

Volume 13 Issue # 2  
November 2003

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
FOR GATEWAY CHAPTER**

American Needlepoint Guild

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*All Gateway Chapter ANG events are at  
the Ladue Chapel - Fellowship Hall South  
unless otherwise noted*

**November**

**November 13th 7:00 PM**

**Board Meeting** Maureen Clever's Home

**November 15 - 9:30 AM**

**Saturday Stitch-In**

**November 20<sup>th</sup> - 6:30PM**

**Evening Meeting – Program** "Twisted  
Cord Techniques" & stitches of the month

**November 24<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 AM**

**Day Meeting - Program** same as  
Evening meeting

**November 26<sup>th</sup>**

Holiday Luncheon Reservation deadline

**December**

**December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Michelle Roberts Pilot Class Sign-Up  
deadline

**December 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM**

**Evening Stitch-In** No Formal Program

**December 21<sup>st</sup>** No Day Meeting

**December 21 & 22<sup>nd</sup> Borders Gift-  
Wrapping Fundraiser**

The chapter calendar and Needlenotes are on-line at [www.needlepoint-stlouis.org](http://www.needlepoint-stlouis.org)  
If you would like to receive an email notification when the newsletter is posted to our Web site please send your email address to [sharonkey@brick.net](mailto:sharonkey@brick.net) or [SLN1132@earthlink.net](mailto:SLN1132@earthlink.net). You will not be mailed a hard copy of the newsletter but will receive the newsletter quicker via the Internet.

# NEEDLENOTES



## President's Message:

Dear Fellow Stitchers,

This past week has been beautiful with the bright sunny days, blue skies, and the brilliant changing colors of the leaves. Of course, now that it is fall we realize that we will soon be entering the holiday season.

Be sure to save some time in this busy season for our Gateway Chapter's fundraising project of wrapping gifts at Borders. Join fellow Gateway Chapter, ANG and Show-Me Stitchers, EGA members at our holiday lunch. It will be the first time we have had a joint celebration. It will afford us the opportunity to share time with others that share our enjoyment of stitching.

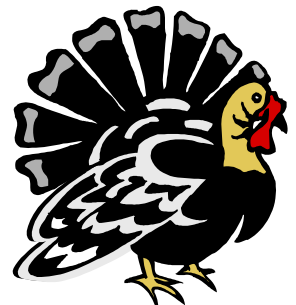
Michele Roberts will be here in February to lead us in a pilot class. This is a first for our chapter. Participating members will be the first class to whom this project is taught. Michele has chosen this project for her Royal School of Needlework Certification. I hope that many of us will be able to attend this class that should be great fun with Michele who is a well-known teacher as well as a plural member of our chapter.

We have much to look forward to and my hope is that we will all take time to enjoy this season while we get involved with all the necessary preparations.

In stitches,

Pat

# Happy Thanksgiving



## **KUDOS TO:**

- ❖ Denise Beusen for teaching the October "Stitch of the Month" Program, being the Needlepoint Pointer's newsletter contributor, and for the fantastic "Stitch & Finish A Picture Frame" article featured in the November issue of Needlepointers magazine
- ❖ LaMonna Brown teaching the "Stitching Notebook Class"
- ❖ Barb O'Connell for teaching the September "Stitch of the Month" Program
- ❖ Linda Elkow for her wonderful Membership contribution

## **Fundraiser Reminder – Kay Schmitt**

Our major chapter fundraiser will be our gift-wrapping at Borders. We still need volunteers for Sunday, December 21, 9:00 to 2:00, and Monday, December 22, 2:00 to 6:00. Both days are divided into two shifts. The sign-up sheet will be at every meeting. We need YOU. Please find time for one shift.

## **National ANG Statistics**

Did you know that .....

- ❖ Membership in ANG: 10,121
- ❖ Names on this mailing list: 4632
- ❖ Subscribers to the ANG email discussion list: 1313
- ❖ Members who have enrolled in one or more ANG Cyber Workshops: 1684

UPDATED STATISTICS: As of October 12, 2003

## **National Teachers 2004 -2005 - Barb O'Connell**

It's time to consider which National teachers our Guild would like to host in 2004-2005 and beyond. Please contact me with your interests. Some suggestions from members are; Ruthmarie Hoffman, Orna Willis, Ann Strite-Kurz, and Anna-Marie Winter. How about Amy Bunger or Meredith Barnhill? I will contact the top three National teachers whom our Guild is interested in.

## **SHOP NEWS:**

### **Shamrock Cross Stitch:**

New line of accessories and totes make wonderful gifts. Lots of new books and patterns. Full line of Thread Gatherers, Caron Collection – Wildflowers and Watercolors. Many Sudberry boxes and trays; no finishing needed on them.

### **Marni's:**

Webster Christmas Walk is Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>. Stop by for a festive time. Remember Marni's for your finishing needs.

### **Needlepoint Etc., Inc.:**

Stop by and visit our shop we have lots to interest the stitcher at heart.

### **threadquarters:**

Elizabeth Turner Collection Trunk Show Nov. 1 – 30. See the largest collection of belt, purse and shoes canvases plus brick covers, picture frames, pillows and more!

Bring 3 canned food items (or any non-perishable items) for donation to the Jewish Food Pantry and receive 15% off your trunk show purchase. threadquarters will stay open until 8:00pm on Thurs., Nov. 6, and Thurs., Dec. 4.

We will be closed Dec. 24 - 26 for the Christmas Holiday.

## **PROGRAMS UPDATE** – Barb O'Connell

### **November and December Programs**

LaMona Brown inspired all who attended her October 18 "Stitching Notebook Class" to get our stash organized. She presented many ways to compile stitch related notebooks including a "get real" look into all of our unfinished projects and how to learn from them even if we don't complete them. Thank you, LaMona.

Pat Girraffa will teach the three November SOTM (stitches-of-the-month). They are Four-Way Continental, Alisha's Lace, and Braided Knitting. An educational video will follow. If you were unable to attend the Sept. and Oct. meetings, extra copies of the SOTM will be available at all November meetings. A special "Thank you" to Denise Beusen for teaching the October stitches.

During our November meetings we will have sign-ups for the Birthday Gemstone project that we will stitch at our January 2004 meetings. These small, wearable designs can be viewed on the National Academy of Needlearts website, [www.needleart.org/](http://www.needleart.org/) Click on "Free Patterns" and then on "Gemstones". Color copies of the birthstone ornaments will be at all November meetings.

We will not have a formal program in December. Please join us for a stitch-in at Ladue Chapel on Thursday, Dec. 18 from 6:30—9p.m. Hope to see all of you at our joint EGA/ANG Holiday party on December 6 and our Chapter fund-raisers at Borders.

Nationally and Internationally renowned needle artist, designer, and historian, Michele Roberts, will teach classes on Sat., Feb., 21 and Sun., Feb. 22 at the Town & Country Municipal Center. Sign-up will run through Dec. 1, 2003. Michele will teach a pilot class that emphasizes shading techniques with several different threads. This lovely, original piece is a pictorial that Michele presented to The Royal School of Needlework in England for her certification with them. Since this is a class that has never been taught before, we are unable to advertise the name of the piece or any specific details of the threads or stitches we will learn in this Newsletter. Information about this beautiful piece will be at all November meetings or you can e-mail or phone me for more details. Cost of this class is \$80.00, which includes kit fees. A member of the Gateway Chapter board must receive your check before a place is held for you. Class size is limited to 22 participants. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to study with Michele.

Michele will also present lectures at our February meetings. The Thursday evening lecture (Feb. 19, 2004) will be "Goldwork History and Materials" and the Monday morning lecture (Feb. 23) will be "Silk History and Materials". There is no cost to attend these lectures.

### **Holiday Memories** – Suzanne Nielsen

Life is full of memories and we all have some favorite holiday ones. I think as one prepares for the holidays we think of our childhood memories. Here are some of mine. My mom always had a ham, swiss cheese, and rye bread in the house for the holidays, along with homemade cookies and fruitcakes. My grandma made the best Anise cookies. To this day I have not found any as good as hers. Probably for a reason...they're not my grandma's. My Aunt Rose baked a huge Christmas stolen in the shape of a Christmas tree and would deliver it on Christmas Eve morning. We always had lasagna on Christmas Eve (my father is German and my mother is Irish), but we wanted her lasagna, because it was the best. We would go to Christmas Eve mass; I would sing in the choir and my brother served the mass. I would always wonder if Santa had visited our house while we were at church. The Sunday before Christmas putting wreaths on the family graves at Calvary and JB cemeteries was always a tradition I still do this with my parents. Waking up at the crack of dawn and waiting for Dad to go in the living room to turn on the tree lights before we went in, seemed like an eternity. I remember the neighborhood Christmas Caroling parties, and Mom always took me to the big movie theatre during the Christmas break. Collecting food and presents for the poor and stuffing the baskets that would be delivered to them is also a fond memory.

Take time to reflect upon your memories, cherish and be thankful for them and do not stop creating memories in other people's lives around you. Stitch some memories today!

***Where do I go to learn more about needlepoint?***

This is the first of a series of articles aimed at summarizing needlepoint resources for new members (and a reminder for everyone else). This article will concern itself with information about classes. In a class, you will stitch a piece, learning stitches and techniques, possibly learn some color theory, have an opportunity to change/select colors and threads, or possibly cover some design theory. In a second type of stitching class, you might develop a notebook of stitched samples based on a theme such as types of stitches (diagonal stitches, crossed stitches), a way to use stitches (clothing, architectural detail), types of thread (silks, metallics) and so on. Another type of class consists of a lecture on needlework history or an overview of a needlework topic such as compensation or visual blending, or the class could be a series of lessons and exercises on color, design, or other topics of interest to needle workers.

**Gateway Chapter, ANG** - Programs are planned for the year (September thru May) by our Program Chairman, who is always open for input from members for future program ideas. For specific information about upcoming programs, see our Needlenotes newsletter and our Web site at [www.needlepoint-stlouis.org](http://www.needlepoint-stlouis.org).

- **Monthly Meeting** - A program that might be a small stitched project presented by a fellow Gateway Chapter member, a lecture by a member, or a video lecture. Meeting programs this year (2003-2004) include a video about Twisted Cord Techniques, a small stitched project, "Gemstones" from the NAN website (choose the gemstone from your birth month to stitch), a lecture by Michele Roberts, a color lecture, and more.
- **Correspondence Course** - Selected from the offerings of ANG National, a local leader offers guidance to stitch the project, and then the completed project can be sent back to the correspondence course teacher for evaluation and comments. The Gateway Chapter tries to offer at least one correspondence course a year.
- **Two-Day Class with a nationally known teacher** - Once or twice a year, the Gateway Chapter sponsors a workshop with a nationally known teacher. Here is an opportunity to stitch the kind of project taught at ANG National Seminars, but without the travel and hotel costs. Michele Roberts is scheduled to teach a piece February 21 and 22, 2004.

**American Needlepoint Guild** - ANG offers a variety of great educational opportunities; go to the ANG Web site at [www.needlepoint.org](http://www.needlepoint.org), or open your latest Needle Pointers and check it out.

- **Correspondence Courses** - In addition to being offered by Gateway Chapter as a group opportunity, correspondence courses are available to individuals. Information is mailed to all members every two years, and the offerings are also listed on the ANG website. Correspondence courses are great because you can get your work evaluated by the teacher.
- **CyberWorkshops** - These offer students a chance to interact via e-mail with a teacher and fellow students. The CyberWorkshop is conducted via a private, dedicated mailing list on which the class teacher will post instructions, stitching hints, and guidance on a regular basis. Students can also post questions. ANG offers six cyber workshops a year. The finished piece is not evaluated by the teacher.
- **Workshop by Mail** - Through the Workshop by Mail program, ANG members can purchase instructions for teaching pieces that aren't available on the retail market. Each stitcher provides his/her own stitching materials. There is no interaction with the teacher. In 2004 there will be two workshop by mail projects, "Blossoms and Berries" by designer Genny Morrow and "New York City Pocket" by designer Betty Chen Louis.
- **National Seminar** - Seminar is offered sometime in the fall (the next two are Reno, Nevada, September 24 – October 3, 2004 and Nashville, Tennessee, September 30 – October 9, 2005). A brochure detailing the courses is mailed to all ANG members the spring before Seminar, and the same information posted on the ANG website. The ten-day seminar offers a wide variety of four, two, one and half-day classes, plus tours, a bookstore a needlework exhibit, needlework shop, needlework expo, and other events. If you're interested in attending a Seminar, ask members who've attended for tips on what to expect, what classes to take for your stitching level, inside scoop on teachers, and any other questions you might have. (continued on page 5)

(Membership continued from page 4)

- **Other ANG Guilds** - If you travel a lot or spend your year split between St. Louis and a retirement spot, you may be able to take a workshop offered by another ANG chapter. If you're interested in pursuing this option, the ANG Web site has calendar information about some Guild activities, and contacts for all local guilds.
- **Local shops** - Our local needlework shops also offer classes taught by local and national teachers. You can find out about these by visiting the shops or their Web sites, or by reading the shop information in NeedleNotes and our chapter Web site.
- **National Academy of Needlearts (NAN)** - Kansas City, Missouri. Each year NAN holds an Assembly for Embroiderers in early spring, offering classes in a variety of embroidery styles and techniques. Information can be found on their Web site at [www.needleart.org](http://www.needleart.org), or contact them for a brochure. The next Assembly is March 20-23, 2004 and the registration deadline is January 25, 2004. Along with the Assembly, NAN offers an exhibit called the Exemplary, merchandise night, and tours, including one in 2004 aimed at non-stitching spouses. Many of the teachers will be familiar from ANG Seminars. Classes are two or four days.
- **National Counted Cross Stitch Show** - Rockome Gardens, Arcola, Illinois. Offered annually in early June, the National Counted Cross Stitch Show (despite its name), offers lots of classes that are more than just cross stitch, encompassing various counted thread techniques such as blackwork, pulled work, Hardanger, bargello, and silk gauze. They also offer general technique classes such as finishing, transfer techniques and design classes. The teachers are different than we see at ANG National and usually include local shop owner Connie Ewbank teaching a class or two. Most classes are half-day or less, with some one-day classes. The Web site is [www.rockome.com/Html/stitch/xstitch.html](http://www.rockome.com/Html/stitch/xstitch.html) and next year's dates are June 4 - 13, 2004. The show includes not just the classes but an exhibit, a merchandise mall, and an evening program schedule called "Country Evenings."
- **Callaway School of Needlearts** - Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia. This is another annual seminar of classes and exhibits. Their Web site at [www.callawaygardens.com/events/jan\\_feb/needlearts.htm](http://www.callawaygardens.com/events/jan_feb/needlearts.htm) does not have complete registration information, so you'll need to call 1-800-7-NEEDLE for a brochure. They offer one, two, and four-day classes, and you'll see lots of teachers from the ANG Seminar classes. Rates are based on a 5-night package of room, board, and classes. The dates of the next seminar are January 12 - 20, 2004. The Georgia Chapter of EGA sponsors an exhibit and merchandise night. Deadline for the entry form for the 2004 exhibit is January 5, 2004.
- **Hotel Pattee** - Perry, Iowa. Elizabeth Elvin, Principal of London's Royal School of Needlework offers classes at various times of the year. The hotel Web site is [www.hotelpattee.com](http://www.hotelpattee.com), but for information about the classes, get on the mailing list. The most recent classes were October 27 - 31, 2003.
- **Embroidery Guild of America (EGA)** - In a manner similar to ANG, EGA offers its members a variety of classes in various venues, including classes offered through local chapters, individual correspondence courses, and national and regional seminars. For more information, see EGA's Web site at [www.egausa.org](http://www.egausa.org).
- **Cyber classes offered by teachers** - This is a fairly recent development; the exact format varies by teacher. You can track these down by searching ads in magazines such as *Needle Pointers*, *needlepoint now* or Web sites of the teachers.
- **Commercial Festivals, Classes and Trips** - Offered by shops and organizations across the country and abroad. You can track these down by searching ads in magazines such as *needlepoint now* or Web sites of the various shops and organizations.

**Membership Notes:** Linda Elkow

Welcome to two new members, Nancy Klinker and Mickey Knutson.

The following annual membership renewals are due now. (thanks to Jean for renewing early)

Barb Fennell	Audrey Melton	Jean Negro	Linda Rotskoff
Kathleen Graham	Margaret Nedeau	Phyllis Playl	Jen Terrace
Mary Carol Kluesner			

Looking ahead: membership renewals due by January 2, 2004.

Linda Bryant	Jane Cornue	Barbara Furman	Barb Smith
Susan Cauttrell	Jane Ermer	Judy Hayden	Arlene H. Strawn
Eileen Chalk	Evlyn Fulton	Rosemary Robinson	Sandra Vandervelt

Please send your check for \$46 by November 3 to:

Linda Elkow

Gateway Chapter ANG Membership

448 Gabriel Drive

St. Louis, MO 63122

Plural and life member's dues of \$17.00 due by January 2, 2004.

Denise Beusen	Anne Carol Goldberg	Margaret Orend	Michele Roberts
Ellen Cooley	Linda Murphey	Felicite Pollnow	Peggy Weltmer

**ANG-EGA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON** – Maureen Clever

FABULOUS news for everyone....you are all invited to an historical event...the FIRST EVER joint ANG-EGA Holiday Luncheon!! This historic premiere event will take place on Saturday, December 6...I believe that is also St. Nicks Day! The place is the St. Louis Mariott West, located on Maryville Centre Drive...The time is 11:00 am and the cost is \$20 per person. Reserve your spot by sending a check made out to the ANG-Gateway Chapter to me at: 17 Country Aire St. Louis MO 63131. Reservations need to be received by November the 26th.....This promises to be a super event, and it won't be a party unless YOU are there! There will be a hand-stitched Christmas ornament exchange at the party, which is completely optional, but all are invited to participate---just bring your ornament along to the party.

Also, anyone who wishes to participate in donating small toiletry items to the Woman's Shelter in St. Charles, bring these items to the party. There are cloth bags available at the ANG meetings, but you can also just bring the items to the party. Here is a list of the items requested: soap, lotion, toothbrush and paste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, comb, brush, chap stick, mouthwash, hairspray, personal hygiene items, journal and pen, nail care items, q-tips, washcloth, breath mints and hard candies. For children's bags: coloring books, activity books, crayons, markers, safety scissors, construction paper, glue sticks, simple games and puzzles, bubble bath and bubbles....Invitations are in the mail, so please save the date for a wonderful and historic party! Take care, and I'm looking forward to seeing everybody!



## NEEDLEPOINTER'S POINTERS

For this edition, Denise Beusen is featured as the "Needlepointer's Pointers"



### Bookin' it at Seminar

Every year I set aside a finite amount of cash to spend at the seminar bookstore. I love books, and without a fixed limit, I could fill my van for the trip home and be forced to forward the dirty laundry via UPS. This year's store, once again run by Ruth Kern, was fabulous. I could have easily spent 3 times as much as I did. Ruth is so good at what she does because she loves the field and knows that those used and out of print books are still in demand.

Here are the ones that found a good home this year:

- ***World of Embroidery by Jan Messent.*** If you've never read a book by this author, go straight to the St. Louis County Library and pull one out of the stacks. Most of her books are targeted at stitchers who want to edge over the line from working directions exactly as written into something more self-expressive. She uses art of other cultures as a way to talk subliminally about the aspects of design that intimidate all of us, and in the process makes you believe you can do it!
- ***African Art in Needlework by Leslie Tillet.*** My husband and I were preparing for our trip to Africa last year at this time. What can I say? Once the Africa bug bites you, it becomes a raging contagion.
- ***The Textile Colorist by Faber Birren.*** This one falls under my "if it talks about color AND textiles, buy it" rule. It's a short book that takes the simple aspects of color theory and discusses them in the context of threads and yarn. Good illustrations and big print... My kind of book.
- ***More Needlepoint from America's Great Quilt Designs by Mary Kay Davis and Helen Giammattei.*** Second of two books that shows the crossover between needlepoint and quilting. I've lusted after this book for many years - a great one to read while hunkered down under a quilt in your bed.
- ***Using Design Basics to Get Creative Results by Bryan L. Peterson.*** Another accession in my elusive search for a 12-step program on how to design. This one looks better than most, since it's short, includes exercises, and actually guides the reader from concepts like line and unity to a design.
- ***Mastering the Art of Pulled Thread Embroidery by Ilse Altherr.*** I admit to an obsession for owning every book ever published on the top of pulled thread embroidery. This one is a must-have: good diagrams and intriguing patterns...Oh yeah...her name is pronounced, "alt-AIR".
- ***Danish Pulled Thread Embroidery by E. Fangel, I. Winckler, and A.W. Madsen.*** See entry above. Note: I did not come home with ALL of the pulled thread books in the store, so I'll have to go back next year. The photos of worked samples are astounding. Not all are diagrammed, however, so some reverse engineering will be required for reproduction.
- ***The Needlework Doctor: How to Solve Every Kind of Needlework Problem by Mary Kay Davis.*** Who among us is such a perfect stitcher that they could resist this title? It's been on my most-wanted list for years and is out of print, so I snapped it up.
- And of course, the new ***ANG Stitch Book II.*** I remember curling up in bed with *Stitch Book I*, devouring all the "insider" info about stitching from dozens of experts. This one will be every bit as engrossing.

As you can see, none of these was an "impulse" purchase. There were reasons that each one had to come home with me. Pruning the initial stack down to just these few was a big, big challenge...but then, this year's missed opportunities are already beckoning as possibilities for next.

## See you in Reno!

**CELEBRITY ARTICLE – Suzanne Nielsen**  
**“Mother Knows Best”**

Actress Debra Jo Rupp has joined the elite pantheon of TV moms: her Kitty Forman on *That '70s Show* can bake and solve problems with the best of them! (In fact, devotees of the show know that when Kitty is stressed, she cooks – and cooks -- and cooks!) In person, the petite actress has a surefire, nonfattening stress reliever that she carries with her everywhere: needlepoint.

Rupp was first introduced to needlepoint by her best friend when she was trying to stop smoking, a process she describes this way: "...Basically you have two choices: you can either eat and gain 200 pounds, or you can kill yourself." Needlepoint, she explains, is somewhere in the middle. Every Saturday morning, Rupp rushes to her favorite needlepoint store, *A Stitch in Time*, to attend class -- and, more important, to spend time with her classmates, a group of needlepoint enthusiasts who enjoy the socializing about as much as they enjoy the stitching.

Rupp and her needlepoint guru, Marcia Gould, explain a very basic -- and valuable -- technique to help avoid unsightly knots on the back of the canvas:

Tie a knot in the end of the yarn, but insert the needle from the outside of the canvas near where you plan to begin stitching; pull the knot until it rests firmly against the surface.

Several threads away from the knot, bring the needle up from underneath the canvas and begin stitching (figure A), burying the tail of yarn as you continue down the row. When you reach the knot, carefully cut it away with scissors. The yarn is secured under the first row of stitches -- with no knot to distort your work.

(Note: The following figures are not shown here. Go to the Web site listed below.)

One of Rupp's favorite stitches is the Byzantine stitch, shown on the chart on the right side of figure B; the left side of the image shows how the chart relates to a piece of needlepoint canvas. Each square on a needlepoint chart represents one space on the canvas. The needle is inserted in a space and brought diagonally across another space (or a number of spaces, according to the chart) to create a stitch. A finished row of Byzantine stitch is shown in figure C.

To view this article and figures online, go to

**[http://www1.diy.net.com/diy/na\\_other/article/0,2025,DIY\\_14142\\_2278172,00.html](http://www1.diy.net.com/diy/na_other/article/0,2025,DIY_14142_2278172,00.html)**

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We're thrilled that you like our content. Good luck with your American Needlepoint Guild newsletter.

Sincerely,

Don Berry

Managing Editor, [DIYnet.com](http://DIYnet.com)

Phone: 865-560-4520

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E-mail: [dberry@diy.net.com](mailto:dberry@diy.net.com)

Website: [www.DIYnet.com](http://www.DIYnet.com) (2003 two-time Webby Awards {registered} winner in the Living and People's Choice categories!)

Please support these merchants. They provide this newsletter.

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## Gateway Chapter Officers

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Send change of address notifications to the **Membership** chair. There is no need to send separate, additional address change forms to the **Treasurer** and/or the **Newsletter Editor**.

Membership in the Gateway Chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild is open to all needlepointers from beginner to professional. Prospective members may attend two membership meetings and receive two copies of the newsletter before being asked to pay dues.

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### NEEDLENOTES

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