Smocking Arts Guild of America
Yankee Chapter
Cumberland, Rhode Island

March 2019 Issue
This Month’s Meeting: March 11, 2019
Doors Open at 6:45 p.m.
Meeting Begins Promptly at 7:00 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 (formerly Exit 11, now Exit 22), then about 2

PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE FOR MARCH

Hi Ladies,

Like the rest of us, Punxsutawney Phil is just too eager for spring. Hopefully you have had an opportunity to devote some of your “snow” time to creating or finishing new projects. With the first day of spring arriving this month, it won’t be long now. You may have even seen some crocus or daffodils poking out in a sheltered, sunny location. A welcome sign that the winter will be over soon.

Many thanks to all of you who brought items for the Show and Share portion of our meeting. There was a wide array of garments and projects, all of which attest to our multitalented members. Maybe we will see some bunnies and ducks at this meeting.

March is National Craft Month. There are lots of opportunities to learn new things and expand your creativity. You can search on the internet or visit craft, fabric, and quilting stores to take advantage of what they have to offer to learn new things and expand your creativity.

This month we will complete the rotary cutter bag. This has been a great project to learn new smocking and construction techniques. Everything we have learned from Donna and Ruthann can be transferred to creating a variety of new projects.

There are still a few openings for the Susie Gay child’s dress and bonnet class. The class is being held on March 23 and 24. Contact Kathy Dacey for additional information.

Please remember to bring completed projects to share, foster kids bags, donations for the door prize, and a snack if your name is in the group for this month. If you are having a problem with a project, bring it in and our talented members can come up with a solution for you.

Jane and Pat

UPCOMING LOCAL CLASSES

April 6-7, Cindy Foose sponsored by Bewitching Stitchers. Contact Pat Burke kpbma@aol.com or Deborah Blanchard at deborahBblanchard@gmail.com.
THE MARCH DOWNLOAD: THIS IS THE STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW!

If you read nothing else in our newsletters, please read this monthly download which will be a regular feature!

- Please bring your rotary cutter bags, either finished or in-progress! We’ll answer any questions you have and give a short preview of our next program, the Eyeglass (or Scissor) case.
- Reminder: We have changed the opening time for the Community House. The building will now open at 6:45 p.m. The meeting begins promptly at 7:00 p.m.
- Remember your Service Project and/or Door Prize donations.
- Also, we thank all of you who are donating $1.00 to our monthly door prize collection. Although our door prizes are usually donations, collected funds are put to good use toward defraying program expenses and the cost of teachers.
- We are assigning hostess duties alphabetically again this year, so please check the last page of this newsletter to see if you are responsible this month. Thank you!

MARCH PROGRAM: LET’S FINISH THE ROTARY CUTTER BAG!

Last month, we showed a few demos to help you put the bag together. We even had one person come to the meeting with a finished bag and working on yet another one! (We love you, Jane Connelly!). This month will be a short wrap-up on the project. If you have any questions, or got stuck putting the bag together, please let us help you out! And if you still haven’t gotten your smocking done, bring it with you to work on. Be sure to remember your regular smocking supplies (scissors, needles, etc.) if you need to.

ASG MEETING FOLLOW-UP

As reported by Ruthann, the ASG meeting featured speaker Adele Scott who was very informative. Her website address is AskAdele.com and it’s full of fun and interesting stuff. Her e-mail is asds@adelescott.com. Just in case you have any questions or want to pick up some nifty new notions!

RYCO ST. PATRICK’S DAY SALE!

Ryco is sponsoring their annual St. Patty’s Day sale on Saturday, March 16th. Everything in the store will be on sale! This is a one-day only event and is always a lot of fun.

(Editor’s Note: Full disclosure…. It’s a wonderful sale but you need to pack your patience! Last year I waited in line one hour to have fabric cut and then another hour at the checkout. Other years that I’ve shopped at this event have been pretty much the same. Pat Ryan’s last newsletter indicated that they have a new checkout system this year, so perhaps it will be a bit better. I still say, wear comfortable shoes and don’t be in a hurry!!)
Karen Ouhrabka showed two adorable embroidered aprons for her grandchildren Willow & Riley. Karen also showed various other items including felted hearts made with wool scraps (knitted), and netting embroidery of a heart.

Donna Costa showed her apron made from a panel called “Morning Coffee” (purchased at Ryco) which was lined with fleece, and the organizer highlighted in last month’s newsletter (free project from Zebra Patterns).

Pat Tarpy showed a plethora of projects! Silk ribbon embroidery on a porcelain box; a heart pin made with buttons (one of our Yankee projects from way back!); and a pin with ribbon embroidery. Then she showed several beautiful pieces including a 30-year-old smocked dress, two smocked bishop blouses, a smocked nightgown, a blouse featuring vertical smocking down the front, a first communion dress she had made for her niece, and a smocked romper and plaid jacket made for her nephew. Wow!

Ruthann Sisson showed her Barbie and Skipper dolls wearing new outfits, plus two extra dresses with lots of ruffles. Ruthann also showed a large tote made of 5” squares in Thimbleberries fabric, and a tote bag with a hooked picture made by her mom. She showed another hooked picture of a rose which will go onto another bag, and two placemat bags, one in a new style learned from YouTube personality Lorrie Nunemaker.

Jane Beehr showed a jacket made for granddaughter Ashley in blue with exactly matching baby blue trim. The jacket also featured thumb-holes in the sleeves (which the youngsters love!).

Kathy Dacey showed a tiny dress & pants made in a class with Lynn Blanchard, a bag she made for a friend, a little smocked dress with a buttoned back, and her completed smocked piece for the Rotary Cutter bag.

We look forward to seeing your show-and-share in March.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

If you haven’t paid your National SAGA dues—they are now overdue!! Please head over to www.smocking.org and sign into your account to get those dues paid!

FOSTER KID BAGS UPDATE!

We collected three bags this month (but we had a very small turnout!) and distributed a few more bag kits. Keep ‘em coming! Thank you for your interest in this service project.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY
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."

ORNAMENT PROGRAMS ARE A “GO”!

We received some excellent feedback on the proposed ornament programs for next year, so we will be planning on those. Thanks to everyone who contributed opinions. If Ruthann and Donna are re-elected, it’s a “go” for ornaments! We even have a few volunteers already to teach the projects. Thank you!

Teacher Plans!

Yankee Chapter will be sponsoring a class with Lynn Blanchard in late April or early May of next year. The project will be a ladies’ heirloom nightgown. More details to come as plans are finalized.

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

Please check off your name on the attendance sheet and indicate how many items you brought for any of our service projects.

NEXT MEETING: March 11, 2019

WHAT TO BRING:

- Your Rotary Cutter Bag Kit and smocking supplies, and your questions!
- Refreshments (if assigned)
- Show and Share
- Service Project Donations
- Door Prize Donations

Hospitality Info for March

If your last name begins with the letter A through the letter D, feel free to bring a delicious dessert this month!

2018-2019 Yankee SAGA Board

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

Membership: Marie Coblence
Program: Donna Costa & Ruthann Sisson
Door Prizes: (Member Donations)
Scrapbook/Photographer: Nancy Beauregard
Newsletter: Donna Costa
Hospitality: Sue Smith
Sunshine: Fran Karwoski
Service Project: Sandi Thurston
Archivist: Karen Ouhrabka