

Gilding the Needle

"A few stitches today – an heirloom tomorrow"

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

President's Message - Winter

Snowflakes are gently drifting down in big white clumps. I can hardly wait until all the world outside my window is white. My Christmas lights reflect across these flakes and make them look like dancing rainbow sprites. This season is magical.

The weather helps me stay inside and complete some of my new projects. We have learned so much. This Fall, Ros organized members to provide teaching opportunities for us to learn Blackwork, Hardanger, Kantha and Jacobean. As well, the UFO table has been busy with crewel work, cross stitch, and more with members willing to show and share how it is done. Wow! What a creative group I have the pleasure to be associated with. Thank you everyone for sharing your expertise, and you enthusiasm.

Embroidered handwork is so much fun. It gives me the opportunity to sit and relax and reflect while accomplishing something. Our Guild was involved in two main events this Fall. The Needle Arts Fair expanded and filled more space at the Seniors' Centre with beautiful creations, wonderful demonstrations, and all you could hope for sales items. The road trip to Gananoque was more than "Educating Rita"- everyone who was able to attend had so much fun viewing costumes, Threadworks and an excellent theatrical performance. Thank you, Theresa for all your organizational work.

I also love to reflect on all the experiences with our Guild members that I have had the pleasure to interact with on Mondays. Our Guild has grown this Fall. Some of the new members have shared something special. These include Cora's canvas works, Dorothy's lace pieces, Ann's special coloured thread projects, Beth's complicated cross stitch and Ena's Mom (what a nice lady). Awesome!

I will also miss some of our dear friends whose lives have taken them in another direction. Take care. Thank you all for being part of my Mondays, and my memories. Maybe our paths will cross again.

Show and share and the trunk shows included a wonderful variety of works. My favourite part is the stories that

Continued page 2



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

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

Volume 13 Issue 2
December, 2014

Advertisers	5,6
CGNA Banner	14
Cultural Day in Harrowsmith	4
Editor's Message	6
Executive 2014-15	2
Fall in Review	17
First Meeting in the Fall	7
From the Library	2
Kingston Fair - 2014	4
Kingstonians' Wreath	7
Membership News	3,4
My Medieval Tapestry Saga	15
Needle Arts Fair	11-14
October Road Trip	5
President's Message	1,2
Programme - Winter, 2015	9
Seminar 2014 -Ottawa part 2	16
Trunk Shows Continue	8

The CGNA Newsletter is not responsible for any infringement
of copyright law by contributing authors



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

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

President

Diane Dukoff

Vice Presidents

Penny Arnott

Sally Fink

Irene Hodge

Treasurer

Marg Henshaw

Secretary

Tricia Vretteas

LibrarianEileen Hanson
Simone Lynch**Membership**

Ann Claudio

Shirley Peters

Newsletter Editor

Elizabeth Vandenberg

HospitalityIrene Hodge
assisted by: Barbara Jackson, Ann Miller, Janet Wagg**Programme**Roslyn Hanes
Anjali Shayam**Workshop**

Mary Lou Wilson

FROM THE LIBRARY

With the purchase of the new cabinet, library staff have been busy making it more user friendly.

Topics will be labeled and colour coded under subject making it easier to locate designated books.

Thank you to all for returning books in a timely manner, this gives everyone access for needed help.

With our learn-a-stitch programme it might be helpful to check the library for any book related.

Shirley Peters has donated a number of books to our membership, thank you Shirley, we will miss you.

Eileen + Simone

President's Message (continued)

accompany each piece. It is so interesting to reflect on an antique embroidered work done by someone's grandmother for their special granddaughter, or a star charm quilt with no two pieces the same completed on another continent, or a detailed appliqué work completed to honour the memory of a very special gentleman. Thank you, everyone for sharing the memory of why as well as the beauty of what.

Last, thank you Debbie and Eva for reminding us all about the EAC mystery project in last month's magazine. I am going to have a look at it. I hope others consider taking up this challenge. Can't wait for our next EAC magazine to see how the mystery continues.

Now, delve into our own CGNA newsletter. There is so much to enjoy. And, when you finish, don't forget to also read Elizabeth's piece in the ONN newsletter. <http://www.onnguils.ca/index.html> Thank you, Elizabeth for your work on both.

See everyone at the pot luck luncheon December 15.

Diane Dukoff

Membership News

Welcome to New Members

Dorothy Forrester

I am very pleased to be a new member of the Cataraqui Needle Arts Guild. I recently moved to Kingston from Ottawa and had been looking for a group that did bobbin and needle lace. The CGNA encompasses many different needle arts and I was pleased to be welcomed as a lacemaker. I also really appreciated being asked to demonstrate bobbin lace at the fair in October. However, what has been most exciting to me is to have discovered new areas of interest, including blackwork that was often combined with lace to embellish the clothing of the nobility in Tudor England. I am very much enjoying the blackwork lessons that are held at each CGNA meeting throughout the year. Belonging to a group that has a broader scope is inspiring to me and in no way detracts from my interest in lace, but only adds to it. I look forward to each meeting and last but not least, I am really enjoying the warmth and generosity of the members of the guild and the inspiration of seeing the beautiful work that other people are producing.

Beth (Elizabeth) Mewhort

I am nearing retirement from my research position in Psychology at Queen's and anticipating long hours stitching in a recliner with a kitten in my lap and classical music playing. I'm hoping to find ladies with similar ambitions at the Guild.

Ann MacDonald

I enjoy a variety of needlework activities and especially enjoy fibre art work. I have taken some courses in the Fibre Arts Program at St. Lawrence College and like being around creative people. The main reason I joined the Guild is to learn new skills and to learn from other people's work.

Ena Jain

Jane MacDonald

Coralia Correia Reid

Marion Tibbett

Patricia Côté

Elaine Stinson - 1939 - 2014

We were saddened to learn that one of our past members passed away on Sunday, October 26, two days after her 75th birthday.

Elaine was hospitality convener for two of the six years she was a member.

As well as being a member of our guild she was an Agricultural Society director for many years and an OASS judge. She was also a very active member of her church and belonged to many other groups.



Membership News (continued0

Goodbye and Best Wishes to Shirley Peters

Shirley Peters, a Charter Member of the Guild, will be leaving us at Christmas. She is moving to Kitchener to be closer to her family. We have always counted on Shirley to help out when needed and we will miss seeing her sitting in her favourite place at the end of the table. We hope you will keep in touch, Shirley and we send you off with our very best wishes.



Kingston Fair 2014 – Needlework

Pictured right are some of the ribbons that Simone and Donna won at the Kingston Fair. Simone's canvas bag took first, as well as her embroidered picture. Donna's blackwork piece took first in its category and won Best Article of Needlework. Her Swedish weaving cushion also placed first, and her gold work placed second to Simone's canvas bag. Simone's Swedish weaving afghan placed first as well.



Cultural Days in Harrowsmith

Saturday September 27th was designated Cultural Days in Ontario. Our Guild took part in these celebrations at the Grace Community Centre in Harrowsmith. The Community Centre was lovely setting and along with our display of embroidery there were quilts and rug hooking and spinners and weavers. Although the crowd who attended was small (the weather really was too nice to be inside), they were all very interested in our work. I spoke at great length with a lady from Holland and another from New Brunswick. Everyone who attended this show was truly interested in the skills represented.

OCTOBER ROAD TRIP

In October, twenty-one guild members embarked on an all-day road trip to Gananoque. We covered a lot of territory. First stop was the costume department of the Thousand Island

Playhouse where Jayne Christopher, who is in charge of all aspects of the costumes for the plays, gave us a very information talk and let us roam around among the costumes.

Our next stop was the Arthur Child Heritage Museum where Threadworks 2013 was on display. Threadworks is a juried needle arts show that travels throughout Ontario. It has eleven stops over 2 1/2 years. There are 60 pieces in the show. All the work can be viewed on line by going to ONN Threadworks and clicking on 2013 but I think everyone who saw the show would agree that you really must to see the pieces first hand to appreciate the workmanship and thought that has gone into their creation.



Then it was time for lunch. We noticed that it was getting increasingly windy and storm clouds were looming so we quickly got into the warmth of Muskie Jake's Pub in the Gananoque Inn. We had a nice leisurely lunch as we watch the rain pour down. Just as our bills arrived the lights went out - and stayed out. Paying was soon sorted out and we were off to our final destination - the Thousand Island Playhouse to see "Educating Rita". The show was delayed more than an hour but eventually the lights were back on and we were treated to terrific performances in the two actors in the play.

Many thanks to Theresa Lawrence for suggesting the idea and for making all the arrangements.

It was, indeed, a great day and I hope we plan a similar outing next year.

Elizabeth



**Knowledge
& Needles**

www.knowledgeandneedles.com

**Cross Stitch Books,
Supplies & Workshops**

Ann McDonald
613-475-4843

e-mail: balych@kos.net
190 Smith St., Brighton, ON K0K 1H0

Kimat Designs

Custom Framing

Specializing in Heirloom Stitchery

Original Artwork

Unique Mat design

Kim Mather

Cross Stitch & Embroidery Supplies
15 Pine Gate Place, Whitby, ON L1R 2M5

Tel/Fax (905) 666-5996

kimatdesigns@rogers.com

Please note: Knowledge & Needles will be closed
mid November 2014 - May 2015

From the Editor

From time to time in my editorials I have brought to your attention opportunities to participate in challenges and special projects. I believe that entering your work stretches your imagination, makes you try new techniques and builds your confidence. It's also a lot of fun - specially when you see your work on display or you open your embroidery magazine and your work has been published.

As an example of what can happen when you enter a contest, last spring the Osgood Medieval Festival conducted a banner competition. I thought it would be fun to enter so I submitted the banner pictured here. It is entitled "Fiercer, Stronger, Swifter" which is the unicorn's motto. *(Research revealed that unicorns are not the happy, frolicking, woodland creatures I believed them to be, but quiet the opposite and, therefore, perfectly suited to lead one into battle!).* In the summer, I was both surprised and delighted to receive a lovely certificate along with a cheque for \$100 which was awarded for first prize.



Unicorn's body stitched in chain stitch and mane and tail stitched in stem stitch.

Now it is time to think about "Threadworks 2016". Maureen Byers, Bethany Garner and myself have had work accepted to "Threadworks" shows. If we can do it so can you. The theme of the next show is "Flashback" and the opening reception is at the Wellington County Museum and Archives on April 17, 2016. Time to get your thinking caps on ladies!

See the ONN Threadworks website for more information.

Also, don't forget the fibre art tile exchange (page 45) in your Embroidery Canada, Fall, 2014 magazine.

Elizabeth



Knit Traders
OF KINGSTON

formerly



Wool-Tyme
KINGSTON

NEW NAME -

***STILL THE KINGSTON AREA'S BEST AND LARGEST
KNITTING (and more) STORE.***

Visit our new website:

www.knittraders.com

Join us on Ravelry, Facebook, and Twitter.

725 Gardiners Rd, Kingston ON
613 384 3951

**CGNA
MEMBERS**

Receive a

10% discount

off regular priced merchandise
when you present this coupon.

First Meeting of the Fall

There was an enthusiastic turn out of 30 members for our first meeting of the Fall. We were all very pleased to welcome two new members and a visitor who is considering membership.

Everyone was anxious to hear about our morning learn-a-stitch programme and to sign up for afternoon classes.

It was a busy meeting which included our first show and share. Members have been busy over the summer! Kristeen, Mickie and Donna were especially busy making a banner which will be a part of a wreath of 100 bronzed poppies. It is called *Kingstonians' Wreath* and pays tribute to all Kingstonians who serve in the armed forces and to mark the 100th anniversary of World War I.



Kingstonians' Wreath

The finished Kingstonians' Wreath was on display at our Needle Arts Fair in October. Donna Hamilton and Mickie Beauchamp are pictured with the artist, Ken Osborn. Unfortunately, Kristeen Krestensen, the third member of the team who sewed the banner, was not present when the photo was taken.

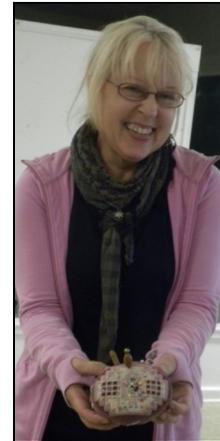


Trunk Shows Continue

Last year we had several trunk shows highlighting members collections of embroidery from around the world. This year we will continue the trunk shows. The first of these shows was held in September and highlighted “India and surrounding areas”.



In October we had a lovely show of members “Hardanger” embroidery.



In November quilts were front and centre. Many of our members are also members of quilt guilds and there was quite a show of wonderful work.

There are not too many shown here because of space constraints and I apologize for that. Look for more in the next newsletter.



Cataraqui Guild of Needle Arts Winter 2015 Programme

January 5	AM	Learn-a-stitch: blackwork Show and Share
	PM	“Heron” nametag with Mickie Beauchamp UFO group
January 19	AM	Learn-a-stitch: blackwork Theme trunk show - Painting with Threads
	PM	“Heron” nametag with Mickie Beauchamp UFO group
February 2	AM	Learn-a-stitch - blackwork Show and Share
	PM	Hem stitch with Mary Lou Wilson -for Hardanger towel workshop (tentative) “Heron” nametag with Mickie Beauchamp UFO group
February 16	AM	Learn-a-stitch - blackwork Theme trunk show - lace (bobbin lace, needle lace, etc) continue in afternoon if necessary
	PM	Bobbin Lace demonstration with Dorothy Forrester and a chance to try your hand at this skill
March 2	AM	Learn-a-stitch: blackwork Show and Share
	PM	Fancy Bird Workshop with Mary Lou Wilson “Textures” notebook course with Pat Caffrey UFO group
March 16	AM	Learn-a-stitch: blackwork Theme trunk show - Far East (China, Japan, etc.)
	PM	Fancy Bird Workshop with Mary Lou Wilson “Textures” notebook course with Pat Caffrey UFO group

Please note: The Fancy Bird Workshop and the “Textures” notebook course are 5 week courses so will continue into May.

Fall Programme

Our blackwork morning learn-a-stitch is well underway as members enjoy learning new stitches. Caroline Mitchell was unable to conduct the workshop planned for November because of a serious health issue. Our afternoon class - Jacobean and kantha with Linda Burke is being enjoyed and in spite of the fact that Mary Lou, unfortunately, fell and suffered a severely broken leg her beginners handanger class is also successfully carrying on. Other guild members quickly offered to fill in for her so the class could continue. Our thoughts are with both Caroline and Mary Lou as they recover and we look forward to seeing both of them back with us in good health.



MYSTERY SAMPLER

Three of our members, Ann Miller, Eva Kruglye-Smolksa and Debbie Koteiniski have become intrigued with the Mystery Sampler which is being published in our Embroidery Canada magazine. Part 1 is in the 2014 Fall issue. As you can see, Eva and Debbie have got right down to work. Ann has started too, but didn't have her work at the last meeting.

Hopefully their enthusiasm for the project will encourage more of us to join the fun.

Debbie found the colour chart very helpful and Eva was thrilled when she had completed the entire border and it came out exactly right. (The first time!!!)

They will be anxiously awaiting the delivery of their winter issue of Embroidery Canada and we will be looking forward to following their progress.



A Step Back in Time - Theresa Lawrence



A good day was had by all who attended our annual Needle Arts Fair, *A Step Back in Time*, on Saturday, October 4th. The weather cooperated - not too wet that people didn't want to go out but not too nice that they wanted to be outdoors and in their gardens.

We added another room just for the display of antique sewing implements and antique embroidery. Beth Repais Kindly loaned us a sampler done by her great, great, great grandmother in 1828 when she was only 8 years old. What a wonderful piece of family history. Other pieces of embroidery on display in this room were lovingly embroidered by grandparents and great grandparents, mother and neighbours from our childhood. The variety of embroidered pieces was wonderful to see.



Lois Grant is always willing to select items on a theme to display at events and her antique stitching items fitted into the theme of the Needle Arts Fair so she shared with us a portion of her collection of antique sewing implements and a couple of very old and very fragile quilts. They, along with two ladies dressed in period costume, were certainly attention getters and added to the ambience. Lois has always been interested in collecting. When her home became too full of items from the past, she bought a portable classroom. Now she has a museum on her farm near Bellrock. A guild trip to Lois' museum is in the works for the spring!



* Who has a friend *
* With whom to share *
* Has double cheer *
* And half of care *

Dear House
You're really very small
Just big enough for
Love
That's all

Wording from two samplers on display.



A new member to our guild, Dorothy Forrester, demonstrated the making of bobbin lace throughout the day. It is amazing how much time and effort goes into making even the tiniest piece of lace. Dorothy also had a second cushion set up so people could try their hand at bobbin lace. I think she found a few people who are interested in learning more about this art form.



Once again, Mary Lou Wilson put together a beautiful display of all of the work done by members of the guild over the last year. We really have a very talented group of ladies in our guild. It is always interesting to see just how differently each person's piece turns out when they have all had the same instructions. Other pieces that were on display were just totally awe inspiring.



A new feature in the CGNA display this year was to feature an artist from within the guild. Mary Lou was asked to be our featured artist this year and it was great to see a body of work done by one of our own guild members. (I'm now looking for suggestions for next year's Featured Artist so please forward names to me.)





Along with the CGNA display there was a bronze wreath made by Ken “Ozzy” Osbourne which was presented to the City of Kingston in memory of all the Kingston service men who were killed in the First World War. This wreath marks the 100th Anniversary of the beginning of the First World War. Donna Hamilton, Kristeen Krestensen and Mickie Beauchamp embroidered the banner that goes with the wreath.

The eye-popper at our show this year, on the stage in the main gym, was the three pieces of needlepoint canvas done by Eva Kruglye-Smolkska. Her canvases are copies of three of famous * Gobelins Tapestries. It took Eva seven years to complete the largest of the pieces. The tricky part was finding a vehicle big enough to transport the main piece. We thought it would fit in a van but unfortunately ended up on the roof. Good thing the rain held off long enough to get it back and forth.



* *The Gobelins Manufacturer was the largest and most revered producer of tapestries in France in the 17th century.*
(Please read more about Eva’s work on page 15.)

Each year we strive for a variety of different textile vendors. It is amazing how quickly the vendors calendars fill up and how far in advance we have to get them on board for our show. We had a nice mix of vendors selling the materials we crave plus a few vendors with finished products read to wrap up as gifts or just to pamper ourselves. I’ve already asked the vendors to mark Saturday, October 3rd, 2015 on their calendars



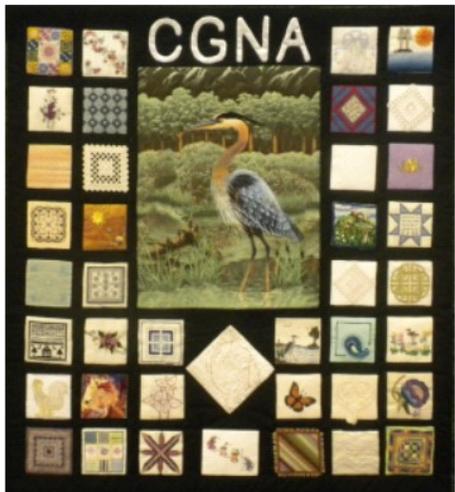
I'd like to thank everyone for their help and support in putting the show together. Special thanks to Mary Lou for the CGNA display, Tricia for all the leg work with the advertising and the needle cases she made up before she took off on vacation (she didn't even get to attend the show); Donna for keeping the web page current about the fair and the crew who came in on Friday to help with the set up and stayed late to help pack it all up. Oh, and my husband Dave, who enjoyed the day too. He liked his new title as "Number 1 Shlepper". He learned a lot about alpacas, bobbin lace, talked about fractals and what a great bunch of ladies I spend my Mondays with. He has gotten over his fear of Simone but now he's worried about what Shirley will do to him.

Our Needle arts Fair is four fold - an opportunity to display our work to the public, an opportunity for us to buy those materials that aren't available in our area, an opportunity to encourage our craft and find new members for the guild and as a fundraiser for the guild. The show was profitable not only for ourselves but for the vendors, we have peaked the interest of several people in the community to join our guild and we increased the number of people coming through the door by 20%, so I would say our fair was very successful.

For more pictures of our Needle Arts Fair, check out *Snapt Kingston*, November issue and our CGNA web page.



At our first meeting after the Needle Arts Fair, our president, Diane Dukoff presented Theresa and Mary Lou with gifts as a token of our appreciation for the work they had done to make the Needle Arts Fair and success.



This is our CGNA banner.

Is your 4 X 4 inch square here? If not please consider making a 4 X 4 inch square that we can add to our banner. It can be any style of embroidery but pick one that you really enjoy doing. Pass it in to Theresa with your name so it can be included on the banner. There are lots of members old and new who have yet to be included on our banner. Make it part of your New Year's Resolution to complete your square by June.

MY MEDIEVAL TAPESTRY SAGA

When I first started working on pre-printed needlepoint canvases I bought them at White Rose, which, at the time, had a pretty good selection. Two things then happened: boredom set in and a woman opened a needlework shop in Bloor West Village in Toronto, where I lived at the time. She had an amazing selection and on top of that an incredible number of catalogues from which canvases could be ordered.

While I was a science major at university I had also always been a Francophile. French was my minor and 19th century literature was a favourite, so it was no surprise that I was drawn to older things. When I saw the canvas in the catalogue, I fell in love with it. That's a good thing given how long it took me to finish it and the money invested.

The canvas (in the mid- 70's) cost \$500.00. I was shocked. Turns out that in addition to the work that goes into pre-printing the canvas, a royalty has to be paid to the museum for reproduction rights to the Gobelin tapestry. The piece was called *La Tonte des Moutons* (ordered from Royal Paris). I also had to order enough wool to last for the whole project

because there was no guarantee I would be able to match dye lots. The wool also cost about \$500.00. Then there was the frame which was custom made. I no longer remember how much that cost.

I started working the project on the frame but found it unwieldy and my back hurt bending over it. Also, I lived in a small apartment at the time and it took up way too much space. So out went the frame, and I worked on my lap whenever the mood took me. I worked quite diligently for a while, but then there were periods when I didn't touch it at all; which, as you know, is quite common with our projects.

It wasn't until I finally bought a house that had a perfect wall waiting to be filled by it that I made a push to finish. It had taken about seven years. I had a fair bit of wool left over so I bought two companion pieces (called *La Cueillette* and *La Lecture*) and everything was finished by 1986. I have

since moved twice and they still have pride of place on my living room wall.

Even though I've now had them for a long time, nevertheless, I am not tired of them. I do have a concern about what will happen to them after I'm gone.

Eva Kruglye-Smolka



[SEMINAR 2014 - OTTAWA - \(Part 2\)](#)

In the last issue of our Newsletter we heard from Ros Hanes about her experience at Seminar 2014. This issue it is Ann Miller's and Barbara Jackson's turn to tell us about their experiences at Seminar 2014.

Months ahead, we anxiously wait for the Embroidery Canada magazine to come out. We already know in our minds, that we want to go. In this case the seminar is in Ottawa. We want to see what classes are being offered for our enjoyment. There is a wide variety of techniques and designs to choose from and inspire us.

We are able to choose from four-day, two-day and one-day classes. Along with the projects, there is a write up on the web site, describing our teachers and their accomplishments.

Information is put out regarding our accommodations, meals, travel fundraisers and members' exhibition. Seminar also provides stores to shop in!!!

We choose our projects and send them into Seminar and wait to find out if we have been accepted in our choices. We have the opportunity to apply for a grant of \$500 to go to Seminar. This is from our own guild. We can also apply to EAC.

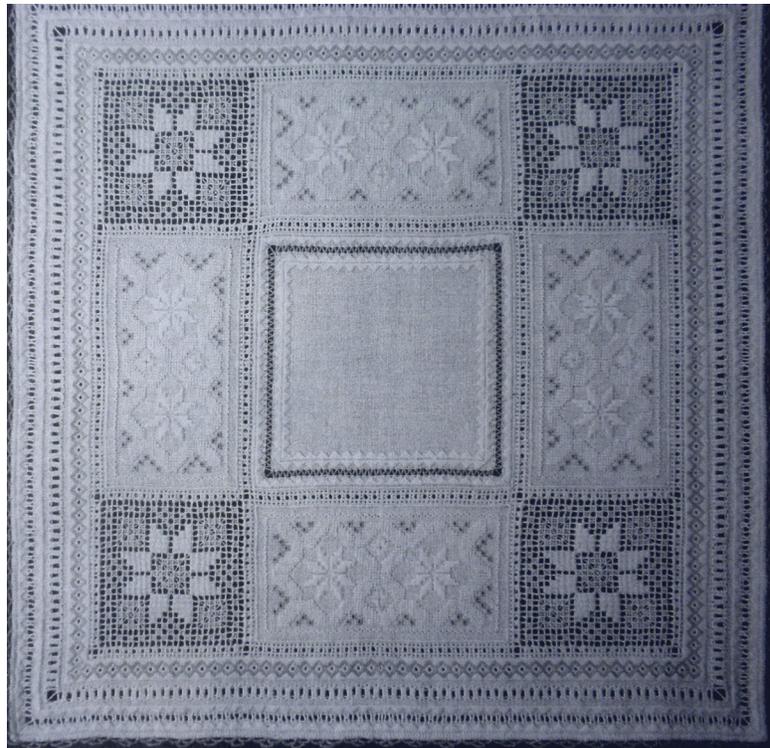
Our stitching seminar this year was May 13 to 18 and was called *Stitching Symphony*. On Tuesday, May 13 we checked in and registered at St Lawrence College in Ottawa. There was a welcome reception that evening and classes started on Wednesday with various activities being held throughout the week. For example, merchants' mall shopping, free day tours on Friday, luncheon, Seminar banquet on Saturday night and members' exhibits from the 14th to 17th. It is amazing to see the work that other guild members do. We really hve a talented lot. There is a voting system in place for members to choose from the entries for various awards.

Ann and I were lucky to get the project that we wanted to do. The *Mammoth Hedebo Experience* with Jette Roy Finlay-Heath was amazing. The work was from the 19th century, when girls in the Hedebo area, south of Copenhagen embroidered their heirlooms. The technique is whitework, including counted thread flat stitches, drawn threads, as well as Scandinavian Holesean borders.

In our four days, it was a pleasure to be taught by Jette Roy Finlay-Heath and her husband, who assisted her with the film screen for us to follow the work. Her patterns and descriptions were very well done.

Many thanks to CGNA for their monetary assistance to go to Seminar.

Ann & Barb



FALL IN REVIEW

