weeks.

Discussion of upcoming Showcase and the format.

The COVID-19 challenge is being extended to give more members an opportunity to participate.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget presented and motion to accept by Mary, seconded by Nancy and passed
State of officers presented, Lesley made a motion to accept slate so far.

Seconded by Nancy. The full slate will be printed in the next newsletter.

Passed. Ppresident still to be determined.

Discussion of where to donate our usual \$100 to a charity, will stay with the Jess
Carson Foundation,

Debbie moved, Sandra seconded, passed

Guests at ZOOM lectures – go through Mary, keep tally, limit to two appearances before
they must join

The next Board meeting will be November 2.

At 11:40 pm Alice LaSota moved we adjourn. The motion was seconded by Leslie.

Meeting adjourned.

Constellation Chapter, EGA

Minutes of November 9, 2020, Board Meeting

Alice LaSota officially called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mary Tod served as acting Recording Secretary. Those attending were Alice LaSota, Mary Tod, Susie Jordan, Debbie Logsdon, Tara Roberts, Jan Rollins, Carol Crumley, Nancy Kenealey, Lesley Soto (left at 11).

Minutes of the August 1, 2020, board meeting were distributed ahead of the meeting. Debbie Logsdon moved to accept them with minor corrections of typos, and Nancy Kenealey seconded. The motion passed.

Officers' Reports were largely unchanged from the reports given at the November 2, 2020, Annual Chapter Meeting; refer to the minutes of that document for details.

Mary Tod gave the Treasurer's report (same as Nov. 2). Alice indicated that she would purchase the Amtrak credit from the chapter for personal use. The credit was there because the chapter had purchased tickets for Wafa Ghnaim to travel from New York for her presentation, originally scheduled for May, which was canceled and changed to an online presentation.

Nancy Kenealey gave the Membership report (same as Nov. 2).

Carol Crumley gave the Region Representative report (same as Nov. 2, with additions). Camp Wannastitch is officially canceled for 2021 as the hotel will be closing for the winter. The Region advised chapters that Chapter Bylaws will be due in 2022, so we need to begin working on them in 2021.

Leslie Carson gave the Programs report (see attached). Looking forward to 2021, every meeting starting from January 2021 through June is covered with programs and lectures. In January, March and April we will have members teaching 2 original designs (Mary Tod — Mediterranean Blues needlepoint piece and Katie Franetovich — Deerfield Embroidery), and Nancy Kenealey will teach an adaptation of the Petite Project Beading class which covers several fabric beading techniques that we can apply to enhance our own work. It will be a simple sampler of techniques, and Cathy at Bead Soup will be supplying, kitting and mailing our kits for this class. Two of the 3 classes we had to pause when Covid hit have been rescheduled — Deerfield with Katie, and Laura Smith's Painted Canvas workshop. Katie is rescheduled for Monday, March 1, 10–2 p.m. She will now Zoom! And Laura's was pushed out to Friday and Saturday, October 8 and 9, hoping that by then we'll be in person again. If not, she is prepared now to teach this via Zoom. We still need to find slots for the Alcohol Ink Printed scarf with Wojnar and the Cyanotype workshop with Lesley Riley, but are waiting for an in-person opportunity. Hoping the \$ will move forward to 2021. And Leslie is still working to fill the few slots that are vacant so that the new Program Committee will be able to take over without worrying with next year, but begin programs for 2022. Alice was going to check with EGA National about ITTs coming in the fall. We need to know for planning purposes. We discussed the possibility of scheduling international traveling teachers in conjunction with the September 2021 EGA Seminar, but with so much unknown, feel that maybe we should be looking into what teachers we could schedule for Zoom classes or programs

instead. We also discussed practicalities of offering Zoom classes or lectures at the Howard County Center for the Arts.

Leslie Carson also reported that she is working on publishing the Dec/Jan newsletter. Laura Koren will be taking over as Newsletter Editor in January. A question was raised about who was responsible for soliciting advertisers for the newsletter and following up with them; it was decided to review this with the new board at their first meeting. We currently have only 2 advertisers who have paid for ads to run in 2020: Terri Tubergen (Bee's Knees Framing), and Tonie Evans (Japanese Embroidery teaching and supplies).

Susie Jordan gave the Outreach report (see attached). Participation in the bookmark project was discussed, with suggestions for how to generate more interest in participation by more members. A motion was made by Susie to give Heidi Snyder a check for \$25 in appreciation for making the most bookmarks. Leslie seconded the motion, and the board passed the motion. Leslie Carson talked about the donation of the Star Wars Love Quilt to Hospice of Chesapeake (specifically to the pediatric division of Chesapeake Kids, launched by the Jess Carson Foundation in Anne Arundel County), and informed us that the recipient was an 8-year-old boy who loves Star Wars and is in hospice for cancer.

Old Business:

The Board discussed the need for continuing our relationship with the Howard County Arts Council to be an associate member and retain our monthly meeting space at the Howard County Center for the Arts. The Council will be meeting next week and will hopefully be sending out a contract and new guidelines. Debbie moved that we tell Howard County Center for the Arts that we will continue our contract for January through June 2021 and will follow Howard County

health guidelines and restrictions for use of the facilities within that time frame; Mary seconded it; and the board passed the motion. We discussed how the chapter might use the facilities in the first half of 2021 should restrictions ease and the Center reopen, but tabled further discussion of this until such time as it was needed.

There was an extensive discussion about setting up an online payment system. The major issues are that there will be a charge on each transaction of 2.9% + \$0.30, which cannot be passed on but will need to be considered a cost of doing business, and that we will need to have a system to automatically notify the appropriate persons about payments received, for example, to notify the Program chair when a class registration is paid, or the Membership chair when dues are paid, along with the Treasurer. Jan made a motion that the Treasurer establish a PayPal account for the chapter; Nancy seconded it; the board passed the motion.

New Business:

The board agreed that the chapter would enter the MAR lottery for a free class limited to 20 students of a small canvaswork ornament designed by Vicky Wittterschein and kitted by Pam Miller, owner of The Edwardian Needle.

Susie received a donation of 20 painted needlepoint canvases from Janet Grove, and the board discussed holding an online silent auction for these as a fundraiser. Designation of any funds raised was discussed, with various options being for outreach programs, for meeting our budget for fundraising of \$300 to support travel for the regional representative to attend meetings, to continue the Marilyn Deland canvaswork program, or to fund our upcoming 50th anniversary in 2023. We discussed looking into various online auction sites, such as Auction Frogs, which is

used by ANG, or some other type of auction process. We will revisit this issue at the next board meeting.

Announcements: Alice thanked all the board members for the many great and thoughtful discussions we've had over the last 4 years, and said that leading the board has been an amazing experience. She feels that the board is in solid shape for the transition to Tara Roberts as incoming President. She also mentioned the addition of Laura Koren who is coming in as newsletter editor, and expressed her appreciation of the superb role that Leslie has played in the last 4 years as Program Chair. Leslie chimed in to thank everyone for supporting the programs with their help and input.

Jan moved to adjourn the meeting; Leslie seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Attachments: Program Report Programs for 2020 came to an abrupt halt in March 2020 when COVID hit and lockdowns occurred. Once it was discovered that states would not be opening up any time soon, it was discussed and decided that we would focus on keeping our chapter active through the use of Zoom. Thankfully, Mary Tod graciously offered to be our zoom guru, and while we normally don't hold July or August meetings, Alice, Mary and I decided it was important to continue programs to keep the membership active and engaged and therefore offered zoom meetings in both July and August. Since then, 14 zoom meetings have been held successfully—7 stitch-ins, 5 lectures, Cynthia Jackson's 2-day workshop, and 1 Business Meeting. From this our membership has grown to 114 members.

Due to the success of these meetings, we continue to hold zoom meetings for both of our normal meeting dates each month. Our highest attendance was 52 members for our first ever “Virtual Chapter Showcase.” Second was 51 with Cynthia Jackson’s “Bacton Alter Cloth” lecture in August.

The chapter average is 30 members per meeting from May through November, 2020.

Outreach Report

Love Quilts: The Disney Princess quilt was finished and delivered to Love Quilts USA. Ten people participated. The Star Wars quilt was finished and delivered to Chesapeake Children’s hospice. Ten people participated. Thanks to Leslie Carson for delivering the quilt. There seems to be a willingness to do a quilt in 2021. Probably better to deliver it to a local charity.

Bookmarks: I have received 84 bookmarks to date. This is a great response. But only 11 people participated. Many of the same people who worked on the quilts. Edie Cato Fink is working with the House of Ruth in Baltimore and they will receive the bookmarks.

Fundraiser: Janet Grove donated a box of needlepoint canvases to our chapter. See attached link:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/uJavxoeJee7uJ3468>

I would like to suggest we auction these at \$20 a canvas with a \$5 shipping fee.

Honestly, I feel the participation rate is a little disappointing, but I am happy with the results.

I will be considering a project for 2021. The logistics are a bit challenging, but there seems to be a willingness to work on an outreach project.