

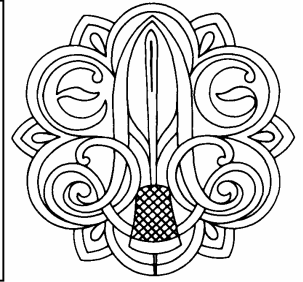


Needle Arts Guild of Toledo

Newsletter

Volume 10 Issue 2

March/April 2009



From The President's Desk

How would you like to attend a needlework retreat in January – at a location warmer than Ohio where the sun shines in winter – at a place where 3 meals are provided daily and the bed is made for you – at a school that offers excellent teachers and numerous techniques? Then you should consider the Callaway Gardens School of Needle Arts in Pine Mountain, Georgia.

I was lucky enough to attend again this year. I chose the design class with Jan Beaney and Jean Littlejohn from England. In the United States the usual method of teaching needlework is for everyone in the class to work on the same project. You learn techniques and stitches and have a finished piece suitable for framing. In the UK, a technique is presented. Then you are given some materials or use you own and make a sample. Be creative, use your own design or just practice until you are satisfied you understand.

We spent the first four days studying ethnic patterns, making sketches and practicing some techniques. Now, I was not pleased at first with my drawings, but I have learned that they were just for me. I used them as a jumping off point for my stitching and they helped to record ideas.

Usually in this class we end up with many samples, several inches in size. This year we were asked to create a larger piece. One piece was to be a "Magic Carpet" using the "Embellisher" (really, a felting machine). The other piece was to be a "Celebration Cloth" using sheer fabrics.

We had the second 4 days to do it. I worked away on my Magic Carpet for 2 days when I found out we were supposed to be working on both. Oops. They didn't have to be finished, but had to be well on their way for the gallery show we had the last afternoon. I stole a pattern from the first piece and quickly created the second.

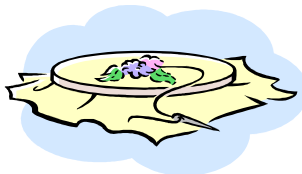
Jan and Jean were always there to offer advice and help. They really got us to look at our work in a different way. In addition to our small individual work space (there were 38 in the class), we had stations for painting and stamping, pressing and heat setting, embellishing and machine sewing. Some people spent time working in their rooms including me to get the machine work done on the second piece. It was one of the most sharing classes I've ever been in as kind opinions or help were offered from other students when asked and materials were generously passed around.

Many of the students in the class are well-known teachers or authors, artists who sell their work and many people like me who just want to expand their work for themselves. Judith Baker Montano was very gracious when I gave her some tips on the Embellisher.

Keep Stitching,
Caren

General Meetings

Don't forget that our general meetings are now being held at the First Unitarian Church at 3205 Glendale Ave., Toledo, OH 43614 (thanks to Annette Hill for sponsoring us!) on the **third Wednesday** of the month at 6:30 p.m. A map is located at the bottom of the officers' page. Please bring your own mug or cup for coffee.



Board Meetings

This year the board meetings will be held in the café inside Barnes & Noble at the Shops at Fallen Timbers in Perrysburg. The meetings will be at 6:30 p.m. on the **first Thursday** of the month.

If You Need A Ride

If there are any members needing transportation to a meeting please let us know. We have members attending from all over the Toledo area. Don't stay home just because you can't drive!

Program Schedule

Here is a tentative schedule for the exciting new programs that will be featured this year.

- March 18: Antique Needlework Tools, NAGT members share from their collections. Also, *Get It Finished* entries & Book Sale (see below). *Refreshments: Marilyn Freeman, Katherine Thompson*
- April 15: *Blackwork Dolls*, an EGA Petite Project by Eunice Wachtveitl, taught by Ann Rorarius. *Refreshments: Marianne Mussett, Chris Christiansen*
- May 20: Biscornu Part II (assembly), taught by Sue Hojnacki. *Refreshments: Ann Rorarius, Annette Hill*
- June 17: Annual Potluck Dinner. Contract Project progress reports and *Get It Finished* entries. Secret Stitchers revealed.
- July 15: Stitching Stash Garage Sale. *Refreshments: Julia Stange, Nancy Wright*
- Aug. 19: Armchair Pin Keep, taught by Karlyn Thompson. *Refreshments: Jennifer Miller, Kim Hammer*
- Sept. 16: Victorian Perforated/Punched Paper, taught by Kim Hammer. Also, *Get It Finished* entries. *Refreshments: Maria Nowicki, Cathy Studer*
- Oct. 21: Ornament Finishing, taught by Denise Duda of Timeless Stitches. *Refreshments: Donna Cairns, Helen Zeller*
- Nov. 18: Ukranian Embroidery, taught by Karlyn Thompson. *Refreshments: Karlyn Thompson, Donna Cairns*
- Dec. 16: Annual Christmas Party with Ornament and Cookie Exchanges. Also, Finished Contract Projects and *Get It Finished* entries and prizes. 2010 Officer Installation.

Book Sale

The remaining five books from our library will be sold at the March meeting. Diane Myers looked up the value of these books on amazon.com (in parenthesis), they may not be sold for that but may have half that listed as a reserve price at the auction.

Crewel Embroidery by Audrey Francini's, 2 copies (\$26)
Lady Evelyn's Needlework Collection by Mary-Dick Digges (\$114)
The Proper Stitch by Darlene O'Steen, 1st edition (\$50)
Ayrshire Needlework by Agnes Bryson (\$40)

Calendar of Events

Here is a list of events besides our monthly meetings that you may find interesting. Further info may be obtained from the EGA or GLR websites or in later issues of this newsletter as it becomes available.

- | Dates | Event Information |
|------------------------|---|
| 04/25/09 | <i>Ohio State Day</i> "Springtime Stitching in Amish Country". Hosted by Ohio Canal Chapter. |
| 04/26/09 —
04/30/09 | GLR Seminar . Hosted by Monguagon chapter. Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Dearborn, MI. Contact Wendy Moore, Chairman, 734-379-3271; wenstan@comcast.net |
| 08/28/09 —
09/04/09 | ANG Seminar . Hilton Milwaukee City Center |
| 09/25/09 —
09/26/09 | NAGT 34th Annual Needlework Show at the Sanger Branch Library. Judge: Sandy Rodgers. |
| 10/04/09 —
10/09/09 | EGA National Seminar "Bridges to Stitches". Hosted by the Mid-Eastern Region, Pittsburgh, PA. |
| 10/17/09 | <i>Indiana State Day</i> "Web in an Autumn Garden". Sponsored by Needle Artisans of Northwest Indiana at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Munster, IN. Stitch a specially designed hardanger project. Contact Sue Hanson at (708) 877-8901 or Mel McCormick at (219) 669-3178; instateday2009@gmail.com |
| 04/24/10 —
04/29/10 | GLR Seminar "River of Threads". Fort Wayne, IN at the Grand Wayne Center. |

Stitch-In

Stitch-In meetings are held every Thursday from 11am–5pm. The third Thursday of the month we are at Something Extra. Other Thursdays we meet at a member's home.

The third Tuesday of each month we have a group for canvas projects. We get started around 6:30pm and end around 9:30pm. Sometimes we pick a project for the group but you can always work on any project you have.

On the fourth Tuesday, the crewel group has a stitch-in from 6:30pm – 9:30pm.

Locations change weekly. Call Katherine Thompson at 419-385-0081 or e-mail Diane Myers at jrmymers@roadrunner.com for the next meeting place.

Announcements and Snippets

GLR Basket

The Great Lakes Region (GLR) Seminar is coming up on April 26 - 30. Our guild will be presenting a basket for the opportunity drawing which takes place at the closing banquet. We have not made a basket for some time so I hope we can put something nice together. So far we have Shay Pendray's book *Stitching Toward Perfection*, the video tape *The Needle Workshop* which she made with Marnie Ritter and her latest book, *Piecework Magazine presents the Needleworkers Companion*. If you have any canvas or any ground fabric at least 12" x 12", threads, needles, ribbon, or buttons in your stash to contribute please bring it to the March or April meetings. I hope if you find yourself in a needlework shop you might consider purchasing something for the basket. Maybe one of those neat mini work lights or stretcher bars or a pair of Stichin' Girl socks or some other accessory. I will put it together and make it look pretty and of course take a picture and maybe even get a picture of the lucky winner at the banquet! Can't wait to see what you come up with!

Submitted by Diane Myers

About the March and April Programs

Gretchen Schultz of Maumee will give a slide presentation on Antique Needlework Tools at the March 18 meeting. NAGT members are asked to please bring some of your own antique needlework treasures to share. We will enjoy seeing sewing boxes, thread winders, pin cushions, tape measures, thimbles or other needlework tools that members have inherited or collected.

Supplies needed for April program (Blackwork Dolls) are as follows: size 24 & 26 tapestry needles, 6 inch square or larger piece of 22 ct. hardanger or 18 ct. Aida cloth in white or light color, 5 inch hoop, scissors, floss colors DMC 310 (black), 817 (red), 368 (green), 333 (purple), 676 (gold). Black is for outline and colors of your choice are for the obi sash. Each doll measures 2 1/2" high and 1" wide on 22 ct. hardanger. If using 18 or 14 ct. Aida, the doll would be larger. Printed instructions will be provided at the meeting.

Biscornu

A Biscornu is an eight sided pincushion. The word "biscornu" means "quirky" in French and that is exactly what these are: quirky pincushions. Two squares of counted thread fabric are attached to each other by matching corners of one square to the center of the sides of the other square. This creates the skewed eight-sided effect. A button is then attached to the middle to pinch the cushion together.

Biscornus can be made from any square design and from any needlework technique: cross stitch, blackwork, hardanger, etc. You can embellish with beads, ribbons, tassels or fringe: just let your imagination flow. There are many free designs available (I've included a few sites) or designers have recently hopped on the Biscornu bandwagon and there are commercial designs too.

To start you need to pick a pattern, thread and fabric. Just about any counted fabric will work: Aida, linen, even canvas. You need fabric big enough for two squares a couple of inches bigger than your design. You can stitch just one piece and leave the bottom blank or stitch on both pieces. Your design can be from a scissor fob size to a large pin cushion, or anything in between.

When your design is stitched, you will need to do a back-stitch square around it. It can be right next to the design or a few threads away. Both pieces need to be backstitched in a square and must be the exact same size so count carefully. Then trim your fabric to a 1/2 inch seam allowance and finger press along the backstitching. I have included several web sites below that give you good step by step instructions with excellent pictures. The first one has a pattern with it, the rest are just instructions. We will have a meeting for help with finishing in a couple of months. Have FUN and get stitching!!

Submitted by Sue Hojnacki

<http://myauntsattic.web-log.nl>

www.inkcircles.com

<http://lhfinishingschool.wordpress.com/biscornu-class/>

<http://www.creative-poppy-patterns.com/instructions-how-to-make-biscornu-pxl-16.html?language=en>

http://kittyandmedesigns.blogspot.com/2009/01/biscornu-finishing-directions_24.html

<http://own-two-hands.livejournal.com/4186.html>

<http://handarbeitsforen.de/index.php?page=Thread&threadid=8846>

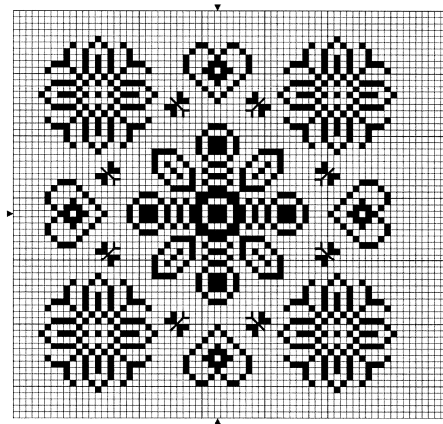
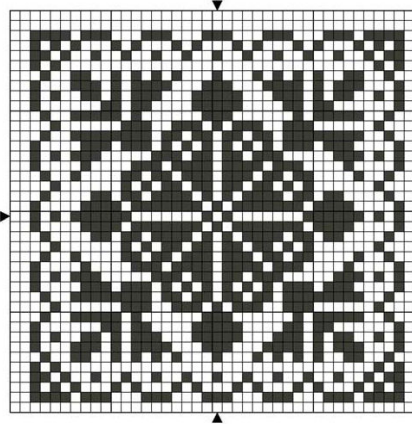
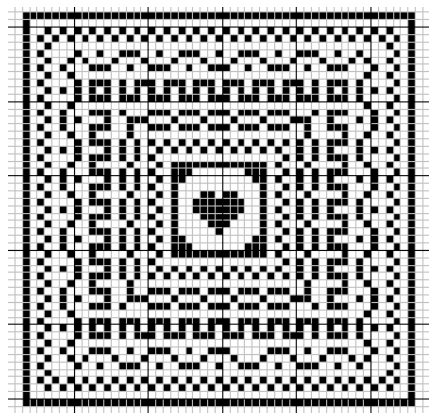
<http://blackyrose.over-blog.com/categorie-10272105.html>

<http://brodyzenloisirs.kazeo.com/Grilles-biscornus,r80869.html>

<http://www.periphaeria.com/Designs/Samples/>

Editor's note: Sue included more websites than space allowed and I have not checked out all of these so please contact Sue if you have any problems. I did include some more info on the next page.

Announcements and Snippets



These are designs from Debbie Draper Designs and would make good Biscornu patterns. Left to right, they are "Heart's Desire", "Love", and "Spring Flowers". Each pattern was a free design with distribution permitted through newsletters and/or handouts. The newsletter editor will bring copies of the full page handouts with her to the meeting or you can download them yourself. Please visit <http://www.debbiedraperdesigns.com> for these patterns and check out her other wonderful designs!

2009 Oldest Work in Progress Contract Projects

<u>Member</u>	<u>Technique</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Designer</u>
Donna Cairns	Canvas	A - Z	Lighthouse Designs
Kim Carles-Hammer	Crewel	Woodland Scene	Erica Wilson
Chris Christiansen	Counted	German Shepherd & Pup	Sherrie Stepp Aweau
Kay Griffith	Crewel	Woolsy Bear	Peg Morris
Christine Hampshire	Canvas	Promise In the Looking Glass	Elsa Parrish
Annette Hill	Beading	Merlin	Barbara E. Elbe
Sue Hojnacki	Needlepoint	Winter House	Elizabeth Bradley
Peverley Hormann	Counted	Come Read to Me	Kathrine Moser
Anna Kerlin	Mixed Media Canvas	Raccsnack	Ann Strite Kurz
Irene Leonard	Blackwork	Chrysanthemum for EGA	C. Alge
Jennifer Miller	Counted	Hare Pyns	Sheri Jones
Marianne Mussett	Needlepoint	Dog Christmas Stocking	Mary Badenhop/Dimensions
Diane Myers	Quilting/Beading	Under the Sea	unknown
Ann Rorarius	Canvas Work	Tiffany Window	Dorothy Leshar
Karlyn Thompson	Counted	Schoolhouse Sampler	Stoney Creek (?)
Katherine Thompson	Needlepoint	Fox	Beth Russell
Sue Wiemer	Blackwork	Reflections	Marion Schoular
Nancy L. Wright	Embroidery/Quilting	Tote	Rocky Mountain Patchwork
Helen Zeller	Embroidery	5 Piece Tea Set	Bucilla

The NAGT Newsletter is published six times per year (January, March, May, July, September, and November) by the Needle Arts Guild of Toledo (NAGT) chapter, The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. The Editor welcomes comments, input, and story items. Please send them to the editor by the 25th of the month preceding publication.

Editor: Susan Pellitieri; 703 Butterfield Dr; Toledo, Ohio 43615, Phone: 419-382-1329, E-mail: pellitieri@aol.com

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MEMBERSHIP in the Needle Arts Guild of Toledo is open to all embroiderers. New and renewing dues payments should be sent to: Nancy Wright, 17515 Sycamore Rd., Grand Rapids, OH 43522.

ANNUAL DUES - NAGT annual dues of \$43 includes:

Dues - Local chapter

- Bimonthly NAGT chapter newsletter
- Chapter meetings and programs
- Local chapter lending library
- Group correspondence course (additional fee required)

Dues - Great Lakes Region (GLR)

- GLR seminar (additional fee required)

Dues - The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. (EGA)

- Subscription to quarterly magazine, Needle Arts
- Individual correspondence courses for a fee
- National seminars for a fee

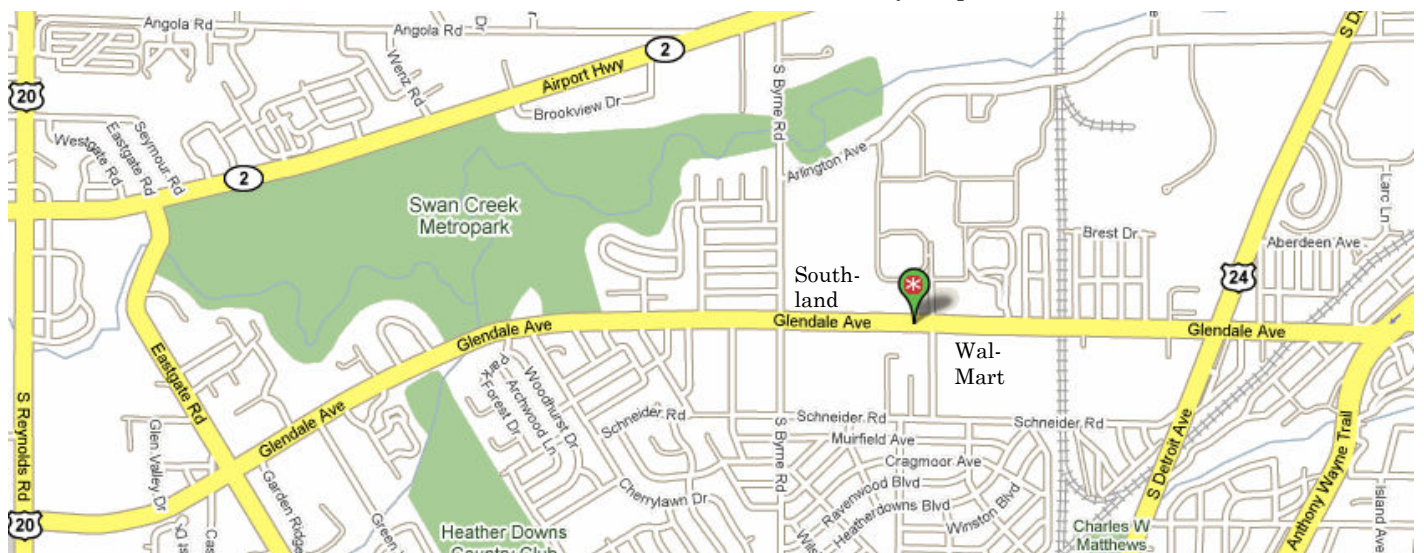
Members can attend optional local Chapter workshops presented by teachers contracted by the Chapter and paid for by workshop participants.

MEETINGS are the third Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the First Unitarian Church, 3205 Glendale Ave., Toledo, OH 43614 (see map below).

GUESTS are welcome at all meetings and may attend two meetings before being asked to join.

NAME TAGS must be worn at all meetings or pay a 25¢ fine. The fines collected go to general funds to help cover expenses.

MEETING CANCELLATION: Monthly meetings are cancelled due to bad weather if the Toledo Public schools are closed. Tune into AM 1370 News radio in Toledo for school closings.



Meetings will be at the First Unitarian Church, located at 3205 Glendale Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. It is across the street from the entrance to the University of Toledo Medical College (MCO)/Hilton, between the Wal-Mart plaza and another church next door. The Southland Shopping Plaza is at the corner of Byrnes and Glendale. Map provided by Google Maps.

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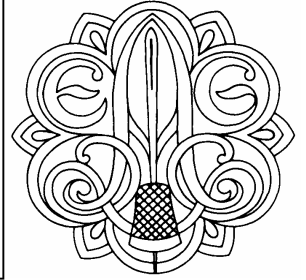
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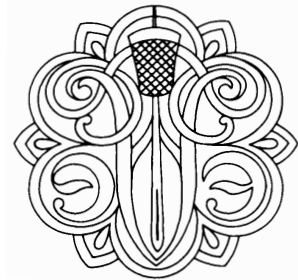


The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. is a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1959 to...

- Foster high standards of design, color, and workmanship in embroidery;
- Teach the embroidery arts; and
- Preserve our national needle arts heritage.

The Guild serves its approximately 20,500 members through a network of over 300 chapters which are grouped into thirteen geographical regions. Find them on the Web at <http://www.egausa.org>

THE EMBROIDERERS' GUILD
 OF AMERICA, INC.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Needle Arts Guild
 of Toledo Newsletter

