

Westchester Knitting Guild Newsletter[©]

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



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PICNIC!

July 23th
7:00 p.m.



The July program will be our annual indoor summer picnic. Please bring a dish to share; either a main course or dessert, and we'll supply tableware, coffee, and water.



The Loopy Mango will give us an introduction to their products and new shop in Beacon, NY. There will be a hands-on knitting demo and items for sale. You can try on the knitted garment

samples and shop the yarn and knitting needles that will be offered at a 10% discount to all attendees.

We will also have a *Yarn Swap*. Simply wrap any unwanted yarn in banded skeins in a plastic bag and label it with your name and the price you are asking. Books from the guild's library will also be on sale and there will be door prizes .

From the President

Lately I have been thinking about where we get our inspiration for the projects we knit. Traditionally, we looked to our local yarn store, or a handful of knitting magazines that were available to us. Today our options are far greater and, even though there seems to be a contraction in the number of LYS's available to us, other options have opened up. There is no question that *Ravelry* has been a blessing to knitters and a forum for the exchange of ideas. There also seems to be an endless supply of online entities that inspire us and also offer materials for our projects.

What I have noticed in the last year or so, is a proliferation of publications that go beyond just knitting patterns. I hesitate to call them magazines; yet they are not quite books either and, in some cases, the cost of these publications comes close to book prices. These publications have a larger world view than just creating patterns we can duplicate. They see knitting as part of a continuum; as a craft that is connected to dying, weaving, spinning and, in general, a way of life. It is common among many of these publications to include recipes and travel.

There are four such publications that I enjoy and will continue to acquire. This is by no means a complete list, just those that I have discovered.

I recently purchased a copy of *Laine*, part literary magazine, partly knitwear focused, their selection of knitwear designers and thoughtful articles will have any reader going back to it time and again.

Making takes a broader world view including other handcrafts as well as recipes. Additional categories included here are Home, Beauty and Utility, Kids, and Mend.

By Hand is both travel guide and knit oriented. Each issue focuses on a different region of the country, the latest is the Blue Ridge mountains. You can map out your trip and knit while you get there.

Lastly is ***Taproot***, similar in concept, it too, is filled with patterns and recipes, and articles that take you behind the scene, so to speak, as to how materials are grown and harvested.

What all of these publications have in common is an integrated view of the knitter's world, opening our horizons to a better understanding of the how and why of the

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From the President continued

materials we use. In many ways, these publications are closer to art books with beautiful photographs than magazines; the type you want to keep and go back to time and again.

July is picnic time and we have some goodies lined up for this event. Loopy Mango will be on hand to talk about their shop and online business. We will, once again, have a yarn swap. Please be sure to put your items in a zip lock bag with your name and the price you desire. Here is your annual opportunity to reduce your stash! This year, for the first time, we will have a little gift for every member who comes to the July meeting. We will also have some books for sale at incredible prices.

The picnic is always a happy event, and a way to discover some new dishes. Please bring an appetizer/entrée or dessert, suitable for 12. Drinks and utensils etc. will be provided. We will continue the Brioche KAL for those of you that need assistance. A big thank you to Linda Higham and her trusty assistants who made this KAL such a success.

As always, Happy Knitting

J. Evelyne Liebmann



RAVELRY PATTERN OF THE MONTH!!

This month's free **Ravelry** pattern is a **Brioche Ear Flap Hat**. It is a two-color brioche pattern using both flat and circular brioche. It was designed by Joan Ratner's daughter, Jessica Leiken, and it is her first pattern on Ravelry. If you have been participating in the Brioche KAL, this is a perfect choice for your next project.

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/brioche-ear-flap-hat>



Brioche Stitch KAL: 2-Color Brioche

The Brioche KAL of the last 3 months has been enjoyable and productive.

It was such a treat to see the completed projects shared by Chris Roche, Liz Dieter, and Robin Freiman (pictured below). We would love to see any more completed projects at the show-and-tell.

This month, I will be available to help with Brioche knitting for those still working on projects from the earlier meetings. We can combine our lesson with socializing and eating at the picnic.

Those who missed our earlier meetings are welcome to join the session. Information on supplies and preparation for the projects can be found in the WKG newsletters for May (brioche in the round) and June (brioche knit flat). The newsletters can be found on the Guild website at the Journal tab:

<http://www.westchesterknittingguild.com>

All are welcome to come explore Brioche Knitting on July 23, beginning with the 6:00 p.m. KAL and continuing through the picnic.

Linda Higham





Loopy Mango @ WKG Picnic

- Get 10% off LM yarn
- Try on knitted garments
- Watch Knitting Demo
- Meet Loopy Mango Team

STITCH N PITCH August 21st



Kim Strauss and Mary Evanov are organizing a **Stitch n Pitch** event at Citi Field on Tuesday August 21st at 7:10pm and we want to invite WKG members to attend. If you've never heard of a Stitch n Pitch before, it's a fun night out for knitters, crocheters, and other needle crafters to sit together in the stands and work on our projects, while watching a baseball game. For ticket info please visit:

<https://groupmatics.events/event/Stitchnpitch>

Meg Swansen's Knitting Camp

My daughter and I have just returned from our fourth visit to Meg Swansen's Knitting Camp in Marshfield, WI. It's a long way to go for a few days of knitting instruction but well the effort. Meg is the daughter of the late knitting guru, Elizabeth Zimmerman, and a brilliant designer, author and knitting teacher in her own right.



This was the 45th year of 'camp', which has four sessions of four days each every July. The biggest surprise this year was the presence of Cecilia Campochiaro, author of *Sequence Knitting*, who was invited to attend the sessions and give a presentation.

The program meets at a Holiday Inn Conference Center in Marshfield, about 100 miles north of Madison, WI. The sponsor, Schoolhouse Press, provides most meals and housing. Each morning Meg and Amy Detjen, another master knitter, present a workshop on the basic tenets of Elizabeth's and their own methods: Elizabeth's Percentage System (EPS) for circular, seamless garment construction, two color knitting, steeks, i-cord and other assorted techniques and tricks. Questions are encouraged and there is lots of dialog between the attendees and presenters. The afternoons are devoted to 'show and tell' and more instruction. Needless to say, they have plenty of yarn, knitting books and accessories for sale.

The attendees are a mixture of first time campers and veterans from all over the U.S. and Canada. Many people, several of whom are incredible knitters, come every year,. There are usually a few mother/daughter or grandmother/granddaughter groups.

We love knitting camp for the friendships we have made with other passionate knitters who are an incredibly diverse and accomplished group of (mostly) women. This year's camp did include a charming gay male couple from Nashville. The sessions fill up quickly when they are announced in February. If you think you might be interested, I'd be glad to tell you more.

Joan Ratner

SHOW & TELL



KNITTING NEEDLES

Why I LOVE Signature Circular Needles by Suzanne Sunday

Before I begin, I want you to know that I never wanted to fall in love with Signature circular needles; I knew how expensive Signatures were and my Knit Picks wooden needles worked fine. Then I tried my friend's circular Signatures and it was all over. First of all, the stiletto points are the best on the market and, since I do a lot of lace knitting, that is really important. Second, I "prop" while I knit, holding the bottom of the needles against my lap and Signature circulars are the only circulars that have 6" stems (other needles are 5" or shorter) making that possible thus allowing me to knit much faster. Finally, the 6" stems fit my large hands far better than my 5" Knit Picks and, for me, that makes a big difference in comfort. I can knit with my Signatures for hours and I'm as comfortable after as I was before I started. Yes, they are expensive needles comparatively but for me, they are worth every penny. I'm a really good knitter and these needles make a better knitter and, I'm worth it!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Our membership dues are \$35.00 for the year. Please make your check payable to the Westchester Knitting Guild or WKG. 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 address. I will give you (or mail to you) a 2018 WKG membership card and add you to our membership list. I look forward to your continued participation in our guild activities!

Thank you, Jeanne

UPCOMING TEXTILE ART EVENTS

Through Oct. 8th, **Heavenly Bodies, Fashion & The Catholic Imagination**, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY.

<https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2018/heavenly-bodies>



Through September 9, **Surface/Depth, The Decorative After Miriam Schapiro**, Museum of Art & Design, New York, NY <http://madmuseum.org/exhibition/surfacedepth>

Through Jan. 13, 2019, **Color Decoded: The Textiles of Richard Landis**, Cooper Hewit Museum, New York, NY <https://www.cooperhewitt.org/channel/color-decoded/>

Ongoing, **Then and Now: Modern and Contemporary Selections from the Permanent Collection**, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, NY

<https://www.neuberger.org/exhibitions/current/view1/421.html?width=660&height=500>



Knitting News
Joan Ratner

Calendar

- July 23: Summer Picnic with Loopy Mango presentation
- Sept. 24 – Alpacatraz Farm
- Nov. 5 – Member led workshops
- Nov. 26 – Vogue Knitting

MEETING SCHEDULE

6:00 Knit Along
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

- It's time to renew your membership for 2018. Annual dues are \$35. 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>

