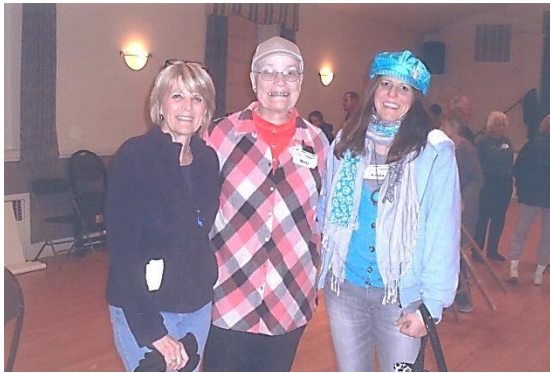




SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH

# SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER SPRING 2015

News and views from our local branch



The fall auction was over and Karie (left), Mertz, and Krista were still smiling. So were the rest of the workers.

## PASSING IT ON

By Karen Freedman

As we grow older we all look for those things, those ideals and values that we want to pass on to the next generation whether they are to our own children and grandchildren or to the global family. It is part of our aging process to define our legacy. If you come to one of the Southampton Branch NGA Auctions you will see that process in action. All around you, although you might not even recognize it, there are generations of family members working side by side to accomplish a worthy goal. They say the best way to instill compassion for others is to demonstrate it. Words are easy to use, but actions take commitment. The annual auctions have become a wonderful opportunity for us to show the “next” generation how to care, and how to create community and have fun while you are doing it. I am so proud that our daughter, Krista, has chosen to embrace the spirit of NGA and I am thrilled that there are other young people at each auction that join us in our mission to help our neighbors in need.

## BELIEVE IT

This is almost a “Ripley’s Believe It or Not,” but believe it. In the last 10 years, our volunteer branch has provided 376,933 new clothes, linens, and toiletries which were given to neighbors in need through recognized, area community agencies serving a “needy” clientele. This past year, we helped people through 15 Greater Delaware Valley agencies. Here’s a quick overview of our 2014 partner agencies and the gifts their clients have received from us this year:

Belmont Development Center – 2,097  
Bethesda Project – 3,568  
Casa Del Carmen\* – 14,301  
College Settlement Camps – 860  
Concilio\* - 715  
Consortium – 358  
Impact Services – 18,777  
Lighthouse, The\* – 157  
Mercy Hospice for Women and Children\* – 779  
Nationalities Service Center\* - 403  
No Longer Bound Prevention and Training – 4,515  
Philadelphia DHS Children and Youth Division – 2,840  
Seeds of Love - 920  
Today – 500  
Veterans Comfort House\* - 1,326  
**TOTAL items our branch gave in 2014: 52,116**

The quantity of our donations varies because of the number of items we have to give, the number of people in an agency’s care, and the other resources available to them. Also \* agencies joined our team in August and received gifts for their needy clients only part of the year.

We should all be proud of the significant impact we’ve had on the lives of many people – infants through our most mature neighbors. Believe it! Congratulations to you on a job well done!

## DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR?

From 1995

“We were very fortunate to have over 75 willing volunteers support our 1995 auction efforts – from gathering things throughout the community, driving the rental truck and loading and unloading the goods, setting up the auditorium, making soups, desserts, signs and nametags, buying the groceries, measuring rugs, sorting and re-sorting treasures, helping with Head Start pick-up, to manning the stations on auction day and finally cleaning up. Our volunteers ranged in age from 5 to 85 and every person played an important role in our success.

Special thanks to ALL, but especially to:

1. The Lemke family for donating the rental truck.
2. Sandy Keegan’s Girl Scout Troop for doing whatever needed to be done cheerfully and with vigor.
3. All captains who worked around varied schedules to see that each area was covered.
4. The North and Southampton Reformed Church for donating the space for the week it takes to prepare and hold our auction.

The auction is not just a fund raising event, but it is also an NGA friend raising event. We had a couple a new recruits from the audience who afforded their services because they believe in the positive difference NGA has on the lives of needy people.

The trailer is starting to show signs that there will be another auction in 1996. It’s time to start collecting and planning for another super event.”

Note: We still have between 75-80 volunteers of all ages help at each auction, have Girl Scout Troops 2828 and 2826 and their leaders’ support, and have a core of branch volunteers who see that things get done. We now have two auctions a year, no longer pick up items throughout the community [Donors deliver their contributions to the church at a designated time.], no longer have a large storage trailer, or have partner agencies who use our leftovers. This last year our extra items went to Impact. Maybe one of our new partner agencies will want to receive them this year.

Southampton Branch 2015 Spring Newsletter – page 2

The Southampton Branch public auction is a 42 year tradition of raising funds, awareness, and generating new volunteers. Thanks to everyone who has helped make this tradition such a success!



The auction kitchen opens as soon as the public is admitted. Dutch is ready for business.

## 42<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Auction

Proceeds to buy new clothes for neighbors in urgent need

**Antiques and Early Attic, Linens, Jewelry, Depression Glass, Coverlets, Ephemera, Old Toys and Dolls, Vintage Clothing, Household/Kitchen Items, Books, Small Furniture, Pottery, Old Sheet Music and Magazines, Tools, Collectibles, Military Items, Frames, Handwork, Prints and Paintings, and Much More...**

**Saturday – March 21, 2015**

9 am – 4 pm ish (Doors Open at 8:30 am)

North & Southampton Reformed Church  
East Wing Auditorium  
1380 Bristol Road, Churchville, PA

Homemade Refreshments and Lunch Available

Sponsored by the Southampton Branch of NGA  
Volunteer 501 (c) (3) Charity Since 1938

Check [www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org](http://www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org) during the week of auction for a more detailed listing.

**Sale items accepted Sunday,  
March 15 from 1:30-2:30 pm only.**

## A PEEK AT THE PAST – 1985

For several years our branch annual report was known as our “Dear Friend Letter.” Let’s take a look at our 1985 report.

### NEEDLEWORK GUILD OF AMERICA SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH

*Dear Friends,*

*It’s interesting to note that in 1885 the first organizational Ingathering in the United State collected 925 garments. The first Southampton Branch Ingathering collected and distributed 1056 items. In October of 1974, our Southampton Branch alone collected 4,367 garments. Now, in 1985 our figures are more than we ever dared imagine. We have proudly gathered and given 20,724 garments and household linens this year. The quality and variety of items certainly exceeded that of previous years.*

*Our generous friends, dedicated directors, merchants, and hard workers at our monthly work sessions all need to be thanked for the important parts they have played in our progress. Without this constant support and help our organization would not have grown.*

*We must also note our appreciation to the North and Southampton Reformed Church for the use of the rooms for our meetings, auctions, Ingatherings, and the ever-bulging attic and closet space. Again, without these facilities, we would not be able to be as productive.*

*The growth of our Ingathering figures parallels the increases in the receipts of our annual auction and bake sale. The more money we earn, the more yarn, fabric, notions, and finished items we can purchase. Many people work together - in front of and behind the scenes – to make our projects successful. This past March our efforts earned \$4,480.86. Our most recent bake sale added \$379 to our working fund.*

*To all our friends and supporters, we express our deepest appreciation. WE COULDN’T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!*

Note from our secretary: Hi there, just wanted to let you know that in 1985, Winnie Johnson was our President. Our treasury report showed a balance of \$248.90! The distribution report showed, as of May 1985, we had given away 4329 items.

Editor’s Note: Although this branch report is from 1985, it states many things that are still appropriate today. To continue this report for 2014, our branch collected, made, and/or purchased, and gave 52,166 new clothes, linens, and toiletries to needy neighbors in the Greater Philadelphia area. We now hold two auctions each year – one in March and one in November. Our November 2014 auction raised \$6,175.21. The bake sale is now part of the auctions and a very productive part of our fund raisers. Our success continues and grows due to generous volunteers, the efforts of many from pre-school to mature citizens, prudent shoppers, and the ongoing support of the North and Southampton Reformed Church. And “we dare to imagine even greater figures.”



**Girl Scouts and adults work together to sort toiletries.**

## OUR VOLUNTEERS HAVE PHD’S

By Mertz Trembath

The kids and I used to tease Jack about having his PHD eq. He had more than enough graduate credits to have a PHD, but never got a degree. That’s why we called his “degree” a PHD eq. (equivalent). We were still impressed with his accomplishments.

Then I went to my niece’s Recognition Banquet of the Baldwin Wallace University Swim and Diving Teams. The coach described her competitors as each having a PHD – pride, heart, and determination.

*Continued page 4*

*Continued from page 3*

Now, I'm sure that the Southampton Branch volunteers all hold PHD's because they embrace our mission and take action. They recognize and are committed to People who cannot meet their own and their family's basic needs. They give freely of their time and talents to Help these people. They are Dedicated to enable change in the lives of these neighbors in need. Three cheers to all our volunteers who exemplify PHD degrees.



**Here Tom F., Carm, Tom B., and Bob take a break. Where's Joe? It's our tradition and a guy thing.**

## **REFLECTIONS OF OUR MEMBERS**

By Doris Woodrow

JANET (new member in 2013)

I enjoy the actual work in our monthly working sessions: sorting, labeling, bagging and distributing the items with all the other volunteers. When I see the many things we accomplish each month, I feel pleased and happy with what we do. I am impressed with the various agencies who make the distributions and often think of the needy people who benefit from our work. I also like working to help prepare for the auctions, which are held twice a year. People donate so many things to be auctioned off that we all have to work hard to get everything ready for the sale.

BETTY (new member in 2014)

I especially like sorting, labeling, folding and counting the towels and washcloths. I guess that's because that was the first job I did when I started

coming to NGA working sessions. It gives me great satisfaction that I am helping less fortunate people in our area. It is amazing to me how people of all ages can work so well together to get the jobs done.

MARY (long time member and a former branch president)

I like putting the NGA stickers on the items, because I can sit down while I do it. I am happy to be with other people and fulfill a good purpose at the same time. I remember how it used to be years ago. We would collect clothing once a year from friends and neighbors. There had to be two items of the same size - "One to wash and one to wear" for each person. It is different today because most clothing is purchased rather than being made by individuals. At the auction, I have had fun working at the snack table.

MARILYN (long time member)

I like to work with infant's clothing – the things are so cute. I am surprised by all the different types of underwear available today not just for women, but men and children, too! Wow! It used to be all plain and white, but not anymore! I like to imagine how good the the needy people will feel when they get these things and how they will use them. I am happy to know I am doing something worthwhile with my time. My job at the auction is at the white elephant table where I sell lots of goodies for a small amount of money.

DORIS F. (long time member)

I guess my favorite job is whatever really needs doing at that time. I recall how NGA members used to do more sewing, making hand made clothing. I made baby clothing, pillowcases, and little dresses to name a few, and really enjoyed doing that. It seems to me we have many more needy people in our world today. I have helped out with some food preparation for the auction.

Postscript from the author: I and many others can attest to the last statement. Doris F. prepares heavenly homemade cinnamon buns for the auction which sell out very quickly.

## INVITATION



SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH

7 Kay Drive  
Churchville, PA 18966  
[www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org](http://www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org)

We invite you and your family and friends to shop through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) as you would at Amazon. Through this site you have another opportunity to support the Southampton Branch of NGA and help clothe needy people in our area. Here's how it works!

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. The same products, same prices, same service.

Support the Southampton Branch of NGA by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). A screen (partially shown below) will have space for you to type in "your registered charity of choice."

"Or pick your own charitable organization:"

Southampton Branch of NGA

Make sure to type in Southampton Branch of NGA as shown above.

Please share this opportunity with anyone you think might be interested in helping us as they shop on Amazon.

**Southampton Branch of NGA – volunteers providing new clothes for those in need since 1938.**

Being part of this program does not mean that Amazon or AmazonSmileFoundation endorses our group. It means that we are eligible to get their support as a recognized registered charity. NGA is registered as required. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Answers About AmazonSmile  
And The Southampton Branch of NGA Connection

**What is AmazonSmile?** AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Southampton Branch of

NGA every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to us.

**Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?** Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

**Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?** Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

**How do I select the Southampton Branch of NGA to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?** On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) before you begin shopping, you need to type in "Southampton Branch of NGA" as the charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

**How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?** The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, Amazon may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply.

**Can I receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from my purchases on AmazonSmile?** Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

## E-mail AFFIRMATIONS OF BELONGING

From a long-standing volunteer:

"What a great job you [the branch] are doing - daily, weekly, monthly, yearly – for so many people; So many you will never meet. It means a lot to me to be part of it."

From a new family of volunteers:

"Thanks for the info [about the last auction where they volunteered]! Kids excited to hear. Please include us at the spring auction! I have already purchased from Amazon in support of our NGA." [branch]

## IMAGINE

By Doris Woodrow

No one knows where life will lead them. Even though we may currently feel secure in our future and that of our family members, we cannot be sure that the same circumstances will continue. People are blindsided every day with a change of fortune and sometimes events beyond our control take over and things change dramatically. See if you can picture yourself or a member of your family in the following situations:

- A seven year old child gets ready for school on a snowy winter's day, but has no winter coat or boots to wear...
- A teen age boy gets in trouble in school for refusing to change for gym class, but he doesn't have any underwear and doesn't want the other kids to know...
- A child is taken to an emergency placement because both parents have been hospitalized after a car accident, but the agency has no clothes that fit her and school is tomorrow...
- A man who has lost his job has no proper clothing to go on a job interview...
- A shy little girl in third grade looks around at her classmates' pretty clothing, while each day she alternates her two shabby outfits...

These are just some possible scenarios that occur each day in our surrounding area. Who helps these people? Who steps in to make their lives better? NGA exists to help prevent or alleviate these very situations. We work hard to raise money and spend it wisely to provide our fellow man with a more comfortable life.

## KNOW YOUR BRANCH LEADERSHIP

Our branch leadership (known as the Coordinating Committee) takes office in January and manages the business of the branch between branch meetings. Meet our branch leaders and officers.

Maryanna (Mertz) Trembath, President  
Lynn Castle, Vice President  
Karen (Karie) Freedman, Secretary  
Karen Fesmire, Treasurer  
Brenda Cole, Distribution  
Carmen Amato, Finances  
Tom Cole, Funding  
Doris Woodrow, Purchases  
Beverley Barcalow, Volunteers

We are fortunate to have such dedicated, talented, caring people to guide us. We thank them for giving of their time and expertise to help us improve the lives of neighbors suffering through extremely hard circumstances.

## YOU'RE INVITED TO THE SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**SPORTS – AMERICA'S PASTIME**



**When?** Friday, June 5, 2015 (Ice cream served at 6:30 pm sharp.)

**Where?** North and Southampton Reformed Church Auditorium, 1380 Bristol Road, Churchville, PA (east wing)

**Who?** Anyone interested in our NGA Branch or ready to celebrate our accomplishments and have fun. All ages and friends welcome.

**What?** Come dressed for the occasion! (How would you dress/prepare for your favorite sport - as a participant, spectator, cheerleader, band member, vendor, coach, etc.?)

**RSVP:** Email Bev at [bbarcalow@gmail.com](mailto:bbarcalow@gmail.com) or call her at 215-760-8474 between May 26 and May 28 to reserve your spot. We NEED your response to plan. Please state your last name (please spell if phone) and report the number in your party coming to our NGA ice cream social. Let's enjoy "America's Pastime" as we celebrate together.

## SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH 2015 CALENDAR

Branch activities are held in the AP room (west wing) or the Auditorium (east wing) of the North and Southampton Church, 1380 Bristol Road, Churchville, PA 18966.

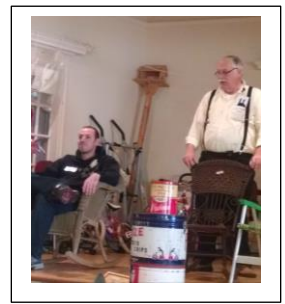
February 10	Working Session (AP)	9 – noon	Distribution
March 11	Working Session (AP)	9 – noon	Sort, distribute
March 15	Auction Prep (AUD) Donations for sale accepted	1 – 5 as needed 1:30 – 2:30 only	Sort, sort, & sort
March 16 – 18	Auction prep to be determined		
March 21	Spring Branch Auction (AUD) 9 – 4ish (Doors open at 8:30am)		
April 8	Working Session (AP)	9 – noon	Distribution
May 13	Working Session (AP) Luncheon (AP) Branch Meeting (AP)	9 – 11:45 am noon 12:30 pm	
	This is the official notice of the Branch meeting.		
May 28	Reservation for Ice Cream Social due. Call Bev 215-760-8474 or email her at bbarcalow@gmail.com		
June 5	Ice Cream Social “Sports – America’s Pastime” (AUD) 6:30 pm		
June 10	Working Session (AP)	9 – 12:30	Distribution
<b>NO JULY MEETINGS</b>			
August 16-19	Back-to-School Distribution (Aud.) Times to be determined		
September 9	Working Session (AP)	9 – 12	Organize, sort
October 14	Working Session (AP)	9 – 12	Organize, sort
October 18 – 22	Ingathering/Distribution (AUD) Times to be determined		
November 11	Working Session (AP)	9 – 12	Organize, sort
November 15	Auction Prep (AUD) Donations for sale accepted	1 – 5 as needed 1:30 – 2:30 only	Sort, sort, & sort
November 16 – 18	Auction prep to be determined		
November 21	Fall Branch Auction (AUD) 9 – 4ish (Doors open at 8:30am)		
December 9	Working Session (AP)	9 – 12	Distribution



Three WWI posters showed up at the last auction. What will we find this time?



These bags of our gifts are ready for an agency pickup.



Is Fenton selling Dave with the chair or is Dave just taking a break?

Please mark your calendar. We’d love your participation!



### **Southampton Branch 2015 Spring Newsletter**

C/o M. Trembath, President

7 Kay Drive

Churchville, PA 18966

Check us out at Laura's website

[www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org](http://www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org)

NGA is registered as required. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## **SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH, UNITED WAY, AND DONATIONS**

In New Jersey and many parts of Pennsylvania, the Southampton Branch of NGA, Inc. UWGPSNJ United Way Donor Choice number is 024360. In Bucks County, donors must specify the Southampton Branch of NGA, C/o M. Trembath, 7 Kay Drive, Churchville, PA 18966 for their donation to reach us. Tell others of these United Way – Southampton Branch Donor Choice Opportunities and consider corporate matching offers, too.

If you wish to make a memorial, celebration, and/or general donation to the Southampton Branch of NGA, you may make the check payable to the Southampton Branch of NGA and mail it to Karen Fesmire, Treasurer, 960 E Maple Dr, Southampton, PA 18966.

## **CARTER CENTER AND NGA**

This message from President Jimmy Carter is from The Carter Center's *Report to Donors 2012-13*. "Whether waging peace or fighting disease, ultimately the work of the Carter Center is about helping people achieve better opportunities and reviving hope where it languished before...."

We in NGA, like The Carter Center, work hard so that people can achieve better opportunities and have revived hope. We just do it in different ways.

**Spring Auction is March 21, 2015**

**Fall Auction is November 21, 2015**

Hope to see you there!