

JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

This month's newsletter is jam packed with lots of information. I do hope you skim, I mean read fully and much to be expanded on at our meetings. We apologize in advance for all the text and lack of colour but I think this heat is zapping all our energy and creativity!

MEETINGS:

NIGHT MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday June 29th, 7 pm

WHERE: Salvation Army London Citadel (555 Springbank Drive – the corner of Springbank Drive and Wonderland Road)

DAY MEETING

WHEN: Thursday June 30th, 10 am

WHERE: Eastern Star Temple (800 Fanshawe Park Road East, London)

Masks continue to be mandatory to be worn at the meetings. The Board members feel it is still for the best of our members (bring of the vulnerable demographic) to have this practice continuing. Of course should you feel ill or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, we ask that you do not attend the meeting and reach out to one of our board members should you require anything in the meantime.

RE-ENGAGING AT OUR MEETINGS:

Introduced at the May meetings, some small tweaks to the meeting process were tried. These small changes, we hope, provide maximum flexibility to members and will encourage members to engage/re-engage with other members and the Board.

The doors will be opened as soon as the room is set up and Board members are prepared.

Members are encouraged to follow the following process - however we don't expect you to get it right at first try! So please return and try, try again.

1. Find a comfortable seat.
2. Choose new projects and sign them out with Phyllis (night meeting) or Sian/Lucia (day meeting). Please return empty mesh bags to Phyllis and Sian/Lucia. They will also ask how many blankets you are handing in and will try to match those blankets to projects signed out previously.

*Members who choose to not stay for the meeting can hand their blankets into Marion (primary) or a Board member and then leave.

3. Members staying for the meeting are asked to "display" their finished blankets on the table; members who are intrigued by what they see will have time to check out other members' blankets.
4. Meeting items will be kept as brief as possible but with lots of time for discussions, questions and suggestions.

5. Members will "present" their blankets and leave them folded on the table - if a blanket is chosen for possible entry in Western Fair, the member will be given a paper tag on which they put their name and date of birth (Western Fair requirement) and pin it to the blanket.
6. When all the blankets have been presented there will be a period of time for members to check on new patterns etc.

Marion will supervise the blanket collection.

There is usually time at the end of each meeting for time to be spent crocheting, seeking help and visiting! Please take advantage of this opportunity.

P.S. It's helpful if you wear a name tag - we may already have one with your name or can make one (see Fran) or use one of your own!

OUR NEW MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS

A Mission Statement outlines what we do and who we serve. It provides important information to donors (who donate yarn or make one time/ yearly donations); investors (companies or government agencies that give us money or support the Club financially in other ways, - usually larger amounts and on a regular basis) and individuals who are interested in joining the Club to give back to the community. It also serves as a constant reminder to members and the Board of who we are and what we do. The Club's original Mission Statement has been revised, reviewed by members at the May meetings and is presented here.

Mission Statement:

"We provide crocheted blankets to charitable organizations that serve people in need and to individuals and families who would benefit from our support. We serve a broad spectrum of people, including but not limited to, children, adults, seniors, the homeless, Indigenous people, new Canadians, people living in poverty and victims of violence or unfortunate circumstances.

For our members, we aim to provide social interaction and maintain and improve mental health through practicing the art of crochet. We welcome everyone and membership brings the satisfaction of giving back to the community."

A Vision Statement outlines long term goals or simply states our reason for being.

Vision Statement

"To be an inclusive, welcoming organization that supports agencies and individuals through the distribution of hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind blankets that are made with love by our members."

WESTERN FAIR FIBRE ARTS COMPETITION

We have completed our first group entry into this year's Western Fair Arts competition. We have a total of 20 exhibitors and 26 entries. Blanket entries will be dropped off in August to the fair for display. It's great to have the Fair back in person and a showcase for our talented members. Congrats to everyone we entered, and best

of luck in the competition. Don't worry if you haven't had a chance to make it to a meeting yet, you still have time to show us your blankets for entering.

We hope to see you at our meeting this month, we have many unique projects put together and available for pick up. One of them might just be that something new you were wanting to take on for your next blanket project.

CLUBHOUSE DROP IN DAYS

We have laid out dates until the end of the year to open the Clubhouse at 111 Waterloo street, for an extra day each month allowing more opportunities to drop in for in-terim needs or should you not be able to attend that month's meetings. If you are able to volunteer your time to open the clubhouse on any of the following dates please email Sian (sian.roberts154@gmail.com) and we will schedule you along with another member and a board member to run the Clubhouse Drop in Day of your choice.

JULY	Monday July 11th	10 am - 1 pm
AUGUST	Tuesday August 9th	2 pm - 5 pm
SEPTEMBER	Thursday September 8th	1 pm - 4 pm
OCTOBER	Wednesday October 12th	10 am - 1 pm
NOVEMBER	Sunday November 13th	12 pm - 3 pm
DECEMBER	Christmas Gifts Sale for Members - Date TBD	

CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

A small committee of members is being formed to assist with the various tasks at the clubhouse such as sorting yarn, bagging projects, bagging blankets, staffing the drop in day etc. Some members have already joined this new committee but if you are interested in helping out with any of the tasks mentioned (certainly not limited to this list either) please identify yourself to one of the board members at the end of the meeting or by email. We can always use more hands.

YARN-BOMBING ART PROJECT IN IVEY PARK

On a day, one not as hot as today perhaps, should you wish to get out for a walk do check out the cozy graffiti display put on by DeafBlind Ontario Services in Ivey Park. Crochet and knit blankets adorn the railings along the pathway. Check out this article for more info:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/yarn-bombing-london-ontario-1.6479177>

THANK YOU'S

Received by Email:

“Thank you so much for the generous donation of hand-made blankets to the John Gordon Home! We have been receiving these gifts from the Crochet Club for 10 years now, and they are greatly appreciated by our residents!”

PROJECT COMPLETIONS OF THE MONTH

Last month we took in:

Full - 39

Lap - 37

Baby - 39

Total: 115 *No new donations were made this month.

TAX RECEIPTS

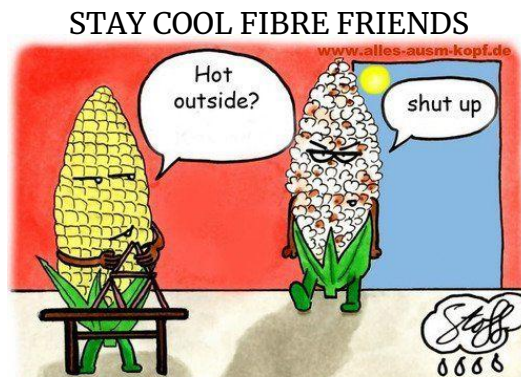
It has been discussed by the board to introduce tax receipts being provided to any members who choose to purchase their own yarn to make blankets for the club. These members choose to do so for a variety of reasons (allergies, lives outside of area serviced by meeting or delivery drivers, sees it as an additional donation to the club etc.) We feel tax receipts could be a benefit for both the club and our members. More details about this proposal will be presented at this month's meeting. Tax receipts available for yarn purchased after July 1st 2022 (requires purchase receipt to be submitted).

WORTLEY VILLAGE GATHERING ON THE GREEN

It was a very successful day across from the Gathering on the Green. It was a beautiful day weather wise and we had many customers of all ages. We fundraised a total of \$1,183.90! Thank you to all the volunteers' hard work from set up to take down and your great sales in between. We will definitely be looking toward some more events in the near future, but we do need your help in making it a success. Please reach out if you are able to volunteer any amount of time at our future events.

... FUTURE FUNDRAISING SALES

Please keep an eye out in next month's newsletter for information on another event we are hoping to sell alongside in Wortley Village during the month of August. We will be seeking volunteers for set up and take down as well as selling throughout the day. Please again reach out if you are at all interested in helping.



If you have any further questions or concerns please contact Fran at
519-657-0516 or schreindler@bell.net

