Smocking Arts Guild of America
Yankee Chapter
Cumberland, Rhode Island

October, 2014 Issue
This Month’s Meeting: Monday, October 13, 2014 (Columbus Day)
Doors Open at 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 PRESIDENT

Dear Yankee Ladies:

Happy fall!

What a great time it was in Orlando!! My son and his girlfriend drove down with me; we left on Saturday and arrived at 9:30 on Sunday night.

On Monday we went to our favorite place - Sea World!! Tuesday we went to Epcot and had another fun day. Wednesday was the first day of convention with Judith Adams! What an awesome teacher she is. I always learn so much from her.

On Thursday I had class with Kathy Awender and made a silk ribbon with flowers pocketbook. Friday and Saturday I had a class with with Susan O’ Connor and made another pocketbook, this time with embroidery. I just love homemade pocketbooks!!!

On Saturday – sadly! – we headed home, dreading the 23-hour ride! Since I’m used to working the night shift, I drove from 11-2, and then from 4-6:30am. I was surprised at how many cars and trucks were on the road that time of night!

I was so happy to hear that Donna Boucher won two baskets – congratulations! And I was also glad that Kathy Dacey came on Saturday night and was able to use my meal ticket for the banquet. Karen Ouhrabka came on Saturday too!

Happy stitching! Hope to see everyone at the October meeting.

Sandi

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OCTOBER PROGRAM INFORMATION

This month, we will be learning fabric manipulation techniques.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO THE MEETING:

- ½ yard of corduroy, velveteen, or velvet. (You can use ordinary cotton, but these fabrics are preferred.)
- Ruler
- Chalk Marker or Marking Pen
- Thread to match your fabric
- Your regular sewing supplies

We hope to see you there!

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Just a reminder that we will be having a class with the “Snowman Lady” in November! (Remember the adorable snow-people that Marge made last year?)

Cindy will be updating us at the October meeting as to the price of the kits and what we need to bring for the November program.

SERVICE PROJECT NEWS!

Our service project was a marvelous success last year! In total, we donated 956 items:

- 849 Knitted Bonnets
- 62 Smocked Bonnets
- 33 Crocheted Bonnets
- 12 Wee Care Gowns

Great job, everyone! (As always, special thanks to Norma!)

In September, we received donations of the following:

- 34 Knitted Bonnets
- 2 Crocheted Bonnets
- 9 Smocked Bonnets
- 5 Fleece Bonnets

Those bonnets were donated by Norma, Ruthann & Donna C.

Susie Gay Workshop

Cindy Lambrecht & Jane Beehr offered an update on the Susie Gay workshop planned for Saturday & Sunday, November 8th & 9th. We now have 15 people signed up for the workshop, and our expenses are covered! There are 5 additional slots available so if you know anyone who’s interested, please tell them to contact Cindy or Jane right away.

Cindy: 781-769-7809

Jane: 508-528-7485
OUR LIBRARY... AN UPDATE ON THE LIBRARY REVITALIZATION PROJECT

By Donna Costa

As you may know, Ruthann Sisson and I volunteered for the task of going through the Yankee Chapter library materials to determine what materials we should keep, what items we should sell or (in a very few cases) simply toss out.

Just for some background: For many years, it was required that the Librarian bring the materials to each meeting. It became quite a task as the library grew in size, with as many as 4-5 totes full of books, magazines, and other items being carried back and forth between the librarian’s home and the meetings. That’s a lot to ask of anyone! Therefore, we asked for permission to keep our materials at the Community House, and they graciously allowed us to do so. We are allotted space for only three totes of materials, as the storage closet is shared with many other groups who use the Community House. When we reviewed the materials in September, we found that there were four totes full of magazines in the closet, and soon afterward we discovered there are additional totes of books and other items at Kathy Dacey’s home.

Ruthann and I have gone through all of the magazines, but we have not yet looked at the other items being held by Kathy. One thing is for sure – we must decide what items can be removed from our library in order to return it to its allotted size and space at the Community House.

We will be discussing the library at the October meeting. Here are a few questions to think about in the meantime (and a couple of comments from us):

- How many years’ worth of magazines should we keep in our library? We have Sew Beautiful, Creative Needle, and Australian Smocking magazines dating as far back as 2003.
- What about books? They are heavy and cumbersome and take up lots of room. (These are the items currently residing with Kathy, so Ruthann and I have not actually seen what we have. Although there is a listing with the library materials, we are not sure if it is accurate, as Yankee has sold off some items previously.)
- Our library has over a dozen VHS videotapes from Martha Pullen and Sue Hausman. The MP tapes are the “freebies” we used to get with Sew Beautiful subscriptions. I have the equipment needed to transfer these tapes to DVD; however, that process would take many hours, and our records show they have never been checked out by anyone even though we have stored them for years. Do we truly need to keep these in our library?
- And speaking of VHS tapes, there were two videotapes in our library of the Yankee SAGA Fashion shows back in the 1980’s. Unfortunately these tapes have deteriorated and they are no longer playable. If any of our long-term members have copies of these videotapes which are still in good condition, they are an important part of Yankee’s history, and I would be happy to transfer those to DVD. If you have copies, please let me know.

Ruthann and I look forward to discussing our library revitalization further with everyone at the October meeting!

This Year’s Programs

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<th>Month</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Fabric Manipulation Pillow</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>The “Snowman Lady” will visit with us!</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Yankee Swap &amp; Holiday Party</td>
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<td>January</td>
<td>OPEN – Looking for a volunteer!</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Embroidered Ruler Holder (with Jane Connelly)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>OPEN – Possibly a visit to the glass button lady – more information soon.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Yard Sale &amp; Silent Auction</td>
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Ruthann Sisson showed her smocked dress and matching hat made from an older pattern, “Miss Muffett”. This is one of a pair of dresses she made on commission for twin girls. The fabric was black with multicolored paw prints. Ruthann also showed her adorable onesies, each of which featured an adorable fuzzy critter applique designed by Jan Kerton.

Jane Connelly showed her two bags made at “Sewing at the Beach” last year with Jan Kerton. The pattern is called “Thread Bag”. Jane added a pocket to one of her bags, which was not in the pattern.

Kathy Dacey showed her American Girl doll dress with a pleated skirt (made from a bedskirt!) and also her clothespin bag in great outdoor fabric.

Karen Ouhrabka showed her dress (with matching doll dress), “Sweet Treats” by Kari Mecca. The white dresses were decorated with ribbon, rick-rack, and whimsy flowers.

Sandi Thurston showed her Jan Kerton “Hippo Blankets” in both boy and girl versions. Sandi also showed her completed Barbara Meger Christmas stocking with silk ribbon and smocking. In addition, Sandi showed her Victorian Christmas ornaments which were a Stitchers by the Sea project, and a Judith Adams smocked sampler (this was a “UFO” given to Sandi by Dora Walters, which she finished up).

Jane Beehr showed her lovely canvas work piece featuring a cardinal in a birdbath, which will be a gift for her cousin.

Sharon Simoneau showed her Christmas quilt in beautiful holiday colors, which will be given as a donation to raise money for a children’s’ charity.

Cindy Lambrecht showed a three-tiered dress in olive green cotton print made from the pattern “Stacia” by Children’s Corner. In addition, she showed a mock wrap skirt with three tiered ruffles in a circus print Japanese cotton. Another project was a purple calico shirt dress with “perfect pleat” ruffles down the front band. The latter two items were patterns from a new company, Violette Field Threads.* Lastly, Cindy showed a sleeveless dress made from the pattern “Madeline” by Children’s Corner; the dress is made from cotton fabric with a light blue background and hot pink abstract flowers.

Thanks for all of the wonderful show-and-share items we have seen this year, and please keep them coming! We love to see everyone’s completed (and in-progress) projects!

*The website for the pattern company is here: [http://violettefieldthreads.com/](http://violettefieldthreads.com/)

“Stitch Anatomy” in E-Version

SAGA has made the booklet “Stitch Anatomy”, which is a widely-used resource by those preparing for Artisan submittal, available as an e-book. The cost is only $5.00. The document (which I recently downloaded) is designed to be printed double-sided on 8.5”x11” paper and folded into a small half-sized booklet. It would have been nice if those instructions were included with the purchase – National SAGA, are you listening? ☺ It’s really a very nice resource for any of us who smock and should be a part of everyone’s reference library.
**Custom Sewing Machine Cover**

Need a custom-sized cover for your sewing machine or serger? This article will show you how to make one, step-by-step, with photos!

[http://sewing.about.com/od/freeprojects/ss/machinecoverins.htm](http://sewing.about.com/od/freeprojects/ss/machinecoverins.htm)

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**MONTHLY DOOR PRIZE DRAWING(S)**

With regard to our monthly door prizes, we wanted to clarify that whoever has signed up for each month to run the door prize drawings does NOT have to go out and purchase anything for prizes. The members will continue to bring whatever donations they have to the meetings; those items will be given away as prizes. There is no set number of prizes which must be drawn each month – some months we’ll have only one or two, some months more – whatever is donated will be given away!

October Door Prize Designees:
- Sandi Thurston
- Jane Connelly

**DOOR PRIZE DESIGNEES FOR THE REST OF THIS YEAR:**

November:  Marjory Savage  
           Donna Boucher

December: N/A (Yankee Swap)

January:  Jane Eskelund

February: Pat Tarpy

March:  Karen Ouhrabka  
        Nancy Beauregard

April:  Edith Brousseau  
        Cindy Lambrecht

May:  Sharon Simoneau  
      Pat Deaett

June:  N/A (Yard Sale)

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**YANKEE CHAPTER SLATE OF OFFICERS 2014-2015**

President - Sandra Thurston  
Vice-President - Donna Boucher  
Secretary - Kathy Dacey  
Treasurer - Pat Tarpy  
Membership - Marjory Savage  
Programs - Cindy Lambrecht  
Newsletter - Donna Costa  
Library – Lynda Whittemore  
Scrapbook/Photographer - Nancy Beauregard  
Hospitality – Sharon Simoneau  
Sunshine - Del Burd  
Service Project – Pat Deaett  
Archivist - Karen Ouhrabka  
Door Prize – Rosalie Nocera (with assistance from a rotating schedule of members – see list in newsletter).

Yard Sale - Ruthann Sisson & Karen Ouhrabka

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**Yankee SAGA Meeting Dates & Notes**

2014:
- October 13 (Columbus Day)
- November 10
- December 8 (Christmas Party)

2015:
- January 12  
  January 5 (NOTE DATE CHANGE!)
- February 9
- March 9
- April 13
- May 11
- June 8 (Yard Sale)

Watch this space for further updates!

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**HEY, WE KNOW YOU!**

Linda Agresti has rejoined Yankee Chapter.  
Welcome back! 😊
NEXT MEETING – October 13, 2014 – WHAT TO BRING:

- For the Program: Please see the LIST elsewhere in newsletter.
- Show-and-Share Items
- Preemie Bonnets
- Donations for Door Prize Committee

NOTE TO BOARD MEMBERS:
If for any reason you are unable to attend to your assigned duty at a meeting, please do the following: (1) arrange for someone else to substitute for you, and/or (2) call our President, Sandi, to let her know so that she can in turn arrange for coverage. Thank you!

REMINDER:
DOOR PRIZE DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED!

Yankee Chapter SAGA
c/o Donna A. Costa
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