

Fox Valley Knitters' Guild NEWS

A newsletter by and for FVKG members

September 2014

President's Letter

Your assigned classes: 6034 - Amazing Couture Stitches / Teacher: Frost, Jean / Homework: None / Supplies: 3 balls contrasting colors, #3 (DK) or #4 (worsted-weight) (wool or wool blends preferred) plus odds and ends from your stash; needles of various sizes.

I've started my letter with my homework instructions for my class at Stitches. I've always admired the construction of Jean Frost's jackets and her use of color and slip stitches, so I really wanted to get the most out of this class. Now, we can discuss how a knitter, and stash collector, can interpret the end of the sentence "plus odds and ends from your stash".

I merrily started pulling all of the bags and boxes out of the closet where I had so carefully put them away maybe a week before. I had sorted them by color. Do have 3 different, and contrasting colors, took 3 bags/boxes. Then there's that marvelous phrase to a knitter – plus odds and ends. Varigated orange/yellow/olive looked great with the bronzy maroon and green, but you know the green looked great with a celadon blue sort of group. Then, did I want them to be so bold, would it be fun to try with a set of neutrals? No, but the dark blue had a gold fleck. Do you know where I'm going? I even wondered if it was fun for the teacher to see what kind of yarn the students brought with them.

I get to Stitches with a whole tote bag of yarn, 2 different sets of '3' plus odds and ends to go with either of them and several different needles. The table in the classroom is a very 'polite' narrow table for laptops and iPads. I have to spread to either side of my space. Fortunately, I was next to experienced attendees. They brought 3 small balls of lovely light weight yarns and were each able to fit in the space that I so generously (?) left for them. I really enjoyed the class, but I took the yarn back to my car before shopping in the market. Welcome back!

~ Christie Cunningham

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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.
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.



September Meeting Info

Membership

Renewing your FVKG membership is about to get easier! Existing members will receive a personalized one-page renewal form to review current information. Updates can be submitted along with the \$30 annual membership fee due in September. Members will receive an updated membership card with a new password to our website (www.fvkg.com) that will be effective October 12, 2014.

Program

Our September program is called "Starting a Sweater" taught by Elizabeth O'Brien. Many knitters are afraid to start a sweater. With the proper pattern, knitting a sweater can be lots of fun. We will discuss everything you need to know to get started. The following topics will be discussed:

Pattern selection
What size pattern to use, what measurements you need and how to take them
Yarn selection
Gauge and why it matters

After going over all of the above elements you will be given an easy pattern, which will get you started on your first sweater. Please bring a measuring tape.

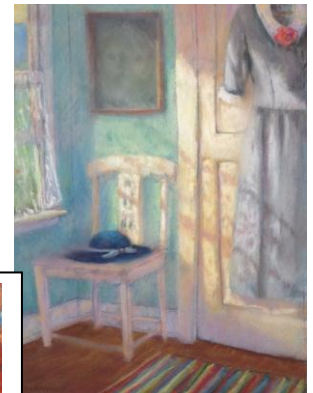
About our speaker:

Elizabeth O'Brien was taught to knit by her mother at a young age. Her first project was a crew neck sweater with set in sleeves! In addition to her mother's master instructions, Elizabeth has a BS and MS in Home Economics. She has extensive teaching experience in a variety of knitting topics. She was the former owner of a knit shop in Chicago for 11 years. She is now the owner of a web-based knitting shop: www.theknittinggoddess.com

Show Off Your Stuff & Inspire Others

MEMBER SHOW featuring JANAN HUDEK

Janan Hudek will have a 1-woman show at DuPAGE ART LEAGUE, 218 West Front St. in downtown Wheaton September 2 thru 30. The show is titled "Fiction & Fiberworks" and features pastel paintings inspired by the stories of Wendell Berry and felted and knitted wearable art. Everyone is invited to the Artist RECEPTION on Sunday, SEPTEMBER 14 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the League. For additional information, contact Janan at [630.460.8362](tel:630.460.8362) or jananhudek@yahoo.com



Sample works by
Janan

LIBRARY DISPLAY OPPORTUNITY

The Guild has been invited to display our work in a locked case at the Messenger Public Library in North Aurora NOVEMBER 16- 30. The Library has a FIBER & Arts group that meets there weekly, so I know there will be real interest in our group. Please bring items for this display to the September or October Guild meeting.

THE REALLY BIG SHOW – ALL GUILD MEMBERS

The Guild will be having its bi-annual exhibit at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center, St. Charles. The tentative dates are MARCH 18 thru APRIL 18, 2015. The Fine Line will confirm these dates after September 10. The title of the show is Natural Inclinations--so whatever inclinations come naturally to you, start knitting or crocheting now! From simple to elaborate, the goal is to have every Guild member represented with at least one piece in this show.

~ Janan Hudek (Gallery Show Chairperson)

FVKG

Cantigny • June 28, 2014



Cantigny Event Appreciation

The Fox Valley Knitting Guild would like to thank Members Christie Becker, Janet Goier and Lorraine Tompkins for coordinating and hosting the Summer Fling on Saturday, June 28th at Cantigny. Countless hours of time and dedication were evident as the course of events throughout the day were captivating and exciting, especially the door prizes!

The Guild would also like to thank Janet Avila of String Theory for spending the day with us to teach and refresh us on many techniques, as well as offering her beautiful yarns for sale.

In addition, the Guild would like to thank Emily Parson of Sophie's Toes for offering her lovely and vibrant yarns to us for purchase.

The weather and gardens were perfect, the food was delicious and the energy was high. Thank you for a most memorable day!

~ Teri Larson

Attention Cantigny attendees: Have you started or even finished a project with yarn you won or purchased at the event? If so, we'd love to see your project at the September meeting!

~ Roxanne Mikulecky

Special Yarn Shops

These shops are special because they offer discounts to FVKG members. Just show your current membership card.

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

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

Esther's Place

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 on 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

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: Michelle Smith

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

In Remembrance – Lee Olson

Leona Claire Irma Nettland Olson known to us as Lee Olson passed away on June 12, 2014. Lee was a founding member of the Fox Valley Knitters Guild. She was very active in the guild up to about 5 years or so ago.

When I joined 23 years ago, Lee was treasurer and then became president. One of the many activities she did was plan day and overnight road trips for the guild. With her fellow knitter and business partner, Pat Thompson, she would take "trial runs" and map-out the itinerary for these trips down to the last detail. These forays included trips to the Milwaukee area and Madison, WI where we would nicely storm the yarn shops, eat at great restaurants and stay at very nice hotels. There were others too many to mention.

Her memorial service took place on Friday, August 8, 2014 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Charles at 10:30AM. The burial was private.

~ Eileen Hoesly

FVKG Treasurer's Report

July 2014

Beginning Balance	\$6,233.53
Expenses	
Microphone	\$ 129.99
Event favors	\$ 50.54
Printing	\$ 32.50
Event food & room	\$ 816.51
Event door prizes,etc	\$ 633.93
Income	\$ 0
Ending Balance	\$4,570.06

August 2014

Beginning Balance	\$4,570.06
Expenses	
Hospitality	\$ 20.00
Membership cards	\$ 34.88
Income	\$ 0
Ending Balance	\$ 4,515.18

~ Ruth Dykstra

FVKG – May Show and Tell

A sampling of the finished items in our Show and Tell session during the May 2014 meeting:



Phyllis Deernick

Lace Cape pet from Victorian Lace
Kidsilk Haze & Stacy Charles w/ sequins



Christie Cunningham
Washcloth



Shirley Remes

"Bear Tracks" by Linda Cyr/Ravelry
Encore yarn



Ruth Dykstra

"Kachina Bag"
Felted in various wools

Show and Tell – continued



Barb Palmer
“Alexa” cap-sleeve cardigan
with an added zipper
Bernat Gloucester yarn in ‘Mint’



Kim Jarodsky
Seed stitch & basket weave baby blanket
Perfection Kraemer yarn in ‘Evening Song’



Bridget Christianson
“Vernal Equinox Surprise Shawl” (first shawl!)
Cascade Indulgence w/ beads added at bottom



Lorraine Tompkins
“Sand” sweater
ColourMart Lambswool
“Watermelon Slice Socks”
Knitter’s Brewing Co
Sock-aholic yarn



Kathy Schooley
Kimono w/ intarsia panels on the back
JoJoLand Worsted Melody



Christie Becker
“Imagine When Shawl”
Zen Garden Serenity yarn

Show and Tell – continued



Shirley Remes
“Thumbelina Sun Hat” by Jan Cullen
Plymouth yarn



Shirley Remes
“Timber Frame Socks”
Philosopher’s Wool and/or
Joseph Madl w/ Frog Tree
Yarn & scraps



Shirley Remes
“Rosebud Cardi” by Lorna Miser
Encore yarn

~ Photos by Janet Goier