

SECTION II

BYLAWS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

(Complete review done: 4/2016)

EGA NATIONAL BYLAWS

Please go to EGA's national website to download the *EGA Bylaws*. This will assure you of getting the most up-to-date version of the document.

To find this document, go to the home page for EGA: www.egausa.org. Near the top of the home page click on the Member Login. Follow instructions to login. When complete, click on Members Only and from the pulldown menu find the Documents Download tab. Click [here](#) and go to Bylaws: National Bylaws.

The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.

Rocky Mountain Region Bylaws: 2015

ARTICLE I NAME; USE OF EGA'S TRADEMARKS

The name of this organization shall be the Rocky Mountain Region of The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. (EGA). While this region is recognized as a region of EGA, the region and its member chapters may use EGA's registered trademarks: the name "The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.," the stylized needle and thimble logo and design, and the letters "EGA," under standards approved by EGA. All use of such registered trademarks shall be discontinued upon the suspension, withdrawal of recognition, resignation, or dissolution of this region.

ARTICLE II OBJECT

The purpose of this region shall be to foster the highest standards of excellence in the practice of the art of embroidery through an active program of education and study, and to preserve the heritage of the art of embroidery, to serve as a link between chapters and the national organization, and to aid in effective cooperation and communication among its member chapters.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Rocky Mountain Region shall be composed of chapters within the geographic boundaries as defined by the EGA board of directors. Membership in a chapter confers membership in its respective region. Any person, regardless of race, gender, religion, national or ethnic origin may become a member of the individual chapters upon application and payment of dues.

Section 2. Annual region dues shall be payable to the region treasurer by the chapter treasurers. Region dues are to be concurrent with the members' national and chapter dues.

Section 3. Dues shall be set by the RMR board of directors. Those chapters whose dues are not current may, at the discretion of the executive board, have voting or other privileges suspended until all dues are paid. New member dues shall be paid to EGA and Rocky Mountain Region at the time the individual joins.

Section 4. Region dues for transfer and plural members shall be paid by the chapter to the region treasurer, provided the member's national dues are current. Plural members of the region whose primary dues are collected outside the region shall pay region dues to the member chapter with which they plural. A plural member pays region dues only once annually to each region in which the member holds a plural membership.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. The elected officers of this region shall be a region director, an assistant region director, a secretary, a treasurer and a nominating committee chairman. Officers shall be members of a chapter within the region.

Section 2. Officers shall serve for a term of 3 years (beginning in 2016), or until their successors are elected, and the term of office shall begin January first.

Section 3. No elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than 1 term in the same office, and no member shall hold more than one region elected office at a time.

Section 4. No region elected officer may serve concurrently as a region representative.

Section 5. Successive region directors shall not come from the same chapter.

Section 6. No region director may serve concurrently as a nationally elected EGA officer or director.

Section 7. The RMR director shall be a voting member of the EGA board of directors. If the director is unable to attend an EGA board of directors session, the assistant director, or a representative appointed by the RMR executive board, shall become the voting RMR representative member at the meeting.

Section 8. If a vacancy occurs in the office of region director, the assistant region director shall automatically become region director. Vacancies in the offices of assistant region director, secretary and treasurer shall be filled through election by the remaining executive board from a slate submitted by the nominating committee.

Section 9. Vacancy in the office of the nominating committee chairman shall be filled by one of the remaining members of the nominating committee, if the committee has been selected. The vacant position on the committee will then be filled with an appointee selected by the executive board and ratified by the region board, as soon as is possible. If no committee is in place at the time of the vacancy, a new nominating committee chairman shall be selected by the executive board and ratified by the region board, as soon as is possible.

Section 10. Duties of the officers shall be carried out as prescribed by the EGA bylaws, policies and procedures; the RMR bylaws, policies and procedures; and/or the region parliamentary authority.

Section 11. Nominations and Elections:

- a. A nominating committee of at least 2 members shall be elected at the first meeting in an election year. No chapter shall have more than one member on the committee. No member may serve more than 2 consecutive terms. Should a vacancy occur, the executive board shall select a successor.
- b. It shall be the duty of the nominating committee to nominate at least one candidate for each of the offices to be filled and to submit the names to the region board 6 weeks prior to the election, having obtained consent for nomination from each.
- c. The names and resumes of the candidates shall be reported in the region newsletter and/or shall be sent to each chapter president and RMR board member no less than 5 weeks prior to the election.
- d. The election of new officers shall be held no less than 4 weeks prior to the end of the term(s) of the current officers. Additional nominations from the floor may be made 1 week prior to the election, providing consent to serve has been obtained from the nominees prior to the election. If there is more than one candidate for an office, the vote shall be taken by ballot.
- e. The nominating committee shall submit for election, the name of a candidate for the national nominating committee concurrent with each region election cycle.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS AND NOTICE

Section 1. The region shall hold at least 2 meetings per year .

Section 2. The annual meeting shall be the second meeting of the year.

Section 3. A written notice of regular and annual meetings shall be sent to member chapters at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the region director; by the executive board; by 5 members of the board of directors; or by any three member chapters. At least a fourteen-day notice stating the business of the special meeting is required and no business other than that stated in the notice may be transacted.

Section 5. The quorum for all region meetings shall be one-third of all voting members of the board.

Section 6. Voting without an in-person meeting: Any action required or permitted to be taken by the board or any committee thereof may be taken without an in-person meeting provided that all members of the board or committee are notified in writing or by electronic means. Two-thirds of the responding members of the board or committee must consent in writing or by electronic means to the adoption of the resolution authorizing the action. Abstention is not a vote and is not counted as a vote. If an action without an in-person meeting is deemed necessary by the board, the action must be ratified at the next regular board meeting in order to become an official act of the board.

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The board of directors shall be composed of the executive board, the chapter region representatives, and the region sponsored EGA national special events chair(s). Each member has one vote.

Section 2. The region director shall appoint a parliamentarian, with the approval of the executive board. The appointment shall be announced at the first region meeting after the election or as appropriate. The parliamentarian shall serve without a vote.

Section 3. Board members serving in more than one capacity shall have one vote.

Section 4. The board shall have supervision of the affairs of the region; fix the day, hour and place of region meetings; and conduct such other business as is necessary to the operation of the region.

ARTICLE VII EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The executive board shall be composed of the elected officers of the region and the standing committee chairmen.

Section 2. The executive board shall supervise the affairs of the region between meetings of the board of directors and perform other duties specified in the RMR bylaws, RMR policies and procedures and/or by the region board of directors. Any action taken by the executive board shall be reported to the region board.

Section 3. Each member of the executive board shall have one vote.

Section 4. The executive board shall meet at the discretion of the region director or upon request of two of its members.

Section 5. The quorum for the executive board shall be a majority of its members.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Section 1. The standing committees of this region shall be: bylaws /policies, Director's Club, education, fund raising, historian, marketing/membership, newsletter editor, outreach, Prospectors, and web liaison.

Section 2. The region director shall appoint all standing committee chairmen, subject to approval by the executive board.

Section 3. The term for the appointed standing committee chairmen and members shall be concurrent with the term of the region director who appointed them.

Section 4. Special committees or additional standing committees shall be appointed by the region director to carry on particular work of the region; the appointments shall be subject to approval by the executive board.

Section 5. The region director shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

ARTICLE IX FISCAL POLICIES

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Section 2. The books and accounts of the region shall be kept in accordance with sound accounting practices. Region financial records shall be audited each year, either professionally or by an audit committee appointed by the region director, prior to the submission of the annual report. The treasurer shall furnish EGA with a report of the finances of the region by February 15 of each year.

Section 3. No one may profit from membership in EGA; however an EGA region may contract with individual members in their professional capacities. EGA prohibits the use of membership lists other than for EGA purposes.

Section 4. Annual Budget

- a. The region shall prepare and present a budget to the membership for approval no later than November 1 of the year prior to the effective date of the budget.
- b. The board of directors and/or the executive board shall not spend any non-budgeted funds in excess of \$500 during the fiscal year. The region may approve an expenditure in excess of this amount provided:
 - 1) the membership is notified in writing at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which the vote is taken,
 - 2) the written notice shall include the amount and purpose of the expenditure, and
 - 3) the approval is by a two-thirds vote.

Section 5. Donations: Donations of monies by the region may be made to any organization which is in compliance with Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code and which the region, by a two-thirds vote, has designated as the recipient. Notice of such a proposed donation shall be submitted to the members in writing at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which such vote is taken.

Section 6. Dissolution: in the event of dissolution of the region, all its assets and funds remaining after payment or provision for payment of all debts and liabilities of the region shall be distributed to one or more organizations which have been in existence for a period of two years, which are in compliance with Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, and which the region has designated as a recipient by a two-thirds vote. Notification to the membership shall be provided in writing at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which such a vote is to be taken.

Section 7. Indemnification of Directors or Officers.

The Indemnification of Directors and officers in Article X, EGA National Bylaws, specifies that EGA may indemnify the region director, director-elect, assistant director, secretary, treasurer, and any other elected officers of this region as described in Article IV, Section 2 D of the EGA National Bylaws.

ARTICLE X PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the region in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc., any special rules of order the region may adopt, or any statutes applicable to this organization.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

Section 1. Any bylaw amendment(s) effected by EGA that necessitates amendment(s) to the region bylaws shall be incorporated automatically in the region bylaws and the membership shall be informed of such changes at the next regular meeting.

Section 2. These bylaws may also be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting of the region or between scheduled meetings in compliance with our on-line voting procedure, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the membership at least thirty days in advance and that the proposed amendment has received the approval of The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. prior to the meeting or the vote.

Membership Approval Dec. 7, 2015 Grace M. Wood
Date Signature of Region Director

EGA Approval Dec. 18, 2015 Becky Autry
Date Signature of Chair, Chapter/Region Bylaws Review Committee

December 18, 2015 Rebecca Wardlaw
Date Signature of EGA Director of Bylaws

EGA NATIONAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Please go to EGA's national website to view the most recent copies of the **EGA National Policies and Procedures** which has information pertaining to regions. Of specific interest are *Section V – Fiscal Policies (Mandated Policies for Chapters and Regions)* and *Section VI – Region Policies*.

To access this information go to the home page for EGA: www.egausa.org. Near the top of the home page click on the Member Login. Follow instructions to login. When complete, click on Members Only and from the pulldown menu find the Documents Download tab. Click here and go to Manuals & Guides: Policies and Procedures. The first document listed is the Table of Contents.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I. Governance

- A. To participate fully and receive the benefits of the region, member chapters have the following responsibilities:
 1. Attend region meetings and be an active participant in region activities.
 2. Report region activities to the chapter and convey the chapter's wishes and needs to the region director and the board.
 3. Submit chapter news to *Border to Border*.
 4. Keep a current file of the region roster and minutes.
 5. Be familiar with the Region Officers' Notebook and RMR Policies and Procedures, located on the region's website.
 6. Provide region director and national office with the current list of chapter officers.
- B. The Chapter shall provide the region director with:
 1. A copy of the minutes from ALL chapter meetings and executive board meetings.
 2. Current chapter roster and updates.
 3. Copy of chapter newsletters (if mailed) or notification of posting online.
- C. Chapters are encouraged to reimburse their region representative for expenses when attending region meetings.
- D. The region documents/bylaws chairman maintains the master copy of the *Region Officers' Notebook (RON)* on an external electronic device and makes any changes or additions following the protocol below:
 - a. Changes will come from:
 1. Board meetings and/or e-mail "meetings"
 2. Region director
 - b. Once the documents/bylaws chairman has made the changes to the *RON*, a copy is sent to the region director to verify. Once verified by the region director, the revised section (of the *RON*) wherein the changes took place, is put into the master copy on external electronic device.
 - a. The documents/bylaws chairman will also send approved changes to web liaison:
 1. Sends entire Section where change(s) took place so webmaster only has to replace the Section.
 2. Sends the information in the format required by the webmaster.
 - b. Webmaster will make changes on the website.
 - c. Web liaison will inform documents/bylaws chairman that changes are posted on the website.
 - d. Documents/bylaws chairman will notify region secretary that changes are posted on the website. A list of the changes and where the changes have been made will be included in the notification. Region secretary will pass this notification and list on to region board members.

II. Region Meetings

- A. The region secretary sends out the Call to Meeting, attendance/lunch reservation form, and proxy thirty (30) days prior to the region meeting.
- B. All region board members are required to return their attendance/lunch reservation form to the secretary within the time limit requested.
- C. A proxy form will also be included with the Call to Meeting for the purpose of allowing a chapter to vote in absentia.
- D. Proxies may be assigned to a member of the chapter for purposes of representing chapter members and voting on business measures at region meetings. Proxies should be dated and signed if returned by mail or filled-in with identification if returned by email.

- E. The region secretary sends out the board packet which consists of chapter and officer reports, agenda, and any additional meeting information at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
- F. Minutes of previous meetings need not be read aloud because each board member shall have been sent a copy.
- G. **Unscheduled Meeting Protocol:** When it is necessary for a board/committee to conduct business between scheduled meetings, the following are the recommendations set by the region board of directors.
 - 1. Region director/committee chair sets the time and/or dates of the meeting with a seven (7) day minimum notice, except in cases of emergency.
 - 2. Director/chair sets agenda for meeting (with input from board/committee members as needed) and sends it out at least three days before scheduled meeting.
 - 3. In the case of an emergency meeting, only the emergency topic will be on the agenda.
 - 4. The region secretary shall keep records for a board meeting. Committee chair shall select a record keeper for a committee meeting. The secretary/record keeper will be the conduit for the communications during the meeting.
 - 5. The secretary/record keeper will record the names of those participating in the meeting.
 - 6. If a motion needs to be made during an unscheduled meeting the protocol below is followed.
 - 7. **Presenting a Motion and Voting:**
 - a. All motions must be in writing and sent to secretary/record keeper. The rationale for the motion shall be included.
 - b. The secretary/record keeper will second the motion and send the motion to the appropriate recipients and will set the time line for discussion and voting.
 - c. Recipients will be asked to acknowledge receipt of the motion within the designated time frame.
 - d. The secretary/record keeper will record the names of those acknowledging receipt of the motion.
 - e. All discussion must include all participants.
 - f. Should an amendment be made to a motion, the same procedure as making the motion is followed.
 - g. Once the vote is called, the secretary/record keeper will record the names of those who vote, along with their vote – yes, no, or abstain.
 - h. All votes must be in writing.
 - i. If a ballot is necessary, it shall be designed with a space for the voter’s signature or identification (if voting by email) and full instructions for marking and returning.
 - j. Two thirds of the responding members of the board/committee must vote in favor of the motion for adoption.
 - k. The secretary/record keeper shall immediately send the results of the vote to all board/committee members.
 - l. If a motion is passed in an unscheduled meeting, it must be ratified at the next regular region board meeting.

III. Elections:

- A. Nominating Committee presents slate to the region director by Sept. 1.
- B. Slate (along with nominees biographies and pictures) is sent to the region board for approval on Sept. 15.
- C. Approved slate is published in *Border to Border* (along with nominees’ biographies and pictures) by Oct. 15. Notification of this publication must be sent to region representatives.
- D. Nominations from the floor will be accepted until Nov. 1.
- E. Region secretary sends ballots to the chapters on Nov 1. Voting closes on Dec. 1. Region secretary announces the results of the election by Dec. 15.

IV. Dues

- A. Annual dues of five dollars (\$5) per chapter member shall be paid to the region as set forth in the bylaws.
- B. Dues will be pro-rated for new primary and plural members.
- C. Payment of national dues is a requirement for participation in any region activity.
- D. Dues shall be paid by the chapter for all primary members and for all plural members whose primary chapter is outside RMR.

V. Finances

- A. All region monies shall be kept in federally insured institutions. Money shall be deposited in interest-bearing accounts if minimum balance can be maintained.
- B. All accounts will have two signature authorities: the region director and the region treasurer.
- C. Officers and committee chairmen shall submit Request for Reimbursement Form to the region treasurer, along with receipts, for reimbursement or recording (when no reimbursement is desired). Requests must be submitted within the year that the expenses were incurred.
- D. The region director shall approve all requests for reimbursement submitted for the region treasurer's expenses.
- E. **NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS POLICY:** Cash, money order, or cashier's checks shall be required from members who have outstanding, non-collectible, returned checks payable to an EGA chapter, region, or national. All documented returned check expenses associated with NSF checks shall be charged back to the issuer including returned check fee assessed by the bank, all other documented expenses associated with the return check, plus a \$25.00 handling fee.
- F. The region financial books shall be audited at the close of each calendar year. The audit committee will consist of two individuals, or a professional auditor, appointed by the region director. Region director will notify the executive board of appointees. (per bylaws)
- G. The outgoing region treasurer will send the *Annual Financial Report* to EGA by the 15th of February.
- H. After the audit, all accounts will be transferred to the new signatories by March 1.
- I. The region will reimburse the region director for the following expenses, up to the amount budgeted:
 - 1. Travel to national board sessions at the lowest available airfare and a per diem rate for meals. The per diem rate will be determined from the IRS, *Per Diem Rates*.
 - 2. Travel within region for chapter visits, budget permitting.
 - 3. Administrative expenses for postage, photocopying, telephone, etc.
- J. Prior to taking office in January, the incoming region director shall be reimbursed for travel, lodging, and per diem to the same extent as current region director, to attend a national board session.
- K. The Rocky Mountain Region financial report shall be published in *Border to Border* at the end of the second and fourth quarters of the year.

VI. Newsletter

- A. *Border to Border* is the official publication of this region.
- B. The newsletter shall be distributed to:
 - 1. All region officers and committee chairmen.
 - 2. All region chapter presidents, region representatives, and newsletter editors.
 - 3. National board members and all other region newsletter editors.
- C. *Border to Border* will be offered at no charge to all region members and members-at-large in an electronic format.
- D. Advertising deemed appropriate to the interests of the member chapters in the region will be accepted, at a rate to be determined by the region board.

VII. Clare Award

- A. The Clare Award is given to a member who has given of herself continually in the Rocky Mountain Region above and beyond the normal dedication of our members. Her noteworthy performance can be in any of several aspects: administration, teaching, works that show excellence in the art of embroidery, or any other way which brings positive attention to our region and EGA through skill and attitude.
- B. This award may be given:
 1. One or more in any one year.
 2. None in the year.
 3. No posthumous nominations will be accepted.
- C. Selection:
 1. When the name of a member of the RMR is to be presented for consideration for the Clare Award, the presenter must provide, in writing, the name to be considered, chapter affiliation, a synopsis of all EGA offices held, and a paragraph listing the reasons the presenter feels the member should be a recipient.
 2. Nominations are accepted by the region director up to four (4) weeks prior to the first region board meeting of the year so the nominations can be discussed and voted on by the executive board members. Nominations received after the four (4)-week deadline, will be considered for the following year. If three-fourths (3/4) of the executive board members concur, ballots will be sent to each member of the region board at least eight (8) weeks prior to the meeting at which the award will be presented. The approval ballot shall be returned to the region director by the date indicated. If a nominee does not receive a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the executive board members, the person making the original recommendation will be notified in writing.
 3. Each name presented will be considered on its own merit. The original nomination information will be sent to all voting region board members. Each name will appear on a separate ballot to ensure individual consideration.
 4. A three-fourths (3/4) majority of the region board is required for the award.
 5. After the voting, the secretary will tabulate the ballots and report the name(s) of those selected for the award to the region director.
 6. Ideally, the award should be presented at a region seminar banquet along with the pin, certificate, and the chart of St. Clare.
 7. Each recipient's name and year of award shall be added to the St. Clare banner.

VIII. Region Seminar Policies

- A. Region seminars will take place in even-numbered years.
- B. Assistant region director is seminar/retreat coordinator.
- C. A region seminar may be held in conjunction with the annual region meeting. The Region shall follow national policy regarding region seminars and, as applicable, the latest information in *Region Seminar Guidelines*.
- D. The region shall schedule its seminar upon acceptance of an invitation by a chapter, preferably two years in advance. Chapters may co-host a seminar. Hosting chapters shall, upon acceptance, provide their proposal for delineation of duties.
- E. A seminar committee is a special committee of the Rocky Mountain Region.
- F. For a region hosted seminar, the chairman shall be selected by the region director and the assistant region director and ratified by the region executive board of directors. The seminar chairman shall choose committee chairmen from as many chapters as possible.
- G. For a region seminar hosted by chapters, the chairman is selected by the host chapter(s) and ratified by the region executive board in a timely manner. A synopsis of background information relating to the position for the proposed chairman shall be submitted to the region director who will then distribute it to the region executive board prior to the ratification vote.

- H. The seminar chairman selects all committee chairmen. The chairman will submit the name and synopsis of background information relating to the position of the dean of faculty, treasurer and registrar to the region director within 30 days of the chairman's ratification. The region director will send the information to the region executive board members and they will ratify these selections in a timely manner.
- I. Seminar checking and savings accounts require that one of the elected region officers (one who lives as close to the host chapter as possible) be a signatory on all the accounts.
- J. Job descriptions for the seminar chairman, seminar dean of faculty, seminar treasurer and seminar registrar are policy which must be observed – descriptions are found in the *Rocky Mountain Region Seminar Guidelines*.
- K. The treasurer of a seminar shall not be treasurer of any other unit of The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. from the time of appointment through the sending of the complete Final Seminar Financial Report at the end of the seminar.
- L. A Letter of Agreement for Financial Responsibility of Region Seminars will be sent by the assistant region director to the seminar chairman. The seminar chairman, dean of faculty, seminar treasurer and seminar registrar are to sign the letter indicating that each (chairman, dean of faculty, treasurer and registrar) has read the *EGA Region Seminar Policies and Procedures* and the RMR seminar policies and procedures contained in the *Rocky Mountain Region Seminar Guidelines* and the *Region Officers' Notebook* and that they will abide by them. If these policies and procedures are not adhered to, any deficit will be borne totally by the host chapter. If there is a deficit and the policies and procedures have been adhered to, the deficit will be borne as indicated in section K below.
- M. Any surplus from the seminar will be shared between the region and host chapters with 40% going to the region and 60% going to the host chapter(s). If a deficit can be foreseen after all cost-cutting measures have been taken, including canceling low enrollment classes, the seminar will be canceled. Any deficit will be divided with 50% of the shortage borne by the region and 50% by the host chapter(s). (See item J above.)
- N. If a seminar must be canceled, the termination shall be accomplished by the teacher cancellation date indicated in the teachers' contracts or by the facilities contract cancellation date, whichever is earliest.
- O. Loan money in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) may be advanced to the host chapter. One thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be advanced two (2) years prior to the seminar upon acceptance of a preliminary workplan/budget by the region director, region treasurer and assistant region director. The remaining one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be advanced to the seminar upon request and approval by the region director, region treasurer and assistant region director. Approval is contingent upon the seminar's compliance with RMR and national EGA guidelines.
- P. In the event a RMR seminar is required to provide deposit money to reserve seminar facilities, RMR shall be responsible for the minimum sum to reserve the facilities as a separate amount from normal seminar loan money. This deposit shall incur no risk to the region and shall be repaid at the time the loan money is repaid.
- Q. **NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS POLICY:** Cash, money order, or cashier's checks shall be required from members who have outstanding, non-collectible, returned checks payable to an EGA chapter, region, or national. All documented returned check expenses associated with NSF checks shall be charged back to the issuer including returned check fee assessed by the bank, all other documented expenses associated with the return check, plus a \$25.00 handling fee.
- R. When the EGA national president accepts an invitation to attend a RMR seminar, the RMR will assume cost of her registration and food, excluding any class or kit fees. Transportation and lodging will be paid for by national. This arrangement should be clearly stated to the president in the original invitation.

- S. **REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY:** Cancellation requests must be in writing and emailed OR mailed to the event registrar by Priority Mail with signature confirmation. If emailed, the registrant must follow-up with the event registrar via phone if not having heard from the event registrar verifying receipt of cancellation email. A full refund, less the non-refundable fee, will be made for cancellations received no later than 2 months prior to event opening date. After the specified date, refunds will be issued only if the cancellation is due to illness or death of a participant or immediate family member, to be approved by the event committee.
- T. The money for the RMR awarded scholarship(s) will be deducted from the region's share of the profits at the closing of the seminar financial books.
- U. The proceeds derived from fundraising sponsored by the host at region seminar will go to the host unless the donor has designated another EGA entity. (*i.e. a scholarship fund, national general fund, etc.*)
- V. An audit of the seminar books shall be conducted prior to the closing of the bank account and final report.
- W. The region's share of the proceeds shall be sent to the region treasurer within 120 days of the close of seminar.
- X. The region's portion of profit from the previous seminar will be used to offset the next seminar's expenses in order to maintain a feasible registration fee. (4/2017)
- Y. The Final Seminar Report, which includes the complete financial report, shall be sent to the region director within 120 days of the close of seminar. If the Final Seminar Report is **NOT** submitted within the 120-day limit, the region officer who is signatory to the accounts shall close those accounts and transfer the balance to the region treasury. Upon the region director's receipt of the complete Final Seminar Report, the host chapter's share of the proceeds, less any expenses incurred as a result of the region officer securing the funds for the region, will be sent to the host chapter.
- Z. **Volunteer Registration:** A seminar committee may choose to offer reduced registration for volunteers that entitles them to all seminar meals, hospitality items, and other seminar benefits except for a class and the class kit. To qualify for this type of registration, the registrant is required to volunteer for a minimum of four hours at the seminar and to stay in the seminar hotel for a minimum of two nights. The registrar will forward the names of those registering in this manner to the Volunteer Chairman.
- AA. Registration should be made available first to RMR members based on a first day postmark. First day registration shall not be a weekend or holiday.
- BB. At the discretion of the seminar committee, early registration for classes may begin at the region seminar the year prior. Early registration shall be open for at least two months. The fee due at the time of early registration should be the non-refundable portion of the total registration fee.
- CC. Early registrants are guaranteed a space in their choice of class if the class is not cancelled and does not go to lottery with early registrants, provided that the completed registration is received with a first-day postmark. By failing to complete the registration by first-day postmark, the early registrant forfeits guaranteed space in the chosen class.
- DD. No classes shall be closed until all registration fees for that class are received.
- EE. At Merchandise Night, the region will be given one half (1/2) table, free of charge, to sell region merchandise. Also, space at that table shall be made available, free of charge, for chapters to sell chapter pins. Chapters found to be in non-compliance (*i.e. selling items other than chapter pins*) will be levied a fee equivalent to rental of a full table.

IX. Region Retreat Policies

- FF. A retreat committee is a special committee of the Rocky Mountain Region. The retreat chairman does not sit on the region board.
- GG. The assistant region director oversees retreat committees.
- HH. The retreat chairman is directly responsible to the region director and the region board through the assistant region director.
- II. Region retreats will be held in odd-number years.
- JJ. Region retreats will be sponsored by the region.
- KK. A region retreat may be held in conjunction with the annual region meeting.
- LL. The region shall schedule retreats, preferably, two years in advance.
- MM. The retreat chairman shall be appointed by the region director at the annual meeting 2 years prior to each retreat.
- NN. The retreat committee will consist of the retreat chairman, the retreat mentor chairman, the retreat registrar, and the region treasurer. Any of these positions may be co-chaired with another person with the exception of the treasurer. The assistant region director and the region director are ex-officio members of the retreat committee.
- OO. The retreat chairman selects all committee chairmen. The chairman will submit the name and synopsis of background information of individuals (relating to each position) to the region director and assistant region director within 30 days of the chairman's appointment. The region director will then present the information to the region executive board members for ratification in a timely manner.
- PP. The retreat chairman, mentor chairman, and registrar have read the RMR retreat policies and procedures contained in the *Rocky Mountain Region Retreat Guidelines* and will abide by them.
- QQ. The region will maintain a RMR retreat checking account which will be administered by the region treasurer. Authorized signers on the account will be the region treasurer, region director and assistant region director.
- RR. Any profit made from a retreat will remain in the RMR retreat checking account for use for future retreats.
- SS. Job descriptions for the retreat chairman, mentor chairman, and registrar are policy which must be observed.
- TT. All retreat expenditures from the RMR retreat checking account will require the following process:
1. All retreat committee members will send a *Retreat Request for Expenditure* form (RRE) to the retreat chairman for approval. Retreat chairman will send RRE to assistant region director for approval.
 2. Retreat chairman and assistant region director will forward approved copies of the RREs to the region treasurer for payment.
 3. Region treasurer will notify retreat chairman of check number and payment date for each RRE.
- UU. In order to reduce costs to retreats PayPal will not be used for retreats.
- VV. A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 4 mentors will be hired for a retreat. An Open Stitching studio (no mentor) will be offered in addition to the studios with mentors. The retreat committee will include a space for this studio in the contract with the venue.
- WW. Retreat registration will be done as follows:
- a. Downloadable registration form will be put on RMR website. Information on availability of form will be published in *Border to Border*.
 - b. Completed registration forms will be accepted via USPS or as scanned and emailed documents.
 - c. Payments for retreat will be accepted in the form of a check or money order mailed to registrar.
- XX. **EGA RETURNED CHECK POLICY:** Cash, money order, or cashier's checks shall be required from members who have outstanding, non-collectible, returned checks payable to an EGA chapter, region, or national. All documented returned check expenses associated with NSF checks shall be charged back to the issuer including returned check fee assessed by the bank, all other documented expenses associated with the return check, plus a \$25.00 handling fee.
- YY. All mentor and site/hotel contracts will be reviewed by a contract review committee before signing. This committee is overseen by the assistant region director.

- ZZ. All contracts for services for region retreat shall be approved and signed by the region director. This includes all mentor contracts, hotel (site) contracts, and any special service that is necessary to conduct the retreat.
- AAA. The Prospector chairman will be responsible for coordination of exhibits at a retreat. In addition to the Prospector's exhibit, there may be 2 others: the upcoming region seminar early registration exhibit and possibly a "special" exhibit by a local chapter or other region entity. The retreat registrar will assemble a list of volunteers which will be given to the Prospector's chairman.
- BBB. The first day of early registration shall not be a weekend or holiday.
- CCC. Early registration will be made available to RMR members only.
- DDD. Non-EGA members will be charged an additional fee.
- EEE. At the discretion of the retreat committee, early registration may begin at the region seminar the year prior. Early registration shall be open for at least two (2) months. The fee due at the time of early registration should be the non-refundable portion of the total registration fee.
- FFF. Early registrants are guaranteed a space in their choice of studio if the studio is not cancelled and does not go to lottery with early registrants, provided that the completed registration is received within the designated time frame. By failing to complete the registration in the time frame, the early registrant forfeits guaranteed space in the chosen studio.
- GGG. **REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY:** Cancellation requests must be in writing and emailed OR mailed to the event registrar by Priority Mail with signature confirmation. If emailed, the registrant must follow-up with the event registrar via phone if not having heard from the event registrar verifying receipt of cancellation email. A full refund, less the non-refundable fee, will be made for cancellations received no later than 2 months prior to event opening date. After the specified date, refunds will be issued only if the cancellation is due to illness or death of a participant or immediate family member, to be approved by the event committee. [From August 2017 meeting]
- HHH. Studio(s) will be closed to further registrations if filled by early registrations.
- III. **STUDIO CANCELLATION POLICY:** Sixty (60) days after the opening of regular registration, the retreat chairman and retreat committee will consider the current retreat and studio enrollments based on, but not limited to, retreat breakeven numbers and redistribution of registrants should a studio be cancelled. Retreat, at its sole discretion, may cancel the Contract for Mentoring Services or portions thereof, without liability to Retreat and/or Mentor. In the event of cancellation, **Retreat shall not be responsible** for any expenses, including but not limited to, preparation costs, mentoring fee, and/or travel expenses. Mentor shall be notified of cancellation by telephone and a written cancellation confirmation notice shall be postmarked to Mentor (return receipt requested) on or before the date specified in the contract.
- JJJ. If a deficit can be foreseen after all cost-cutting measures have been taken, including canceling low enrollment studios, the retreat will be canceled.
- KKK. If a retreat must be canceled, the termination shall be accomplished by the mentor cancellation date indicated in the mentors' contracts or by the facilities contract cancellation date, whichever is earliest.
- LLL. Loan money in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) may be advanced to the retreat. One thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be advanced two (2) years prior to the retreat upon acceptance of a preliminary workplan/budget by the region director, region treasurer and assistant region director. The remaining one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be advanced to the retreat upon request and approval by the region director, region treasurer and assistant region director. Approval is contingent upon the retreat's compliance with RMR guidelines.
- MMM. In the event a RMR retreat is required to provide deposit money to reserve retreat facilities, RMR shall be responsible for the minimum sum to reserve the facilities as a separate amount from normal retreat loan money.
- NNN. Although RMR Retreats are to be self-sustaining the Region Board accepts the overall responsibility of retreat expenses. In the event the Retreat bank account falls below a \$2000.00 threshold the region will biannually budget \$2,000 for this expense.
- OOO. The money for the RMR awarded scholarship(s) will be deposited into the Retreat checking account at the end of the regular registration period.

- PPP. An audit committee of 2 to 3 people will be appointed no less than 30 days prior to the first day of the retreat. Retreat chairman will submit the names of these people (after confirming their availability) to the region director for approval by the region executive board.
- QQQ. An audit of the retreat books shall be conducted prior to the completion of the *Final Retreat Financial Report* within 10 weeks of the close of retreat. Audit committee will conduct the audit using the timeline and guidelines found in Section IV, Appendices IV-D and E.
- RRR. Upon the completion of the audit, the region treasurer is given the physical retreat financial records – checkbook, bank statements, copies of IC reporting forms, and supporting documents. The retreat chairman will put any remaining paperwork – hotel contracts, mentor contracts, final registration spreadsheet, final reports, etc. – onto a flash drive (purchased by retreat). The flash drive will be clearly labeled and sent to the assistant region director, along with the paperwork (for disposal at their discretion).
- SSS. The Final Retreat Report, which includes the Final Financial Report, shall be sent to the region director and assistant region director within 13 weeks of the close of retreat.

X. Region Seminar/Retreat Scholarship

- A. The region will pay the RMR seminar/retreat registration fee for one region member-in-good-standing.
- B. A second scholarship may be awarded to any RMR member-in-good-standing who has never attended a RMR region seminar or retreat before.
- C. The decision to offer one, two or no scholarships will be made by the region board at the first board meeting of the year for the next year's seminar/retreat based upon available funds
- D. The chapter region representatives will submit names of the interested region members in two lists - one of interested region members and one for all interested first-timers (if a second scholarship has been made available) - by a date determined by the region director.
- E. Previous Rocky Mountain Region Seminar/Retreat Scholarship awardees are ineligible.
- F. The drawing for the scholarship winner(s) and alternate(s) shall be made at the region seminar/retreat the year before.
- G. The winner(s) and alternate(s) of the RMR Scholarship(s) for the region seminar/retreat will be notified by the region director within the week following the seminar/retreat to congratulate them and to verify the intentions of the recipient (s). If the recipient is not able to accept the award the alternate(s) will be notified in the order they were selected.
- H. Once acceptance is verified, information regarding the process for registration should follow. The region director will send the seminar/retreat registrar contact information for the winner(s) and alternate(s) so it can be noted that their registration is paid by the region and to be able to communicate with the scholarship winner(s) with necessary seminar/retreat information.
- I. Scholarship winner(s) MUST complete early registration for region seminar/retreat. If early registration fee has been paid by winner(s), it will be returned.
- J. Scholarship winner(s) MUST register for region seminar/retreat by the applicable deadline registration date. The registration fee is not submitted by the scholarship winner(s). All other applicable fees must be paid by the winner(s).
- K. It is suggested that the winner(s) should be guaranteed their first class/studio choice. If that class/studio is cancelled, then they should receive their second choice.

X. Prospectors Exhibit

- A. Any member of Rocky Mountain Region in good standing may participate. A participant does not have to attend the seminar/retreat to participate.
- B. Up to three pieces may be entered each year.
- C. It is not required but recommended that each piece follow the challenge or theme.
- D. Each piece should be worked within the past two years.
- E. Teaching pieces which have not been contracted at the time of the exhibit will be accepted. Pieces cannot be commercially available, under contract, published, or taught prior to or during the exhibit.
- F. No piece that has been shown at a prior Prospectors Exhibit will be accepted, unless it is an encore exhibit.
- G. Size restrictions will be announced each year, if required.
- H. Each work must be an original* or an adaptation* and must have been done with an eyed - needle for part of the piece. An interpretation is not eligible for Prospectors. Refer to the EGA definitions below.¹
- I. Pieces must be complete and display ready.
- J. Each piece must be registered prior to the deadline by completing the Prospectors registration form and completing an EGA insurance form or waiver. No piece can be accepted without insurance information and identification information attached to the entry.
- K. Each piece must be delivered to the exhibit by participant or a representative.

- L. Each participant will be awarded a certificate of participation.
- M. RMR/EGA reserves the right to reject any piece not deemed appropriate for the exhibit.
- N. A Prospectors pin will be awarded to first time exhibitors.

¹ *EGA defines an **original** as “an original work is one which, from the beginning, is solely the creative product of the stitcher.” An **adaptation** is “needlework inspired by or based upon a source other than needlework and modified through significant changes. Source(s) are to be documented.”

An **interpretation** is “needlework developed from a professional or nonprofessional needlework design (chart, painted canvas, class project, etc.) and modified through the use of different colors, materials and stitches from the original design. Source(s) are to be documented”.

XI. Jody Gergens Memorial Scholarship

- A. The region scholarship shall be named the “Jody Gergens Memorial Scholarship”.
- B. The Directors' Club, a standing committee whose membership consists of past RMR Directors who are current RMR members, will receive and review applications and award the scholarship. The immediate past region director will serve as committee chairman. If she is not able to serve, the Directors' Club will choose its own chairman. All decisions will be made by a majority vote.
- C. The scholarship fund, begun with proceeds from the sale of Jody Gergens’ books, shall be augmented by interest on the account and donations.
- D. All donations will be accepted. Donations may not be restricted. Letters of thanks, written by the chairman, shall be sent to all donors and to persons or families of honorees. The names of donors will be published in *Border to Border* and on the region website, with their permission.
- E. The number and dollar amount of scholarships will be determined by the Directors’ Club based on the merit of the proposals submitted and the funds available. The amount of money awarded will be no more than 10% (ten percent) of the balance in the scholarship fund at any given time. A region budget line of \$25 to \$50 for committee expenses will be maintained.
- F. The amount of the awarded scholarship will take into consideration course/application fee, text and materials costs. The scholarship will not take into consideration lodging, meals, or travel/airfare costs.
- G. Eligible uses for scholarship consideration:
 1. EGA Individual Correspondence Courses (six lesson minimum).
 2. EGA Extended Study Program
 3. EGA teacher, judge and appraisal certification programs
 4. Other courses may be considered at the discretion of the Director’s Club. Courses must be used to improve skills and knowledge in a technique and/or discipline.
- H. Only RMR members are eligible to apply for the scholarship.
- I. Applications for the scholarship will be accepted at any time and processed according to policies and procedures.
- J. The official Jody Gergens Memorial Scholarship Application Form can be obtained from the current Directors’ Club chairman and/or from the RMR website.
- K. Completed applications are to be sent to the current Directors’ Club chairman. The chairman will verify information as necessary.
- L. Applications must be sent to the Directors’ Club members within five (5) days of receipt by the chairman. Identifying information must be blocked on applications sent to the Directors’ Club members for the selection process. Only an identifying number will be used.
- M. Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision within six (6) weeks of receipt of the application.
- N. Monies will be available for one (1) year following acceptance.
- O. Recipient’s name, with their permission, will be published in *Border to Border* and on the region website.

- P. Recipient will submit to the Directors' Club chairman, a written evaluation of the course within 3 months of its completion, regarding how it met expectations, what was learned, and how this will affect future needlework efforts as an individual and/or towards a broader audience.
- Q. Upon request, recipient will return scholarship funds to the Rocky Mountain Region, EGA if they are not used for the stated course and/or if the evaluation is not completed on time.

XII. National Exhibit Award

- A. The name of the award shall be the "Rocky Mountain Region Award for Artistic Merit".
- B. The award, to be determined at the discretion of the national exhibit jurors, shall be for a work by a Rocky Mountain Region member.
- C. The monetary award will be evaluated for each national exhibit and shall not be less than \$100. The amount will be determined at the annual region board meeting in the year prior to the opening of the national exhibit.

XIII. Job descriptions

- A. Each office has a job description, which should be followed as closely as possible.
- B. Job descriptions may be changed by the office holder with the approval of the region director.
 - 1. The region director may change her job description after conferring with a previous region director.
 - 2. Region representatives should confer at a region meeting before changing their job descriptions.

XIV. Amendments

These policies and procedures may be amended by a majority vote at a regular meeting of Rocky Mountain Region board of directors or between scheduled meetings following the protocols in Section I-Governance.