



# Knitters' Knews

Volume 30 Issue 9

May 2010

## May 10 — Annual Year End Party

Join us on May 10 for our Annual Year End Party!

**Dessert Bar:** For those of you who arrive early at the West Side Club each month, please note that the usual supper menu will be available for purchase. After our meeting begins, the West Side staff will set up a Dessert & Coffee/Punch Bar for your enjoyment. Other beverages will be available for purchase at the bar.

**Brown Bag Exchange Results:** This is our 9<sup>th</sup> year of having this exchange between guild members. Our theme was *Home Sweet Home, Yarn Sweet Yarn*. If you have participated in this event, please be sure to bring your completed item(s) to our May meeting.

**Show 'n Tell:** Strut your stuff, and show us your beautiful knitted wear! Everyone is encouraged to bring knitted items to model or otherwise exhibit. Please be sure to stop at the registration table to sign up. Information needed includes the following: name, item, fiber content and brand, and pattern. Please let us know any other interesting details you have about the piece.

**Yarn/Book Sale:** Bring anything needle-related that you want to sell. Please tag your own items. Include the Item Description, Price, Your Name, and any other notes you feel necessary. When you arrive at the meeting, please sign in at the registration table so that Kate can announce your name during the meeting as someone who is selling items that evening. You may want to bring some money to make change if you're bringing a lot of items. Remember to take home what doesn't sell. Also, our Library will have books and magazines for sale.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING ON MAY 10**

**WILL BE A MEMBERS ONLY EVENT**



### Meeting Time

7:00 pm

### Location

West Side Club  
437 Cty Tpke M  
Madison, WI

## From Our President—Kate Findley

Dear Knitter,

Here we are at the end of another guild "year." We have a number of Board members whose terms are expiring and a number of Committee Chairs who are resigning after years of service to the Guild.

We would like to thank our outgoing Board members Kay Moffat, Kathy Trudell, and Connie Burmeister. Kay has served as our Secretary and has also co-planned our retreat in New Glarus and our year-end party. Kathy served us as our co-Treasurer and our Knit Out organizer. Connie Burmeister has served as our Vice-President performing numerous duties. She will continue to organize the speakers for our meetings.

We also thank Jayne Coster, Jane Newman, and Karen Scammell. Jayne Coster has been in charge of our newsletter for the past two years, bringing even more creativity and wonderful clip art to the newsletter. Jane Newman, as committee chair of community projects, collected and sorted through all our knitted items and donations, then put

countless miles on her car as she took them to area charities. Karen Scammell was instrumental in improving our library system.

The final person I'd like to recognize will still be serving as a Board member for another year, but is stepping down from her current duties. Kathy Digman has served as a co-Treasurer, doing the bookwork needed to keep the financial aspect of the Guild running smoothly.

What I've listed here is only a very brief mention of the work these seven members have performed on your behalf. We sincerely thank these members for all of their hard work on behalf of the Guild.

We hope you have enjoyed the activities the Guild has provided this past year and we look forward to seeing you all in September. Have a wonderful summer!

### Inside this issue:

Meet Our Guild Board Nominees	2
Knit on the Farm— July 18	2
April Meeting Minutes	3
Library Notices	6
Safari 2010	7
Scarves for Women	8
Book Review	9
Community Projects	10
Stitches Bus Registration Form	11

## Meet Our MKG Board Nominees!



"I'm **Marie Duquette**, and I've been knitting for as long as I can remember! I've been a member of the Madison Knitters' Guild since 1990 and was Co-President (with Jo Turner) for three years about ten years ago. I loved serving on the board then and would like to again, now that

I have some more free time. I'm excited about how our guild has grown and look forward to being part of its future."



### **Barbara Rottman**

recently moved to Fitchburg from Dublin, Ohio. Although a graduate of UW-Madison, Barbara lived in Maryland, Virginia, Illinois, and Ohio before finding a way to return to Wisconsin. While in Ohio, Barbara earned a Master's degree (Human Resource

Management) from the Ohio State University and worked in government, health care, and high tech corporations. She served as newsletter editor, treasurer, and vice president for programming for the Human Resource Association of Central Ohio, an organization with over 1,000 members. Barbara was the Ohio coordinator for the Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland, an international peace and friendship building project. She has edited newsletters and been a leader in numerous school, professional and civic activities. She is a former trustee for the Champaign County, Ohio library board and was graduate student representative to The Ohio State University Library Board. She is currently an active member of the Friends of the Fitchburg Library.

Barbara learned to knit as a child, taught by her multi-talented mother who also showed her embroidery, sewing and cooking. Barbara remembers engaging in knitting "races" with her sisters, trying to knit the longest stretch of fabric in an hour. It was this cutthroat competition that taught her the lessons of gauge, having been soundly beaten by a clever sibling who cast on fewer stitches on larger needles. As a high school sophomore, Barbara coveted a seed-stitch Tyrolean cardigan embellished with embroidery. Although she had never knit so much as a hat, she completed the sweater literally in a fever while recovering from strep throat. Barbara learned the stress reduction benefits of knitting as a college student, when she knit two dresses during finals weeks. She has not put down the needles since. Today Barbara reviews yarns and books for Yarnmarket and BargainYARNS.

Barbara has shared her love of the craft by knitting for charity and teaching children and adults to knit. Barbara considers knitting to be her best and most constant friend.



### **Nancy McCulley** says,

"I've been a member of MKG for about five years and am also a charter member of the Madison Crochet Guild. My grandma taught me to crochet as a little girl, and I taught myself to knit in my teens. I've had at least one craft room since I can remember, and it keeps growing in size. I have my own business - "Outside the Lines" - as a freelance workshop presenter.

Meeting other art & craft obsessed people is one of the greatest joys in life. I'm happiest when creating something. I knit every day on the bus and often give finished items away to people I meet there. Guild has taught me so much about the history of knitting and brought me full circle to understand the "waste not, want not" mentality of my grandma, whose home was filled with beautiful recycled and repurposed handwork."



## **Knit On the Farm— Sunday, July 18**

All guild members and knitting enthusiasts are invited to a Summer Knit On the Farm

Event to be held at Schumacher Farm Park near Waunakee. This event is being held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled Public Day Event at the farm on Sunday afternoon, July 18, from 2:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m.

Schumacher Farm Park represents a Depression-era farmstead (1920s and 1930s) with typical buildings, farm machinery, an heirloom garden, and a 10-acre prairie restoration including hiking trails. For more details visit: <http://www.countyofdane.com/lwrparks/schumacher.aspx>.

We will spend the afternoon on the grounds of the farm. Staff will be available to give tours of the grounds and answer any questions you might have. Light refreshments will also be served.

This will be an opportunity for knitters to gather under the shade of the big oaks and imagine living during the 1920s and 30s while working on your most recent knitting project. You may also want to take a break and do some hiking in the prairie and explore the grounds.

Please plan to bring along your lawn chair as seating is limited with a few picnic tables and chairs.

## Monday, April 12, 2010, Meeting Minutes

—Kay Moffat

President Kate Findley opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with 280 members in attendance. She thanked our vendors for the evening - Brenda Brauner and Needles 'n Pins.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved and seconded.

A flyer was handed out for Hand Knitting in Japan.

She reminded all that the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Brown Bag Exchange is in May so "you have one month to get your project completed."

Anita Brown-Huber from Member Services of Supporting Active Independent Lives is looking for a volunteer to be a knitting companion.

We received a thank you note from Mary Bertun at the Department of Corrections in appreciation of the yarn, needles, books, etc. given to them and a long list of the areas that had received knitted and crocheted items from them.

Stitch, Spindle and Skein Event - May 15, 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Other fiber events are listed in the newsletter.

A nurse at the UW is going to Kenya and is requesting items for knitting. She provides medical care and mothers are being taught to knit to earn income for their families. Large donations were received tonight, and you can still bring in items at the May meeting.

The nurse going to Guatemala is requesting infant hats for full term babies, not preemie hats.

Our speaker was Gayle Roehm - Hand Knitting Designs in Japan. We were treated to wonderful slides of their designers. We were inspired, amazed and occasionally surprised by some of the designs. She answered many questions for the members and it was a wonderful evening.

Show and Tell members, Gretchen, Sue, Trudi, Connie, Ruth, Eileen, Megan, Kristi, Elisa, Amy and Andrea delighted us with their wonderful knitted items.


Prizes were won by Kathy Digman, Kathy Silver, Sherri, Beth, Jennifer, Helen, Mary Lee and Joan.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



### Monthly Financial Data


If are interested in receiving a copy of our guild's monthly financial statement, please contact Kate Findley or email [info@madisonknittersguild.org](mailto:info@madisonknittersguild.org). Thank you!



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## MKG's Library Return Policy

Our new library policy has gone into effective as of September 1, 2009. All library materials are to be properly checked out by members and are to be returned or renewed at the next monthly meeting.

Each month's newsletter will include a reminder to those members who have overdue items from the library. Any member who has overdue items from the library shall not check out more items from the guild library until all overdue items are returned to the guild library.

If materials are not returned after this overdue reminder has appeared in the newsletter, a penalty of \$5.00 per item will be assessed for each month the item remains overdue.

If any item is overdue for more than four months, the library may bill the borrower for the replacement cost of the item. The member is responsible for the overdue fines or the replacement cost, whichever is higher. Any exceptions or special arrangements may be made at the librarian's discretion.

Any unpaid library fees will be added to membership renewal fees and must be paid before a borrower's guild membership can be renewed.

**LIBRARY NOTE:** Feel free to take full advantage of our library at the May meeting. It will be a great opportunity to check out items you may want a little more time with during the summer months!

## MKG Library Return Reminder

The following members have overdue items from our guild's library. Please plan to return your items at the April 12 meeting. Thank you!

**Barbara Armstrong**  
**Gretchen Chan**  
**Martha Deming**  
**Julie St John**  
**Jaala Spiro**



## Classified Ad

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**Safari 2010**

—Kathy Digman



Photo credit to Melinda Butcher

This year's MKG Knitting Safari began promptly at 8:30 as we headed east to Knitch in Delafield. It's located in one of the most picturesque communities in Wisconsin with updated turn of the century store fronts. Knitch has a great assortment of yarns, including Rowan, Cascade, Noro, Debbie Bliss just to mention a few, as well buttons, books, and knitting accessories.

Our next stop was Main Street Yarn Shop

in Hartford, but rather than hopping back on the interstate, we ambled up Hwy 83 through Hartland and by Beaver Lake. There were many gorgeous homes and wooded areas on the way and we arrived in Hartford in no time. Main Street Yarn Shop is located downtown and offers a wide variety of classes, yarn, and books. There is a large area in the front of the store to sit, knit and watch the people go by. We were within walking distance of our lunch stop, the Mineshaft, and so we took a brake and reenergized for our trip to the Knitting Knook in Fox Point.

The Knitting Knook is actually two rooms- the entry area with the "fancier yarn" and a larger room with a conference table for teaching that is surrounded by more yarn. The Knook offers an active yarn club with discount benefits as well as a lending library.

Our last stop of the day was at Ruhamas, which is 15 minutes down the road from the Knitting Knook. Ruhama's store is a different type of shop in that the yarns are arranged by weight and gauge rather than manufacturer or color. On entering the store, the first thing we all saw was a display of multicolored garments made from Kauni variegated yarns. This yarn is from Denmark and comes in an assortment of color ranges from the very bright to shades of brown and blue. In addition to sweaters, there were displays of scarves and shawls, mostly in garter stitch and using two different colors for contrast.

On behalf of all Safari participants, I would like to thank each of the yarn shops for their gracious welcome and hospitality shown to us. I would encourage everyone to make your own trip and visit the wonderful yarn shops of Wisconsin!



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## Let's Cover the Bridge!

—Janette Hermanson

The 2010 Artist-in-Residence at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts would like to cover the Main Street bridge over the Grand River in Cambridge, Ontario, Canada. She is looking for knitters who would like to knit a block or more for the project. After the blanket is taken down from the bridge, the blocks will be washed and made into scarves and blankets for charities in the Cambridge area.

If anyone is interested in making blocks for this project, it would be greatly appreciated. I will collect the blocks by the beginning of June to take with me when I travel to Canada in July. You can use any type of yarn, pattern, color and knitting technique you wish. The sizes requested are:

1. Pieces 21"x27" (or as close as possible to this)
2. Pieces as long as you like that are 8", 10" or 22" wide.

Please attach a piece of paper to your knitting with your name, address, phone number, and email. There will be a box labeled, "Cover the Bridge Project" near the registration table at our May meeting for you drop off your knitted pieces.



## Scarves for Women

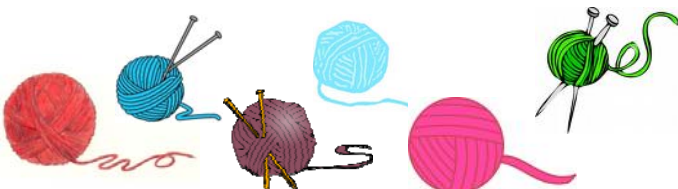
**Lois Anderson** has started a chapter of "Handmade Especially for You" in the Madison area. This organization started in California in 2008 and distributes scarves to women as they enter abuse shelters. The scarves are intended to provide a

bit of comfort to a woman at a time when a small kindness can mean a great deal.

Initially, she is looking for 25 scarves to give to everyone currently in the shelter. Then Lois will need a continuing supply as someone new enters the shelter. If she gets enough scarves, she can reach beyond the Madison area.

Go to <http://www.handmadeespecially.org/> to learn more about this project.

If you would like to participate, please contact Lois directly at 277-0556 (home) or 263-7850 (work). Thank you!



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## Book Review

—Amanda Haynes

*Knitting Lessons: Tales from the Knitting Path* by Lela Nargi

Lela Nargi found herself shortly after September 11, 2001, being drawn into the world of knitting. The events of 9/11 left her with raw emotions, stress and as a New Yorker, an uncertainty that her home could ever be the same again. Through knitting, Lela was able to find a comfort and meditative peace, yet as a beginner she was yearning for some human company. This book took Lela across the US both physically and virtually through visits and emails with other knitters.

Even with knitting, Lela found herself at a loss, longing for a way to connect to others. Wherever she went, she noticed knitters, at the coffee shop, sitting in the park, in groups enviously pulling out woolly comfort. However when she started her book it seemed like the knitters had disappeared. Turning to the friend who had taught her to knit, she was able to find a link to other knitters.

The knitters that Lela met encouraged her with knitting as well as telling why they began to knit, who they knit for and what motivates them further in their knitting. The reasons are many and varied as expected. They lend a sense of personal accessibility to other knitters. Many knit for the pure joy of making something out of sticks and string; others have a more artistic vision in mind; and even some knit because it is the only thing that calms them.

I enjoyed the interviews with the male knitters the most, there are only two interviewed, but the personal reasons for knitting are interesting and different from my own. The men seemed to have less of a connection to their ancestors and more of a spiritual and artist expression behind their choice to become knitters. I would have liked to see more male knitters' perspectives. Since this book is almost 10 years old however, I think that ratio was reflective of the vocal male knitting population of the time, but I am certain that it has increased since then.

The stories are interesting and heartwarming, and I find it compelling to learn why others are attracted to knitting as I am. I did feel as though Lela pushes the idea of a connected "string" too much by only interviewing knitters that were met through the previous interviewee. I feel as though this is achieved better in other books, such as *Cheaper than Therapy* edited by Annie Modesitt or *Knit Lit* edited by Roghaar & Wolf. Both are available in the Guild Library.

I would also like to wish everyone a happy and safe summer!



## Community Projects

—Jane Newman

**Wow!** What a great response to the Kenyan project to supply a group of mothers from a daycare center with yarn and knitting supplies. Susan Dillon Gold, RN, BSN, is the nurse from UW Hospital going to Kenya in May. She has reached her limit on what she can take on her trip. Guild members are still welcome to bring donations of yarn and needles, but please know that they will be donated elsewhere.

There were 24 knitted items donated this month which brings us to a total of 658 knitted items donated over the course of the year. Many of the dishcloths and bottles of dish soap from the April meeting were given to the Zion Personal Essentials Pantry. Carol Cass for the Board, Volunteers and Guests of the Zion PEP wrote: "Thanks so much for your donation. Many people have felt your warmth. You are part of our awesome band of pantry angels!"

There is also still time to knit a baby hat or two for the Edgewood nursing students going to Guatemala in July. They will be working with indigenous midwives to lower the infant mortality rates in this country. The hats help prevent hypothermia and its consequences. These hats should fit full term newborns. A simple pattern follows but any pattern will do. There are many free patterns on the internet. Just Google "free knitted baby hat patterns."

### BABY HAT PATTERN

DK weight yarn-Plymouth Dreambaby DK is a good choice

Size 2 and 3 small circular or double point needles, these size needles work for a loose knitter. May need to use larger needles if you knit tighter.

With smaller needles, cast on 72 or 76 stitches loosely. It is important that the cast on edge is stretchable. Do 2" of K1, P1 ribbing. Switch to larger needles and knit approximately 3 1/2" to 4" in pattern (Below).

Decrease rows:

Row 1: K2 tog, P2 tog

Row 2: Knit

Row 3: K2 tog around.

Row 4: Knit.

Row 5: K2 tog around.

Thread needle and draw up remaining stitches. May not have even number, just do the remaining stitch singly. End off.

**PATTERN:** Mock Cable: Multiple of 4 when done in the round.

Round 1: \*K2, P2: rep from \* to end.

Round 2: \*K2, P2: rep from \* to end.

Round 3: \*cross 2 front, P2: rep from \* to end.

Round 4: Rep Row 2.

Repeat these 4 rounds.

Cross 2 front: Knit into the front of the 2nd stitch on the needle: then knit the first stitch, slipping both stitches off the needle at the same time.

If using fingering weight baby yarn, increase number of stitches cast on to 76 or 80.

## FIBERWOOD STUDIO



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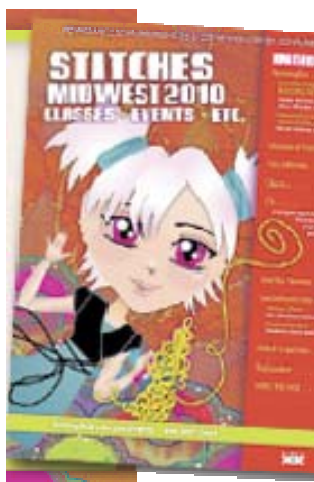
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### Visit Us on the Web!

You are encouraged to visit us on the worldwide web:

<http://www.madisonknittersguild.org/>



## **MADISON KNITTERS' GUILD STITCHES MARKET TRIP**

Come join us for a fun-filled, wallet-lightening, stash-building day of shopping at the Stitches Midwest Market. Non-guild members are welcome!

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2010**

**8:00 AM** - Leave from the Park & Ride on Dutch Mill Road

**DIRECTIONS:**

Take the beltline (Hwy 12/18) to Stoughton Road (US 51) exit  
 Turn left (north) – if coming from the west  
 Turn right at the first light, onto Dutch Mill Road.  
 The Park & Ride lot is a short distance ahead, next to Arby's  
 The trip will take about two hours, arriving in Schaumburg at 10:00 a.m.  
 when the Market opens.

**5:00 PM** - Leave Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Convention Center

**7:00 PM** – APPROXIMATELY - motor coach arrives back in Madison

**COST: \$37.00** - Includes transportation and ticket into the Market. Participants are responsible for their own food and beverages. Please see the Stitches Midwest Web Site for information about the vendors:

[www.knittinguniverse.com/events/](http://www.knittinguniverse.com/events/)

### STITCHES MARKET BUS    August 21, 2010

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Telephone</b>	
<b>Cell Phone</b>	

Make checks payable to Madison Knitters' Guild and mail by May 25, 2010, to:  
 Peg Corp, 2214 Canterbury Road, Madison, WI 53711  
 Questions? Please call Peg at 608/277-9508



## MKG Calendar

May 10	MKG Mtg	7:00 pm	West Side Club with Annual Fashion Show and Brown Exchange Results
May 17	MKG Bd Mtg	6:00 pm	Sequoia Branch of Madison Public Library
June 21	MKG Bd Mtg	6:00 pm	Sequoia Branch of Madison Public Library
July 18	Knit In Public Day	2:00 pm	Schumacher Farm Park, Waunakee
July 19	MKG Bd Mtg	6:00 pm	Sequoia Branch of Madison Public Library
August 16	MKG Bd Mtg	6:00 pm	Sequoia Branch of Madison Public Library
August 21	Stitches Bus Trip	8:00 am	Meet at Dutch Mill Park & Ride



## Other Fiber Events

**Knitting Group at Esquire Club:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays; 9:30 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.

**Knitting Group at Lakeview Library, Madison:** Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.

**Knitting Group at DeForest Library:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays; 6:00 p.m. — 8:00p.m.

**Open Knitting Night at LaBella Vita, Mineral Point:** Thursdays, 7:00 pm — 9:00 pm

**Knitting at Yola's Café:** 494 Commerce Drive, Madison: Second Wednesday of each month, 5:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

**Open Knitting Group at Woodland Studios:** Wednesday nights are open knitting. This group is raising money for Heifer International throughout 2010 by asking for a \$1 donation each time you come to the knitting group.

**Open Knitting at The Cat and the Crow:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday night of each month.

**Door County Shepherds' Market,** May 22-23. Visit: <http://www.whitefishbayfarm.com/market.htm> for more details.

**Stitch, Spindle, & Skein Event, Folklore Village, Dodgeville:** Saturday, May 15. Visit: [http://www.folklorevillage.org/t2/calendar#Special\\_Events](http://www.folklorevillage.org/t2/calendar#Special_Events) for more details.

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