



Cablegram



August Social and 25th Anniversary Celebration

Come celebrate with Seattle Knitters Guild as we celebrate 25 years of knitting. The Guild will be providing pulled pork sliders, a blue cheese slaw, chips and a cake. Please come join in the festivities. Bring your stories and reminiscences to share with the membership.



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- Looking Ahead:**
- August 3, Annual Social
- September 7, Franklin Habit
- October 5, Marnie McLean and the Fall Twisted Collective Trunk Show
- See back cover for more info

Jessica Rose *Ravelry Tips and Tricks*

Four years ago, guild member Jessica Rose, gave a talk to the membership about a new website called Ravelry. At the time, hardly anyone had heard of it, the presentation was a slide show of screen shots because there was no Wi-Fi available, and most knitters found their knitting patterns in magazines and books. A lot has changed in the last four years.

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Board Members

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Notes from the Board

Happy anniversary to us. Our agenda is to eat, drink and be merry. Oh, and maybe win a prize. Come reminisce with the old hands and initiate the new.

We'll see you there
— Kristine Jackson



Kristine Jackson

Notices

We still need to fill the Hospitality Chair and the Reporter positions on the board for next year. If you're interested in the program committee, there's a need for more hands there, too. If you love the guild and would like to contribute to its long-term survival, come to a board meeting. You don't have to be a long time member.

Library Report

Enjoy our new purchases:

No Sheep for You (Amy Singer)

Gossamer Webs (Galina Khlemeva)

Knitting Traditions 2011

Interweave Knits on CD: 2007, 2006, 2005

Harmony Guides: Knit and Purl, Cables and Arans, Knit Edgings and Trims, Colorwork Stitches

Everyday Knitting, Treasures from a Ragpile (Annemor Sundbø)

— Ann Gibson, Librarian



Membership Notes

Welcome to new members Sis Polin of Shoreline (Ravelry: knitzvahsis)

Phyllis McCameron of Seattle (Ravelry: applepear)

and returning member Janet Charbonnier of Seattle (Ravelry: janetcharb) — Kathy Hightower, Lisa Burlingame, Membership

Knitter Graffiti

Photographs of Recent Yarn Bombings in Seattle



Knitter's Calendar

- ☛ July 28-31, 2011 - [Sock Summit](#), Portland, OR
- ☛ August 12-14, 2011 - [Knitted Rhapsodies of Sivia Harding](#), Bainbridge, WA
- ☛ August 12-14, 2011 - [Knit-n-Nature](#), Straights of Juan de Fuca, Norland, WA
- ☛ August 29-September 3, 2011 - [Knitting Land Tour of the Canadian Rockies](#)
- ☛ September 1-4, 2011 [West Coast Men's Knitting Retreat](#), Federal Way, WA
- ☛ September 23-25, 2011 [Vogue Knitting Live](#), Los Angeles, CA
- ☛ September 24-25, 2011 [Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival](#), Canby, OR



Continued from cover

Like most great things, Ravelry started out as an idea thought up by a couple of people. Back in 2005, working out of their home and in their spare time, Casey and Jessica dreamed up, and then created Ravelry. The site has grown from a hundred or so Beta testers to almost one and a half million registered users.

Today, with staff of four people, including only one programmer, Ravelry is an incredibly well-planned and well-run website. With almost 1.5 million users who have the option of uploading yarn, pattern, and project information to the database, it has quickly become the go-to site for knitters, crocheters, and fiber artists. The site has numerous features, and Jessica Rose took us on a whirlwind tour of many of them.

She warned us going into her talk that Ravelry is a topic on which she could spend hours and still not completely cover everything. With only a short time to unravel its mysteries however, she did a pretty thorough job. Since many members are not actually on Ravelry, Jessica started out by giving us a broad overview of Ravelry.

Many users look to Ravelry to find patterns to knit, or to keep track of new, on-going, or completed projects. There are ways to log and keep track of the yarn in your stash. You can upload photos using a variety of online photo sharing sites, such as Flickr, as well as off your computer's hard drive. There are message boards where users can discuss just about any topic under the sun, both fiber related and not.

There are dozens of search options on Ravelry, and knowing how to use the advanced options can make browsing through the thousands of patterns available a successful endeavor, instead of a frustration. Jessica was able to walk us through the process in real time, showing us how to narrow the fields using the numerous advanced search options.

Keeping track of your yarn stash on Ravelry can take a lot of the guess work out of it. With so much info already in the database, most often you can simply enter the type of yarn, and Ravelry supplies all the yardage and content info, making the process quite simple. Sorting through all the yarn hiding in your closet so that you can upload the information is also a great way to eliminate the stuff you don't want (so you can make more room for the yarn you do want!) Entering the yarn you have on the website also allows other people to see what you have, and they can send you messages offering to buy or trade (supplying you with more money to buy more yarn!)

Taking us through several other tips and tricks, Jessica taught even the more experienced Ravelers a few things. Using tags can make pulling up saved or archived photos or patterns easier, and the tags can help keep your project queue organized. Adding the books and magazines you own to your Ravelry library makes it easier to track down the patterns in them, so you don't have to flip through every single one, trying to remember where you saw that pattern. Adding tags to pictures added to Ravelry will allow other's to pull them up in their searches.

The advanced search has a "what's hot now" tab that can be a lot of fun to peruse. After listening to Jessica's talk, I went home and logged on and discovered several fun (and potentially time-wasting) Ravelry functions that I had never seen before. I spent

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



Lisa Lamson



Megan Segó



Myrna Torrie



Christina Cheng



Susan Parke



Joan Cohee



Erin Birnel



Sarah Ellison



Mary Mara & Beth Manger



Robin Chernick



Lizbeth Davern



Book Review

The Harmony Guides

Edited by Erika Knight

Interweave Press

The Harmony Guides have been a staple for knitters for years, and within the last few years, several of them have been updated, infusing an old standard with new life. They've been updated with new photos and new stitches and designs, while maintaining the quality that knitters have come to expect from the Harmony Guides.

Although each of the guides has a different editor, the collection as a whole has a consistent and unified feel. At 143 pages, *Knit Edgings & Trims*, edited by Kate Haxell, is the shortest of the guides. The guide contains 150 different stitch patterns, including ribs, appliques, ruffles, lace, fringes, and much more. The designs can be used to finish or embellish a knit project or could even be used on a non-knit item.

Knit & Purl, edited by Erika Knight, contains 250 stitches to knit. The guide is over 270 long, including several pages of graph and charting paper at the back of the book. The introduction includes tips on when to use different types of stitches as well as information on their origins. These tips include things like avoiding stitches

with too many holes when knitting for babies and toddlers to keep their small fingers and toes from getting caught to giving ideas as to which stitches would traditionally be used in men's knits. While there really are only two stitches to know, this guide creates all sorts of incredible combinations out of the humble knit and purl stitches.

Cables & Arans, also edited by Erika Knight, and also containing 250 stitches, is filled with all the patterns you would expect to find in a book of cable patterns, but there are quite a few new and exciting ideas, as well. The introduction gives a brief history of Aran knitting. Originating in the blustery Aran Isles off the coast of Ireland, and traditionally practiced by the men who lived there, Aran knitting has a long and storied history. While some of the patterns look traditional, there are stitch patterns in this guide that are cutting edge and trendy, and would look right at home on any fashion runway.

The Colorwork Stitches Guide, like most of the Harmony Guides, contains 250 designs. In the introduction, editor Susie Johns discusses the differences between Fair Isle knitting and intarsia. The book contains a mix of both styles, but any of the patterns can be adapted to the other style by changing the number of colors used. The patterns range from small and simple to large and complex. The guide has charts for numbers and letters, both upper and lowercase. There are many abstract designs, but there are pages and pages of designs for everyday objects, such as musical notes, a house, acrobats, dancing ballerinas, numerous flowers, reindeer, a rocket, and much, much more. The patterns in this guide could be used for small embellishments, or they could be repeated throughout a larger pattern to create something much more complex and eye catching.

Since *The Harmony Guides* are uniform in their presentation, using them is a breeze. Each



contains an introduction where the editor outlines her inspiration, provides a little background on the stitches themselves, and gives ideas for ways to incorporate the stitches into everyday knitting. The introduction is followed by a tools and equipment section and a section titled The Basics, in which



the various knitting techniques are explained and illustrated. The Basics covers, among other things, the importance of gauge and swatching. Depending on the book, there might be explanations of reading charts, attaching to existing work, and determining the correct number of multiples for

pattern repeats.

Each of the guides features an index that makes locating specific patterns quite easy, especially if you can remember the actual name of the stitch. Several of the books have an abbreviation list at the back, as well. The Cables & Arans Guide for example, contains a key, several pages long. This makes for a handy quick reference guide for cable patterns and their stitched and abbreviations. Many of the guides contain pages of graph paper, giving you a chance to try your hand at charting your own patterns. Most of the guides also contain tips throughout: things like dabbing nail polish on the ends of your yarn to make threading beads easier.

The Harmony Guides are all paperback, and very nicely laid out. The writing is well suited for what they are, a reference guide that you want to easily read patterns from. The books do have a tendency to close if the pages aren't held down, but in all, that's a minor issue, easily resolved. The pictures, charts, diagrams, and explanations are all very well done, easy to read, and thoughtfully planned out.

The Harmony Guides are, as they always have been, a wonderful resource for knitters. New knitters will find simple, easy to



Diamond Flower Border II



understand designs to follow, while experienced knitters can use the guides to create unique, original works of art. These guides would be a great staple for any knitter to add to his or her library. In addition to the four titles reviewed here, the Harmony Guides also include a Lace and Eyelets Guide, edited by Erika Knight. A few of the guides do have some errata, and specifics can be found at the Interweave Press website, www.interweave.com.

These guides have recently been added to the guild library and are available for circulation at this time.— Tracey Delamarter



Cord Fringe

Worked from bottom edge upwards.



Ridged Eyelet Border

Worked from bottom edge upwards.



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- p1.
- 2nd row:
- 3rd row:
- 4th row:
- 5th row:
- 6th row:
- 7th row:
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- 9th row:
- 10th row:
- 11th row:
- 12th row:
- 13th row:
- 14th row:
- 15th row:
- 16th row:
- 17th row:

A Sneak Peek at What's Happening on the Ravelry Boards

patterns | yarns | people | forums | groups

groups > [seattle knitters guild](#) overview

Seattle Knitters Guild

This 25 year old Guild meets monthly in Seattle. Details about upcoming meetings and events are on our website www.seattleknittersguild.org

[group details](#)

The **Seattle Knitters Guild** was founded in 1985. We welcome knitters - whether you've just learned or have been knitting for many years. There is a learning opportunity at each monthly meeting in Seattle. Once a year we have a fashion show.


We maintain an extensive lending library for our members. Check the variety of books in our lending library, or check our website for a complete personal profile as Ravelry groups do not have the library feature yet!

We publish a monthly newsletter, the *Cablegram* in which we post upcoming gatherings, and classes.


See the Guild's website (<http://seattleknittersguild.org/>) for details on dates and times of upcoming meetings, books in our library, members blogs, community knitting opportunities.

There's a live show and tell at each meeting. Guests are always welcome!


[new kids](#)



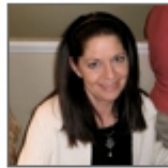
[hcbeimler](#)
1 day ago



[TheKnottyMommy](#)
10 days ago



[donaknitrix](#)
10 days ago



[windrunner1111](#)
13 days ago

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

recently shared projects

view all projects

recently shared stash

view all stash

Member Meeting	Topic
August 3	Social and 25th Anniversary Party
September 7	Franklin Habit
October 5	Marnie McLean and Twist Collective Trunk Show
November 2	Knit-a-Long and Fall Fashion Show