

# HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



## NOVEMBER 2020

### OUR MEETINGS

We have resumed our Guild meetings virtually, via Zoom, on the third Friday of every month, and in person at the Stangel Factory space, in Flemington, on the 4th Friday of the month. Our meetings this month will be on Friday, November 20 and 27, 2020, from 10am until 2pm.

### MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 55 paid members. Dues are \$15 per year. If you would like to renew your membership by mail, please send payment to Shirley Covert, PO Box 387, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853.

## **NOVEMBER 2020 PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

November: Back in the summer, November seemed a long way off. Those of you who are good planners as well as disciplined gift makers are probably in good shape. Those of us who like to get distracted, however, have moments of “holiday panic” slip into our thoughts. We are all fortunate to be able to create gifts for our loved ones, but it does add just a little bit pressure to the last two months of the year. Normally we have our meetings as a “pressure valve” as we commiserate about the challenges that we have presented ourselves. This year we will rely on our Zoom meetings and informal in-person sessions.

We have good news concerning our “in-person” meetings. We can meet at the Stangel Factory space in Flemington on the 4th Friday of the month. This month that will be Black Friday, November 27th. It is a large, airy informal space (with the coffee shop nearby). We should bring our own chairs, as I believe that is safer. Masks are required inside as well. Many thanks to Charlotte for speaking with Martha at Stangel, and getting approval for us to use this space. And, a big “shout out” to Margrit’s husband who came up with this brilliant idea!

The Executive Committee has been developing ideas for classes and instructors to offer over Zoom. We do have some special guests planned for our pre-Holiday Zoom meetings. Doris will review that in the Activities section of the newsletter. Some of our 2021 offerings will be included with your dues, and some may require an additional fee to those who might be interested. As always, if you have any suggestions, please let Doris know.

Speaking of dues, just remember that the 2021 \$15 annual dues are payable in January. If you will not be attending the “in-person” meeting at Stangel, just send in your dues to Shirley Covert. Her address is PO Box 387, Neshanic Station, NJ, 08853.

One last note: We are still planning on hosting an exhibit of our work in February, at the Main Branch of Hunterdon County Library. Please be thinking of what you might want to exhibit.

Enjoy!

Sue

## **NOVEMBER 2020 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

As another month begins, I am faced with large bowls of left over Halloween candy. Not that that is really a problem, I just don't want to get carried away by my sweet tooth. Below please find a charity update and information regarding upcoming Zoom presentations.

Several of the charities whose work is seasonal are now collecting items. Here is some information that might be helpful.

3rd Annual Brady Beanie Update from Anita Brady:

*Hello My Knitting Friends and Family,*

*Hope you are all staying safe, healthy and sane during this challenging time.*

*So far, we have received 56 hats and I have heard from many of you that more are on the way. Thanks to all who have sent hats or who are working on or planning on making hats.*

*Most of the hats are uploaded to the website and you can check them out at [www.bradybeanie.org](http://www.bradybeanie.org).*

*Please remember:*

- 1. Our target completion date is November 15th. This gives us time to get all the labels on and distribute the hats in advance of the holidays.*
- 2. Our focus will continue to be on hats for adults, both men and women.*
- 3. Feel free to use the patterns located on [www.bradybeanie.org](http://www.bradybeanie.org) or choose whatever patterns you prefer. If you use your own patterns, please assume a fit for an average size man or woman's head. These hats may be knitted or crocheted.*

*Your support means a lot to me as well as to those who receive them. I know the demand will be greater than ever this year.*

*As always, please reach out with any questions or thoughts.*

*Anita Brady  
20 Steeple View Court  
Lambertville, NJ 08530  
413-770-2359*

The Food Pantry located behind the Wal-Mart in Flemington is also collecting hand-knitted hats, scarves and other comfy items to be given to their clients. They are interested in items for both children and adults. Additional information is included in the attached October meeting notes.

This month we have two presenters at our Zoom meeting on Friday, November 20. Many of you will remember Ann Ballantine and her unique needle felted animals and birds. She will be showing the items she has available as gifts for yourselves or someone else. We also have Carole Schumann joining us from her home and alpaca farm in Vermont. She and her husband Kevin have visited the Guild previously. We will be visiting their virtual holiday shop just in time to view new patterns and kits for making holiday gifts.

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.

I have also contacted Patty Lyons and Cindy Haub to see if either or both might be interested in doing a Zoom presentation for us. Learn about Patty on her website: <https://pattylyons.com/about-me/>. Cindy Haub is a friend of Lisa Monday, and she is interested in teaching a class. She specializes in knitting color work and gloves. If you know of someone who might be interested in presenting a Zoom class or trunk show for our Guild, please let me know. As I gather additional information I will pass it along.

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](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](mailto:dgullion48@gmail.com) She will gladly include them in our next Guild newsletter.



***HAPPY THANKSGIVING!***

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