



Chesapeake Treasures Chapter



June 2025

Dear Chesapeake Treasures,

May has been a crazy month for many of us with personal and family obligations and needs. For me, two themes stood out - gratitude and legacy.

I am grateful for the wonderful women I have met through Chesapeake Treasures and SAGA.

I am grateful for the generosity of time and talent many of our members have shared whether leading a program, working one on one with a member to master a new technique or in service, such as Wee Care. I am grateful for their friendship and support.

Since becoming a member of Chesapeake Treasures, I have reverently stitched Wee Care items to share with local hospitals and the families they service, but I never fully understood how deeply impactful these tiny garments, memory folders, micro preemie bunting, flannel hearts and little quilts were to those who receive them. Recently, I became a grandparent of a tiny preemie, Paige. While every day she improves, the gift of flannel hearts was so meaningful to her parents. It eased the sadness of leaving the hospital each day with the baby remaining behind. A memory folder was received by a grandmother still grieving the loss of her beautiful, full-term granddaughter several years ago. The parents had been storing sweet precious papers and footprints in a plastic Ziplock bag. These precious items will now be saved in a meaningful way which will provide comfort for her family. An assortment of Wee Care items have been donated to GBMC (Greater Baltimore Medical Center) where my granddaughter is so lovingly and skillfully cared for. I am grateful for all the work our members have contributed to making these donations possible! Thank you!

Recently, Chesapeake Treasures and Southern Maryland Smockers were given an extensive collection of patterns, books, laces and beautiful fabrics from the sewing room of Charlotte Sandburg. Charlotte made many friends through sewing whether attending a SAGA event,

Stitching at the Beach or Martha Pullen Sewing Conferences. Charlotte passed away this spring and her family wanted to honor her sewing legacy by sharing her collection with others with the same appreciation. I enjoyed meeting her daughter and hearing about the many beautiful garments Charlotte created for her family, friends and clients. She particularly loved making heirloom christening gowns. To honor her love of SAGA, 2 raffle baskets have been created for the SAGA Convention as part of her legacy and her new large cutting mat was donated to the West River Retreat facility.

Charlotte's sewing items are available at no charge by appointment at Lindsay Carroll's home in Towson exclusively to the Chesapeake Treasures and Southern Maryland Smockers till the end of June. At that time the collection will be made available to Delaware and Virginia chapters. Lindsay will be out of town the week of June 7-14. The address is 801 Chestnut Glen Garth, Towson, MD 21204 Cell phone 410-842-3773.

Have you made plans for how your sewing collection will be handled once you pass? My recent interaction with Charlotte's grieving adult children, as well as a passing conversation with one of my children, impressed upon me how important this planning is to ensure these items don't end up in a landfill. What will your legacy be?

Lindsay

West River Retreat 2029

Registration forms will be available at the June Potluck for the 2026 retreat. Be sure to pick one up. Dates for 2026 are Feb 20 – 22/23, 2026



The newest issue of **SAGA News** has come out and has Convention information in it. If you haven't received it yet, you can find it online at smocking.org after you sign in as a member.

Birthdays – Happiest of Birthdays to our May, June, July Ladies

May – Terry F., Kathy F., Marlene M, MorganLee P.

June-- Sandy S., Martha S., Jo S., Joyce R., Charrise L.

July – Jackie O., Cheryl B.



KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS

- Joyce Ross' sister Diane went to be with her Lord on May 31.
- Carolyn Dalton's sister has had health issues recently. She is slowly improving.
- Lindsay Carroll's newest granddaughter, Paige, who was born 8 weeks early.
- All members who are facing health issues, either their own or those of their family.

Chesapeake Treasures Handbook

A huge thank you to Carolyn Dalton for our CT Handbook. What an amazing job. It's a lot to print out. If you have an iPad I would save it there. That would save a lot of paper.

SEWESTS TO WATCH ON YOU TUBE

I have been watching a lot of You Tube recently as the offerings on TV are limited. Several needlewomen whose channels I have enjoyed are **Oxford Heirlooms** (mostly heirloom garment

sewing), **Childrens Corner**, **Chesapeake Treasures**, **Connie Palmer Sewing**, **House of Smocking**,

and **Martha Moore Porter** (adult garments using heirloom and Liberty fabrics). They have great tutorials. Hope you enjoy!

Whynotstitching.com – great site for hand embroidery, several free tutorials with instructions to print.

New fabric store in Hagerstown – The Pink Peony - <https://pinkpeonycreations.com/>

I haven't been there yet, but it looks like they have a lot to offer.

Needed - I had a computer glitch last week and lost all the Classic Sewing Magazine downloads ☹ If you downloaded them, would you let me stop by one day this summer and download them to my memory stick? Thanks, Lindsay

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Saturday, August 9 Annual Budget meeting followed by Sit and Stitch

Edgewater Police Station

35 Stepney Lane, Edgewater, MD 21037

9:00 am Come help set up

9:30 – 11 am Budget meeting – committee chairs to attend; all members welcome

At the conclusion of the Budget meeting till 4:00 pm, Sit and Stitch will commence.

Bring your lunch and snacks to share. Beverages will be provided. Guests Welcome!

This Sit and Stitch will be a wonderful opportunity to work on your ornament projects under Kathy Furth and other program instructors' guidance. There will be extension cords for your lights and sewing machines as well as ironing and ironing surface.

Please don't forget to rsvp for our **spring potluck** at 5:30pm on Thursday, June 12, hosted by the lovely Carolyn Dalton.

Location: Carolyn Dalton's home (confirmed 5/30)

1507 Orchard Grass Court

Odenton, MD 21113

410-562-7544

Please RSVP yes or no and note what you will be bringing on Sign up Genius

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DAEA92BA5FEC34-56785136-spring> or by email to Marina Rutkowski rosamystica2011@protonmail.com if you are coming and what you will be bringing.

Currently we have 9 attending and 20 who have not responded.

Jo Shaw will bring the 2026 West River registration forms.

Marina Rutkowski

Pistachio Cranberry Shortbread --Pat Conklin

2-1/3 cup of flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 cup (2 sticks) of soften butter

2/3 cup granulated sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

3/4 cup pistachios, lightly toasted

1/2 cup dried cranberries

1-2 teaspoons of water (if necessary)

Cream butter in mixer (5 minutes) gradually add sugar (1 Tablespoon at a time) continue beating for another 5 minutes Then add, vanilla

In a separate bowl, combine flour and salt

Slowly mix flour mixture into the butter, sugar, vanilla mix

Slowly add in the pistachios and cranberries until well mixed

Divide the dough into two. On a sheet of parchment paper (you will need two), shape dough into a log (think slice and bake cookies) wrap in parchment and then place in a ziplock bag. Repeat.

Place in the refrigerator for several hours or place in the freezer for an hour.

After chilling, slice cookies, place on an ungreased cookie sheet (I use parchment or bake on a seasoned baking stone), Lightly sprinkle a pinch of salt on each cookie. I like either coarse or flat salt (just a pinch on each cookie)

Bake at 350 degrees for 12 - 15 min. My oven is a slow oven so it takes longer to bake the cookies. The time is just an estimate. Keep your eyes on the cookies and remove them from the oven when lightly browned.

Where Does Cork Come From?

By Barbara Meger



We learned a new stitching technique and some of us stitched with cork “fabric” for the first time. So where does cork—including what we remove from a wine bottle—come from? My husband Bob and I visited Portugal in 2018, and here is what we learned (as recorded in Bob’s travel journal):

We headed to a cork warehouse in the Alentejo Province of southcentral Portugal. En route we saw vast areas with nothing but cork oaks. Cork, as found in wine bottles and bulletin boards, is harvested from the bark surrounding the cork oak. They cut a seam vertically down the trunk, then strip the bark off the tree producing a tube of cork. They then flatten the tubes of cork and cut them into squares. The harvesting process does not kill the trees. Many of the trees are hundreds of years old. It takes 20-25

years for the trees to grow large enough to produce cork, after which they can be harvested every nine years. In the cork tree forests, you could see where the bark had been harvested from different trees. The millions of cork oak trees in Portugal are protected. You cannot cut them down. At the warehouse there were palettes stacked with cork that had been stripped from trees. Most of the cork was 1.5-2 inches thick. They showed us how they process the cork. It is first flattened and placed in a large vat filled with hot water. A heavy press is then used to compress the sheets of cork. This flattens the squares of cork. They showed us some old tools used to cut wine bottle corks out of the bark for wine bottles. Everyone has had at least one cork bulletin board made from cork, usually a composite of the material glued into a flat sheet. A relatively new application for the material is to make very thin layers of cork shaved from sheets of cork. The thin cork is then laminated onto a backing of cloth or possibly plastic and results in a somewhat stiff cloth-like canvas. One can then make everything from purses to shoes to clothing from the material. It is naturally water repellant and is surprisingly durable. We purchased a cork purse and a placemat made from the material.

Recently harvested cork (at beginning of article) Lower portion of cork oak tree shows where the cork bark was removed.



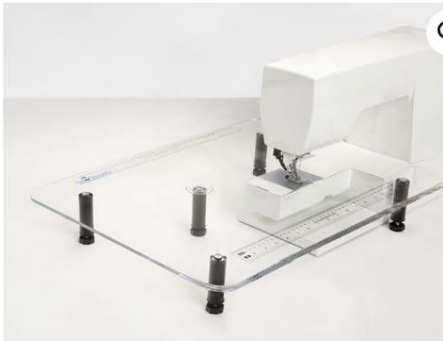
Barbara Meger's bag.

SIT AND STITCH SCHEDULE

On Vacation until September!

FOR SALE:

Charrise has a brand new (in the box) Sew Steady table for sale, made for the Bernina 590 sewing machine. She is asking \$75. Contact Charrise if interested.



My coworker is selling this Amanda Jane pleater in excellent condition, asking \$100. If anyone is interested, they can contact me and I will pass their contact info on to my coworker. Thanks,

Martha

mnsykora399@gmail.com



Marlene's Brownies

2 sticks unsalted butter

8 ounces bittersweet chocolate (I use Ghiardellis)

1 cup dark brown sugar, firmly packed

1 cup granulated sugar

½ tsp espresso powder

4 eggs

2 teaspoons vanilla

1 cup flour

Preheat oven to 350. Butter a 9x13" pan.

Chop chocolate into small pieces and combine with butter in large bowl. Melt in microwave-I start with 1 minute then 30 seconds, as needed until completely melted. Let cool slightly.

Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each egg. Stir in vanilla then flour. Pour batter into prepared pan and bake for 35 minutes. I start checking at 30 minutes, and don't overbake.

Optional-I usually add lightly toasted walnuts, about ¾ cup. I've also added 1 cup chocolate chips. Or drop seedless raspberry preserves on top of batter and use butter knife to swirl together.

Let cool before cutting into squares.

Where We Meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month

I am happy to report we have a new meeting location,

We are in the First Baptist Church of Crofton, in the large central hall which will be partially set up for us each month. Depending on attendance we might need to put up an extra table or two and add more chairs. There is a large TV/monitor available for Charrise and our Zoom members ☐☐

The church is located at 1690 Crofton Pkwy, Crofton, Maryland 21114. It is conveniently located just off the Crofton Parkway and is easily accessible from Route 3 as well as 450 and Davidsonville Road. For some of you it may even be within walking distance!

The parking lot is located just outside the entrance to the meeting space. It is a level lot.

We have the room from 5 pm – 8:45 pm each month - January – May,

June 5 - 7pm **Business** Meeting by zoom – All are invited

Committee Chairs please be prepared to report on your committees

Vote on Slate of Officers

June 12 - Time TBD Spring/Summer Potluck dinner hosted by Carolyn Dalton.

July, August – no meetings until September

Officers of Chesapeake Treasures 2024/2025

Lindsay Carroll, President

lindsaystitching@gmail.com

410-842-3773

Kathy Furth , V. P. Programs

kfurth59@hotmail.com

443-540-8169

Carolyn Dalton, V. P. Membership

Dal0328@msn.com

410-562-7544

Lyn Leet, Secretary

leetmv@comcast.net

443-994-4576

Karen Lang, Treasurer

Gklang99@gmail.com

717-487-8216

www.chesapeaketreasures.org. Carolyn has lots of information on our website. Be sure to

SAGA—The Smocking Arts Guild of America - “Our purpose is to preserve and foster the art of smocking and related needlework for future generations, through education, communication, and quality workmanship.”

www.smocking.org