

The Newsletter of the Philadelphia Area Chapter EGA



Volume 48
No. 2

THE EMBROIDERERS' GUILD OF AMERICA
Mid-Atlantic Region

Oct/Nov/Dec
2025



A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT, GERTY ROMER-HARTS

Dear stitching friends,

As you may have noticed, it has been a demanding year for a lot of us, some bad, some good, but it kept us all very busy. In this Newsletter issue, I wish to inform you of some upcoming changes in our Board membership. Some of these positions will need to be voted on at the Annual Meeting on November 8, 2025.

Due to a busy work schedule, Lisa McGinnis will leave as the PAC Programs Chair at the end of the year. I would like to thank Lisa for doing an excellent job identifying chapter programs every month and teaching programs herself or finding teachers, and very importantly, keeping us posted on what programs were upcoming! Hopefully, in January 2026, we will have new people to run Programs.

After over a decade, Margaret Hardie is stepping down as PAC Treasurer. Fran Amore has agreed to be nominated for PAC Treasurer to replace Margaret. Thank you, Margaret, for being such a rock with the finances. It was always impeccable.

And last of all, I will be stepping down as President of this wonderful chapter. Cinda Hall has agreed to be nominated for PAC President, and Margaret Hardie has agreed to be nominated for PAC Vice President.

At the time that I accepted the role of President, it was supposed to be for a short period until we would find somebody else to fill the position. I had only recently joined the chapter and was not familiar with how things were done. This short time turned into several years, and great friendships were born. I cannot express my gratitude to the whole chapter for welcoming me with open arms and helping me find my way through all the rules and regulations of managing an EGA chapter. I could not have done this without all you beautiful people. I cannot wait to see what the future holds. I wish you all the best, and keep on stitching!

Gerty Romer-Harts, Leader of the PAC

October Melissa Galbraith of MCreativeJ 7:00PM October 22, 2025 Paoli United Methodist Church 81 Devon Rd., Paoli	November Annual Meeting with Potluck & Stitch-In 11:00AM – 3:00PM November 8, 2025 Gerty Romer-Harts' home	December No Scheduled Meeting Visit Valley Forge National Historical Park December 13-14, 2025 to view and stitch the Pennsylvania Panel of America's Tapestry
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OFFICERS

President – Gerty Romer-Harts
pacega.president@gmail.com

Vice-President – Cinda Hall
pacega.vp@gmail.com

Secretary – Susan Miska
pacega.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer – Margaret Hardie
pacega.treasurer@gmail.com

Region Representative – Carol Hatton-Holmes

Past Chapter President – Cinda Hall

Past MAR Region Dir - Patty Smith Gardner

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NAMETAG POLICY

Remember to wear your nametag to PAC meetings and events! \$1 contribution to the chapter funds if you forget!

STANDING COMMITTEES

Community Outreach – Kay Braun

Education – Patty Smith Gardner

Fund Raising – Volunteer needed!

Librarian – Gerty Romer-Harts

Membership & Directory – Phyllis Archer

Newsletter – Laura Bonnington

Programs – Lisa McGinnis

Web & Social Media – Liz Gilbert

Our Chapter Website is: www.philaega.org

The Mid-Atlantic Region Website is:

www.marega.org

To enter the member-only area; email is:
westitch@marega.org and use the appropriate password.

National EGA Website is: www.egausa.org

To enter the Members Only area, use your individual password.

Philadelphia Area Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America Membership

Chapter dues are \$16. MidAtlantic Region dues are \$2 (MAR no longer prorates dues for partial-year membership). EGA National dues are \$55. Therefore, primary members pay \$73, while plural members within MAR pay \$16 (chapter dues only), and plural members outside MAR pay \$18, as PAC pays their \$2 to MAR.

Direct questions regarding dues to Margaret Hardie.

Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of the month at Paoli United Methodist Church, Paoli (unless otherwise noted). Paoli United Methodist Church is located near the intersection of Devon Road and South Valley Road. The address is: 81 Devon Road, Paoli, PA 19301

PLEASE NOTE –

Issues of the Newsletter of the Philadelphia Area Chapter (PAC) of the EGA were not published for both April/May/June 2025 and July/August/September 2025. This issue is Volume 48, Number 2.

The Newsletter Editor thanks the PAC members for their kindness, patience, and understanding during the past months.

PLEASE NOTE – DIRECT E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR OFFICERS! – Please use the generic email addresses on the chapter's website to contact the chapter President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer regarding chapter issues.

PLEASE NOTE – PAC BOARD MEETINGS are held on the 1st Monday of each month, except July and August, at 7:30 P.M. via Zoom. Any chapter member is welcome to attend and participate in a Board meeting.

MEMBERSHIP –

The PAC currently has 45 members, which includes 39 primary members and 6 plural members.

The following members did not renew for the 2025 year:

Kathryn Dickerson, Tracy Ann Klinger, Lu Maislin, and Melissa Rihel

We are sorry that you have chosen not to renew and will miss you as members. If you believe that your name is listed as a non-renewal in error, please contact Phyllis Archer.



Judith Panetta
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japanetta@demoninabox.com

Lori Amin
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Sole Archer
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Remember that as of January 1, 2024, persons aged 18-25 years may join EGA as Young Adults for a National membership dues rate of \$30 annually. Those under 18 years may join EGA by paying National membership dues of \$15 annually. These dues amounts apply to new memberships and renewals until the member ages out of the age group and does not include any applicable chapter and region dues. The memberships include all the benefits of a regular EGA membership except a printed copy of NeedleArts Magazine. The memberships do include online access to NeedleArts magazine.

IN THE NEWS –

PAC member **Patty Smith-Gardner** was awarded the Viewers' Choice Ribbon in the 2024 Golden Needle Awards for her entry, "Nature's Lace No. 1 – Coccolithophore". **Heather Gitlin**, a PAC plural member, was awarded First Place in the Counted Thread category in the 2024 Golden Needle Awards for her entry, "L'Dor v'Dor". The theme of the Golden Needle Awards for 2024 was "Preserving". Congratulations, ladies!



Patty Smith-Gardner



Heather Gitlin

"State Fairs: Growing American Craft" is on display at the Smithsonian Institution Renwick Gallery in Washington, DC until September 7, 2026. "A culmination of five years of on-the-ground and behind-the-scenes research, *State Fairs: Growing American Craft* is the first exhibition dedicated to artists' contributions to the great U.S. tradition of state fairs with more than 240 artworks on view, dating from the mid-nineteenth century to the present." Admission is free. More information at <https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/state-fairs>.

The African American Museum in Philadelphia is hosting **"Ruth E. Carter: Afrofuturism in Costume Design"** beginning on November 1, 2025. "Carter's filmography and costume design uniquely capture the African-American narrative and leave their mark in cinematic history. The modular exhibition features costumes and artifacts from Carter's storied career . . . including interactive elements and a showcase of costumes from Carter's private collection." Ruth E. Carter won the Oscar for Costume Design in 2018 ("Black Panther") and 2022 ("Black Panther: Wakanda Forever"). More information at <https://www.aampmuseum.org/upcoming-exhibits.html>

And if you find yourself in London, England, **"Costume Couture: Sixty Years of Cosprop"** is on display at the Fashion and Textile Museum until March 8, 2026. "This once-in-a-lifetime exhibition features many costumes never seen in public before. Helena Bonham Carter in *A Room with a View*, Meryl Streep in *Out of Africa*, Maggie Smith in *Downton Abbey*, Colin Firth as Mr Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice*, and Leslie Manville in *Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris*. Cosprop is synonymous with dressing iconic characters in award-winning films and television. This exhibition is a celebration of sixty years of Cosprop's creativity and a unique opportunity to see behind the scenes of this celebrated costume house. Through stunning costumes, accessories and sketches, the visitor will learn the design and making process from script-to screen." More information at <https://fashiontextilemuseum.org/>

CORRECTION – The correct link for the Montgomery County 4-H Annual Giant Fabric Sale at the Montgomery County 4-H Center at 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, Pennsylvania is www.fhycomplex.org/annual-fabric-sale. The link in the last issue of the PAC Newsletter was incorrect.

WORTH REPEATING - There have been several articles recently cautioning about the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the creative world and needlework images generated by AI which are impossible to produce in real life via hand embroidery. Articles can be found at <https://loliandgrace.com/blogs/blog/artificial-intelligence-in-the-embroidery-space> and <https://www.needlenthread.com/2024/10/i-am-not-real-artificial-intelligence-in-the-needlework-world.html>. There are also videos which can be found on the Internet about how to spot needlework products that have been generated by AI so that you don't get scammed.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY PAC GET-TOGETHERS VIA ZOOM

The chapter holds get-togethers for members via Zoom weekly on Wednesdays when a chapter meeting is not scheduled to be held. You can join either by computer/tablet or by telephone, and with or without a camera. The meetings start at 7:30 P.M. The Zoom link is below. It is a great way to stay connected with your stitching buddies and show us what you're working on. The chapter is still looking for a Stitch-in-Public site for get-togethers as well, so let a Board member know if you have any ideas for a location! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83846072655?pwd=U1B4cXIreHlNWStzbnV5NUdwYTBCdz09>

REGION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – CAROL HATTON-HOLMES

The MAR is holding Sunday Virtual Stitch-Ins, hosted by Darcy Walker of the Oatlands Chapter. She will send an invitation on the first Sunday of each month. To attend, please RSVP using this link to register: <https://forms.gle/AptTCiog2CuwCYARA>.

CAMP WANNASTITCH will be held from January 16-19, 2026 with Early Bird start on January 15, 2026 in Ocean City, Maryland at Ashore Resort and Beach Club (formerly The Clarion Fontainebleu). Registration closes for everyone on December 1, 2025.

The **2025 EGA National Seminar "Needlework Faire"** will be held from November 12-16, 2025 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, Texas. Go to <https://egausa.org/event/ega-national-seminar-2025/>. The **2026 EGA National Seminar "Wish Upon a Stitch"** will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando, Florida from October 9-14, 2026.

Save the Date for the **2027 MAR Seminar "Stitchers' Great Escape"** from June 16-20, 2027 at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks, 11787 Route 50, Fairfax, Virginia.

Remember that there are **MAR and National EGA scholarships** available – check them out! Also remember that National EGA also offers **virtual lectures** periodically – check the National EGA website for updates. www.egausa.org

A VERY IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT MAR EMAIL MESSAGES - DO NOT FORWARD MAR MESSAGES TO ANYONE, INCLUDING OTHER PAC/MAR MEMBERS! Forwarding the message automatically unsubscribes you from the Mailchimp mailing list. If you want to forward the message to someone else, save or copy/paste on your computer/tablet, and then send in a new email to your intended recipient. **YOU ALSO MUST OPEN THE MESSAGES IN ORDER TO STAY ON THE MAILING LIST!**

APRIL 2025 MEETING – BUMBLE BEE NEEDLE MINDER

We dipped a little into Japanese bead embroidery! This was a tiny piece to try; the bee was printed on the fabric, and with the help of our teacher, Patty Smith-Gardner, we followed that print to lay different beads on the surface. Afterwards, the pieces were mounted on a covered button form with a magnet and VOILA, a needle minder! Twenty members participated in this project at the April 2025 meeting.



MAY 2025 MEETING – DORSET BUTTONS

A little backstory - in 2020, during the height of COVID, Liz Gilbert took an EGA Individual Correspondence Course (ICC) on making Dorset buttons. She immediately fell in love and then proceeded to make around 20 of them as boutonnieres for her wedding that fall. During the May 2025 meeting, Liz taught us the simplest Dorset button design - a cartwheel/crosswheel design. There's a good set of instructions on the EGA website under Petit Projects, and we were able to use perle cotton #5 from our stashes!



JUNE 2025 MEETING – A CONVERSATION WITH KATHYRN DICKERSON, DRAGON MAKER

At our March 2025 meeting, we shared stories and showcased our most memorable, joy-filled projects. As we wrapped up, we invited anyone with something special to share—and that's when Kathryn Dickerson, of Sleeping Dragon South, spoke up about something beyond embroidery. Moments later, she unveiled the most enchanting Dragons and Elves, capturing everyone's curiosity. At our June meeting, we had a rare opportunity to hear the fascinating story behind these magical creatures straight from Kathryn herself!



JULY 2025 MEETING – A TOUR OF THE EGA WEBSITE WITH MARGE KELLY

At the July meeting, Marge Kelly, a former EGA National Board Member and current PAC member, gave us an insider's guided tour of the EGA National website, which was completely updated in 2023. Marge was one of the planners of that updated website and has in-depth knowledge to share about the countless benefits of being an EGA member. The website lists the programs EGA National is currently running or ran in the past, over 70 Petite Projects for you to try, where to find current group educational opportunities, and what EGA events are planned for the future.

AUGUST 2025 MEETING – ThaP “CROSS STITCH & BEYOND” – DESIGNED BY JOANNE WESTERHAUS

At our August meeting, Gerty Romer-Harts taught the 2025 MAR Take Home a Project (ThaP) entitled “Cross Stitch and Beyond” by Joanne Westerhaus which utilizes 12 different cross stitch variations on 25ct linen fabric.

Slanted cross stitch
Greek stitch
Elongated cross stitch
Rice stitch
Cross stitch
Smyrna cross stitch
Upright cross stitch
Long armed cross stitch
Half cross stitch
Oblong cross stitch
Montenegrin stitch
Herringbone stitch



SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING – OUTREACH IN FLEECE & SOCKS

The PAC provided approximately 25 fleece blankets made from 2-yard cuts of fleece and collected white tube socks for those in need this year. Chapter members also created washable embroidered labels with positive quotes and words of encouragement, and Fran Amore volunteered to attach the labels to the blankets. Thanks, Fran!

SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2025 – MOON ON THE WATER WITH WENDY MOORE VIRTUAL CLASS

The PAC hosted an all-day virtual class of “Moon on the Water” with Wendy Moore on September 27-28, 2025. Twelve members of the PAC and 8 EGA members from other chapters participated in the class. The project utilized various stitches, including giant brick stitch, staggered giant Hungarian ground stitches, darning stitches, circular Bargello twist, and crescent stitches, and numerous silks, metallics, over-dyed flosses and perle cottons with subtle color variations. All the participants agreed that the instruction book with enlarged charts and the materials kit for the class were incredibly well-organized.



OCTOBER 2025 MEETING – MELISSA GALBRAITH LECTURE

Join fiber artist and author of *How to Embroider Texture and Pattern*, *DIY Embroidered Shoes*, and *3D Botanical Embroidery & Stumpwork*, Melissa Galbraith of MCreativeJ (<https://www.mcreativej.com/>), for an inspiring look into the artistry behind her signature 3D Botanical Embroidery and stumpwork designs. What began as a childhood craft has blossomed into a full-time creative practice, with Melissa's embroidery kits, workshops, and books reaching stitchers across the country.

In her presentation entitled “From Childhood Craft to Contemporary Design: Exploring 3D Botanical Embroidery”, Melissa will share her creative journey and the inspirations that guide her designs, from translating the beauty of nature into thread to developing embroidery kits that make the craft approachable for all skill levels. Attendees will gain insight into her design process, the techniques that bring dimension and texture to her work, and a behind-the-scenes glimpse at developing projects for publishing. Whether you're new to embroidery or a seasoned stitcher, this session offers fresh ideas and inspiration for your own creative practice.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at Paoli United Methodist Church, 81 Devon Road, Paoli.

NOVEMBER 2025 MEETING – ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK

The PAC will hold its Annual Meeting at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at Gerty Romer-Harts' home. At the meeting, the 2025 Slate of Officers will be presented, and the vote for officers will occur. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

The following Slate of Officers has been proposed for 2025:

PRESIDENT – Cinda Hall

VICE-PRESIDENT – Margaret Hardie

SECRETARY – Susan Miska

TREASURER – Fran Amore

REGION REPRESENTATIVE – Carol Hatton-Holmes

Following the Annual Meeting, there will be a potluck and a stitch-in until 3:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 2025 MEETING – NO MEETING

The PAC will not hold a meeting in December 2025 due to a scheduling conflict. PAC members are encouraged to visit Valley Forge National Historical Park from December 13-14, 2025 to view and stitch the Pennsylvania panel of America's Tapestry (www.americastapestry.com/tapestries/pennsylvania).

PLEASE NOTE: AT THE TIME OF THIS NEWSLETTER, THE BUILDINGS AT VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ARE CLOSED DUE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO VERIFY THE STATUS OF THE PARK OPENING CLOSER TO THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 13-14, 2025 AT www.nps.gov/vafo TO ENSURE THAT THE PANEL WILL BE ON DISPLAY.

PAC EGA 2025 BUDGET

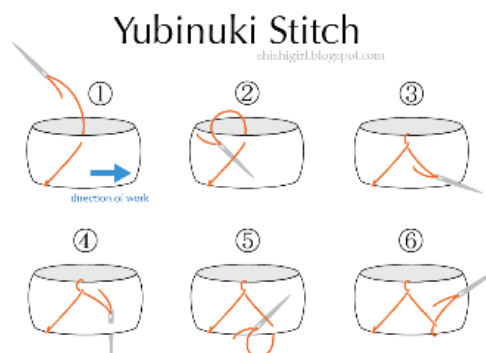
Income	2024 Actual	2025 Budget (approved)	Expenses	2024 Actual	2025 Budget (approved)
Membership (regular)	\$496.00	\$560.00	Membership dues (National)		
(Plural)	\$86.00	\$68.00	(MAR)		\$
Annual Meeting			Annual Meeting	\$4.00	\$4.00
Education		\$450.00	Education	\$1,105.72	\$100.00
Community Outreach			Administration	\$166.05	\$900.00
Interest-Checking			Directory	\$78.70	\$50.00
Interest CD		\$10.00	Newsletter		
Ways and Means	\$100.00	\$300.00	Community Outreach		
Gifts and Donations	\$ -	\$116.00	Web site & MeetUp	\$	\$50.00
Fundraising		\$150.00	Rent	\$209.76	\$200.00
Other			Fundraising	\$350.00	\$350.00
Total Income	\$682.00	\$1,654.00	Donations		
			Other		
			Total Expenses		
			Net	\$1,914.23	\$1,654.00
				\$(1,232.23)	\$ -

JANUARY 2026 MEETING – JAPANESE THIMBLES ~ YUBINUKI!

What is yubinuki? Yubinuki refers to a traditional paper-and-silk thimble ring, often around 5cm in circumference, used by Japanese stitchers. In Japanese, there is just one word, but in English it becomes two: thimble and ring. Like a thimble in the Western sense, it's worn like a ring on the middle finger to help push a needle through stiff fabric or multiple layers of fabric. It's used in traditional Sashiko stitching (which involves "quilting" two or three layers of cloth in one stitch) and is useful for stitchers of Temari balls.

We have ordered kits from **Gina B Silkworks** in the United Kingdom and Patty Smith Gardner will teach us how to make Yubinuki at our January 2026 meeting on January 28, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at Paoli United Methodist Church.

Kits will be \$25 each, description following. Please fill out the coupon below and mail your completed coupon and check to Margaret Hardie to reserve your kit and join in the fun! Kits will be distributed at the January 2026 meeting. Any questions or to arrange to pick your kit up individually, please email Patty Smith Gardner.



In order to prepare for this fun technique, please take the time to watch these 6 very instructional videos!! They will give you a full overview of the process, and you will sail through the class! The videos vary in length from 10 minutes to about 20 minutes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABXr-xqZXh4&t=12s>
https://youtu.be/KRpGgTLBB-E?si=KS23I4brR8n45h_T
<https://youtu.be/si8C3MDp6Xk?si=wYQAh4hA15dR5Rgo>
<https://youtu.be/cVWFwhA-6es?si=ap426jOZfQ0DPchn>
<https://youtu.be/KIKBf56c9Gw?si=F5Mor-GclskzAdZn>
<https://youtu.be/BMRwOggFMDc?si=GYHij-ua8M5HFcl>

Yubinuki Kit Description

This complete kit contains everything you need to make beautiful Japanese embroidered thimbles.

There is a reusable acrylic tool, with guidelines to cut the correct widths of bias fabric, facing and card, and each tool has a series of lines which enable the user to mark even divisions along the thimble, to ensure that the designs are evenly spaced. This can be used with designs requiring 16 divisions or less.

The instructions outline how to make the thimble itself, as well as how to decorate it using a herringbone stitch.

Patterns for three traditional designs are included -

Seigaiha : Waves

Nishoku-uroko : Scales

Yatara-jima : Stripes

This pack contains:

- Glass edge effect acrylic tool
- 3 skeins thread (1 filler - 2 decorative)
- 2 needles
- bias cut fabric strip
- card
- interfacing
- and full instructions



Please note that thread and fabric colors may vary.



“YUBINUKI”

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Send completed coupon and check for \$25 made payable to “PAC” to PAC Treasurer Margaret Hardie.

PHILADELPHIA AREA CHAPTER EGA 2025 CALENDAR																				
JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
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26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			

PAC EGA Board Meetings – 1st Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. via Zoom
(except July and August, and subject to change)

Any chapter member is welcome to attend and participate in a Board meeting!

PAC EGA Chapter Meetings – 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M.
at Paoli United Methodist Church, 81 Devon Rd., Paoli (subject to change)



• blue santa •
b^eAds
endless possibilities

sara caldwell
owner/designer

1165 west baltimore pike
media, pa 19063
telephone 610.892.2740
www.bluesantabeads.net

Hello Prospective Member!

If you are reading this newsletter and you are NOT a member of the Chapter, we invite you to drop in for a meeting. See Page 2 for information about times and locations. We are always happy to see new faces. The guild has learning opportunities for stitchers of all levels, and we are always trying something new! For further information, please call our President, **Gerty Romer-Harts**, or our Membership Chair, **Phyllis Archer**, (contact info on page 2), who would be happy to provide information. Come and check us out - **You don't have to stitch alone!**



Search for "Phila ega"

www.philaega.org