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 Friends,

How's everyone doing? Are you all getting your Christmas presents finished? I have been busy selling apples, turnips, squash and cider at my mom’s!! Before we know it, it will be Thanksgiving! I am so thankful for all of you—my Yankee friends! Hope you all have a happy thanksgiving!! As I write this letter I realize that Christmas is not too far away either.

I am having trouble finding my bishop pattern to make Madison her first Christmas dress. If I cannot find it soon I will have to go to Plan B!! My son picked out her material and pattern in my stash, so I talk to my angels as I am rummaging around my cellar looking for the pattern. I am finding so much stuff I forgot I have! Sandi Anne’s as my son calls it— you know like Jo-Ann’s—my favorite store besides Sewing at the Beach! Don’t worry because if I should die before any of you, you will all get a call from my son to come and get a bag of stuff! After all someone’s junk is always someone else’s treasure!

If I didn’t have to work so much I would have already found my bishop pattern and it would be done! 😊

Happy Thanksgiving!

Love, Sandi T

THIS MONTH’S PROGRAM:
SMOCKED ORNAMENT!

We will be making a smocked ornament in November. No specific details yet, but we’re sure it will be beautiful, and it’s never too early to get ready for the holiday season! Please bring your regular sewing & smocking supplies to the meeting.

See you on November 9th!
SHOW AND SHARE: OCTOBER 2015

Sandi Thurston brought another of her pocketbooks, this one in berry colors with a cute flower ornament. Sandi also showed another wallet and her “Blackberry Beauty Notebook Cover” which was a program at Stitchers by the Sea.

Marie Cobleigh showed her lovely throw quilt, a design by Sue Pelland. (Website: http://suepellanddesigns.com/). The quilt uses an innovative technique which involves fabric applique on a background and uses a specialty ruler. Marie also showed two table runners, one in black & white using the Pelland technique, and the other a more colorful design using fabric selvages.

Cindy Lambrecht showed her large tote bag made of a fun fabric called “Rainy Day Games” which was purchased at Franklin Mills. The pattern is “Poolside Tote” by Noodlehead, and the bag is stabilized with fusible fleece and interfacing. (Find more information here: http://www.noodle-head.com/2014/07/poolside-tote-pattern.html). Cindy also showed an adorable little corduroy skirt made from a Children’s Corner pattern; it is fully lined with pockets at each side.

Donna Costa put on a one-woman craft show. Crocheted projects included a small blue owl in the “Amigurumi” style and a pair of fingerless mitts featuring the Minions from Despicable Me. Knitted projects were the “Tea Toter”, a tiny wallet for carrying your favorite tea bags, and a scrubber/dishcloth made with Red Heart’s new yarn called “Scrubby”. Also in the knit category was the “Neck Nuzzler” infinity scarf and a cute dolly with a knitted dress, bonnet and booties; the latter project was purchased as a kit from Mary Maxim quite a few years ago, and finally finished (the UFO pile is decreasing!). Donna also showed her new “Zippy Loom” which is produced by the Authentic Knitting Board Company and designed for loom knitting with super-sized or very thick yarns, on which she made a rainbow-colored scarf with ruffle yarn. Donna also showed several sewn projects including a small bag made with a jelly clip clasp; a re-usable cloth snack bag; two cell phone holders designed to prop up your phone or small tablet for easy viewing (one made of black-and-white polka-dot oilcloth, and the other of cotton quilting fabric); and her “Fruit Ladies” print tote bag which included an orange mesh panel and orange nylon handles. In addition, Donna brought her version of the Non-Slip Foot Pedal Pad which was mentioned in last month’s newsletter.

DON’T FORGET TO SIGN IN AND PICK UP YOUR DOOR PRIZE TICKET AT THE MEETING!

CONGRATULATIONS AGGIE!

Aggie Johnson’s new grand-daughter arrived 19 days ahead of schedule!

Gwendolyn Hope Rainone
5 lbs. 8 oz. and 20 inches long
Her nickname will be “Winnie”!

YANKEE CHAPTER MEETING DATES 2015-2016

2015:
December 14 (Holiday Party/Yankee Swap)

2016:
January 11
February 8
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 13 (Yard Sale)
SERVICE PROJECT UPDATE: YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED!

Ladies: Our Service Project has taken an unfortunate downturn…. In October, Pat Deaett received only one little bonnet!

We most definitely need to pick up the pace! Sadly we are feeling the effects of dwindling membership numbers and, of course, no longer having Norma Aldrich able to participate in our Chapter’s activities.

But the good news is that there are plenty of options, even for those who don’t think they smock well enough to make our standard beginner-level Yankee bonnet pattern. We have lots of pattern ideas available for those who knit, crochet or sew, and even for round loom knitting. There are so many ways to contribute to the cause!

I’ve taken the liberty of including a “Bonnet Book” along with this newsletter. In it, you’ll find a plethora of patterns including the world’s simplest crocheted bonnet, easy knitted bonnet designs, and a loom knitted bonnet that even kids can make (this was my Mom’s go-to bonnet pattern during the years she contributed to our service project). Also included is my favorite easy sewing pattern, the fleece bonnet (which can also be made with knit fabric). I can crank out those little guys factory-style, they’re so simple!

Two additional patterns which are included come directly from our National organization. The Easy Wee Care Bonnet was published in SAGA News May 2012 issue, and another Wee Care Bonnet was published in SAGA News August 2015 issue. Both of these bonnets are extremely simple and do not require any smocking, so anyone can make them! They use only small pieces of fabric and are quick to construct.

Please ladies, do check out these resources and try to contribute to our service project. It has enabled us to “give back” to many different communities in our area by providing bonnets to several local hospitals.

REMINDER: Preemie hats should be tiny – about the size of an orange. We can donate larger hats also, but preemie sizes are preferred.

Another Note! For those who are a little more advanced or adventurous, below are some additional links to easy bonnet patterns which you might want to check out:

Designed by Kathy McMakin & Martha Pullen, a reversible bonnet:

Sewing Pattern for a Baby Sunbonnet: (This one is not preemie-sized but could be adapted – just cut the pattern pieces a little smaller.)
http://www.purlsoho.com/create/2014/04/08/corinnes-thread-baby-sunbonnet/

LIBRARY UPDATE

Another discussion took place in October regarding our library. Marjory Savage has confirmed with the Community House that we will have no storage space allotted to us. We would like to get an idea of what materials were taken home, and by whom. If you were not at the October meeting, please report back to Donna Costa (donnacosta33@gmail.com) stating how many boxes or other items you have. So far, we know the following:

Jane Eskelund has 2 bins (condensed from 3) and a clothing rack.
Pat Tarpy has ? bins.
Kathy Dacey has ? bins.
Did anyone else take a bin or a clothing rack home?

We are also awaiting Carol Lanni’s report on the possibility of checking the materials into the library system.
NEXT MEETING – November 9, 2015 – WHAT TO BRING:

- Regular Sewing/Smocking Supplies
- Your Chapter Dues if not yet paid
- Show-and-Share Items
- Preemie Bonnets
- Donations for Door Prizes
- Delicious Goodies to Share

WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO TEACH PROGRAMS THIS YEAR! If you’re willing to help out, please contact CINDY LAMBERECH as soon as you can. Her e-mail and phone number are in your membership booklet which was provided this month along with your newsletter.

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!

YOUR MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET IS ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER. PLEASE KEEP IT HANDY FOR FUTURE USE AND INFORMATION!

Yankee Chapter SAGA
c/o Donna A. Costa
200 Post Road, Unit 606
Warwick, RI 02888