

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION (SCR) Membership – June 2021

According to EGA National’s membership list (a), on April 3, 2020, SCR had 899 primary members of which 77 were Members at Large. As of April 14, 2021, SCR had 877 primary members of which 112 were Members at Large. In addition, the region had 59 plural members who live outside the region and 3 plural members who live inside the region. Our primary membership reflects 22 less members or a 2.5% membership reduction.

SCR presently has 24 chapters ranging from 8 to 92 primary members. The following table compares overall primary membership for the past five years and reflects membership changes from 2020 to 2021:

SCR Primary Chapter Membership								
Chapter	City	State	Number of Primary Members 4/5/2017	Number of Primary Members 3/23/2018	Number of Primary Members 3/4/2019	Number of Primary Members 4/3/2020	Number of Primary Members 4/14/2021	Differ- ence
Austin Stitchery Guild	Austin	TX	97	90	93	98	92	-6
Bay Area Renaissance Stitchers	Houston	TX	9	8	8	10	8	-2
Bella Vista	Bella Vista	AR	24	28	29	28	24	-4
Brazos Valley Stitchers	Bryan	TX	19	18	19	18	13	-5
Concho Pearl	San Angelo	TX	9	9	9	10	8	-2
Dallas Needlework & Textile	Dallas	TX	90	100	105	102	94	-8
Diamond	Little Rock	AR	35	33	33	28	28	0
East Texas	Tyler	TX	29	27	25	30	27	-3
Embroiderer's Guils of OK	Tulsa	OK	25	23	21	20	18	-2
Fort Worth	Fort Worth	TX	47	40	40	40	38	-2
Greater Dallas	Dallas	TX	51	44	36	39	39	0
Houston Embroiderers' Guild	Houston	TX	70	80	79	78	68	-10
Louisiana Lagniappe	Baton Rouge	LA	37	34	31	37	37	0
Norman	Norman	OK	25	24	23	22	21	-1
Permian Basin Needle Arts	Midland	TX	10	9	11	10	7	-3
Red River	Wichita Falls	TX	14					
San Antonio Needwork Guild	San Antonio	TX	54	49	53	54	54	0
Shawnee Sew & Sews	Shawnee	OK	11	10	11	10	9	-1
Shreveport Rose Stitchery	Shreveport	LA	36	41	41	41	37	-4
Spindletop Stitchers	Beaumont	TX	18	16	16	16	16	0
Texas Star	Waco	TX	18	17	19	19	15	-4
Texoma Needle Arts	Durrant	OK	11	11				
The Woodlands	The Woodlands	TX	13	13	12	12	13	1
Tip of Texas	Harlingen	TX	67	66	64	51	50	-1
West Texas	Lubbock	TX	13	15	15	15	15	0
Yellow Rose	Houston	TX	30	26	31	34	34	0
Members at Large (MAL)			71	75	79	77	112	35
Total			933	906	903	899	877	

As displayed in the previous table, we have 22 members less than the previous year and according to the 14 chapters who responded as to why a member did not renew, we lost 38 members. In 2019, 18 chapters responded to this request and indicated that the Region actually lost 91 members. Obviously, our guilds are working hard at maintaining membership; however, I wonder about the chapters who never responded as this number may be much greater.

Why Didn't They Renew Categories in 2020	Number
Deceased	4
Health and/or Age (covid)	1
No longer stitching	4
Family Issues	6
Moved outside of SCR	4
Moved in Region	1
Transferred Primary Membership to another chapter within the Region	1
Other, be specific	
Work Issues	2
Didn't want to be a member of EGA	2
Unknown (tried emailing and calling)	13
Total	38

Recruiting and retaining members is everyone's business if we wish to preserve our love of the needle arts and our organization well into the future. It is also important to remind our members of what they get for the national portion of their dues as many are unaware. **My CHALLENGE to every chapter is to increase your primary membership by 10 % (based on the April 14, 2021 primary membership).**

I continue to send corrections and/or updates to National but in order to do this I need every chapter to verify their chapter's membership list which is usually sent in August or September. Last fall I received updates from 11 chapters which were sent to National. The breakdown follows: 3 new members, 2 long time members missing from list, 1 member's first name was incorrect, 11 members had address corrections, 19 had incorrect phone numbers, and emails were incorrect for 18 individuals.

I also verify membership for individuals we have registered for SCR sponsored Group Correspondence Courses.

The following three request are made yearly: 1) August or September, verify membership and all member information (corrections and/or additions should be sent to me), 2) Indicate why a primary member not renew, and 3) Verify plural members who live outside of our Region. Spreadsheets are sent to membership chair with a copy to chapter presidents.

Dr. L. A. Walker, SCR Membership

a) I am comparing membership numbers to April 2020 as that is the last accurate list, I have prior to renewal time in May.