

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



2023

OUR MEETINGS

Our Guild meetings for September 2023 will be held on Friday the 15TH and 22ND, 2023 from 10 am until 2 pm at the Raritan Township Police Station in Flemington.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at #46 members. Dues are \$15 per year and can be paid during our next meeting, sent by check to Shirley Covert either to her P. O. Box, or through our PayPal account.

SEPTEMBER 2023 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Good morning Ladies,

Our beautiful fall weather has been sneaking in the last few nights but our return to the Guild Business starts now even though we have been busy this summer with our community programs.

Our stewardship in the 4H fair was very successful. We had more participation than last year and lots of wonderful projects were brought in for judging. I do hope you had an opportunity to see them.

As I write this, we were assigned space in the Grange Building for the NJ Sheep and Fiber Show at the 4H Fairgrounds. I do hope to see you there.

We will be going to Kraemer Yarns in Nazareth, PA for a tour on Friday September 22. Rosemary G and I will be carpooling with the participants.

See you all soon. Back to Business!

Linda Z

SEPTEMBER 2023 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

September is upon us and soon we will experience the many wonders of fall. With the change in the weather many organizations are gathering to share wool and fiber experiences including the New Jersey Fleece and Fiber Festival, September 9-10, classes with the New Jersey Fibershed (www.njfibershed.com), and the Sheep and Wool Festival in Rhinebeck, New York, October 21 – 22. Lots of opportunities to learn new techniques and gather supplies for winter projects. Should be fun!

I have not heard back yet from the knitwear designer, Alisa Hartzel. The hope is that she will be joining us on November 17 to describe her process for designing garments. If you have a technique you would like to teach, a book you would like to share or a speaker you would like to recommend please let me know. We have a talented group of knitters and crocheters, and perhaps we can learn from one another.

Please continue to find some time for charity knitting. The Guild has generously been given many skeins of yarn in a variety of colors, fibers, and weights. Maybe you can use one of them to make a hat for Brady Beanies, Seamen's Church Institute, the food pantry in Flemington, The Peyton Heart Project, or a project

for your favorite charity. Any adult hat pattern is welcomed at Brady Beanies and the Seamen's Church Institute has acceptable patterns on their website at <https://seamenschurch.org/programs-services/christmas-at-sea/patterns-publications/> Linus project is continually gathering blankets for children in distress. The "Peyton Heart Ladies" have scattered almost 10,000 hearts throughout Hunterdon County...help spread the love and kindness!!

Looking forward to seeing you at our September meetings on Friday, September 15 and Friday, September 22.

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 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!

The Peyton Heart Project: <http://www.thepeytonheartproject.org> The Mission of the Peyton Heart Project is to help stop suicide and bullying, to raise global awareness and 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. 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 to a brochure describing the Warm Up America organization mission and project specifications for baby blankets, lap blankets and friendship shawls.

https://www.craftyarnncouncil.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.



Please visit our website at www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com and our Facebook page!