

FOX VALLEY KNITTERS' GUILD NEWS

A newsletter by and for FVKG members

March 2011



fvkg.com

FVKG'S PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

In just a few months time, we will be electing new officers for our Guild. I cannot believe that my year as President is almost over. I have enjoyed every meeting with all of our members and look forward to what the new board will plan for next year.

Just a reminder that in April, Sally Melville will be our guest speaker. In May, we will have our annual Pot Luck Dinner and Garage Sale. This is a great time to "Spring Clean" the yarn stash to make room for new yarns. The Midwest Fiber and Art Festival and Stitches Midwest in Schaumburg will be held this summer. Please check out their web sites for further details. Guess it's time to go out and get more containers for all that yarn.

Until we see each other at our next meeting, happy stitching to all.

---Sandy Andrews

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Hello Fellow Knitters,
We now have 94 members.
Here are the new members from January & February:

- Stacey Sargent
- Jennifer Woods
- Tammy Caltagirone

Welcome to our Guild!

---Judy Jasper, Membership

MARCH PROGRAM NOTES

Let's learn better ways to take care of our bodies' fibers, especially when we "knit too much!" Hear our own FVKG member Jennifer Woods discuss some basic information on how our bodies are "knit" together, as well as some simple and often-overlooked ways that we can help prevent injury. Jennifer will bring some great positioning products that we will be able to see and try out. She asks that we come with questions on whether certain of our knitting habits are good or bad for the body, and then we can discuss why and how to change things.

---Gretl Kramer

UPCOMING GUILD PROGRAMS

April:

Our very well known April guest will be Sally Melville. She will be in town for 2 days and we are very fortunate that she has agreed to present our April program, Making the Most of Your Yarn Collection. There will be limited book signing opportunities. **This will be a special Members Only meeting. Non-members will need to join at the April meeting for a special rate of \$15 to attend the April and May meetings.**

May:

End of the Guild Year Party and Spring Cleaning Stash Sale.

---Gretl Kramer

ROAD TRIP, ANYONE?

Save this date, **April 9-10, 2011** for a FVKG road trip to southern Wisconsin. On Saturday we will be guests of Blackberry Ridge Woolen Mills (<http://www.blackberry-ridge.com/>) located outside of Mt. Horeb. We will be given a tour of their spinning mill and then have the opportunity to purchase their yarn and wonderful kits. We can stay overnight in nearby New Glarus and have a wonderful Swiss dinner. Then on Sunday we'll visit the Rainbow Fleece Farm and see their sheep, new lambs, peacocks, other animals, yarn, spinning fibers, dyes, and much more.

Details will be announced at the March meeting with hotel reservation information, maps, opportunity to make car pool arrangements, and suggestions of additional stops that can be made on the way to or from Wisconsin. Winter should be over by the time this date rolls around, right?

MYSTERY KNITTING PROJECT PART THREE

OK, here we go. So far you should have an odd shaped piece that probably makes no sense yet. You should have 37 stitches on your needle and be ready to start knitting on the right side (RS).

Techniques:

ssk slip 1 st kw, sl 1 st kw, insert left needle and knit both together (1 st decreased)

sk2p: Sl 1 st pw, k2tog, pass sl st over knit st created by the k2tog (2 st decreased).

Instructions continued:

Row 1: (RS) Work in Seed Stitch to first marker, slip marker, ssk, k3, k2tog, slip marker, work in Seed Stitch to end of row. (35 st)

Row 2: Work in Seed Stitch to marker, slip marker, p5, slip marker, work in Seed Stitch to end of row.

Row 3: Work in Seed Stitch to marker, slip marker, ssk, k1, k2tog, slip marker, work in Seed Stitch to end of row. (33 st)

Row 4: Work in Seed Stitch to marker, slip marker, p3, slip marker, work in Seed Stitch to end of row.

Row 5: Work in Seed Stitch to marker, remove marker, sk2p, remove marker, work in Seed Stitch to end of row.

Beginning with WS, work 21 rows in Seed Stitch.

Next row (RS) BO all stitches in Seed Stitch pattern (33 st)

Cut yarn leaving a 10-12" tail.

That's all for now!!

SHOW AND TELL

Every Guild meeting we have Show and Tell as an opportunity for our members to show projects they have completed. Frequently members want to know what pattern or yarn was used for your project. We would like to start including that information in either our newly enhanced website or the newsletter. To help gather this information a form for Show and Tell is available at the welcome table for you to complete for any item(s) you wish to show at the Guild meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee will be presenting a slate of officers for the 2011-2012 guild year at our March meeting. We think this slate will be able to carry on the good work of the guild and lead us to another exciting year as knitters. However, we still need someone to take on the position of gallery show. Natasha Lehrer who has served in this position the last few years will happily help the new board member who takes on the following duties.

Schedules the dates for the Gallery Show

Assists the Guild in generating a theme for the show

Corresponds with other area guilds to invite them to participate in the show

Encourages Guild members to plan special work for the show

Collects all items for display

Organizes committee to hang the show and dismantle the display

Organizes artists' reception

Organizes any other displays of guild members' work

Thank you to all our current officers and all of you who considered taking on an office next year. Your new officers will be happy to involve you with the work of their committees next year! Please contact any member of the nominating committee to volunteer for the gallery show position!

Look in your April newsletter for another article from us with information to help you get to know each of the great women who have volunteered to serve you next year.

The membership will vote on the acceptance of this slate at the April meeting. According to the bylaws, nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the April meeting with prior consent from any such nominees.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy Becker, Linda Jones, and Deanne Karamanian

BY-LAWS PROPOSAL

At the Guild Board Meeting on February 27, 2011 the Board recommended that the following addition be made to Article II: Membership, section B:

- Current wording: Fellow knitters are welcome to visit **one** Guild meeting before joining the Guild.
- Proposed addition: Fellow knitters are welcome to visit **one** Guild meeting before joining the Guild **with the exception of members only meetings as determined by the Board**

This proposal will be presented to the Guild membership for a vote at the March Guild meeting.

FVKG MEETING DATES

- March 9
- April 13
- May 11

We meet the second Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of the St. Charles Episcopal Church at 994 North Fifth Ave. in St. Charles and start at 6:30pm

UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS

- June 24- 26, 2011 The Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair at the Lake County Fairgrounds
<http://www.fiberandfolk.com/>
- July 28- 31, 2011 Sock Summit the Second in Portland, Oregon
<http://www.socksummit.com>
- August 25- 28 2011 Stitches Midwest Schaumburg, IL
<http://www.knittinguniverse.com/stitches/>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The following Guild members are celebrating birthdays in March

- Sandra Andrews
- Michelle Brown
- Ellen Freyer
- Karen Ortlund
- Kathryn Schooley
- Annette A. Shults
- Pati Yurtinus



TREASURER'S REPORT

Below are two spreadsheets. The first shows the Guild's expenses/income for February, and the second shows the Guild's budget and expenses/income for this fiscal year to date.

--Diane Evinger, Treasurer

February 2011

Beginning Balance	\$4,424.68	\$650.00	\$5,074.68
Income:			\$-
Library			\$-
Membership	\$15.00		\$15.00
Needle gauges			\$-
Nametags			\$-
Retreat		\$100.00	\$100.00
Expenses:			\$-
Hospitality			\$-
Meeting	\$(20.00)		\$(20.00)
Nametags			\$-
Postage			\$-
Program--Knitche	\$(75.00)		\$(75.00)
Rent (St. Charles Episcopal Church)	\$(75.00)		\$(75.00)
Retreat			\$-
Balance February 28, 2011	\$4,269.68	\$750.00	\$5,019.68

FOX VALLEY KNITTERS' GUILD BUDGET

	February 2011	YTD Sept 2010 - February 2011	Budget Sept 1, 2010 - Aug 31, 2011
Beginning Balance		\$2,865.96	\$2,865.96
INCOME			
Membership			
Hospitality			
Library		\$10.00	\$-
Membership dues	\$15.00	\$2,715.00	\$3,000.00
Nametags		\$70.00	\$100.00
Needle gauges		\$69.00	\$-
Total Membership Income	\$15.00	\$2,864.00	\$3,100.00
Special Events Income			
Knitters' retreat 2010-2011	\$100.00	\$2,999.00	\$2,000.00
Total Special Events Income	\$100.00	\$2,999.00	\$2,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$115.00	\$5,863.00	\$5,100.00
EXPENSES			
Facilities			
Rent	\$75.00	\$450.00	\$900.00
Total Facilities	\$75.00	\$450.00	\$900.00
Membership Expense			
Nametags	\$-	\$64.10	\$100.00
Membership		\$-	\$-
Total Membership Expense	\$-	\$64.10	\$100.00
Operations			
Bank fees		\$11.50	\$25.00
Hospitality supplies		\$4.74	\$125.00
Meeting	\$20.00	\$55.63	\$-
Newsletter		\$-	\$125.00
Office supplies		\$-	\$45.00
Postage	\$-	\$8.80	\$40.00
Website	\$-	\$70.36	\$150.00
Total Operations Expense	\$20.00	\$151.03	\$510.00
Program Expense			
Programs - copies, misc		\$-	\$110.00
Programs - speakers	\$75.00	\$300.00	\$650.00
Total Program Expense	\$75.00	\$300.00	\$760.00
Special Events Expense			
Knitters' retreat 2010		\$2,419.15	\$2,030.00
Knitters' retreat 2011		\$325.00	\$-
Total Special Events Expenses	\$-	\$2,744.15	\$2,030.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$170.00	\$3,709.28	\$4,300.00
NET INCOME	\$(55.00)	\$5,019.68	\$3,665.96

Special Yarn Shops

- **Esther's Place** 201 W. Galena St. (Route 30), Big Rock
Phone: (630) 556-WOOL (9665) - Web: <http://www.esthersplacefibers.com/>
- **Fine Line** 6N158 Crane Road, St. Charles Phone: (630) 584-9443 - Web:
<http://www.finelineca.org/>
- **Fishbed Knitting Emporium, Inc.** 320 N. River Street, East Dundee
Phone: (847) 844-YARN (9276)
- **The Fold** 3316 Millstream Road, Marengo
Phone: (815) 568-5320
- **Gene Ann's Shop**
117 East Station St., Barrington
Phone: (847) 842-9321 - Web: <http://www.geneannsyarns.com/TheShop.htm>
- **Knitche** 5150-B Main Street, Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: (630) 852-5648 - Web: <http://knitche.com/>
- **Loopy Yarns.** 47 West Polk St. Chicago
Phone: (312) 583-9276 - Web: <http://www.loopyyarns.com>
- **Needle Things** 426 South Third Street, Geneva
Phone: (630) 232-9915
- **Never Enough Knitting** 119-121 North Main, Wheaton
Phone: (630) 221-1007
- **Stitches in Time** 300 W. Washington, Oregon, IL
Phone: (815) 732-4599
- ***Wool and Company** 107A West Main Street, St. Charles, IL
Phone: 630 444-0480 - Web: <http://www.woolandcompany.net/>

These shops are special because they offer discounts to FVKG members.

*Wool and Company has switched to a Stash Cash card program instead of a traditional discount

YARN STORES CLOSING

We have lost two local yarn stores this year. The Gifted Purl in West Dundee closed last month and Unique Yarns in Rockford is currently closing down.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FVKG Board</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• President: Sandy Andrews• Vice Pres./Programs: Gretl Kramer• Treasurer: Diane Evinger• Secretary: Kathy Schooley• Hospitality: Stephanie Lofland• Membership: Judy Jasper• Newsletter: Linda McEwan• Website: Lorraine Tompkins• Gallery Show: Natasha Lehrer	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Agenda for Each Guild Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6pm—set up• 6:30pm—gather to knit• 7pm—Meeting begins: Introductions of new members/guests Announcements/reports Show and Tell and Door Prizes• 7:30pm—Break• 7:45pm -Program• 9pm—Lights out
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FOX VALLEY KNITTERS' GUILD MISSION STATEMENT</u></p> <p>The purpose of the Fox Valley Knitters' Guild is to promote and foster an interest in knitting, to provide the opportunity for study and sharing to broaden one's skills, and to encourage high standards of design and technique in various forms of knitting.</p>	

Newsletter comments, suggestions or article ideas?

Please contact me at lmcewan@foxvalley.net or at (847) 697-1513. Thanks! ---Linda McEwan