



Cablegram

Knit-a-Long in November

It's Show & Tell Time at the Guild

For our November meeting the guild members will gather to celebrate two of our favorite knitters: Evelyn Clark and Jared Flood. Evelyn is one of our own and members have knitted many of her patterns from intricate shawls, socks, scarves and all things Evelyn. For this year's knit a long we encouraged members to knit something lacy and with an Evelyn Clark pattern that is not difficult. She is queen among lace designers and is well known by knitters the world over. Members could engage in a long-term shawl project or sit down and finish a sweet scarf in a weekend. Please bring your Evelyn Clark lace to the November meeting.

We also explored a pattern from another knitter who may reside in Brooklyn but who we consider belongs a little bit to the Pacific Northwest. Jared Flood visited the Seattle Knitters Guild last November and members were delighted with his designs and his creative vision for how lace could transform a worsted weight blanket into something extraordinary. Members were challenged to knit Girasole as a blanket or a shawl. We have seen examples over this past year as members shared their finished projects but are eager to see them gathered together for the evening. Please bring your Jared Flood Girasole to the November meeting.

Fill out the form (on the last page) and bring it with your project.

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Looking Ahead:

November 3: Knit-Along
 Fashion Show
 December 1: Holiday Party
 and Social

See back cover for more info

Ann Weaver

Self Publishing in the Knitting World

Ann Weaver, wearing her off centered cable sweater Lauren, shared the story of her journey to becoming a self-published knitting book author at the October meeting. Titled Craft, Work, Knit, Weaver's book is a labor of love and a testament to her dedication to the craft of knitting. When Weaver first started creating patterns, she wasn't even sure how to go about it. She learned to write patterns by reading about it, and took an unconventional path to get to where she is today.

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Notes from the Board

I've been reading *Brave New Knits: 26 Projects and Personalities from the Knitting Blogosphere* by Julie Turjoman. The amount of community energy in the blogosphere being directed toward knitting, which is, in itself, essentially a lone activity, is amazing. We know designers from their blogs, talk to each other and share projects on-line and join on-line groups to share the day-to-day experiences of what seems sometimes less a hobby than a way of life. There's an exciting influx of new, innovative, young knitters and designers who are sharing with the larger community.

And so, with the Seattle Knitter's Guild, we're doubly blessed with community. Our next meeting will be a chance to share a common experience on-life instead of on-line and appreciate each other's accomplishments face-to-face. I can hear the ooh's and aah's already.

We'll see you there.

. — Kristine Jackson



Kristine Jackson

Looking Ahead

December - A celebration of all things Knitterly!

The Seattle Knitters Guild welcomes all guild members to our annual "Let's Celebrate" December party. During the season of all things wooly 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 guild members will receive a raffle ticket and participate in the drawing. Because we cannot know how many members will attend or how many donations we will receive 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.

Membership Notes

Welcome to new members Holly Kipp (holokilou on Ravelry) and Connie Narayanan, both of Seattle. — *Kathy Hightower, Membership*

October's Show 'n Tell — What are you working on?



Andrea Eyre's sweater knit from Sandi Soreng's handspun yarn

Alex Bulter's redesigned shawl



Debra Fox's completed Girasole



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
- ☛ February 17-20, 2011 - Madrona Fiber Arts Winter Retreat, <http://www.madronafiberarts.com/>



Ann speaking to Guild Members



Ann's Self-Published Craft. Work. Knit



Ann Weaver's Albers Shawl

Ann Weaver

Continued from cover

Weaver was an art and English lit major at NYU, with an emphasis on photo and performance art, and a minor in Hebrew. At Harvard, she studied ancient Hebrew and began working toward a PhD in Assyriology, the study of ancient Mesopotamia. As she approached the end of her studies and prepared to defend her dissertation, she realized that it would be difficult to find work in such a specialized field. She decided to pursue other careers.

Weaver has held a variety of jobs, including her current stint as a professional proofreader. While she is a successful and well-received knitwear designer, Weaver announced that, "no one owes me a living, so we all work." Several of her designs and the idea for her book *Craft, Work, Knit* were conceived in the five minute intervals between loading and unloading baguettes from the ovens at her bakery job.

When she first started publishing, she didn't do swatches, and the sketches of her ideas were little more than scrawls. Weaver's designs are so creative, knittable, and stylish that she became a success in spite of it, or maybe because of her unconventional methods. She has been published in *Interweave*, *Circular Knitting Redefined*, *Knitty*, *Knit Picks*, and *Knitscene*, to name a few. She is also published in *Brave New Knits*, after what she modestly described as a chance meeting in a bar with the editor.

Weaver revealed things she learned throughout the process of self-publishing. She creates as she knits, and as a result, found it difficult to hand over projects to sample knitters. The sheer amount of work to be done however made it necessary to hand over some of the tasks. Weaver tapped people around her whenever possible, using friends, family and professional help to get her book off the ground. Her sister, Beth Weaver, handled the photos and graphic design. Her parents and friends modeled for the photos.

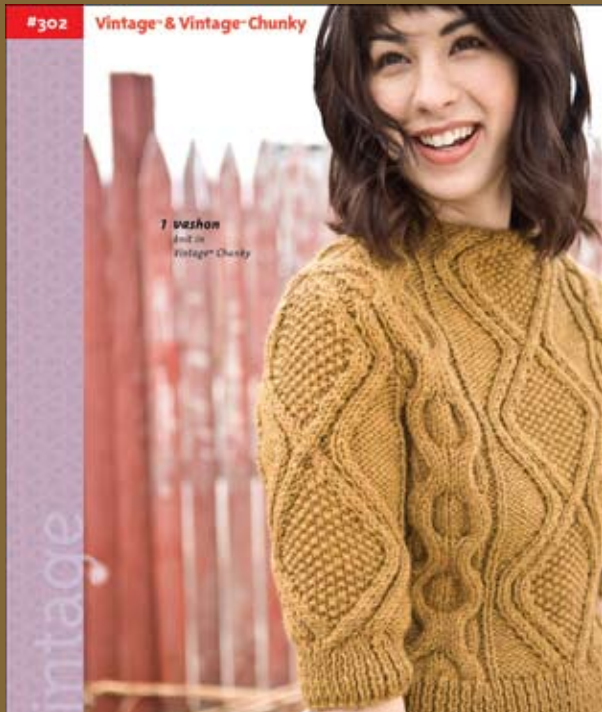
Putting so much time, energy, and money into the book was scary, especially when the time came to place the order for the books. Weaver wound up with boxes of books in her living room. A firm believer in supporting the local yarn store and knitters, Weaver made the decision to sell the books herself, not wanting to sell on Amazon undercutting local yarn stores. She sells through her website and through her contacts with local yarn stores.

Weaver's designs are funky and quirky, and she brought several samples to show. From her Josef Albers' inspired Albers Cowl with its beautiful geometric squares to her Johnny Rotten inspired Grundy sweaters, each item she shared had a story or anecdote to go along with it. She recently released the Possum Belly Hobo pattern through the Sanguine Gryphon website. Her husband told her that no one would buy a pattern that required the use of a riveting gun as part of the construction. Released in September, it's already in over fifty queues on Ravelry. Her next project is scheduled for completion sometime next fall.

— Tracey Delamarter, Newsletter Reporter

Book Review

Berroco Booklet #302 - Vintage



This pattern booklet, published by Berroco, features patterns named after Seattle locations and landmarks. Cirilia Rose, the designer, created the nine patterns after visiting Seattle on numerous occasions. Maybe it's something to do with the fact that I find Seattle and the Northwest inspiring as well, but I knew I would like these patterns before I even opened the booklet.



Rose's patterns capture the feel of Seattle quite well. The patterns recommend using Berroco's Vintage and Vintage Chunky yarns, but the pieces

themselves have a vintage feel to them. I can picture any one of these patterns strolling around Pike Place Market or walking along the waterfront.

The patterns are mostly sweaters; both long and short sleeved, pullover and button-up. There is one



hat, a simple pattern, but with an octopus knit separately and then attached to give it some spunk. A pattern called Ferry Rings can be worn as a headband or as an accessory.

The Ballard sweater pattern has interesting chain stitch waves running vertically along the front and Fremont is a cute cropped double breasted military style coat with a two-color technique that resembles piping around the neck, arms, and waist.

The one cabled sweater, Vashon, has a chart that may be printed in too small a font for some knitters to keep track of, but the different stitches are color coded, making it easier to read. All but two of the patterns are rated as easy, but even the two intermediate patterns shouldn't pose much difficulty for most knitters.

In all, this is a great little pattern booklet. I've marked several of the patterns to try, and knowing they were inspired by our lovely city makes it that much more enchanting.

This booklet has no errata listed on the Berroco website.

— Tracey Delamarter





Local Event Review

Nordic Knitting Conference

at the Nordic Heritage Museum, held October 15-17, 2010

Last weekend knitters from around the world gathered at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Ballard in order to celebrate the knitting traditions of Scandinavia. From as far away as the United Kingdom, knitters flocked to attend classes taught by world famous instructors Nancy Bush, Beth Brown-Reinsel, Carol Rhoades, Ruth Soerenson, Britt-Marie Christoffersson, and Evelyn Clark.

Classes covered a wide range of topics from Finnish and Swedish mittens to Icelandic and Estonian lace and knitters were able to learn both traditional and modern techniques to apply to their upcoming knitting projects. We were also fortunate enough to have vendors at the Museum to satisfy all our yarn-related needs. Acorn Street Yarns and Toots LeBlanc both attended the event and were vital for many knitters who forgot to bring supplies for their classes, myself included.

A special guest from Sweden named Ulla-Karin, was also able to attend the Conference and represented Ostergotland Ullspinneri, a yarn company from Sweden owned by her family. Ulla-Karin supplied the museum with yarn from her mill which promptly disappeared from the Museum

gift shop shelves along with the Faorese wool provided by 62 Degrees North.

On the first day of classes I was able to attend the Finnish Rya Mittens class taught by Carol Rhoades, and after forgetting all of my materials and frantically racing to Acorn Street's table to buy what I needed, I made it back to the classroom just in time to begin.

These mittens are similar to thrummed mittens except that instead of using roving one simply uses another ball of yarn. This allows you to create exciting color patterns without sacrificing the extra layer of warmth in the mitten.



As long as these extra strands are wool, the inside strands, or rya, will felt and create a warm inner lining for the mittens.

Not only did we cover the basic pattern of the Finnish Rya Mitten, but Carol showed us three distinct ways of creating the rya and we all



got started making samplers to try out all of the different techniques she had presented.

For some reason I can never get myself to knit samplers; they always seem so pointless to me in the long run, so I just got right into knitting my full sized mitten. By the time the class was over I was only just beginning the rya portion of the

mitten while most of the other knitters knit an entire miniature-mitten but at least I had a good head start on the actual finished product.

At the end of the class Carol also shared a slideshow of her recent trip to Finland and showed us some of the other knitting and crochet techniques common in that part of the world.

While this was the only class that I was able to attend I did get a chance to check in on a few other classes the next day and everyone seemed to be learning, knitting and experimenting with a multitude of new knitting techniques and traditions.

Overall, the weekend saw over one hundred and fifteen registered knitters at the museum for the classes and a large number of unregistered attendees who came to peruse the Museum's knitting exhibits and to spend money at the Gift shop and Vendor's tables. The conference ended on Sunday, October 17th and if you didn't get a chance to attend make sure you keep your eyes peeled for more announcements from the Nordic Heritage Museum about their future knitting and fiber related events. — Alex Butler



This Month's Knitting Tip

Thanks to Tracey Delamarter for this month's tip.

Manage Your Yarn

Almost every time I set a ball of yarn on the table to knit from, I end up pulling the yarn a little harder than I intended, sending the ball rolling off onto the floor. And in my house, anything that hits the floor like that becomes fair game for the youngest two and four legged members of our family. A couple of meetings ago, Alex Butler showed up with a clever idea for keeping yarn under control.



Using a cheap plastic CD holder, the kind you can find at the dollar store or at any electronics or storage solutions store, he placed the yarn on the spindle and set to work. I have a multitude of CD spindles lying around the house, so I immediately went home and tried it myself. No more yarn rolling across the floor or being lobbed across the room by my kids.

It got me thinking about other methods of yarn containment. I like to knit on the move sometimes, and I've run into the same problem. I give too hard a tug, and the whole ball pops out of my bag. I suggest using a chalk bag like rock climbers use (minus any chalk, of course!), or a treat bag, the kind dog trainers wear on their belt. They keep the yarn in place with their drawstring closure, and are small and easily portable.

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

Don't Forget to fill out the slip below and bring it with your knit-a-long item to November's meeting!

Name:

Yarn:

Item:

Needles:

Knitted for:

Comments and Advice:

Member Meeting	Topic
November 3	Knit-Along Fashion Show - Jared Flood's Girasole or anything by Evelyn Clark
December 1	Holiday Party and Social
January 5	To Be Announced
February 2	To Be Announced