

# 10 QUESTIONS: Betty Banks

By Shirley Belcher. To suggest a member to profile for "10 Questions," call Director of Operations Lisa Biedenbach, 513-217-4915, or email lbiedenbach@centralconnections.org.

## Why did you begin crocheting baby caps for a local hospital?

A good friend was already making baby hats for the hospital. She encouraged me to start making them. I started crocheting hats in 1990 for Middletown Regional Hospital/Atrium Medical Center. I have made over 6,000 baby caps and 50 afghans for local newborns to date.

## How much yarn do you need to make baby caps?

One skein of yarn will make 5 baby hats. Atrium furnishes the yarn, and it takes me one hour and 15 minutes to make one hat. I can use 4-ply yarn donations. If anyone wants to donate yarn, they can bring it to Central Connections and leave the yarn at the Welcome Center with my name on it. Some members of Central Connections make afghans for hospice.

## What do you get out of crocheting baby caps?

My mother taught me to crochet when I was 16. I have been crocheting for 72 years and am still going. Crocheting is one of my hobbies, and I try to do it daily. I don't use a pattern. After crocheting 6,000 caps, I don't need a pattern. I also have made 52



*Member Betty Banks loves to crochet baby caps and afghans for newborns at Atrium Medical Center. She appreciates donations of skeins of baby yarn.*

baby afghans. At Atrium there is a girl who loves giving the babies a bath and then she picks out a cap for each baby. I once saw a baby at the mall wearing one of my baby caps.

## How long have you been a member of Central Connections? Has it changed any?

I am an 11-year member of Central Connections. I come twice a week to play euchre and bingo. Yes, it has changed, but it has all been positive.

**You have over 23,000 volunteer hours at Atrium. How is the hospital recognizing you?**

In the hospital's journal this month, there will be an article about me with my photo. It will tell how many hats I have made. I have been a volunteer at Atrium 28 years; that includes time at the old Middletown Hospital.

## People say you are a great baker and give away treats to others. Have you always done this?

Yes, I enjoy sharing my treats with my friends. Being in the kitchen is another hobby of mine. I like to make and share my fudge, buckeyes, hard candy, and peanut butter fudge. On Halloween I took a tray of pumpkin cookies to each of our friends.

## Who is your family?

My wonderful husband, Roy, passed away after 60 years of marriage. We have one daughter, one granddaughter, and one grandson. I have one sister and one brother still living as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

## Where and when have you been employed?

I was employed for 14 years at Laynecrest Lanes in Franklin. I retired in 1985.

## Have you ever been interested in traveling?

When Roy retired, we traveled out west for six weeks. That is the extent of my traveling.

## What is on your bucket list?

I would love to visit Nashville and The Grand Ole Opry and go back to the Smokie Mountains. 🌿