



Cablegram

December Holiday Party and Social

For our December meeting, guild members will gather to celebrate the holiday season with to our annual party. During the season of all things woolly and knitterly we gather to eat, knit and hold a raffle. On Wednesday, December 1st we ask you to bring a potluck item to share. Anything from an appetizer to dessert is welcome. There is a voluntary gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped gift, value \$15.

The guild purchases gift certificates from local yarn shops and we receive many donations from yarn companies far and wide. Current-in-dues members will receive a raffle ticket for the drawing. Please be aware that not all member's names will be drawn in the door prize extravaganza. We hope to see everyone at this special meeting.

Please note that for our January meeting we will be joined by Wendee Shulsen, the creative force behind Hazel Knits yarn, a line of sumptuous yarns hand-dyed here in Seattle. Wendee will be creating a custom colorway for the Seattle Knitters Guild in her Artisan Sock yarn. Wendee's visit will kick off our 2011 creative challenge knit-along. What can you do with a skein of Artisan Sock? Will you make a shawl or gloves or a special pair of socks? We want to see how the yarn inspires your creativity. We will have a sample skein of our SKG colorway at our December meeting and will take pre-orders. Wendee will bring those orders to the January meeting. She will take additional orders for those who were unable to come to the December meeting.



Notes from the Board	2
Membership	2
Knitter's Calendar	3
Fashion Show Review	4
Book Review	6
SKG Schedule of Events	8

Looking Ahead:

December 1: Holiday Party and Social

January 5: Hazel Knits Artisan Sock Challenge

See back cover for more info

November Knit-Along And Fashion Show

The November Guild meeting was the culmination of months of work and preparation by those who participated in the Evelyn Clark anything lace and the Girasole knit-alongs. The projects shared were lovely, and it was fascinating to see how many variations a single pattern can have. A variety of yarns, colors, and styles were displayed. And since pictures will show what words cannot, following is a visual recap of several of the projects shared. Enjoy!

Continued on page 4



Board Members

Thanks goes to following members who volunteer their time:

Kristine Jackson, President

president@seattleknittersGuild.org

kljackson on Ravelry

Open Position, Vice President

vicepresident@seattleknittersGuild.org

Lizbeth Linares Davern, Treasurer

treasurer@seattleknittersGuild.org

llinares1 on Ravelry

Debra Fox, Program Co-chair

programchair@seattleknittersGuild.org

yarnfox on Ravelry

Jessica Rose, Program Co-Chair

programchair@seattleknittersGuild.org

rosekimknits on Ravelry

Alex Butler, Program Co-Chair

programchair@seattleknittersGuild.org

butlera22 on Ravelry

Kathy Hightower, Membership

membership@seattleknittersGuild.org

khightop on Ravelry

Lisa Kobeck,

Newsletter Editor

editor@seattleknittersGuild.org

convolutedstring on Ravelry

Tracey Delamarter, Newsletter Reporter

reporter@seattleknittersGuild.org

delaknitter on Ravelry

Margarite Hargrave, Webmistress

Board@seattleknittersGuild.org

knittingaviatrix on Ravelry

Devorah Verburg-Sachs, Librarian

librarian@seattleknittersGuild.org

devorahv on Ravelry

Tracey Delamarter, Co-Librarian

librarian@seattleknittersGuild.org

delaknitter on Ravelry

Christina Cheng, Hospitality Chair

hospitality@seattleknittersGuild.org

Cozyyarn on Ravelry

www.seattleknittersGuild.org

Notes from the Board

The board has been working hard getting ready for our annual holiday party. It's our chance to feed and be fed, give and receive and share with each other our joy in the spirit of the holidays. These holidays are about our associations with friends and family and, of course, our knitting community. For those of you more organized than I, this is your last opportunity to share those wonderful knitted gifts you've been working on before they're all given away.

I'm asking that we take a moment to think of others and act graciously no matter the objective quality of the gifts we may receive or the prizes we may win.

We'll see you there. — *Kristine Jackson*



Kristine Jackson

Treasurer's Report

On the final page of the newsletter this month members will find a report of the Guild's financial position as of October, 2010. We are in a comfortable position as compared to budget and are maintaining a small emergency reserve. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

— *Lizbeth Linares Davers*



Lizbeth Davern

Library Report

The following titles have been added to the Guild Library:
The Ohio Knitting Mills Knitting Book
Nicky Epstein's Enchanting Collection - on its way

We are also in the process of converting the old VHS collections from the library cart over to DVD. These should start being available soon.

Remember, library materials are to be checked out for one month, and returned at the next meeting. Please talk to Tracey or Devorah if you have any questions about library policies or materials.

Membership Notes

Welcome to new members Lisa Burlingame of Redmond (jitteryknitter on ravelry), Danielle Butz of Seattle, Emily Guadagno of Seattle, Gabrielle Herring of Seattle (kindyteacher on ravelry) and Elizabeth Kelley of Seattle (oddlief on ravelry).

'Tis the Season

To think about charity knitting...

This time of year, when we are surrounded by celebration and family our thoughts turn to those who are less fortunate and those whose need is greater than our own. With the weather turning cold, we may begin to knit caps and mittens for those individuals who are homeless or who live in shelters. We may make a few extra preemie caps to drop off at the local hospital.



One charity you might want to consider adding to your list is the Red Scarf Project (<http://orphan.org/what-we-do/programs/red-scarf-project/>) sponsored by the OFA, the Orphan Foundation of America. This organization provides young adults who are aging out of the foster care system and are enrolled in colleges or vocational schools with Valentine's Day care packages that include a homemade red scarf among other reminders that they have not been forgotten.

- Scarf Size: Approximately 60 long and 5 to 8 wide.
- Style: Think unisex collegiate. The scarves



- go to both male and female students, so they shouldn't be gender specific. Fringe optional. Your scarf should be 60-70 inches by 6-8 inches.
- Yarn: Preferably DK, double fingering-weight, worsted weight, or light bulky yarns. No lace weight, super-chunky, or mohair yarns as there are many people who find mohair too itchy. The yarn should be soft.
- Color: Red! However, this could mean burgundy, cherry, russet, red stripes with other colors, or multicolor hues including red.
- Finished and tagged: Yarn ends should be securely sewn in. For a personal touch, attach a tag saying "Handmade for You" with your first name, city, and group affiliation, if any. We also suggest that you include washing instructions and personal messages of encouragement.

While there may not yet be time for you to consider knitting a scarf for this year's round of care packages, consider starting one early for next year or sending on a few items to be added to the care packages for the upcoming Valentine's Day drop.

Knitter's Calendar

- ☞ December 1, 2010, SKB Meeting - Winter Potluck and Holiday Party. Don't Miss It!
- ☞ December 4, 2010 - Pacific Northwest Needle Arts Guild Fiber Show and Holiday Sale, Good Shepherd Center, Rooms 120 & 223 10:00-4:00
- ☞ January 15, 2010 - Seattle to Portland Yarn Train, <http://www.snomishknittersguild.org/events/seattletoportlandyarncrawl>
- ☞ February 17-20, 2011 - Madrona Fiber Arts Winter Retreat, <http://www.madronafiberarts.com/>
- ☞ February 25-28, 2011 - Stitches West, Santa Clara CA, <http://www.knittinguniverse.com/stitches/west/>



Kynthia Boyce, Journey Lace Scarf



Evelyn Clark, Monkey Scarf



Kathie Jordan, Seafoam Lace Scarf



Kitty Mabbett, Estonian Lace wrist warmers and Elvera Lace Scarf



Mary Hendrickson, Seascape Shawl



Jane Fields, Journey Lace Scarf



Devorah Verburg-Sachs, Angel Lace



Kathy Hutchinson, Lace Leaf Shawl



Jennifer Shuster-Clark, Baltic Bossoms



Julie King, Swallow Tail Shawl



*Margarite Hargrave,
Swallow Tail Shawl*



Evelyn Clark, Monkey Lace Scarf



Christine Curtis, Shoalwater Shawl



Keisha Reis, Leaf Lace Shawl



Book Review

The Ohio Knitting Mills Knitting Book.

By Steven Tatar and Denise Grollmus

The Ohio Knitting Mills Knitting Book: 26 Patterns Celebrating Four Decades of American Sweater Style, not only has an enormously lengthy title, it's also a fascinating read. It's filled with vintage inspired knitting patterns, but the real heart of the book is the story of the evolution of the American knit sweater and specifically, the Ohio Knitting Mills company itself. The author, Steven Tatar, is a Cleveland based sculptor who set out looking for scrap metal for creating sculptures. Instead, he came across a knitting mill on its last breath. When Tatar discovered the Ohio Knitting Mill, there were only forty-five employees left, a far cry from the 750 plus that had been employed there during its heyday. The mill was being liquidated, and its three hundred knitting machines and 250 sewing machines were being sold off. During his impromptu tour of the factory, Tatar came across a room filled with boxes and crates. The mill had kept an archive room filled with samples of every piece ever produced from World War II on. The samples filled crate after crate, each piece in pristine condition.

Tatar was so enamored with the collection and the story that he bought the lot and the licensing and opened a showroom in Brooklyn, New York to market his find. His project turned into a two year run selling in his boutique and on a website, and morphed into a knitwear design

project that continues to this day. The Ohio Mills Knitting Book is a compilation of updated patterns based off the original pieces that Tatar unearthed in the OKM archives.

The book is filled with old photos of the enormous knitting machines and the men and women who ran them. There are fabulous colorful photos of then stylish sweaters, in their old school color schemes that take me right back to opening those dreaded sweaters at Christmas from my grandma. Just looking at all the photos, I could feel the too tight sleeves and scratchy collars from all those years ago. Tatar has fortunately taken those sweaters and recreated something modern and lovely. He tweaks the colors into a more current color scheme, creates shape where it's needed, and updates the

best of his found treasures for our enjoyment.

There is so much history in this book, and it's apparent that Tatar loves his subject. The information is thorough and detailed, and it makes for a fascinating read. It would be easy to get bogged down in dry writing here, but Tatar and his co-author Denise Grollmus infuse the book with life and color. I keep finding myself re-reading sections as I write this review; Tatar makes you love the Mill and its history as much as he does.

The book itself is a wide, soft cover book that is easy to read. The patterns are simply laid out, easy to follow, and include charts,



diagrams, photos and drawings of the pieces. There are twenty-six patterns, arranged chronologically, starting with the 1940s and ending in the 1970s. Though certainly inspired by fashions no longer current, none of the patterns feels out of date. They are all items that I would consider wearing today, and it's quite fun to see them side by side with their earlier counterparts. There are sweaters, vests, and cardigans for both men and women, as well as a few dresses, a hat and scarf set, and a bag pattern.

In addition to the patterns, each section of the book contains information about the time period

and about the piece itself. The Poor Boy sweater, for example, is based off the quintessential American sportswear look. Tatar tells us about the start of this style, and history of the Mill in promoting that style. It was a look that was all the rage in the 40s and the look spread to Europe, as well. Poor Boy style sweaters were featured in movies and on street corners; picture Gene Kelly dancing in one of these sweaters in *An American in Paris*. Each pattern here tells a story of American fashion and history.

Vignettes of various people, places, and events that shaped the Mill and the fashions it produced are dotted throughout the book.. My favorite was the write-up on Mr. Rogers. Known for wearing sweaters hand-knit by his mother (I still remember sitting on the floor in front of the TV, waiting impatiently for him to change his cardigan so we could get on with the day's adventure!), the Mill sent a batch of samples to the studio as a gift. The studio promptly requested more, and Mr. Rogers wound up wearing them on the air. He even featured a trip to the Mill as one of his outings on the show.

The patterns should appeal to a wide audience. Many of the patterns involve multiple techniques, and each pattern is colorful, requiring knowledge of various color working techniques. There are projects that are worked in sections and then seamed together; projects employing embroidery, and projects with multiple colors. In all, this is a pattern book for either an advanced knitter or someone ready to



try something more challenging.

After searching the website accompanying the book I could find no errata for the patterns, and the publishers site had nothing. Though there were no complaints that I found, read the patterns carefully. It's a relatively new book, and errata may not be available yet.

The Ohio Knitting Mills Knitting Book is a wonderful read for anyone interested in knitting, fashion, textiles or American history. Even if you don't try any of the patterns, it is worth picking up. This is a knitting book that I can honestly say I would read for the articles, and the website is also worth checking out if you enjoy seeing vintage knitwear.

— Tracey Delamarter



SKG Financial Report October 2010

Balance Summary:

- Previous Balance 2/17/10 \$ 3,774.55
- Current Balance 10/12/10 **\$ 5418.49**

- Available SKG Balance **\$ 5,058.32**
- Special Project Funds **\$ 360.17**

Special Fund Details

- Lavender Festival \$ 142.42
- Karen Aho Fund \$ 125.00
- Program & Speakers \$ 92.75

Transaction Summary

- Expenses **-\$ 2074.06**
- Deposits **+\$ 3718.00**

Transaction Details

Expenses

- Newsletter (March-Oct) \$ 82.00
- Programs: \$ 217.00
- Speakers \$ 666.62
- Library \$ 430.33
- Hospitality \$ 258.11
- Knit for Life Donation (Nora's Fund) \$ 388.00
- Bank Fees \$ 32.00

Deposits

- Membership \$ 3718.00

Seattle Knitters Guild (Est. 1985)

Meetings every first Wednesday
of the month 7pm

Wedgwood Presbyterian Church
8008 – 35th Ave. NE, Seattle
(NE corner of 35th and 80th)

Visitors always welcome. Parking
available in the lot behind the
church or across from the south
side of the church on 80th.

Dues: \$22 per year,
\$11 after July 1

Library cart open 6:30 to 7pm
(Only members may check out
books.)

Cablegram is published monthly.
Submit stories and photos to
editor@seattleknittersguild.org
by the 2nd Saturday following
the meeting.

www.seattleknittersguild.org



Knitting Rhymes

Looking ahead to 2011

New years resolutions about knitting abound; a pair of socks a month, NaNoSweMo, eleven sweaters in 2011. Topping my list of fibery resolutions next year will be making a few new knitters. Nieces and nephews are about the right age in my family, so I'm partial to the following two new-knitter rhymes:

<p>To Knit In through the front door Around the back Out through the window And off jumps jack.</p>	<p>To Purl: Under the fence Catch the sheep Back we come Off we leap</p>
---	--

Member Meeting	Topic
----------------	-------

December 1	Holiday Party and Social
January 5	Wendee Shulsen of Hazel Knits - Artisan Sock Yarn Challenge
February 2	To Be Announced
March 2	Tina Newton of Blue Moon Fiber Arts