

Cablegram



JC Briar

Chart Reading Made Easy

J.C. Briar, *Chart Reading Made Easy* A self-described technique freak and a skill junkie, JC Briar can make reading pattern charts as easy as reading a yarn store shelf tag. She also has an extensive knowledge of stitch patterns - what they are, how do to them, and how to choose one for your project.

Notes from the Board 2
Membership 2
Show and Tell 3
Book Review 5
The Back Page 6
Looking Ahead:
May 2, J.C. Brian
June 6, Pat Brunner
July 18, Ice Cream Social
August 1, To Be Announced
See back cover for more info

Jeny Staiman

Jeny Staiman's wedding ring is a moebius. She loves the technique that much. She also loved it enough to spend five years working out how to create a mini moebius after she read Cat Bordhi's *A Treasury of Magical Knitting*, and saw the moebius patterns. Jeny's Ravelry name is curiousjeny, and it's an apt handle for this knitter who doesn't let a problem get the best of her.



Continued on page 4

Board Members

Thanks goes to following members who volunteer their time:

Carol Sherman, President
president@seattleknittersGuild.org
shmarollynn on Ravelry

Tracey Delamarter, Vice President
vicepresident@seattleknittersGuild.org
delaknitter on Ravelry

Lizbeth Linares Davern, Treasurer
treasurer@seattleknittersGuild.org
llinares1 on Ravelry

Marilyn Tschetter, Program Co-Chair
programchair@seattleknittersGuild.org
DeanMarilyn on Ravelry

Susan Parke, Program Co-Chair
programchair@seattleknittersGuild.org
(sparke) on Ravelry

Lisa Burlingame, Membership
membership@seattleknittersGuild.org
jitteryknitter 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

Ann Gibson, Librarian
librarian@seattleknittersGuild.org
annknits4ross on Ravelry

Kathy Riley, Hospitality Chair
hospitality@seattleknittersGuild.org
(seakath) on Ravelry

www.seattleknittersGuild.org

Notes from the Board

My Bohus kit arrived a few weeks ago, and I am ridiculously excited to cast on! I'm very curious to hear about other members' projects for the KAL...

As we've had to find new volunteers for openings on our board over the last few months, I've been really impressed with the willingness of our membership to step up and fill the needs of the guild. We're still in great need of writers to help us with book reviews, meeting write-ups and other articles for our monthly newsletter. We won't have much to include in our newsletters if our regular writer doesn't get some help! Please get in touch with myself (president@seattleknittersguild.org) or Tracey Delamarter (vicepresident@seattleknittersguild.org) if you can contribute, even if it's just once or twice a year. Every little bit helps! — *Carol Sherman*



Carol Sherman

Library Report

No report this month
— *Ann Gibson, Librarian*

Important Notes

Our fabulous treasurer, Lizbeth Davern, will be leaving the board next year. She has given the guild several years on the board, and we certainly appreciate everything she has done for us! More details about this position will be coming, and if anyone is interested in filling it next year please get in touch with a board member at a meeting, or email president@SeattleKnittersGuild.org



Membership Notes

Welcome new members!
Claudia Davidson
CJ Nash, CJ7 on Ravelry
Daria Donnelly
Charla Jaffee, buzi1luv on Ravelry
— *Lisa Burlingame, Membership*

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





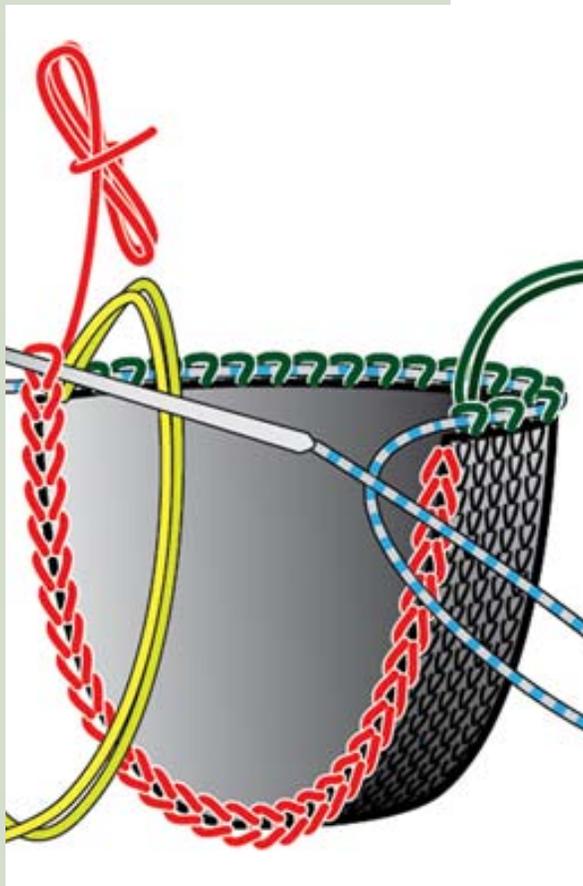
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In addition to successfully creating a mini moebius, she's also worked out new methods for binding off, casting on, incorporating other mathematical concepts into knitting patterns (look up her Klein Bottle Sock pattern!), and just reading through her project page is like being back in high school math class again. Scratch that, her patterns are college level work, at least.

It's been almost a month since she spoke, and I'm still trying to wrap my brain around the concepts she so cleverly taught us. (She was a fabulous teacher, by the way. I'm just a muddle-headed student.) I'm not even going to try to rewrite the things she talked about; I'd just lead you on a chase around the moebius. (A little mathematical humor for you.)

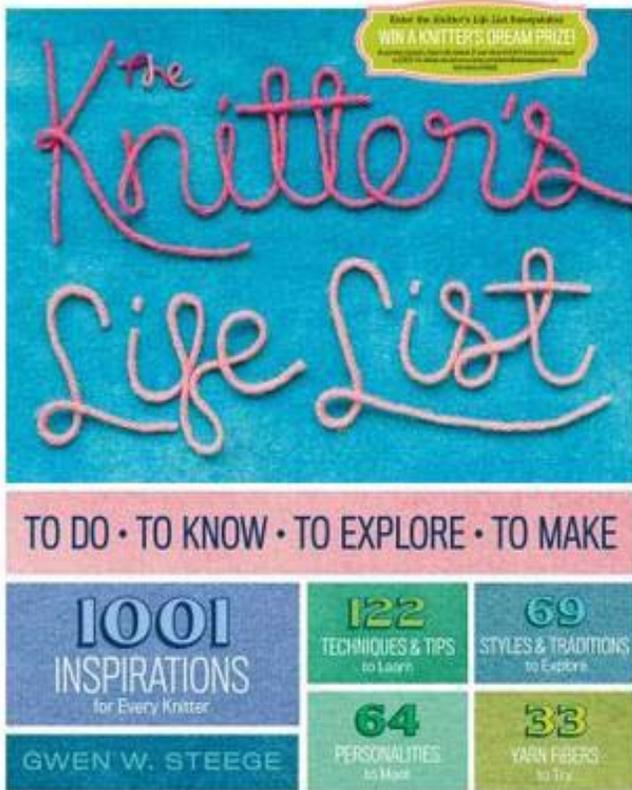
While I may not understand how Jeny's patterns work, the fact is, they're great patterns. She spends so much time working through them, exploring every outcome, that it's like having a fairy godmother hand you magical knitting patterns. She comes across things she doesn't understand, things like how a Klein Bottle works, and she works at it until she figures it out.

She's applied that same focused intensity to creating her very popular Double Helix socks and the Duck Socks and Slippers patterns. She claims that it's not rocket science, but just simple hard work. One of her goals is to remove all constraints so that people can be free to knit anything they want.



Not only is she a meticulous pattern writer, she's also incredibly encouraging and motivating. She admonished us not accept limitations but to find solutions, to have fun knitting and not get hung up on projects that have lost their appeal, and to realize that there's no such thing as one right way of doing things. She also told us to burn the UFO piles, something that had honestly never occurred to me. I think she's on to something. She told us that she frequently wears different socks, her solution to second sock syndrome, and that she never keeps working on a project if she's lost interest in it. Just hearing her admit that made me feel better about all the UFOs lurking in the back of my closet.

Her patterns have been published in Knitty, and in the September 2009 issue, Cat Bordhi even wrote up a special tribute to Jeny and her contributions to the knitting world. You can find her on Ravelry (curiousjeny), on her blog (www.curiousknitter.blogspot.com), or teaching classes at The Weaving Works. Stay tuned for more fantastic creations from Jeny. She's got some amazing new stuff in the works, including a top secret, mind-bending pattern coming out soon! — Tracey Delamarter



Book Review

The Knitter's Life List

by Gwen Steege
Storey Publishing, 2011

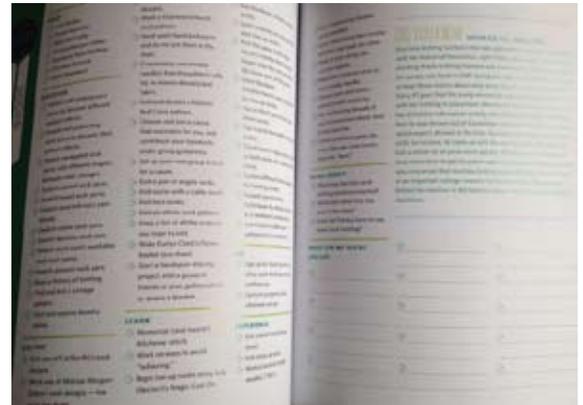
When it comes to books about knitting, there are quite a few on the market. Amazon lists 16,286 online, and I'm sure there are plenty more out there. Today, at the public library, I found five packed shelves of knitting books. Then, there are the spinning, felting, and dyeing books, as well as books about those other fiber arts. In all, there are more than any one person can get through.

Enter *The Knitter's Life List: 1001 Inspirations for Every Knitter, 122 Techniques and Tips to Learn, 69 Styles and Traditions to Explore, 64 Personalities to Meet, and 33 Yarn Fibers to Try*. The title may be a mouthful, but it's a fantastically fun book to read. Written by Gwen W. Steege, *The Knitter's Life List* is a bucket list of suggestions any fiber lover will enjoy. How many times have you said: "I should try learning Bohus? Or, how to cast on for a Möbius cowl? Or, try knitting with Qiviut?" I've thought dozens of similar thoughts, and never followed up on them.

The Knitter's Life List is broken into chapters, making it an organized and well thought out list, in addition to being an extensive one. The eleven chapters are: Yarn,

Know How, Sweaters, Socks, Scarves & Shawls, Hats, Gloves & Mittens, Bags, Kid Knits, Home Decor, and Fiber Love.

Each chapter, after a brief introduction, has a multiple page checklist. These checklists are broken down into: influential people to meet, things to discover, techniques to do and try, things to learn, and places to go, and things to experience. Each item on the list relates to the overall theme of the



chapter. There are also extra credit entries, such as discovering which came first, socks or shoes.

After the initial checklist, each chapter is filled with pages on techniques, history, secrets to success, and celebrity bios. It's a jam packed book, filled with so much information, you'd think it would weigh much more than it does. It's 320 pages, and Steege does a great job of taking advantage of the space on every page. The book is well laid out, the photos fun to peruse, and the drawings are cheerful and fun. There are a few pages that do seem a little over crowded, but overall, the book is a wonderfully fun read, and an inspiration to keep finding new things to enjoy about knitting.

This is a book that I will be adding to my personal library, and I've already begun creating my own Knitting Bucket List. You can check it out from the guild library cart, or you can find it at a local bookstore or online. — Tracey Delamarter



Seattle Knitters Guild donated \$470. to Medecins Sans Frontieres / Doctors Without Borders in March of 2012. The following is a copy of the letter of gratitude received by the guild in recognition of the donation.

Congratulations guild members for your support of this international medical humanitarian organization working in more than 60 countries to assist people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect, or catastrophe without regard for race, religion or political affiliation.

SEATTLE KNITTERS GUILD
PO BOX 15341
SEATTLE WA 98115

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)

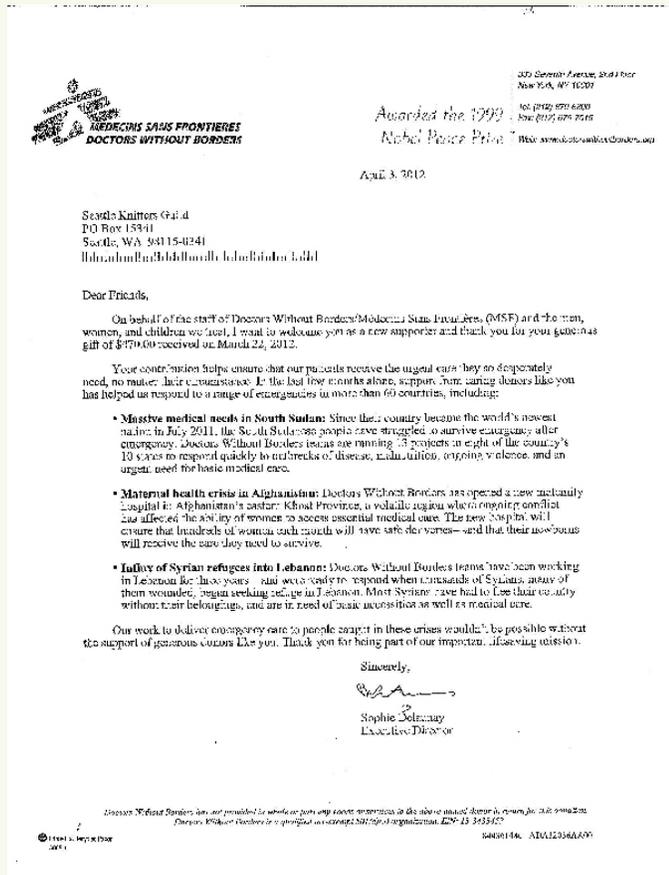
Visitors always welcome. Parking
available in the lot behind the
church or across from the south
side of the church on 80th.

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



Member Meeting	Topic
May 2	J.C. Briar, Chart Reading Made Easy
June 6	Pat Brunner, Finding Our Knitting Mojo
July 18	Ice Cream Social
August 1	To Be Announced
September 5	Back to School Mini Classes
October 3	Fiber Frenzy
November 7	Bohus Knit-a-long Fashion Show
December 5	Holiday Party and Gift Exchange

