

Knitters' Knews



Happy
New
Knitting
Year!



Jaala Spiro, Madison Knitters' Guild President

NEW MEETING TIME & PLACE!

*Starting with our
Sept. 12 meeting, the
Guild will meet at the
Bishop O'Connor
Center, 702 South
High Point Road,
from 6:30-8:30 pm.*

The Bishop O'Connor Center offers a spacious reception area, a larger library and vendor area, and more seating. Some changes are required, so please plan accordingly:

- **HANDICAPPED PARKING** is available in the front and rear of the building. There is an elevator in the front entrance, but inside the back door there are seven steps and a walk through the cafeteria to get to the auditorium.

- **PLEASE, NO FOOD!** If you are accustomed to dining out before the guild meeting, please patronize a nearby restaurant before the meeting.
- **COVERED BOTTLES ONLY** because the auditorium has a slanted floor like a movie theater. We don't want anyone's drink to tip over and spill on our knitting bags! ALL food and open beverages will have to be left at the door.
- **SHOW-N-TELL** participants must register BEFORE the meeting starts. Sign up using the form on Page 4 (also available at the meeting.) Due to limited time, the items will be presented on a first-come, first-served basis. If there are a lot of entries, it's possible that you might be asked to wait until the following month to show your project. Please be patient as we adjust to our new schedule.

**Next Meeting
MON., SEPT. 12**
at
**Bishop O'Connor
Center**

(Map on Page 2)

5:00 pm
Doors Open
Registration
Sign-up for Show-N-Tell
KnitAid

5:00-6:30 pm
Library & Vendors
Please browse and shop
BEFORE the meeting &
DURING the BREAK.

Vendors:
The Sow's Ear
<http://knitandsip.com/>
Linda Loeffelholz
<http://www.ravelry.com/designers/linda-loeffelholz>

6:30 pm
**Meeting &
Program**

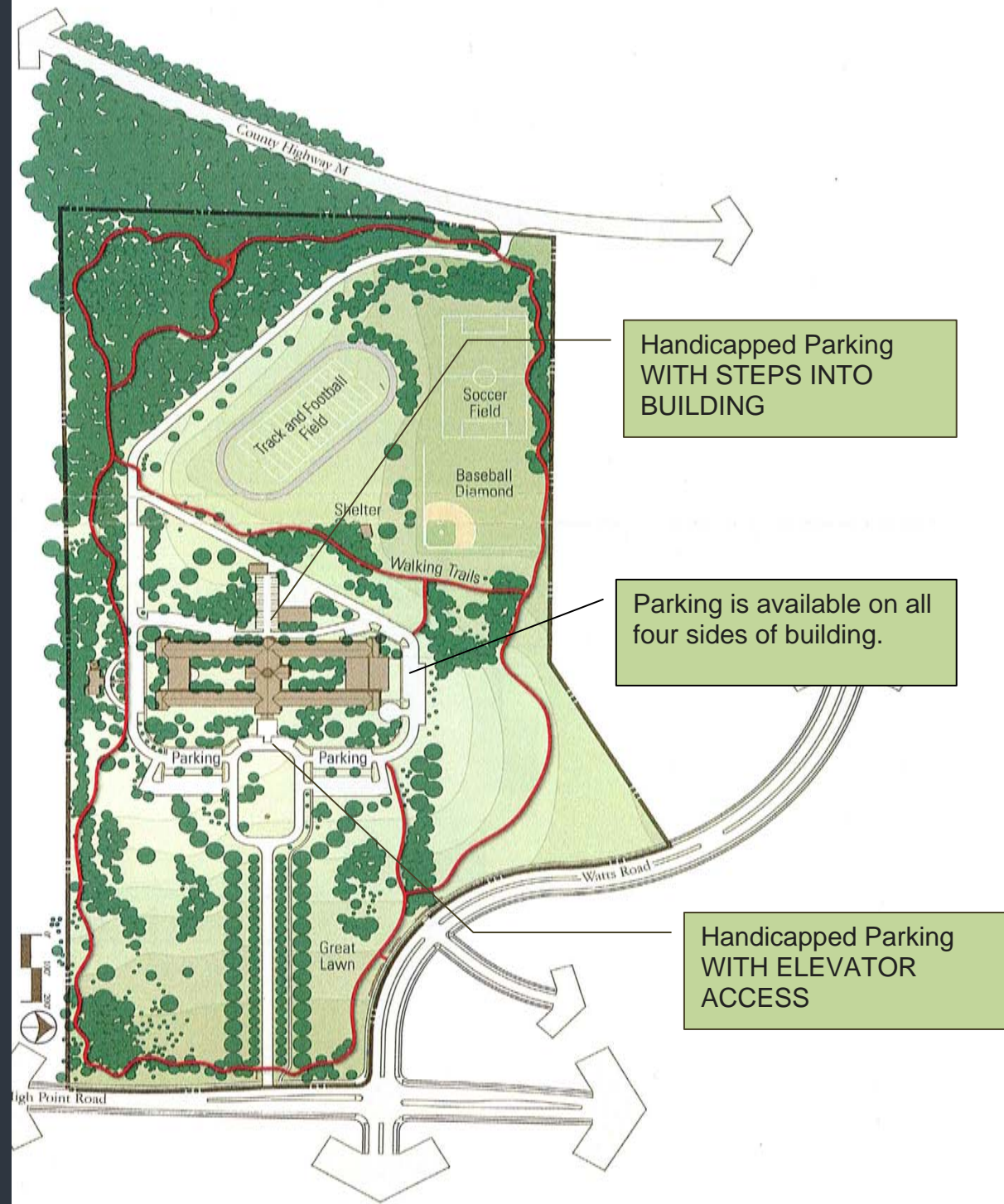
Lizbeth Uptis
<http://lizbethup.wordpress.com/>

**ONLY covered water
bottles are allowed in the
auditorium!**

Bishop O'Connor Center

702 S. High Point Rd. Madison

<http://www.boccmadison.com/>



VISIT OUR **NEW** WEB SITE:

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

New 6:30 Meeting Start Time

Our contract with the Bishop O'Connor center stipulates that the building must be clear by 9:00. Because of that we're adjusting our meeting time.

Our new agenda:

- 5:00 pm Doors open: Browse library & vendors, charity project drop-off & KnitAid
- 6:30 pm Meeting
- 6:45 pm Speaker Presentation
- 7:45 pm Break
- 8:00 pm Show and Tell
- 8:30 pm Meeting Ends
- 9:00 pm Building closes

LOOK FOR THIS FORM AT REGISTRATION:



SHOW-N-TELL

Name: _____

Item: _____

Pattern/Designer: _____



NEW MKG ITEMS FOR SALE!

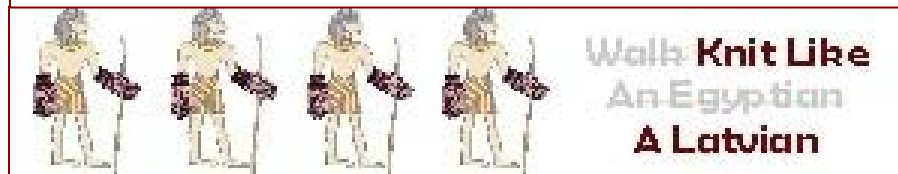
Go to

<http://www.madisonknittersguild.com/swag>

to place your order!



Join the "Knit Like A Latvian" group on Ravelry:
<http://www.ravelry.com/groups/knit-like-a-latvian>



'Tis The Season
A Christmas Store with a Yarn Corner
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Store Hours:
Monday-Friday 10-5
Saturday 10-2

'Tis always the season to be knitting!



September Meeting Speaker: Lizbeth Upitis

"When my husband Alvis and I met, I asked the nationality of his last name, Upitis. The answer, 'Latvian,' brought only vague memories of northern European geography lessons. During one trip to his parents' home, Alvis' mother brought out the box of mittens she had knit shortly after they arrived in the United States. I was in awe. The thought never crossed my mind that I was capable of knitting them."

So begins the first edition of "Latvian Mittens" written in 1981. The book, complete with a mitten sizing chart, is a history of the role of mittens and their creators in Latvian culture. Lizbeth peppers the book with poetry gleaned from the memories and records of knitters she met, who taught her their significance to mittens: dowry art created by marriageable young woman.

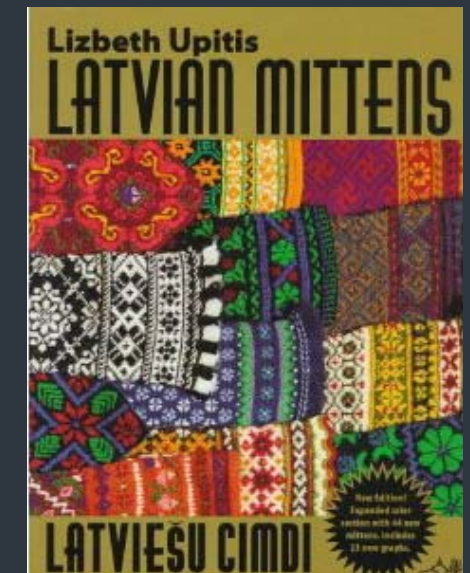
Mittens were an integral part of the marriage rite, and could persuade a potential husband, as indicated by this lovely piece:

*Pretty knitter is that maiden,
She will be my loved bride,
I will give her my hand manly,
And to her my ring of gold.*

Following the fall of Lenin's statue, Latvia's cultural gems became more available. After the book was published, a Latvian-speaking knitting group was formed, as was the content for a revised edition, published in 1997. (shown at right)

Regardless whether or not mittens are your "thing," you'll be intrigued by the history of this fascinating folk art that Lizbeth Upitis will share at our guild meeting.

- Nancy McCulley



Sutter's Gold 'n Fleece

9094 County Hwy O
(S.E. corner of Hwys. 70 & O -- 3 miles east of town)
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liz@suttersgoldnfleece.com

Knitting Heritage Museum

Have you ever visited a museum and seen knitting or crochet mislabeled, if you could find it at all? Have you ever asked to see knitted or crocheted objects in a textile or costume collection, and been rebuffed? Are you wondering what will become of the garments and swatches created by our leading designers, past, present and future? Do you have a family heirloom or a collection of knitting publications and tools, and wonder whether it would have a good home when you are gone?

If you have been bothered by these questions, then you have thought about the need for a Museum: a place to collect, preserve, document and share our knitting and crochet heritage. My musings became a real possibility when Dr. Ellsworth Brown, the Ruth and Hartley Barker Director of the Wisconsin Historic Society [WHS] offered to co-host a Symposium to explore the concept of a Knitting Heritage Museum. Dr. Brown's commitment has caused this effort to be taken seriously.

The Symposium is planned for Fall 2012 in Madison, and has received a \$5000 grant from the Yarn Group of TNNA (the association of independent



What I Knit on My Summer Vacation...

Jane Grogan is a weaver. She is also a knitter who wanted to get together with other knitters during the summertime. Over the past three months, knitters joined her informally and brought their friends. Once a month the group met at the Sequoia Branch Library to feed the knitting addiction, swap yarns—literally and figuratively!—and share supplies. The group quickly grew to several dozen, door prizes were added and tips were shared freely. New knitters absorbed advice like sponges and seasoned knitters graciously shared their knowledge.

Like most things yarn-related, new friendships were formed, the ice cream shop nearby became a prerequisite for some, and spontaneous modeling sessions occurred. At any time, you might hear Jane demonstrating her easy-to-learn weaving process or see Mary Jo spreading out her life-sized original lace shawl pattern on the floor. Deb amassed a collection of hand-felted slippers lined with bright and beautiful fabric. She began making donations to her sister's craft show, researched the best assembly techniques with Cecil (of sandal fame) and quickly became a budding potential etsy shop as other knitters encouraged her to "make more and sell them yourself!" (Shown above are a few of her results.)

(continued next page)

(Knitting Heritage Museum – cont.)

needlearts wholesalers and retailers).

WHS's textile curator, Ms. Leslie Bellais, will be preparing an exhibit from the Society's collection as part of the Symposium. We will be inviting museum and yarn industry professionals as well as academics from the US and Canada. Guild members will be welcome as well.

We also hope to host a series of seminars the day after the Symposium for Guild members and all other yarn artists. This event would be a fundraiser for the Knitting Museum, using the donated services of the "talent" that is already in town. We are strategically building governing Boards for the Knitting Museum. Enthusiasm and energy are high, which is good, because we have a lot of fund raising to do.

Thanks to the Guild members who have assisted to date. If you would like to learn, more check out these links:

Blog:
<http://knittingheritagemuseum.wordpress.com/>

Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/KnittingHeritageMuseum>

Ravelry:
<http://www.ravelry.com/groups/museum-wip>

If you are intrigued and want to help, contact **Karen** at kdkhands@Ameritech.net or **(313)600.1670**

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Kim Ogle
Designer/Dyer

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Saint Francis, WI 53235
Open by Appointment
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414-702-8121
ogledesign@yahoo.com
ogledesign-fiberarts.com

What began as a cure for the "what-will-I-do-on-summer-Mondays-when-the-guild-isn't-meeting?" nights, now has a life of its own. The group plans to meet again on **Monday, October 3, at 6:00 p.m.**

If you'd like to join the group, please let Jane know you're coming so there are enough chairs for everyone. And don't forget your yarn and needles!

Jane can be reached at janegro@yahoo.com

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Saturday workshops; find the most current schedule on our website!

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Jaala Spiro & more!

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Ruth Knight Sybers Many Complete Pattern Lines
Vivian Hoxbro Kits
Appointments and Inquiries at knitterstreat@wekz.net

Madison Knitters' Guild Community Projects

Each month the Community Projects Committee collects and delivers hand-knitted items to one or more charities. At each meeting, a special drop-off area with separate containers to collect yarn donations, completed items and monetary contributions will be set up.

In fairness to all, please follow these guidelines:

- Take only as much yarn as you plan to use to make items for the designated charities.
- If you would like any of the yarn for your own projects, please donate **\$1 per skein**.
- Labels with the Madison Knitters' Guild logo will be provided. Please feel free to add one to each of your donated items.

If you would like to request donations for another charity or cause, we welcome your suggestions! Please contact Jaala Spiro, President. This will help the board coordinate multiple ongoing projects and assist with passing on your information to members not in attendance.

(continued next page)

In Memoriam



JOYCE WILLIAMS

Author of Latvian Drams

See some of her early work:

<http://www.monticellowi.com/textiles>

[.htm](#)

Read more:

<http://feralknitter.typepad.com/feralknitter/2011/08/joyce-williams.html>

Madison Knitters' Guild Community Projects *(continued)*

SEPTEMBER DONATIONS:

The Boys & Girls Club of Dane County

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

Hats, mittens & scarves for boys & girls 7-18 years old


For a list of upcoming months' community projects, see the list on Page 5 of the June newsletter:

http://www.madisonknittersguild.com/pdf-files/2011_june.pdf

Separate areas will also be available for the ongoing collection of yarn & supplies for Wisconsin Women's Prisons, and of women's scarves for Handmade Especially for You

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 show quilt membership card to receive discount.)

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 Tues 10-9
 Wed/Thurs 10-5
 Fri 10-3
 Saturday 9-2

Kristin Johnson theknittingroomwi.com Beth Mannebach

UW-Madison Clothing Practices Research Study

Maggie Ordon, a student in Design Studies at the UW-Madison, is looking for women to participate in her research project about clothing practices. Below is a link to the initial survey that should take 10-15 minutes to complete.

<https://mywebspaces.wisc.edu/ordon/clothing>

She is hoping to include women with a range of attitudes toward clothing and environmental and social issues at all ends of the spectrum. The goal is to have numerous people take the survey. Based on responses, she will select around 20 women to do in-person interviews.

Feel free to send her any questions or forward her contact information or survey link to women in Madison/Dane County you think may enjoy talking about their clothing and interests.

ordon@wisc.edu
 608-260-8559



Hand spun & hand dyed yarn on display at the Midwest Fiber & Folk Festival, June, 2011, in Grayslake, IL



UPCOMING FIBER EVENTS

• September 9-11

Wis. Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.wisconsinssheepandwoolfestival.com/>

• October 29-30

Michigan Intl. Alpaca Fest
<http://www.alpacafest.org/>

• November 3-6

Wis. Handweavers Guild
Annual Exhibit & Sale:
Loominosity, New Berlin
http://www.wihandweavers.org/Site/Annual_Exhibits.html

• November 5

Upper Midwest Alpacas
Fall Fiber Festival, Hopkins,
MN
<http://www.uppermidwestalpacas.com/FiberFest.aspx>

• November 10-13, 2012

Midwest Men's Knitting
Retreat, Kalamazoo, MI
<http://mensknittingretreat.com/images/Events.html>

Have another to add to the list?

Send information to:
mkgnewsletter@gmail.com

Events around the world:

http://knittersreview.com/upcoming_events.asp

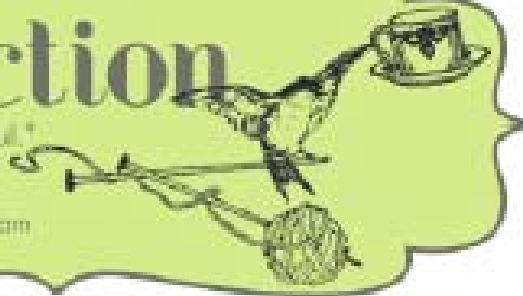
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Treasurer's Annual Report – Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011

The annual financial audit of the Madison Knitter's Guild was conducted on July 13, 2011 by Carol Spiegel, Kathy Digman and Jane Newman. No deficiencies were found. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, the guild received \$28,928.24 in revenue, and expended \$23,673.33, leaving a balance of \$24753.14 combined in checking and savings. The annual IRS-990 tax return was filed on July 18, 2011 reflecting this total. You may direct any questions to treasurer@madisonknittersguild.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS & GUILD EVENTS

• October 10

Susan B. Anderson
Vendors: Happy Hands Yarn
Firefly Fibers

• October ??? (TBA)

Fall Fiber Safari

• November 14

Sivia Harding
Vendors: The Cat and Crow
'Tis the Season

• December 12

Paul & Carol Wagner:
Wisconsin's Sheep Industry
Vendors: The Woolgatherers
Sun Valley Fibers

• January 9, 2012

Anne Alessi, Owner
Steel Wool Studio, Waunakee
Vendors: Dragonfly Yarn Shop
Distraction

• February 13, 2012

Clara Parks
Vendors: Sutter's Gold 'n'
Fleece

• March 12, 2012

Ann Budd
Vendors: Stitcher's Crossing
Needles 'n Pins

• April 9, 2012

Margaret Radcliffe

The Sow's Ear



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2011-2012 Madison Knitters' Guild Membership Form

MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$20.00 Membership Year runs September through May

Your membership fee includes a subscription to the *Knitters' Knews*.

I understand that the Madison Knitters' Guild may use photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

RAVELRY NAME: _____

WEB OR BLOG ADDRESS: _____

____ PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE MY MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION IN THE MEMBER ROSTER

COMMITTEE PREFERENCES

Please indicate which committee(s) you are interested in working on during the 2011-2012 year. See the MKG Website: www.madisonknittersguild.org for committee descriptions. A board member will contact you.

_____ ADVERTISING

_____ COMMUNITY PROJECTS

_____ FACILITIES

_____ HOSPITALITY

_____ LIBRARY

_____ KNIT-IN

_____ MEMBERSHIP

_____ NEWSLETTER

_____ PUBLICITY

_____ SPECIAL EVENTS

Make checks payable to: **Madison Knitters' Guild**

Send form and check to: **Mary Jo Harris, 1529 Longview St., Madison, WI 53704**