

# South Central Region EGA

## Mid-Year Meeting

February 10, 2018

Embassy Suites Dallas Park Central, Dallas Texas.

**Region Director, Shawn Miller** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Secretary, Karen Heller** – Quorum was verified.

- Shawn Miller reviewed instructions for printing committee reports for new region reps.
- Shawn Miller questioned who was creating the new SCR banner. (Mary Waldsmith investigated off-line and identified Lois Albert)
- Minor corrections to the minutes were identified. A motion was made (by Dr. Linda Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lyn Thomas) to accept the minutes from the last meeting, as published with corrections.

**Special Guest:** Karen Hamilton was unable to attend due to illness. Shawn Miller will be doing her presentation on the new EGA branding campaign.

## Officer/Committee Chair Reports

**Region Director – Shawn Miller:** Report stands.

**Assistant Region Director – Sandra Harwell:** Report stands.

- Linda Walker stated that the Woodlands Chapter had given their annual report to Jane Major since the submission of Sandra's report.
- Georgia Peterson stated that the Texas Star Chapter had also turned in their annual report after the submission of Sandra's report.

**Treasurer – Sherri Hagar:** Report stands.

- Sherri summarized the treasurer's report for the region reps.

**Education – Mary Waldsmith:** Report stands.

- Mary stated that the GCC policy had been changed. The enrollment period will now start at the Mid-Year meeting and end at SCR seminar (plus a few weeks). The minimum number of students for a sponsored GCC was reduced from 8 people to 5 people. She reminded the group that the region pays the teaching and mailing fees for all SCR sponsored GCCs. Participants only pay for their text and supplies.
- Don't like the SCR GCC selections? Mary emphasized that if a Chapter would like to take a GCC that is not on the region list, that the region will still support the GCC if the Chapter has at least 5 people taking the class AND the Chapter applies to the Assistant Education, Beth Newton, within the enrollment period. The region would then have the option of adding interested people to the class.
- Mary also reviewed the new Education Benefit policy. The education benefit is now based on the number of SCR dues paying members (primary members and out of region plural members) the Chapter has at the time applying for the benefit. If you have greater than 60 dues paying members, the Chapter is eligible to receive an additional Education Benefit. She also reminded the group that this was a reimbursement of actual education expenses and not a grant.
- The Shining Needle on-line class with Kathy Rees had 57 sign-ups. Kathy was having some issues with threads and has just started to ship the kits. Mary has had questions about whether it is still possible to take the class. She said individuals should let her know and she would discuss with Kathy. The answer will likely depend upon whether Kathy had additional supplies available.
- The region is planning to sponsor another on-line class this year, possibly a beading class.

**GCC's – Beth Newton:** Report Stands.

- Beth stated that the deadlines for GCCs needed to be adjusted due to classes starting too near the Christmas holidays. The new timeline will allow classes to start around Sept 1. With the new start for

GCCs registration being the Mid-Year meeting, she selected the SCR sponsored GCCs herself this year (instead of having a region wide vote) based upon her knowledge of which types of courses usually get enough students. Her report includes this year's selections. Please share this information with your Chapter. Photos will be added to the SCR website.

- Please note the new report that compares educational opportunities. This report will also be submitted to the newsletter.
- Beth showed the group her new GCC lock box that will be used at future seminars for the submission of registration forms and checks.

**Communications – Sherri Seville** Report stands.

- The SCR newsletter “Stitches” is sent out every other month/odd months. Please make sure your Chapter is sending their newsletter to Sherri so that she can include items of interest in the Region newsletter. Also, the Chapter region rep or president can submit items directly to Sherri.
- A new section to the newsletter called “Stitching Friends We’ve Lost” is being added to the newsletter. Sherri distributed a form at the Mid-Year meeting to be used for newsletter submissions. A form will be added to the website under On-line Forms.
- Karen Dittmar questioned how far back we should remember our lost friends. The last 3 months and going forward was recommended by Sherri.

**Historian – Pat Lufholm:** Report stands.

- Pat has been scanning old records and is planning to add “fun facts” to an upcoming issue of the region newsletter. She is also thinking of posting some of the old records somewhere on our website.
- Pat is looking for Chapter pins to scan for our records. Pat will return the pins if you so desire.

**Bylaws – Debbie Osborn:** Will cover as New Business.

**Heart and Hand Award:**

- Shawn Miller announced that Denise Hall of the Austin Stitchery Guild had accepted the position of Heart and Hand chair last week.
- Shawn distributed the Heart and Hand application for 2018 to all region reps and described this year's theme: **The individual who has extended the art of needlework beyond their Chapter by sharing it within their community.**
- Nominations are due no later than May 15, 2018 and must be for individual members.
- There will be 5 winners and these will be presented at SCR seminar in June. Along with the honor, winners receive \$50.

**Membership – Dr. Linda Walker:** Report stands.

- Linda Walker uses April statistics from National to compare yearly membership because it takes National a long time to get the membership records updated. SCR membership went down from 933 regular members on April 5, 2017 to 899 members on January 9, 2018.
- Shawn Miller stated that we gained 9 new members with the “Berries So Red” on-line class and that 6 of these new members were retained. A 66% retention rate.
- Linda Walker stated that with the Kathy Rees on-line class, we gained 8 new plural members (3 new to EGA); one is a new member who lives in Scotland.

**Outreach – Lyn Thomas:** Report stands.

- Lyn told the region reps that if their Chapter was not on her Outreach report that means that someone in their Chapter needs to start sending her their outreach information. Lyn reads all the newsletter sent to her and looks for outreach tidbits. Lyn will take anything you send concerning outreach, anyway you send it. If your chapter isn't doing any outreach, Lyn has lots of simple, low cost ideas that she would happily share.
- Shawn Miller emphasized the need for Chapters to do outreach as a condition of our non-profit status.

**Seminar Mentor – Marianna Markham:** Report stands.

- Marianna is currently working with the Dallas, Bella Vista, and San Antonio (in San Marcos) seminars.
- Shawn Miller stated that the region now has a “Seminar in a Box” with the seminar guidelines and seminar mentor. With that, and our event planner, Amanda Garcia-Slater, holding a seminar is possible even for our smaller chapters.

**Special Events – Amanda Garcia-Slater:** No Report.

- Amanda reminded the group that you should always book your room as part of the SCR group block for meetings and seminars, even if it is slightly more expensive as we have negotiated a total package that includes meeting rooms, audio visual needs, and meals. She gave an example of a \$700 charge for a projector that the region was able to spend only \$150 for with our negotiated package.

**Ways & Means – Paula Millhollon:** Report stands.

- Paula is selling tickets for the opportunity to win a trip to SCR seminar. The price of the tickets is not printed on them, but they are \$10 each. Tickets come in groups of 12. Paula encouraged all of the region reps to pick up tickets to sell. The tickets need to be turned in to her at seminar. You can send them with someone else if you cannot attend, or mail them. Paula will also send you more tickets if you sell out. This is a fund raiser for the region, so please participate.
- Shawn Miller stated that her Chapter, Louisiana Lagniappe, purchases the tickets from Chapter funds and divides the proceeds among Chapter seminar attendees if the chapter wins.

**Webmaster – Jane Major:** Report stands.

- Jane thanked all the members that have worked with her on problems with the “submit” button when they were trying to submit their reports. This problem should go away as we will be switching the software for our on-line forms.
- Jane told the group that we will be using the Gmail addresses that were set up for region officers. She emphasized that this gives us a more professional front. To make sure emails are going to the correct place, please consult the email addresses on our website EGASCR.org prior to sending an email.
- Also, please note that Executive committee emails start with SCR. (but seminar emails do not have the dot)

**Seminar 2018 – Dallas, TX – Karen Dittmar:** Report Stands.

- The seminar will be held June 12 – 16, 2018 at the Westin Dallas Park Central in Dallas, TX.
- As of February 1, registration stands at 177 registrants.
- You can still register for classes. Cindy Hambrick’s classes are closed.
- There will be 5 mini-classes. Mary Waldsmith’s mini-class is closed.
- Please make your hotel reservations.
- There will be no boutique, but there will be a Stash sale on Wednesday night and Merchandise night on Thursday.
- Name tags are available for sale today. See Judith McGraw.
- Opportunity Knocks email was sent the morning to region reps and Chapter presidents.
- There will be a **project** bag, not a tote bag.

**Seminar 2019 – Rogers, AR – Donna Hagaman:** Report stands.

- The seminar will be held June 19 – 22, 2019 at the Embassy Suites in Rogers, AK. Teachers have been selected and registration will start at the Dallas seminar and will also be available at that time on-line.
- There will not be a stash sale, but they are hoping to have a boutique.
- Donna spoke about the Rogers/Bentonville area and the many attractions including Crystal Bridges and the Walton Museum.
- A beaded nametag has been designed by Cindy Hambrick.

**Seminar 2020 – Diane Williams:** Report stands.

- The seminar will be held June 10 – 13, 2020. The seminar is sponsored by the San Antonio Needlework Guild, but will be held at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos.
- Seminar logo has been approved.
- There will be a free shuttle to the San Marcos outlet mall.
- There will be two nametag versions: canvas and beaded.

**Seminar 2021 – Austin Stitchery Guild**

**Seminar 2022 – Shreveport Rose**

**Seminar 2023 – Houston Embroiderers’ Guild**

**Introductions**

## Old Business

### Education – Announcement of Education Scholarship winner(s):

- o Mary Waldsmith announced the winners of the new Education Scholarship. The winners were Gaye Smith and Stephanie Goley. They have both received \$100 towards the class they specified and will receive another \$100 if they write an article for our “Stitches” publication within a year. Gaye Smith will be taking a complicated beading class and Stephanie Goley will be taking a 12-part silk and metal course.

## New Business

### Gold Thread Award:

- o SCR did not have a nominee in 2017. Starting in 2018, the SCR Heart and Hand winners will be nominated for the Gold Thread award. This is in addition to any other Chapter or individual nominations. The H&H winners will be asked to fill out the required EGA resume and return to H&H Chair for submission.

### Appoint Heart and Hand Chair:

- o Denise Hall, from the Austin Stitchery Guild, has accepted the Heart and Hand position.

### Nominating Committee Election:

- o We need three people from different SCR chapters. We need the consent of the nominees.
- o The nominating committee is responsible for creating a slate for the 5 elected board positions: region director, assistant region director, region treasurer, region secretary, and education coordinator. The region treasurer position is eligible for 2 consecutive terms and the region education coordinator will be eligible for 2 consecutive terms if the changes to our bylaws are approved. The nominating committee should have their slate of officers ready before Christmas 2018.
- o Debbie Osborn (Permian Basin Needle Arts), Jane Major (Louisiana Lagniappe), and Toni Moore (East Texas) have volunteered for the nominating committee.
- o A motion was made by Pat Lufholm to approve the nominating committee slate (Debbie Osborn, Jane Major, and Toni Moore). 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Walker. The motion carried.

### Vote on Proposed By-Law Changes:

- o No need to vote on changes to standing rules and policies. These were approved by the Executive committee and given to region reps and presidents so that they would be aware of the changes.
- o There were no questions from the group regarding the proposed changes to the bylaws.
- o A motion to accept the by-law changes as printed was made by Sherri Seville. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Walker. The motion carried.

### Seminar Trip Opportunity 2017:

- o Paula Millhollon stated that the 2017 opportunity to win a trip to seminar was won by Leslie Wilson. She can either use her award for the Dallas seminar or defer it for one year and use it for the Bella Vista seminar.

## Announcements

- o **Retention Policy:** EGA national has developed a new document retention policy for chapters that explains what papers we need to keep/scan/ etc. The policy was sent to presidents nationwide and it is also available on the national website. Shawn Miller stated that we will publish the simplified version for Chapters on the SCR website.
- o **Phillips Estate:** The settlement of the issues relating to our ¼ interest in the family trust has now been approved by the court. The terms agreed to: EGA receives a check in the amount of \$1,100,000 and also receives a promissory note in the amount of \$1,150,000. The total amount is \$2,250,000. Here are the details:

- The check has been received, deposited into our account at Charles Schwab, and invested in laddered CDs – none longer than 5 years.
  - The original promissory note and supporting documents are in safe storage at headquarters. The promissory note is secured by real estate located in Arkansas. EGA paid to have a title search done and title insurance issued to us. It is a 10 year note at 2.5% interest paid semi-annually with no prepayment penalty.
- **Hurricane Harvey Update:** We have collected \$700 in gift cards for Hurricane Harvey victims (8 members/4 chapters). Shawn Miller explained that our bylaws state that EGA funds cannot be used for personal gain and that is why neither the region nor our chapters were able to donate funds directly. All donations needed to be from person to person to stay in compliance with the IRS rules for non-profit organizations.
  - **Cards for Carole Lake:** Shawn Miller gave the group an update on Carole Lake's health. Karen Heller, region secretary, is collecting cards for Carole if you brought one.
  - **SCR Region Webmaster Email address:** The SCR Region Webmaster email address is [SCR.RegionWebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:SCR.RegionWebmaster@gmail.com) it is **NOT** SCR.Webmaster@gmail.com
  - **Reimbursement Policy for the Mid-Year Meeting:** The region will reimburse actual travel and hotel expenses for the mid-year region meeting for the Executive Committee and for the Region Rep (or alternate Region Rep with a proxy form). If you reserved your room as part of the room block, your room has been paid by the region and your credit card at check-in was only for incidental expenses. If you drove to the meeting, you are eligible for the volunteer mileage rate of \$0.14 per mile. No meals are included. Please fill out a reimbursement form (available on the SCR website) for your expenses. Remember to include receipts (if applicable).
  - **Region Representative Notebook:** Sandra Harwell stated that the Region Representative Notebook has been updated and copies are available. Please read the notebook so that you are aware of all of your responsibilities as the region rep.
  - **Needleart Show, Tyler, TX:** Toni Moore from the East Texas Embroiderers' Guild announced that they were sponsoring a Needleart Show at the Rose Garden Center in Tyler, TX on Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24. Bookmarks with all of the information are available if you are interested in attending. You may buy a ticket at the door for \$3.00.
  - **Presentation of the new EGA brand:** A presentation of the new EGA brand will be made immediately following the meeting adjournment. Shawn Miller will be substituting as the presenter as Karen Hamilton is ill.
  - **Mid-Year Meeting Workshop:** The beading workshop, "Trillium" taught by Marianna Markham, will start following the presentation and a short break.
  - **Next Meeting:**
    - June 2018 (Seminar 2018 – Westin Dallas Park Central, Dallas, TX)
      - EC Meeting – Tuesday, June 12, 2018; 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
      - Annual Meeting – Wednesday, June 13, 2018; 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned by **Shawn Miller** at 11:42 a.m.