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## March 2026 Newsletter

Welcome! We are the San Diego chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild. We meet monthly to share our love of stitching and welcome all who share our passion, from beginners to needlepoint designers. We offer workshops with nationally known designers, open stitching opportunities, and great conversation with like-minded people. Please join us.

## Connect with us, Meet with us, Stitch with us!

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### CHAPTER MEETINGS

- **Monthly Chapter Meetings (Hybrid: In Person & via Zoom)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month @ 6:30pm PST

**In Person San Diego Location:** North Clairemont Recreation Center, 4421 Bannock Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117

**Join Zoom:** See body of e-mail for zoom link.

- **Sunday Social Stitching (via Zoom)**

Every Other Sunday @ 12:00pm PST

Hosted by Jo Ann Jackson & Jennifer Kiss

**Join Zoom:** See body of e-mail for zoom link.

- **Friday Social Stitching (via Zoom)**

Every 2 weeks on Fridays @ 7:30pm PST

Hosted by Margi Thornburgh & Heather Cowan

**Join Zoom:** See body of e-mail for zoom link.

- **Thursday Social Stitching (In Person)**

First Thursdays in San Diego @ 10:00am-2:00pm PST

**In Person San Diego Location:** North Clairemont Recreation Center, 4421 Bannock Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117



President: Jan Woolsey

Vice President – Programs: Pamela Blumberg

Vice President – Membership: Kimberly Scott

Secretary: Sheryl Forster

Treasurer: Catherine Salamon

Workshop Co-Chairs: Joanne Einhorn and Chris Loudon

Technology & Social Media Team: Shirley Chin and Jeannie Roehrs

Donations Chair: Susan Driscoll-Bannister

Newsletter Editor: Lindsay Kimmach

## President's Report:

First, a quick thank you and update from me ... many of you have called or emailed me to check on my surgery that was scheduled for late last month. I hope that it has only been postponed, but due to an issue with low platelets, my surgeon elected to pull the plug when we went to the pre-op and so it was cancelled. I'm waiting with bated breath to get an appointment with a different surgeon that I was referred to. Thank you to all who have reached out ... it was a false alarm as it were!



Happy St. Patrick's Day month – can you believe that it is already March, 2026!? It seems like we were just celebrating the holidays and here we are nearly a quarter of the year into this “new” year. Time has simply sped by for me. As we make our way into the month of March, I have been thinking about how the St. Patrick's Day celebration came to be. Every year on March 17, the world turns a little greener—literally! From parades packed with leprechauns to rivers dyed emerald, St. Patrick's Day is a celebration like no other.

I knew that St. Patrick is an actual Catholic saint and that it still has some religious symbolism in Ireland. What I didn't know is that New York's St. Patrick's Day parade is known as the world's oldest and largest parade having been started in the 1760's by a group of Irishmen serving in the British army in New York City.



Last year, I lost a good stitching friend who was of (proud) Irish descent. I just finished a small little cross stitch piece that she had started for her brother and never finished ... all I need to do is to get the backing installed and ship it off to him so that he will have it by the 17<sup>th</sup> (I hope)!

The shamrocks in this design are typical luck of the Irish fare, but it forced me to do a bit of research into the Celtic knot used as the “O” in Shamrock. Celtic knots are ancient, intertwined patterns without beginning or end, symbolizing eternity, interconnectedness, and the cycle of life. Dating back to the 3rd–8th centuries, these, Celtic designs often represent themes of love, faith, and friendship.

Stitchers have an interconnectedness through our love of stitching and the friendships that we forge while stitching together in a meeting, over Zoom or in person. I've had many people say that they can pick up a piece that they stitched and remember who they were with when they stitched it whether it be in a class or workshop setting, or more informal stitching like our monthly in-person stitching or the weekly Zoom stitching offered by the chapter. Sealing our work with the laughter and encouragement of others is a blessing that we give ourselves and one another. I hope each of you will find the time to stitch with friends over the next month and to think about what you are stitching so that you might seal those memories into your work!

As we approach this holiday I think of my friend Pat with great fondness. One of her favorite proverbs was the Irish Blessing shared below.

### **Irish Blessing**

May the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

When translated from Irish to English it is pretty understandable, but was meant to be a blessing for an easy journey through life without major obstacles; a wish for support, encouragement and good things to come; the warmth of faith and friendship; sufficient rain to grow your crops and to ensure plenty of food to sustain you; and a plea for safety, protection and a future reunion down the road.

As many of us are scattered across the U.S. and into Canada and beyond, it is my wish for us to meet again someday – here in San Diego, at a Seminar, or elsewhere! For those traveling to the area, please let us know when you will be here and whether you'd have a bit of time to come and stitch with us as we always love the opportunity to see our remote members when they come to town!

So, no matter how you celebrate (or even if you don't) Happy St. Patrick's Day to each of you ... stay warm and keep stitching!  
Jan

p.s. – if you have not already decided about the Denver Seminar, it is not too late. While some of the classes have been fully booked, they are accepting a waitlist, and we have so much fun planned. SDANG will once again host our hospitality suite, and we would love to meet our members that we don't see often to get to know you and to allow you to get to know us. Please check out the Seminar page on the ANG website:

<https://www.needlepoint.org/page/2026Seminar>

## Upcoming Programs:

### March Program - Stitching in Your Nest: A Tour with Marianne Randall

Ever wonder how to optimize your stitching environment? This month, we are venturing into the “nest” of Marianne Randall. Marianne will provide an inside look at how she has curated a comfortable and efficient stitching space.

#### Key Highlights:

- Lighting Solutions: Learn how to reduce eye strain and see your colors accurately.
- Thread Organization: Strategies for keeping your stash accessible and tidy.
- The “Comfy” Factor: Tips on setting up an ergonomic environment for hours of happy stitching.



## 2026 SDANG THEME:

# STITCHING IN YOUR NEST

Last year, our focus was on exploring stitching while traveling the world. This year, we're bringing the spotlight **home**.

We'll feature one member each month and highlight the “nest” where they stitch.

We look forward to sharing these stories and learning from our members throughout the year.

## March's Nest is Catherine Salamon's:



Catherine takes advantage of San Diego's weather by having an indoor and outdoor nest! The areas also allow her standing and sitting options.



Catherine's organization includes the above cabinets with boxes and bags to organize threads by fiber type.



Here are the details of her organization, using nesting bags and metal rings to organize groups or sets of threads. And, each project has an assigned snap-tray to collect project specific materials.



She enjoys using natural threads (think wool, silk and cottons). And, she's experimenting with dyeing her own silk ribbons as well as spinning her own wool threads...how wonderful!

## Membership Status:

The Chapter has 184 members!

*happy birthday!*

*Welcome  
New  
Members!*

Susan (Sally) Stavers  
Patricia Yelich

Collette Canavan 03-02  
Annelle Colevins 03-02  
Patty Coughlin 03-03  
Nancy Holub 03-03  
Pat Crane 03-08  
Pam Pechalk 03-09  
Jane Cornue 03-11  
Karen Stephens 03-11  
Christin Loudon 03-14

Carla Hamilton 03-19  
Pat Kutzbach 03-20  
Crystal Mead 03-22  
Patricia Weed 03-26  
Theresa Swiecicki 03-26  
Barbara Haire 03-27  
Linda Alderman 03-28  
Kate Sparks 03-29  
Deborah Thomas 03-31

## Treasurer's Corner:

Treasurer's Report for February 28, 2026			
Balances as of 02/28/26			
Petty Cash		\$107.00	
PayPal	\$ 412.89		
Note - Paypal fees through 12-31-2025			\$ 321.05
Subtotal PayPal		\$412.89	
<b>SDCCU</b>			
Small Business Checking	\$4,511.93		
Money Market Max	\$6,222.63		
Certificate of Deposit	\$10,202.11		
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,021.77		
Primary Savings	\$1		
Subtotal SDCCU		\$25,959.44	
<b>Total Balances</b>		<b>\$26,479.33</b>	
Prepaid Membership	\$3,460.21		Includes \$2,762.04 in future lifetime dues for 7 members
1) 2025 membership dues reflects \$1,168.39 received in previous years.			
2) We sold all 60 kits for the Wendy Moore Program. After underwriting, the program cost the chapter \$1,225.23 (net of kit fees collected).			
3) We had 14 participate for the Ruby Sue Pilot, of which we gained two new members. Total cost of the pilot was under \$700 (well under the \$1500 budgeted for workshop underwriting).			
4) We sent two boxes of our donated "stash" to be sold on behalf of the chapter. Our Inkind Donations reflect all of the sales for the year.			
5) We had 24 participants purchase tickets for the Holiday party (2 members had to cancel and we didn't charge them for their tickets since they were going to pay at the door); we have collected for 17 books with two more that have been invoiced and will be collected in 2026.			
6) We still have SD ANG magnets, pin sets and SDANG Logo Name Tags available for purchase - contact Jan / Catherine at <a href="mailto:treasurer@sdang.org">treasurer@sdang.org</a> to purchase them			



## Special Announcements:

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

**Great SDANG Workshop News:** The Chapter will host one workshop taught by **Sandie Cormaci-Boles** this summer and two **Toni Gerdes** pilot classes in the fall!

Save the dates for our Summer Workshop: August 8 & 9, 2026.



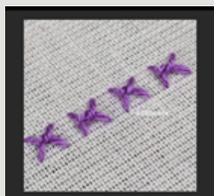
Ghost stitchers will be allowed; more details will be released shortly. It will be a fun project for both beginning and intermediate stitchers.

We'll also have more information about Toni's pilot classes as they develop. As always with Toni's Pilot Classes, they will be taught in person only. We'll give you plenty of time to make travel plans if you are one of our distance members.

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## RSN STITCH BANK

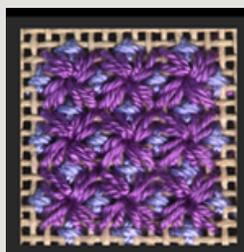
As you know, we're donating money to the Royal School of Needlework stitch bank Royal School of Needlework Stitch Bank (RSN) to sponsor a stitch and here are 3 choices:



**Sieneese** - This stitch consists of parallel straight stitches, each of which is embellished with a detached buttonhole stitch: together they form a wide textured line. It can also be used as an isolated stitch.



**Tent Trammed (Beadwork)** - This version of tent stitch is worked by threading a bead onto the working thread before making each stitch; once a length has been worked, the thread is taken through the beads to hold them firmly together. The beads sit. Tent stitch is one of the simplest canvaswork stitches: it is worked in a diagonal direction normally across one intersection of canvas. (This version is most similar to continental tent stitch as it has a long diagonal stitch on the reverse of the fabric.)



**Treble Leviathan** - This canvaswork stitch forms a textured square rosette pattern. It is created by working sets of three angled stitches from each corner of a square into the center to form rosettes; the gaps between them are filled with upright cross stitches.

Please send Shirley Chin, [Gostitch3121@gmail.com](mailto:Gostitch3121@gmail.com), your top choice by April 1, 2026. To sponsor a stitch, we need to raise £300 or approx. \$410. Submit your donation to any board member and make out checks to SDANG. You can mail them to: Jan Woolsey at 1793 Camden Pl, San Marcos, California 92069 .

Thanks for your time and donations!

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## MONTHLY TREAT SIGN-UP

Coordinator: Sandy Higgins

If you need to cancel, please contact Sandy at (858) 274-0306

March 10 - Cari Arn

April 14 - Karen Stephens

May 12 - Catherine Salamon

June 9 - Joanne Einhorn

July 14 - **OPEN** - If you would like to bring treats, please reach out to Sandy Higgins

August 11 - Lindsay Kimnach

September 8 - Marianne Randall

October 13 - Susan Driscoll-Bannister

November 10 - Jan Woolsey

December - Holiday Party!

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## Secretary's Update:

Meeting Minutes will be posted to SDANG Website: <https://sdang.org>

## Supporting the Community:



### UPCOMING SDANG STASH SALE!

If you would like to assist with the Stash Sale, please contact Susan Driscoll-Bannister.  
If you have needlepoint materials to donate, please contact Susan.

## Stay Connected with Technology & Social Media:



Be on the lookout for upcoming improvements to the SDANG website, including a **Members Only** Section: <https://sdang.org>

Connect with us on Instagram:  
<https://www.instagram.com/sandiegoang/>

## Artists Gallery:

### We want to celebrate our members' artistic talent each month!

PLEASE SEND PICTURES OF YOUR FINISHED PIECES WITH THE FOLLOWING INFO:

- YOUR NAME & LOCATION
- NAME OF THE CANVAS & DESIGNER
- DESCRIPTION & ANY STITCHES, EMBELLISHMENTS, OR TECHNIQUES USED
- IF THE PIECE IS STILL "ON THE BARS," HOW DO YOU PLAN TO FINISH IT?



Completed by Margi Thornburgh,  
Hospice Heart

Four Completed Works  
by Kate Sparks:



Heart Log  
by Kathy Rees,  
Use of Watercolors  
to add depth to  
background  
and will make into  
pillow



Wendy the Witch  
by Sign of the Arrow  
(St. Louis),  
Used Frosty Rays for  
fringe on dress and  
will make into a  
stand-up Figure



Completed by Jan Woolsey



July 2025 ANG  
Magazine:  
Patriotic Heart,  
Used beads in  
fringe around heart



2025 Angel by Sign  
of the Arrow,  
Use of Motifs in  
Angel's skirt and  
will make an  
ornament for the  
Christmas tree

# Needlepoint Resources:

FAMILY ARTS //  
**NEEDLEWORK**  
// SHOP

5555 North 7th Street / Suite 144  
Phoenix, AZ 85014  
(602) 277-0694  
email: familyarts@familyartsaz.com  
www.familyartsneedlework.com

**JULIE ELDER**  
DIRECTOR



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Valerie B. McAleenan, MNAA, AOA  
Senior Appraiser, ANG  
timelessneedlearts.com  
vmcaleenan@mac.com



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(p): 512.451.6931 | (a): 4401 Medical Pkwy. Austin, TX 78756  
(e): annette@theneedleworks.com | allyson@theneedleworks.com  
www.theneedleworks.com



**Homestead Needle Arts**  
Theresa Swiecicki

(810) 694-3040 Phone  
(810) 694-0370 Fax

8185 Holly Road, Ste. 4  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439  
[www.homesteadneedlearts.com](http://www.homesteadneedlearts.com)  
email: shop@homesteadneedlearts.com



**Vicky De Angelis**  
Owner

7719 Fay Avenue  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
www.needlenook.com

858.459.1711  
Toll Free 800-685-1711  
ndlpoint@needlenook.com