**Refreshments**

 Refreshments are provided by members at all meetings and members assist with setting up and cleaning up. The first letter of your last name determines the monthly meeting for which you are requested to support refreshments. Members providing refreshments will receive an additional raffle ticket for the meeting raffle. Be sure to mention this upon check-in!

**April Refreshments: U through Z**

Nancy Spirito is our Refreshments Chairperson and may be contacted at:

 bridalfinerydesign@gmail.com

**For Sale or Free**

 Have you been spring cleaning in your

 Sewing room? Need to make space for some

 unique purchases on the New York shopping

 trip? Please consider setting up a table at our

 meetings to sell or give away sewing/craft

 related items.

 Have a sewing/craft related business? Why

 not consider showcasing/selling your items at

 a meeting? Please limit your selling space to

 one table.

**DIRECTIONS TO GREENWICH CLUB**

**From the South**: Take 95 North to exit 8A (Rt. 2 Warwick/E. Greenwich). Stay on Rt.2, go to the traffic light at the Showcase Cinema, take a left onto Division Street (Rt. 401), follow to 2nd traffic light, and take right onto Post Road/Rt. 1. The Greenwich Club, 5426 Post Road, is on your left.

**From the North**: Take 95 South to exit 9 (Rt. 4 South). Take the first exit which will bring you to Rt. 401 (E. Greenwich/Division St.). At the end of the exit ramp facing straight, take a right turn onto Division Street. **Continue to follow above directions once on Division Street.**

**Executive Board**

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**May Meeting**

**May 1, 2018**

 Please join us for our May meeting program “**Orange Lingerie”** as we explore the world of sewing lingerie. Our program presenter will be Norma Loehr, the founder and creative director of Orange Lingerie.

 Norma Loehr spent her youth as an avid seamstress and designer but put it aside to focus on a career in finance. When she could not locate a luxury custom bra making service in North America, Norma left her position at a major Wall Street firm in New York to focus on the study and practice of custom bra making and founded Orange Lingerie. Based in Boston, her company is focused on working with sewists to make their own beautiful and professional looking lingerie with Orange Lingerie's modern sewing patterns.

 Norma will be talking about the importance of lingerie in sewing. This topic includes how a bra should fit, how properly fitting undergarments help with the fit of your clothing and how sewing lingerie improves your sewing skills. Members can read more about Norma and see her work at [http://www.orange-lingerie.com](http://www.orange-lingerie.com/)

*Please note that this will be our last meeting of the RISN membership year. Meetings will resume in October*.

**April Show and Share**

 Jan Fetcher opened our Show and Share with an Elephant Quilt Design from a 1970’s “Better Home & Garden” magazine. Naomi Lipsky copied a white linen blouse and created another blouse from an embroidered tablecloth. While teaching the MS1 Tailoring class, Jane Headley made a wool tailored coat with a beautiful border print silk lining from McCall’s 6172. Robbin Donahue showed 2 more custom handbags. One bag was created in white leather with a flying pigs lining for the “Flying Pig Store” in Arizona where she will be attending a digitizing embroidery conference. The second bag was made from very lightweight cork purchased from Portugal. Christine Anderson, a guest in attendance, showed interesting woven mat “rugs” made from wool and acrylic scrap fabrics. She was inspired from the book “Rug Maker’s Homestead”. Diane Martin modeled her new buttermilk jeans. Her students in the MS II Pants Drafting Class now learn how to draft trousers, slacks and jeans.

***Special thanks to Karen Morisseau and Diane Martin for taking newsletter notes during the April meeting.***

**RISN Service Project Update**

 Mary Jo Hines asks members to keep working on the Preemie Vests for donation to NICU at Women and Infants Hospital. Completed vests can be brought to any RISN meeting. All Preemie Vests should be turned in by the May meeting. Please contact Mary Jo for a pattern and instructions.

**RISN Meetings**

**GREENWICH CLUB**

**5426 Post Road**

**East Greenwich, Rhode Island**

**02818**

**First Tuesday of the Month**

 **@ 7:00 pm**

***October/November/December***

***March/April/May***

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**New York City Shopping Trip**

**June 6, 2018**

 Looking for unique fabric and notions? The New York City fabric district abounds with places to purchase unique items to add to your stash and spark your creative sewing imagination. Please see the attached New York Trip registration form. The deadline to purchase tickets will be May 11, 2018. A minimum of 20 people must attend to run the trip.

**April Program Highlights**

 Our April program, “Inspirations to Runway”, was presented by Susan Troy who took RISN members on a slide show journey of her path to presenting her Styleweek Providence Collections.

 Susan sewed from an early age making her prom dresses and wedding dresses for her sisters. In 1993 she earned her MS1 Certificate and was inspired to earn a BA in Fiber Arts from UMass Dartmouth. Dying natural fabrics, printing, and piecing appears frequently throughout her collections. Susan took us through several college project involving chair coverings, hand-dyed silk screen yardage with potato starch, cutwork with organza, and many design boards. By 2009 she received her MSII Certificate and in 2011 she decided to attend The School of Fashion Design in Boston, MA. She was ready to begin her 2015 collections for Styleweek that spanned from Spring / Summer to Fall /Winter 2017. In these collections she used natural fabrics; silk, linen, organza, wools, chiffon and bamboo knits. Her neckline accessories were crocheted using a linen / stainless steel thread and others with fine wire. Members were impressed by the many garments she displayed with hand-dying, silk screen on chiffon, and original artwork prints digitized to cloth. Susan was gracious with her knowledge explaining each process and answering questions. She suggests checking fashiontrendsetter.com and Pantone for color research each year. Susan buys her dyes from ProChem in Fall River and her fabrics were purchased in white from Nature’s Fabrics and custom dyed. She cautioned that fabrics will have different results with the same dyes. Salt added to the dye bath will make the colors more even. A dye activator added last will set the dye. It was great to touch and feel the finished garments and take in all the fine details up close following the program.

**Facebook Update**

Stay inspired and keep in touch with your RISN sewing friends through the summer by joining RISN’s private Facebook group. Please contact Robbin Donahue for information or to join the group.

**RISN 2018-2019**

 **Programs and Presenters**

 The RISN Executive Board is seeking suggestions for program ideas and/or presenters for our 2018-2019 meeting year. Please contact Diane Martin with your suggestions and contact information for a speaker.