



# Knitter's Knews

ISSUE 7 PAGE 1

MARCH 2011

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**Useful and ornamental needlework, knitting, and netting are capable of being made, not only sources of personal gratification, but of high moral benefit, and the means of developing in surpassing loveliness and grace, some of the highest and noblest feelings of the soul.**

- from *The Ladies' Work Table Book*, 1845

## March 14 Meeting: Candace Eisner Strick

Seeing names like "Stradivarius Stole" and "Mozart Sweater," one could extrapolate that Candace Eisner Strick is both a musician and a knitter. A classically trained cellist, Candace was a music instructor and a member of the New Britain Symphony for years. But now she's an awesome designer and knitting teacher with a great sense of humor and many innovative techniques. We're delighted that she'll be our main attraction at the March meeting of the Madison Knitters' Guild.

She's not bringing her cello, but she will bring her new book, *Strick-ly Socks*, and some of her Merging Color kits for sale. In her presentation, Candace will take us on a journey through the process of "Merging Colors," a custom, hand-dyed yarn of uniquely blended hues.

Most yarn companies do not want to produce one color in several hues because

it's not easy to create several yarns so close in hue. If one color is off within the slide, it has to



be tweaked; invariably that means that all the hues have to be tweaked or one has to go back to square one and begin again.

There are six colorways in Merging Colors yarn, each of which has eight hues. Candace will also talk about her new book, *Strick-ly Socks*. In it, she reveals a revolutionary and amazingly simple method of knitting socks: a flat toe and heel, but no seams. Must be magic!

Candace gets up each morning and works until the end of the day on the business she owns and operates with her husband, also a mu-

sician (pianist). They make great music together! She taught him to knit and he has produced a couple of sweaters for her (with her help), and can be called upon to knit swatches for class when necessary. She reports that he's a thrower. She tried to teach him continental, but it didn't take. They have three grown sons, all of whom know how to knit but refuse to do so.

Like many of us, if she sees a yarn that she likes, she buys it. She has absolutely zero yarn guilt. While she seldom has time to knit for her family, her stash is huge and she needs more room and more time. According to her, dinner is ready when the smoke alarm goes off. Thus her next house will not have a kitchen. Do you realize how much additional storage place a kitchen's worth of cabinets would produce?

Her perfect meal is a carton of yogurt, and when she's done, she can lick the spoon clean

*Continued on Page 2*

# March Meeting Vendors:



250 N Cty Rd A  
Columbus, Wisconsin  
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Firefly Fibers spring classes:  
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## Candace Eisner Strick (from Page 1)

and put it away. She actually doesn't even need a sink.

And like many of us, Candace is an obsessive knitter. Her interest in socks, for example, will define her activity for months while she constructs pair after pair of socks, in all hues, in many styles, and with many techniques; she'll not get into any other knitting until that stage passes. Right now, her passion is skirts. Another book in the offing, perhaps?

She is widely published with twenty or so books and articles to her name. In addition to *Strick-ly Socks*, she has impressive credentials as a national and international designer, teacher, and writer: *Sweaters for a New England Village*, *Sweaters from New England Sheep Farms*, *Beyond Wool*, and others. She's also seen in *Interweave Knits*, *Vogue*, *Knit and Style*, *Knitters*, *Cast-On*, and other magazines.

One can see her designs, yarns, and kits at her website: [www.strickware.com](http://www.strickware.com) and can follow her activities on her blog: **Candace Eisner Strick Knitting**.

Candace and her husband live in Connecticut with their two birds and the wonder bunny Abraham. They both like to bike, and she gets much of her inspiration from the peaceful woods; some of her best designs have come to her while she's in nature. She loves to travel, and her favorite spot is Venice.

After teaching many students she's realized that sometimes we get uptight about our knitting. Her philosophy is, "it's only knitting." If you make a mistake, what's the worst thing that can happen? As a cancer survivor, Candace remembers not to sweat the little things.

- Janet Fishbain

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# March Community Service Projects

Bring your knitted items to the March 14 meeting!

**YWCA Women** [www.ywca.org](http://www.ywca.org)

This revitalized home is a safe place for women to go with their children and rebuild their lives. It gives women like Ginger a safe, lovely home. She says, "After I lost everything, I discovered there was a place I could afford and it was the YWCA Madison. The YWCA has given me a resting place, a chance to pull myself together. I don't think there is a safer place for low-income women than the YWCA."

How your knitting can help: YWCA has a program called 'Suited for Success.' It provides women with clothes appropriate for job interviews – what better way to dress up a blouse than a nice light-weight scarf or wrap. Keep in mind that it will be spring, soon!

## Free Patterns for shawls and wraps:

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/summit-2>

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/lace-capelet>

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/one-skein-shawl>

YWCA also needs these  
**New items:**  
(no used items, please)

Pots, pans, & cookware  
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Mops, brooms & dustpans  
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Dishcloths & towels  
Laundry soap  
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Flat Panel TVs  
Fans  
Alarm clocks  
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Stamps  
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Calculators  
Books in Spanish

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# February 14 Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 14, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

President Kate Findley opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## Announcements:

1. January 10 meeting minutes were approved .
2. Tonight's vendors are The Woolgatherers from Fond du Lac and the Sow's Ear from Verona.
3. The Sow's Ear will be having classes by Candice Eisner Strick and Franklin Habit the same weekend as the Knit-In, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Please contact them for more information.
4. Our April speaker will be Sally Melville who will also be teaching classes at Woodland Studios in Stoughton the week before. Call Woodland at 608-877-8007 to check availability.
5. The Knit-In will be March 19. Please note Carol Rhoades class is an all day class. Lunch will be a burger bar. If you prefer a veggie burger please check the box on the registration form.
6. Three current board members will be finishing their terms in May. Please contact any board member with questions or to put your name in for nomination.
7. Member Susan Marks is creating a Stitch Dictionary for I phones. She welcomes any contributions.

Connie introduced our speaker, Meg Swansen. Meg spoke of her new book due out in May, "Knit one, Knit all." All patterns will be in garter stitch which will highlight some of Elizabeth's previous patterns and also some never before published. Her

mother's notes indicated that she wanted to publish a book like this previously, but was turned down as it "contained only 1 stitch."

Some samples shown were the "Heart Hat," "Baby Surprise," as well as the adult version "Tomten" jacket with an afterthought pocket, and Meg's version of the "Rib Warmer." Some of the new items shown were a floppy hat, sideways socks, clogs, a side-to-side cable sweater, striped jumper-a fitted sweater, and a long-collar jacket with afterthought pockets.

Meg and Amy Detjen are collaborating on another color book that will be two-colored pattern knitting. Their previous book along with Joyce Williams, "Sweaters from Camp," was a collection of Fair Isle patterns by members who have attended knitting camp.

Guests: Julie Fisk, Barbara Thacker, Winnie Severson, Diane Reed Jarbsa, Anne Wilder, Liz Kritten, Leslie Coff, Doris Henke, Sara Andrews, and Jesica Johnson.

New members : Jane A Renneberg, Kristin Gumbinger, Lisa Thomas, and Deanna Pooler.

Show and Tell items were presented by Anne Eudaly & Carol Huber, Renee West, Betsy True & Judy Lary, Carol Hambrecht, Dave Helgeson, Carrie Hafele, Barb Hogan, Maxine Pelt, Gretchen Chan, Muriel La Rose, Jesica Johnson, Garrett Carlisle, and Liz Wood.

Door prizes were provided by the Sow's Ear-skein of yarn and coffee mug, and a MKG knitting bag to Mae Knowles.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



# Knitting Green by Ann Budd

Going green in your knitting can be a complex and frustrating venture, there is so much information available, and most of it is contradictory. In Knitting Green, Ann Budd creates a straight forward summary, including enough information to get the important aspects of *green* across while not going into every conflicting ideal. She gives you a good base to do more research on your own. While this is not a comprehensive look, it does cover the majority of fibers available on the market today.

A collection of patterns make up the bulk of the book and range from sweaters and shawls to hats and baby toys. The colors chosen for the patterns are in muted natural tones; slate blue, earthy browns and woodsy greens, which lend a serenity and continuity to the collection. Also, interspersed throughout the patterns are single page articles and testimonials about going green, including an interesting perspective from a yarn shop owner who has worked to incorporate eco conscious yarns into inventory for her customers. Another article relates to the historical aspects of using natural processes to dye and spin yarn, showing where technology has detoured away from the traditional methods.

There are many lovely patterns in Knitting Green, the first of which is the Videvik Shawl by Nancy Bush, done in sage colored cashmere. As is common with Nancy's patterns, it is covered with many traditional motifs to keep any knitter busy. The Cotton Comfort Bear by Michele Rose Orne is also an intriguing pattern, the stomach of the bear holds a rice bag that can be heated up in the microwave, then placed back into the bear and used as a heating pad for a loved one feeling under the weather. My favorite pattern is the Solstice Skirt by Cecily Glowik MacDonald, using a beautiful sea blue cotton/wool blend to create panels of lace. It is feminine and would flatter many body shapes and using a wool blend helps to keep the shape of the skirt as it is worn.

Knitting Green has made me want to spend a bit more time with my knitting, deciding what aspects of being *green* I can incorporate. This book gives proof that lovely garments and knitted items can still be made with respect for nature and thought for our planet.

For more on eco-friendly knitting, please check out The Natural Knitter by Barbara Albright at the MKG Library.  
- Amanda Haynes

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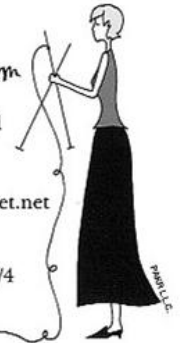
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### The Knitting Room

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Tues 10-9 Fri 10-3  
Saturday 9-2



Kristin Johnson    [theknittingroomwi.com](http://theknittingroomwi.com)    Beth Mannebach

## 'Tis The Season

A Christmas Store  
with a Yarn Corner

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'Tis always the  
season to be  
knitting!



## Invitation

Would you like to participate in the creation of an electronic Knitting Stitch Dictionary for the iPhone?

I'm looking for samples of knitting stitches.

- Photos of something you've already knit
- 4x4" swatches of various knitting stitches
- You pick or I pick the stitch
- Prefer: stitches with  $\leq 14$ st repeats
- Best are clearly knit stitches in "eye candy" colors
- Knitter will be given name credit

I've love to have you be a part of this fun project. For more details, email [Kizmet53@gmail.com](mailto:Kizmet53@gmail.com) for Susan Marks

*This project is copyrighted by [KizmetKnits](#)*



*As I get older, I just prefer to knit.*

*Tracey Ullman*

## Knitting Apps for Your Smart Phone

- [Knit Buddy](#)—Keep track of yarn stashes, needles and hooks, and open projects
- [Little Knitter](#)—Design and view charts for knitting/crocheting
- [Touch and Go Knitting](#)—Does the math for recalculating patterns and modifying shapes
- [Knitting Wizard](#)—Create your own custom diagrams and grids.
- [Knitting Calculator](#)—Calculate how much yarn you need for your project

# What do you think?

If you have ever thought of being a board member or about volunteering for the Guild, or even if you've never thought of it before, now is the time!

Guild board members serve for a term of three years. Board members may be asked to volunteer to fill positions, such as President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, or chair of a committee. The Board meets once a month, year-round, currently on the third Monday of the month.

I urge you to consider what you can do for your Guild. If you have any questions or concerns about volunteering, about what responsibilities different positions would require, or if you need more information to help you assess how you can best assist your Guild, please contact me at [info@madisonknittersguild.org](mailto:info@madisonknittersguild.org).

Thank you!

- Kate Findley, President

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# Library News

*Library Committee members Carol Huber and Barb Armstrong*

*help keep over 300 books and periodicals in order*



Where do all those books come from? And where do they go after each meeting?

Keeping track of the Guild's growing collection of knitting books, patterns, magazines and pamphlets is a lot like reading a lace chart: it requires attention to detail, an enthusiasm for the subject matter, and a willingness to embrace mistakes as "learning opportunities."

A committee of volunteers are responsible for toting the huge cart out of storage and transferring its contents to the display tables before the first members arrive for the monthly meetings. They take turns serving as librarians, collecting card catalog cards, making repairs, refiling returned books, reminding members what they've checked out, and putting all the books back into their storage bins late after the last members are leaving the guild meeting.

Then... they meet, organize, review new books, and do it all over again the next month!

At the end of the year, the collection is culled and some items are offered for sale at the May meeting. Over the summer months, the committee busily prepares for the purchase of new editions. If you have suggestions for new purchases, let the librarians know at the next meeting. Or send a message to [library@madisonknittersguild.org](mailto:library@madisonknittersguild.org).

With 100-200 members scrambling to get the best picks each, month, the library corner can get hectic! Be sure to look for the large plastic bin, which is where your returns should go. And be kind—care for the Guild items so they can continue to be enjoyed by other knitters for years to come.

- Nancy McCulley



# March Madness!

Ah, March Madness. Depending on your interests, this phrase can mean many things. For the college basketball fan, there's the NCAA championship. For Weather Channel fans, it's when we begin to see tiny signs of spring. For knitters, this may be the time you feel like spring cleaning the stash.

Our annual Knit In is nearly here. This year our speakers are the folks from Ravelry. When I want to spring clean the stash, Ravelry has a number of tools that I use. In my library, I have all my books and magazines listed. I've documented my stash, including photos. In my queue, I've noted if I have the pattern already. My projects page helps me keep track of my WIPs.

Sure, it was a bit of work to organize, but it has rewards: I've shopped from the stash much more when looking to cast on new projects, and I'm not losing track of my WIPs like I used to.

While I find Ravelry to be the greatest help to me as an organizing tool, it is also a world-wide social network for knitters and crocheters. Have an interest? You can bet there's a group on Ravelry. Would you like to participate in a swap? You can on Ravelry, and you'll meet fellow knitters/crocheters from across the state to across the world.

So come on down to the Bishop O'Connor Center on Saturday, March 19. Come with your questions for the Ravelry folks. We're offering more classes than ever this year, including an all-day lace class. We've got 22 vendors in our Marketplace so there are plenty of stash-enhancing opportunities if that's your version of March Madness. (Please remember that not all vendors may accept credit cards, so please come prepared to pay with a check or with cash.)

See you at the KNIT IN!

- Kate Findley, President



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The Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection presents the Ruth Kellner Harris Lecture

# MARGARET WERTHEIM The Hyperbolic Crocheted Reef Project:



Sponsored by the Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection, the Department of Design Studies, and the School of Human Ecology and funded by the UW-Madison Year of the Arts.

Art • Math • Ecology

Science writer Margaret Wertheim's Hyperbolic Crocheted Reef Project demonstrates a happy congruence between the mathematical phenomena modeled perfectly by the creatures of the reef and the traditionally feminine craft of crocheting, which is uniquely suited to modeling hyperbolic space. It draws attention to the plight of environmentally distressed coral reefs through a tactile, Technicolor display of a kind of higher mathematics that was previously almost impossible to picture.

**Thursday, March 31, 5:30-6:30 PM**  
Ebling Symposium Center (Room 1220)  
Microbial Sciences Building, 1550 Linden Drive

**FREE LECTURE**



## Fiber Events

**April 7-9:** Wisconsin Spin-In, Country Springs Resort, Pewaukee [www.wispinin.org](http://www.wispinin.org)

**April 9-11:** Sally Melville Workshops, [Woodland Studios](http://www.woodlandstudios.com), Stoughton

**April 16-17:** Insubordiknit Workshop/Jacey Boggs, Techny Towers, Chicago, IL

<http://www.insubordiknit.com/workshops>

**April 29-May 1:** Midwest Masters Weekend, Yarns by Design, Neenah

[www.yarnsbydesign.com](http://www.yarnsbydesign.com)

**May 7-8:** Shepherd's Harvest Festival, Lake Elmo, MN

<http://www.shepherdsharvestfestival.org/index.shtml>

**June 21:** Milwaukee Brewers Stitch "N Pitch Night, <http://mlb.mlb.com/mil/ticketing/stitchnpitch.jsp>

**June 24-26:** Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair: Grayslake, IL [www.fiberandfolk.com](http://www.fiberandfolk.com)

**July 27-31:** The Knit & Crochet Show, Minneapolis, MN [www.knitandcrochetshow.com](http://www.knitandcrochetshow.com)

**July 28-31:** Sock Summit, Portland, OR [www.socksummit.com](http://www.socksummit.com)

**August 19-21:** Michigan Fiber Festival, Allegan, MI <http://www.michiganfiberfestival.info/>

**August 25-28:** Stitches Midwest, Schaumburg, IL [www.knittinguniverse.com/stitches](http://www.knittinguniverse.com/stitches)

**Traveling?** Check out the nationwide list at [Knitters Review](http://www.knittersreview.com)

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Art Fair on the Farm  
The 2nd Annual Artists' Open House

## Fiber Facets

May 7th & 8th, 2011

Saturday: 9am - 3pm  
Sunday: 10am - 2pm



### Featured Items

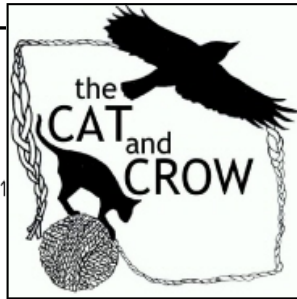
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# 2011 MADISON KNITTERS' GUILD KNIT IN REGISTRATION FORM

March 19, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

at the Bishop O'Connor Center, 702 S. High Point Rd in Madison

Registration limited to MKG members only until February 20, 2011

All registrations must be sent by March 11, 2011

**Welcome Guest Speakers: Team from Ravelry**

**Jess, Casey, Mary-Heather & Sarah**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please be sure your email address is legible. Confirmation of your registration will be sent via email unless requested otherwise.

MKG Member?  Yes  No

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL DAY \$50 member \$60 non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> HALF DAY \$35 member \$45 non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> KNIT, SHOP & EAT \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> SHOP ONLY \$3
---	---	---	---

Full Day – Choose one class and Main Speaker Session OR choose two 1/2-day classes OR choose one all-day class.  
(Lunch included)

Half Day – Choose one 1/2-day class OR the Main Speaker. (Lunch included)

Classes: Please indicate your first and second choices. Write "1" for your first choice and "2" for your second. Classes fill on a first come basis.

9:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

\_\_\_ Main Speaker  
\_\_\_ Introduction to Victorian Lace Knitting  
FULL Strick-ly Socks  
FULL Lace Edgings: Before, During & After  
\_\_\_ Putting It Together  
FULL Brioche Basics  
FULL Introduction to Ravelry  
\_\_\_ Crochet for Knitters  
\_\_\_ Beginning & Ending Your Knitting  
\_\_\_ Two Color Knitting

12 Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch & Market

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

\_\_\_ Main Speaker  
\_\_\_ Introduction to Victorian Lace (Continued)  
\_\_\_ Strick-ly Socks Gussets & Heels  
FULL Photographing Your Fiber  
FULL Knitting Socks 2-at-a-Time  
\_\_\_ Entrelac Essentials  
\_\_\_ Advanced Ravelry  
\_\_\_ Old School Crochet  
\_\_\_ The Magic of Needle Felting  
\_\_\_ Weavette Weaving  
\_\_\_ Looking Glass Knitting

Main Speaker Presentation begins at 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. (Session are the same for morning and afternoon)

Lunch will be a 1/3 lb. Char-grilled beef or veggie burger. Condiments: lettuce, tomato, onions, cheddar, swiss & blue cheeses, ketchup, mayo, mustard, sautéed mushrooms, sliced bacon, jalapenos. Served with vegetarian soup, JoJo potatoes, watermelon wedges, kosher pickle spear. \_\_\_ Please check here if you'd like a veggie burger

Please note that our Vendor Marketplace will be open from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. There is something for everyone!

NOTE: Some Vendors may not be able to take credit cards, please plan accordingly

Please make your check payable to Madison Knitters' Guild and mail it with this registration form to:

Madison Knitters' Guild, P.O. Box 14443 Madison, WI 53708

A Note about Cancellations: There is no refund on registration fees. While we understand that circumstances can arise causing a change in your plans, we must adhere to a business policy. Because it is impossible for the Madison Knitters' Guild to favor one individual situation or circumstance over another, we must adhere to our policy in all situations and can make no exceptions to our cancellation policy.

Madison Knitters Guild  
PO Box 14443  
Madison WI 53708