

Westchester Knitting Guild

July and August 2023 Newsletter



From Suzanne Sunday:

July Event:

Join us outdoors in the Bedford Village Memorial Park, **Monday July 24 (rain date July 31) from 4-6 pm** at the Gazebo, very close to the entrance to the park. There is a lot of parking, the area is completely flat and the Gazebo is quite separate from the pool, fields and playground. Bring a chair, your knitting and any books you no longer need to give to others (but be prepared to take home any of your books that remain by the end of the get together). This meeting is open to all, so feel free to bring friends even if they aren't members. Also, membership for the rest of the year will be only \$20 and anyone can join or rejoin then. It'll give you a chance to reconnect with other knitters so please join us. The park is on Greenwich Road in Bedford, about 1/2 mile from route 22/172. If you have mobility issues, pass the entrance on the right and take the next right and park by the Pickleball courts and you'll see the Gazebo right there. Hope to see many of you then!

And from Myra: We will have a raffle for gift certificates to one of our local yarn shops. So.....make sure you come and

see me to get your ticket. Happy knitting

Please note: There is no meeting in August.

Our New Programming Committee

Since we did not get any volunteer(s) to run programming, the Board decided that instead of 1 or 2 people in charge of programs, we'd shift to a committee structure with more volunteers for a smaller time commitment. Volunteers can join us for a Zoom meeting with suggestions for future Zoom or in person speakers or make some emails/phone calls—however much you'd like to do. I'll coordinate the committee for the time being and I'll organize a Zoom that folks can attend. We're hoping that this will work and that lots of you will have some great ideas and will be eager to share them and a little of your time. Please email me if you'd like to join our committee—the more the merrier!

Suzanne Sunday ssunday@optonline.net

Charity Knitting Meet-Up:

On Tuesday **July 18 from 10:30 to 11:30** we will do our monthly Charity Yarn Exchange. I will be at the Mt Pleasant Library parking lot 350 Bedford Road, Pleasantville. So bring the wonderful things you have made for our various charities this past month and pick up some yarn for a future project. I am also accepting donations of yarn for future projects..

– **Myra Cohen**

You can always check our website at <https://www.westchesterknittingguild.com/> to find the latest information about upcoming speakers and information about them. Also, there is a lot of information about the charities we support and items they need us to knit.

Gail Blumenfeld

Xandy Peters: June's Guest Speaker

Last month we had our second in person meeting with a guest speaker. Xandy Peters was our guest speaker for the evening. We have been able to follow Xandy's career pretty much since its inception from their early presentation to the guild until the present. Xandy shared with us the virtues of sketching our ideas before starting a new project of our own creation. The take away was that we do not have to be an artist, it is simply a way to put down on paper our ideas without regard to proportions. Xandy took us through the process with their own examples, illustrating the point about not worrying about proportions, with great humor. I think Xandy was able to inspire us to make the leap. The feedback from guild members who attended was very positive, with lots of questions after the presentation, and with much admiration for the samples they brought along for us to look at.

Evelyne Liebmann

Letter from the President

In the process of researching our September speaker, Anya Cole, who is known as a sustainable, custom, hand-made knitwear brand, it occurred to me that the Guild has been practicing sustainability for a very long time. Well before it has become the fashion byword across not only the apparel industry, but accessories and Home Furnishings. Every time we receive bags of yarn from members or non- members that we use for charity knitting, we are practicing sustainability. As we become more and more conscious of the impact the waste that we create has on the planet, the concept of sustainability becomes ever more important. This concept goes beyond the recycling element, it has left its mark on the dyes used and the fibers we choose to knit with. There are many advocates in the sustainability arena who think this term should be retired in favor of "responsible," which is probably a more accurate and obtainable goal. At the end of the day it is about being conscious of our actions whether we are consumers or producers.

As Always, Happy Knitting,

Evelyne Liebmann

Hania, New York: **Guest Speaker for September Anya Cole is the founder of Hania, New York**, a sustainable fashion business specializing in Hand Knit, custom garments. Founded in 2012 Anya has received extensive coverage in Fashion magazines such as

Vogue, industry journals such as Women's Wear Daily. "Born in Poland, Anya pursued the creative arts from a young age, beginning with classical training in ballet, ultimately allowing her to perform with the Metropolitan Opera in Poland. In addition to dance, her inspired mind propelled her to take up knitting in order to produce the garments that her mother so keenly suggest she make for herself. Anya's passion for knitting has continued throughout her life, and was brought with her to New York City when she moved in the late 1980's after years spent in West Germany, where she knitted to support herself and her young daughter. Upon launching HANIA, Anya made hand knitting the heart of the brand, staying true to her background and indulging her personal passion. Today, HANIA garments are all hand knit by a community of women across New York City." (Hania, New York website)



<https://hanianewyork.com/>

Future Event, from Suzanne Sunday:

Our **November Zoom speaker** will be Lesley Anne Robinson, talking about "Designing with Brioché". More details will be upcoming but she incorporates brioche into garments in very unique ways and is a terrific presenter

!From Myra Cohen, from the June meeting:

Jane Daniels with vest



Xandy Peters demonstrates a technique.



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DISCOUNTS AT OUR MEMBER SHOPS

The following businesses will give a 10% discount on non-sale items to members of the Westchester Knitting Guild with current membership ID cards. Current membership card must be presented to receive discount. As is currently the case with all retail businesses, please contact before going to find out if appointments are necessary.

Cornwall Yarn Shop

227 Main Street
Cornwall, NY 12518

845-534-0383
Owner: Gail Parrinell

Cozy Corner Yarn Shop
116 Washington Street
Peekskill NY 10566
914-737-0179
Owner: Janet Hard

Knitty City
208 W. 79th St.
New York, NY 10024
212-787-5896 (212-purl-two)

Pick Up Every Stitch
200 E. Main Street
Mt. Kisco, NY 10549
914-864-2828
pickupeverystitch@gmail.com

Yarn and Craft Box
24 Charles Blvd.
Pawling, NY 12564
845-855-1632
Owner: Marie Stewart

For our youtube library and links from Raina Laredo, Joan Conca, Carol Feller and Susan Levitt:

From Jane Daniels:

A founding member of the Westchester Knitting Guild, Jane Daniels' love affair with knitting started in 1963 when she was in college. Along the way, she has knit too many sweaters, mittens, and scarves to count, but she did decide to keep track of how many hats she has knit.

Thought the guild would be interested in an article I wrote for PLY magazine. See

<https://plymagazine.com/2022/02/the-hat-queen/>

From Guild Member Melissa Shinsato:

I teach at the adult schools of Bronxville & Scarsdale and frequently recommend these websites to my knitters.

For general how-tos I recommend Webs or KnitPicks. The 2 sources below are gifted knitters in both their skill & ability to explain and demonstrate.

[10 Rows a Day](#)

[Nimble Needle](#)

[YouTube Nimble Needleless](#)

His youtube channel is a wealth of information and detailed demos.

As an aside - I would truly love a youtube channel with good left handed knitting instruction. Turns out a good one is hard to find.

Techniques: Short Rows

Short rows create wedges in knitting to create shaping for bust darts, sock heels, ear flaps — basically to build volume within the edges of knitting to change the shape. There are several different methods and the choice to use one over another can vary from personal preference to carefully matching the best technique for a yarn and project.

Three common methods are **Wrap & Turn**, **German** and **Japanese**. There are many online resources for investigating which method may work best for a project. Here are some links to get started on tutorials by different sources— for live links visit our website homepage or go directly to: <https://www.westchesterknittingguild.com/journal/tips-and-techniques-short-rows>.

Wrap & Turn (wrapping the working yarn around a stitch)

Pros: Best for knitted lace or looser fabrics

Cons: Can create loose spots since the wraps add extra yarn

Online video tutorial and photo tutorial by Purl

Soho: <https://www.purlsoho.com/create/short-rows-wrap-turn/>

German (using a slipped and lifted stitch)

Pros: Simpler than Wrap & Turn; creates smooth fabric

Cons: Make sure to review how to convert from a Wrap & Turn short row if German is not specified (shown in video below)

Online video tutorial by VeryPink

Knits: <https://youtu.be/52qy8OOb-s0>

Another German Short Row video by Mimi Kezer:

https://youtu.be/i_6Pjl20zKA

Japanese (using a stitch marker to lift and slip a stitch)

Pros: Best for smooth yarns that may show unevenness in a short row since this method creates the least amount of looseness in stitches

Cons: More fiddly than other methods
Online video tutorial by Holli Yeah

: <https://youtu.be/F3CIOMsVcLM>

Patterns that use short rows

Here are three free short row patterns for trying out different methods:

Bandana Cowl by Purl Soho

Ravelry Link: <https://ravel.me/bandana-cowl>

Pieces of Eight Mitts by Sybil R

Hand Yoga

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=TJM8zQWdWhI>

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=8sGdLCopN80>

Ravelry Link: <https://ravel.me/pieces-of-eight-mitts>

Yarn Crawl Hat 2019 by Buffalo Ása Designs

Ravelry

Link: <https://ravel.me/garngonguhufan-2019---yarn-crawl-hat-2019>

Provisional Cast on: by Solene Le Roux

<https://youtu.be/so4ZcrZIKKQ>

Stretchy Italian Cast On: excellent for brioche:

<https://youtu.be/U1s77uZUqlg>