

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



2016

OUR MEETINGS

All of our meetings from September 2015 through June 2016 will be held at the Raritan Township Municipal Bldg. (Police Station). Our meetings this month are **Friday, February 19th, and Friday, February 26th**. The hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 54 members listed on our roster, including new and renewed members.

A Friendly Welcome to newest member Laura M!

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I imagine we are all dug out by now and awaiting a February thaw. The *sheeple* (sheep people) have spent the last 8 days locked up in the big barn, going out only to travel through the "tunnel" I dug for them last Saturday to the sheep shed where they eat their grain morning and evening. After eating the grain they travel back to the big pen in the barn for hay and cud chewing. It is amazing how quickly they adapted to the new schedule and the single file journey to each meal and back.

They are a lot like you and I, adjusting nicely to life's little or big inconveniences. The blizzard of 2016 brought its share of problems, but also lots of time to knit, sit by the fire and read and bake all sorts of goodies. I am thankful for those comforts.

Speaking of thankful, what a fantastic program we had this past month! I was so impressed by how well received our measuring session went and how much fun everyone seemed to have. I have never had the opportunity to get really accurate measurements and have had several sweaters disasters due to lack of that knowledge - no more football player shoulders or short-waisted vests for me. I

also couldn't believe what wonderful apps are out there pretty much free for the asking on both Android and Apple platforms.

Thank you so much to our program ladies, Trudy, Mary and Sue for bringing them to our attention and spearheading the measurement activity. I can't wait to see what is on this month's program menu. See you all soon.

OUR OFFICERS AND STAFF FOR 2015-2016

President – Georgia Muhs

Vice President – Barbara Osmolski

Secretary – Jane Manley

Treasurer - Barbara Schibilia

Membership - Shirley Covert

Program Co-Chairs – Trudy Grimm & Doris Gullion

Newsletter/Publicity Chairperson – Mary Shanahan

THIS MONTH'S PROJECTS WILL BE...

February 19, Follow-Up of Phone Apps Presentation.

Having trouble getting started with your newly downloaded knitting and crochet app? Just ask and we'll help you on your way to success.

On February 26:

Making Our Own Buttons

Personalize your finished project, a sweater or vest, a cowl or "button scarf", with crocheted or knitted custom buttons. There are many ideas on the following websites. Look at the following websites and assemble your materials. Bring them to the meeting and we will work on them together.

For crochet buttons, visit <https://www.pinterest.com/explore/crochet-buttons/>

For knitted button samples, visit

https://www.google.com/search?q=knitted+buttons&rlz=1C1CHWA_enUS613US613&espv=2&biw=1366&bih=643&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwixYaLjNjKAhWkpB4KHrZAt4QsAQIGw

Both February 19 and 26, Knit and Crochet for Charity.

Bring in a project you have started, or bring materials to begin a new charity item. We have several outreach programs to which we currently contribute. Refer to the end of this Newsletter if you need suggestions.

KNITTERS UNITE SUCCESS!

After digging out from under the feet of snow "Jonas" dumped on us, I dropped off the last of the Guild's donations for Veterans Haven North on Wed. Jan. 27. A note at the library stated that as of January 20, there had been *220 hats and 110*

scarves donated, and there were *more* items still on display in the library! Linda Zdepski, the library's organizer, has been so pleased and overwhelmed by the response of donors. Recently Veterans Haven North had approximately 95% male and 5% female residents so the variety of colors and patterns has been wonderful. Linda also said one of the nicest aspects of the program is that 'recipients can go through and pick out a hand made item from the collection, all of the hats and scarves unique, and they have something special to keep them warm' as they get back their lives.

Thank you to all who have supported this effort. It has been so gratifying to drop off our donations and see the contributions from many wonderful hands.

VOGUE KNITTING LIVE (VKL), NYC!

What a crowd! Saturday was a busy day at VKL – booths crowded, tough to walk the aisles and escalators, so many yummy yarns to see and touch and dream about! There were authors and designers such as Lori Versaci to personally advise about her own pattern designs *and autograph* them as you purchase 😊 Barb and I agreed, the Knitted Knockers touched our hearts. We both bought kits and can't wait to make them and return them for distribution. When doctors bring them out for patients to choose from, patients are surprised and thankful for the gift of the return of their self-image. Knitted Knockers connects volunteer knitters with breast cancer survivors. Here is their website for more info:

<http://www.knittedknockers.org/>

YarnIt ... I was so excited to design my own glittered bowl with a red base; bling for my knitting projects! Now, I can bring my covered yarn to the StitchNPitch or WWKIP Day without worrying about the yarn getting dirty before it becomes a finished product. We had fun! It was exhausting but so gratifying. Can't wait for next year!!!

SAVE THESE 2016 DATES ... UPCOMING EVENTS

A post from the New Jersey Wool Walk Community on Facebook states "The NJ Wool Walk is 4 days of fun and yarny goodness for knitters, crocheters, weavers & spinners ... with 14 participating yarn shops!" This year's dates will be **April 14-17**.

Copied from: <https://www.facebook.com/NJWoolWalk/>

WWKIP Day (Worldwide Knit In Public Day) is scheduled for Saturday, **June 18**.

StitchNPitch is scheduled for the Thursday, **August 18** Somerset Patriots' Game, and is a Fireworks night.

OUTREACH

As always, if you know of any local non-profit organizations who are struggling and who would benefit from knitted and crocheted items made by our members, please let us know and I will happily include them here.

“Hope for Veterans” - Items Always Needed: Men and Women Veterans who live in the residence associated with the Lyons Veterans’ Hospital in Liberty Corner, NJ, are in need of hats, scarves and socks. These are veterans who cannot go out to get their own supplies so we would like to help out by using our talents to make the items they need. A reminder that it is preferred that we do not visit the facility, so a contact from the residence has agreed to pick up whatever we can donate by meeting a Guild member at the library.

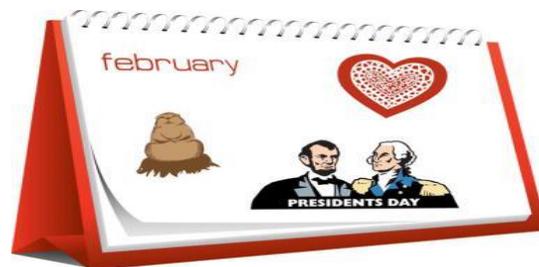
PLEASE NOTE: Barbara O or Mary S will collect finished items and arrange delivery to organization representatives.

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.

SHOW AND TELL --- Our Members Have Been Busy!

In January we saw many donation items from our members. Thank you to all for the lovely hats, scarves and socks that were brought in for Knitters Unite. Members have also been bringing in squares for Warm Up America. Thank you for continuing to support our Outreach Efforts!

Please visit our website www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com for further updates.



“February” Clip Art from: <http://webclipart.about.com/od/holiday/a/february.htm>

And from: <http://www.mycutegraphics.com/graphics/month/february/month-of-february-snowman-love.html>