

FOX VALLEY KNITTERS' GUILD NEWS

A newsletter by and for FVKG members

April 2011



fvkg.com

FVKG'S PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings!

Recently, I was discussing knitting patterns with a fellow knitter. She asked me a question that I could not really answer. She asked, "when you find an error in a knitting pattern, do you write to the magazine/author and let them know or just fix it yourself and go on?". What would you do?

This month's meeting will be very exciting. We have our annual meeting and election of officers. Thank you to those members who volunteered to serve as officers for next year.

Sally Melville will be our guest speaker this month. If you have projects that were made from one of her books or patterns, please bring them to the meeting for show and tell.

Soon, it will be time to sit outside with something to drink, a knitting project and enjoy the warm weather. If anyone is interested in getting together this summer to knit, please let our members know.

Happy Easter and Happy Knitting,

---Sandy Andrews

FOX VALLEY KNITTERS' GUILD MISSION STATEMENT

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.

APRIL PROGRAM NOTES

Our very special April guest will be Sally Melville. We are so fortunate to have her present our April program, Making the Most of Your Yarn Collection. Her description of this talk is as follows. "This presentation introduces ideas that knitters can employ to use, manage, and replenish a yarn collection! We'll discuss the problems inherent in using multiple yarns and colours, we'll see which stitch patterns will accommodate different weights and colours best, we'll talk about how to arrange a yarn collection to make the most of it, plus much more." In the time allotted, she may not get to every single aspect of this topic, but we are sure to leave the meeting with lots of ideas and inspiration.

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.**

In order to best accommodate the speaker and the audience, the room will be set up without tables, more like auditorium style. To make note taking easier, should you like to take notes, you might want to bring a clipboard or a lapboard. Of course you can bring your knitting to work on while listening.

If you would like to participate in Show and Tell, please bring a Sally Melville design that you have made to share with the group. We will also set up tables to display members' Sally Melville projects, like a Sally Melville Trunk Show. So bring what you have made, even if you would rather not model in front of the group. Please tag your pieces with your name, the name of the item, the yarn you used.

---Gretl Kramer

UPCOMING GUILD MEETING

May: End of the Guild Year Party and the Spring Cleaning Stash Sale. Now is the time to start going through your yarn stash, your knitting related books, magazines and equipment to see if there is anything that you are ready to move out of your house and into someone else's! This is an opportunity to sell or to give away those things that you know you will never use. How much better to have them used and loved by someone else than to have them sitting neglected and wondering when someone will pay attention to them. Right?

We'll have numerous sale tables set up so there will be plenty of room to show your wares and to look at other member's things that might need to go home with you. This is always a fun event. One knitter's trash is definitely another knitter's treasure.

---Gretl Kramer

LET'S SURPRIZE SALLY!

At our April meeting, Sally Melville will be visiting us. Many of us have knit her great designs over the years from Styles and her Knitting Experience series (these are the books I have). Why don't we surprize her with a group trunk show? Bring anything you have knit from her designs, even just a hat, and we will put them all out together! It will be impressive with all of them together. If possible put a card or slip of paper stating what design/book it is from, yarn used, and knitter's name. Don't let fear of speaking or lack of documentation stop you from sharing! Let's have a great representation of her designs!

---Kathy Schooley

MYSTERY KNITTING PROJECT PART FOUR

Here's something different. The last bit of knitting is a separate piece. Have you ever made I-cord?

Materials:

- Small amount of the same yarn you have been working with on the first part of the project
- Two double-pointed needles 1 size smaller than the needles used for the first part of the project

Techniques:

sl2kp2: Center double decrease done like this: Slip 2 stitches together as if to knit. Knit next stitch. Pass 2 slipped stitches over knit stitch and off needles.

Instructions:

CO 3 stitches on 1 double-pointed needle.

*Knit 1 row. DO NOT TURN WORK.

Slide the sts to the right end of the needle they are on and place this needle in left hand.

Repeat from * above, pulling yarn snugly on first stitch.

Work cord until it is about 8" long.

On last row, sl2kp2.

Pull yarn through last stitch and fasten off.

Weave ends of yarn into cord to hide them.

That is 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.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Hello Fellow Knitters,

We now have 97 members.

Here are the new members from March:

- Jane Holt
- Christina Conway

Welcome to our Guild!

---Judy Jasper, Membership

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee is happy to submit this slate of officers to the membership.

Our slate for 2011-2012 is:

President: Kathy Schooley
VP and Website: Lorraine Tompkins
Secy: Jennifer Duncan
Treas: Deanne Karamanian
Hospitality: Kathy Swenson
Membership: Marge Clark
Newsletter: Lisa Shroeder
Gallery Show: Claudia Frost
Library: Barbara Palmer

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. We will have a handout at our April meeting to give you more information about each of these great women. Your new officers will be happy to involve you with the work of their committees next year! So do not hesitate to introduce yourself and volunteer!

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.

Thank you to our current officers for all of their hard work. Our new officers are looking forward to your wisdom and experience as they begin their new jobs.

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

FVKG MEETING DATES

- 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

ROAD TRIP OPPORTUNITY TO LORNA'S LACES!

The Fox Valley Knitters Guild has the opportunity to shop at Lorna's Laces! On Saturday, May 7th at 12:30, Beth Casey (owner and dyer) will open her warehouse for shopping. 25 knitters will be allowed in at 12:30. Like last year, there will be a variety of yarns available at wonderful prices--generally half price or less. We must bring at least 20 knitters or we'll have to cancel. So, if you want to go, sign up no later than April 30 by e-mailing Christy Becker at knitterchristy@gmail.com or Linda Jones at linda49j@comcast.net

The warehouse is located at 4229 North Honore in Chicago 60613. This is not a store and is only to the public for special events--like an annual visit by a knitting guild. This will be a shopping only day--no dyeing demonstration or tour.

Transportation is on your own. However, if any of you would like to volunteer to drive when you sign up, I will be happy to help coordinate carpools. Or if a group of you plan to go and have room for a few more in your car, we can post that news, too.

Of course, there are several wonderful yarn stores you might like to visit before or after your stop at Lorna's Laces, such as

Nina

1655 W Division St, Chicago, IL 60622 | 773-486-8996 | <http://www.ninachicago.com/>

Loopy Yarns

47 W Polk Street, Chicago, IL 60605 | 312-583-9276 | <http://www.loopyyarns.com/>

The Woolly Lamb Yarn Studio

6007 N Nina Ave, Chicago, IL 60631 | 773-631-6208 | <http://www.woollylambyarn.com/>

Chix with Stix

7316 W Madison, Forest Park, IL 60310 | 708-366-6300 | <http://www.chixwithstixknitting.com/>

Lizzie's Yarn

300 S Main St, Wheaton, IL 60187

For a good list of all the yarn stores in the Chicago area and links to the website of each store, visit the Windy City Knitting Guild's website at

<http://windycityknittingguild.com/knitting-around-town/local-yarn-shops/>

REFRESHMENTS: A THANK YOU AND A REQUEST

Thank you to the ladies who brought the treats to the March meeting and to those who have signed up to bring treats to the April meeting. I know we are all looking forward to Sally's visit, so let's make sure she has something delicious to eat. If you would like to bring beverages, an appetizer, or dessert, please call me at 617-308-6461. Thank you.

---Stephanie Lofland, Hospitality

UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS

May 21-22, 2011	Door County Shepherds' Market http://www.whitefishbayfarm.com/market.htm
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 17-21, 2011	Michigan Fiber Festival and Festival Workshops. Allegan County Fairgrounds, Allegan, Michigan. http://www.michiganfiberfestival.info/
August 25-28 2011	Stitches Midwest Schaumburg, IL http://www.knittinguniverse.com/stitches/
Sept. 9-11, 2011	Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival. Jefferson County Fair Park, Jefferson, WI. http://www.wisconsinssheepandwoolfestival.com/

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The following Guild members are celebrating birthdays in April

- Marge Clark
- Lesley Edmondson
- Donna Elftmann
- Carla Hibbard
- Eileen Hoesly
- Corinne Hohmann
- Lorraine Tompkins



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

FVKG Board

- 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

The Agenda for Each Guild Meeting

- 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

Newsletter comments, suggestions or article ideas?

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