

# HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER

**JANUARY  
2023**



Knit for Peace, a registered charity, matches knitters with good causes.  
Knitting is good for the knitter and the output keeps people warm: it's win win.  
Photo from Knit for Peace, Radius Works, Back Lane, London

## **OUR MEETINGS**

Our Guild meetings this month will be on Fridays, January 20 & 27, 2023 from 10am until 2pm. The meetings will be held at the Raritan Police Station in Flemington.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Our membership stands at 49 members. Dues are \$15 per year and due this month. Dues can be paid during an in-person meeting, sent by check to Shirley Covert at her PO Box, or through our PayPal account.

## JANUARY 2023 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy New Year to all of you!

I hope your Holidays were healthy, happy, and spent with those you love. I had a wonderful week with all my children.

We are beginning a new year and hope to have your input on the things you would like to learn or places you might like to visit this year and we can plan accordingly.

I look forward to our luncheon at Al Fresco's on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 P.M. and spending some quality time with you.

Linda Z.

## JANUARY 2023 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

As we enter the New Year, we have lots of expectations for all we hope to accomplish. Thanks to many of you, I have several beautiful blankets to deliver to the Linus Project this month. I also have many hats, scarves, and cowls to send off to the Seamen's Church Institute. If you have any additional items for these charities, please bring them to our meetings this month. The Food Pantry in Flemington is also accepting items. In the past, I have left hats, scarves, shawls, socks, cowls, gloves, and mittens there. Those accepting these donations were extremely grateful. Please continue to keep charity projects on your list of items to knit or crochet. We, as a Guild, have been given so much yarn. I have to believe those who have sent it to us would be delighted to have it ultimately given to charities.

Our January 27, Rosemary will demonstrate the knitting technique called "**Steeking.**" Steeking involves cutting along the vertical axis of your knitting to make an opening. One may then reinforce both sides of the cut edge.

In knitting, **steeking** is a shortcut used to knit garments such as sweaters in the round without interruption for openings or sleeves until the end. After completing a tube, a straight line is cut along the center of a column of stitches, to make room for an opening or place to attach another piece.

This technique was developed by the knitters of the Shetland archipelago and is particularly associated with Fair Isle sweaters, although it can be used for solid colors as well.

If you would like to try your hand at steeking, please knit a sample at least 8" x 8" using wool yarn. You would probably prefer to use worsted weight yarn

since your sample will knit up faster. Rosemary will then demonstrate how to cut (yes, you will need scissors) your sample and reinforce the cut edges.

This is a helpful technique to add to your knitting skills toolbox.

Looking forward to seeing you at our luncheon on Thursday, January 19, our meeting on Friday, January 20, and our lesson on January 27.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Doris

## CHARITY KNITTING SUGGESTIONS

The Guild has supported these charities in the past. Many of these sites have suggested yarns and needles or hooks along with patterns.

**Brady Beanies:** <https://bradybeanie.org/> Our mission is "to keep heads warm and share the warmth with those in need". Anita Brady, a Guild member, has established this charity in memory of her husband Mike. She is collecting and distributing knitted and crocheted adult hats. You pick the pattern, the yarn, and the needles. All adult hats are welcome.

**Knitted Knockers:** <https://www.knittedknockers.org/> Knitted Knockers are soft, comfortable knitted (crocheted) prosthetics for breast cancer survivors. This organization connects volunteer knitters and crocheters with breast cancer survivors to offer free "Knitted Knockers" to any woman who wants them. These knockers can only be distributed if made from approved yarns and approved patterns. Be sure to check their website.

**Update:** For the time being we are encouraging people to make up what they have and provide them locally rather than sending them to us or consider adopting a clinic near you. We have over 700 clinics still wishing to be adopted. You can check for clinics near you at: <https://www.knittedknockers.org/adopt-a-medical-clinic/>. We can always send you unstuffed knockers to supplement your supply. Just request the "Supplemental Knockers" under the 'Contact Us' link at the top right-hand corner of our website.

If you still want to send to us, please knit or crochet up what you have making pairs of neutral and dark colored D and DDs as we have an

abundance of all other sizes. Before purchasing more yarn check back periodically to see when we can use more. Please know we really appreciate you and are not saying don't make more knockers! Due to covid and the challenges of distributing them we just find that we have more than enough for now. We appreciate all of you and the difference you are making in so many lives! It is truly stunning what together we are accomplishing!

**Project Linus:** <https://www.projectlinus.org> Project Linus is a non-profit organization providing new handmade blankets to children in need. Become a volunteer "blanketeer" and donate a handmade blanket or Afghan to benefit children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. Handmade blankets provide a sense of security, warmth, and comfort to the children. These gifts of new handmade blankets and Afghans, lovingly created by volunteers like you are greatly needed and appreciated. Doris Gullion will collect and deliver your donations for Project Linus at our monthly meetings. You are welcome to contact Hunterdon & Warren Counties Chapter Project Linus Coordinator: Diane P. at (908) 391-0578 for more information.

**Seamen's Church Institute:** <https://seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea>  
The historic name of this volunteer program, *Christmas at Sea*, only partially describes the work of the people who make holidays a little warmer for mariners. While gift distribution happens during winter months, collection and creation of items happens year-round. While many gifts go to international mariners working "at sea," thousands of gifts also go to mariners working on inland waterways here in the United States. Knit and crochet patterns are available for hats, scarves, socks, slippers, a vest, and a ditty bag.

**Warm Up America:** The following link will connect with a brochure describing the Warm Up America organization mission and project specifications for baby blankets, lap blankets and friendship shawls.

[https://www.craftyarncouncil.com/files/WUA\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.craftyarncouncil.com/files/WUA_brochure.pdf)

**Knitters Unite (on behalf of the Flemington Food Pantry):** Knitter's Unite is looking for donations of hats, scarves, socks, and mittens in support of our local area food pantry.

<http://www.hclibrary.us/pdfs/programs/knittersunite.pdf>

There are numerous other charities looking for knitters and crocheters to help them meet their mission statement goals. If you have a favorite not mentioned here, please email Doris at [dgullion48@gmail.com](mailto:dgullion48@gmail.com) She will gladly include them in our next Guild newsletter.

***BEST WISHES FOR A HEALTHY,  
PEACEFUL AND...***



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our Facebook page!**