

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



LADY KNITTING BY KARL ALBERT BUEHER

FEBRUARY 2019

OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Raritan Township Police Station multi purpose room. Our meetings this month will be on Fridays, February 15th and 22nd , 2019, from 10am until 2pm. Business meetings occur at the beginning of the meeting on third Fridays.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 56 members. Dues are \$15 per year.

Dues are currently being collected. Please submit dues in person or by mail to Shirley C. as soon as possible. **Shirley's address is: P.O. Box 387, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853.**

Once current year membership has been updated, a new directory will be distributed to all members via email. That will be accompanied by our new Photo Directory that has been completed by Karen K. and Karen M. **The directory is only for use by members to contact other members on personal business.**

FEBRUARY 2019 PRESIDENTS' LETTER

February! The days are getting longer, the seed catalogs are more plentiful, and our homes are almost back to normal after the holidays. Doris has some wonderful programs and guests planned for us over the upcoming months. And, for those meetings without a "formal" program, we have the opportunity to stitch and share our work.

We have a lovely group of knitters and crocheters. At every meeting, there will be members with an interesting work-in-progress, or a lovely finished object, or a new notion, book, pattern or some yarn. These are the things we like to "share", along with perhaps, a few updates about family members. And then, Trudy (our unofficial photographer) creates FB posts that "share" our work with others.

"Sharing" is such an ancient concept, but, unfortunately, in the age of Facebook, Twitter and other social media, the act of "sharing" has become rife with negative connotations. On several podcasts (non-knitting) that I listen to, commentators have bemoaned the changes in our dialogue, in what we "share". Interestingly, these are not only baby boomers, but the so-called millennials as well. In eras that pre-date social media, the world "shared" in a similar fashion to our Guild. Topics involved life, nature, interests and hobbies, and perhaps the news. But when "sharing" in person, vitriol and falsehoods rarely surfaced. As my husband says, "Talk of religion and politics was never allowed at holiday family gatherings."

We need to encourage each other to continue to “share” all of those lovely things that we share in person, whether we are sharing in person, or online. In the “old days”, our parents taught us, “If you can’t say anything nice, don’t say anything at all.” A few days ago, I learned this acronym that is the corollary for the digital age:

T.H.I.N.K. before you share online.

T: Is it **True**?

H: Is it **Helpful** to whatever conversation you are joining?

I: Does it **Improve** and **Inform** the conversation?

N: Is it **Necessary**?

K: Is it **Kind**?

I am going to try to do my best THINKing.

Sue

JANUARY 2019 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

As I write this, we are on the periphery of the Polar Vortex. My husband suggested this is a conspiracy set forth by the fiber industry to keep us buying yarn for knitting and crocheting warm clothing. Nothing wrong with that!! On Friday, February 15th, following a short business meeting, we are having a special presentation. Carole Schumann (and I think her husband Kevin) will be coming to tell us about Berry Meadow Farm. They will be presenting information about their farm, the process from raw fiber to finished yarn for both sheep and alpacas, and they will be doing a demonstration/tutorial on preparing thrums. They will be bringing thrummed mitten kits which will be on sale for \$54. Thrummed mittens may be exactly what we need with this cold blast. In addition, they will bring items for a trunk show along with some of their products.

The following meeting on February 22 will give us time to chat and work on projects as well as admire any items that arrive for “show and tell.” Hope to see you at our February meetings. Remember to look through your closets and drawers for an item to share in March. This item may be one of your first projects, a vintage piece you love, or any skein of yarn or finished item with a story. We will be sharing our memories in March.

Doris



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

OUTREACH AND ONGOING PROJECTS

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

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.

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-byrnes-web-w-schematic.pdf/>

WIGS AND FUN HATS FOR CHILDREN

www.halokeepers.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.

Stay tuned for more information on the outcome of the 10000 Knitters Project listed in the November Newsletter. The kits for the project were completely sold out.

Please visit our website at www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com

and our Facebook page!

See the separate email attachment for Knitting History Trivia of The Month!

Newsletter compiled by Lisa M.