

Westchester Knitting Guild

October 2023 Newsletter



From Evelyne Liebmann:

Our October Guest Speaker (via Zoom)

Meet Whitney of Henny Penny Farm. The farm, 15 years and counting, is a regenerative farm; the goal is to restore wildlife habitats and produce meat and woolen products. Whitney will tell us all about the animals they raise for meat that can be found at the Larchmont farmer's market as well as farmer's markets in New Canaan, Westport and Ridgefield, Connecticut. Of course, they raise sheep, so there is wool to be had from their flock of prize-winning Romney Sheep. This is a farm that covers many bases from meat to yarn to soaps, to educational classes. They welcome visitors (by appointment).

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

Charity Knitting

Wow! The holidays are getting close — about three months away. We would like to encourage you to knit for those in need. So many people, old and young, are in need of warm clothing for the winter; they didn't realize how cold it could be. And they are so surprised to see the beautiful clothes that people have knit for them — people that are complete strangers to them! This is a wonderful gift to them — the clothing and your generosity.

Again we would like to send scarves to the Soups Kitchen in St. Georges in Manhattan. There are also clients in a soup kitchen in Ossining that would be so grateful to receive warm clothing. Hawkwing has been receiving wonderful items from us for so many years and we have already sent one big box recently. Rochelle, who runs Hawkwing, always gets so excited when I tell her a shipment is on its way; she can hardly wait to open the box. And I am also going to collect hats for the Christmas Dinner in Katonah; they too are pleased to hear we have not forgotten them. So

we have quite a goal ahead of us but when I remember all that you have done in the past, I have complete confidence you will live up to your reputation. I thank you for all you've done and hope you can participate.

- ***Dorothy Freeman***

Letter from the President

We have had some weird weather lately cold(ish) and now warm(ish). No matter, it is October and our thoughts turn to items that will keep us warm. I just finished looking at the Spring/Summer RTW collection from Loewe. For most of us the prices are beyond reasonable, but that needn't stop us from thinking about the knits he presented on the runway and how we knitters could adapt those looks for ourselves. His beyond chunky "coats" with huge gold buttons are just dying to be reinterpreted by intrepid knitters. And what better timing could there be than October, the third weekend, when Rhinebeck is ablaze with Autumn colors and yarn merchants galore. You may not be in shopping mode but there is inspiration all around the fair grounds. What better way is there to spend a day or a weekend than strolling the grounds of the Rhinebeck sheep and wool festival? Share your finds and photos with us for our next issue of the newsletter. Until then as always,

As Always, Happy Knitting,

Evelyne Liebmann

From Myra Cohen:

Anya Cole was the speaker for our September in person Guild meeting. She gave us a brief history of coming to the United States, from Poland, with a 4 year old daughter and building a life and business here. She established a hand knit company "Haina New York" using her connections to gather other immigrant women to hand knit the shell of her sweaters which she then finishes off. Anya has graciously invited any of our members for a tour of her showroom which is located at 16 W 56th Street, 4th floor. New York City. If you are interested, please contact Kasia 917-601-0477 for an appointment..

<https://hanianewyork.com/>

Future Event, from Suzanne Sunday:

Our **November 27th Zoom** speaker will be Lesley Anne Robinson talking about Designing with Brioche

Lesley Anne Robinson, the designer behind Knit Graffiti Designs, will be talking about what it means to be a knitting pattern designer in the age of digital access, Ravelry, publications, and so much more! Lesley will talk about her own journey into designing, how she got started, and how she went from designing in her tiny living room with absolutely no yarn budget to becoming a published author. Lesley will also talk about a day in the life of a knitwear designer.



Leadership Team

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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>