

November 2011

Marin Knitters Guild Newsletter

Program Schedule:

November –How
to Fit a Sweater

December – Pot
Luck and Yarn
Swap

January – Reading
Japanese
Charts and
2012 County
Fairs

February –
Massage for
Knitters

March – Stitches
West Show &
Tell

April– Tips for
taking craft
pictures

May – Stash and
organizing

October 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Co-president Christine Bo-Lin led our October meeting which was attended by seventeen members.



OLD BUSINESS

TAX STATUS OF THE MARIN KNITTERS GUILD:

The discussion of the wording of the amendment to the By-laws passed at our August meeting was postponed until a future meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND ANNUAL DUES:

Treasurer Dana Dunn reported that we have \$1,310.86 in our accounts. She is continuing to collect annual dues of \$20 for 2011-2012 (due in September).

NEW BUSINESS

CHARITY PROJECTS

Donation from Cottage Yarns: Nazee Fard brought two prayer shawls

and four warm scarves knitted by her mother-in-law from yarns contributed for charity projects by Cottage Yarns in South San Francisco and by Guild members.



The donations were collected by members for distribution to charity.

The Doll Project:

Caroline Archer brought samples of complete sets of doll clothes and other items that she and friends are preparing for children at Lucile Packard and Oakland Children's Hospitals. She also shared stories she received about the impact of her contributions.



In addition, several members of the Guild gave her hats and clothes they made for her project. Some of the items were made by participants in Diane Sack's Tuesday knitting class.

Nazee Fard mentioned that she wrote an article for the August issue of www.NeedlecraftUniversity.com about the Doll Project. The publication is available to people who have signed up to receive it and the article is in the archive section.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS AND OTHER EVENTS

Fairs: Elaine Johnson reported that the theme of the 2012 Marin County Fair will be Agriculture.

Pumpkin Patch Festival: Arlene Finn reported that the Pumpkin Patch Festival will be held tomorrow, October 9, in a field in Nicasio. Although the Guild had participated in the past, we were not aware of this year's event. Arlene will get the festival contact's name so that we can determine if we want to participate next year.



October Meeting

*Tumbling Blocks sweater,
socks and scarf, child's
sweater, and fun hat
(clockwise from top left)*

October 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes (continued)

International Knit in Public Day: We also discussed potentially participating in World Wide Knit in Public (KIP) Day, which occurs the second Saturday of June. Next year's KIP Day will coincide with our June 9, 2012 meeting. A picnic was suggested. There is a lot of information on KIPs on the Internet.

Library Knit Nights: Christine Bo-Lin and Barb Elliott are hosting Knit Night at the Belvedere-Tiburon Library on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 7:30 PM

The Novato Library at 1720 Novato Boulevard has Knit Nights the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM (except, of course, when the Novato Library is closed for a Monday holiday).

Educating Children: Phyllis Camp's son teaches at a school in San Mateo, and he asked Phyllis to teach the children where yarn comes from, and eventually, to knit. Phyllis showed us a selection of wonderful children's books (many of which are on line) that involve knitting and pictures of sheep,

rabbits, alpacas, camels, musk oxen (which produce Qivuit), Vicuña and other animals. Some of these fibers are extremely rare and fantastically expensive, especially Qivuit and Vicuña. The children will be learning a lot from this project.

scandal in 1958 when then President Eisenhower's Chief of Staff, Sherman Adams, was pressured to immediately resign after accepting a Vicuña coat and an oriental rug from a textile manufacturer who was being investigated by the FTC.



As an aside, one member recalled that there was a



READING JAPANESE KNITTING AND CROCHET PATTERNS:

The Femo buttons program has been postponed. Instead, Christine Bo-Lin brought Japanese pattern books and other written materials and discussed how to use them. The patterns are charted. After you familiarize yourself with the symbols on the charts, the patterns are so clear and accurate that you don't need to read the accompanying Japanese text. It takes a little study, but, especially if you like charted patterns, you may find these among the best patterns you will ever use. The patterns are beautiful, fashion forward, and *do not have errors*.

If you are interested, Google "Reading Japanese Patterns" or "Japanese Knitting Symbols," and go to Ravelry, whose members will help you. Books may

be ordered on-line at such sites as eBay as "buy it nows" (not auctioned) and other web sites. Patterns shipped from Japan may take three weeks. Patterns are available on line from the Pierrot site. Books are also available in Japantown in San Francisco.

For gauge, look at the number of grams per ball, and use the centimeter side of your tape measure. Numbers are in Arabic. Symbols are for rows, stitches and times, and a dotted line means folded in half.

Christine showed us a beautiful little girl's dress she made from a Japanese Pattern that was in one of the books she brought to our meeting. Christine's program was a wonderful lesson not only in reading Japanese patterns, but chart reading in general, and members suggested we have another chart reading program to supplement Christine's program and the program Nazee gave several months ago.

October 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes (continued)

Japanese pattern and swatch

SHOW AND TELL

Guild members displayed projects in process and discussed knit items they were wearing. Here is a sample of what was shown: a large felted knit bag in black with red trim (below), a sweater adapted from the "Tumbling Blocks" pattern used in quilts, socks and a scarf, a child's sweater in progress, a fun hat in progress worn by a member in an equally colorful orange knit top, and much more.



One member owns a book for designing your own garments on a MAC computer. Let us know at the next meeting if you are interested in borrowing it. Another member mentioned that you can impose a graph over a picture – so that you can convert the picture to a knit design – at MicroVolt on the internet.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our November program will be "Knit to Fit." Our December program not only will be a Pot Luck, but we will have a yarn exchange, a pattern book and magazine exchange, and we will bring finished items to donate to charity.

Future Program

Suggestions: As mentioned above, we'd like to have another program at some point on reading charts. Another idea is to have a program on consigning members' handmade items – locally and on-line.

MEMBER INFORMATION MARIN KNITTERS GUILD NEWSLETTER:

Reminder: Please email information for the 2011-2012 *Newsletters* to Cathy Aviles at caviles@sonic.net. She will publish information on websites, pod casts or blogs on knitting or other related crafts.

YAHOO GROUPS LIST: Marin Knitters Guild members who are not receiving Yahoo Group emails, should email marinknittersguild@yahoo.com to get on our distribution list.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jane Cooperman

2011 MKG Officers

Co-Presidents –
Cathy Puccetti
Christine Bo-Linn

Secretary –
Jane Cooperman

Treasurer –
Dana Dunn

Programs Chair –
Marcia Hammett

Newsletter –
Cathy Aviles

E-Mail:
marinknittersguild@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!

<http://marinknittersguild.org>

Volunteers

Charity – Claire Miller

Marin Fair Liaison – Elaine
Johnson

Website & Yahoo! List –
Nazee Fard

Name Tags – Arlene Finn

Church Liaison – Leona
Thoeleck

About Our Organization...

The Marin Knitters' Guild is the official chapter of **TKGA** (The Knitting Guild Association) in Marin County, California. The guild was established in 1987 to promote interest in the craft and workmanship of knitting. While our name states Marin Knitters' Guild, today our membership hails from the counties of San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano and Sonoma as well as Marin.

Knitters with all levels of experience are welcome to participate. We encourage beginners to

join and learn from the experienced. The Guild draws on the talent and expertise of its membership and the knitting and fiber-arts community at large for programs and workshops.

Visitors are welcome to all Marin Knitters' Guild meetings. We ask that you join us with your paid membership on your second meeting, so that we may continue to support our programs. Dues are \$20 annually, payable at the September meeting, and include a monthly newsletter

containing the previous meeting's minutes.

We have mini-workshops in most meetings offered by experienced guild members or local knitting teachers. In addition, we work for charitable causes, group projects and go on fun field trips. From time to time, we invite National teachers to have workshops for us. These workshops allow for a more intensive study of design or technique.

We meet at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, 10 Bayview Dr, San Rafael, CA 94901