



SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH

SOUTHAMPTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER FALL 2019

News and views from our local branch!

Upcoming Events

Fall Ingathering **October 13-17**
Set-Up Sun 12:30-2pm
Drop-Off Monday AM & PM
Sorting Mon-Tues 9-11am, 1-3pm, 6:30-8pm
Wed 9-11am (Clerical), 6:30-8pm (Girl Scouts)
Agency Pick-Up Thurs 9:30-10:30am

Fall 2019 Auction **November 23**
Set-Up/Sorting Sun 11/17 1-5pm
Drop-Off Sun 11/17 1:30-3pm
Sorting Mon-Wed 9-11:30am, 1:30-3:30pm, 6-8pm

Spring 2020 Auction **March 21**

Fall 2020 Auction **November 21**

Full calendar available at www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org.

Do You Have...?

We have folks who are willing to sew, knit, and crochet NGA gifts at home. Do you have washable fabric, like cottons, cotton blends, flannel, corduroy, etc., or washable 4 ply yarn that you could share? Do you have time that you could share your creative talents? If so, call Lynn at 267-987-0578.

Monthly Working Session

Join us for our monthly working sessions on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 9am-12pm in the North & Southampton Reformed Church, All Purpose Room. We process new clothes, toiletries, and linens and distribute to local agencies.

If you wish to make a memorial, celebration, or general donation to our branch, please send a check payable to "Southampton Branch of NGA" to Karen Fesmire, Treasurer, 960 E. Maple Drive, Southampton, PA 18966

NGA By The Numbers

As part of our 2018 branch review, we compared the number of people in our partner agencies who needed our help with the actual number of items given in each category. The quick overview results are shared below:

	# Need	# Items Given
Men/Teen	1950	2200
Women/Teen	1850	2122
Elementary Boys/Girls	1650	3111
Pre-school Boys/Girls	1100	1112
Infant Boys/Girls	1000	1343
Household Linens	540	1352
Toiletries	1150	5269
Diapers	980	12,063

Although it is not all inclusive, this chart indicates that in many cases, only one or two items could be available per person. It shows a pattern. How many underwear and socks are in your drawer? How about tops or bottoms? Our goal is to help people go out in the community fitting in – looking like other people there – and to give those folks dignity, hope, and warmth.

A barber was interviewed who was giving free haircuts to the homeless. He was asked why he was doing it. His reply: his mother always told him "If you don't have a dollar in your pocket, look like you have a dollar in your pocket." Our branch works very hard to help people "look" like their pockets are not empty. We make a huge impact on people's lives, and hope to have a bigger impact this year through Ingathering and monthly distributions.

We have fewer partner agencies this year than some years. However in most cases, we are the only source of new clothes, linens, and toiletries for those agencies' needy clients. Our challenge is huge.

Spring Auction Roundup

Over 70 volunteers - men, women, and kids - worked together to staff our spring auction. Income was generated as follows:

Kitchen/Cake	\$656.75
Jewelry Table	367.00
\$0.50 + Table	289.50
General Sales	4723.00
<u>Donations</u>	<u>454.00</u>
Total Income	\$6453.25

These sales have had a huge impact on the extent of our mission – to provide new clothes, linens and toiletries to neighbors in need.



Spring Auction Roundup

Congrats from Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick

As part of his “Supporting Members of Our Community” efforts, Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick stopped by our March Auction and recognized the importance of our ongoing work in the community.

His newsletter reported: “The NGA Southampton Branch works to provide clothes and toiletries for people in our community in need. For over 40 years they have held charity auctions, and given away 1.2 million items over the past 80 years! I joined this year’s Spring Auction and am grateful for everyone who supported this event!”

We appreciate his support, the commendation, and special flag presentation. The gifts will be displayed in a shadow box at NGA Headquarters.



Guidelines for Volunteers

Thanks so much to everyone who helps make this event such a success every year. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind when you want to help.

1. We welcome scouts, LINC’s representatives, branch volunteers, friends and family.
2. Folks helping to set up should check the policy chart to become familiar with new procedures.

3. All auction day volunteers need to sign up by Wednesday prior to auction. Call 215-357-0121 with questions.
 4. Each volunteer will be guaranteed a 2-hour shift. LINC’s and some others will have longer commitments as per the schedule.
 5. We will use younger volunteers as runners whenever possible. Men will still help with the stage and tools.
 6. If you are not on the schedule and have not been asked to fill in at the last minute, please enjoy the auction as a participant in the audience.
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Letter from an Auction Attendee

I have attended the NGA auction for many years. I look forward to it in March and November. It’s always a fun day as I see friends I know at your auction and it’s a fun day, too.

I wanted to relate an amusing incident that happened a few years ago. I purchased a small government pamphlet about weather at an NGA auction. It’s not everyone’s interest, but my friend Marilyn has a nephew who is now a weatherman with ACCUE weather. As a young boy, he loved anything to do with weather and Marilyn purchased many gifts related to weather for him. I thought Marilyn would like to pass on the weather pamphlet to him as I knew he would enjoy it.

Marilyn also had a grandfather she never knew who was a weatherman in the Philadelphia area. Marilyn had tried to find out about her grandfather and found online that he had published some information for the government.

Well, I bet you can figure out that when I got home and looked at the pamphlet it was by George Bliss, Marilyn’s grandfather, and published in 1948. I gave it to my friend and she could not believe that I found a copy and she was thrilled to have it.

Thank you for your many interesting items and you never know what you will find at an NGA auction!

Get Involved in NGA

Note to Partner Agencies

NGA and our partner agencies are a conduit to get new clothes, linens, and toiletries from the community to people in need. (That's "needy" under the IRS determination.) As part of our branch process, we review each partner agency annually. After the review, we rate each agency from 1 to 10. Ten is the highest rating we give. This determination is based on:

- The extent of actual needs of agency clients
- The agency's process for distributing our gifts
- How many other resources the agency has to fill those needs
- The timely response to our annual inquiry and request forms
- The working relationship between NGA volunteers and the agency representatives

Our members truly believe that "how you look is how you feel" and we work very hard to fairly share our gifts with "needy" people in our area. We continue to evaluate new agencies to become part of our distribution.

Helpful Hints

- Items are needed for all ages, but infants and preschoolers are most often overlooked.
 - Throws, afghans, and covers should be a minimum of 36" by 45".
 - This is a great time of year to find change-of-season clothes on sale. Check the back racks of your favorite stores.
 - We give our gifts all year round and store items for the next season as much as possible.
 - All men, women, teens, and kids are encouraged to be an active part of our branch. Reach out and invite others to join our efforts.
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Quick Reminders

Choose "Southampton Branch of NGA" for...

- ✓ Your Amazon Smile partner
- ✓ Your United Way Donor Choice Code 024360

United Way/Corporate Donations

The Southampton Branch receives donations from caring friends through the United Way donor option, Matching Gifts from corporations for an individual's United Way donation to us, and through corporate funds for an employee who volunteers with us.

Please check and see if you, a friend, or family member can support us in this way. Our account # 381343 should be used with UNITED WAY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA AND SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY. In Bucks County, you must indicate "Southampton Branch of NGA" to direct donations to our Branch.

Special thanks to all who support our branch through financial contributions, corporate programs, time, talents, and gifts of new clothes, linens, and/or toiletries.

Lasagna Soup

We received so many compliments on the yummy lasagna soup sold at the March auction that we added the recipe to our website - www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org.



A big thank you to our kitchen crew for all they do to help make the auctions a success. Come out on November 23 and see what they have in store for us this time!

The Next Generation

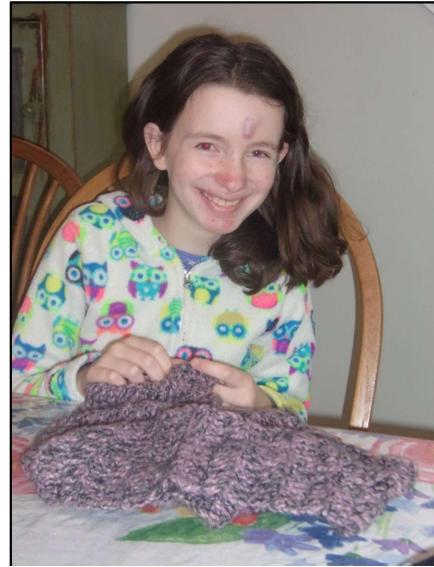
We (Mertz and Jack) had the joy of having our eight-year-old grandson, Gabriel, with us for a week and a half recently. Donna, a great bargain detective, called one afternoon during that time, to tell us of a super sale at Walmart. She assured us that we wouldn't be disappointed. After a family discussion and snack (it was 4:30 and almost supper time), off we went through rush hour traffic.

As we walked into the store, I told Gabriel we needed two carts. That seemed very unusual to him. The first rack and shelving inside the door had girls' jeans for \$1! We counted out 25 pair of assorted sizes and filled the bottom of one cart. Next we saw tights – also for \$1 each – and piled them into the cart. Gabriel responded, "Now I see why we needed two carts."

Soon we spied \$19 warm-up's and insulated tops for \$1. Gabriel got in to action checking price tags. Dollar bargains were showing up lots of places! Gabriel enthusiastically exclaimed, "I never thought it could be SO much fun buying for a charity." And of course I added, "And think of all the people we are going to help."



Note: Gabriel has really gotten taller and the feet of his pj's had been cut off to make them fit better. I told him we should check for pajamas on sale. He found some "really cool" ones for \$14.99, but told me, "They're too expensive. Right?" I agreed. He came home with a new pair of warm-ups and an insulated top equaling \$2 instead.



Alyssa shared her crocheting talents with NGA through beautiful scarves and a baby coverlet.



Sierra wanted to learn to sew this summer. She sewed nighties, flannel blankets, and burp clothes for us to share. Aunt Elsie helped develop this new skill. They represent 4th & 5th generations of NGA involvement. Grandma Grey would be so proud.

Great Items at Great Prices!

We have a dedicated team of volunteers who are always on the lookout for current-style, good-quality clothes and linens at rock bottom sale prices. If you'd like to help us find good buys and remarkable sales, contact Doris at 215-355-0198.

45th Annual Fall Auction

Saturday – November 23, 2019

9am – 4pm (Doors Open at 8:30am)

Antiques and Early Attic, Linens, Jewelry, Depression Glass, Coverlets, Ephemera, Toys, Dolls, Games, Cameras, Vintage Clothing, Household/Kitchen Items, Old and Modern Books, Small Furniture, Old Sheet Music and Magazines, Tools, Collectibles, Military Items, Frames, Handwork, Artwork, Records, Décor Items, and Much Much More...

*Check www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org week of auction for more detail listing

North & Southampton Reformed Church
1380 Bristol Road, Churchville, PA 18966

Homemade Refreshments and Lunch Available

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

All proceeds buy new items for neighbors in need

Items accepted November 17 from 1:30-3pm only



M. Trembath, President
7 Kay Drive
Churchville, PA 18966

Contact Us



Our branch website:
www.ngasouthamptonbranch.org

Our email address:
nga.southampton@gmail.com

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.