**Smocking Arts Guild of America**  
**Yankee Chapter**  
**Cumberland, Rhode Island**

**February, 2018 Issue**  
**This Month’s Meeting: February 12, 2018**  
**Doors Open at 6:30 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 miles to Hillside Road.

**PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY!**

We hope that you have had a good holiday season and have taken advantage of the winter weather to complete some of those UFOs (unfinished objects) or start and complete new ones! Maybe you had the opportunity to travel to Sewing at the Beach and have lots of projects to share at our next meeting. We are all looking forward to seeing them during Show and Share.

The next holiday at our doorstep is Valentine’s Day - time for spreading love! Has anyone done a cute smocked heart dress? Perhaps you have done some other cute Valentine project. Let’s not forget that February is National Smocking Month! It’s a perfect time to renew your love of smocking!

If you have not renewed your national SAGA dues yet, do so today. It is very easy to do at the website even if you don’t have a Paypal account. You can also renew by mail. We’ll have a few forms at the meeting for those members who need them.

The Yankee project this month is a cell phone plop. Sounds easy and handy. Thanks to Donna Costa and Ruthann Sisson for finding diverse and wonderful programs for us every month.

See you on the 12th!  
Pat & Jane
Our February Program will be the Cell Phone or Tablet Holder “Plop”, a project designed by Rob Appell of Man Sewing.

We will be making the smaller version of the “plop”, suitable for holding a cell phone. Your handout will include directions for making the larger version which can be used to prop up a small tablet-type device, so you’ll be able to go home, grab some fabric from your stash, and make another one!

Your kit will include a piece of fabric for the plop, some poly pellets for stuffing, and of course complete instructions and a pattern. All for the bargain price of just $4.00!

If you want to construct your Plop at the meeting, you should bring: pins, scissors, and a funnel (makes it easier to get the pellets in!). We will have a couple of sewing machines set up for you to use. If you’re planning to take your kit home to sew it, just bring yourself!

And never fear, we are not missing out on any programs after our January cancellation. The rest of the year will shape up as follows:

March: Introduction to Sashiko. Make a coaster!
April: Smocked Eyeglass or Scissor Case.
May: Smocked Clamshell Flowers.
June: Scissor Fob and/or Needle Threader Holder.
Make one, make both, your choice!

Look at This Wreath!

Yes, it is a ton of work (as the author of this article admits!). But I think it looks just awesome. Any sewer would love it! Find the instructions here:


FOSTER KIDS BAGS—WE HAVE MORE KITS!

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. Elsewhere in this newsletter you’ll find a thank-you for all our efforts!
Another Adventure with Sandi! Sewing at the Beach!

This year was a special one for Sewing at the Beach… it made 25 years! I was supposed to leave on Thursday, but there was 18” of snow that day in Westport! So that meant I had to make the drive in one day on Friday to be in class on Saturday. My mom, her friend Susie, and I drove down to Myrtle Beach, leaving at 5:00 am and arriving at 11:30 pm. There was heavy traffic in Virginia that was at a stand-still so we finally got off an exit to eat supper. The locals told us that they didn’t plan the Route 95 highway for future traffic, thus the delays “always”!

On Saturday and Sunday I took Vaune’s class. She taught us Emily Elizabeth, a cape made of navy wool and dress made of red corduroy and Liberty fabric. I just loved this class!

On Monday I took another class with Vaune which was a dress that we did using "spaghetti bias" flowers. It was a white piqué with pink, orange, blue and green spaghetti bias, outlined with pink and white checked bias.

My Tuesday class was with Jan Kerton making a Sue Spargo pocketbook using circles and different stitches like the German twisted knot.

On Thursday I had Terry Click who showed us how to do bobbin work using different threads like crochet threads, DMC floss, and such. She had us wind our bobbin at a very slow speed...that was the trick! This technique was awesome to me!! I left class early by a half-day so we could get home before the ice storm on Saturday!

Editor’s Note: Sandi, we can’t wait to see all these projects!!

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 2018:
March 12, 2018
April 9, 2018
May 14, 2018
June 11, 2018

**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.

**HOSPITALITY INFO FOR FEBRUARY**
If your last name begins with the Letter D through the Letter L, please bring the goodies this month!

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

**NEXT MEETING: February 12, 2018**

**WHAT TO BRING:**
- Your enthusiasm for our program!
- Sewing supplies if you plan to make the Plop at the meeting (see program info)
- Completed Foster Kids’ Bags & Other Service Project Items
- Dessert if you’re assigned
- Show-and-Share
January 31st, 2018

From: Hollie Galloway: Administrator for the Sew for Foster Children Program

353 Fry Pond Rd.

West Greenwich, RI 02817

To: Yankee SAGA members of the local chapter of the Smocking Art’s Guild

Dear volunteers,

On behalf of the Sew for Foster Children’s program of RI, I want to extend my deepest appreciation for the handmade bags that were recently donated to our program.

Foster children often times show up in a new foster home or group home with very little and sometimes nothing.

They are given a black trash bag in which to put whatever belongings they have. It is our intention through the help of volunteers to change this and provide handmade bags and some supplies to get them started. So, I want to thank all the women who participated in this program. Particularly, I would like to thank Ruthann who coordinated the effort.

Time, money and effort were spent producing the bags and getting the supplies and I am so grateful for what you have done.

Best wishes to everyone at Yankee Saga.

Sincerely,

Hollie Galloway