

(Members-Only Meeting, continued from page 1)

- **Business Meeting:** Vote to elect new board members. See [Nominations](#) for more information.
- **Brown Bag Exchange Reveal:** It's a lot of fun to participate, but it will also be fun to see the many two-color creations up from the mystery yarn. We will follow a fashion show format. See the notice on [page 1](#) for details.
- **KAL Sock Parade:** Did you knit along to make a pair of socks, mittens, or other two-color project? If so, join the KAL parade to show off your project, even if it's not finished!
- **Treats during break:** Enjoy a selection of cookies, including some gluten free. With all the different varieties available, everyone is sure to find something they like.
- **Door Prizes:** Everyone has many, many chances to win! As with the other meetings, you have to be present to win.

Let's celebrate the end of another great year with MKG!

President's Corner



We are looking forward to the May meeting, when we celebrate the end of the MKG program year and the start of summer. As a Guild, we've hosted wonderful speakers, teachers, and vendors. We've held Neighborhood Knits classes, completed (or nearly so) three Knit-Along projects, presented another amazing Knit-In, published the *Knitters' Knews* newsletter, maintained our content-rich website, contributed more than 2,000 knitted items to the community, sold yarn to benefit Second Harvest Foodbank, taught children to knit, enjoyed bus trips, a winter retreat, and knit-out events. Behind the scenes, our dedicated Board members and Committee Chairs attended to the many duties that keep the Guild running smoothly.

The terms for three Board members are expiring, and three Committee Chairs are resigning after years of service to the Guild. We say, "Thank you" to Cynthia Robey-Duncomb, Carrie Hafele, Margy Blanchard, and Larry Edman:

- ◆ **Cynthia Robey-Duncomb** has been a Committee Chair or Board member for eight years. Since Cynthia first volunteered to help with the library and newsletter after joining in 2008, she has been a dedicated leader in the Guild. She has served as Library Chair, Newsletter Editor, Advertising Chair, and Vice-President. She's a desktop whiz who created several internal documents that the Board relies on for smooth functioning; she organized the 2012 Spring Safari, and conducted various surveys to help us understand what our members want and what our advertisers/vendors expect.
- ◆ If you enjoy the ease of use and functionality of the MKG website, be sure to thank **Carrie Hafele**. Whenever we wondered how we could do something more efficiently or online, Carrie found a way. When we first decided to take the risk of "going online," Carrie researched options, and then set up the website. She has continued to manage the site and train new Board members. She eased us into using PayPal. Carrie set the template so that we can register online

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(President's Corner, Continued from page 2)

for classes, events, or the Knit-In.

- ◆ **Margy Blanchard** attended the first Knit-Along (KAL) and ended up co-chairing it with Nancy Hilmanowski for two years. She encouraged knitters to swatch, showed them how to take accurate measurements, and how to knit to fit. Margy's welcoming approach fostered KAL friendships among members.
- ◆ **Nancy Hilmanowski's** current term has expired, but she has agreed to run for a full three-year Board term. Nancy has been co-chair of the KAL with Margy Blanchard and was Guild Secretary this year. Nancy's creative talents were behind the very lovely teacup and floral table decorations at the last two Knit-In events.
- ◆ **Larry Edman** chaired the Neighborhood Knits Committee, ensuring there was a good selection of inspiring classes available throughout the year. We appreciate his insight and wisdom as a Committee Chair.
- ◆ **Carol Spiegel's** Board term has expired, but she has volunteered to hold a Committee Chair position by continuing as Membership Chair. Carol has set a high bar of service and efficiency in managing membership enrollment, dues, and name badges and we are very grateful to her for continuing in this role.

We sincerely thank these and past members for all their hard work on behalf of the Guild. We've been scanning and posting past newsletters to our website on our members-only Newsletters page of the website. These archives reflect the many contributions of past Board members and Committee Chairs as well. We are all "standing on the shoulders of giants."

We hope you have enjoyed the past year and we look forward to seeing you in September. Membership renewal opens July 1. Have a wonderful summer!

Barbara Rottman, President

Library Update



Join us at the May meeting for our annual **Library Book Sale**. We will be selling books donated by our generous members, all for \$5 or less. Magazines will be \$0.25 each, books will range from \$1-\$5, magazine bins and book ends will also be available for sale.



Come early for the best selection! All proceeds go directly to the Guild and will help to fund the library. The sale begins at 5:00 PM when the doors open.

The library will be open for returns and checkout as usual. **Please watch for signage as the setup may be different due to the book sale.**

Thank you for a great year!

Amanda Haynes, Librarian

Questions about the Library? See <http://madisonknittersguild.org/library>

Have you enjoyed an MKG Library book? Why not write a short review of the book to share with other MKG members? Nothing fancy is required—we'll do the editing for you. Submit your review at any time to library@madisonknittersguild.org.

Guild Meeting Minutes, 4/10/2017

Barbara Rottman, MKG president, called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. Barbara welcomed everyone and asked "What fiber do you prefer?" Barbara shared the guild's mission statement: "Connecting knitters of all levels to share, explore, and celebrate the world of knitting through education and community involvement." She also reminded everyone of the usual housekeeping notes — park only in marked stalls, make room for others and move to the center of the room, silence your cell phones, use spillproof liquid containers, kindly remove empty containers, and most importantly, be a good neighbor and avoid talking and noise distractions during the meeting so others may enjoy the benefits of the speaker.

Barbara introduced the vendor — Knit One, Purl Two. Bleating Heart Haven had to cancel due to illness.

Barbara once again reminded the membership that the library is missing its copy of *Knit My Skirt* by Candice Eisner Strick. She asked everyone to please check bags, etc., to see if you might have it. Barbara encouraged everyone to check out the new library books.

Barbara listed the upcoming events. Check the [MKG website](#) for a list and full details of upcoming events.

Barbara reported that we knit 192 items for Community Projects in March and thanked the membership for their continued dedication and knitting to support our various causes. Please check the [Community Projects website page](#) or the latest newsletter for the monthly items needed by community projects. Barbara also indicated the Guild donated a total of \$13,088 to Second Harvest Food Bank. The Community Knits on Ravelry drawing winner was Kathy Hornemann.

Membership total is 727!

Barbara handed over the meeting to Susan Ecroyd, who introduced Donna Druchunas: Donna loves knitting and wants to know the story behind each stitch. She feels that every knitted item carries with it two stories in its stitches: the story of the item's original creator, and the story that you yourself create as you cast on and make a new project for yourself or for another. There is also another story which each knitted item can relate if we know how

to listen. That is the story of how the society and the environment around each knitter can influence and shape the products of that knitter's hands. Donna has a passion for uncovering and then sharing the stories of knitters in other times and other places.

Donna related that she herself became a knitting professional almost by accident. After a series of jobs as a technical writer, Donna found that she hated what she was doing at work. What she loved was escaping from her cubicle to engage with yarn and needles. Finally, a good friend pointed out that if Donna could write an installation manual for a computer hard drive, then she could probably write instructions for how to knit things. Donna took this suggestion to heart, quit her tech job, and has gone on to build her reputation as a knitting designer, teacher, author, and expert in ethnic and historic knitting. Initially, Donna thought she would write just one or two knitting books as a segue into some other type of creative endeavor. Now, Amazon lists 10 volumes in print authored by Donna and covering topics as diverse as the ethnic knitting of the Andes, Iceland, and Ireland, lace knitting, knitted rugs, and knitting for your cat. This list does not even include her extensive self-published and e-book materials, or her design work available through Ravelry and her own website. Donna is an acknowledged American expert on Lithuanian Knitting, and her third book on that topic is due to be released in September.

There were 15 show-and-tell participants. Please visit the [members-only photo gallery](#) for photos and the specifics on each pattern and yarn used to create their lovely items.

April Door Prize winners were: Linda Thomas, Jamie McCanless, and Connie Roderick.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Submitted by: Nancy Hilmanowski

MKG Board Nominations

We are pleased to present the following slate of nominations to the Madison Knitters' Guild Board of Directors: Amy Overby, Laura Simdon, and Nancy Hilmanowski. If elected, these board members will serve three-year terms from July 2017 through June 2020. Amy and Laura would replace departing Board members Carol Spiegel and Cynthia Robey-Duncomb. Nancy Hilmanowski was appointed to fill an unexpired board term that ends in June 2017 and is nominated for another full term.

As per the bylaws, the board is responsible to "carry out the affairs of the organization." The Guild has 11 elected board members who serve three-year terms and may do *one* of the following:

- hold an office (President, Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer)
- chair a Board committee (Programming or Knit-In)
- chair a committee (Advertisers, Communications/website, Community Projects, Education, Hospitality, Knit Along, Knit-Aid, Library, Membership, Newsletter, or Special Events).

The board appoints chairs to head up the committees not otherwise filled by elected board members. Appointed chairs serve on a voluntary basis, and their terms are renewed annually, but are not limited in duration. They may not hold an office or chair the Programming or Knit-In Committees, which are reserved for elected board members. That means there may be 18 people who serve the board, but only the 11 elected board members may vote on decisions such as adding or deleting programs, or the budget and finances. The board meets monthly. Committee chairs meet as needed to plan and carry out their activities. Board elections are held at the May annual meeting. Following the general election, the board holds an internal election of officers and makes decisions about committee chairmanships for the next year. Board members usually rotate position assignments every year. By giving board members experience in several areas, MKG has a stronger and more nimble board. There is a transitional period in June with incoming and outgoing board members reviewing budget proposals and evaluating plans for the coming year. Please review the short biography from each board candidate in advance of the May meeting. You may submit floor or self-nominations by filling out the Board Interest form at <http://madisonknittersguild.org/board>.

Amy Overby



I am an experienced strategic communications and relationship management professional. I recently completed 25 years of service with the Madison Community Foundation, most recently as their Vice President of Donor Engagement. I hold an MS in Corporate Communication from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and a

BA in History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. My current volunteer roles include serving as the Associate Producer for the State of Wisconsin Annual Tribute & Ceremony honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Board Vice Chair of the Dane County Humane Society. I first took up knitting needles in 2014 and haven't put them down since. I also love to travel, especially to places where fiber is an important part of the cultural landscape.

Laura Simdon



I first learned to knit when I was in high school. A lot of my projects are small, like hats and stuffed animals, but for last year's brown bag exchange I made my first shawl, much of which was knitted on an Amtrak train between Chicago and Dallas. I

joined the Madison Knitters' Guild in 2015 and have been enjoying it so much that my tween daughter asked to come to a meeting this year; she liked it so much that she joined by the next meeting. It's a great feeling to sit in an auditorium surrounded by hundreds of knitters. The guild is a fantastic place to meet new people and learn new things. I've benefited from the seminars, library, camaraderie, and courses, and I want to do my part to make sure the organization keeps running smoothly. I've been volunteering with the Newsletter Committee this year and look forward to expanding my participation by serving on the MKG Board.

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(Nominations, continued from page 5)

Nancy Hilmanowski



I first learned to knit when I was 11. I didn't have the best experience so I set it aside. By about 2003, I was spending many weekends travelling with my middle daughter on a club volleyball team. Quite a few of the other moms were knitting. I dusted off my needles and began knitting bags to felt. But I didn't have much time to knit over the next several years with three teenagers in the house. Fast-forward to 2013 and the kids are on their own. I decided to join the Guild that fall for the sole purpose of learning to knit better. So when the first KAL was announced I thought I'd better put my own words in motion, joined the KAL, and haven't looked back. I had no idea how to knit a sweater but I managed with the help of the women I met in that group and the sweater actually fit. More importantly, I made some very good friends. The following year I volunteered to co-chair the Knit-Along

(KAL) Committee and, at the May 2016 transition meeting, volunteered to fill a vacated Board seat of Secretary. The past two years I have helped with Knit-In, which has been an awesome experience and for the 2016-2017 season I have served as Secretary. Again, the best part is meeting new friends. I appreciate your consideration to continue my participation on the MKG board.

MKG Nominating Committee

Treasurer's Report : March 2017

Revenue:	\$ 2,098.94
Expenses:	\$ 27,399.56
Checking Acct:	\$ 27,485.36
Savings Acct:	\$ 28,093.86
PayPal Acct:	\$ 1,718.82

Submitted by:
Susan Maddock, Treasurer

Are you interested in test knitting for a designer?

Many of our speakers have informed us that they use "test knitters" to knit samples of their designs and to ensure accuracy of their patterns.

Likewise, many of our members have expressed interest in becoming test knitters, but are curious as to what is required.

We compiled a list of skills and expectations for test knitters and have posted it on our Ravelry group page under the topic "Test Knitters." See <http://www.ravelry.com/discuss/madison-knitters-guild/3612659> for more information.

Membership

As of April 21, 2017: we have **729** members!

Our total membership last year was 671; in other words, we've grown by 68 members. That's amazing and speaks both to the huge local interest in knitting and the quality of our guild. Thank you all for your support.

As the May meeting is our final one for the 2016-2017 year, here are a few annual reminders:

- **Please return your badge** to the box before you leave the May meeting. I'll be making new badges for 2017-2018 over the summer. The more badges returned, the fewer I need to buy as replacements. Thank you.
- Your membership card is valid thru June 30, 2017, which is when our fiscal year ends.
- Registration for 2017-2018 will open July 1, 2017, at which time you will be able to renew online or by sending the 2017-2018 registration form to me with your check. Registration will also be possible at the September meeting. [Of our 729 members, 522 (72%) joined or renewed online this year, up from about 50% last year.] The board will review and set the dues for 2017-2018 prior to July 1st.
- Light blue will be the color for next year's badges and membership cards.

Carol Spiegel

Your Knitters' Guild Badge-r

Community Projects



Knitting for others in our community continues to be a vital part of the MKG mission, and our members embrace this practice with their creative, giving spirit! Thanks to generous donations of time and handmade items, we have been able to provide donations to 16 agencies that support families and individuals in need; raise \$13,091 for Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin; and provide yarn to numerous places that can put it to good use. As of April, you have donated an impressive 2,710 knitted/ crocheted items, and met our spring scarf challenge well ahead of the end date.

Last month, we collected baby items for the Columbus Hospital Women's and Childbirth Services, Falk School pantry, and the East Madison Community Center program for mothers and babies.

Falk Elementary School Pantry and Family Resource Center

The Falk Elementary food pantry and Family Resource Center opened in September 2016 to better meet the needs of students and their families. The pantry currently serves approximately 40 families and distributes about 1,000 pounds of food per month. Families are able to access the pantry once per week and there is no limit on pounds of food or number of household items families can have. As a small pantry with a finite population to serve, school staff hope to provide families with what they truly need when they come in for assistance.

"I'm excited to hear there are more blankets! They were a big hit. I sent some home with kiddos I knew were expecting siblings. They were adorably excited." Sarah Hall, School Social Worker

Planning ahead for fall, we will begin the year by donating items to elementary school children ages 4-11 in schools with a high percentage of students in need. These smaller items are ideal for summer knitting projects. Use your favorite patterns or pick up a Ready-to-Knit kit at the Community tables at the May meeting.

There are also free patterns linked on the [Community Patterns page](#) of the MKG website. Some of the more popular designs include:

Hats: [Rib-a-Roni hat](#) by Jane Tanner, [Bulky Waffle hat](#) by Linda Suda, and [Cool Beanie](#) by Sally Schaefer

Mittens: Jean Gifford's [No Swatch No Gauge mittens](#) and [No Swatch No Gauge Bulky Mittens](#)

Scarves: [Keyhole Scarf](#) by Marla Mutch

For those interested in a head start on your Community knitting for next year, remember to check the [Community Projects page](#) in June for our upcoming 2017-2018 Community Projects Calendar and pattern ideas.

While you're considering smaller summer projects, we will continue our year-long request for scarves and cowls for women who experience domestic violence and/or homelessness at DAIS and the Salvation Army. These items are always welcome.

May Sale: Check out the patterns, needles, and cotton and cotton blend yarns available at discounted prices in the cafeteria. Proceeds benefit Second Harvest Foodbank.

Thank you for all you do for others!

Community Projects Committee

See our *Wanted* projects on the next page.



This year's event was a huge success and it seems the word has gotten out. We estimated approximately 100 more attendees at the event this year; class registration was up as well.

An event of this size and complexity takes almost a full year to coordinate: A big "thank you" to the team members who worked on the Knit-In with me this past year: Melissa Bauman, Jane Grogan, Nancy Hilmanowski, Cynthia Robey-Duncomb, Theresa Schabes, and Katie Kasubaski. Also, thanks to Carrie Hafele for website registration, Ada Lai for the layout of the event booklet, and Mary Ellen Spoerke for publicity. And, thank you to the volunteers who helped stuff event bags, check in attendees at registration and answer questions, assist vendors during move-in and provide them with breaks throughout the weekend, and those who provided demos.

We hope you all had a great time and are planning to join us next year. We'll be back at the Alliant Energy Center March 16-18, 2018. We are changing the format for *Opening Night!* next year; instead of one keynote speaker, we'll have a panel of national teachers speaking to us and answering questions. Back next year will be Susan B. Anderson, Kate Atherley, and Laura Nelkin. Joining them will be Laura Linneman from the Knit Girlls and Elizabeth Doherty! Stay tuned for more details coming this fall.

Stacy Parenteau, Knit-In Chair

Susan B. Anderson, one of our Knit-In teachers, is offering discounts on her Craftsy classes. See www.Ravelry.com/designers/susan-b-anderson for details.

WANTED (Community Projects)!

May

Critters for the Monona Library Reading Programs



See Page 7 for more info and links to patterns for all projects.

Year-Round

Scarves and cowls for women who have experienced domestic abuse or who are homeless.



Fall



Mittens, Hats, and Keyhole Scarves for children 4-11 years old.

Win a Ravelry Pattern ! If you make something as a donation for Community Projects, you can have your name entered in a monthly (September through May) drawing for a chance to receive a pattern from your Ravelry wish list. Add a photo of your finished project to the monthly post in the [Ravelry MKG group](#). See the [October 2016 issue](#) of the newsletter for instructions, if needed.

STITCH 'N PITCH

With the
Mallards

Friday, June 16



Celebrate World-Wide Knit in Public Day at the annual **MKG Stitch 'n Pitch** night at the Duck Pond.

The Mallards will face the Green Bay Bullfrogs in a 6:35 PM game. Registration for this kickoff to summer will open May 2. The price for this evening of knitting, baseball, popcorn, and beer is only \$10.50. Grab a friend or two, a knitting project and plan to come out to the ballpark.

This year we do not have a specified knitting challenge, but there will be a pre-game display table and any knitted items will be welcome.

Direct any questions to Jane Grogan (janegro@yahoo.com).



STITCHES MIDWEST

Saturday, August 5

Join the Madison Knitters' Guild day bus trip to [Stitches Midwest](#) on Saturday, August 5, 2017.

The STITCHES Market is a shopping experience you won't want to miss with vendors who come from across the United States and around the world to display the latest yarns and gadgets that are sure to inspire your creativity. There also are free demonstrations and book signings scheduled to add to your experience.

The bus will get us to the door at 10:00AM. This will be a bit late for any morning sessions. The planned departure time will be 5:00PM, but if you get into an afternoon class (which ends at 5:00), the *bus will wait for you* to get back on board!

Mark your calendars and check your stash so you will be ready when registration for this fun day trip opens in June. Direct your questions to Jane Grogan (janegro@yahoo.com)

!!!! LAST CALL !!!!

Spring Safari Bus Trip: Saturday, May 6

Have you [registered for the Spring Safari](#) yet??
Registration closes on April 28 at 5:00PM.



Check out your yarn stash and patterns waiting for attention, gather a friend or two, and plan to join other knitters for a fun day on the road!

The general plan is to leave the Dutch Mill Park and Ride at 7:45AM aboard a Badger coach and head north to join in on part of the **Rites of Spring Fiber Frolic**.

Planned stops are at **Nancy's Notions** in Beaver Dam, **Bleating Heart Haven Farm** in New Holstein, **Millhome Restaurant** for lunch and **Abler Art Glass** in Kiel, **Hidden Valley Woolen Mill** in Valders, and **The Lost Sheep Yarn Shop** in Sheboygan.

Many thanks to Cindy Ellenbecker for helping with suggestions for this trip. Questions can be directed to Jane Grogan (janegro@yahoo.com).

Summer Knitting

Get your knitting "fix" this summer by planning to come to informal knitting sessions...

The first scheduled date is **Monday, June 12**, from 6:00-8:30PM at the Fitchburg Library.

Locations for July and August will be scheduled and announced in the online Events Calendar.

Questions can be directed to Jane Grogan, Special Events Chair (janegro@yahoo.com)

Note: Registration is not required for summer knitting!



2017-2018 MKG Program Preview

As we close out the 2016-2017 MKG guild year, we all look back at a stellar roster of speakers on a dizzying array of topics. MKG members took a step into the life and the art of an untraditional traditional Navajo weaver and we joined a knitting historian for a trip to the Sami homeland to examine that indigenous group's textiles. We were carried on an armchair tour of Lithuania, and marveled at the colorwork and intricacy of traditional Lithuanian mittens, and we were inspired by the creativity, color, and workmanship that a nautical life can bring to knitting. We learned how to use fashion forecasting to influence our choices on what to knit, and we learned to use well-known knitting techniques in new ways to develop innovative approaches to our favorite craft. Overall, throughout the year, we admired how truly creative minds can expand upon basic knitting and design techniques to develop artistic vision. **Thank you to Mary Jo Harris**, Programming Chair for 2015-2016, for setting up this wonderful year of opportunities to stretch our horizons!

Looking Ahead

We have a very special year planned for **2017-2018**, and hope that all of you will be able to join us! Here is a sneak preview:

September 11, 2017

MKG is partnering with the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival to bring **Melissa Leapman** to Wisconsin. Melissa is the author of more than 25 knitting and crochet books, as well as a prolific designer (over 900 designs in print!). She is a highly sought-after teacher and presenter, a frequent guest on televised knitting and craft shows, and one of the most popular instructors on [Craftsy](#).



Melissa's latest publication, *6000+ Pullover Possibilities: Interchangeable Options for Custom Knitted Sweaters*, received a rave review in the latest *Vogue Knitting* magazine. Melissa will be speaking to MKG members on the topic "Amazing Reversible Cables" and we can't wait!

In conjunction with her presentation for MKG, Melissa will be offering four of her extremely popular classes at the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival, September 8-10, 2017. Registration for her classes at Wisconsin Sheep and Wool opens on June 1 on the [Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival website](#).

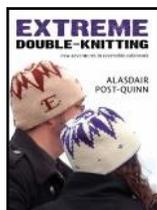
For more about Melissa and her work, check : www.ravelry.com/designers/melissa-leapman, or her Facebook page, www.facebook.com/melissa.leapman.designs. The MKG Library also has many of Melissa's books, so check them out!

October 9, 2017

After a fascinating trip to the [Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection](#) at the UW School of Human Ecology with Lucy Neatby this spring, I prevailed upon their staff to prepare a presentation especially for MKG on wartime knitting. The collection curator has agreed to offer a limited number of private, docent-led, small group tours of selected items from the collection on a sign-up basis to MKG members in conjunction with this presentation.



November 13, 2017



Hold onto your hats, it is time for Extreme Double Knitting!! **Alasdair Post-Quinn** has been bending the limits of this technique with his mind-blowing design work. Alastair will be offering classes in conjunction with his meeting presentation, so watch the MKG website as those are opened for registration later this summer. For more about Alasdair and his

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2017-2018 MKG Program Preview, continued from page 10

work, go to his website: www.double-knitting.com

December 11, 2017

For our December meeting, we will celebrate all things yarn. First, that night is traditionally the MKG Annual Yarn Sale to benefit Second Harvest Foodbank. Second, we will be joined by **Shira Blumenthal** and the Lion Brand Yarn staff. This is always a fun event, and we look forward to welcoming Shira and her colleagues to Madison again.



January 8, 2018



In January, as we welcome in the New Year for MKG, we will also welcome our own **Carol Huebscher Rhoades** for a presentation titled "The Knitting of Southern Sweden." In addition to her independent design work, Carol writes and publishes on topics including spinning, crochet, and historic and ethnic Scandinavian textiles and has numerous articles and designs in print. She is one of the most respected



working translators of works on Scandinavian textiles and knitting, and has collaborated with authors such as AnnaMarie Sundbo and Arne-and-Carlos to help bring their work to English-speaking audiences. For a quick peek at some of Carol's independent designs, check her Ravelry page: www.ravelry.com/designers/carol-huebscher-rhoades

February 12, 2018

In February, **Amy Detjen** will join us to tempt us with travel. With her presentation "European Knitting Destinations (and What You'll Find There)," Amy will have us all dreaming of faraway yarns (oops, lands!) Follow Amy and her travels on her website: www.amydetjen.com



March 12, 2018

In March, **Elizabeth Prose** will return to Madison to relate the story of how an MKG member wound up working for one of the most influential publishing houses in fiber arts. Elizabeth is an MFA graduate in design from UW-Madison, and is currently working at Interweave Press as Assistant Editor for *Piecework* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Elizabeth has also taught classes on knitting, spinning, crochet, papermaking, and bookbinding since 2006. Her presentation for MKG will be titled "From the Isthmus to the Front Range," and we look forward to hearing about that journey!

April 9, 2018



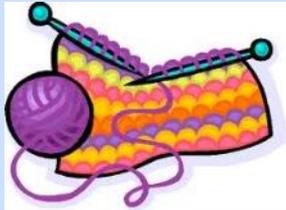
In April, **Nicky Epstein** will be joining us to present to the April Guild meeting, and also to offer several classes to MKG members and guests. Specifics of those classes are still in the works, so watch the website for details. To the knitting world, Nicky is one of the most beloved designers working. The author of more than 25 books, Nicky has turned her creative talents to topics such as edgings, knitted embellishments, flowers, high fashion knits, and doll clothes! For more about Nicky and her work, check her website: www.nickyepstein.com. Also, be sure to check the MKG library offering of 16 of Nicky's books.

Susan Ecroyd, Programming

Knit-Along 2017

The KAL for socks is coming to a close. Bring your finished socks (or the one finished sock) to the May Guild Meeting and show off your knitting. Those of you who finished mittens during the first part of the year, bring them and show them off at the May meeting. Let's have a big KAL parade!

Those of us working on sweaters and other two-color knitting projects still have until September to finish our projects.



We are looking forward to seeing all the beautiful projects that have been knit during the last year. Don't forget to bring your items to the May meeting.

We have enjoyed our experience leading the KAL meetings for the past three years, and we appreciate the opportunity this forum has provided by allowing us to get to know more MKG members in a smaller setting.

Knit on!

Margy Blanchard & Nancy Hilmanowski

More info from Donna Druchunas!

For those members who were interested, Donna Druchunas has a book club to which you can subscribe. See <https://sheeptoshawl.com/our-knitting-roots-book-club/>.

If you like Craftsy classes, then be sure to check <http://craftsy.me/2o3M5Ob> for a coupon for 50% off the full retail price of select Craftsy classes taught by Donna, and cannot be combined with any other coupons. **Expires July 18, 2017.**

★ **SPECIAL EVENT** ★
Presented by **The Sow's Ear**

<p>Saturday, May 13 The Fairfield Inn, Verona 10am to 1pm - Improve Your Knitting Technique 12pm to 1pm - Lunch 2pm to 5pm - Lace Doctor <i>After party at The Sow's Ear to follow!</i></p>	<p>Sunday, May 14 The Holiday Inn, Verona 1pm to 4pm Knitting Bag of Tricks</p> <p>Spacing for all classes is limited! To reserve your spot for this special event, sign up with one of our lovely staff and prepay to save your place!</p>
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PattyLyons
knitting teacher | designer | author

This special event is proudly sponsored by **The Sow's Ear** in Verona
125 S. Main St. • (608) 848-2735 • www.knitandsp.com

Advertisement

HOPE-A-THON
July 21-22, 2017
Wall of Yarn - Freeport, IL.
A charity event to support Halos of Hope

Opening Night July 21st
8pm - 9pm Speaker
Franklin Habit

Sat July 22nd
Sign up for Two Classes with Franklin Habit*
Making a difference with charity crafting for Halos of Hope
More hat making & fun contests with prizes

How late can YOU stay up?
Then... Stay up all night at Wall of Yarn with us making hats and meeting new fiber friends for a great cause

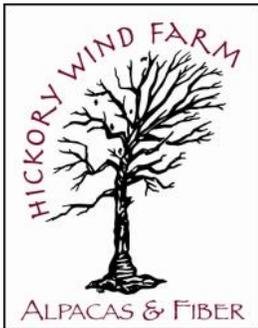
Halos of Hope
"Cancer is a journey of courage. Let us embrace you along the way."
<http://halosofhope.org>

The Yarn Guys
Wall of Yarn

*CLASSES ARE A SEPARATE COST WITH A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS BENEFITTING HALOS OF HOPE.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO ON THE EVENT, CLASSES, AND HOTEL
[HTTP://HALOSOFHOPE-A-THON.ORG](http://HALOSOFHOPE-A-THON.ORG)

Advertisement

Meet the Advertisers



Hickory Wind Farm

When I purchased my first animals in 2004, the plan was to raise and sell Huacaya alpacas. The fleece? It was very nice but not until I used yarn made from my alpacas did I realize how "very nice" alpaca yarn was! And so our on-the-farm store, **The HW Farm Shoppe**, began to evolve. Now, the fiber focus is our own locally-milled quality alpaca yarn, roving, and cored rug yarn.



Intriguing hand-dyed multi-colored yarns from The Alpaca Yarn

Company provide additional choices in sock, DK, and fingering weights.

A variety of alpaca socks (manufactured) are our most popular practical product. Fair trade sofa throws and accessory items are also available. Our HWF hand-crafted items include alpaca insoles, fiber nesting gourds (for the birds), and crocheted shawls, hats, scarves, basket, and rugs.

The HW Farm Shoppe is "easily" opened by appointment February through September, and regularly open on Sundays (11:00AM – 3:00PM), October through January.

(YES, I still have quality alpacas for sale. Alpaca kisses are free!)



Owner: Nadine Beezley

Address: N7080 Garves Coulee Road, Bangor, WI 54614
(9 miles west of Sparta)

Phone: 608.486.4868

E-mail: alpacas_hwf@centurytel.net

Website: www.hickorywindfarm.com



Wisconsin Craft Market

Wisconsin Craft Market is locally-owned and has been a part of the Madison creative community since 1990. We carry

a broad assortment of supplies including scrapbooking, beading, learning crafts for kids, as well as one of the best selections of art supplies in the region. In addition, Wisconsin Craft Market boasts the largest selection of yarns in

Wisconsin, like the value-priced yarns of Lion, Bernat, Patons and Caron, and the consistent quality of the workhorse yarns like Cascade, Plymouth, Berroco, and Malabrigo, with its stunning colorways. But it does not end there as we also proudly carry Wisconsin's own Ewtopia from Viroqua and Three Irish Girls from Superior, as well as Leading Men from Chicago, Destination Yarns from Cleveland, and the always-exciting Hedgehog Fibres from County Cork, Ireland. Add an incredible assortment of needles and accessories, plus ever-changing special purchases of close-out yarns and discontinued colors at great prices, you'll find yourself stopping in regularly to see what's new.



Address: 148 Westgate Mall, Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 608-271-6002

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30AM-9:00PM, Sat 9:30AM-5:30PM,
Sun 11:00AM-5:00PM

Website: www.wisconsincraftmarket.com

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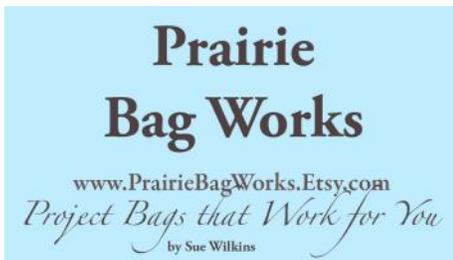
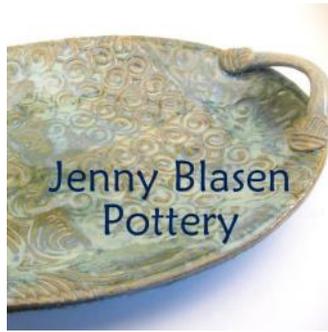


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WILD HAVEN FIBER COMPANY

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Parking

In addition to the Promega parking lot, there is additional parking at Agora in an underground ramp accessible via Woods Hollow Rd. **Please be sure to park only in marked spaces (in all lots)**. Also, do not park in the fire lane by the entrance doors, except for loading and unloading.



In the Promega lot, please remember that there is a limited number of handicapped parking spaces. Demand for these spaces often exceeds availability. Furthermore, many members who may not need handicapped parking specifically still have mobility challenges that make walking long distances difficult. We encourage members who do not face these challenges to park in the outer areas and leave spaces closer to the door open for less mobile members.

MEETING COURTESY REMINDER

We love to have you attend the Guild meetings, but please observe these following acts of courtesy:

- Move to the center seats of the room.
- Be mindful that others can be sensitive to scents and perfumes.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Use spillproof drink containers.
- And, **most importantly, do not talk during the meeting** so others may enjoy the benefits of the speaker.

THANKS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!

Barbara Rottman, President

Thanks to the volunteers who worked very hard to make the 2016-2017 newsletter possible:

Rae Erdahl, Mary MacKendrick, Laura Simdon,
Rebecca Wasieleski

I, and the entire Guild, greatly value and appreciate your time and effort!

Ada Lai, Newsletter

Local Knitting Groups

Looking for a knitting group to join? Check out the [Community Knitting Groups](#) listed on the MKG website (Community tab). If you know of a group that is not listed or if the information is not up to date, please let us know by contacting web@madisonknittersguild.com



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