

Fox Valley Knitters' Guild NEWS

A newsletter by and for FVKG members

April 2015

President's Letter

When is a knitter like a cranky toddler? I'll tell you, because I've been one in my 'knitting zone' for a few weeks now. I've knit 1 hat for charity, 5 washcloths for charity, and 2 stuffed chickens for Easter. Really?! Now ask me why?

I have a baby sweater that the child may be in college before I finish it at the rate I'm going. Can I not just use a pattern like a normal person so I don't end up with something that's going to fit a 6 year old if I don't figure out what I'm doing? I agreed to finish a very boring vest for a friend. Why? Did you read the word boring? Now she's asking when it will be finished. I have a vest for myself that will take about an hour to figure out how to finish it. The actual knitting is probably only 2 hours. I have another vest where I have to frog the front piece. No, it actually doesn't make me feel better to call it frogging. But the back is finished and the front isn't going to work unless I start it over again. We won't discuss the pullover with the wonderful cable. Loved it when I started it. I didn't realize that a V neck actually starts below the armholes. Frogging!

Planning! What am I really doing with the wash cloths and the chickens you ask? I'm pouting. I want to start a new sweater. I want that pile of wonderful yarn on the sofa beside me. I want to pour through stitch dictionaries picking out some fun, new, complicated cables that look good together. I want to knit swatches of these stitch patterns. I DON'T WANT TO DO WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO DO.

There. Now I feel a little better. Maybe that's why a toddler stamps their feet while they scream. I think I'll go finish that vest for my friend and get it over with. Bless her. She asked me to finish it because she made a mistake and can't figure it out. She doesn't like to have unfinished projects sitting around. She obviously didn't realize that I have no problem with that at all.

Christie

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September 10, 2014
October 8, 2014
November 12, 2014
December 10, 2014
January 14, 2015
February 11, 2015
March 11, 2015
April 8, 2015
May 13, 2015

St. Charles Episcopal Church
994 N 5th Ave.
St. Charles, IL

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FVKG currently meets the second Wednesday of each month, September through May, in the Fellowship Hall of the St. Charles Episcopal Church in St. Charles. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.



Anticipated Program/Vendor Schedule

	Program	Vendor
April 8	Socks Janet Avila	String Theory
May 13	End-of-Year Party (Potluck)	Members Sale

Program of the Month

Topic for April's meeting:

Tips and tricks for working with double pointed needles: casting on, joining, avoiding ladders, etc.

This could help you out even if you aren't a sock maker, as they would apply to fingerless gloves, hats, sleeves, and other small items.

About our Speaker

Janet Avila opened String Theory Yarn Company in Glen Ellyn in April 2004, having no prior retail experience. Her idea was to create a knitting community to support small groups of people trying to make the world a better place.

Armed with extensive project management experience, a master's degree in international business and a passion for good yarn, she built her dream. Janet stocks the shelves with yarns that tell stories of women now able to support their families, kids in Nepal, Bolivia and South Africa now able to attend school, mills that function without harmful chemicals and more. A community of knitters and crocheters thrives at the tables of String Theory.

Recently, Janet and her husband inherited an abandoned coffee farm in Colombia, South America that just happens to have some cocoa bean trees as well. String Theory coffee and chocolate (fair trade, of course) might be available soon.

Vendor of the Month

String Theory Yarn Company
477 N. Main Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 469-6085

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10 - 5,
Thursday 10 - 9,
Sunday 12 - 4

The knitter knows that everything is connected to everything else. Leah Eskin

Save the Date

The knitter's retreat at Cantigny is on. We have tentatively booked the Medill room and the services of the Knitting Goddess for Saturday, August 15. Sorry this is the weekend after Stitches; this was the only date which worked for this venue and this speaker. The Goddess would like to know what topics you might like her to discuss. If you have any thoughts send them to me at my correct Email: TednPhee@outlook.com. phyllis

This is a Challenge for Charity

I realize that I need a push sometimes to get going. Even when I know there's a good reason to do so. Besides being a procrastinator, I can be exceptionally lazy when given the chance.

Well. I'm extending a 'push' to the whole guild while we have plenty of time to execute. At the last meeting, Teri said that we have 75 members. So, I challenge the guild to produce 75 hats or scarves (mittens count, but only as 1 item, not 2) by the October meeting. Really, that gives us 8 months.

I've sent a picture of the Slip Stitch Stash Hat that I made. I found the pattern on Ravelry. It's a free download by Renee Rico. From a very selfish point of view – all in the name of charity – I'm now down 4 partial skeins of yarn in my stash. This is just a suggestion. The size and pattern are up to you. There are lots of hat patterns that use only 1 skein. I didn't even worry about 'washable', although I think it is. I don't think hats aren't actually washed very often.

Please feel free to send me the name of a charity that is close to our heart. With 75 items to give, I'm sure we can spread them around.

Christie Cunningham
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FVKG Treasurer's Report

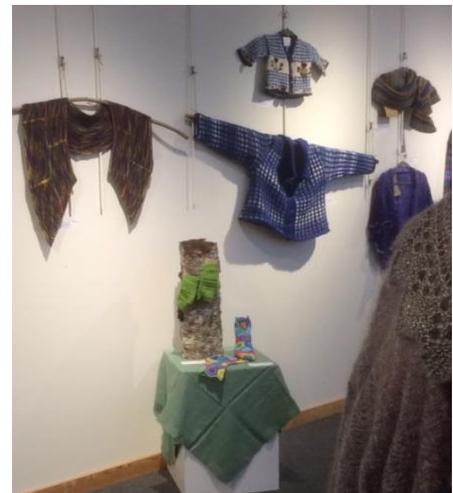
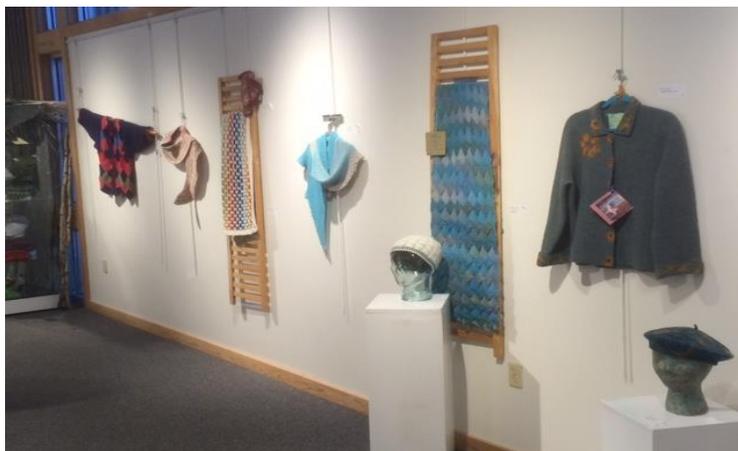
March 2015

Beginning Balance	4,936.43
Expenses	
Room Rental	75.00
Door Prize	37.50
Speaker	150.00
Income	
Membership Dues	.00
Ending Balance	4,673.93

~ Ruth Dykstra

Fox Valley Knitter's Guild at the Fine Line 2015

Through the windows at dusk and the beautiful creations within.



Special Yarn Shops

These shops are special because they offer discounts to FVKG members

Elgin Knits Works (10% off on regular priced yarn)

8 Douglas Ave., Elgin
847-627-4700
<http://elginknitworks.com>

Esther's Place (TBD)

201 W. Galena St. (Route 30), Big Rock
630-556-WOOL (9665)
www.esthersplacefibers.com

Fine Line (10% discount)

6N158 Crane Road, St. Charles
630-584-9443
www.finelineca.org

The Fold (10% discount)

3316 Millstream Road, Marengo
815-568-5320

Gene Ann's Shop (10% off on regular priced items)

117 East Station St., Barrington
847-842-9321
www.geneannsyarns.com

Knitche (10% off most yarns)

5150-B Main Street, Downers Grove
630-852-5648
<http://knitche.com/>

Loopy Yarns (10% discount)

47 West Polk St., Chicago
312-583-9276
www.loopyyarns.com

Needle Things (20% off yarn, patterns, & notions)

426 South Third Street, Geneva
630-232-9915

Never Enough Knitting (TBD)

119-121 North Main, Wheaton
630-221-1007

Stitches in Time (20% Discount)

300 W. Washington, Oregon
815-732-4599

*Wool and Company

107A West Main Street, St. Charles
630-444-0480
www.woolandcompany.com

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

2014 – 2015 FVKG Board Members

President: Christie Cunningham

Vice-President: Nicky Jo Herner

Secretary: Tami Stencil

Treasurer: Ruth Dykstra

Gallery Show: Janan Hudek

Hospitality: Bridget Christianson

Library: Teri Larson

Membership: Ellen Gilmartin

Newsletter Editor: Karen Haley

Website: Dee Heavington

If you need to contact a board member outside of a meeting, visit the members' section of www.fvkg.com for individual contact information. The password is printed on the back of your guild membership card; it remains the same as last year.

To notify the guild at large, simply email fvkgnews@gmail.com to have your note distributed. Be sure to allow at least 48 hours' advance notice.

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.

Guild Meeting Agenda

6:00 p.m. Set up

6:30 p.m. Gather to knit

7:00 p.m. Meeting begins:

Introduce new members/guests

Announcements/reports

Show and Tell

Door prizes

7:30 p.m. Break

7:45 p.m. Program

9:00 p.m. Lights out