

Fox Valley Knitters' Guild NEWS

A newsletter by and for FVKG members

March 2015

President's Letter

The unfortunate thing about this time of year is that it's cold enough to go digging for yet another project. I'm referring to a new project. I was thinking that I'd made a major dent in my old projects. It was a dent. You may just need a magnifying glass to find it. And I thought I could start a new one!

Here is the danger of both having a stash and loving to swatch. (Yes, in the knitting world, to swatch, is a verb, really.) I love to open my blanket chest of yarn or pull out one of the bags/baskets with even more stash and think about what these skeins of yarn can become if I just pull out a stitch pattern book and a few different needle sizes. It is so much more fun than the bag with my navy vest where I need to decide how much longer to make it and how it is going to close. (I'm really afraid that it no longer fits me.) The odd thing is that even the old swatches can get tiresome. One needs to get right to it and finish a project while it's fresh. Can one use multiple laughing signs like multiple exclamation points? One knows that they shouldn't but it does express our feelings so well.

But really, there's nothing quite like the month of February and the beginning of March to play in yarn. I'd really rather have spring arrive, but we do live in northern Illinois. I guess I can get started on the 3 pair of slippers that I already know I need for Christmas. Really? What will I do at midnight on December 8th when I know I need to stay up and finish felting slippers or they won't be dry to mail? I think I can try this reverse cable pattern first, don't you?

Christie

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2014-2015 Meeting Dates:

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.

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.



Program of the Month

Lace knitting Tips & Tricks –

Materials, tools and techniques that can help make lace knitting more enjoyable.

About our Speaker

Adrienne Ku is a long time knitter, a relatively new spinner and a knitwear designer. She published her first design, Simple Skyp Socks in 2009. She has since designed for Juniper Moon Farms and Universal Yarns while continuing to self-publish.

Adrienne is also the wife of an avid fisherman and the mother of two almost grown sons. The men in her life are very supportive of her knitting habit and provide her with a steady supply of yarn. In return she knits them socks, lots and lots of socks.

You can find more of her work at MushroomKnits.com, Ravelry and Craftsy.

Adrienne Ku

MushroomKnits.com

Vendor of the Month

Sarah Ocepek

Mia Bella Yarn & Accessories

847-748-8419

Miabellayarn.com

FINE LINE SHOW RECEPTION -- FRIDAY MARCH 13, 5:30 to 8:00 pm

Invite your friends, family, in-laws and out-laws!

If you can help with this event and/or provide some tasty morsels for our admirers, please sign up at the regular meeting on March 11 or call or e-mail Janan:

630.460.8362; jananhudek@yahoo.com.

ALSO: the last day of the show is the day after the reception. We need to remove everything on MONDAY MARCH 16. Please arrange to get your items between 10AM & NOON that day. If you can't be there, please check with other members/friends to see if someone else can pick up your work and any display items you may have loaned the Guild for this show.

Thanks to everyone who participated & helped

.~ Janan Hudek
Show Chair

Anticipated Program/Vendor Schedule

(Subject to change)

	Program	Vendor
March 11	Lace Knitting Tips & Tricks Ardienne Ku	Mia Bella
April 8	Socks –Specifics to follow Janet Avila	String Theory
May 13	End-of-Year Party (Potluck)	Members Sale

~ Nicky Jo Herner

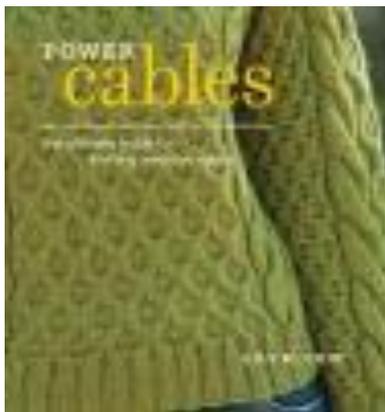
Book Review

POWER CABLES the ultimate guide to knitting inventive cables by Lily Chin

This book is meant to be a class on how to 'think' cables. If you have a few hours to spend learning how Lily Chin does this, it's probably great. She starts with explaining how cables are formed and goes on to tell you how to put this into a chart simply. If you love her stitch patterns and want to use them, you are out of luck. She's written her own method for charting cables, and you can't just use what you see in front of you. OK, maybe you can if you spent the time in the front of the book. I didn't. I ended up putting her written instructions into a traditional chart. Love her stitch pattern. Hate her chart.

Conclusion: This has more reversible cable patterns than I thought existed. If you've enjoyed knitting cables and haven't understood the charts, I recommend you read her book. Then try the patterns. If you're accustomed to the current charts and just want her stitch patterns, you have some work ahead of you.

Christie Cunningham



FVKG Treasurer's Report

February 2015

Beginning Balance	5,242.42
Expenses	
Room Rental	75.00
Domain Name	10.99
Speaker	220.00
Income	
Membership Dues	.00
Ending Balance	4,936.43

~ Ruth Dykstra

SHOW AND TELL - FEBRUARY



Kathy Schooley's Autumn Nebula Scarf, knit from the Stephen West pattern, "Clockwork", in Knit Picks Gloss and Socks That Rock yarns. She enjoyed pushing her color boundaries on this one.



Phyllis Deerink's Alice Starmore hat from a Virtual Yarn kit, knit on size 2 needles.



Phyllis Deerink's Alice Starmore scarf, from same kit.



Judy Jasper's Rowan Angora sweater, knit from Rowan Angora Haze, purchased at Wool & Company. It is intarsia with duplicate stitch.



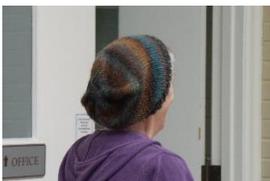
Nicky Jo Herner's Knit Stuffed animal, from the pattern Safari Friends by Chris deLongpre. She used KH SuperSaver yarn from her stash, and knit on size 6 needles with a gauge of 20 sts by 26 rows.



Nicky Jo Herner, also with stuffed animal, details above.



Edna Lundeen with her Heart Dishcloth, knit in garter stitch from a Pattern a Day Calendar. She knit it from Lily Sugar & Cream 100% cotton, purchased at Michaels. She used a 7 or 8 crochet hook, with 8 sts. and 16 rows = 2". She thought these would be a fun and different Valentine!



Jan Siers' slouch hat, knit from a pattern described to her by a knitter she ran into at JoAnn Fabrics. She used Lion Brand Striped Tweed on size 8 needles.

SHOW AND TELL – FEBRUARY CONT'D



Shirley Remes with her Baby Surprise Jacket, a design by Elizabeth Zimmerman. She knit it from Raunma-Ragg yarn, purchased at Wool & Company, and used size 2 needles.



Pat Litzo's Hitofude Cardigan, from a pattern by Hiroko Fukatsu. It can be found on Ravelry. Pat knit her cardigan from La Jolla yarn, in the Red color way, and purchased the yarn at String Theory. She knit it on size 4 needles, and strongly recommends the use of stitch markers for this project. She learned how to correct yarn overs from a YouTube video.



Ruth Dykstra's Red Flower. She has become very interested in knitting these small projects since seeing them at the Vogue Knitting event last fall.



Carol Milak's Baseball Jacket, from the Debbie Bliss pattern of the same name. She used Comfy Sport yarn from Knit Picks.



First picture is Bridget Christianson's Double Knit Mittens, knit from the pattern Yuma, found on Ravelry, from Berocco Sock Yarn, on size 1.5 needles.



Bridget's Fishermans Afghan, knit from an Afghan Book at Michael's, in Arcylic yarn, on size 8 needles.



Diane Brown's Zig and Zag Sock Yarn Pram Baby Blanket, knit from various sock and fingering yarns, on Size 6 needles.



Christy Cunningham's baby sweater - no info sheet.

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

