

December 2011

Marin Knitters Guild Newsletter

Program Schedule:

December – Pot
Luck and Yarn
Swap

January – Reading
Femo Buttons
and 2012
County Fairs

February –
Massage for
Knitters

March – Stitches
West Show &
Tell

April– Tips for
taking craft
pictures

May – Stash and
organizing

President's Message

As the year rolls to a close I have been reflecting on our year at the guild. We have had several new members join, with rich stories and skills to share. We have donated to several charity groups, so many of our members are community orientated, and, we continue our association with the Marin County Fair. Many members have taught classes and all have shared their experiences. We have maintained friendships and made new friends. All in all it has been a good year

We are looking forward to the December meeting on December 10th. It is our Holiday meeting and pot luck. Please bring a dish to share with the group. See you then. Hope everyone is enjoying the Holiday Season, Happy knitting.

Cathy and Christine

November 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Co-president Cathy Puccetti led our November meeting which was attended by seventeen members.

OLD BUSINESS

TAX STATUS OF THE MARIN KNITTERS GUILD: After a discussion led by Cathy Puccetti regarding distribution of funds should our Guild dissolve at some point in the future, a motion was made, second and carried by the membership that the following amendment be added to our By-laws:

The Marin Knitters' Guild may be dissolved by a vote of a majority of the members at a meeting at which a quorum of the local Board is present.

Any funds remaining in the treasury after payment of rental and other bills owed by the Marin Knitters' Guild will be donated to a charity or charities approved by a majority of the members at a meeting at which a quorum of the local Board is present.

Nazee Fard will add the language to our By-laws.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND ANNUAL DUES:

Treasurer Dana Dunn reported that we have \$1,135 in our accounts.

She continues to collect annual dues of \$20 for 2011-2012 (due in September).

NEW BUSINESS

CHARITY PROJECTS



Donation from Cottage Yarns: We want to especially thank Nazee Fard's mother-in-law for again making knitted hats and scarves and prayer shawls for charity from yarns contributed by Cottage Yarns in South San Francisco and yarns contributed by Guild members.

Radhika Sitaraman gratefully accepted scarves and hats on behalf of St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen in the Tenderloin in San Francisco.

November 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes (continued)

If you would like to make scarves and hats for St. Patrick's, please use dark colors.



Two prayer shawls were also collected by members for distribution to persons who are ill.

The Doll Project: After Caroline Archer accepted several new doll sweaters for The Doll Project, she took our breath away describing being asked to provide two special baby dolls to Lucile Packard's Children's Hospital. The dolls are similar to others dolls she has given the hospital, except that these dolls were for two young girls, two years old, who were conjoined at the chest. The hospital wanted the dolls conjoined at the chest with Velcro to help the girls learn about their upcoming surgery, which took place successfully on November 1. With the help of Jeanne

Bartlett, Caroline provided doll clothes that could work before and after the surgery. There were articles in the November 1 and 2 editions of the San Francisco Chronicle and at SFGate about the girls. Check those articles for pictures of these beautiful little girls and their dolls.

Caroline and her wonderful friends also provided dolls, quilts, and hats, etc., to Oakland Children's Hospital and, for the first time, UCSF. The Child Life Specialists who work with these very sick children are themselves brought to tears of appreciation when

they see the amazing work Caroline and her friends do for their patients.

More Yarn Donations: Elaine Johnson reported that a friend of hers is clearing out a home for a woman going into assisted living. The woman has five packing boxes of yarn that will be brought to the Guild for charity projects. Yarn we do not use for charity projects may be given to The Legacy in Sebastopol or other charitable organizations. Elaine will find out if we might make an afghan for the woman donating the yarn.

**RAFFLE**

We stopped our internal raffle several months ago because of lack of interest. A motion was made, seconded and carried to survey our membership to find out if we want to start a raffle in another format. Nazee Fard will set up a poll through our YahooGroups site at marinknittersguild@yahoo.com, and voting will be over November 30, 2011. If we decide to do raffles, a committee will be formed to suggest formats.

Guild members are invited to join. So far, we have two volunteers: Donna Rich to chair and Arlene Finn for support.

UPDATE:

The results of the Marin Knitters' Guild poll was sent to the group on December 1, 2011 by Nazee Fard, who conducted the poll. No one was interested in having another raffle, 62.5% did not want to have another Raffle and 37.5% thought that it depended on the format. Since in our guild majority rules, it seems that the majority of our

membership is not interested in having another raffle.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS AND OTHER EVENTS

Pumpkin Patch Festival: Correction: It was Arlene Eyler, not Arlene Finn, who reported at our last meeting about the Pumpkin Patch Festival in Nicasio.

Sock Summit: Cathy Aviles reported that the Sock Summit in Portland, Oregon was

well-worth the trip. It takes place every two years. Make your reservations, and go and learn a lot and have great fun.

Knitting Lab in San Mateo: This was an intensive program for intermediate to advanced knitters, and it was very well received.

MEDIA AND SHOP REPORTS

An article showing a bus in Mexico City that was beautifully yarn bombed was passed around.

Principles of Knitting, by June Hemmons Hiatt, is being reissued. Guild members recommend it as a treasury of knitting techniques. Price is around \$27.00. Copies have been ordered by several branches of the Marin County Library.

Elaine Johnson visited "A Verb for Keeping Warm" in Oakland and reported that they have many yarns under their own label, as well as other yarns. Black Mountain Weavers in Point Reyes accepts hand knit items for consignment. Check with the store for types of items needed and consignment arrangements.



Image Credit: Cozy Bus by Magda Sayeg of Knitta Please, Mexico City.

NOVEMBER GUILD PROGRAM

Knit to Fit

Diane Sack provided three handouts for her very informative "Knit to Fit" program. One handout was on basic sweater design, another on converting from one gauge to another and a third was a measurement diagram to help us learn to measure ourselves or others for a sweater.

She demonstrated how to measure shoulder width and arm length, and members measured each other's shoulders and arms. There are standard measurements such as arm-hole height that should not be changed in a pattern unless one wants to change the look of the armhole. Increases or decreases in sweater length therefore should be made in the lower part of the garment, not the armhole section.

Do swatches, but you should also check your gauge every 2-3 inches or

so when you start your sweater because that is the real test of gauge. She also suggested increasing (or decreasing) needle size one size at a time to change the width of a fabric, instead of decreasing the number of stitches. This is particularly helpful for a complicated pattern. She also mentioned that different color yarn of the exactly same type may have a different gauge because of dyeing. Knit one, purl one a three-needle bind-off that will appear on the right-side of the garment. The result is a modified zigzag look.

SHOW AND TELL

Guild members displayed projects in process and discussed knit items they were wearing. We had several completed items that were made from Nazee Fard designs. Several scarves were displayed, and a Trendy Eyelet Slouch Hat from a free pattern from hipknitized.com was well liked. Finally, Cathy Aviles showed us a portable yarn spindle that she got at the Sock Summit.



Perfect Holiday gift for a chicken who has everything! (from our yahoo group)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our December program will be a Pot Luck, but we will also have a yarn exchange, a pattern book and magazine exchange, and **please remember to bring finished items to donate to charity.**

Our January program tentatively will be Femo buttons.

Group Project: Cathy Puccetti suggested we think about a project that will help us build our skills. No one is required to participate in a group project – we just learn techniques as a group.

MEMBER INFORMATION

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

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

Respectfully Submitted by
Jane Cooperman

2011 MKG Officers

Co-Presidents –
Cathy Puccetti
Christine Bo-Linn

Secretary –
Jane Cooperman

Treasurer –
Dana Dunn

Programs Chair –
Marcia Hammett

Newsletter –
Cathy Aviles

E-Mail:

marinknittersguild@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!

<http://www.marinknittersguild.org>

Volunteers

Charity – Claire Miller

Marin Fair Liaison – Elaine Johnson

Website & Yahoo! List –
Nazee Fard

Name Tags – Arlene Finn

Church Liaison – Leona Thoelecke

About Our Organization...

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

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

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

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

containing the previous meeting's minutes.

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

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