

# HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



## DECEMBER 2019

### OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Raritan Township Police Station multi purpose room. Our meetings this month will be on Fridays, December 20 and 27, 2019, from 10am until 2pm. Business meetings occur at the beginning of the meeting on third Fridays.

### MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 59 paid members. Dues are \$15 per year and Shirley C. will begin collecting 2020 dues at our January meeting.

## **DECEMBER 2019 PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Recently, one of my nieces sent me an article that discussed how important “preparation” is to our enjoyment of rituals and tasks. This discussion seems particularly appropriate this time of year, when we “throw” ourselves into the holidays. We decorate, we bake, we cook and we create gifts. The article made the argument that the greater your effort to prepare for any event, the greater the personal reward that you will receive from celebrating that event. It could be as simple as preparing for a weekly family dinner, or as great as decorating your entire house and garden with lights and family heirlooms.

Those of us who create gifts for friends, families, or even strangers, understand that “extra” effort and reward. On the surface, there is nothing that is inherently more valuable about an object or food that we create than one that is purchased in a store. Yes, you can buy cookies, hats, socks, chocolates, breads and ornaments. And, yes, those gifts will certainly be appreciated by the recipients. BUT, when you make those items “a gift of your hands”, there is an intangible value added that can make that gift almost glow. We like to add our efforts to mundane objects so that the recipients know that there is love and respect added to their gifts.

My mother used to wonder why people “fussed so much” this time of year, although she enjoyed the holiday lights and tasty sweets. After all, she often stated, you go to all that work, just to take it down 6 weeks later. Why bother? Well, the answer might well be that you “bother” so that you add even more satisfaction to your days, and to help make the “giving” season even more rewarding.

Best Holiday Wishes to all, where ever and however you are celebrating!

Sue

## **DECEMBER 2019 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving has whizzed by, and now we are moving on to December. Many of those needing warm hats, scarves and mittens will receive them this year thanks to you. Whether you knitted, crocheted or purchased your gifts, you gave generously. The total weight of the items delivered was 8.5 pounds of yarn. You have made a significant contribution to warming the children of the working poor through the non-profit organization,

People Helping People. The attached photo illustrates the quantity of our work. Thank you.



There is no formal program for December. Our meetings on December 20th and 27th will allow members time to knit or crochet on whatever project they are currently working on. Maybe it will provide you with extra time to finish a gift or a project you are hoping to complete before 2020. Maybe it will give you time to work on your next charity project. Of course, show and tells are always a wonderful addition to our meetings. Please bring any projects you would like to share.

I have enclosed a photo of an antique quilt, measuring 67.5 inches x 79.5 inches, that has been donated to the Guild. The hope is to find it a good home. I will bring the quilt to our December meetings if you would like a closer look. If more than one member is interested, we will have a drawing at our winter luncheon to determine the winner.



Doris

## OUTREACH AND ONGOING PROJECTS

If you know of any local non-profit organizations that would benefit from knitted and crocheted items made by our members, please let us know so we may include them here, on the next page.

**Warm Up America:** An ongoing project, the goal of this nation-wide effort is to provide warm crocheted or knitted afghans to anyone in need. They are

distributed by The Red Cross and Salvation Army to victims of natural disasters, area homeless, and to families and individuals who have lost their homes and belongings due to fire, flood or tornadoes. Forty-nine blocks that measure 7" X 9" are joined together to complete an afghan. Use your leftover and stash yarn to make some 7"x 9" knitted and/or crocheted blocks and bring them to a meeting. Myra will continue to collect them throughout the year.

**Knitted Knockers:** You can find out information about donating knitted knockers for mastectomy patients at [www.knittedknockers.org](http://www.knittedknockers.org)

**1898 Seamens' Watch Cap Project:** (idea provided by our member Rosemary G.), details for making and sending at:

<http://seamenschurch.org/sites/default/files/sci-1898-hat-kristine-byrnesweb-w-schematic.pdf/>

**Wigs and Fun Hats for Children:** [www.halokkeepers.org](http://www.halokkeepers.org)

**Twiddle Muffs For Cognitively Impaired People:** Refer to our recent email with the crocheted and knitted versions of the Twiddle Muff pattern attached, or you can also find the patterns by doing a Google search.

## UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

### December 2019

7 - 8	Berry Meadow Farm Alpaca Gift & Open Barn Sales
14 - 15	6 Pleasant View Manor Road, Pittstown, NJ
21 - 22	10 am – 4 pm

### January 2020

17 – 19	Vogue Knitting Live New York Marriott Marquis, NYC
24	Winter Luncheon (following Guild meeting) Al Fresco's, 100 Reaville Avenue, Flemington, NJ
24	All items due for the February Guild Showcase at Hunterdon County Library, main branch

- 31 Winter Fiber Retreat (extending through 2/2)  
Amish View Inn, Bird in Hand, Lancaster County, PA  
Contact Barbara Tanner, 717-738-0650 for more info

February 2020

- 1 – 2 Winter Fiber Retreat (continued from 1/31)  
Amish View Inn, Bird in Hand, Lancaster County, PA  
Contact Barbara Tanner, 717-738-0650 for more info
- 1 – 28 Hunterdon Knit Crochet Guild Showcase  
Hunterdon County Library, main branch



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**Please visit our website at [www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com](http://www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com) and our Facebook page!**