

Not a creature was stirring



DECEMBER GATHERINGS

DECEMBER 14

10:00 AM to noon, Sewing World
136 71 Ave. SE in the upstairs
classroom.

If you wish, bring along a snack to share. Remember to park in the rear of the store. Please thank them for their support when you shop.

NO FOURTH FRIDAY GATHERING THIS MONTH

NEWS FROM HANDCRAFTS COMMITTEE

PRODUCT LINE REPORTS

Thank you to all of the people who produced so many wonderful products for the sale. If you are ready for more, here is some feedback for JEWELRY and PETS.

Eveline Goodall tells us about the newest hot items in Jewelry and about those items that appear to have fallen out of favour. A few of these have been great sellers in the past but it appears we have saturated the market so will be on the lookout for new ideas for 2016.

Carol Spring talks about what sold best in the Pets section, what products were slower to sell and makes a few suggestions for new Pet products for 2016.

NEW CUSTODIANS

The committee has not met in person since the sale but we do know that we will be searching for at least one new product custodian. Eveline will still be making her wonderful pieces but will step down as custodian. If this

is something that interests you, or if you are not sure and would like more info about what is involved in being a custodian, send a note to message@ujamaagrandmas.com with the subject line CUSTODIAN and someone will contact you.

In a nutshell custodians do the following:

- Regularly attend gatherings
- Advise members re what sells and what does not
- Provide guidelines and safety reminders for products as appropriate
- Store, gather, organize and price products
- Maintain inventory of product
- Manage product during and after the sale
- Manage inventory and dispersal of unsold items
- Arrange pricing committee and set up helpers
- As appropriate initiate workshop/demos for product line

If you are interested, let's talk.

*DECEMBER
at a glance*

DECEMBER 14 -
Second Monday Gathering
at Sewing World



May your days be merry
and bright.

JEWELRY

Jewelry contributed about \$4200.00 towards the overall proceeds of the sale. Over 50% of total merchandise was sold. There were many comments on the unique design of the booth.

There were 558 items on sale, 362 of which were new this year.

NECKLACES

Necklaces were big sellers once again, contributing half of the total sales for jewelry. The I-cord market seems to be saturated but the soft knit/crocheted ladder ribbon continued to do well. New designs and unique techniques (knitted beads) or supplies (stone pendants) were big sellers. Necklaces without behind-the-neck closure were a new item this year and very popular with older women. Customers shopped for what was different and not too expensive. Colour mattered; items in brown, yellow, orange and amber did not sell as well as those in purple, rose, blue and green.

BRACELETS

Items with closures sold better than items on elastic. Doubles were popular. Memory bracelets were still popular as were cuffs in fibre and leather. The original button bracelets on elastic appear to have had their heyday.

EARRINGS

Drop earrings sold well. Jewelers can challenge themselves to make more and unique earrings.

PINS

The lollypop shawl pins sold well as did the hand painted small clay pins.

BUTTONS

Once again a big seller especially the wood and raku but ceramics did very well too with 50 and 46 % sold.

MISCELLANEOUS

Needle cases, bookmarks and purse dangles did quite well.

Eveline Goodall
Jewelry Custodian 2015

PETS

The pet section sold about two thirds of its product. Items sold very differently on Saturday compared to Friday. On Friday, regular customers were back for their felted mice and bought a few other things. On Saturday we were in a better spot, and more families, men and children attended. Beds and bandanas sold that day along with the other items.

Cat merchandise sold very well and new ideas for other items would be appreciated.

Suggestions by purchasers included dog tag silencers

(little bags to quiet jingling dog tags) and dog booties.

BEDS

Cat beds and rectangular dog beds sold for a reasonable price. People asked for larger rectangular dog beds.

The larger, round pumpkin dog beds did not sell.

The brightly coloured pillows sold but not the muted one. If the right fleece is donated in the Fabric & Yarn sale, these pillows are quick, easy and profitable to produce.

More pumpkin cat beds will sell, as will covered pillows and some type of larger rectangle beds.

TOYS

The Catnip mice were the best seller but we may be reaching saturation or maximum price as they did not sell out. The non-felted mice with no catnip did not sell well.

Pull toys were popular; long straight ones were favoured. Some customers liked tight ones, others preferred loose ones. These are easy to make from long strips of left-over fleece in bright colours.

Brightly coloured cat Pom-Poms sold out. These are also easy and quick to put together.

The denim dog bones sold well but we have many left so no more are needed.

COLLARS

Very few sold so no more should be made.

PLACEMATS

Cat placemats sold out early. Large dog placemats did well. Really small bright placemats were being bought for high chairs. This could be a new product for Children section.

Placemats made with bright colours will sell well as will larger dog placemats.

POOP BAG DISPENSERS

Still some unsold; no need to make more for next year.

The two large dog-walker bags sold early so maybe 4 - 6 additional ones of them could be made.

BANDANAS

About half the small and medium bandanas sold.

Almost all the large bandanas sold. Christmas sold out and other special days did well. The idea of selling them in groups of three worked well.

Christmas bandanas, especially in large sizes, and bandanas themed for other events such as Valentine's, Hallowe'en, St. Patrick's and Easter might be a good idea. We will continue to offer these in sets of three.

Carol Spring
Pet Custodian 2015