A Message from Our Co-President Sandi!

Dear Yankee Friends:

Happy Mother's Day to all of you that are mothers. It's nice to see the daffodils and tulips blooming along with the birds singing. Still a bit cold but I guess better than snow!! Now I can get in my gardens and have a good time. Also can't wait to get mulching. The gardens look so pretty when I look out and see the mulch.

There is still time to send Kathy Dacey a check for our Vaune Pierce class. The pocketbook looks better in person; I love the leather handles. I went to “Knit One Quilt Too” in Bristol and they had some leather handles priced at 23.95 w/o tax. Vaune's kits are lovely with everything we need to make the project. I will be making lunch again, so come on down on Saturday, May 20th and have a fun day making something for YOU!

How are you all doing with making Sharon's bag? I have mine all made in blues. I love it!! It's a great size and I plan on using mine for SATB!! It will carry my clothes and shoes. Lol!! I can't wait to see all of the bags in the different colors. So pretty.

Don't forget SAGA'S registration for St. Louis begins on May 1st. If you haven't checked it out I recommend it; there are a lot of great teachers making gorgeous things!! Oh I would love to go. My sister is helping me find a good deal for airplane tickets. If she does I am going!! So do we want to do another basket? Or not as we just did one for Boston retreat?

Well hope you are getting lots of sewing done since the sun is out later in the day.

Have you ever thought of being an officer for our Chapter? We need nominations this month as the vote is coming up in June. I am stepping down after June and we are not sure yet of how many new officers we will need. Thanks to all of you who are officers now; I appreciate all your help!!

Happy sewing & Love,

Sandi
April/May Program: The Big Bag Theory Continues

Hopefully everyone got a great start on their Big Bag after last month’s meeting. Sharon would like us to be finished with the quilting on the bag before the May meeting. Please bring your sewing machine and usual sewing supplies along with the kit items you purchased in April.

Editor’s/Program Coordinators’ Note: I would just like to offer a huge “thank you” to Sharon Simoneau for offering to teach this program. I also want to acknowledge the significant amount of time she must have spent putting together those kits for us... even the Peltex was cut to size, so we didn’t have to deal with yardage... that was awesome, and really enabled us to get a quick start on our bags! I had a bunch of rows sewed together after last month’s meeting, which I promptly ripped out when I got home because I wasn’t satisfied with my layout...we are always second-guessing ourselves! But my first bag is now finished and the squares have been cut out for my second bag, in some large-scale prints (because I was inspired by Ruthann’s fabrics more than my own!). I love this pattern, it is so well-written and easy to follow. They really should have called it “potato chips” because you can’t make just one! Again, thank you Sharon— in my opinion, this program was a big winner! (Donna C.)

June Program Reminder

In addition to the Book Sale planned for the June meeting, we will be making a Biscornu Pin Cushion. Many different kits will be available, so come early for the best selection! More information will be provided in next month’s newsletter. Thanks as always for your participation in our programs!

Upcoming Classes at Yankee Chapter

At the April meeting, Sandi updated us on the two classes for which planning is in the works right now.

**May 20th—Vaune Pierce**

On May 20th, Vaune Pierce will be teaching the “Roses are Red” bag. The kit fee is $55.00. Class fee has yet to be determined and depends on how many people sign up.

If you need further information, feel free to e-mail kiodacey@gmail.com. To reserve your spot, mail a check for $55.00 to Kathy at 19 Rendall Road, West Roxbury, MA 02132-1023.

**September 23rd and 24th—Gail Doane**

Gail Doane will be teaching the “Jelly Roll Jacket & Dress” as seen in Classic Sewing magazine (Summer 2016 Issue).

There will be kits available; Jacket and Dress kit is $146 plus shipping, and the Jacket kit alone is $98 plus shipping. More information will be available very soon.

More information on this class will be available starting next month. We have applied for a grant to defray some of the cost.
Show & Share: April 2017

Ruthann Sisson showed a selection of the adorable Barbie and American Girl doll clothes she has been making and selling. Barbie even had a beautiful gown made from someone’s wedding dress!

Ruthann also spoke about the pillowcase and duffel bags for foster children program and showed several examples she has made. We will be making these bags as one of our programs next year. A handout is available.

Donna Costa showed her mini tuffet pincushion; a “Cell Phone Plop” made of upholstery fabric; a sweet Crochet-Top Sundress (published in Crochet Magazine May 2009 issue), and a table runner in Minions fabric.

Karen Ouhrabka showed two bags made on the serger, one in purple and the other a larger black bag featuring cover stitching. Karen also showed a vinyl bag adorned with triple-needle decorative work. In addition, Karen showed a Sashiko purse made of silk fabric; her 10-Minute Table Runner made from fabric purchased in Hawaii; and a fabulous knitted hat decorated with sheep.

Sharon Simoneau showed a finished project from Sewing at the Beach, her gorgeous tuffet! Because Sharon finished that 2-day class in one day (such an overachiever!), she was able to attend a different class sponsored by Baby Lock, and in that class she made a machine embroidered calendar holder. Sharon also took a two-day class with Vaune Pierce and made a dress which is completely finished on the inside too...no seams showing at all!

Sandi Thurston showed her adorable Jan Kerton blanket with lots of animals. Sandi’s beautiful SATB tuffet was also on display, as was her machine embroidered makeup case and a Size 2 dress from a Cottage Mama pattern that fits Maddie perfectly! Sandi also showed her almost-finished Liberty Pocketbook from the Boston Stitch Party, a smocked dress in Liberty Lawn using the Penelope pattern, and her “Sweet Memories” quilt (with baby faces) started at SATB two years ago. The quilt was completely hand embroidered and professionally quilted.

Sue Smith showed her cute little plastic canvas purses (or should we say, goodie-holders?!) made with the child’s name stitched on the front and the entire alphabet stitched on the back, as well as many plastic canvas Christmas ornaments she has made throughout the years.

Jane Connelly showed her project from SATB, a needle felted sewing kit designed by Jan Kerton.
Just a Little Reminder......

Remember back when we had 50 or so members, and our meetings would sometimes get a little rambunctious due to all of the conversations going on? Well, that still happens... even though we only have about 20 members now!

Our President Sandi has the sweetest, loveliest little voice.... but it’s a soft voice. And if she is trying to run the business meeting with five other conversations going on in the room, it’s a bit difficult to pay attention to what is being said.

So, we ask for your courtesy. If you wish to have a side conversation with someone, please adjourn yourselves to the other (front) room, or to the kitchen area. This way, we can ensure that those who want to listen to the SAGA business being discussed will be able to hear everything that’s being said, so we can make the important decisions of the Chapter. This has always been sort of an “unwritten rule” at Yankee Chapter, and it was established for many good reasons.

Thanks to all for trying to maintain a courteous atmosphere at our monthly meetings! And please don’t be offended if we gently remind you to take a short stroll into another area!

Mini Waist Pack to Make!

Here’s an updated version of an old-school “fanny pack” that uses just a little bit of fabric and a few readily available notions! This would be great for those occasions when you need to travel light, but want to have something fashionable and not bulky. Check out the full tutorial here at Sew for Home’s website:


Magnetic Pin Holder Project

This is one of those smack-yourself-in-the-head, “Why didn’t I ever think of that?” projects that seems ridiculously easy! I have some old family heirloom-type dishes that could be used for this project, and I also love to pick up cute little vintage pieces at thrift stores.

Instructions are here:

http://thecottagemama.com/2016/07/easy-magnetic-pin-holder/#more-54984

An Update from Your Newsletter Editor: Well, I’ve tried this project with several different dishes — all dismal failures! I’ll be heading off to Wal-Mart for some stronger magnets this week and hope to have a finished product to show at the next meeting...if I can get this idea to actually work!
BREAKING NEWS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE!!

Sandi graciously allowed me to function as our one-woman Nominating Committee this year. Thank you, Madame Co-President! I am extremely pleased to report that most Board positions for the 2017-2018 year have been filled. We are especially excited that two of the founding members of Yankee Chapter will be serving as Co-Presidents! See the list below for details on the positions which are still available, and please consider volunteering your time... although these positions actually require very little time, but are so very important to the Chapter! Feel free to speak with me at the meeting or just give me a call (401-781-0506) if you’d like to discuss. If there are any comments or additional nominations from the floor, they will be discussed at the May meeting. The election will be held, as always, at the June meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Costa

Co-President: Pat Tarpy
Co-President: Jane Beehr
Vice-President: N/A
Treasurer: Pat Tarpy
Secretary: Sharon Simoneau

Membership: **OPEN POSITION (See Explanation Below)**
Program: Donna Costa & Ruthann Sisson
Door Prizes: Provided Each Month by Member Donations
Scrapbook/Photographer: Nancy Beauregard
Librarian: *POSITION ELIMINATED (See Explanation Below)*
Newsletter: Donna Costa
Hospitality: Sue Smith
Sunshine: Linda Agresti
Service Project: Sandi Thurston
Archivist: **OPEN POSITION (See Explanation Below)**

NOTES:

*Librarian Position Eliminated: As Yankee SAGA no longer has a library, we have decided to eliminate the position of Librarian. Our existing issues of Australian Smocking & Embroidery Magazine have been catalogued and will be in the possession of a trustworthy member of the Chapter. A list of available issues will be provided to each member. You may request a specific issue of the magazine, and it will be delivered to you at the following meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON: This position is responsible for collecting Yankee Chapter dues in June of each year. She also ensures that each member’s national dues are paid at the end of the calendar year by collecting verification of payment from each member (this is necessary for Yankee Chapter’s recordkeeping). She also provides a list of paid members to the Region I Representative, the Newsletter Editor, and the Treasurer.

**ARCHIVIST: This position is responsible for retaining for safekeeping the bin which contains the archives of Yankee Chapter. Each month, the Archivist is responsible for adding a copy of the newsletter, the Secretary’s Report, and any other items of correspondence to the archive binders.
SAGA Mission Statement
"The purpose of the Smocking Arts Guild of America is to preserve and foster the art of smocking and related needlework for future generations through education, service, communication and quality workmanship."

Sew Beautiful & Creative Needle Back Issues for Sale
Pat Tarpy will be bringing issues of both magazines to each of our meetings for sale to our members.

Magazines will sell for $3.00 each and all proceeds will go into the treasury.

Yankee Chapter Board Members, 2016-2017

Co- Presidents: Sandi Thurston
                Donna Boucher
Vice-President:  ?
Secretary:       Sharon Simoneau
Treasurer:      Pat Tarpy
Membership:     Marjory Savage
Programs:      Donna Costa & Ruthann Sisson
Door Prizes:   (Member Donations)
Scrapbook/ Photographer: Nancy Beauregard
Librarian:     Pat Tarpy
Newsletter:    Donna Costa
Hospitality:   Sue Smith
Sunshine:      Edith Brousseau
Service Project: Sharon Simoneau & Sandi Thurston
Archivist:     Karen Ouhrabka

NEXT MEETING: May 8, 2017

WHAT TO BRING:
- Your Big Bag kit and materials, regular sewing supplies and sewing machine.
- Dessert (if you wish)
- Show-and-Share Items
- $$ to purchase magazines
- Donations for Door Prizes
- Donations for the Service Project

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS, DON’T FORGET TO SIGN IN AND PICK UP YOUR DOOR PRIZE TICKETS!

GET WELL WISHES!
Yankee Chapter sends our get well wishes to Marjory Savage! Please feel better very soon, we miss seeing your at our meetings!

Edith Brousseau and Rosalie Nocera, we’re thinking of you too!