

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2020

OUR MEETINGS

We have resumed our Guild meetings virtually, via Zoom, on the third and fourth Fridays of every month. However, there will be only one meeting in December, as Christmas is on the 4th Friday. Our Zoom meeting this month will be on Friday, December 18, 2020, from 10am until 2pm.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 55 paid members. Dues are \$15 per year and they are due in January. Please see the President's Letter for additional details.

DECEMBER 2020 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It might be my imagination, but, as I walk our neighborhood, I believe there are more holiday decorations than previous years. More lights, more lawn "tableaus", as well as more greenery around and on windows and doors. Everyone is united in the effort to bring some light and festiveness to December and the end of 2020. All of this decorating is so welcome! December brings Hanukkah, a holiday celebrating a miracle of light and Christmas, a miracle of hope. Our handmade gifts to family, friends and those in need bring much needed warmth, and a metaphysical "hug". There is no better way to mark the December holidays.

The entire Guild Executive Committee (Meredith, Mary Jane, Shirley, Bertha, Doris and Karen K) wish all of you a peaceful and healthy December. May your homes be filled with light, hope and warmth!

REMINDER: Our \$15 annual dues are due in January. Please mail a check (cash isn't advisable) to Shirley. Her address is listed in our Membership List that was sent out with the October newsletter. If you have misplaced the list, please email the Guild, and we will forward her address to you.

Sue

DECEMBER 2020 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Once again another month has flown by. The cold temperatures and blustery winds are upon us. This seems like a good time to focus on a knitting or crocheting project. With the holidays rapidly approaching, it is also time to think of handmade gifts. At our guild Zoom meeting on November 20, we were fortunate to have both Ann Ballantine with her unique needle felted creatures, and Carole Schumann with her innovatively designed knit and crochet patterns join our Zoom meeting. Carole's patterns are made up in yarns from her alpaca farm in Vermont. If you are interested in making a purchase from these ladies, Ann can be contacted at k3fmq@verizon.net and Carole at www.berrymeadow.com. Carole is offering a 10% discount to Guild members through December 24. The discount code is Hunterdon.

We have one Zoom meeting scheduled this month. It is on Friday, December 18. If you have a project, book, technique or website you have discovered, please share it with us. It is always inspiring to see and hear about what you are doing.

We have scheduled Toby Barna of Toby Roxanne Designs to join us on Friday, January 22, 2021. Her Zoom will focus on “Choosing and Using Hand-Dyed Yarns.” In addition to giving us a sneak peek at her new book, [Easy Knits for Beautiful Yarn](#), she will be offering us a special coupon code to use to purchase yarn from her Etsy shop.

In addition, *Vogue Knitting Live* is offering many virtual classes. Having taken a few, I find that I can bring the instructors right into my home where I get a great view of what the instructors are doing. All this while sipping coffee in my lounge wear. The classes are much less expensive than those offered at in person *Vogue Knitting Live* gatherings. Courses fill up quickly. If you are interested in a knit or crochet class in January, February or March you might want to sign up for email alerts as to when class registration opens. The virtual Vogue website is <https://www.vogueknittinglive.com/portal>

There is and continues to be a need for charity projects. Please see the list below for something you might make to donate.

Enjoy your projects using stash or new materials. Hope to see you at our Zoom meeting on Friday, December 18.

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.

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.

People Helping People in Need: Last December this organization distributed knitted and crocheted hats, mittens and scarves to the children of the working poor in Warren County. I am thinking they would welcome items to distribute this year as well.

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: Knitter's Unite is looking for donations of hats, scarves, socks and mittens in support of the Flemington 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.



MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY HANUKKAH!

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