

HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2020

OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Raritan Township Police Station multi purpose room. Our meetings this month will be on Fridays, March 20 and 27, 2020, from 10am until 2pm. Business meetings occur at the beginning of the meeting on third Fridays. Please note changes to our regular meeting schedule for 2020 listed in our “Administrative Items” section.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 43 paid members. Dues are \$15 per year and Shirley C. will be collecting 2020 dues at our meetings. If you would rather renew your membership by mail, please send payment to Shirley Covert, PO Box 387, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853.

MARCH 2020 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The month of March has always seemed to be a month of “living on the edge”. I grew up in the Midwest, and now live in the Northeast. And, March has proven to be a “teeter-totter” of weather and possibilities. Heavy weather is always lurking, providing us with built-in excuses to stay inside, knit and crochet, and bake. Our outdoor areas begin to beckon us, but they are not yet taking control of our leisure time. The hellebores are blooming, and south-facing early spring flowers are peeking through the dirt, but it really isn't time to “unpack” the rest of the yard. These early risers are the brave front guard that remind us that Spring will appear, but they are willing to take the risk that they may be buried under snow at least once before they are free to flourish.

During the month of March, the Guild will be participating at the NJ-Wide Makers' Day, on Saturday, 3/21. We will have tables at both the North and South Branch Hunterdon County Libraries, offering a simple crochet project for any young person who is interested. As community education is part of the Guild mission, this is a tailor-made event for us. Please stop by to see what happens, even if you can't sit and stitch for a while.

Sue

MARCH 2020 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

It is hard to believe that spring officially arrives this month. It seems like Mother Nature has been teasing us off and on for weeks. During our first March meeting on Friday the 20th, Toby Roxane of Toby Roxane designs will be joining us. She was a vendor at the New Jersey Fleece and Fiber Festival last fall.

Toby Roxane Barna started her career as a full-time independent knitwear designer in 2012, and since then she has released over 70 patterns (many on Ravelry) and self-published three books. From the start, she always specialized in designing with hand-dyed yarns, and so learning to dye her own yarn was a natural next step. Toby fell in love with dyeing right away, and now she especially enjoys being able to design patterns specifically for her yarn and vice versa. She finds inspiration everywhere, from classical architecture to the colors of the sky.

During her visit she will discuss the basics of color design and how they apply to choosing yarn for a project. She will explain all the different varieties of

hand-dyed yarn and share some tips and tricks for when (and when not) to use each kind. A question and answer session follows her presentation, so please bring your questions and comments. She will be bringing along a trunk show and yarns as well.

Following the formal business meeting on March 27th, there will be plenty of time to share your show and tells, knit or crochet and chat.

Doris

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Our business meeting will occur on March 27 to provide adequate time during our March 20 meeting for Toby Roxane's presentation and trunk show.

We have 3 changes to our regular meeting schedule for 2020. The exceptions are:

July 24th and 31st

November 13th and 20th

December 11th and 18th

Please make a note of these changes on your 2020 calendar.

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.

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-byrnesweb-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.

Knitted Nests for Displaced Wildlife: WildlifeRescueNests.weebly.com or CWRescue.org. Find a simple pattern at: [NativeSongbirdCare.org/uploads/How to Make Knit Nests .pdf](http://NativeSongbirdCare.org/uploads/How%20to%20Make%20Knit%20Nests.pdf)

UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

March 2020

- 3/20 Toby Roxane of Toby Roxane Designs
Presentation: Choosing and Using Hand-Dyed Yarns
At Guild Meeting
- 3/21 Makers Day – Guild will participate at both locations
Hunterdon County Library, North and South branches
- 3/28 Makers Day
Hunterdon County Library, main branch

April 2020

- 4/2 – 4/5 NJ Wool Walk
For a complete list of participating shops, go to:
<https://njwoolwalk.wordpress.com/2020-shops/>
- 4/4 – 4/5 Allentown Fiber Festival
Merchants Square Mall, Allentown, PA

May 2020

- 5/2 – 5/3 Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival
Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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