



May 1 — Kathleen Cubley, Editor of Knitting Daily

Kathleen has been obsessed with knitting for about eight years. Her favorite projects are sweaters. Like a lot of knitters, who enjoy big projects, she likes to sprinkle the occasional smaller project in, but Kathleen says there is nothing like yards of stockinette with a well-placed cable or a subtle stitch pattern here and there to make her smile. In addition to knitting, she crochets, especially when a baby blanket is needed for a timely baby gift.

Kathleen's second obsession is publishing. She has been involved in the publishing industry for over twenty years, and is finally where she believes she should be – publishing and knitting together. She has been waiting for the two loves to cross and is thrilled to be where she is today.

What does Kathleen's day look like? She must publish an article on knitting that you and I find worthwhile to read, that would be interesting, and that would also give us some ideas to further enhance our knitting skills. This is a pretty tall order on a daily basis. Kathleen Cubley, the editor of online daily newsletter Knitting Daily <http://www.knittingdaily.com>, does this every day.

Kathleen will be sharing with us what her daily work looks like, to get those great tips out to us. In addition, she will be sharing several garments from Interweave Knits and knit.wear and last but not least talk about what it takes to get something published in a knitting magazine.

Kathleen lives in Spokane, Washington and when not knitting she enjoys gardening, snuggling with her dog, swimming, reading, and enjoying Eastern Washington's winters. But, really, she is pretty much always knitting!

— Paulette Hauck

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Looking Ahead:

June 5
Kristi Gabrielse

SEATTLE
KNITTERS GUILD
PO BOX 15341
SEATTLE WA 98115

Board Notes

There has been some concern about people leaving before and during Show-and-Sell. Starting with the next meeting we will try moving Show-and-Tell back to the beginning of the meeting. We will start with announcements and Show-and-Tell at 7 pm as usual and the guest speaker will come on at 7:30pm.

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From the President's Pen

Facebook. Vogue Knitting Live. Twitter. Madrona. LinkedIn. Stitch and Pitch. Websites. Ravelry. The list goes on and on. It is more than any one of us can keep up with in addition to our regular duties on the board! Social media and being a visible presence are so important in getting our name out to the public. We love the Seattle Knitters Guild, and we want to show off how fabulous it is. In order to make that happen well, the board has decided to create a new position. We are looking to add a new board member under the title Marketing Chair.

This position will be in charge of updating all of the guild's social media pages, working in conjunction with the web mistress. The position will also include duties such as spearheading the guild's presence at public events, coordinating with program chairs to better advertise upcoming speakers, and looking for opportunities for creating better public awareness about the benefits of joining the guild.

We will be talking about this briefly at the next meeting, so please let me know if you have any questions that you'd like addressed.

— Tracey Delamarter, President

Membership Notes

Currently the Knitters Guild has 105 members. Consider inviting your knitter friends to join us!

Welcome to new members:

Susan Gehringer
Kathleen Dyer (Ravelry name bikeskiknitgirl)
Sherry Johnson (Ravelry name oatjohn)
Debra Jensen (Ravelry name lutemama)

— 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,

\$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.

www.seattleknittersguild.org

Charity Knits

We will be collecting hats and other charity knits at the September meeting. At meetings we have a basket with free yarn and another basket for collecting your donations. Currently we have collected 6 hats.



— Paulette Hauck

Fiber Frenzy Canceled (Temporarily!)

In the last newsletter, I explained that we would be combining Fiber Frenzy with the September Mini classes in order to be able to feature more speakers. Several members responded with concern, worried that combining these two events would be too much for one evening. Instead of making an executive decision, I decided to take it to the membership for a vote. At the April meeting, I explained the situation to the attending membership: keep the current plan, combining Fiber Frenzy and the Mini Classes or combine one of the two with the November fashion show.

Several members spoke up, suggesting that we actually pull Fiber Frenzy from the line up completely. The choice was then put to the vote, and removing Fiber Frenzy from this year's program schedule was approved by the attending membership by a vote of 38 to 5, with some members abstaining. After further discussion, it was suggested that we move Fiber Frenzy to early in the 2014 program schedule. The board will be taking a look at when it can be worked into the schedule, and we'll update accordingly.

This has been a difficult decision for me, as I look forward to Fiber Frenzy all year. Decisions must be made, however, and I trust that all of you will be respectful when discussing this or any other issue regarding the guild. Please feel free to email me with any questions.

— Tracey Delamarter, President

Thank You...

Those of you that stopped by our booth at Vogue Knitting Live no doubt noticed the lovely pair of mitts donated by member Carol Sherman. Carol is an up and coming designer, and former president of the guild. She donated the pattern as a free download during the week of VKL as a gift to the guild, and the pattern was included in the gift basket raffles, as well. It is a lovely pattern, and a fun knit. Roxy is now available for purchase at: www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/roxy-5

Thank you, Carol!

At the last meeting, Jessica Rose donated her time to make sure that we had Susan B. Anderson's books available for purchase. Due to a miscommunication with the publisher, it looked as though Susan's books would not be available at the meeting. Fortunately for us, Jessica was able to expedite a shipment, which she then volunteered to sell at no profit to the store. Thank you Jessica and The Fiber Gallery for donating your time and assistance!

— Tracey Delamarter, President

Selling at meetings

As those of you at the meeting noticed, one of our members, Jessica Rose, was on hand to sell Susan B. Anderson's latest book. Jessica is one of several guild members who work for one of our local yarn stores. Frequently, our speakers will sell their own books or products, but occasionally, we feature a speaker who does not. When this happens, we get in touch with one of the nearby stores to see if they are able to sell.

This is great opportunity for both the stores and for us. We get to meet some of the store staff and purchase the speaker's goods, and the stores get a chance to introduce themselves to the membership. This is a benefit to the speakers as well, since every book purchased supports their work.

We have been able to invite many of our local stores, and we look forward to inviting many more over the coming months and years.

— Tracey Delamarter, President

Vogue Knitting Live Recap

For those of you that were able to attend Vogue Knitting Live, you will understand what I mean when I say that it was a wild and crazy weekend! There was a little bit of everything. While I cannot speak about how the classes were, I can say that they sounded like they went well and were loads of fun. I had planned to pop in for a bit each day, check on the table we were staffing, and then head home. Since I thought I would only be there a short time, I let my seven-year-old daughter tag along.

Six hours later, we finally went home.

There were miniature landscapes of tiny gnomes battling with snowmen. There was a booth of knitted glass. There were towering, feather and jewel encrusted hats – more sculpture than function. There were German angora bunnies being sheared. There were live art installations in the making (think giant pink and yellow spider webs being woven over the course of the weekend!) Suzanne Tidwell's knit lanterns were hanging from the ceiling. There was a lineup of fiber artists, who featured their museum-worthy installations. There were free massages, yoga for knitters, a measuring station, drawings, raffles, and giveaways.

And then there were the booths and booths of vendors with yarn and fiber piled high!

And the characters – the women wearing the towering felt hats, the ones modeling their steampunk Victorian-inspired clothing and knitwear, the men sporting "sweaters" knit out of cassette tape ribbon and neon plastic tape.

While all this was happening, there was a constant stream of activity happening on the main stage. Fashion shows, demonstrations, discussion panels, and talks. There was something for everyone, including my little knitter. She brought along one of the monsters that she had knitted (almost all by herself!), and was treated like a celebrity.

It was not surprising that she did not want to leave. Or, that when I went back on Sunday, she went with me. She brought her brothers along, too. And we all will go back again when Vogue Knitting Live returns to Seattle.

— Tracey Delamarter



Susan B. Anderson – Guest Speaker in April

Susan was born in Madison, Wisconsin. She grew up as a crafty kid whose mother was a seamstress and a musician, father a professor at University of Wisconsin. All Susan wanted to do was to make things. She learned to knit at the age of 19 during her breaks while working as a lifeguard. In the 1980s nobody was knitting in public so Susan learned from a booklet from a craft store. She quickly became an independent knitter.

Susan became a middle school teacher and knitted through her teaching years. She retired from teaching after having her third child. The knitting continued and soon she put some little hats on nursery school auctions. After very positive reception she started selling some hats and soon found out that it is not very sustainable to knit to sell. Later, as she worked at a yarn store for a friend, she sold her patterns at the store. When the store closed in 2004, she decided to see if someone would publish her designs as a book. She approached Artisan books and after a long wait got her book deal. In 2006 her book *Itty-Bitty Hats* was published. Before it even came out, Susan already started working on her next book *Itty-Bitty Nursery*, which was published in 2007. This book had a pattern for a chubby bunny who started Susan's love affair with toys. She proposed her publisher to write a book of just toys, showing them reversible elephant to lion and bunny to lamb. They were smitten. Now Susan has published two toy books – *Spud and Cloë at the Farm* and *Topsy-Turvy Inside-Out*.



According to Susan, toys are simple to knit. You start with a ball shape, as you knit it becomes clear how to shape it. A reversible toy is really just like a hat with animal features with another hat with features inside it. It is really not as difficult as it seems. While most of her designs are knitted in the round, Susan does not necessarily favor completely seamless knitting. She says that seamless knitting makes body parts that are really locked in place while sewing allows you to really shape and form the pieces. Seamless just means that you have to plan your knitting more carefully.

Another hint to remember is that people often overstuff their toys. If you can see stuffing through the fabric or if the stitches are distorted, then it is a sign to stop stuffing. Even already seamed toys can be improved upon – you can pull some stuffing out with a crochet hook. For best results pack stuffing in little piece by little piece. This really allows you to shape the toy, like give a rabbit a potbelly or interesting head shape.



Toys make great gifts for babies to teens and adults. You don't have to worry about size or fit. Seeing all the adorable toys that Susan brought to the guild talk, it is easy to see why they are so popular. Guild members were drawn to touch and play with the toys. I hope we will see some of the toys reappear at Show-and-Tell!

— Anu Slorah

Topsy-Turvy Inside-Out Knit Toys: Magical Two-in-One Reversible Projects

Susan B. Anderson, 2013 Artisan

This book is like a toy. It comes with a pull-tab picture on the cover to invite you to the world of toys. Before you even get into the patterns, there is a handy table of contents with an image next to each project. Oh how I wish all knitting book publishers did that!

The book is in easy to read print, spiral-bound for ease of use, patterns are laid out in a knitter-friendly manner in two columns with projects ordered in the order of complexity. There are suggestions for yarn labels and weights but the beauty of toys really lies in the fact that you could use whatever odds and ends you have at hand. There are several handy picture-heavy tutorials to ease you into toy knitting such as casting on a very small number of stitches to start knitting in the round, picking up stitches from an already stuffed shape, and using kitchener stitch to join shapes together.

The toys range in size with the smallest being around three inches tall and relatively easy to knit to a quite involved 10-inch reversible doll that is knitted completely seamlessly and involves grafting and knitting onto already stuffed shapes in addition to simple colorwork. The fact that easier projects can be completed in just over an hour make the book a clear winner for me. I love it when I can whip up a gift for a child in just one evening.

My favorite toys in the book are egg to alligator and hedgehog that turns into a squirrel. Susan's ingenious construction makes the toys very knittable. This is the first hedgehog I have seen that uses a clever twisted loop stitch pattern to form the hedgie needles and spares the pain of either hooking every needle into the body or using an eyelash yarn. I like that I have options either to go mostly seamless, knitting limbs onto the bodies, or knit them separately and seam.

Not all toys turn into other animals – seeing a dog house turn into a dog or a snowman to a Christmas tree is something new and interesting. Pigs-in-a-blanket is a toy that would delight every toddler and many others would also work as child-sized hand puppets. I can see babies squealing with joy at the peekaboo effect.

I suggest you pick it up and take a look. And be forewarned, you might end up marking most pages with a sticky note!

— Anu Slorah



Show and Tell



My Local Yarn Store: Tea Cozy Yarn

5816 24th Ave NW 206 783 3322

Monday, Friday 10:00 - 5:00, Tuesday 10:00 - 7:00, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00 - 6:00, Sunday Noon - 4:00

Accessible by buses #17, #18, #29, #40, and #44, all stop within a few blocks of the shop. There is plenty of street parking but no dedicated parking lot.

The staff is very friendly and helpful; welcomes you to sit and knit while having a cup of tea that is kept warm by one of the many lovely tea cozies in the shop.

The yarn in this store is organized by weight. There is a nice selection of sock yarns including Madeline Tosh, Malabrigo, Berroco Ultra Alpaca Fine, Socrates, Jarbo Garn, Berroco Sock, Pediboo. Luxury yarns range from chunky baby alpaca, to Noro, Madeline Tosh, Abstract Fiber, Chalet, Debbie Bliss Angel, and Baby Silkpacac lace. As any good yarn store, they carry workhorse yarns like Cascade 220, Plymouth Encore, Jamieson Spindrift, and various Classic Elite yarns. In addition there is a large selection of pearl cottons, and other DMC needlework threads. There is a sale bin in the back of the store.

A winder and swift is provided at the front of the store to help you get a head start on your project. Should you need more help, classes are offered for all levels of knitting and crochet, including individualized project help. <http://www.teacozyarn.com/classes.html>

Tea Cozy Yarns carries KA, Prym, Hiya Hiya, and Addi needles and an assortment of accessories such as stitch markers and stich holders, and project totes. There is also a delightful selection of classic shell, leather, and wood buttons, hand painted buttons, as well as children's and novelty buttons.

Why do I think it is worth a visit? This is a very nice shop. Every time I've gone in, the staff has been very attentive, not just to me, but to all the customers. There has always been a small group of ladies who are working on a project. Patricia, who has been there the most when I visit the shop has always been very helpful, whether trying to find just the right yarn or to offer suggestions on how to better weave in my ends. The shop is fairly new, and a little off the beaten path, but well worth the trip.

— Debra Otto

Knitter's Calendar

- May 2-5, South Sound Yarn Crawl, Puget Sound Area
www.southsoundyarncrawl.com
- May 3-5, Whidbey Island FiberQuest, Whidbey Island
- May 11, Fiber With a Twist Spin In, Richland, Washington
- May 16-19, The LYS Tour, Seattle and Puget Sound area
- 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



Seattle Knitters Guild Calendar

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| June 5 | Kristi Gabrielse from Ana Cross Stitch |
| July 10 | Shibaguyz Shannon and Jason Mullett-Bowlsby |
| August 7 | Ice Cream Social |
| September 4 | Back-to-School Mini Classes, Charity knitting collection |
| October 2 | Churchmouse Yarns & Teas |
| November 6 | Knit-Along Fashion Show |
| December 4 | Holiday Party and Gift Exchange |

Speakers are subject to change