

# Gilding the Needle

*"A few stitches today – an heirloom tomorrow"*

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

## President's Message - Summer

It is June already. It always amazes me to look out and see the snow is gone and the peonies and irises are in full bloom. What a beautiful place we all live in.

I want to thank all our volunteers for their work this year. Our Guild could not function without them. We see their efforts when we look at the morning and afternoon stitching programs (thank you planners and teachers!), when we drink coffee and tea, when we sign out a library book or buy a raffle ticket. Our meetings function so well because of everyone's help. And it doesn't stop there. Our volunteers ensure our rent is paid – either by keeping track of our monies, or organizing the Needle Arts Fair. Our volunteers ensure that when you are at home you still know what is going on, as a volunteer sends out group emails (including the agenda), a volunteer writes the newsletter, and a volunteer keeps everyone updated with information on our website.

Irene has been busily filling the volunteer spaces for next September. Please see her if you have extra time to help. Some of our volunteers will be continuing in their roles next year. Others will be moving on to new volunteer opportunities or taking a well deserved rest. The new Executive will also be announced at the final meeting of the year in June.

Remember to bring your forms for Membership Renewal. We have to keep the Membership volunteers busy!

With the summer approaching, I look at all the projects I have had the opportunity to work on this year. My goal, as always, is to finish all those UFOs. So many of our members have done so, and have shared their work during the Show and Share. I hope everyone is able to complete their work – whether it be the morning Blackwork samplers, or the afternoon projects, and put them in the display this fall at the Needle Arts Fair. It is so amazing to see how incredibly talented our Guild members are.

Next year's program is being organized as we speak. Eileen and Sally F. will be presenting a brief outline of their plans at the meeting in June. Come September, I expect to see a summer garden appear in threads as we progress through morning stitches in the fall, and into the snowy days of winter. It should be fun. As well there are afternoon programs to increase your wealth of stitch knowledge, and you may have a little bird to complement your wall if you chose to sign up

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Member of Ontario Network of Needle  
workers  
(ONN) onguilds.ca



## Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts

Member of Embroiderers'  
Association of Canada

meets

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays

9:30 am — 3:30 pm

at

Edith Rankin Memorial Church Hall

4080 Bath Rd.

Kingston, On

Volume 13 Issue 4

June, 2015

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**2014 -2015  
Executive  
of  
Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts**

Suite 802  
829 Norwest Road  
Kingston, ON, K7P 2N3

**President**

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Sally Fink

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**Librarian**

Eileen Hanson

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**Membership**

Ann Claudio

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**Newsletter Editor**

Elizabeth Vandenberg

**Hospitality**

Irene Hodge

assisted by: Barbara Jackson, Ann Miller, Janet Wagg

**Programme**

Roslyn Hanes

Anjali Shayam

**Workshop**

Mary Lou Wilson

for one of these projects. As always, so much to do and so little time, but it makes life interesting!

Mary Lou has been busy with new workshops. Two fall workshops are now in place, a one-day and a two-day. There is still room in the one-day workshop with Caroline Mitchell. The two-day workshop is full. Please see Mary Lou for more details.

The sunny warm days have made Spring sometimes seem more like Summer. If this weather continues, I think we will all be ready to sit somewhere quiet in the shade and stitch. If you want to stitch, and visit, Theresa has just the place. Thank you for offering to hold two Stitch-Ins this summer. Hope to see everyone there.

Planning ahead for next Fall, Our first meeting in September will be on the second Monday, (September 14) rather than the first Monday, due to the Labour Day holiday. Our second meeting in September will still be on the third Monday, so once we start stitching new projects next fall, things are going to be moving quickly.

It should be exciting! See everyone there.

*Diane Dukoff*

### **From Your Newsletter Editor**

I have enjoyed preparing the newsletter for the past five years. As I have said many times, it is time for a change. A new editor will bring with her renewed energy and different ideas which will, in turn, keep the newsletter fresh and interesting.

I am very pleased to be able to pass the title of CGNA newsletter editor over to Theresa Lawrence. I know she has some great ideas for future newsletters and I am looking forward to reading her first issue this fall.

I have appreciated receiving all your positive comments during my tenure as editor and I am very grateful to all those members who took the time to make contributions to the newsletter over the years. It was very gratifying that more of you contributed this year by making suggestions and writing articles than any other year. I hope this trend continues as I am sure Theresa will welcome your participation.

Being newsletter editor has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

*Elizabeth Vandenberg*



### *On The Book Shelf*

The library staff have had a successful year organizing the many books. A few books have been donated by members, thank you.

Many of our members who participated in Beth Abbott's Zentangle workshop will be pleased to hear that we have added Zentangle Untangled book to our library.

We welcome Dorothy Forrester and Eva Kruglye-Smolkska as our new keepers of the books.

From your outgoing library staff,

*Simone Lynch and Eileen Hanson*

Have a most enjoyable summer.

### **EAC Mystery Project Continues**

Members continued to work on the mystery project published in recent EAC magazines. Here is a sample of part 3. Members are working on this project in various colours so it will be interesting to see how different they will look.



### **A Preview of Our Fall Programme**

Hi ladies, Our learn-a-stitch for the next year will be a variety of stitches and techniques.

There will be everything from basic surface embroidery, raised embroidery and stump work. You will be shown stitches to make trees, flowers, insects, etc.

Our goal is for you to use your imagination and use these ideas to design your own fantasy garden or woods. If you don't want to do a picture you can do a sampler or a small booklet of the different stitches.

Mary Lou will be teaching her fancy bird in the afternoon and Linda Burke has offered to do another afternoon class. Details to follow.

*Sally Fink and Eileen Hanson*

Programme

## SPRING FLING CELEBRATION

The CGNA was well represented at the Quinte Needlearts Guild's 25th Anniversary in April. It was a very interesting day with lots to see and buy as we took full advantage of the vendors' market.



No members from our guild were lucky enough to go home with one of the lovely gift baskets donated by the visiting guilds as door-prizes, but there was a book mark exchange that everyone could participate in. There was quite a nice selection to choose from and mine is getting well used.

Thanks to members' participation, we had an extensive display of our work to show, so much so that we filled a table and used chairs as well. All the guilds had wonderful displays and I am sure we all came home with some great ideas.



Of special note were the learn-a-stitch projects that the Quinte Needlearts Guild had on display. They choose a topic (for example: "houses") and using a variety of stitches created different kinds of houses. Other topics they have chosen over the years have been the alphabet and flowers.

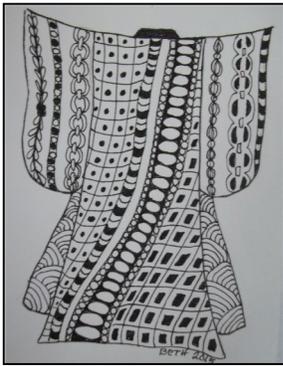
We also learned that the Quinte Needlearts Guild exchanges gifts and ideas with a guild in Australia. Recently, two travelling dolls were made, Flat Freda and Sandwich Sally. Flat Freda headed off to Australia and Sandwich Sally stayed home. Each month, Sally goes to another stitcher's home and gets more clothes and accessories. At the end of the year, when her wardrobe is complete, she will be winging off to the southern hemisphere and her sister, Flat Freda will come home to Belleville.

It was a pleasure to be able to celebrate Quinte Needlearts Guild's 25th Anniversary with them and spend the day with other Guilds hearing and see what they are doing.

Congratulations Quinte Needlearts Guild!

*Elizabeth Vandenberg*

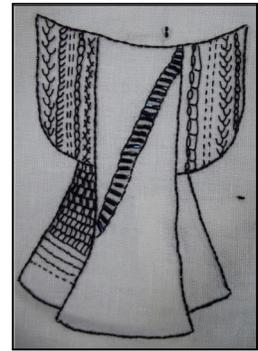




## Doodles Into Stitches

Our April 16<sup>th</sup> all guild workshop, with Beth Abbott, was really fun, turning “doodles into stitches” Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves and letting their creative juices flow.

For those who were not able to attend, we spent the morning, well, doodling. It can be very addictive!



The afternoon was time to transfer our doodles to cloth and then stitch with embroidery floss, perle cotton, beads, or whatever your imagination suggested.

Beth shared lots of books and examples of doodles and stitched doodles with us to get the ideas happening. She showed us a few basic techniques to get us started and away we went.



Pen, paper, needle, thread, a good book of stitches and a wild imagination is all it takes.

Concentration!!!



Thanks to Beth for delivering this fun filled day and to Mary Lou for making it happen.

Theresa Lawrence



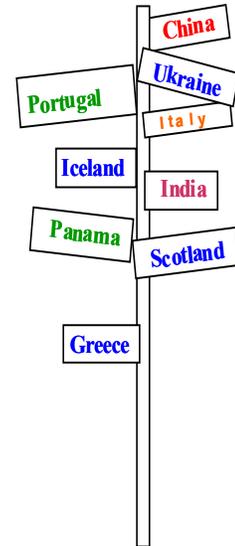
### [Needle Arts Fair Up-date](#)

The good news is we now have 22 vendors for our Needle Arts Fair. Although they are not listed in our brochure we have picked up a couple of new vendors over the last couple of weeks. **Kraft Village** from Belleville has quilting supplies, yarn and craft supplies. **Trillium Lace** from Gatineau has bobbin lace supplies and fine embroidery materials. There are six new vendors this year and two who have come in the past and are able to come again this year. We have added another room so we will now have 5 indoor spaces for our fair and one in the parking lot.

If anyone has a costume, wedding dress or other type of clothing we can display on the stage please let me know. It would be nice to have a variety of mannequins to display clothing from around the world. Several people have offered to put together textile displays from various countries but if you have something that isn't one of the listed countries, let me know as we have a few "one of items" that we can also display.

Most of the prep work is done, it is now time to **GET THE WORD OUT**, so if you are going somewhere this summer -- a craft show or sale or maybe a summer course, please take some brochures, posters or business cards with you to pass on to others. There will be sign-up sheets for work parties at our September meeting so make sure you put aside **Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup>** to come out and help and of course buy.

Theresa Lawrence





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MEMBERS**

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**10% discount**  
off regular priced merchandise  
when you present this coupon.

## *Summer Stitch-in July 20<sup>th</sup> & August 17<sup>th</sup>*

Come to the country for a day of stitching.  
1309 Sunbury Road  
(I'm 17 km north of the 401 just off Hwy 15)  
10:00 AM

Bring your lunch and a chair as I have a very limited supply, hat and sunscreen.

Oh yes and bring your stitching stuff too!

If you have the odd cup and saucer that is too good to throw out but you'll never use again bring them along too and we will make pincushions out of them for our Needle Arts Fair.



Please let me know if you are planning to come.

*Theresa.*

### **Registration is still open for Carolyn Mitchell's One-day Workshop**

November 2 - at Edith Rankin Church

Project: Needle Cleaner Cost: \$25

### **Carolyn's Two-day Workshop**

November 3 and 4 at Odessa

is full with a waiting list

Topic: Colour Theory Cost: \$97 with a \$35 kit fee

Start time for both 9:30 a.m.



## **Knowledge & Needles**

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## **TIMELESS TEXTILES**



The Kingston Fibre Artists Group was formed in 1996 by Kingston area Fibre Artist, Hilary Scanlon. After eighteen KFA Exhibitions in Kingston, Ontario and a number shared by this 18 member Fibre Artists Group in Galleries and museum locations across Ontario, we are pleased to announce that our retrospective exhibition **TIMELESS TEXTILES** will open at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte on July 28, 2015. The artists will be present to share a 'Walk and Talk' with visitors after their **Opening VERNISSAGE and Reception at the Museum on August 1, 2015.**

Having amassed a lovely inventory of stunning art created with fibre as their medium, the members of the group will share their all time favourite pieces from past shows as well as an impressive all new collection of work that will certainly delight visitors to the museum. A wide variety of talent in the membership means that the art in this special exhibition will cover an huge array of the technique, design and personal style of our artists as you walk through the gallery. From fibre with text painted with an airbrush by artist WILMA KENNY, to the stunning hand embroidered and machine stitched city scapes and urban landscapes/ hideaways created by Phillida Hargreaves you will find a piece that sparks your interest. Contemporary art created with hand dyed and painted cloth is the foundation for new work by Bethany Garner. Frankie Lemonde will share new work that elicits the joy of designing with crochet and yarns in brilliant colour. Hilary Scanlon shares her brilliant work - pieces monumentally important in the inventory offered by this renowned Ontario artist. Sylvia Naylor brings the strength of her so very well recognized, machine stitched landscapes and new art assemblages to the show. Robin Field shares pieces from her PAVEMENT series... A stunning collection of fibre art inspired by photos taken around the globe.

Artists Janet Elliott, Susan Farber, Sandra Garner, Mary Ev Wyatt, Christina Barnes, Margaret Morris, Hana Sramek and Elinor Rush, all stunningly talented artists, bring you a myriad of their exciting designs using techniques in fibre in many forms including hand made felt; silk landscapes; contemporary paintings on cloth; collections of art, 8" square made weekly over the period of a year; and certainly the so beautiful texture of chenille art-scapes and woven ribbon pieces.

This is an exhibition planned to take you on a journey through the collections of truly TIMELESS and award winning art created by this talented group of friends. Please plan to visit the exhibit between **July 28 and September 5, 2015** in the Norah Rosamond Hughes Gallery at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum.

Hours and directions available at the Museum website here: <http://mvtm.ca/mvtm/>

Bethany Garner

## *Travels in the United Kingdom*

In May, my husband and I were lucky enough to have the opportunity to spend a week touring parts of southern England. I kept my eyes open for chances to view embroidery but the opportunities were few as I was restricted by the agenda of the tour. However, I would like to tell you about some interesting embroidery that I did see.

First there was Lord Nelson's embroidered bed on HMS Victory- his flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar.

When an officer joined a ship the carpenter measured him for a four sided wooden box and a hammock was attached to it to form a cot. This served two purposes, his bed or in the event that he died at sea - his coffin. To take away the drabness of sleeping in one's own coffin the officers' ladies embroidered draperies to cover the cots. Nelson's draperies were embroidered by his wife, Lady Hamilton.



Lord Nelson, by the way, did not want to be buried at sea so when he was killed in action, he was stuffed in a barrel filled with brandy - which, of course, kept him well preserved until he reached England, many months after his death.

You might guess that the ordinary seaman didn't have the luxury of embroidered drapes on a cot/ coffin. If he died at sea, he was simply sewn into his hammock. The last stitch was made through his nose - just in case he was trying to make a desperate attempt to escape the ship.

We also visited Salisbury Cathedral - a magnificent, English, Gothic church build in 1320 and home to the best preserved copy of the Magna Carta. While waiting my turn to view the Magna Carta, I noticed that there were many square sided cushions around the Charter House (The room where the Magna Carta is displayed.). On closer inspection I saw that they were all hand embroidered.

The cushions were embroidered by the cathedral embroiderers, members of an army of volunteers who are highly-skilled crafts men and women working to conserve and repair the cathedral.

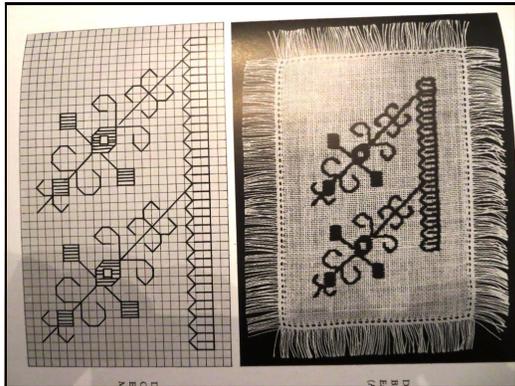
Forty-three cushions were produced in five years. The theme of the cushions is based on a calendar of traditional saints. They were worked on fine canvas with crewel wool using a wide range of stitches to achieve a variety of textures. Each cushion has a deep red boarder set with gold fleur-de-lys (which echo the floor tiles in the Chapter House) and has the name of the saint within the lower border. At the centre of each cushion is a pale blue star-shaped area containing the symbol of the saint. Flowers, fruits or leaves appropriate to the season in which the saint's day falls are picked out from the general honeysuckle -coloured background around the star-shaped area.



Another surprise awaited me when I went into the main cathedral. Churches of that time did not have pews. Worshippers stood. Today the church is filled with hundreds of plywood stacking chairs used during services. On each chair there is an embroidered cushion and a kneeling pad made with the same care and attention to detail as the saints' cushions. There is no mention of the time that it has taken to do these cushions but I imagine it is an ongoing project as they wear out and are replaced. They are always looking for volunteers!

**Travels in the United Kingdom -continued**

Here are some things, among many, that inspired Dorothy Forrester during her recent trip to the UK



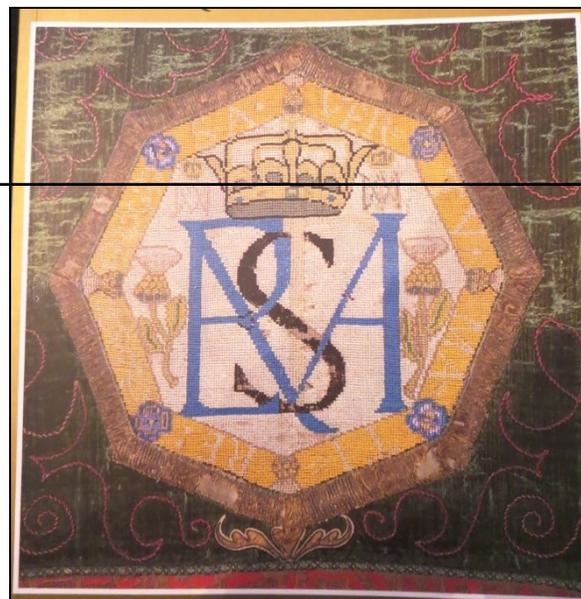
A black work design from a shirt worn by the Earl of Moray in the 16th Century.



The Cosmati Pavement, a mosaic floor in Westminster Abbey laid in 1268. Inspiration for an embroidery.



"A Lady in Grey" (embroidering) A painting in the National Gallery of Scotland from 1859.



"The Needlework of Mary Queen of Scots" A 16th century Scottish Queen who is said to have spent her time doing embroidery and laces during many years in captivity.



A pincushion embroidered with gold work and beading to represent a rose window in Westminster Abbey.

## *Two Perspectives – Deux Perspectives*

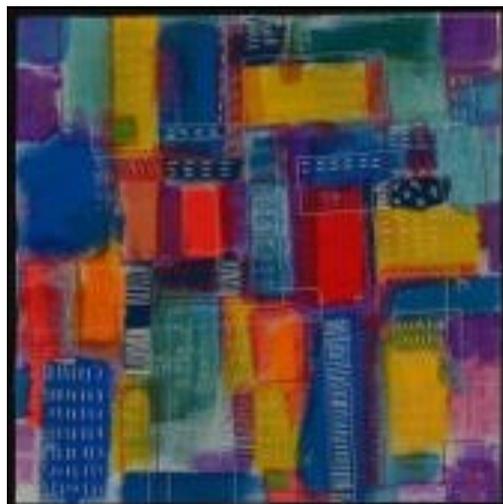
An exhibition by Pat Caffery and Marie-France Gosselin featuring fibre and textiles to create new and contemporary art. Their approach is from two different basis: Embroidery and Quilting. The exhibition ran in Ottawa from May 10th to June 7th. Pat uses her hand dyed fabrics, especially snow dyed, both as backgrounds and mats on which to create one of a kind contemporary embroidered art. She uses silk, cotton, wool, and metal fibres, beads, and wire as well as cheese cloth and Kozo to create unique pieces. Pat's pieces in this exhibit can be found on the following YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/P1GUGVW8ooM>

Marie-France reconstructs the quilting elements in contemporary designs, forms, methods and application, integrating not only traditionally used cotton but various textiles such as canvas, yarn, silk and wool. Her artistic vocabulary is extended with the application of paint and ink. Marie-France's pieces in this exhibit can be found on the following YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/V9e2wiWpgdA>

Congratulations Pat and Marie-France.



2 pieces by Pat McCaffrey



2 pieces by Marie-France

# SPRING IN REVIEW

