

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2024

OUR MEETINGS

Our Guild meetings for the month of March will be on Friday the 15th and the 22nd, 2024. Meetings will be held at the Hunterdon County Main Library on Route 12 in Flemington in the media room on the lower level beginning at 10 am until 12 pm.

Tuesday Evening Meetings are held weekly from 6 pm until 8 pm at the Hunterdon County Main Library on Route 12 in the media room on the lower level. We will be meeting on March 5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th 2024.

Inclement Weather: Meeting Cancellations will follow the Flemington/Raritan school closing schedule. <https://www.frsd.k12.nj.us/> and for closures at the library: <https://hclibrary.us/about/closures>

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 68 members. As of January 1, 2024, dues are \$25 per year and can be paid during an in-person meeting, sent by check to Shirley Covert at P. O. Box 387, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853, or through our PayPal account "Hunterdon Knitting and Crochet Guild".

OUR OFFICERS AND STAFF TEAM

Linda Zarnett, President	Meredith Higgins, Vice President
Christine Jochem, Secretary	Bertha Gessner, Treasurer
Shirley Covert, Membership Chair	Doris Gullion, Program Chair
Virginia Wodock, Newsletter Chair	Mary Jane Coniglio, Facebook Coordinator

MARCH 2024 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Ladies!

As I write to you, the wind is blowing hard enough to cause the boughs of my trees to sway. The news report claims heavy snow will arrive late tonight but as I finish what I started to write this morning the sun is shining; the wind is quiet, and the trees are still. I am hoping we missed out on the bad weather.

Our Library cases got a lot of compliments for the showcased projects. Thank you all for sharing your crafts for the public to admire. I have the projects from the Tuesday night group and Mary Jane C. has them for our Friday group.

March 16th Saturday is Makers Day at all the Libraries, and we will be in the Main library, the South library and in Flemington library.

Stay warm, Healthy and Happy!

Linda Z.

MARCH 2024 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Bulbs peeking through the ground, daylight lasting beyond 4:30 p.m. and daytime temperatures beginning to rise, all signal that spring is just around the corner.

As we enter March there are several projects in the works at the Guild. In addition to the many charitable items that are being worked on, patterns are available for a felted Christmas stocking (see Rosemary) and a felted bag or wine carrier (see Doris G.) For felted project ideas visit Ravelry or the Hunterdon library has two Pursenalities: 20 Great Felted Bags books available. One for felted knitted bags and another for felted crochet bags. Since many new washing machines lack an agitator, an improvised felting process will be used. Rosemary has also found a two-color hat pattern that, in the future, may be used to teach two-handed, two-color knitting if anyone is interested. You are once again invited to teach a technique or suggest a technique you would like to learn.

I once again have several blankets that I will deliver to the Linus Project along with some hats and other items for the Food Bank in Flemington. Please consider knitting or crocheting something for one of our charities. Items you make can be

brought to the Guild meetings and one of our members will see that they reach their destination.

Doris G.

CHARITY KNITTING SUGGESTIONS

The Guild supports these charities and suggested yarn, needles or hooks are provided at these sites 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 appreciate all of you and the difference you are making in so many lives! It is truly stunning what together we are accomplishing!

The Peyton Heart Project: <http://www.thepeytonheartproject.org> The Mission of the Peyton Heart Project is to help raise global awareness about suicide, bullying, and to help end the stigma surrounding mental health issues. The Peyton Heart Project was inspired by a 13-year-old boy named Peyton James who died by suicide in 2014. Delicate hearts are crocheted, knitted, made by simply wrapping yarn around cardboard hearts, or made with fabric. Each heart has a special tag attached with an inspirational saying sharing hope, kindness, and love. There are patterns to make the hearts, tags and information within the Peyton Heart Project link noted above. To donate hearts, contact Ginny Wodock at piecedtogether4u@gmail.com.

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

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 She will gladly include them in our next Guild newsletter.

SHOW AND TELL

Many are working on items for donation, gifts and for ourselves. Please bring in your projects to share with members at our meetings. You may inspire someone to try a new technique or style. Check our Facebook page for photos of our members amazing Knitting and Crocheting projects.



HAPPY SAINT PATRICKS DAY!!

Please visit our website at www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com

Facebook page: Hunterdon County Knitting and Crochet Guild

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HunterdonKnitCrochet>

Ravelry Group: https://www.ravelry.com/groups/hunterdon-county-knitting-and-crochet?s=tab&fbclid=IwAR2se1sznFroJL-23WptrRbV4MuVrPdQjYbVy9SiFXXpT6kp9-Q_PMbevOA