

# HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



## September 2019

### OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Raritan Township Police Station multi purpose room. Our meetings this month will be on Fridays, September 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 53 paid members. Dues are \$15 per year.

### SEPTEMBER 2019 PRESIDENTS' LETTER

Welcome back from summer to everyone! The end of August and the beginning of September bring a flurry of activity to everyone: the Fair, the NJ Sheep and Fiber Festival, and the presence of those big yellow vehicles out on the roads!

Via fiber community social media posts, we can observe everyone sharing the “itch” to get back to fall and winter knitting and crocheting, as well as the fall fiber festivals. We love summer, but the end of summer, with our bountiful fruit and vegetable harvest, as well as the promise of cooler “sweater weather” temperatures, awakens us.

I heard a remarkable statistic: there are over 30 million Americans who knit or crochet. The demographic breakdown of that figure is pretty evenly divided across the generations. 30 million! And that does not begin to count the fiber enthusiasts worldwide. Our fiber crafts are becoming more and more popular, as well as increasingly diverse across all demographics. As a result, we are enjoying lots of new designs, innovative color creations from hand dyers, and a great infusion of energy. As we “kick off” the fiber festival season, there will be so much energy and color to stimulate our creative juices! See you at the Festivals!

Sue

## **4H FAIR AWARDS**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to all our Guild ribbon winners at the Hunterdon County 4-H Fair. They are:

**KNITTING DIVISION:** Meredith H, Carolyn C, Karen M, Rosemary G, Linda Z, Michelle P, Lydia F, Sue P, Doris G, Bertha G, Georgia M, Micki C, and Ginny G

**CROCHET DIVISION:** Charlotte D, Linda Z, Kathryn V, and Rosemary G

**FELTED DIVISION:** Carolyn C, Georgia M, and Doris G

In addition, Micki C won the **Viewers’ Choice Award**, and Carolyn C won the **Best of Felted Award**.

## **SEPTEMBER 2019 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

As the last days of summer rapidly pass, the cool, crisp days of autumn are soon to arrive. By the time we meet on September 20, many of us will have visited the New Jersey Sheep and Fiber Festival to gather materials for our fall and winter projects. If you happen to visit the Festival and make a purchase,

bring it to “show and tell” along with any items you might have completed during the summer. In addition to the fiber festival in Hunterdon, there is The Lehigh Valley Fiber Festival, Saturday September 21, 10 to 5, Sunday September 22, 10 to 4 at Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA. Free admission and parking!

We have several requests for charity items this year, especially for warm winter scarves, hats, and mittens for both adults and children. Details for these requests will be provided at our meeting. Bring a project to work on and chat with your friends.

On Friday, September 27 we welcome Ann Ballantine. She taught herself needle felting and will demonstrate her technique for us. She will also bring some of her finished items for sale. Hope to see you on Fridays, September 20 and 27!

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-byrnes-web-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**

You may be interested in attending some of the following events in our (extended) area:

### September

- 7-8            Garden State Sheep & Fiber Festival  
                  Hunterdon County Fairgrounds, Lambertville, NJ
  
- 15             Catskills Fiber Festival  
                  Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, Bethel, NY
  
- 21-22         Lehigh Valley Fiber Festival  
                  Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA

### October

- 5-6            Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival  
                  Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Tunbridge, VT
  
- 12             King's County Fiber Festival  
                  Old Stone House & Washington Park, Brooklyn, NY
  
- 19-20         NY State Sheep and Wool Festival  
                  Dutchess County Fairgrounds, Rhinebeck, NY

November

- 2 Penns Valley Fiber Festival  
Old Gregg School & Community Ctr., Spring Mills, PA
- 2-3 Fiber Festival of New England  
Mallary Complex, Eastern States Exposition, W. Springfield, MA
- 9-10 Maryland Alpaca and Fleece Festival  
Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD



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