

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019



ART BY PHOEBE WAHL

OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Raritan Township Police Station multi purpose room. Our meetings this month will be on Fridays, June 21st and 28th , 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.

JUNE 2019 PRESIDENTS' LETTER

Summer is here: Cookouts, trips to the shore, boat trips on lakes, summer holidays with family, and beginning to reap the bounty of any gardening efforts from the winter and spring. Although many of us are no longer directly affected by the daily grind of an academic calendar, there remains a sense that our schedules have been slightly altered, even relaxed. Perhaps this is because we have longer daylight hours to accomplish outdoor tasks or simply because we do not need to deal with those giant yellow vehicles on the roads!

So, take advantage of the wonderful extended daylight hours to sit outside or travel. But always remember to take your knitting, crocheting or other stitching with you, whether it is just to your front porch, or a distant spot.

This is Lisa M.'s last newsletter, and we thank her so very much! She has done a fabulous job! The newsletter is always informative, timely and with a little personal touch that makes it so readable. Karen K. will be taking over the newsletter in September.

Happy Summer!

Sue

JUNE 2019 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

As the lazy, hazy crazy days of summer approach, the Guild programs for June are open-ended. On Friday, June 21st, the first day of summer, we will "officially" follow our business meeting with our **Spring/Summer luncheon at Chimney Rock Inn on Route 31 in Flemington**. Please bring wrapped gifts for the grab bag and mark the item if specifically for a knitter or crocheter.

On Friday, June 28th please come to work on one of your projects with us. We enjoy sharing information, patterns, materials and skills with one another so there will be opportunities to learn more within our casual get-together.

Please don't forget that **World-Wide Knit In Public Day (WWKIP) is June 8.** We will be at **Profeta Farms on Route 202 in Neshanic Station from 10am-2pm.** They have picnic tables that we can sit at to knit/crochet. Please join us!

And please mark your calendars for **The Garden State Sheep and Fiber Festival on September 7th and 8th.**

See you for stitching!

Doris

STITCHING TRIVIA OF THE MONTH

From “No Idle Hands: The Social History of American Knitting”, by Anne L. Macdonald

Sending hand knitted socks to Union soldiers during the Civil War was a chief occupation of many a housewife in the Northeast. “Send socks!” pleaded Civil War soldiers, and when their heart-rending stories from bleeding, frost-bitten and blistered feet reached “the womenfolk”, there followed an unprecedented fever of sock knitting “for the boys”, though neither the Union nor Confederate government had asked for help.

Many civic and women's organizations gathered women in frenzied knitting and sewing circles, to provide warm, quality homemade knit and sewed garments, most especially socks, and ship them off to the battlefronts. In New England, 750 organizations were formed within the first year, each with a coordinator to report to Boston headquarters, so that “not one unneeded stitch” would be sent. Railroads cancelled freight charges for shipping donations. When Sanitary Commission agents visited encampments and hospitals, they carried

“miscellaneous niceties”...showing women’s warm hearts and skilled hands to cajole the soldiers into sprucing up for church services. Washing one’s feet earned a pair of handknit socks, while an additional clean shirt and drawers went to a soldier who would “perform a general ablution.” As one successful agent reported, “In this way, we soon brought our cargo of living freight into a more comfortable and presentable condition.” Many a soldier was known to exclaim, “It looks as if Mother has been here!” In this way, women diligently and lovingly surrounded these distressed young men who were strangers and family alike, with the work of their hands, communicating compassion and love with every stitch.

OUTREACH AND ONGOING PROJECTS

If you know of any local non-profit organizations who 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.

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

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.

Please visit our website at www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com

and our Facebook page!

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY AND
GRADUATIONS!**