

**NEWS RELEASE  
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Media Contact: Debby Johnston  
Phone: 740-452-4541, ext. 3116  
E-mail: [djohnston@offinger.com](mailto:djohnston@offinger.com)

**THE MOST EVER: MOST EXHIBITORS,  
MOST FULL-TIME PARTICIPANTS, MOST FUN  
AT RECENT 2007 SUMMER KNIT & CROCHET SHOW,  
MANCHESTER, NH**

"I am pleased to announce that at the recent 2007 Summer Knit & Crochet Show in Manchester, NH, we had more exhibitors, more full-time participants and, from reports, more fun than at any previous show!" said Event Manager Penny Sitler. "It is exciting to see participation climb steadily each year. This event, sponsored by the Crochet Guild of America (CGOA) and The Knitting Guild Association (TKGA) has traditionally been 'cozy', but is beginning to expand nicely without losing that connected feeling."

Ninety-eight booths represented by 74 companies supplied a wide variety of shopping opportunities for 2,528 knit and crochet enthusiasts. "We were most excited that 565 people (more than ever before) signed up as full-time participants throughout the event – taking classes and engaging in the Show's special activities. Most of these are members of CGOA and TKGA from across the country and look forward to the Show each year," added Sitler. "More than 2000 tickets were sold for classes taught by top crochet and knit designers and instructors."

Attendee excitement was reflected in written comments on blind surveys. "Too much temptation! Great vendors," said one. "Fun, full of inspiration!" said another. And one wrote: "Wonderful! Amazing! My first show, though I've been

knitting and crocheting for 40 years. I've learned so much and met so many great people – ideas and concepts, contacts and friends – I'll keep a lifetime." Designer Doris Chan, who was among a dozen authors who participated in book signings and other activities, said, "Quite a party. The energy was scintillating. For designers this was heaven." Janet Johnson Stephens who taught a teacher's workshop said of the Show, "People really enjoyed their experience. Even the banquet was good – no cardboard chicken. We had steak!"

Show sponsors included: Caron International, Coats & Clark, Crochet Lites, South West Trading Co., Tahki Stacy Charles and Westminster Fibers. Coats & Clark provided Teach Me 2 Crochet/Knit™ sessions throughout Show hours for anyone wishing to learn.

The CGOA national "Chain Link" conference held in conjunction with the Show reported high attendance for Professional Development Day, Keynote Address (by Cari Clement of Caron International), Annual CGOA Member Meeting and the brand-new Chapter Coffee.

Donated crocheted and knitted handbags to the Show's Silent Auction garnered \$2,376 in final bids to support the non-profit Needle Arts Mentoring Program<sup>SM</sup> ([www.needleartsmentoring.org](http://www.needleartsmentoring.org)), a nationwide project of the Helping Hands Foundation, Inc. The mentoring program currently teaches needle arts to boys and girls in more than 140 communities across the country. Silent Auction handbag contributors included Prudence Mapstone, Vashti Braha, Westminster Fibers, Pam Shore, Carol Ventura, Nancy Nehring, Fibertrends/Quiltessentials, International Freeform Group, Gene Alberts, Paula A. Linton-Allison, Diane Moyer, Bendy Carter, Stitch N Frame Shop, Margaret Fultz, Dee Stanziano, Margaret Hubert, Maria Cook/Coats & Clark, Yvette Jiggetts, Carol V. Moore, Sudha Mehta, Gail Bird, Colleen Davis, Ironstone, Karen Drouin, and Charlie Cirigliano/Nantucket Bagg. As part of the Silent Auction fun, shoppers could vote for their favorite handbag. People's choice winners were a crochet freeform-in-

blues bag by Prudence Mapstone (first place), a glamour red-and-black granny square crocheted clutch by Dee Stanziano (second place), and a black felted bag with felted rose by Margaret Hubert (third place).

Other activities included: door prize drawings, Designer Meet & Greet for designers and publishers, World's Fastest Crocheter and Knitter Time Trials by the Craft Yarn Council of America, Chic Street Fashion Show (including entries by the Show's exhibitors and instructors as well as members of CGOA and TKGA), and a 24/7 Knit & Crochet Lounge.

The next Knit & Crochet Show is the 2007 Fall Knit & Crochet Show in Oakland, CA. For 2008 the Summer Knit & Crochet Show will return to Manchester, NH July 23-27. Details to date for 2007 and 2008 can be found at [www.KnitandCrochetShow.com](http://www.KnitandCrochetShow.com). The Show's producer is Offinger Management Company (Offinger.com) of Zanesville, Ohio. Those interested in exhibiting in 2007 or 2008 can contact [KnitandCrochetShow@Offinger.com](mailto:KnitandCrochetShow@Offinger.com) or write: The Knit & Crochet Show, 1100-H Brandywine Blvd, Zanesville OH 43701-7303.

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[[Photo Number 1]]

Caption: "Too much temptation!" is how one person described the recent Summer Knit & Crochet Show shopping floor in Manchester, NH.



[[Photo Number 2]]

Caption: 565 people (more than ever before) signed up as full-time participants throughout the recent Summer Knit & Crochet Show in Manchester, NH – taking classes and engaging in the Show's other special activities.



[[Photo 3]]

Caption: Donated crocheted and knitted handbags to the Show's Silent Auction garnered \$2,376 in final bids to support the non-profit Needle Arts Mentoring Program<sup>SM</sup>, a nationwide project of the Helping Hands Foundation, Inc. In people's choice ballots, bags by Prudence Mapstone (second from right), Dee Stanziano (second from left) and Margaret Hubert (third from left) garnered first, second and third place, respectively.

