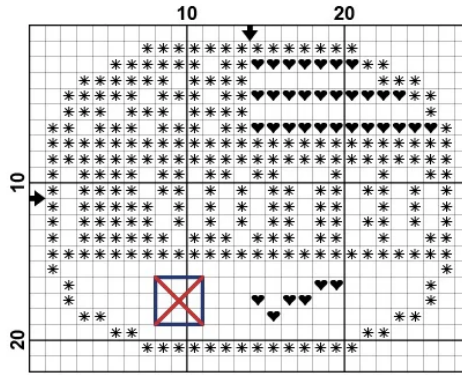




PHOTO: STITCHED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY MARNIE GRALEY; DESIGNED BY TRACY HORNER, INK CIRCLES



# I Voted

stitches: 26 x 20

Over 1 on 25 or 28  
or  
Over 2 on 40 count

\* = Blue  
♥ = Red

Use 1 strand  
for cross stitches  
and backstitches

(c)2018 Ink Circles  
to be distributed  
Freely!

# Shape the future of EGA

by Laura Kamienski

**T**his July, every EGA member has the opportunity to help lead our organization forward. Electronic voting opens July 1, 2026, and closes July 31, 2026, for three key positions: Vice President, Secretary, and Director of Bylaws.

The Nominating Committee has presented three dedicated candidates who have pledged their expertise and hearts to EGA for their three-year terms. Read their biographies below to learn more about the leaders who will guide our community. We invite you to join us in casting your vote.

## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES



### Teresa Brewer, Vice President Nominee

Teresa Brewer joined EGA in 2007 as a member of Jacksonville, FL's duClay Chapter in the Sun Region, where she has served in multiple leadership roles, including chapter president and region news editor. She also holds plural membership in the Dayton (OH) Chapter of the Great Lakes Region. As the current Sun Region

director, Brewer has championed both region chapter health and national organizational priorities, bringing nearly two

decades of passionate membership to her service. She recently served on EGA's Strategic Planning Committee, playing a role in guiding the organization's selection of strategic planning consultants as EGA prepares its three- to five-year roadmap ahead of its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Brewer built a career in continuous improvement, information technology (IT) governance, and strategic operations. Her experience spans organizations ranging from a small family heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) business to Fortune 500 companies, most recently as a continuous improvement (CI) sustainability leader at Voya

## Teresa Brewer, Vice President Nominee, CONT.

Financial, where she coached organizational leaders on executing improvement strategies, developed maturity assessment frameworks, and supported the translation of strategic goals into measurable outcomes.

This resident of Middleburg, FL, is a passionate advocate for the needle arts in all their forms. As an accomplished stitcher with a love of reading, knitting, and journaling, Brewer finds equal inspiration in museums, medieval art, and delving into her personal family history.

## Donna Pence, Secretary Nominee



Donna Pence first learned needlework at age 5, stitching a stamped picture for her godmother. She continued stitching through high school before life paused her practice. In 1983, noticing a co-worker stitching at lunch led her to a newly formed chapter of EGA. Now a life member, primarily with the Chantilly, VA-based Oatlands Chapter, Pence has spent decades

exploring a wide range of techniques and building lasting connections through needlework.

Over the past 43 years, Pence has held nearly every chapter office except education chair and newsletter editor. After years of avoiding the role, she became program chair and used EGA

Petite Projects to develop a full year of programming. At the region level, Pence served as a region representative and later as region secretary. She also assisted Judy Jeroy with the 2016 National Seminar, an experience that gave her the confidence to serve as region director for six years. Pence notes that leading through the challenges of COVID-19 stands as a highlight of her service.

Pence knew early on that she wanted to be a nurse. She began her career as a Navy nurse and was among the first selected for a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program in 1972. She continued caring for patients and families until her retirement in 2015. Pence and her husband, Art Pence, raised two daughters and were deeply involved in their activities. Today, she finds joy in her daughters' careers and in time spent with her grandchildren.

## Dr. Sue Andrews, Director of Bylaws Nominee



Dr. Sue Andrews is an EGA Life Member, having joined the Tewksbury, MA-based Merrimack Valley Chapter in 1993. She began working with bylaws at the chapter level more than 25 years ago and quickly found it a natural fit for her detail-oriented engineering background. Dr. Andrews later served multiple terms as bylaws

committee chair for the New England Region and, after relocating to Oregon, took on the same role for the Greater Pacific Region in 2023. She has also held several chapter and region leadership positions and currently serves as president of the Cascade Stitchers Chapter in Eugene, OR.

Dr. Andrews currently chairs the Chapter and Region Bylaws Review Committee, where she has introduced

voluntary "How to Update Your Bylaws" training sessions via Zoom, with recordings available for broader use. Recognizing that many members find bylaws work intimidating, she places a strong emphasis on education and accessibility. Dr. Andrews has also worked closely with the current EGA director of bylaws, Vicki Swerdlow, on updates to template documents and actively reviews national governance materials, bringing both consistency and clarity to the process.

Dr. Andrews holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, and spent more than three decades on the research staff at a Massachusetts Institute of Technology laboratory. Her work included advanced development, project management, and oversight of technical staff, as well as navigating complex government contract requirements. Since retiring in 2022, she has settled on the Oregon coast with her husband, where she enjoys community involvement, hiking, reading, and stitching. ■