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 (formerly Exit 11, now Exit 22), then about 2 miles to Hillside Road.

**PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE FOR DECEMBER**

Happy December! We hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving and were able to spend time with your family and friends.

The program for our December meeting is the always entertaining Yankee Swap of a handmade ornament. Who will be the lucky member to have #1? The Board is planning some tasty treats and a beautiful setting for an enjoyable evening. This is always a very popular event, so don’t miss it. If you have not constructed an ornament yet, visit a fair or bazaar to purchase one.

The end of the year brings deadlines and for SAGA members, it means that National Dues of $35 should be paid by December 31. You can pay them online at the SAGA website or by mail.

Looking ahead, the project for our January meeting is a cell phone beanbag plop. This can be used as a holder for either a cell phone or a tablet. Keep your fingers crossed that we won’t have to use the phone tree to cancel the meeting!

Please remember to bring the completed bags for Foster Kids.

This is a time of year when we reflect on what so many Christmas cards say, “Peace on Earth”. As we listen to the evening news we should consider that while no one can cure the problems that face us alone, we, as individuals, can make small differences in our local surroundings.

Jane & Pat
FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: JANUARY PROGRAM INFORMATION

We’re glad so many of you decided to participate in the November program, and hope to see many Yankee drums completed in December! By popular request, Ruthann will be bringing some more drumsticks to distribute. (And also the forms for your ornaments, which we forgot last month!)

As you know, there will be no program in December due to the Yankee Swap. Here’s some early notice about our January program. It will be the Cell Phone or Tablet Holder “Plop”, a project designed by Rob Appell of Man Sewing. Program requirements and price will be forthcoming in the January newsletter.

DECEMBER PROGRAM: Holiday Party and Yankee Swap!

At the December meeting, our annual “Yankee Swap” will be the featured event! Here’s a quick reminder of how it works!

Anyone who wants to participate in the swap should bring a wrapped, handmade ornament. It does not necessarily have to be made by YOU - but should be handmade. All participants will pull a number. As your number is called, you get to pick a wrapped ornament. After opening your gift, you can swap for any other ornaments which have already been opened. At the end of the swapping, the lucky Number One gets to choose any ornament as her own!

Yet Another Adorable (FREE) Bag Pattern!

You ladies know how much I love an awesome bag.... we can never have too many, right? Here’s another free pattern from Moda Bake Shop. This one uses one of those adorable mini charm packs of 2.5” squares that I love to buy and hoard... and, oh yes, actually USE once in a while!

Find the pattern here:


FOSTER KIDS BAGS—THANK YOU AGAIN!

We received another 8 bags in November! Just a reminder that If you still have a kit, please sew it up and bring it to the next meeting. If you need another kit, let Donna or Ruthann know and we’ll provide one for you. If you haven’t been able to complete your kit, please return it so that someone else can finish it up.


**Show & Share: November 2017**

**Donna Boucher** showed her completed Gail Doane jacket, and a lovely wool embroidered scarf (a Christmas gift for her husband’s niece).

**Marie Cobleigh** showed her completed pattern weights.

**Denise Laprade** showed her adorable version of Elijah the knitted Elephant, and her completed pattern weight.

**Edith Brousseau** displayed her lovely Susie Gay purse.

**Donna Costa** showed a holiday penguin toy and a Christmas-themed tote bag. Both of these projects were made from panels purchased at Ryco. Donna also showed her little shades made for wineglasses; with an LED candle inside, they cast a pretty glow! The shades are made by QuiltSmart and can be purchased in panels (they are pre-printed interfacing).

**Sandi Thurston** showed her embroidered pin holder, a pin-stitching project created in a class with Phyllis Brown, another Judith Adams pocketbook made with squares, and a folded star ornament.

**Kathy Dacey** showed a Christening Gown made from a Gail Doane pattern in Size 12 months. Kathy made the pin stitches on her Pfaff and the rest of the fancy stitches on a Bernina.

**Joanne Chevriere** showed a project created in a class with Trudy Horne last spring, and explained how the fagotting was done. The project incorporating this technique will be done soon; it will be on a “Frannie” dress (pattern by Children’s Corner).

Thanks for bringing all of this beautiful Show-and-Share!

**Reminder—Service Projects**

Although we are still collecting bonnets, they will not be going to Women & Infants until further notice. Sandi Thurston will be taking those donations to the hospital where she works.

We will continue to collect the Foster Kids Bags and, in addition, isolette covers for the NICU. These covers are used over the isolettes (on the outside of the unit) so they can be made of any fabric, as they are not actually touching the babies. Quilted, fleece, knitted, and crocheted covers are acceptable. The usual size is either 40” x 40” or 36” x 40”.

All donations of bonnets, isolette covers and foster kids’ bags are considered to be a part of our service projects for this year. Therefore, you will receive one (1) extra door prize ticket for each item donated.
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."

MEETING TIME:
This year, we will make a valiant effort to start our meetings **ON TIME**, so that we will have enough time left to complete our monthly programs! The doors of the Community House open at 6:30 p.m., and our meetings will begin promptly at **7:00 p.m.** Please make every effort to be here on time if at all possible! **Thank you.**

Remaining Meeting Dates for 2017-2018:

- December 11, 2017
- January 8, 2018
- February 12, 2018
- March 12, 2018
- April 9, 2018

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO DOOR PRIZE DRAWING IN DECEMBER DUE TO THE PARTY AND YANKEE SWAP. PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY ITEMS FOR DOOR PRIZE DONATIONS. ALL OF YOUR TICKETS FOR SERVICE PROJECT DONATIONS CAN BE REDEEMED AT THE JANUARY MEETING.

Hospitality Info for December

Your Board Members will be supplying the goodies for the December holiday party and Yankee Swap!

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS, DON’T FORGET TO SIGN IN AND PICK UP YOUR DOOR PRIZE TICKETS! We also have a new Attendance Sheet this year. Please check off your name on the sheet and indicate how many items you brought for any of our service projects.

2017-2018 Yankee SAGA Board

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 (Member Donations)
Door Prizes:  Nancy Beauregard
Scrapbook/Photographer:  Donna Costa
Newsletter:  Sue Smith
Hospitality:  Linda Agresti
Sunshine:  Sandi Thurston
Service Project:  Karen Ouhrabka
Archivist:  

**NEXT MEETING: December 11, 2017**

**WHAT TO BRING:**

- Completed Foster Kids’ Bags & Other Service Project Items
- A handmade, wrapped ornament
- Dessert (Board Members)
- Show-and-Share Items
- No Door Prizes this month! Your tickets for donations can be redeemed in January! See note above.