

Gilding the Needle

"A few stitches today – an heirloom tomorrow"

A chapter of the Embroiderers' Association of Canada
(EAC) eac.ca

Member of Ontario Network of Needle workers
(ONN) onn guilds.ca

President's Message — Winter, 2012

We are certainly off to a good start for 2012-13. Our learn-a-stitch programme is keeping us all very busy and we should have a beautiful piece of work by the end of the season. Our thanks to Beth and Kristeen and all the volunteer teachers who make this programme a success. The afternoon workshops are also well attended, thanks to Linda, Pat and Elizabeth.

The bus trip to the Museum of Civilization was enjoyed by all the participants, but unfortunately it was not a success financially. Our Needle Arts Fair, however, was a great success, in fact, financially it was the best ever, so a big thanks to Jocelyne, Sally and all the volunteers. All the vendors were very pleased with our new location and most expressed an interest in retuning next year.

In January we will be looking for volunteers to fill two important positions on the executive; a programme director and a vice-president. By joining the executive early, Beth, Kristeen and Jocelyne will be able to pass on their expertise and assist in the change over. According to your answers in the recent survey, you all enjoy our morning teaching programme and the afternoon workshops. Without a programme director, however, there will be no programme and without a vice-president there will be no Needle Arts Fair, which will effect our bottom line. Both positions can be shared by two people and the executive is always willing to help.

The non-traditional workshop with Susan Strachan Johnson was a great success. I did not join this workshop but I understand everyone had lots of fun making rock and twigs and certainly the finished objects were very realistic.

Sign up for two winter afternoon classes will be at the December 17th meeting. Both will be study groups - the Hapsburg Lace sampler and a Sashiko sampler. The magic carpet workshop will continue free-style until Pat's return in March.

Best wishes and happy stitching for 2013.

Irene Hodge



Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts

Member of Embroiderers'
Association of Canada

meets

1st & 3rd Mondays

9:30 am — 3:30 pm

at

Edith Rankin Memorial Church Hall

4080 Bath Rd.

Kingston, On

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**2012 -2013
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of
Catarqui Guild of Needle Arts**

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From Your Newsletter Editor

One of our first-time vendors at the Needle Arts Fair "Kimat Designs" is now advertising in our newsletter. See ad above.

In November, a group of my friends and I spend two perfectly delightful days going out for lunch and attending "The Art of Stitch" in Kingston and "Studio Inspirations TNT" in Belleville. I hope that many of you had the opportunity to go to at least one of these shows. If not, you really missed seeing some terrific pieces of work - made all the more special because we know many of the artists. They certainly give new meaning to the term, "thinking outside the box". Congratulations to all the participants.

It is time, once again, to think about my pet project - EAC trading cards. All you need to know about making one is on page 9. Here is your opportunity to practice "thinking outside a tiny box" - go for it!

Elizabeth

Membership News

Please welcome new members

Kirsten English

- Kirsten is the youngest member our guild. She is in high school and using her membership in the guild to earn a school credit. She has also started a business call “Monkey Business”. She makes very unique sock monkeys. The money she earns from this endeavour is going toward a special school trip.

Lorna Rae

- I’ve been stitching for over 45 years ... ever since I as a young teen, and always loved it. It is the most relaxing thing I do. I even hooked my husband by stitching a cobra on a pair of jeans that had been spotted by battery acid while he was fixing his rundown jalopy :) The jeans have long since disintegrated but I saved the stitch work. It is clumsy, badly stitched and has no shading, but was made with love. Since then I have progressed and I now enjoy stitching crewelwork, cross-stitch, petit point and stumpwork. In my latest career, I have my own custom clothier business were I have hand embroidered bridal corsets and embellished wearable art. I am also a recent graduate of the Fibre Arts diploma from St. Lawrence College and love the creativity and freedom of embellishing a fibre piece with amazing new threads, ribbons and hand-dyed fibres.

Tricia Vretteas

- I have an urge to do something creative every day. When I don’t it feels like something is missing, I forgot to do something. Embroidery is eye candy to me and I would love to recreate everything I see. By joining the Guild I am hoping to fulfill a three-fold goal: to improve on my self-taught skills, fill the daily creative urge and make new friends.

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BUS TRIP TO THE MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION, OTTAWA SEPTEMBER, 2012



The Kingston contingent boarded the bus at 8.00am. After some confusion as to which bus we were to aboard the Brockville group were picked up at about 9am. It seems there is bus to the Gananoque Casino, which is also run by McCoy Bus Lines and arrives at the same lot at about the same time as we were to be picked up. We had a good ride to Ottawa with lots of congenial conversation.

At the museum we were met by our guide (whose name I can't remember) who took us to a room in the bowels of the museum where museum staff had taken out a number of pieces along with the provenances for us to examine. There was some very intricate work and all manners of techniques. It is good to see that we are doing the same kind of work as our mothers and grandmothers.

The guide then took us to the textile storage area where we were allowed to wander BUT NOT TO TOUCH. We saw many fascinating things. The guide also opened up the oldest dress in the collection -- a wedding dress dating from the mid 1700's.

We then went to lunch and our separate ways to explore various other exhibits in the museum. Several of us went to the Mayan exhibit, which was fascinating -- We even learned to count in Mayan.

We boarded the bus about 3 o'clock and drove home tired but satisfied that we had had a good informative day

Mary Lou Wilson

Congratulations to members

Pat Caffery

In the Fall, 2012 issue of our Newsletter, Pat wrote an article describing the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild's "friendship hooking project". The project has now been published in the American publication "Rug Hooking Magazine".



Simone Lynch & Marg Henshaw

Simone and Marg won first and second places respectively at the district competition for the fairs, the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies (OAAS). Simone's quilt will go onto the Ontario level and will be judged against all the other districts in Ontario at the OAAS annual general meeting.



Pat Caffery, Mary Lou Wilson and Mary Ann Tooners

Pat, Mary Lou and Mary Ann displayed their work along with other fibre artists at "Studio Inspirations TNT" (textile needle thread) at the John Parrott Art Gallery in Belleville during the month of November.

Bethany and Sandy Garner

Bethany and Sandy along with other members of the Kingston Fibre Artists displayed their work at "The Art of Stitch" at the KSOA Window Art Gallery in Kingston from October 24 to December 2.




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LEARN -A -STITCH & FALL PROGRAMMES GET UNDERWAY

Our first meeting of the Fall was September 17 and we were all eager to get the new programmes underway.

The learn-a-stitch this year will be a lovely pulled and drawn thread sampler in the form of maple leaves designed by Beth Abbott. There are three groups doing afternoon projects. There is a class on Mountmellick taught by Linda Burke. The “Magic Carpet” project is being taught by Pat Caffery and the third group is working together to complete a three-dimensional project published in an EAC magazine.



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**Fibre arts, books & magazines
workshops**

“ Laughter is like a needle and thread, deftly used , it can patch up just about everything”

SUSAN STRACHAN JOHNSON'S FIBRE ART WORKSHOP -THE FOREST FLOOR

In October, fifteen participants attended a workshop presented by Susan Strachan Johnson. Susan is an extremely talented fibre artist and our two days with her were filled with fun and enthusiasm.

The goal of the workshop was to produce an exciting composition about something we rarely notice - the forest floor beneath our feet. We learned how to appliqué and embroider all kinds of things we find on the ground as well as how to reproduce stones, leaves and branches with the use of paste, paint, fabric and threads.

Half the group was made up of women who had fibre art experience and the other half were novices, but there is no doubt that under Susan's tutelage we all learned a great deal.

Our assignment was to take pictures of the forest floor and bring them to the workshop. These pictures were very important as they became the basis for our project. Using a colour wheel we learned to isolate the colours in our picture and most importantly to use only those colours. From there we learned how to recreate what was in our pictures using fibres, threads, floss, paper, paint and paste.

A special thank you to Mary Lou Wilson for organizing this terrific workshop and making sure we had lots of hot tea and coffee as well as treats.

There is no doubt that everyone took lots of great ideas away from this workshop and had a fun filled two days as well. We can all look forward to seeing the great creations that will surely be produced in the months to come.



NEEDLE ARTS FAIR

On October 13, the CGNA held its Needle Arts Fair at the Salvation Army Citadel in Kingston. The new venue proved to be a wonderful setting to display our work. There was plenty of room for visitors to roam and view the merchandise at the vendors' market.

Our tenth anniversary retrospective and our display of current work was very much appreciated and admired by all those who attended.

Many thanks to Joceylne Ezard and her dedicated helpers who organized this year's event. Also, a special thanks to Sally Hutson and her crew who worked tirelessly in the kitchen providing the luncheon.



Thank You

A special thank you to Madge Nordin, a member of CGNA, for her most generous donation toward honorariums for guild in-house instructors.

* * *

IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT TRADING CARDS!

It's time once again for you to think about participating in the EAC trading card challenge.

Artist Trading Card Specifics

- Size: 2.5 X 3.5 inches (finished size).
- How: Any technique, any fibre as long as it's made with a threaded needle. Create a new work or use parts of older pieces that need to see the light of day again. Needlework needs air to live!
- Identity: Put your name and contact information on the back. Title the piece if you want. Wish it farewell!
- When: Begin now. Mail by **March 15, 2013**.
- Where: Send to the Embroiderers' Guild of Peterborough, c/o Linda Vassiliadis, 98 Maple Crescent, Peterborough, ON K9J 6V5. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



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**<http://quiltskingston.org/cgna> E-mail address:
cgna@quiltskingston.org**

Gold Work Workshop

Thirty-two members of our Guild attended a one-day, beginners gold work workshop with Alma Laidlaw.

Alma is a graduate of Guelph University with a degree in clothing and textiles. She has had a career as a high school teacher, and now is the owner of 'Sew Fancy' an online



store specializing in needlearts such as heirloom sewing, smocking, ribbon embroidery and gold work. Her love of needlework is evident, as she has taught classes across Canada.

We all appreciated Alma's patience as she guided us through the steps of our project, making sure that we would all be able to successfully complete our gold work pieces.

While we worked on our butterfly we learned to identify and name several of the different types of gold, silver and silk materials we were using. It was a very busy day, but also very satisfying. I am sure we were all pleased with our progress as many members of the class were already deciding on future projects. There is no doubt that we will see many interesting gold work pieces at "Show and Tell" in the future.

Thank you, Alma for preparing the course and kits and spending a very busy day with us. Her enthusiasm for gold work, I am sure, has inspired many of us. A very special thank you to Mary Lou Wilson for, once again, arranging a very interesting and fun-filled day. I am sure we will all agree that it was an excellent workshop.



FALL IN REVIEW



Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts Winter, 2012 Programme

January 7	AM	Learn-a-stitch - Wave stitch, double wave stitch - Sally Fink <i>Book Review - Ruth Tracy</i>
	PM	Hapsburg lace sampler - Tanja Berlin design - study group - co-ordinator required Sashiko Sampler - study group - co-ordinator required
January 21	AM	Learn-a-stitch - Open trellis - Jocelyne Ezard Show and Share
	PM	Hapsburg lace sampler - Tanja Berlin design - study group Sashiko Sampler - study group
February 4	AM	Learn-a-stitch - Punch stitch - Donna Hamilton <i>CGNA Name Tags - Mickie Beauchamp</i>
	PM	Hapsburg lace sampler - Tanja Berlin design study group Sashiko Sampler - study group Carolyn Mitchell Pre class work - Mary Lou
February 18	AM	Learn- a- Stitch - Wrapping stitches - Jocelyn Ezard Show and Share
	PM	Hapsburg lace sampler - Tanja Berlin design study group Sashiko Sampler - study group
March 4	AM	Learn-a-stitch - Finnish Filling <i>Fibre Talk - Cotton - Beth Abbott</i>
	PM	Hapsburg lace sampler - Tanja Berlin design study group Sashiko Sampler - study group



MEETING SCHEDULE Show and Share the second meeting of the month

Don't forget to sign up for your turn to bring treats

09:30 -10:15	Announcements
10:15 - 10:30	Coffee
10:30 - 12:30	A.M. class
12:30 - 01:00	Lunch
01:00 - 03:00	P.M. classes