



Sun Region
Board of Directors' Meeting Packet
September 26 - 27, 2009
Naples, Florida

**Sun Region Meeting Schedule
Naples Grande Resort and Spa, Naples, Florida
September 25 - 27, 2009**

Friday, September 25, 2009

Seminar 2011 Committee meeting	5 PM – 7 PM
Executive Committee meeting	7 PM – 9 PM

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Marketing Committee meeting	8 AM – 9 AM
Finance Committee meeting*	9 AM – 11 AM

Luncheon hosted by Neapolitan Chapter **30 AM – 12:30 PM**

Sun Region Board Meeting

Sign-in	12:45 PM
Board Meeting Called to Order	1:00 PM
Board Meeting recessed	approx. 5:00 PM

Saturday Evening Educational Program - Hosted by Neapolitan Chapter **7:00 PM**

Sunday, March 29, 2009

Board Meeting Reconvened	9:00 AM
Election, installation, organizational meeting, programs	

Adjournment **at conclusion of day's activities**

Sun Region Board Meeting -- Agenda
Naples Grande Resort and Spa, Naples, FL

Saturday, September 26, 2009 1:00 PM – approximately 5:00 PM
Sunday, September 27, 2009 9:00AM – until close of business

Establish Quorum by Secretary
Call to Order
Introduction of Board Members and Guests

Peggy Beebe
Jenna McClooney
Jenna McClooney

Adoption of Minutes of September 13-14 meeting
Selection of 3 readers for minutes of this meeting

Peggy Beebe

Reports:

1. Director's Report on Sun Region
2. Assistant Director
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer

Jenna McClooney
Harriet Davis
Peggy Beebe
Pam Burke

Standing and Special Committee Reports:

5. Bylaws
6. Education: Sampler & Bylaws
7. Correspondence Course Procedures
8. Finance
9. Membership
10. Nominating
11. Outreach
12. Marketing
13. *Sun News*
14. Ways and Means
15. www.sunregionega.org Coordinator
16. SR Cruise 2009
17. SR Seminar 2010
18. EGA National Seminar 2011
19. EGA Seminar 2009 – Opportunity Basket

Adrienne Meyer
Jenna McClooney
Pam Burke
Pam Burke
Carol Harrison
Adrienne Meyer
Abbie Kverek
Liz Burns
Linda Anne Buehler
Marge Holmes
Lynn Abbey
Barbara Gill
Kathy Singleton
Donna Christie
Pat Carrington

Unfinished Business:

- 20.
- 21.

New Business:

22. Sun Region Library
23. March 2010 Hotel Information
- 24.

Jenna McClooney
Betty Baechle

Chapter Reports:

25 - 41.

Special Reports:

42. – 44.

45. **Announcements and Recess until 9 AM on Sunday**

Jenna McClooney

Neapolitan hosts our educational program at the Naples Grande Hotel at 7 PM.

Sunday Board and Organizational Meeting Agenda

Reconvene Sunday morning, 9 AM

Sunday Program:

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------------|
| 47. | Election | Adrienne Meyer |
| 48. | Installation | Dee Mullins |
| 49. | Recognition – Departing officers | Jenna McClooney |
| 50. | Adjourn Board Meeting and call Organizational Meeting to order | Jenna McClooney |
| 51. | Marketing Program | Liz Burns |
| 52. | W&M Silent Auction results | Marge Holmes |
| 53. | RD's Closing Message and Adjournment | Jenna McClooney |
| 54. | Technology Program | Lynn Abbey |

Please Be Prepared!

We must elect a new Sun Region Nominating Committee during the “Organizational Meeting” on Sunday.

Qualified nominees are: elected executive committee members, chapter elected region reps, past board members and committee chairs. We need 3 NC members plus 2 alternates. NC members are required to attend all region meetings.

We prefer that you nominate a qualified person, or if you wish to serve, ask to be nominated. If you nominate someone not in attendance, you must present a signed note that indicates their permission.

The last two years have been challenging, productive, and satisfying and I want to take this opportunity to thank every member of the board for their hard work and support for Sun Region. Chapter officers and chairpersons are also to be commended for their contributions to the region. Thank you all so very much!

For those of you who were present at the September 2007 meeting in New Port Richey, you may recall that I took a few minutes to ask you to join me in making my vision for the next two years a reality. Improving communication by embracing the use of the internet, focusing on the organization-wide issue of declining membership, and addressing the financial health of our region, were our major goals.

2008-2009 –A Look Backward

1. Improving communication: We stepped into the 21st century and embraced the use of e-mail to communicate important information and deliver the documents that are required for meeting preparation (Calendar, CTM, report packet, etc.). At the board meeting in March of 2008, you demonstrated that this could be accomplished immediately. This wasn't a success because we wrote e-mails or your secretary prepared CTM and Packets electronically, it was a success because **you** adapted to this big change.

2. Declining membership: As a team, the board members worked hard during the Sunday brainstorming sessions in March and June of 2008, clarifying the issues and offering suggestions for recruiting and retaining members. This information will be included in a handbook that our marketing chair will discuss in Naples. In 2008 & 2009, (based on the dues that were sent to our treasurer, Pam Burke), our region shrunk by approximately 100 members. This represents a loss of 7%. EGA as an organization projected a loss of 5%. Two chapters dissolved involving approximately 25 members. The rest of our chapters remain active and are providing excellent opportunities for their members. The important thing is **we can turn this around!** Liz Burns and her marketing committee will present a region plan designed to support the chapters in their efforts to recruit new members. You will find information on this plan under Marketing in this packet. The committee will also provide more information during the meetings of September 26-27.

3. Focus on finances: In early 2009, our Financial Planning Committee studied our financial status (income vs. expenses) and suggested that \$21,000.00 of our savings should be reserved for emergency operating expenses only. Over the next 3 years, the remainder of our savings could be earmarked for programs that support our chapters and provide value to their members. The type of programs to be implemented will be based on the results of our upcoming marketing survey. Another outcome was to encourage region seminar committees to plan with an eye on strong educational programs and suitable accommodations, without sacrificing the need to be profitable. A successful national seminar in 2011 will be the key to long-term financial health for Sun Region. We are clear on how to manage our savings responsibly and as a result of the presentation to the board (in March), our financial status was explained and board members are now in a better position to help their chapter members understand why we need to save as much as we do.

2010-2011 – Looking Forward

We should now consider our priorities for the next two years. We need to continue to find ways to enhance communications; from the top down and the bottom up. At the end of our board meetings, our region reps should leave with a clear sense of what information is important to take back to their chapters and a how they will go about presenting it to their board and members. On a regular basis, your RD needs to continue to keep the board members and presidents informed and they in turn need to pass this information on to their chapter members.

I am confident that the region will find effective ways to support the chapters in their efforts to recruit new members. Our marketing committee is in a position to implement several important programs if funds are granted during the budget approval process. I am also looking forward to learning about programs that EGA's marketing committee, led by Director Lea Peacock, will develop. EGA can provide support, your region can provide support, *but the responsibility for signing-up new members rests on the shoulders of each chapter in the region...* I have heard complaints that the efforts to maintain or increase our membership level takes away from why they joined in the first place. I understand the feeling. However, there are two ongoing activities that all non-profit organizations must embrace in order to accomplish their mission: These activities are fundraising and recruiting new members. It's also important that we have fun accomplishing these requirements – after all, who wants to join a chapter where the members aren't enjoying themselves?

Finally, I think our financial focus is on the right track, but we still need to find creative ways to increase revenue in order to balance the budget. Your Executive Committee and Ways & Means Chair need to hear from you with either time tested, or “outside of the box” ideas including suggestions for implementation. One way is to reduce travel expenses which can be accomplished by more region representatives accepting committee chair positions. There will be a few region representatives who will be “retiring” after the Naples meeting and their positions will be open. Diane Atkins has resigned as Education Chair and this is an important position that should be filled soon. Other chair positions will be announced shortly after elections.

Sun Region welcomes our new chapter “The Bermuda Guild of Stitches!” Bermuda received their charter in August with 43 members. Their Region Representative is **Kathy Faires** and her e-mail is kfares@ibl.bm. We will be able to welcome her in person at the March 2010 meeting.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with your ideas or concerns.

See you in Naples – **Jenna McClooney**



Marriott Orlando Lake Mary Hotel

Next Sun Region Meeting

Hosted by Central Florida Chapter

Friday March 26 through Sunday March 28

Saturday luncheon at the hotel

1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746

Reservations deadline is **February 24, 2010.**

Please call the hotel at 1.800.380.7724 and use our group block.

The room rate is \$109.00 (single or double) taxes

For more information on hotel accommodations, go to:

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mcoml-orlando-marriott-lake-mary/>

While you are preparing for the meeting....

Just a couple more requests:

1. Bring your Region Representative Notebook
2. Be prepared to state the breakdown of member #s for your chapter.
of plurals and total number of chapter members only please!

Assistant Region Director

Harriet Davis

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege of serving you these past four years as your Assistant Region Director. It has been both a rewarding and a challenging experience.

Many local chapters hosted region meetings, luncheons and Saturday night activities and it was a real delight working with all of you. Thank you for your generous support.

I have been attending Sun Region Board Meetings for more than 15 years, serving as A.R.D., as a Region Rep, on the Nominating Committee, and as an active chapter member. On one hand I am sorry my time on the board has come to a close but on the other I'm looking forward to what lies ahead. I will always cherish my EGA friendships that I have made all over our great region. Together we share a passion for stitching and a devotion to E.G.A. I wish Sun Region many successes in the future.

Secretary

Peggy Beebe

This is my last report to you as I leave office at this meeting. I have felt honored to serve the Region for the last eight years, four as the Central Florida Region Rep and four as Secretary.

I was so pleased by your support of me as the Ways and Means chair; I know we all wear our Sun Region shirts with pride. And *together* we made Art, One Stitch at a Time a resounding success!

It will be very odd to open my e-mail in coming days and not have your names appear. I will certainly miss the contact I've had with all of you through the years. Unless something changes after this meeting, the *Sunregionsecty@hotmail.com* address will be closed once the minutes of this meeting are distributed but I can be reached at my personal address, *the.queen.bb@hotmail.com*, after that. Feel free to drop in any time!

Aren't we fortunate to belong to EGA? We not only get to enjoy a hobby we love – our stitching – and to meet many other women from our town, state and nation who understand and share our love – our compulsion – to have a needle in hand. I've spent much more time with the computer than with a needle and thread while serving as Secretary so I'm looking forward to getting back to stitching again with my new found free time. My backlog of UFOs and lots of new projects are just waiting for me!

Thank you for a wonderful experience!

Treasurer

Pam Burke

Pam's report is detailed on pages 8 and 9.

Page 8 is a comparison with what has been received as revenue and what has been spent compared with the amounts budgeted for each item.

Page 9 represents our checking and saving account status.

Budget Comparison**Pam Burke**

Revenue	Actual	Budget	Difference
2 Member Dues	\$1,785.00	\$2,300.00	(\$515.00)
3 Interest	\$170.55	\$750.00	(\$579.45)
4 Educational Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5 Seminar (Cruise 2009)	\$4,840.00	\$9,000.00	(\$4,160.00)
7 Fund Raising			
SR News Subscriptions	\$10.00	\$25.00	(\$15.00)
Ways and Means	\$851.00	\$500.00	\$351.00
11 Contributions	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
13 Other			
National Opportunity Drawing	\$0.00	\$250.00	(\$250.00)
Region Meetings	\$998.40	\$1,500.00	(\$501.60)
Taxes	\$37.20	\$50.00	(\$12.80)
14 Total Revenue	\$8,792.15	\$14,375.00	(\$5,582.85)
Expenses			
15 Educational Events			
Touring Teacher	\$0.00	(\$50.00)	\$50.00
16 Seminar			
Region 2009	(\$5,160.00)	(\$150.00)	(\$5,010.00)
Region 2010	(\$1,500.00)	(\$1,500.00)	\$0.00
18 Fund Raising			
Ways and Means	(\$201.50)	(\$250.00)	\$48.50
20 Rent (Region Meetings)	(\$404.57)	(\$600.00)	\$195.43
21 Newsletter	(\$52.45)	(\$200.00)	\$147.55
22 Administration			
Director	(\$91.53)	(\$400.00)	\$308.47
ARD	\$0.00	(\$50.00)	\$50.00
Treasurer	(\$35.20)	(\$50.00)	\$14.80
Secretary	\$0.00	(\$300.00)	\$300.00
Committees	(\$74.31)	(\$250.00)	\$175.69
23 Officer's Travel			\$0.00
National Meeting			\$0.00
RD	(\$413.20)	(\$1,600.00)	\$1,186.80
Incoming RD	\$0.00	(\$800.00)	\$800.00
Regional Meetings			\$0.00
Lunches	(\$60.00)	(\$200.00)	\$140.00
Travel **	(\$57.96)	(\$2,000.00)	\$1,942.04
Lodging	(\$536.75)	(\$1,750.00)	\$1,213.25
Within Region Travel			\$0.00
RD	(\$300.00)	(\$1,000.00)	\$700.00
ARD Site inspections	\$0.00	(\$500.00)	\$500.00
25 Other			\$0.00
Website	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00	(\$25.00)	\$25.00
License and permits	(\$10.00)	(\$75.00)	\$65.00
Region Lunches	(\$542.51)	(\$1,700.00)	\$1,157.49
National Opportunity Drawing	\$0.00	(\$450.00)	\$450.00
EGA Annual Fund Campaign	\$0.00	(\$200.00)	\$200.00
Miscellaneous (Taxes)	(\$20.87)	(\$250.00)	\$229.13
Transfer to Savings	\$0.00	(\$25.00)	\$25.00
26 Total Expenses:	(\$9,460.85)	(\$14,375.00)	\$4,914.15
Balance	(\$668.70)	\$0.00	(\$668.70)

Category Description	Checking	Savings	Credit Card
Opening Balances (3/1/2009)	3,259.69	33,708.04	0.00
Expenses			
16. Seminar			
Region 2009	(5,000.00)		
18. Fundraising Events (Ways and Means)	(201.50)		
20. Rental			
AV Equipment	(108.90)		
Meeting Room	(295.67)		
21. Newsletter	(9.15)		(43.30)
22. Administration			
Committees	(74.31)		
Treasurer	(35.20)		
Director	(91.53)		
23. Officers' Travel			
National meetings			
RD	(199.00)		(214.20)
Region Meetings			
Lodging	(536.75)		
Meals	(60.00)		
Travel	(57.96)		
Within Region Travel			
RD	(300.00)		
25. Other			
License and Permits	(10.00)		
Region Meeting Lunches	(542.51)		
Taxes	(20.87)		
TOTAL Expenses	(7,543.35)	0.00	(257.50)
Category Description			
Income			
2. Member dues	1,281.00		
3. Interest	1.25	96.68	
5. Seminar 2009	5,000.00		
7. Fund Raising Events			
Sun News Subscriptions	10.00		
Ways & Means	851.00		
11. Contributions	100.00		
a13. Other			
Taxes	32.70		
Region Meeting Lunches & Rooms	998.40		
TOTAL Income	8,274.35	96.68	0.00
Transfers			
Transfer to Checking	5,500.00	(5,500.00)	
Transfer to Credit Card	(257.50)		257.50
TOTAL Transfers	5,242.50	(5,500.00)	257.50
OVERALL TOTAL	5,973.50	(5,403.32)	0.00
Closing Balances (8/31/2009)	9,233.19	28,304.72	0.00

National Chapter/Region Bylaws Committee Chair Nan Windle reported in July that she had received final bylaws from the proposed chapter in Bermuda. In a between session motion that month, the EGA board voted to approve the Bermuda chapters charter. She also said that Sun has all its chapters at 100% compliance with the bylaws. None are due again until 2017.

Motion to be voted on September 26, 2009

Recommendation: I, Adrienne Meyer, bylaws chair, recommend that the Sun Region board amend its Standing Policies and Procedures on pages III-D-6 and 7 as follows.

g. **Existing Policy:** In each odd-numbered year submit to the National Nominating Committee chair for incorporation into the board packet mailed prior to the national board election, the name and resume of a candidate to stand as nominee for election to the EGA nominating committee. The region executive committee shall make recommendations based on the candidate's knowledge of EGA on a national level.

1

2g. **Proposed Policy:** Prior to the EGA national board election held every three years, submit to the chair of the national nominating committee the name and resume of a candidate to stand as nominee for election to the EGA nominating committee. The Sun Region nominating committee shall make its recommendation based on the candidate's knowledge of EGA at the national level.

Rationale: At the annual meeting in 2008, the policy at the national level was changed to election of officers every three years. The procedure for submitting the Sun Region recommendation has been clarified to state that it is the nominating committee which submits the name of the candidate to the national nominating committee.

Education: Sampler & Library

RD Jenna McClooney

Due to personal reasons, Diane Atkins has resigned as our region education chair. I will have updates on the sampler and we will hold a discussion on the disposition of the library during our board meeting session. Here is where we stand with the sampler:

The following bands are complete (in order) Region, leMoyne, Sand Hill Crane, Neapolitan, Sarasota, Sea Grape, Biscayne, Sand Dollar, Gulfview, Indian River, and Sand Dunes.

Central FL's band is "in progress". The remaining chapters are Stitching Gators, duClay, Canopy Oaks and Bermuda.

Correspondence Course Procedures

Pam Burke

Policy for 2010 Sun Region Funded Correspondence Courses

General

1. The purpose of this program is to provide an educational opportunity for all Sun Region members.
2. Every Chapter in the Sun Region is eligible to host a CC. Up to fifteen CC registrations will be paid by the Region in 2010.
3. The Region Coordinator will not be responsible for signing up individual registrants. Individuals must contact the identified Chapter Coordinator for registration.
4. Coordinators from within the initiating Chapter will manage the Chapter's CC registration. The Chapter Coordinator must provide some method of contact (e.g. email, telephone number or address) to be posted on the Region website and in the Region Newsletter so that they can be contacted by potential registrants.
5. Members desiring to take additional CCs will not be allowed to sign up for additional classes until open enrollment has ended. They will be put on a "waiting list" maintained by the Chapter Coordinator until all first timers have an opportunity to register. Priority for class sign-up is as follows:
 - a. Members of the Coordinator's Chapter signing up for their first CC. Plural members are considered chapter members for purposes of this opportunity.
 - b. Region members from other Chapters signing up for their first CC.
 - c. All other registrants who are signing up for an additional class.
6. Actual timing of the CC (scheduling of the class) is up to the Chapter Coordinator. Registration payment to National MUST occur before December 1st, 2010.
7. Please read the registration process instructions on the EGA website or in the education catalog, page 33. The "EGA Registration/Information Request Form" in the Education catalog should be sent to National with the CC identified. National will return a Registration form that will include instructions. The Chapter coordinator must submit the completed registration form received from National to the Region Treasurer to have the Region pay for the CC registration. The form in the catalog cannot be used to submit to the Region Treasurer for payment to National!
8. At the conclusion of the CC, the Chapter Coordinator must submit information to the Region Coordinator about the number of students actually enrolled, the number of projects completed (or almost completed) and the number sent for evaluation. This information will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of continuing this program.

January 1 – May 1 Chapters Select Correspondence Course

1. Chapter selects a CC and notifies the Region Coordinator of their selection along with the name of their Chapter Coordinator. At this point in time, a minimum number of Chapter participants is not required; however, the initiating Chapter must agree to provide a Coordinator for the CC.
2. Chapter opens enrollment to their Chapter members. If the Chapter is able to fill the enrollment (20 + Chapter coordinator) from within their members, they notify the Region Coordinator that they have filled their class and may begin registration for the CC with National.
3. If the Chapter does not fill a class (20 + Chapter coordinator), they must notify the Region Coordinator that they are holding open enrollment. The Chapter Coordinator must also identify to the Region Coordinator the expected time frame that the class will be held.

January 1 – July 1 Open enrollment

2. Any Chapter that has not filled a class with students from within their Chapter membership must inform the Region Coordinator and allow the class to be advertised to the rest of the Region for other participants. The Region Coordinator will post the open classes both in the Newsletter (1 Mar and 1 Jun) and on the Region Website during this same time period.
3. **Region members are responsible for checking the Region newsletter and/or the Region website for these CC opportunities. They are also responsible for contacting the Chapter Coordinator for the class that they are interested in taking.** Registrants must identify themselves to the Chapter Coordinator as either a first time participant or a repeat so that the Chapter coordinator can prioritize their registrations and manage their wait list.
4. Once the class has 20 participants plus a Chapter coordinator (21 total), the Chapter Coordinator must promptly notify the Region Coordinator who will assure this information is updated on the Region website.
5. The Chapter may now begin the registration process with National using the registration process instructions on the EGA website or in the education catalog.
6. On July 1st, the Region Coordinator will approve CCs that have the required minimum number of students (10 including coordinator) and that have advertised in at least one Newsletter and on the Region website for a minimum of 2 months.
7. As of July 1st, any CC that does not have the minimum number of students with will be held open until it meets the minimum number of students or October 1st, whichever occurs first, or may be withdrawn at the initiating chapter's request.

July 1 – October 1 Second Chance for Chapters

1. If a Chapter was able to fill a CC during the first period of this offering AND if not all 15 Chapters in the Region have signed up for a CC, there may be an opportunity for a Chapter to receive a 2nd CC from the Region. This is to allow maximum participation of all Chapter/Region members.
2. For this second CC, the initial list of participants must not include members who have taken a class during the first enrollment. Once these "new" Chapter registrants have signed up, the course will be available for open enrollment to Region members provided the maximum class size has not been reached.
3. The rules for taking an additional CC apply both to members of the initiating Chapter and to all other registrants during open enrollment. The Chapter Coordinator for this second opportunity need not be the same as the Coordinator for the first CC.
4. The Region Coordinator will post the open classes both in the Newsletter (1 Sept) and on the Region Website.
5. On October 1st, the Region Coordinator will approve CCs that have the required minimum number of students (10 including coordinator) and that have advertised in at least one Newsletter and on the Region website for a minimum of 2 months.

Finance Committee

Proposed Budget for 2010

Finance committee recommendation to be voted on September 26, 2009

The proposed budget for 2010 is included on the next page (p 13.)

Finance Committee

Proposed Budget for 2010

Revenue		2010
2	Member Dues	\$2,200.00
3	Interest	\$100.00
5	Seminar 2010	\$1,000.00
7	Fund Raising	
	SR News Subscriptions	\$25.00
	Ways and Means	\$750.00
13	Other	
	Region Meetings	\$1,600.00
	Taxes	\$50.00
	Miscellaneous	\$50.00
14	Total Revenue	\$5,775.00
Expenses		
15	Educational Events	
	Correspondence Courses	\$2,400.00
16	Seminar	
	Region 2010 (Scholarship)	\$100.00
18	Fund Raising	
	Ways and Means	\$500.00
20	Rent (Region Meetings)	\$600.00
21	Newsletter	\$150.00
22	Administration	
	Director	\$200.00
	ARD	\$50.00
	Treasurer	\$50.00
	Secretary	\$300.00
	Marketing	\$1,500.00
	Other Committees	\$250.00
23	Officer's Travel	
	National Meeting (RD)	\$1,600.00
	Regional Meetings	
	Lunches	\$200.00
	Travel **	\$750.00
	Lodging	\$1,500.00
	Within Region Travel (RD)	\$750.00
25	Other	
	Bank Fees	\$25.00
	License and permits	\$75.00
	Region Lunches	\$1,600.00
	National Opportunity Drawing	\$200.00
	EGA Annual Fund Campaign	\$200.00
	Taxes	\$45.00
	Miscellaneous	\$250.00
26	Total Expenses:	\$13,295.00
	Transfer from Savings:	\$7,520.00
	Balance	\$0.00

Marketing

Liz Burns

The Marketing Committee is made up of these intelligent, dedicated and competent women: Betty Beachle (ARD – elect), Barbara Gill (Chair SR 2009 Cruise), Carol Harrison (Chair Membership), Margaret Kinsey (Parliamentarian and IEC 2011 Chair), Jenna McClooney (RD). I am indeed lucky to have these committed women with whom to work.

After its formation in March 2009, the Marketing Committee has tried to help the chapters see themselves as a worthy and valuable part of the arts community. To this end, for the June newsletter Jenna McClooney created a graphic “What’s in a Name?” Behind the term needle arts is a unique combination of education, research and outreach programs.

The committee also completed the concept of and three examples of a “30 second elevator speech” that is designed to present the speaker, her needle art project and the Embroiderers’ Guild of America and its purpose along with a welcoming invitation to visit a chapter. It is hoped that this will enable each member to interact easily with potential members. The “30 second elevator speech” is a standard marketing tool that every member can alter to make it her own and be prepared when someone shows an interest in her embroidery. Please see the three examples below written by various members of the Marketing Committee.

A. Have you ever done embroidery? I’ve learned a lot about embroidery as a member of the Embroiderers’ Guild of America. Have you heard of this organization? EGA is an organization that aims to promote and preserve the art of embroidery. There are chapters all over the country who welcome new members of all skill levels and interests. We learn many embroidery techniques and beading. You are welcome to attend any of my chapter meetings so you can meet members and see what we do. Here is a card with my phone and email contact. Please call me and I’ll fill you in about the time date and place.

B. I’m working on a sampler of different embroidery stitches. These are all techniques that our local chapter of the Embroiderers’ Guild of America teaches. We meet on the third Monday of each month and we always have a program and socialize with our stitching afterwards. Here is a bookmark with more information and we also have a website with the updated calendar. Would you like to be my guest at the next meeting? Let me have your email address and I’ll send you our latest calendar.

C. I noticed the beautiful embroidery on your blouse. Did you do it?

You did. Well you might be interested in the Embroiderers’ Guild of America. It is an organization that has chapters all over the states. At our meetings we usually have a class on some type of embroidery, it might be blackwork, hem stitching, cross stitch, needlepoint, etc. Some of these things I didn’t even know about until I joined EGA. The people are very friendly and helpful. It is a great place to get together with people that are interested in all types of needlework. Here is some information on EGA My phone number is one there and if you have any questions or would be interested in going to a meeting call me.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, write your own 30 second elevator speech.

In November, coupled with the Financial Planning Committee, the Marketing Committee will conduct a region wide survey of membership in hopes of gleaning information that will help both committees assist their chapters in expanding their membership and help Sun Region in planning for the future. Look for more news on this exciting project as time draws near. Results will be shared with the membership. Who knows? There may be some surprises.

For 2010, the Marketing Committee has submitted a budget request of \$1500.00. This amount will cover two important projects.

The first project is a Chapter marketing Grant of up to \$100.00 per chapter. The grant funds may be used for any marketing activity whose goal is to increase membership, retain members and increase community awareness of EGA both locally and nationally. It is proposed that a grant application be required as well as a final report to the

committee on each chapter's grant project. The reports may help the Marketing Committee discern **which** projects produce the greatest results. Publication of individual projects will help other chapters in their own marketing and public relations efforts. Estimating that ten chapters may use the grant, \$1000.00 of the requested budget is allocated for this project.

The second project is the writing, publishing and disbursement of a Chapter Marketing and Public Relations Handbook. An estimate of \$350.00 has been obtained for the printing and binding of the handbook and \$150.00 is reserved for distribution and graphics assistance. The handbook will act as reference material and, hopefully, as a source for new marketing ideas.

Membership

Carol Harrison

Carol will present her report at the meeting.

Nominating

Adrienne Meyer

The Sun Region nominating committee is pleased to announce its candidate to stand for election to the national nominating committee: Jan Palin. Through her service to EGA during the past ten years, especially as registrar for Seminar 2008, she knows many people at the national level throughout the country. Better yet, she has name recognition because of serving as registrar last year.

Outreach

Abby Kverek

Semiannual Report as published by EGA Outreach Chairman...

BISCAYNE - Making samplers for Habitat for Humanity Miami area. Stitching Kissing pillow tops for our troops. Collecting "pop" tops for Ronald McDonald House and used stamps for the Catholic Orphanage. Collecting personal toiletries for the Abused Spouses Center and penny coins for the Community Habilitation Center for the Mentally Challenged Adults. New projects this year, Chemo Caps for the Miami Children's Hospital and Preemie Caps for North Shore Hospital.

CANOPY OAKS - Several of their members have made baby quilts for a local neonatal Center. They have had a Needle Arts display at the Leon County Library, NE branch.

CENTRAL FLORIDA - Making Samplers for Habitat for Humanity, knitting baby caps, blankets and booties for the neonatal unit at the Winnie Palmer Hospital. Collecting books, quilts and toiletries for the Beta House for new young mothers. They are also stitching Kissing Pillows for the service men and had a display of Needle Art at the Central Florida Fair. New project this year has been making Heart Designs for a wall at the Ronald McDonald House. 13 Hearts have been finished so far.

CHAIN STITCHERS – Making Habitat Samplers for Lake and Sumter Counties. All their proceeds from opportunity drawings go to the Cornerstone Hospice of Lake and Sumter Counties. The chapter also decorates and donates a Christmas tree to be sold and proceeds going to Women for Hospice. This year all the ornaments will be made in blue, white and silver. Many of the members knit and crochet baby items such as hats, mittens, booties and Afghans for the Leesburg Regional Medical Center.

CORAL SPRINGS - Baby caps are being made for Coral Springs Medical Center and embroidery bookmarks were sent the children at St. Jude's Hospital.

duCLAY - Contributes gifts for teenagers to the Quigley House, which is a women's shelter in Clay County, Florida. Collected and sent needlework supplies to our friends in Australia.

GULFVIEW - Collect supplies for classroom use for the Pasco County Creation Station. They also make and donate blankets for Project Linus, for seriously ill and traumatized children age 0 to 18. Ditty bags are filled with personal

items and donated to a local children's shelter in Lutz, FL. and Habitat for Humanity Samplers are made for homes in West Pasco County. They sent needlework supplies to our Australia friends.

INDIAN RIVER - Collects needlework supplies, extra fabric, floss and makes up kits to be donated to servicemen, women and families at the Haley VA Hospital in Tampa, FL., Brooke Army hospital and Walter Reed. A EGA Indian River Chapter business card is enclosed in each kit as a way to reach out to others who may not know anything about EGA. This chapter is also making Samplers for Habitat for Humanity, Kissing pillows for servicemen at Patrick Air Force Base, pop-tops collected and sent to Ronald MacDonald House in Orlando, FL. Used stamps are collected and sent to Biscayne Chapter and Toiletries donated to the homeless. This chapter also has an active program teaching young people beginning embroidery at the local library. They have also send needlework supplies to our friends in Australia.

NEAPOLITAN - Have been stitching samplers for Habitat for Humanity of Collier County, FL. They sent needlework supplies to our friends in Australia.

SAND DOLLAR – Makes lap robes, knitted shrugs with sleeves and Walker bags sewn with Velcro for nursing homes in New Smyrna and Port Orange, FL. Knitted baby blankets, Hats and booties are made for Preemie babies. Christmas ornaments were made to decorate the tree at the Atlantic School for special needs. Needle works supplies were collected and sent to our Australia friends.

SAND DUNES - Stitch Habitat for Humanity Samplers. Stitch bookmarks for their local Library as an incentive for the children's reading program. A new outreach project is 'Quilts for Kids" personalized for terminality ill children. They also stitched in a local bookstore to exposure people to the art of needlework.

SANDHILL CRANE – Stitches Habitat Samplers for the new homes in Hernando County and sending stitched "Kissing Pillows" squares to the Yellow Rose Chapter of Texas. They also collect clothing and personal items to give to Mid-Florida Community Services for senior citizens. They also collected and sent needlework supplies to our friends in Australia.

SARASOTA - Make hats, blankets and robes for the neonatal center and collect items for Bethesda House. They are working on a sampler for the 'Spanish Point", the home of a wealthy women who helped settle Sarasota. They collected needlework supplies to be sent to our friends in Australia.

SEA GRAPE - Knit caps and booties for Lee Memorial System. They have a program to teach youth needlework. Collect tabs, lids and pennies for the Ronald McDonald House. They also stitch bookmarks for literacy. They collected and sent needlework supplies for our friends in Australia.

STITCHING GATORS - Have been active with projects for Breast Cancer. Collect stamps, magnets phone books and labels for recycling for Sidney Lanier School for limited children. We will be teaching children needlework in a summer program.

SUNCOAST - Continues making lap robes for nursing homes, kissing pillows for our military and blankets for the patients at the Susan Cheek Needler Breast Center.

Region Roster

Dee Mullins

I wish to thank everyone who assisted me with our region roster updates over the last year. The roster is a document that seems to change continuously but with your help, we can make it as accurate as possible.

The following is a tentative timeline for the next round of updates.

- By mid October – update forms will be sent to each chapter(with instructions.)
- By mid October – chapter presidents are asked to appoint one chapter member who will be responsible for providing all information (also for changes that may occur throughout the year.)
- By late October or mid November– all chapters who have elections this year should have announced the names of their slate of officers. We ask you not to wait until elections to forward the information. If officers have not completed their terms, we need to know this also. If you have the names of chairpersons at this time, they should be included. If not, they should be forwarded as soon as possible.

- By mid December – I will send a “draft” copy of the roster to each chapter and board member for review and corrections.
- By early January – I would like to send the “final” copy of the roster to each board member and chapter president.
- After the final, I will send updates via e-mail messages.

Ongoing communication continues to be an important goal of your RD. The end of the year is an active time for chapters as well as the region. Having correct contact information makes the process effective.

Sun News

Linda Anne Buehler

The Sun News deadlines are March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. Send your report to me at [Bear4LB@aol.com](mailto: Bear4LB@aol.com).

Ways and Means

Marge Holmes

Get ready for our Ways & Means – Silent Auction

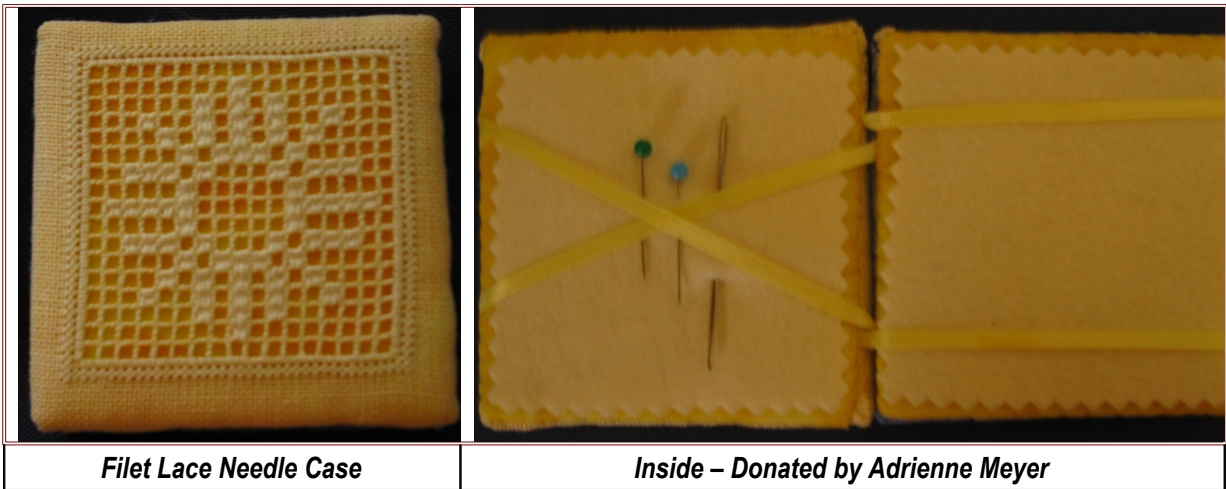
Sun Region Meeting September 26-27

Winners will be declared on Sunday



4 Swarovsky Crystal Tennis Bracelets – Donated by Jenna McClooney & Donna Christie

See page 17 for one more silent auction item.



Filet Lace Needle Case

Inside – Donated by Adrienne Meyer

Web Coordinator

Lynn Abbey

	<p>Just a peek at a portion of our new Sun Region web home page currently under development.</p> <p>Lynn will provide more information in her report at the meeting.</p>
--	--

Seminar 2009 Needles Aweigh Cruise

Barbara Gill

Check out the cruise photos on Bob Holmes' website: Robertholmes.dotphoto.com where you can see the classes with busy stitchers and teachers, other members enjoying the waterslides, and the famous atrium shot. They are on video loops and are available for purchase.

We honored to have our EGA President, Carol Dam, and her husband, Scott, cruise with us. Scott provided a very interesting lecture on photography. Our own Director, Jenna McClooney and her husband Leo also sailed with the group.

We had 110 cruisers, 73 students, 4 teachers, 5 classes aboard the *Sensation* in May. We are pleased to report a total profit of \$6675. Many of the attendees stated that they would be in favor of another region seminar cruise in the future.

Our Indian River Committee worked together for two years to make the event educational and fun. Our chapter members helped by making favors and collecting items for the goodie bags.

I'd like to thank our hardworking committee members for their time and efforts and all the attendees who supported our event.

Sun Region Seminar 2010

Kathy Singleton



Sun Seminar – Mayday Mayhem

Important Change! Registration will now re-open on **October 15**.

More information will be included in Kathy Singleton's report in the meeting "packet" that you will receive prior to the September region meetings.

EGA Seminar 2009 – Opportunity Basket

Pat Carrington

Your last chance to contribute to Sun Region's National Seminar 2009 Opportunity Basket!



Hibiscus

The theme is "Floral Florida"

Our 2009 opportunity basket committee needs a variety of objects that have a flower theme, so think about "re-gifting" a nice kit, tool or any item that would make seminar attendees want to buy lots of tickets for our basket. Of course, cash is always accepted! If you have any questions, please contact Pat Carrington, Committee Chairlady. She can be reached at either 305.253.4771 or pacggc@aol.com

EGA Seminar 2011

Donna Christie



Flamingo Fandango!

Plans for Flamingo Fandango are moving along. The work-plan(budget) has just been approved by the National Board. When we meet in Naples in September, there will be a meeting at 5 p.m. Friday evening of the Seminar Committee and the Committee Chairmen. We all have great ideas to share and I am anxious to hear them all. I plan to share as much new information as I can when I give my report during the Region meeting

At the Region meeting, we will have beaded Flamingo kits and charts for sale. This little flamingo was designed especially for our Seminar by Lynne Mondello, our local bead shop owner. Charts may be purchased for \$7.00, and a kit (chart included) can be purchased for \$20.00. The finished piece can be worn as a pin, attached to a bracelet, or add a bail and put on a chain for a necklace.

After the meeting all of the Committees we should have a really good idea of what their plans are for the next few months. There are a lot of really talented ladies heading up these committees. Many more volunteers are going to be needed to help on various committees, or just help! If you would like to help on a certain committee, you may e-mail me (dlchristie2011@yahoo.com) or contact the Committee Chairman of your choice. A roster with all the Seminar Committee Members and Committee Chairman on, will be distributed at the Region meeting. Many hands are going to be needed in the next 2 years. Thank you for all of your support!

Come Join the Fun!

**Saturday Evening Program
Presented by Your Executive Committee**

Stitch-in and Chat

**Saturday evening March 28 from 7:30 – 9:30 pm
See Ya There!**

Opportunity Tickets for Pittsburgh Seminar!

Opportunity basket tickets are \$1.00
Free Seminar 2010 tickets are \$10.00

**I will purchase tickets for you at seminar, if you follow these instructions:
In an envelope with your name on the front, include exact change or check, instructions as to the
number and type of tickets you are purchasing, sufficient personal address labels with your phone
number written on each one.**

Jenna McClooney – jennalee@hotmail.com

Chapter Reports

Biscayne

At our June meeting, Martha Milnes presented a program on crochet Antique Potholders and Aprons, which brought back memories of our Mothers and Grandmothers.

Several of our ladies finished their Strawberry Ornaments from our April & May meeting and we are preparing for our program on Thread Hoppers for September. We gave out the Brown Bag Surprise Challenge to 21 members. These will be unveiled at our Annual Holiday Party in December.

Our Thanksgiving in June food drive was a great success with 75 pounds of food, and \$65.00 in cash given to the Riviera Presbyterian Church (where we meet) for their “food for families” pantry. We are planning another food drive in November.

Along with Royal Palm Chapter ANG, EGA members contributed 150 Kissing Pillows, and our knitters and crocheters delivered 74 Chemo Caps to Miami Childrens Hospital and 25 Habitat Samplers which were given to new home owners.. We continue to collect stamps, pennies, pop tops and personal items for a variety of good causes in the Miami area

Our Honeysuckle and Hummingbird CC group has been meeting once or twice a month in order to deliver our pieces to Luan Calley at the time of the Region Meeting in Naples. The ladies have all worked closely on this CC and are looking forward to the new one in February 2010 sponsored by Sun Region.

Marge Holmes

Debbie Steihler is scheduled to teach one 2 day or two 2 days classes in February. We are looking for additional sign up, and the two choices are: Fantasia – The First Fan, kit price is \$80.00 and the American Patchwork, kit cost \$60.00 without box, \$170 with shaker box. Anyone interested please contact Marge Holmes (mzholmes@bellsouth.net) or Barbara Haberkorn (curleyandsunshine@att.net) We need to make a final decision by 15 October, 2009. I will have info at the Region meeting.

Canopy Oaks

Pam Doffek

The synopsis and the future....what a concept. We completed the stitching year in May with a show and tell of our UFO challenge projects. Several other chapters are doing it and it worked out so well for us so, we decided to incorporate the challenge into our program this coming year. We also mailed items to the Grater Pacific Region project for members suffering from the fires in Australia. In July our board met to plan the stitching year and do some strategic planning. We met at President Jacque's for food and planning. In August several members gathered for a stitch-in.

The stitching year begins again this September and we have a full year planned. We open with a show and tell and preview of possible GCC selection. The rest of the fall brings programs in candlewicking, visit to a quilt show, and Holiday Party with stitching present exchange. Next year includes programs in beaded ornaments, Color and stitching, Brazilian Embroidery and a study box. Whew, busy and we haven't even started.

Any Sun Region member or guest is welcome to our programs. We meet the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contact President Jacque or Program Chair Sharon for details. Both of them are listed in the SR directory.

Central Florida

Deby Talley

Our Chapter has been quiet this summer- guess that means lot of stitching is getting done.

Our June program was to sit, stitch and enjoy. In July we celebrated an early Christmas and worked on holiday projects. Our August meeting brought out another Petite Project- the Fall Landscape. We will gear back up in full force in September when our meeting will focus on Kissing Pillows. We will be stitching and assembling at this time.

In October we will be making a beaded fob that can go on a cell phone or other item. November will be an all day finishing workshop so that we will have ideas on how to deal with all the completed projects we have. And December brings our Holiday luncheon.

We have also been busy with our community outreach stitching. We have had several Habitat for Humanity presentations. We have also taken on the task of decorating a wall at the Ronald McDonald House. The theme is Hearts and Families and we took it to "heart". Several of our members have participated and we have received help from an EGA member in Michigan who was visiting and sent us a couple of hearts, and from some of our Miami area stitchers and shop owners. The wall hanging is being assembled and we are excited for the official unveiling sometime this fall.

Our chapter continues to work on MayDay MayHem, the Sun Region Retreat/Seminar to be held April 30-May 2nd of this coming year. Lots of fun things are being made for those who attend.

Members: 71 Plural: 10

Chain Stitchers

Geni Dickinson

Chain Stitchers members have been busy throughout the summer. Even with vacations and guests arriving and departing, we have been busy with our stitching. Our June meeting of Christmas in July was an informal one with individual Christmas ornament projects in blue, white, and silver. These are the colors of our Hospice tree decorations this year. The tree is already being displayed in member, Karen Cicero's shop, A Stitcher's Dream. Every week more ornaments are showing up on the tree. In July, a lady from Habitat for Humanity came and spoke

to us about the future of the local group. We had a problem with the air conditioning in the hall we normally use. Fortunately, there was a member who called the after-hours church contact who told us of another room we could use that did have air conditioning. Everyone attending the meeting started working on a Habitat for Humanity sampler. Several members also brought in ones they had done on their own. Diane Atkins, our Outreach Habitat for Humanity chairperson, should have a number of samplers to give to the deserving families. In August, air conditioning problem fixed, Dolores Mirolsky presented a project on ribbon candy ornaments. These ornaments were easy thanks to Dolores's fantastic teaching skills and we had a number of examples of projects finished in the meeting.

For the fall we have a lot of interesting and related programs. In September we are having a book sale from Ruth Kern AND a filet work ornament by Pat Krahn and taught by Linda Ferguson, our president. In October, another wonderful stitcher, Carol Presley, will present a program on pinkeeps. This is a two-part program, one in October and the second in January. In October, it will be on the designs and stitching. In January, it will be on the construction of the pinkeep. In November, we have a program on finishing September's filet work ornament as a standing box. Linda Ferguson has done several of these projects already and they look wonderful. In December, we will have our annual potluck dinner where we eat and have a Chinese Christmas ornament drawing. Everyone brings an ornament that they have made and wrapped or placed in a Christmas bag. Then everyone receives a number and when your number is called you go up and pick a bag or box. The ornaments are unwrapped and displayed for the others to see. Of course, there are ohs and ahs every time an ornament is shown!

In addition to these meetings, Lynn Abbey has scheduled her annual Christmas ornament workshop in October. These are always great fun and work! We will also have our second retreat at Austin Retreat Center in November. We are also voting on the future GCC project to work next year. Plus The Sun Region Seminar in April 2010 will be held in the Mission Inn in Howey-in the-Hills, practically our own backyard. And the Sun Region meeting in March 2010 will be held practically in my backyard as I only live a mile and a half from the Marriott in Lake Mary. Happy stitching! Membership – 58, Plurals – 10

duClay

JoyceAnne Stevens

This has been a quiet summer for duClay. We met at Olive Garden in June and July for supper and to keep in touch. Several of our members were traveling during the summer and attendance at the various stitch-ins was sparse. The August meeting held this past week was well attended and showed evidence of members having a busy stitching summer. We turned in our Swiss Sampler GCC project and 50% of the participants turned in their projects. Magda Mathis gave an excellent report on her participation in an individual correspondence course on Schwalm embroidery, showing her notebook, preliminary work and her finished project. It was impromptu but made for a really great program.

We discussed programs for the remaining 3 months of 2009 and decided to pull out the Log Cabin canvas work project that we started a couple of years ago. So far, only 1 member has finished the piece and several others said that they felt they would be able to accomplish more if we worked as a group, sharing and encouraging each other. We will also be working on the beading GCC that is due to be turned in the first of the year, 2010.

We will be meeting as usual on the 1st Sat of the month for our Round Tuit stitch-in and at the Olde Green Cupboard on the 2nd Saturday.

Gulfview

Judy DeMeglio

We were busy this summer with twice monthly stitch-ins. In July a petit project sampler was begun and in August we started a beaded Christmas ornament jacket. Our future plans include a pine needle basket in September and in October a Hummingbird CC. In November we will work on a pulled thread needlebook.

We are looking forward to the Region meeting in Naples in September and the National Seminar in Pittsburgh in October. The biggest item in our future is an exhibit of our work at the Pasco Hernando Community College from February 25 to March 31 2010. We were invited to put on a display in the brand new library exhibit hall.

Our current membership stands at 50.

Indian River

Carol Tsoukalas

Since the March SR meeting, our chapter has been very busy.

As part of the GPR Outreach, Adrienne Meyer collected and mailed out 3 copy paper boxes full of stitching supplies to GPR for shipment to the Australian fire victims. The Space Coast Chapter ANG paid for the shipping.

In May, shortly after returning from the SR Seminar/cruise which was a great success and a lot of fun, we celebrated our 32nd anniversary.

We were very busy in June helping Doreen Snyder who coordinated our 7th year of "Teaching Stitching to Children" at the Satellite Beach Library. We had 16 volunteers and 22 children. 13 of the children participating were returning students and we now have many "experienced" stitchers. We even had a surprise visitor on the last day as Jenna McClooney came to visit us.

As part of our membership drive, Ellen Lindner, a local quilter/designer, was a guest speaker and presented a great program on "Adventures in Color". The program was very well received and we had 18 guests. Some of these guests have come back to visit and we hope they will join our chapter.

What's July without "Christmas in July"? the local children's shelter, The Haven, benefited from our annual Christmas in July donations.

Donna McFarland has been collecting supplies to make up needlework kits for veterans and their families at the Haley VA Hospital in Tampa and is ready to send out two boxes.

So far this year, Marcia Barrere has sent 66 Kissing Pillows to Patrick Air Force Base and 13 to Pat Correz in CA.

We have presented about 10 Habitat samplers to Habitat families. Because they are building duplexes, we usually have two at a time. We are on goal for collecting toiletries for the homeless. As of Aug. 17, we have collected 931 items which is 62% of our goal of 1500. We continue to collect pop tops, stamps, and labels.

About 14 ladies are finishing up their GCC project which is Dakota Roger's "Mariposa".

That's what we've done! Upcoming programs are: September, we will be doing "Angel Wings", a project which the Central Florida Chapter has shared with us. It is an experience in creativity. There are several stitching techniques offered. We will divide into groups according to the technique. In October, we will do the finishing/assembly of the angels so we will have them for Christmas. In November we will have our "Show & Tell" for the completed (hopefully) "President's challenge."

We are looking forward to our Holiday luncheon/meeting at the Crowne Plaza Resort on A1A in Indialantic on Monday, Dec. 14.

As of August 2009, the membership count for Indian River is 61 Primary members and 4 Plural members for a Grand total of 65 members.

Neapolitan

Betty Baechle

We have a road trip planned for October. Golden Needle in Port Charlotte is the destination. Shopping for more things to add to our stash to make sure we never run out of anything and of course the trip includes lunch. Food and shopping what could be better!

For November we will have a round robin of Christmas ornaments. Small projects so they can be done by holiday season. These projects will be taught by members. Maybe make a few extra to sell in our boutique during our exhibit.

Speaking of exhibit February 18 - 20, 2010 we will have our biannual exhibit. This year it will be held at Mooring Park which is in Naples. Mooring Park is a retirement community. We will have our boutique, teacup auction and raffle in conjunction with the exhibit.

A correspondence course has been selected. By popular vote Dresden Kitty was the winner. Start of this course will be in November.

Sand Dollar

Abbie Kverek

The summer is almost over and we are looking forward to the return of our winter resident members. They always bring back some interesting ideas to share from the North. Our chapter members continued to have stitch-ins during the summer and completed over 90 Christmas decorations we needed to decorate the Christmas tree at the Atlantic School for special children. Our members also worked on many individual unfinished projects that never seem to get finished.

In September our Education project will be a Tree of Life ornament or necklace taught by our member Claire Kelly. We will be using semi precious stones and pebble beads on wire. It sounds very interesting and unusual to begin the fall season. In Oct. and Nov. we will work a Bargello design on canvas. In Dec. we look forward to our Christmas Luncheon, program and donating to selected charities.

This year we found out that some of our newer members were interested in learning some different needlework techniques that they had never tried. Some times we think everybody knows every thing but they don't!! So we started doing a 'Back to Basic' class. So far we have organized classes in basic cross-stitch, crewel, surface embroidery, silk ribbon and crazy patch quilting. This gives all the members a chance to learn how to stitch something different and not get 'stuck in a rut' doing the some old thing!!!

Sand Dunes

Cherie Hammer

As always, Sand Dunes doesn't continue with formal program meetings over the summer, but that doesn't mean that we don't keep stitching. Throughout the summer months we had day stitch-ins, night stitch-ins, and super stitch-ins! So if our members didn't get any stitching done this summer, they certainly can't blame it on the chapter!!

And then August rolled around, which brings our annual August membership coffee (we got a new member!) and the start of our new program year. This year our program is fit for a queen. At the coffee our vice president, Cindy Hardesty, introduced "Her Majesty's Accoutrements" which included a sweete bag, a sampler nametag, a tape measure cloak, tent stitch emery, a blackwork pincushion, a beaded needlecase and an elegant glove for scissors. Cindy worked very hard to give us the best prices and the most options because a queen must have choices. We all will be treating ourselves to these beautiful accessories. We also concluded our year-long "Round Tuit" challenge, our inspiration to finish a lot of those projects hidden in our closets, craft rooms, or under the bed. And we're starting a new one called "A Classy Challenge". As with our other challenges, the main objective is to help us focus on finishing up those projects that take up all of that space, so that we can make room for new projects! The challenge consists of 2 projects – one of our choosing (less than 25% complete) and the second is a class piece (less than 50% complete). I'm looking forward to finishing up a lot of those class projects that never seem to make it out of the closet.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled, majestic stitching year! The latest chapter membership numbers: 41 total including 7 plural.

Sandhill Crane

Carol Harrison

Our chapter does not have a regular meeting during July and August. But we do get together to sit, stitch and enjoy each others' company during the summer months. Which we did this year and also enjoyed going out to lunch afterward.

This September we will be meeting at a new location. We will now be meeting at the Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 200 Mt. Fair, Brooksville, FL.

We are excited about starting our new season this year, especially since we are starting a youth outreach program. We already have 6 enthusiastic girls and 4 mothers signed up. We have quite a list of things to teach the girls to get them thrilled and excited about stitching. Our program will include: a bookmark, frame and an ornament. We will be teaching them: cross stitch, needlepoint, hardanger and bargello.

We are still very involved with Habitat for Humanity, both for Citrus and Hernando counties. The families just love the samplers that our stitchers make for their new homes.

At our meeting in September, we will be learning to make paper Christmas decorations. In October we will be having a silent auction and a beading program. In November, we will be having our popular auction.

That is all for now. See you in Naples. Total members 38 including 3 plural.

Sarasota

Cynthia Bugg

Sarasota Chapter is looking forward to a *busy* next three months. The first Tuesday of every month will find us stitching at the Senior Friendship Center in Sarasota. The second Monday of each month will find us stitching in Venice at the Jacaranda Library.

The third Tuesday will find us at the Fire Station at Waldemere not only stitching but beading with the beading group. The bead group will also meet the 4th Tuesday in October as many of the beaders will be at Day Spring for October 20,21 and 22. Day Spring is a great opportunity to catch up on our UFO's and start our Christmas projects. I on the other hand find it a wonderful place to relax and enjoy the company of the ladies who make up our chapter.

Marty Measel will be teaching a beaded key chain with a hidden compartment for a rolled up bill. The project uses odd count peyote stitch. Marty will teach in November a Rainbow Necklace of bracelet.

The third Monday we meet in each others home to stitch, bead and eat great desserts. Our Stitch N' Chat group works because one member opens her home and another member brings the goodies. Sharing the work means more time to stitch.

On the second Tuesday the Sampler Group meets in a members home.

The Night Needlers meet the 4th Thursday at the Fruitville Library.

Our General meeting is the fourth Monday at the Waldemere Fire Station. The early birds, 9:30 a.m., have a chance to socialize and munch - more goodies! Ten o'clock we start our business meeting and our programs.

September, Pat Kumicich of Naples Florida will give a program on her collection of needlework, art quilts and dolls. October, Kathy Lyons of Golden Needle in Port Charlotte will be showing us the newest projects from her recent shopping trip .

November, Dr. Ernestine O'Connell will bring us her collection of needlework and her Santa Claus collection.

After lunch at our General meeting we have our Education portion. September Clemmie Rounds will continue on the April project of silk ribbon roses and how to use them to make a name tag. October Lilian Colado will teach finishing techniques on a square ornament. November Sharon Kleinhardt will teach finishing techniques on a round ornament and a stuffed ornament. No reason not to finish the ornaments we started and put aside because we didn't know how to finish them.

Barb Kaylor will start a beginners cross stitch class on Aida.

A quick peek into February 2010 will find us doing a one and a half day workshop with Marylyn Doyle of Willow Bend Studios from Dayton Ohio. Marylyn will teach " introduction to Blackwork ". Total members 102 including 6 plural.

Sea Grape

Chris Zogus

This past season our chapter has been activate with 4 outreach programs. In July, we donated 135 Baby Caps to Gulf Coast Hospital. So far this year, we have contributed a total of: 670 caps and 1987 Volunteer Hours. Also we collected bags and bags of tabs and caps for their aluminum recycling program. We are also into the second year of our creating bookmarks for adult education program. I believe the members are most proud of the following two efforts. We continue to collect pennies for a new McDonald House Vehicle.

Our major effort for this quarter has been a contribution to the Ronald McDonald House auction. Many of our members have been busy stitching and beading ornaments for our little Christmas tree. It will be auctioned off at the Fifth Annual McFlat's Invitational during Labor Day Weekend and all proceeds will benefit Ronald McDonald House. We're hoping to load up our little tree with lots of ornaments and raise a ton of money for the good people at Ronald McDonald House.

Our needle art education continues with both programs and classes. In September we start with Connie Fretwell speaking about how to frame our master pieces. October sees us working on Humbugs taught by Melissa Bak. In October , 7 of our members will be making a road trip to Mt. Dora. Plans include needling "rest" stops and a stay at the Lakeside Inn. We are also looking forward to our classes with Jonalene Gutwien (Sea Grape Sampler) and Margaret Kinsey (Tropical Fish II).

And of course the holidays (Christmas cookies – hum) and our annual luncheon (auction of our stashes) are just around the corner.

Suncoast

Joan Sapp

The Suncoast Chapter has enjoyed a pleasant summer working on lap blankets for breast cancer patients receiving chemotherapy treatment at the Susan B. Cheek Center. Our twenty-five members also produced thirty-six kissing pillows for service men serving overseas. The down county stitchers spent summer days stitching at members homes and the night owls meet at the Clearwater Library for fellowship and stitching.