



July 10 — The Shibaguyz

Shannon and Jason Mullett-Bowlsby

They design! They take photos! They blog!

Shannon and Jason Mullett-Bowlsby are the co-founders of the Shibaguyz. Shannon is the designer who has written patterns for yarn companies and magazines, for both knitters and crocheters. He has published several crochet books and is also a fabulous knitting instructor. Jason is the photographer and graphic designer. He is also a food wizard, with his cookbook coming out very soon.

Their latest book is a collaboration with Mango Moon Yarns: Moonstruck: Ten Sensuous Knit Patterns Sized from Small to 5X.

We are meeting in the sanctuary this month.

Board Notes

Welcome to summer! It has not felt much like summer yet, but I am hoping it is right around the corner. We have got some fun stuff coming up for the guild, starting with the Shibaguyz on July 10th (the second Wednesday of the month). Shannon and Jason Mullett-Bowlsby are a diverse and creative team of designers among other things, and I cannot wait to meet them. The delicious ice cream social is being planned for August, and mini class schedules are being finalized for September. There is a lot to look forward to!

Do not forget about knitting for charity, too. That is an ongoing focus for us this year, and we will be collecting items at the November meeting. So far, the guild has knit over twenty hats and scarves! Great job! Unfortunately, we have decided to cancel the remaining charity KALs due to lack of interest, but there is still plenty of time to knit up a hat or two.

The membership dues for half a year have increased to \$15. Dues for full year remain the same at \$22.

Lastly, there is a big group heading to Stitch 'n Pitch this year; enough to see our name on the scoreboard! Have a great time, and Go, Mariners!

— Tracey Delamarter, President

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Looking Ahead:

August 7
Ice Cream Social

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Charity Knit 2013

Seattle Knitters Guild is knitting for two charities in 2013: Operation Nightwatch (Seattle) <http://www.seattlenightwatch.org> and Trinity Place Apartments (YWCA) <https://www.ywcaworks.org/page.aspx?pid=449>

We will collect hats and other charity knits at the November meeting. This is your chance to knit an Elizabeth Zimmermann project for Knitalong! If you have been wanting to knit her design and it might not be quite something you would want to wear, consider donating your project

At meetings we have a basket with free yarn and another basket for collecting your donations. Currently we have collected 17 hats and one scarf.

Due to very low turnout (two knitters total for four meetups) charity knitting meetings are cancelled.

— Paulette Hauck, Program Co-Chair

Membership Notes

Welcome to new members:

Kelly Kleidon (Ravelry name kkleidon)
Lauren Gersch

— Lisa Burlingame, Membership

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,

\$15 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.

www.seattleknittersguild.org

Vacation Knitting

I love knitting. I take a small bag with me wherever I go, and tucked into this bag is some small knitting project. The complicated stuff stays home, waiting for my undivided attention, but this little bag holds the key to my sanity. Sometimes it's a sock or a scarf. Lately, it has been fingerless mitts. It is often a project I can work on without even really looking at it. It is for waiting in line, sitting in seats, pausing in driveways, and keeping my hands busy while my mind wanders elsewhere.

I have only ever knitted here in the Northwest. Knitting fits so well here, with our chilly springs, rainy winters, and misty falls. Of course, I knit! You can never have enough scarfs/hats/mittens/sweaters up here!

But recently I had the chance to travel. I did not hesitate to take my knitting with me, but I did pause to decide which project to pack into my little bag. How would my knitting fit onto a sandy beach, tropical heat, salty water sort of place? It felt rather wrong to cart skeins of wool to a tropical paradise. I could not quite imagine myself swinging in a hammock and knitting away at a pair of woolen mitts while drinking fruity drinks. Too muggy to imagine.



So I pulled out my tubs of yarn, sorting through skein after ball after cake of wool. Sorting through every color, looking for something light and tropical. Finally, at the bottom of a bin filled with every color of the rainbow, I found two skeins of hemp: light and dark brown. But they seemed so plain and unexciting and rather rough. I found a simple beach bag pattern on Ravelry. Fitting.

That project bag rode in my carry-on, and when I pulled it out on the plane, I still was not feeling it. The yarn bothered my hands. It was not an exciting pattern. There was no give to the hemp. I plugged away at it, eventually tucking it away. I would give it another go on Maui.

I ignored my little bag for the first couple of days. I was busy swimming, sunning, and soaking up time with family. But by the third day, I started hearing the call of that bag. I tucked it under my arm with a towel and wandered down to the beach. But instead of reaching the beach, I found myself in a hammock. Knitting.

This is why I love knitting. It fits. Anywhere. It gives my hands and mind something to do here in the Northwest, but it also calms me in the tropics. It is just as soothing to lay in a hammock and knit on the beach as it is to do it in the mountains. That simple little beach bag fit perfectly with the light breeze rocking my hammock in the shade of the palm trees. The rough feel of the hemp was the perfect counter to the moisture in the air. The subtle shades of brown lined up beautifully with the lush and vivid colors all around me, complementing instead of clashing. That is the joy of knitting. Its ability to complement, with whatever I am doing, wherever I am.

— Tracey Delamarter

My Local Yarn Store: So Much Yarn

2107 Elliott Ave #204, Seattle, 206-443-0727

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00– 6:00, Tuesday 10:00– 8:00, Saturday 10:00– 5:00, Sunday 11:00– 4:00

The buses that stop on 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Avenues in Belltown are all just a few blocks away. This being downtown, there is no free parking but there are plenty of options for pay like Pike Place Market garage.

The staff is always very friendly, funny, and helpful. If you have not visited for a while, Betty Clune became the owner late 2011 so there have been some changes. There is a cozy table where people are welcome to sit and knit. Every time I have been in the store, Betty has been more than happy to assist customers if they are having a little difficulty in one of their projects.

They call themselves So Much Yarn for a reason: they carry lots of Berroco in oodles of colors, fibers, and weights. There is a great color selection of Cascade 220 and Cascade 220 Superwash. For your yarn petting needs there are Manos del Uruguay, Madeline Tosh, Malabrigo, Rowan, Swan Island, Spin Cycle, and lots more, of course. The front of the store has a large selection of sock yarns and there is a nice sale selection in the center of the store. For your needle needs, they carry Addi Turbos, Addi Natura, Knitter's Pride Dreams, Chrystal Palace double point sock needles, and Clover needles.

There is also a wonderful large assortment of buttons, books, magazines, and single patterns. They also carry glass beads, shawl pins, small knitting kits, and little project bags by DellaQ, as well as larger ones by Namaste and Nerdshop. The Namaste bags are backpack style, and the Nerdshop ones are fun and funky, with sayings on them that knitters will appreciate.

So Much Yarn offers classes in the basics as well as special techniques, list is up on their website.

Why do I think it is worth a visit? I like to come here because the staff is always welcoming, friendly, and helpful.

— Deb Otto

Show and Tell



Kristi Gabrielse from Ana Cross Stitch: What you do not know about local yarn shops

Kristi meets on average about nine yarn reps per year, some twice. Big companies bring huge catalogs of yarn, Kristi showed us a swatch book that held only yarns from A-D and it was 5-6 inches thick (see photo on the right). The decisions which yarn to buy are based on the gaps on the shelves which might mean weight, fiber content, or color. If there is no handdyed dk weight on the shelves then some be picked. Color selection is a collaborative effort since most yarns come in a lot of colors, say 26, but the shelves can hold maybe eight or ten and personal preferences can not take over. Yarn arrives to the stores in lots of ten skeins per bag. Some companies have started doing broken bags (partial lots).

A lot of yarn store owners time is spent on looking for odd skeins of yarn that someone might need to finish a project. Seattle area yarn stores collaborate and a skein might get sent from one store to another in exchange for some other partial skein lot.

The biggest event for a yarn store is LYS Tour, the most popular knitter event in the Puget Sound area. To organize something so big and popular takes a lot of preparation. The participating shop owners meet once a month for 7-8 months prior to the event. One of the important discussion points is feature patterns and yarns. LYS Tour free pattern has to use less than two skeins of yarn and diversity is important - 18 of 24 patterns should not be shawls. Pattern decision is made by February, while the tour itself takes place in May.

The main message Kristi brought to the guild was:

Support your local yarn stores!

— Anu Slorah



Show and Tell



Knitter's Calendar

- June 8-16, World Wide Knit in Public Day
- June 21-23, The Black Sheep Gathering, Eugene, Oregon
- August 9-11, Fiber Fusion at the Forks, Grand Forks, BC, Canada
- August 19, Fibrations, Victoria, British Columbia
- September 28-29, Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival, Canby, Oregon
- October 5-6, North Olympic Fiber Arts Festival, Sequim
- October 20-21, Fiber Fusion, Monroe, Washington
- October 24-26, Seattle Weavers' Guild Annual Sale and Show, Seattle
- October 26-27, Knit City Fibre Festival, Vancouver, British Columbia
- November 10-11, FiberMania, Grants Pass, Oregon

Seattle Knitters Guild Calendar

- August 7 Ice Cream Social
- September 4 Back-to-School Mini Classes
- October 2 Churchmouse Yarns & Teas
- November 6 Knit-Along Fashion Show, Charity knitting collection
- December 4 Holiday Party and Gift Exchange

