Smocking Arts Guild of America
Yankee Chapter
Cumberland, Rhode Island

June, 2017 Issue
This Month’s Meeting: June 12, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Meeting on the second Monday of each month, September through June, at the Arnold Mills Community House, 75 Hillside Road, Cumberland, R.I. (Directions: Route 295 to Route 114 N, then about 2 miles to Hillside Road.)

A Message from Our Co-President Sandi!

Dear Yankee Sewing Friends:

Wow, another year of Yankee is ending. Where did the time go? I want to thank you all for helping me during my Presidential term. It was such a pleasure to serve Yankee Chapter. My mother always tells me what great friends you all are to me every time we leave the meetings and I am truly blessed to have you all as my friends!

What a great time we had at Vaune's pocketbook class. We learned how to make perfect bullions and some new techniques to make a perfect pocketbook! The girls at work couldn't believe I made mine!!

Vaune's market is always a pleasure. She always has new stuff that you can use. For instance I bought a package of fifty quilters clips. Just when I thought I had everything possible!! Those clips are nice for making pocketbooks. They are faster to remove than pins.

She also had a kit to make the dress that was in Classic Sewing. It's even nicer in person! So of course I bought one to make for Maddie.

We also have two new members that took Vaune’s class and joined us: Welcome Beth Clelland and Karen Sehl.

So this month’s meeting is going to be one you don't want to miss. We will have our votes for the election of officers. If you are taking Gail Doane's class, you must sign up at the meeting. After this date, registration will be open to our sister Chapters of SAGA. We want to have the class full in order to benefit our finances! I will have the kit colors to choose from at the meeting, and you can make the dress and jacket or just the jacket. It's very important that I have your color choice and size so Gail has time to make our kits and ship them to us for September.

It's not too late to register for the SAGA retreat in St. Louis. Check out the National website and see the great classes!! I am registered, with hotel booked and airplane ticket purchased!!

Happy sewing,
Sandi
June Program: Biscornu Pincushion

This month we will be making beautiful Biscornu pincushions. Once you get the technique down for making these, you’ll want multiples! Please bring your regular sewing supplies, including a marking pen or pencil that will show up on dark fabric. Our kits are all in upholstery fabrics and many are darker shades. Arrive early for the best selection of colors; no two kits are alike! Your kit will include the fabric squares necessary to make the pincushion and the instructions. The center button will not be included, but I’m thinking most of us have a few buttons hanging around, right? Kits are $2.00 each.

We will have one sewing machine available, and Ruthann will demonstrate the construction of the pincushion. If there’s time, you’ll be able to use the machine after the demonstration to construct your own.

We will also have some fiberfill available for stuffing if you finish your Biscornu, although you may wish to stuff it with an alternative such as crushed walnut shells (which makes it a lot more sturdy) or poly pellets. The walnut shells are sold in pet stores as lizard or small animal bedding and they are quite inexpensive.

We look forward to seeing you on June 12th!

June Book Sale!

In addition to the Biscornu project in June, we’ll also have a book sale! This is our highly-anticipated sale of Cornelia Anderson’s library plus some additional books from our Chapter’s former library. Bring cash or checks! You’ll want to take advantage and purchase some of these great books, many of which are out of print titles. Many thanks to Pat Tarpy for coordinating the book sale!

Upcoming Classes at Yankee Chapter

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.

If you’re interested in attending, please read Sandi Thurston’s notes on Page 1 of this newsletter. We have applied for a grant to defray some of the cost of hosting this event. Please keep in mind that only fully-paid members of National SAGA are eligible to attend classes offered using a SAGA grant.
YANKEE CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE IN JUNE!

Your Yankee Chapter Dues of $15.00 will be collected at the June meeting... we like to get this over with before the start of the new year, so please bring cash or a check with you to the meeting!

Thanks for your cooperation.

Show & Share: May 2017

Ruthann Sisson showed her completed “Big Bag” made of gorgeous Asian prints. She also showed some adorable appliqued kitchen towels.

Marie Cobleigh showed her embroidered bag and notebook cover created at Sewing at the Beach.

Donna Costa showed her completed “Big Bag”, plus two other versions of the bag made in smaller squares (3.5” and 2.5”).

Karen Ouhrabka showed several items including a wool embroidered scarf, knitted mittens, a Judith Adams Bishop dress in pink with lace trim, and a little knitted sweater in green yarn.

Sandi Thurston showed her version of “Judith’s Bishop” in newborn size; her “Margaret’s Bonnet” which was made from a kit; a potholder from Sewing at the Beach; and her completed “Big Bag” in pretty shades of blue!

Sandi invited a guest to our meeting, JoAnn, who is a member of the Midnight Oil Smockers. JoAnn showed a green dress with a premade collar and a pink sleeveless dress.

Jane Beehr showed her adorable knitted pink elephant-in-progress!

Don’t forget to bring your show-and-share in June!
Make Yourself Something for a Change!

This looks like a pretty and easy-peasy pattern for summer! It’s a cute little “beach dress” or pool cover up. Seems like this would also make an awesome summer nightie (especially for those of us in the “hot flash” set).

The free pattern can be downloaded through Craftsy's website. You have to set up an account, but that’s totally free also. I always recommend Craftsy for excellent courses, and a bunch of those are free as well.

Here’s the link:

http://so-sew-easy.com/perfect-beach-dress/

---

Ommmm....... Are you a Yogi?

No silly, not the bear! Are you a yoga enthusiast? (I’m trying to learn because we can all benefit from a sense of calm... or so they tell me. I have not achieved it quite yet!) Here’s an easy yoga bag from Moda Fabrics’ “Bake Shop”. It’s made of charm squares, just like our big bags from last month (and it actually doesn’t even use the whole pack of squares, so you’ll have leftovers). The instructions are very simple; find them here:

http://www.modabakeshop.com/2017/05/charm-pack-yoga-bag.html#more-41402

---

Nifty No-Slip Hangers

Although I do love my “Huggable Hangers”, there are times when I don’t have enough of them. This method uses good old pipe cleaners (or chenille stems, as they are called now) to make your own out of any hanger, plastic or wire. Check it out here:

http://inmyownstyle.com/2012/04/clothes-closet-hanger-organizing-
JUNE MEETING—ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our election will take place at the June meeting. Below is the proposed Slate of Officers for 2017-2018. We will also be accepting nominations from the floor if necessary.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Costa, Nominating Committee

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

Membership: Marie Cobleigh
Program: Donna Costa & Ruthann Sisson
Door Prizes: Provided Each Month by Member Donations
Scrapbook/Photographer: Nancy Beauregard
Librarian: (Position has been eliminated.)
Newsletter: Donna Costa
Hospitality: Sue Smith
Sunshine: Linda Agresti
Service Project: Sandi Thurston
Archivist: Karen Ouhrabka

Classic Sewing Summer 2017 Issue

The new Summer 2017 issue of Classic Sewing is out and, as usual, it's a beauty!

Gail Doane's adorable Little Girl's Top and Reversible Capri Pants graces the cover. The top features hand-embroidered flowers and bias binding made from the same fabric as the capris. Sizes are 3 through 6.

Another standout is Vaune Pierce's marvelous article on adapting an older smocking design (which may be in out-of-fashion colors) in a new way to use on a basic yoke dress. Funny, the plate she uses as an example in the article is an old Grace Knott design which I happen to own, and it looks really 1970's in the browns and greens. Vaune's transformation into a beautiful blue and yellow theme is lovely to behold!

Other summer-themed designs include a sundress with interesting ruffled pockets; two other sundresses, one with smocked shoulders and the other with spaghetti bias shoulders; and yet another summer dress with removable bows at the shoulder that can be changed out to different fabrics to make the dress more versatile. Several other adorable designs are featured, including not only dresses but two designs for boys, some baby garments, and a women's heirloom lace blouse.

The "Destinations" spotlight in this issue is for the Children's Corner store in Nashville, Tennessee. The article profiles the current (and fifth) owners of this much-beloved store. The "My Sewing Room" article is on Jane Makuch, a fabric designer. You will be in awe of her gorgeous sewing space and the treasure trove of fabrics and notions contained within it!

Pick up the new issue at Barnes & Noble or Jo-Ann Fabrics.
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."

CONGRATULATIONS, MARJORY SAVAGE!

At our May meeting, the members of Yankee Chapter voted unanimously to extend the title of “Member Emeritus” to Marjory Savage, in thanks for her years of service to our Chapter.

Many Congratulations to Marge, who joins Rosalie Nocera and Edith Brousseau in that very select group!

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: June 12, 2017

WHAT TO BRING:

- Your regular sewing supplies
- Kit Fee of $2.00
- Dessert (if you wish)
- Show-and-Share Items
- $\$ to purchase books!!!
- 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!