

New Jersey Needle Artists
American Needlepoint Guild
April 20, 2016 Meeting

Hi Everyone –

Wow! I am totally blown away – NJNA has four (4!) new members this week. This brings us to a total of 37 paid members and 25 (!) attended our April meeting. Pam G says that this is the most that NJNA has ever had! Great job with membership, Heidi.

Rona, Heidi, and Diane all networked extensively at the NJ Needlefest last weekend. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to our new members:

- Cindy H: Cindy paints canvases for Barefoot Needlepoint Design in Martinsville, NJ. She was one of the vendors at Needlefest and we are happy to have her joining our group.
- Margaret: Margaret is a long-time cross stitcher who has recently gotten into needlepoint with Sylvia. She works at JPMorgan and has 2 kids. It doesn't allow a lot of time for needlework, but she still bought two new canvasses at the Needlefest!
- Sylvia: Sylvia and Margaret both live in Westfield, close to Rona. As I recall, Sylvia's daughter also plays volleyball!
- Karen B: Karen paid her membership at Needlefest, but wasn't able to join us at the meeting. She had previously been a member of NJNA and decided to rejoin after connecting with several of us at the national seminar. We look forward to seeing her at a future meeting.

In addition, Nancy R brought a guest, Andrea. Many of us know Andrea from the Skylands Stitchers chapter of EGA. Andrea is an amazing stitcher and I hope she will decide to join us and show off her creative work on old dolls.

Diane then steered us to the business portion of our meeting. She announced that Susan H plans to host another NJ Needlefest next year. The date and location are still being determined. Susan wants a larger venue because of the sell-out crowd this year!

Diane announced that the Keystone Chapter that meets in Buckingham, PA (near New Hope) will be hosting Gail Sirna in September. Gail will be teaching her "Chapel in the Garden" on September 24 and 25. Ghosts are allowed. (Ghosts are students who receive the kit and instructions but do not attend the class. Usually the kits are sent out AFTER the final class.)

Diane announced that the Metropolitan Region of EGA will be hosting a regional seminar next April 21 through 23 in Florham Park. Rosie passed around a brochure with pictures of the offered classes.

Palomar, California chapter of ANG will be hosting Toni Gerdes for her Geometric Butterfly, a design in the FLWright style. Ghosts are allowed!

Our new member from last month, Cathryn, is getting prepared to teach a course at Ridgewood Needlepoint in Wyckoff, NJ. We got a sneak preview of "Shell Game" because she was stitching the sample at our meeting! It is beautiful. Cathryn says that it came from the ANG Chapter Project Book about 12-13 years ago. Stay tuned for more details in coming months.

PSA: Edwardian Needle will be closed from April 20 through May 18. Tony Mineri classes are still meeting.

Diane also announced that the board is considering the possibility of reinstating Road Trips in the fall. Nimble Needle and Needleworker's Delight are two possible venues.

Rosie reported that NJNA now has a balance of \$3055.09 in its treasury. We have budgeted \$500 for programs – we will be providing canvas and instructions for our six chapter projects to any members who sign up. Any member who finishes three of the six projects by next March will get a prize TBD. You can check out all of the projects on our website!

Carol then kicked off our second project of the year "Honey I Shrunk the Flag (HISTF)". After passing out canvas, threads (if purchased) and instructions, Carol confirmed that we all had all of the required threads. Then Heidi (who stitched the sample) gave us some helpful hints on where and how to start this project. Seventeen of us signed up for HISTF!

Carol set out sign-up sheets for the remaining four projects. If you plan on doing the Pulled Thread Boxtop in June, be sure to sign up with your color choice: Pink, Blue, Tan or Ecru.

Carol taught the Victorian Step stitch for our stitch notebooks. This stitch is used on HISTF. Heidi will teach two additional HISTF stitches next month.

We hope you enjoy the show and tell pictures.

Cheers,

Rosie

Show and Tell



Cathryn C stitched this collection of Christmas Crackers designed by Melissa Shirley. She had intended to have them finished as crackers to set by each person's plate. Pam at the Edwardian Needle suggested that instead, she finish them as bricks with a slot in back to make them place card holders. Isn't this so clever?? Rosie didn't even find it for our finishing presentation. You might also note that two of these use the Victorian Step stitch in their background! Hark! the value of new members!



Cathryn also stitched Melissa Shirley's Irish Cottage with the pots of gold at the end of the rainbow. This was also finished by the Edwardian Needle.



Dee recently found this piece in her closet and took it to be framed. It is either “Something Box” or “Box Something” designed by Harriet Segal. One of the main objectives of the piece was teaching how to color match with an overdyed thread.



Diane finished Kurdy Bigg’s “A Different View” and had it framed just in time to make the trip to Woodlawn. This was our 2015 SOTM selection and NJNA sent five of them to Woodlawn. But...Wednesday it made its debut at NJNA! The frame works with the colors in the design to produce an absolutely stunning whole.



Nancy B brought in a picture of a pillow that she recently finished. Her step-Mom had bought this as an Elsa Williams kit in the 1980's. Nancy found it in her closet and switched fibers: silk ribbons for the flower stems and leaves, Vineyard silk for the butterflies. However, the canvas was so old that it split in the area of the fairy, so Nancy had to figure out how to splice a new piece of canvas to it. She said that in the end, the spliced canvas made the fairy stand out.



Finally, two more of our members completed "Starburst". The one on the left was stitched by Heidi in the original colorway on black canvas. The one on the right was stitched by Nancy B. I guess I better get cracking on mine if I want to be in the running for an end of year prize!