CAPE FEAR NEEDLEPOINTERS

CHAPTER ANG NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

**Meeting:**

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024

NE Branch Library

Watkins Room

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**Stitch in:**

Wednesday Feb. 28, 2024

NE Branch Library

Watkins Room

10:00AM - 1:00 PM

[www.Capefearneedlepointers.org](http://www.capefearneedlepointers.org/)

**Presidents Note:**

Dear Stitchers,

I was sorry to see so many people not rejoining our chapter. We wish you all the best and happy stitching. We hope you will be able to join us again.

I was pleased with how many participated in the crazy quilt heart project and look forward to seeing your pieces. We will make the hearts into hanging ornaments using glue and felt. Lori and I are bringing felt. You will need to bring scissors that can cut canvas. If you would like to make a cord, bring a skein of pearl cotton uncut. If you have Tacky Glue and/or cord maker, bring it. We will share.

Mona’s birthday month so she will choose where we will eat lunch. Don’t miss this opportunity to get to know your fellow stitchers. For members that are not familiar with lunch, we do nothing special but eat, visit, and pay our own way.

Can’t wait to see you again,

Karen

**American Needlepoint Guild - Cape Fear Needlepointers**

Minutes for the monthly meeting January 13, 2024

Attendance: 15 members

Call to order: 10:38

Minutes: The minutes from the November meeting were approved

Reports:

Treasury: there is $3224.64 in the treasury

Membership:

There are 27 members.

Outreach:

Outreach position is still open. The mission of our guild is to bring the craft into the communities in which we live and to teach others so that it doesn’t become a lost art.

Deb Miller plans to start the stitching life group at Crosswinds Church in February to bring the craft to new people for stitching and fellowship.

Programs:

January - Crazy Quilt Heart part 1

February - Crazy Quilt Heart part 2

March and April - Bargello Ball class taught by Dale

May - filed trip

Stitch in - January 24th Watkins Room

Old Business

Audit reveals we are a self sustaining guild.

Show and Tell:

Pam Morine showed her beach scene

Karen showed all twelve of her gnomes

Denise showed her finished stocking

Lori showed her quilted squares project finished in a box

Michelle showed her witch

Karen showed all of her completed ornaments

Adjournment: 11:05

Our next meeting will be held at the Northeast Library in Wilmington on February 10, 2024.

Submitted by Deb Miller

Good morning all

I was saddened to see so many people leave the guild.  Unfortunately although I am not leaving the guild I will be forced to resign as secretary in June.  My husband is not well and we are on the road to dementia so my time out of the house will be limited going forward.  I will continue to attend the meetings thru June unless something drastically changes.

Pam Morine - my skin issue is severe eczema and I have started on Dupixent despite my misgivings and concerns.  I’ve tried everything else including functional medicine but the stress of my situation has brought this to a new level.

 that the Dupixent does the job.

Deb

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Hi Ladies,

Thank you for your prompt payments.

We are now a membership of 23.

Those that did not renew are as follows:

Anne Boone, Allison White, Gretchen Piazza, Geri Michaels, Joedy Kimball,

Marilyn Esmond, and Janice Heath.

Attached you will find an updated Membership List.

Our February meetings are as follows:

Meeting:

February 10

10:00-1:00

WATKINS ROOM

Northeast Branch

Military Cutoff

Stitch In:

February 28

10:00-1:00

WATKINS ROOM

Northeast Branch

Military Cutoff

Mona

**Programs:**

Feb - Crazy Heart Finishing (I'll bring some extra felt)

March - Bargello Balls (see attached document and note the pre work which includes mounting and basting  your canvas)

April - Bargello Balls Finishing

May - Annual Field Trip

June - Elections

If you have been following this section of the newsletter, you'll recall that I have been passing along the basic tenants of needlepoint.  So far, we have discussed that when doing straight stitches (like our upcoming Bargello work), your stitches should be worked in the opposite direction of your work.  If you work from the top down, the threads in your stitches should go from the bottom up.  Secondly, as you stitch from row to row, ending one row and starting another, do not take the first stitch on the second row directly below the last stitch of the previous row - take the second stitch first, then the first before continuing.

The last tenant to cover is relevant to slanted stitches, like basket weave, continental, or Pam M.'s favorite, nobuko.  This tenant states that your stitching should move opposite the direction of your stitches' slant.  This will give you nice, full coverage on the back of your canvas and lift your stitches.  Many of us have learned that we should always go up from an unoccupied hole and down into an occupied hole.  This doesn't always work!

Think about it . . .  if your stitches slant to the right, you move to the left, and threads are taken from the bottom to top, this will work fine.  However, when you move back in the other direction and continue to go from the bottom up, you will only have short vertical stitches in back.  When you are done, you will notice stripes in your work where you have thick rows alternating with thin rows.  You may also notice that the canvas begins to become skewed due to the unbalanced stitching and will need to be blocked.

- Lori

**2024 Bargello Ball Class**

**RECOMMENDED MATERIALS: For stitching Ball:**

1. #18 Mono Canvas cut 8 x16 mounted on stretcher  
   bars.
2. For Bargello: 4 skeins in one color family DMC Floss
3. For Cameo Background: 1 contrasting skein of DMC  
   Floss
4. For Cameo Motifs: Threads of your choice for the  
   motifs you choose.
5. A strong thick fabric glue. I suggest Turbo Tacky  
   available at Hobby Lobby.
6. A12-inchruler
7. SewingThreadforbasting
8. A laying tool.
9. ANeedleminder

10.Your normal stitching equipment  
11.Your best glasses for working on #18 canvas or a magnifier.

**For finishing Ball:**

1. A3-inchStyrofoamBall,smoothsurfacepreferred
2. Sturdy Sharp Scissors to cut canvas.
3. Small box of flat head sewing pins
4. At least 1.5 yards of 1⁄4 inch (7mm) ribbon to complement  
   your ball.

**(Velvet ribbon**works best as it has depth and hides the canvas junctions well. Satins and Grosgrains do not work well. Thicker metallics and braids are options but can be difficult to work with. If you have trouble finding ribbons, **check M&J Trims website at**[**mjtrim.com**](http://mjtrim.com/)**).**5. Optional: Tassel or other embellishments of your choice

**To be provided in class**

2 Corsage Pins and Small Jewelry Findings DMM2024

**2024 Bargello Ball Class (see attachment)**

**SNG 2023 Bargello Ball Pre-work**

**Please complete the following pre-work before our first class**

1. **With your canvas**, mounted on stretcher bars, and using a ruler and basting thread, please create a horizontal center line across your canvas This line will help you to keep your bargello sections aligned. Also mark a center Vertical line.

2. **To prepare your Bargello Threads**please sort them from dark to light and add them to the Chart on Page 3. We use the Chart because once you have stitched threads that are close in color it is easier to work from numbers when changing colors.

3. **Begin your search**for small Motifs to stitch in your 16 threads tall and 14 threads wide cameo spaces. Mini cross stitch designs online are a useful source. Dates and Monograms also work well.

4. **If you have time**, please prepare several threaded needles in advance. To do this cut four (4) 15-inch pieces of Floss from your darkest color,( #1 skein). One at a time strip the floss ( 6 ply) and put threads back together. Identify the grain of your floss. Thread one needle with smooth grain of your stripped 6 ply floss. Repeat this process until you have at least 4 needles threaded and ready to go.

**If this stripping process is new to you, do not do it. We will discuss and Demo at the first class.**

**NOTES:**

**DMC FLOSS WORKING CHART**

**Description DMC#**

**DARK                  DMC#                     Comments**

**Med Dark**

**Med Light**

**Light Contrast**

**QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?**[**Dale2241@gmail.com**](mailto:Dale2241@gmail.com) **I look forward to stitching Bargello Balls with you!**

**Comments**

**2024 Bargello Ball Class**

**Outreach:**

The Life Group at Crosswinds is launching Feb 16.  We are going to meet every other Friday evening and I have women who are interested in bringing their daughters as well- ages 9 and up.  So it’s a great opportunity to teach two generations! I have the crosses ready to go but wondering if any of you could help me with charted designs going forward.  I’ve looked on line and can’t seem to find anything.  I also need help with the finishing of the crosses.  If I remember correctly Karen used felt as the backing.  Gluing it on correct?  Then cutting around it?

I would greatly appreciate your assistance.

Thanks

Deb

One more thing - would the Guild be able to donate any funds to the group to allow anyone who needs to purchase pieces or supplies going forward. I have threads to offer from my stash but not a lot of blank canvas or other materials.