



APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS:

NIGHT MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday April 26, 7 pm

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

DAY MEETING

WHEN: Thursday April 27, 10 am

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

We will have a guest speaker at both meetings this month. Joslyn from L'Arche along with 2 others from the agency will be coming to speak to our members at the beginning of each meeting.

Masks are now recommended but not required to be worn at the meetings. With a private ballot vote at our last month's meeting our members have supported that masks continue to be recommended however they are no longer required to be worn at the meetings.

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.

OUR BLANKETS DOING GOOD

At last month's night meeting Erin from Salvation Army Operation Mobilizing Hope outreach stopped by to let us know that our full size blankets amongst other items such as food, toiletries, hats and mitts are much appreciated by the recipients. Every Wednesday the mobile unit serves 100 - 200 individuals in need.

MAY CLUBHOUSE DROP IN DAY:

Thursday May 11 from 1 pm - 4 pm @ the Clubhouse (111 Waterloo Street, Lower Level).

Please ensure to sign up via the link below to show us your intention to drop in:
volunteersignup.org/E7J4Q

TEDDY BEAR TOSS PREP

95 bears were purchased at a steal of a deal this month. We have set up a bin of yarn for dressing the bears along with some patterns for sweaters. If you would like to

change gears and dress some bears please reach out to our board or email crochetcluboflondon@gmail.com and we will provide some to you to get creative with.

NEW AGENCIES

37 FRANK YOUTH CENTER - a cafe and drop in center

SAFE SPACES LONDON - drop in center for women on the street. We gave 40 full size blankets.

WESTERN FAIR CRAFT COMPETITION - CALL FOR COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for 2 or 3 volunteers to be part of the Western Fair Blanket Committee. Duties include:

- choosing blankets for possible entry into the Western Fair's Fibre Arts competition (at each meeting up to and including the June meetings)
- deciding on the final entries and assisting in the registration process (early August)
- delivering and picking up blankets to and from the Fair (August 14 or 15 delivery and Sept 19)
- returning the Fair blankets to the clubhouse (Sept 19)

All of these duties would be done with at least one other member of the committee and generally with a Board member. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Marti at martiacton@rogers.com. If you are able to help out with some duties but not others, please indicate that in your email so we can cover all required dates. Thank you.

UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS

Gathering on the Green is on Saturday June 3rd 10 am - 4 pm and we plan to have a fundraising sale in the area during the event. We ask if anyone is interested in helping please contact Sian (sian.roberts154@gmail.com).

1st ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DRIVE

Our fundraiser keeps heating up. Another group of donations totalling \$498 and \$20.97 donation receipts in kind given. Bringing our increasing total to **\$15,174.22**.

THANK YOU NOTES

L'Arche London - thanks us for our generosity of 2 blankets given for their silent auction at their gala.

BLANKETS COLLECTED IN FEBRUARY:

At our last meetings we had the following # of blankets turned in:

Full: 53

Lap: 50

Baby: 13

Blankets donated over the past month:

40 Full to Safe Spaces London

25 Lap to Middlesex Terrace

20 Full to Salvation Army Outreach

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT!

1. We receive many requests for crochet lessons. People who reach out to our group wanting to receive lessons and instructions on how to crochet. If this is something you would like to teach please reach out and we will connect you with the interested person.
2. Additionally we get requests like the following: My name is Anne-Marie and I am reaching out to see if it was possible to finish a crochet blanket my Mom had started for my sister. She passed away a few days ago. I have the yarn and pattern and will pay someone to complete this project. I have pictures of the blanket and the pattern that I can attach to an email. My Mom also crochet for an organization for preemie babies and she made blankets and hearts for the children's hospital. That brought her so much joy.

One last note, not so long ago I was receiving treatment for 3 hours and the nurse saw I was cold. She gave me a lap blanket with your tag sewn in. This meant so much and felt like a hug to me during this treatment. I have it and use it to this day. I am grateful.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Board Members & Contact Info

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If you have any further questions or concerns please contact Lynne at 519-868-0678 or lynne.hammond@sympatico.ca

