

THE CHATELAINE

Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild Newsletter



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by Lois Dick

When we said good-bye at our February, 2020 meeting, little did any of us realize it would be well over a year before we would be able to meet again. This has been a time that has tested us all and created new challenges for the Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild. As we begin a new year we can only hope that it brings us a return to some of our former activities.

The best advice I try to follow is to find joy in simple things. Some days that is an unexpected phone call or sighting of an unusual bird out of my window. What always brings joy is having the time to enjoy sewing and knitting and the comfort this creativity brings.

(continued on page 2)



From the President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

Betsy Maloney and Sue Bosko along with their "production crew" have learned new skills this year in order to continue to provide HEG members with virtual meetings and workshops. Although we now live a virtual life, we were able to take a workshop in September with Cathy Grafton as she taught us Silk Ribbon Stitching on Medieval Coiling Vines. Cathy has become a repeat speaker at our Guild. Her wealth of knowledge of medieval stitching and the Bayeux Tapestry always brings us a lot of interesting new facts

In October, Anne Zick gave an award winning lecture on the history of "Sun Bonnet Sue" followed by an English paper piecing workshop to produce one of two "Sue" scenarios. Jennifer Shekaran did a great job behind the camera producing a professional presentation which was attended by a majority of our members. Kennette Bledsoe, our Zoom hostess could not be undone. She rapidly put together "Covid Cora" complete with masks.

As the virus surged again in November requiring us to limit our personal contact even more, the program chairs made some modification to the workshop. Libby Sturdy's husband became a very competent camera crew as Libby shared her extensive collection of 1930-40 Ribbon Ladies. If any of you like me have ever had a passion for paper dolls, this collection brought a whole new concept to them. The intricacies of the embellishments on the paper dolls were amazing. Although the Mrs. Ginger Claus needlepoint workshop had to be postponed, Libby did give those members taking the workshop a little jump start until she can give the class in February.

Our January meeting will include a business meeting as well as a lecture by Cindy VanderWoude on her sampler collection. Having seen her samplers I am certain you will not want to miss this.

(continued on page 3)



From the President's Desk

(Continued from page 2)

Among other items for discussion at the business meeting, members will be asked to approve a revision of the HEG by-laws. These were last revised in 2011 and since then many changes have taken place as we moved into the world of electronic submission. Look for a copy of the by-laws for review in the Addendum to the January issue of *The Chatelaine* which will be published the second week of January. Deleted items are crossed out and additions are underlined. Please be prepared to discuss any further changes at the meeting.

The majority of our members have been using Zoom to attend our meetings and M&M get togethers. We even had members joining us from Florida and an honorary member from Connecticut, an opportunity not possible when meetings are in person. If you have not taken the opportunity to do so, I would encourage you take advantage of this. If you need help, we have members who will talk you through the process. It is as easy as getting your email

In the meantime, I remain yours virtually until we can meet again.

Lois Dick, President



Announcements



 Our continued thanks to Kennette Bledsoe for her support of all the Zoom Meetings.



 Betsy Maloney wishes to thank Libby Sturdy and Pat Ewers for volunteering to stitch two projects on behalf of the husband of recently deceased member Claudia Niemiec. What a special memorial to Claudia for her husband!



 To have your finished projects (or even works in progress) included in the newsletter just send a photo to HEGCommunications@gmail.com. I will then include them in the next edition.



Bring
Many
Blessings
to Us All

A Few Words from the Program Chairs for 2020-2021

by Betsy Maloney and Sue Bosko

In September, we all so enjoyed Cathy's presentation, first about the history of Medieval Vines, and then learned more specifics about the Bayou Tapestry. Cathy then showed us all the historic details on her latest Bayou piece. In the workshop following, our group of 15 members enjoyed stitching our own Medieval Vines with Cathy's excellent encouragement and instruction. This was our first experience with a presentation and workshop on Zoom. Cathy did a wonderful job managing her setup and camera. For our first attempt, it all went surprisingly well.

Our October meeting experienced a unfortunate change in plan when our planned presenter had a mishap and was unable to speak to us for our presentation. However, HEG member Coleen Walter ably stepped up and treated us to a superb talk and slide show of her life as a Quilter. It was just marvelous!! Then Anne Zick treated us to an outstanding Sunbonnet Sue Applique Workshop. All 11 HEG members enjoyed every minute of this fun and beautifully taught Applique Class. You would have thought that Anne was a seasoned professional with numerous experiences teaching in front of a camera! With Jennifer Shekaran behind the camera, Betsy and Kennette managing the zoom and providing feedback, our own camera crew assisted Anne without too much distraction.

Libby Sturdy was our star presenter at our November meeting when she presented a phenomenal talk about Silk Ribbon Ladies. We were all mesmerized by this enchanting Hobby of the 1920-30's. Libby's knowledge and collection of these works of art was impressive. Due to rising Covid rates, we made the decision to postpone the first session of Libby's Mrs. Ginger Claus Workshop to the February, 2021 meeting (and the second to the April, 2021 meeting). However, Libby did spend some time with the group of 13 Ladies taking her workshop to give suggestions and instructions for those interested in getting started on this project before then.

With no Guild meeting in December, we are looking forward to our next meeting in January, 2021.





January 18, 2021 A Sampler Journey - Presentation Cindy Vander Woude







Following a Business Meeting, Cindy Vander Woude will present a Program titled, "My Journey Thru Sitiching Historic Samplers." All of you pepare yourselves for an amazing and interesting display of these interesting, beautifully stitched and historic Samplers.

February 15, 2021 Watermelon Placemats - Presentation Marilyn Montgomery



Marilyn Montgomery will introduce the Watermelon Placemats project. She will guide us in preparation for our May Sewing Together Day as we anticipate having a great deal of fun, while together sewing these colorful, happy items.

There will be an optional kit with enough fabric to complete 2 placemats. We will register for this workshop and process payments this month so that kits can be delivered well before the workshop or supplies can be gathered.

There are a limited number of kits which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Any extra kits will be made available to Workshop participants

Workshop: \$20 Optional Kit: \$20



Programs 2020-2021



By Betsy Maloney and Sue Bosko

February 15, 2021 Mrs. Ginger Claus - Workshop Libby Sturdy

Libby will present workshop number 1 of Mrs. Ginger Claus. The second workshop for this outstanding needlepoint project will be in April 2021.

Workshop: Registration closed



March 15, 2021 Wool Embroidered Balls - Presentation & Workshop Susan Wojciechowski



We have a treat in store for us. Susan Wojciechowski will begin our day with a lecture about her career as a teacher using Wool objects and many embellishments.

Susan will then conduct a workshop on her latest design - Wool Embroidered Balls. These balls can be used anywhere in your home and for much of the year if you chose.



Workshop (includes \$25 kit): \$45

April 19, 2021





Linda, a dollmaking expert, will lecture about her journey making stuffed dolls. We will happily gaze in wonder as we are treated to her explanations of dolls in her beautiful, large display.





Programs 2020-2021



By Betsy Maloney and Sue Bosko

April 19, 2021

Mrs. Ginger Claus - Workshop Libby Sturdy

This will be the second of the two workshops with Libby working on Mrs. Ginger Claus.

Workshop: Already paid for



May 3, 2021 Field Trip to Naperville

Nancy Sturgeon

Nancy Sturgeon is anxious for ALL of us to visit her Naperville home, which contains many exhibits of historic Samplers, needlepointed items, and quilts. She has titled the day "My Life is Stitching, Sewing and Collecting." After viewing her many, many items, we will enjoy Box lunches in her home.

Cost: Box Lunch TBD



May 17, 2021 Group Sewing Day for Watermelon Placemats - Workshop Marilyn Montgomery





On this day we will have lots of fun sewing, talking and eating while working together to complete our Watermelon Placemats. Expecting to do this at the Baptist Church.

Bring your lunch or order from Casey's.



Color Key (Business) Meeting Workshop M & M Meeting Deadline

January 2021

- 4 M&M Meeting on Zoom
- 15 Registration Opens for Watermelon Placemats Workshop with Marilyn Montgomery
- 18 Business Meeting 9:30 AM on Zoom
- 18 A Sampler Journey Presentation by Cindy Vander Woude Location on Zoom

February 2021

- 1 M&M Meeting on Zoom
- 1 Registration Opens for Wool Embroidered Balls Workshop with Susan Wojciechowski
- 15 Meeting 9:30 AM on Zoom
- 15 Watermelon Placemats Presentation by Marilyn Montgomery on Zoom
- 15 Mrs. Ginger Claus Workshop 1 with Libby Sturdy on Zoom

March 2021

- 1 M&M Meeting on Zoom
- 8 Deadline for Payment for Wool Embroidered Balls Workshop with Susan Wojciechowski
- 15 Meeting 9:30 AM on Zoom
- 15 Wool Embroidered Balls Presentation by Susan Wojciechowski on Zoom
- 15 Wool Embroidered Balls Workshop with Susan Wojciechowski on Zoom

April 2021

- 5 M&M Meeting on Zoom
- 19 Business Meeting 9:30 AM on Zoom
- 19 History and Display of Stuffed Dolls Presentation by Linda Montcalm
- 19 Mrs Ginger Claus Workshop 2 with Libby Sturdy on Zoom

May 2021

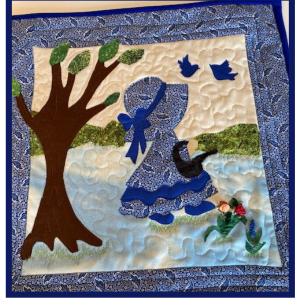
- **3** Field Trip to Nancy Sturgeon's Home in Naperville
- 17 Meeting 9:30 AM Location TBD
- 17 Watermelon Placemats Workshop with Marilyn Montgomery Location TBD

7 The Work of our Hands



This is Nancy Brinkman's finish of Gypsy, a design created by Cathy Rees.

What could be cuter than this Sunbonnet Sue that is Lois Dick's project from Anne Zick's Sunbonnet Sue Workshop in October.



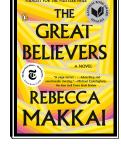


The past year has been a real challenge for all of us. Yet due to our talented colleagues, we have been able to gather through Zoom and still share our passion for the needle. Our sincere thanks to all who have made that possible. My meager contribution to the life of this organization is to share my love of reading by recommending works I have recently enjoyed. This year, probably like everyone else, I have turned a lot of pages. One of my book groups decided to work on a list of classics this year. So I have reread The Brothers Karamazov and Tom Jones. That pair amounted to 1,700 pages and left me with the opinion that Fielding is better than Dostoevsky during times of pandemic.



If you still have a desire to watch a young woman struggle in the complex society of Naples, Italy even after finishing Elena Ferrante's Neopolitan Trilogy, then you will want to read her latest work, *The Lying Life of Adults*. Ferrante is a master at the creation of troubled young women surviving in male dominated societies.

The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai is a novel dealing with the devastating effects of the AID pandemic. As we struggle through our own pandemic, this tale of friendship and desire offers hope in the face of tragedy.





Colum McCann has written another spellbinding novel, *Transatlantic*, that spans generations with historical figures influencing the lives of his fictional characters. From a heroic first flight across the Atlantic to deliver mail in Ireland to the Good Friday agreement that brought peace to Northern Ireland, McCann's characters find their place in history.

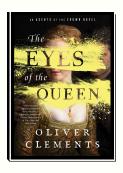


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Stratford-on-Avon is the setting of Maggie O'Farrell's novel *Hamnet*. This portrait of a marriage and a child who will lend his name to a great Shakespearian tragedy was recommended by Kennette Bledsoe for the beauty of its language. It was just selected as one of the ten best works of 2020 by the NY Times. I loved it.

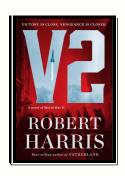


MYSTERIES



If you have finished all the Matthew Shardlake novels by C.J. Sansom and still crave a good mystery set in Tudor England, then you will enjoy *The Eyes of the Queen* by Oliver Clement. Elizabeth I is on the throne and struggling to save England and the Enlightenment from the threat of Spain. To that end she uses John Dee as a spy and agent of the crown to keep England safe.

England is also under threat in Robert Harris's new historical thriller, V2. This threat is from the rockets that Hitler is sending across the channel in a desperate effort to change the tide of war. A woman who is working to discover the location of the rocket launching site and a German who is struggling with his conscience are the two principals in this drama

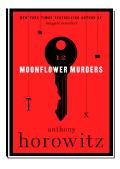




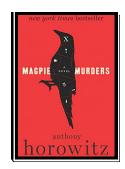


MYSTERIES (CONTINUED)

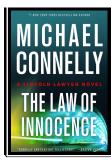
Three other mysteries that I enjoyed were *Moonflower Murders* by Anthony Horowitz, *The Law of Innocence* by Michael Connelly and *Eddie's Boy* by Thomas Perry.

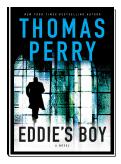


As in his *Magpie Murders*, Horowitz provides two complete mysteries within the novel. The retired editor for a famous classical murdered mystery writer must solve a mysterious disappearance by reading the mystery of her client. The reader is challenged to solve both stories. I got one right.



The Connelly novel involves two of his series characters, Harry Bosch and Mickey Heller, the Lincoln lawyer. Heller is on trial for murder and needs Bosch's help to prove that he has been framed.

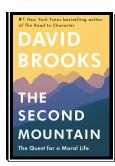




In *Eddie's Boy*, Perry returns to one of his favorite characters, the killer for hire, The Butcher Boy. This is the fourth novel dealing with this interesting and resourceful killer who only takes out criminals. In this thriller the past of the Butcher Boy is explored.

Nonfiction

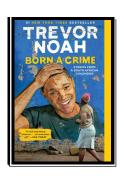
A moment in life when an individual realizes the mountain of success and recognition that one believes will bring happiness does not provide fulfillment is the subject of David Brook's *The Second Mountain*. Instead Brooks recognizes a second set of challenges that focus on friendship, community and self-sacrifice by exploring the lives of people who live lives of joy.





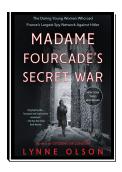
Nonfiction (continued)

In his autobiographical account of his childhood, Trevor Noah tells of his childhood in South Africa. **Born a Crime** combines insight into the realities of life in South Africa at the time of the transition from apartheid and white rule. Filled with humor, the work is also a tribute to Noah's extraordinary mother.



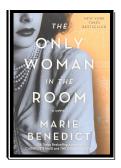
Women as Unsung Heroes

The last few years have been the years of books about women whose talent and contributions to society have been overlooked for too long. I have read them all and enjoyed everyone of them though I have had enough of men who fail to recognize women's contributions. All four of these works focus on women who were vital to the winning of WWII.









Madame Fourcade's Secret War by Lynne Olson and A Woman of No Importance by Sonia Purnell relate the true stories of two remarkable women who fought with the Resistance during WWII. The first was a Frenchwoman and the second an American. In The Woman Who Smashed the Codes by Jason Fergone the reader is introduced to Elizabeth Smith Friedman whose genius at breaking codes helped the U.S. win two world wars. Finally there is the remarkable story of the glamourous Hedy Lamarr, one of the most beautiful women in the world and a Hollywood star whose scientific genius helps the U.S. to develop rockets. The Only Woman in the Room is not great literature but the story is so remarkable that one can overlook the work's weaknesses.



Author Spotlight

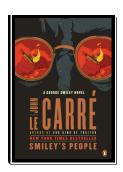
As I was finishing this article, I read the news that one of the great writers of espionage novels had died at 89. John Le Carre transformed the spy novel turning it from sexy thrillers into first class fiction. The NY Times obituary states that his "...exquisitely nuanced, intricately plotted Cold War thrillers elevated the spy novel to high art by presenting both Western and Soviet spies as morally compromised cogs in a rotten system full of treachery, betrayal and personal tragedy." If you have not read Le Carre or want to visit him again, I recommend *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold; The Karla Trilogy (Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy, The Honorable Schoolboy*, and *Smiley's People*; and one of my favorites, *A Murder of Quality*.

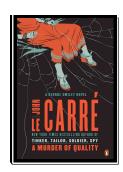


JANUARY 2021









Happy Reading and Happy Holidays! Pat Ewers





The September 21, 2020 zoom business meeting of Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild was called to order by President Lois Dick at 9:31 am.

Lois reported that all was going surprisingly well with the zoom meetings. She stated the Guild's adjustment to the new situation around us showed that one is never too old to learn something new and that the tutors have done a great job! Currently zoom seems the best choice to keep everyone as safe as possible. Lois thanked Anne Zick for her two years of putting together the Chatelaine; Coleen Walter for her great efforts with Finance and Budget; Kennette Bledsoe and Suzanne Franzen for their great programs; Betsy Maloney and Sue Bosko for accommodating covid needs for virtual workshops and programs for the coming Guild year; Jennifer Shekaran for establishing all the new communications for guild including Facebook/website/email/zoom; and Kennette for setting up our zoom meetings/instructing members/adjusting her schedule to accommodate Guild needs.

Our next zoom meeting will be the October 5 M&M and members are encouraged to bring stitching and talk. They can sign in any time and come and go as they want between 9:30 and 11:30.

Secretary's Report for the January 20 Business Meeting had been previously sent out to members for their review. Judy Ellison moved and Kennette Bledsoe seconded a motion to accept the report and the motion passed.

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Coleen Walter presented the Treasurer's Reports for January to March, April to May, and June to August. Over the summer Lois Dick and Betsy Maloney audited the Treasurer's books and found the records to be in good status. Betsy had a question about the remaining funds from the governor's project and Coleen explained that the funds would be carried forward if not used this year. Funds of \$550 include some extra money to help cover luncheon costs. Pat Ewers moved and Betsy Maloney seconded the motion to approve the reports and the motion was carried.

Programs for this year were presented by 1st Vice Presidents Betsy Maloney and Sue Bosko. Cathy Grafton will do her presentation on climbing vines following the September business meeting. The October program is Coleen presenting Quilting Through My Life and Anne Zick will present the Sunbonnet Sue workshop. Libby's November lecture will be about Embroidered Ladies and she will do a two-part workshop on Mrs. Ginger Clause in November and February.

Anne Zick has a surprise for us. The leftover fabrics from the Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt for the governor's project was used by Anne Zick, Sue Bosko, Betsy Maloney and Nancy Brinkman to create flowers for each guild member be creative with over the guild year.

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2nd Vice Presidents Betsy Maloney, Libby Sturdy, and Linda Kennedy have met twice about programs for 2021-2022. The programs are largely planned with many great plans in motion but Betsy reminded the members that their ideas are always welcome if members have something special they would like to suggest.

Membership Chair Cindy Vander Woude was thrilled with so many guild members coming back and stated that we currently have 39 members and 4 honorary members. Membership directory will be in a digital form and all members are encouraged to provide photos of themselves and let Cindy know if they have changes to information such as elimination of land lines.

Media/Communications Coordinator Jennifer Shekaran reported on her efforts. 17 of 43 members are signed up on the Facebook page which is safe and secure and a great way to share and connect. Kennette Bledsoe is working with Jennifer as a second administrator for the HEG Facebook page. The HEG website is now up and running and Jennifer will be developing it over time. Jennifer shared that the new communication mode with HEG email addresses for communicating has been very successful. Jennifer thanked Sue Rous for providing feedback on the emails she received.

Hospitality Chairs Marie Dold and Aline Schamberger will be making coffee when we are able to meet again in person.

There was no Old Business.

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New Business included presentation of the slate of officers with thanks to the nominating committee Judy Ellison and Betsy Maloney. The slate was presented on the agenda sent out via email and included Lois Dick as President; 2nd Vice Presidents Betsy Maloney, Libby Sturdy, and Linda Kennedy; Judy Ellison as Secretary. Jennifer Shekaran moved and Sue Rous seconded the motion to accept the slate. The motion passed.

Facebook rules were presented by Jennifer and reviewed by the membership. Judy Ellison moved to accept the rules as presented with a second by Linda Kennedy. The motion carried.

Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild now has a post office box as a place to send class fees and other guild correspondence. Guild members should note that the Hinsdale Post Office has its own zip code – 60522.. Guild members are encouraged to let Lois, Coleen, and Judy know if they feel anything needs to be revised.

By-laws revisions will be done by Lois Dick, Coleen Walter, and Judy Ellison. Guild members are encouraged to let Lois, Coleen, and Judy know if they feel anything needs to be revised.

There being no other business the business meeting was adjourned at 10:24 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Ellison, Secretary



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The Chatelaine is published 3 times per year (September, January, and April) by the Hinsdale Embroidery Guild. It is emailed to all members as a PDF. The editor welcomes comments, inputs and story items. Please send them to the editor by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

Editor: Jennifer Shekaran

E-mail HEGCommunications@gmail.com



Credits:

- to https://imgbin.com/ for sewing icons;
- Kennette Bledsoe for scanning all the Program pictures
- http://canva.com for tools to create this newsletter

The Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild

MEMBERSHIP in the Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild is open to all embroiderers. New and renewing dues payments should be sent to

ATTN: Membership Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild PO Box 165 Hinsdale, IL 60522

ANNUAL DUES for the Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild of \$50 include

- 3 issues of The Chatelaine
- Chapter meetings and programs
- M & M Meetings
- Member Book with Member Directory

NAME TAGS are worn to each meeting and should be stitched by the wearing member.

GUESTS are welcome at all meetings.

GUILD WORKSHOPS by artisans contracted by the Guild follow most monthly meetings (after lunch) and are paid for by participants. In the event a workshop is not full, enrollment may be opened to non-guild members.

MEETING CANCELLATION: In the event a meeting must be cancelled, members will be notified via email.

Please note that all inperson Meetings and Workshops are being held on Zoom until further notice.



MEETINGS are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 9:00 AM at the Western Springs Baptist Church, 4475 Wolf Rd, Western Springs, IL. From 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM is reserved for chatting, coffee and nibbles provided by member hostesses. Meetings are called to order at 9:30 AM.

M & M Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month 9:30-12:00 and is hosted at members' homes. Members bring and work on a project of their choosing. Coffee, tea and lots of chatting while admiring each other's work are the agenda for these meetings.

The Hinsdale Embroiderers' Guild Officers and Chairs

President Lois Dick	HEGPres@gmail.com
1st/2nd VP Betsy Maloney	HEGVicePresident@gmail.com
1st VP Sue Bosco	. HEGVicePresident@gmail.com
2nd VP Linda Kennedy	. HEGVicePresident@gmail.com
2nd VP Libby Sturdy	. HEGVicePresident@gmail.com
Secretary Judy Ellison	. HEGSecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer Coleen Walter	HEGTreasurer@gmail.com
Communications Jennifer Shekaran	. HEGCommunications@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor Jennifer Shekaran	. HEGCommunications@gmail.com
Webmaster Jennifer Shekaran	. HEGCommunications@gmail.com
Historian Monica Kent	. HEGHistorian@gmail.com
Hospitality Marie Dold	. HEGHospitality@gmail.com
Hospitality Aline Schamburger	. HEGHospitality@gmail.com
Membership Cynthia Vander Woude .	. HEGMembership@gmail.com