

Westchester Knitting Guild Newsletter[©]

This newsletter is for the exclusive use of members of the WKG.



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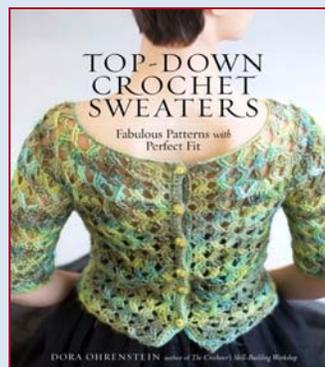
Dora Ohrenstein Crochet Designer

May 22nd



Dora Ohrenstein, a leading crochet designer, teacher and author, will be our guest speaker on May 22nd. A world traveler to exotic parts of the globe, including Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Albania; she will present stunning visual displays of exotic textiles and relate stories of the makers she has met and the cultural and historical settings that influence them.

Dora's books include *Top Down Crochet Sweaters* and *The Crocheter's Skill-Building Workshop*. Her website, www.crochetinsider.com, is a great resource for information and patterns. Her designs are also available on *Ravelry* at www.ravelry.com/designers/dora-ohrenstein



A native New Yorker and a professional singer (soprano), Dora teaches voice at Wagner College on Staten Island.

From the President

May 7th turned out to be a Red Letter day for the guild. We held a knitting workshop for the first time in several years. I would like to thank the board for their work in making this workshop a success. Thanks to Raina Laredo, Suzanne Sunday, and Myra Cohen, we had a “sellout crowd” for Patty Lyons workshop. I think we are all amazed by her knowledge, and all the knitting tricks that we learned in the three hours we spent with Patty. There were so many aha moments! I am sure we are all looking forward to her presentation at our June meeting.

We would like to be able to post a list of knitters’ get togethers. If you belong to a group that meets on a regular basis and would like knitters to join in, please give me your information at our next meeting. I will post that information in our June newsletter.

It is really nice to see increased activity on our *Ravelry* page. By all means, please keep posting your projects for all to see.

As always, happy knitting

J. Evelynne Liebmann



Patty Lyons’ May 7th workshop with a sellout crowd!



Ravelry Part 2: Patterns 1

Okay, now that you belong to *Ravelry*, it is time to do what most users turn to *Ravelry* to do--get patterns. Since this can be really straight forward and easy or rather complicated, we will begin this month with the easy overview and next month we will move on to advanced searches.

When you look at the opening page of *Ravelry*, you can see the most popular recent patterns and can click on any of them to get more information. You can also click on the patterns button at the top of the screen to see all of the available patterns. Once you are within patterns, you can type in the name of a pattern that interests you or the name of a designer you like and click on search. If you click on a designer's name, you will see a list of all of the patterns that designer has written. Once you click on a specific pattern name (either from the home page of *Ravelry* or through the patterns button) that you want (keep in mind that there may be a number of patterns with a specific name by different designers), you will see additional information, such as the type and amount of yarn needed, the needle required and details about sizing. You will also see if the pattern is free, if there is a link to get the pattern for free (for example, on Knitty), or if you can purchase the pattern through *Ravelry* using PayPal. But, there is a lot of additional very helpful information on the pattern page. On the right hand part of the screen, you will see the pattern and below that you can see the number of projects that have been created for that pattern; if you click on that, you connect to all of those projects. This can allow you to see how the pattern looks on someone, especially someone with your body type. You can also see how people have modified the pattern, perhaps by making a sweater longer or a shawl bigger and by clicking on their page you have a good chance that they have described what they did in their notes section. You can also see if there are any errata that have been noted so you can learn what to do to fix a problem BEFORE you make that mistake.

Next month we will specifically run through an advanced search and additional ways to find exactly what you are looking for. Till then, explore *Ravelry* patterns on your own and see what you can find.

A New Volunteer Opportunity ...

... for those who would like to teach knitting. The setting is the Westchester Medical Center in the Maternity Unit. A number of women who have been prescribed total bed-rest go to WMC and can be there for days, or weeks and even a few months. The head of Volunteer Services, Tara Marquis, thought knitting would be a great way to help them cope with the very long days and nights – you can watch only so much TV.

A few months ago when I delivered the premie blankets and hats she asked me if I would be interested, especially considering my involvement with the Westchester Knitting Guild. It was an opportunity I couldn't resist. The contrast between teaching in the prison and the hospital is huge. First and foremost, you get to teach on a one-to-one basis, not a class of up to 15 students. The hours are more flexible; you can tell them which days and what hours you want. The women are not real happy that they are there but know it is for the best and are reassured. Most have been pleased with the prospect of learning to knit and welcome the distraction. In the prison, the two hours scheduled for the Knitting Program are firm – no one can leave once they are there. In the hospital, the patient might have to be tested or have a visitor and decide not to knit that day. One has to be flexible.

I didn't realize the application to volunteer would be so rigorous but they make it as easy as possible. After I went to orientation, I came away impressed and gained a greater understanding. The campus is huge but everyone, from maintenance workers to doctors, is quick to see you need some guidance and help. I find it very rewarding and recommend it. If you are interested, even if only curious, don't hesitate to talk to me prior to Guild meetings or email me. I'd love to tell you about the experience.

Dorothy Freeman

SHOW & TELL ON RAVELRY

If you are bringing something to *Show and Tell* at our next meeting, please do not forget to put a photo and a description in the Guild thread on *Ravelry*. If you're not sure how to do that, see me at the meeting.

Suzanne Sunday

GUILD KAL'S

We are winding down with our Pomatomus sock KAL and will finish it with the June meeting. For those of you who have been participating, hope you'll bring your socks at 6:00-7:00 p.m. before the May and June meetings. As always, I'm happy to help in anyway I can.

We'd like to start a new KAL at our September meeting and are looking for ideas and someone willing to lead it. It would be great to have a project that would generate holiday gifts (maybe knitted animals or toys?), but not necessary. If you'd like to step up and coordinate the KAL, speak with me at the May meeting. Here's what you would be responsible for doing:

1. Have a clear and achievable plan to begin a KAL in September that would conclude at the December meeting.
2. Write an article for the newsletter in July/August discussing the KAL, including the pattern and how to get it, supplies needed, and any homework for the September meeting. For the October, November and December newsletters, you'd need to prepare a short reminder for the newsletter.
3. Show your finished KAL project at the July and September meetings and generate excitement.
4. Be at the meetings from 6:00 -7:00 p.m. to lead the KAL. If you will be away one of the meetings, have someone else who is knowledgeable about the KAL cover for you.

If you've thought of getting more involved with the Guild, this could be a great first step. Having lead a few KALs myself, they are really fun and help you to get to know a lot more guild members. I hope to hear a few great ideas!

Suzanne Sunday



Nuns of Marion Woods Retirement Facility in Hartsdale working on a charity afghan for the Guild.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It's time to renew your membership for the 2017 year for our knitting guild. We have found it necessary to raise the dues to \$35 for the year. Please pay by the end of March in order to avoid a \$10 guest fee.

Please make your dues check payable to the Westchester Knitting Guild or WKG in the amount of \$35.00. You may give the check (or cash) directly to me at the next meeting or you may mail it to me at:

Westchester Knitting Guild
Attn: Jeanne Scofidio
P. O. Box 141
Chappaqua, NY 10514

Please include your current address, telephone number and current email id. I will give you (or mail to you) a 2017 WKG membership card and add you to our membership list. I look forward to your continued participation in our guild activities. We have exciting programs lined up for 2017!

Thank you,
Jeanne Scofidio
Treasurer

UPCOMING KNITTING EVENTS

Through August 6, **Judith Lieber, Crafting a New York Story**, Museum of Art & Design, New York, NY <http://madmuseum.org/exhibition/judith-leiber>

Through Sept. 4, **Rei Kawakubo and the Art of the In-Between**, Metropolitan Museum, New York, NY, <http://www.metmuseum.org/press/news/2016/rei-kawakubo>

May 10, **Webs –America Yarn Store Experience**, Bus trip from Mt. Kisco to Webs, Northampton, MA.

May 27 – 30, **Green Mountain Spinnery Tent Sale**, Putney, VT, <http://www.spinnery.com/event/2017-spinnery-tent-sale/>

May 28 – June 9, **Anna Sudo/Designing Hand-Knits**, Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC, <http://penland.org/textiles/index.html>

June 10, **World Wide Knit in Public Day**, <https://www.wkipday.com/>



Knitting News
Joan Ratner

Calendar

- May 22 - Dora Ohrenstein, crochet designer
- June 26 – Patty Lyons
- July 24 – Annual Member Picnic

MEETING SCHEDULE

6:00 Knit Along, Ravelry Help

7:00 Announcements &
Show and Tell

7:15 Program

Meetings are held on the 4th
Monday of the month at the
Chappaqua Library
195 South Greeley Ave.
Chappaqua, NY 10514-3398
914-238-4779
www.chappaqualibrary.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Membership renewal begins in January 2017. Annual dues are \$35 and Jeanne will accept payment at the next meeting.
- Please bring finished items for charity to the monthly meetings.
- Please bring donations of yarn and plastic knitting needles for the prison knitting program at Taconic to monthly meetings.
- Guests are welcome. There will be a \$10 fee for guests.

MEETING ETIQUETTE REMINDER

We are fortunate to have high quality presenters during our monthly meetings. Even if you are not interested in the presentation or mini-workshop, please be respectful of others and remember:

- No talking during presentation
- Wait until Q&A period to ask questions
- Wait for the presentation to end before trying on, or looking at samples

Thank you for your cooperation.

westchesterknittingguild.com

Don't forget to check our website
and like us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/WestchesterKnittingGuild>

