Smocking Arts Guild of America  
Yankee Chapter  
Cumberland, Rhode Island

October, 2015 Issue

This Month’s Meeting:  Monday, October 12, 2015 (Columbus Day)

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,

It's my favorite time of year!! The smell of baked apples ‘n pumpkin!! It goes away too quickly though!!

I entered “Something Blue” in SAGA’s contest at Valley Forge. Wish I was going but couldn't get the time off as we start our new journey of epic charting!! Wanda Dewitt called to tell me my package arrived and it was only #2. Those who are going, I want to wish you all a safe trip and have a great time; hopefully you can share with us and do a program!! 😊 Can't wait to see your show ‘n share!!

It's getting closer to Sewing at the Beach!! I hope you all can go to one someday. It is so much fun - at least it is for me because I never get to sit as long at my sewing machine. Especially since there are no interruptions!! (Well only laughter and chatting from my sewing friends… I don’t mind that though!)

Hope to see everyone at the meeting. If you have a good idea for a program be sure to speak to a board member.

Happy Halloween! 🎃

Sandi

THIS MONTH’S PROGRAM!

At the October meeting, we’ll be creating a pumpkin made of orange velveteen! Your pumpkin can be embellished with vintage lace and buttons, so be sure to raid your “stash” and bring some very special items. Please also bring some polyfill stuffing if you have it (there should be plenty of extra, but just in case!), and your regular sewing supplies.

We look forward to seeing you on Columbus Day for pumpkin class!
**BOOK REVIEW**

*How to Use a Sewing Machine: A Beginner’s Manual*

By Marie Clayton  
Published in 2015 by Pavilion

This book is a very well-written and good basic resource for anyone just learning to use a sewing machine, and for beginner sewers in general. The title is actually a bit deceiving because the book includes more content than you would assume at first glance.

The chapters begin with choosing a machine, where the author thoroughly describes all the options available to us as modern-day sewers. Chapters on setting up a sewing space, sewing machine anatomy (including presser feet, needles, bobbins, etc.) follow. Interestingly, she covers topics for both sewing machines and sergers in the book. Then the author delves into the actual methods and techniques of sewing: seams, hems, zippers, buttonholes, gathers/tucks/pleats, binding and trimming, and decorative techniques (including embroidery, applique, patchwork and quilting).

Just one note: There are no photographs in this book at all. The drawings/illustrations are very clear, though. But a person who identifies as a visual learner might find the lack of photos an impediment to using this book.

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**SHOW AND SHARE: SEPTEMBER 2015**

**Donna Boucher** showed the lovely machine embroidered napkin/silverware holders she has been making as Christmas gifts… so very elegant. Donna also showed her Susan O’Connor-designed project, Blue Bells and Raspberries, from Smock Across America in Chicago.

**Donna Costa** showed her version of the “Improv Tote”, a bag designed by Missouri Star Quilt Company and demonstrated on YouTube by The Crafty Gemini. This project uses a product called Bosal In-R-Foam Plus Fusible Foam Stabilizer. Here’s the link to the tutorial: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHwcEzyjfn0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHwcEzyjfn0)  
Donna has also been diving into her boxes and bins of UFOs and finally finished Belle the Cow, a little stuffed bean-bag animal from the line Cotton Paws by Dimensions. The date on this kit is 1997…finished after only 18 years in the “stash” … hooray!

**Sandi Thurston** brought an assortment of pocketbooks which she’s been making for her family for Christmas (lucky folks!). Her display of projects recently won 1st prize at the Dartmouth Grange… congratulations! Sandi also showed her little Christmas Stocking which went to the Chicago convention as “Something White”, and reminded us about the upcoming “Something Blue” for the Valley Forge convention.

**Sharon Simoneau** showed the “Beach Quilt” made for her daughter, which featured an assortment of beachy-themed applique including flip-flops… so cute! Sharon also showed her beautiful quilt square from SATB.

**Aggie Johnson** showed her adorable little smocked baby gown which featured bullion roses, for the grand-baby who’s due in just 6 weeks!

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**LOVE THIS GENIUS IDEA FROM SO SEW EASY!**

Make a non-slip pad for your sewing machine foot pedal! I know you can buy these pads, but wouldn’t making your own be a great little project? (I already made mine and will bring it for Show ‘n Share!) Find the instructions here:

YANKEE CHAPTER
SLATE OF OFFICERS 2015-2016

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 – No one assigned; everyone chips in!
Yard Sale - Ruthann Sisson, Karen Ouhrabka, Donna Costa

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

WELCOME BACK AGGIE!

Aggie Johnson has rejoined our Chapter, and a little birdie told us it’s because she has a grand-daughter arriving in short order! We are happy to have Aggie back with us.

LIBRARY NEWS

There was discussion at the September meeting regarding our library materials, which are currently nomads without a home! Marjory will check with the Community House to see if any storage can be obtained there. Carol Lanni volunteered to check with the Cumberland library as to whether our materials can be checked into the library system. Stay tuned for more details.

SERVICE PROJECT UPDATE

We’ll update the service project totals at the October meeting!

Keep on stitching those bonnets!

FREE MUG WARMER & MATCHING COASTER PATTERN!

These would be really nice for holiday gifts, perhaps for co-workers or a special teacher!

http://www.dailyholidayblog.com/2015/01/valentines-gift-basket-free-mug-warmer-pattern/

YANKEE CHAPTER MEETING DATES FOR THIS YEAR & NEXT:

2015:
November 9
December 14 (Holiday Party/Yankee Swap)

2016:
January 11
February 8
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 13 (Yard Sale)
NEXT MEETING – October 12, 2015 – WHAT TO BRING:

- Supplies for Your Pumpkin – Lace, buttons, stuffing.
- Your Chapter Dues if not yet paid
- Show-and-Share Items
- Preemie Bonnets
- Donations for Door Prizes
- Delicious Goodies to Share

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!

Yankee Chapter SAGA
c/o Donna A. Costa
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