

# TIGARD KNITTING GUILD

Volume 21, Issue 3

Meetings: Every 3rd Thursday at Tigard Senior Ctr. @ 7 pm (doors open @ 6:30)

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# <u>MARCH MEETING</u> LOCAL DESIGNER, MER STEVENS

#### A Presidents' ponderings:

What is the definition of a guild, guild member(s) or Board member(s)? Well, let's find out.

*Guild:* an association of artisans who oversee the practice of their craft in a particular town.

Guild member: a person or persons who belong to a social group.

**Board member(s):** one who poses an awareness into the duties and responsibilities of a nonprofit organization.

Therefore, the Tigard Knitting Guild (TKG) Board is a body of elected members who jointly oversee activities.

First, my duty as your President is to maintain support to this guild and its guild members so together we can strive to have another 20 years for fiber artisans to gather in a social group setting for fun, laughter, friendship and, of course, knitting. This is one of, if not, the most important reasons why I volunteered to be your V.P. last year and why the definitions above are so important to me.

Second, Board descriptions are now on our website for your viewing pleasure. If you have questions or want more detailed information about the positions just ask any of us from the current/past Board. I also recommend you chat with past committee persons too.

Third, I know it's early in the year but, give some thought in the following months to an opportunity to volunteer your time for a 2016 Board position, conduct workshops, write an article, assist at a retreat, pen a book review, give us your personal "take" on a guest speaker, wow us with a story about your fabulous fiber vacation, share a technique or attend a workshop/retreat. Each and every one of you are a vital and integral part of TKG and I value you.

Please continue to be an elder or pupil in the TKG village.

Happy St. Patty's Day!!

Sabrina Grant President

2015 motto - It takes a Village to raise a child and it takes involved members to create a Guild.

#### MARCH MEETING

Mer Stevens, a local designer, will be sharing her adventures as a knitter, spinner, teacher and 'someone who keeps her hands full of wool'. I met Mer when I began teaching at Twisted, a great shop on NE Broadway. I knew very quickly that this was someone I wanted to know better — and I was right; she is an amazing person.

She has recently had one of her designs appear in *Pom Pom Quarterly*, a magazine published in



England. It has some great designs in it so if you haven't seen it, try to find a copy – and Mer's sweater is really lovely. I will save the rest of the story for Mer to tell because she knows it better than I.

Do come to hear and see what she does; you'll be glad you did.

Y'vonne Cutright

#### FROM ANNA: GUIDELNES FOR PURPLE HATS FOR BABIES!

Needle size	# of stitches cast-on	Type of yarn	Finished circumference, flat and stretched
#6	42	Bulky	12-14"
#5	60	Caron Soft	12-13 1/2"
#10	54	Bulky	14-16"
<sup>l</sup> #9	42 (on 2 circs.)	Doubled Caron Soft	14-15"

Very small hats can be knitted using 4 dpns, or Magic Loop, or on 2 circular needles because a 16" circular will yield too large a hat for a small baby or a preemie.

#### **FROM THE EDITOR:**

If you're not receiving your newsletter via post/mail, please contact Nancy Newcomb at <a href="mailto:nan9288@comcast.net">nan9288@comcast.net</a> and for email newsletter issues, contact Joanne Hughes at <a href="mailto:jvh8019@gmail.com">jvh8019@gmail.com</a>.

We welcome all submissions for articles and reviews. Please feel free to add your 2 cents to our monthly newsletter!

#### Snacks and Beverages

This month's refreshments are provided by the following volunteers:

Snacks: Sabrina Grant, Judy Cole
and Bev Lyons
Ice (2 bags): Kay Deines

Slices (lemons and limes): Cathie Scott

A big thanks to you all! If you haven't done so yet, please sign up at least once! Sign up sheets will be available at the guild meeting or you can send an email to any one of the board members with your preferred month and supply of choice. Please label any snacks with common allergens like peanuts, egg, nuts and wheat.

AND DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN CUP!

## <u>February Program Recap by Guild</u> <u>Member Dee Ann Carter</u>

A series of pictures of eggs may sound like an unusual program for a Knitting Guild, but presenter **Vivian Aubrey** really showed us that if you know what you're doing even three eggs on a blanket can be art.

Of course there are some techniques you should know. Vivian recommended doing a set up shot, or a lot of set up shots, before doing your detail shots. You need to be aware of what you are focusing on and what story you are trying to tell. Our natural overcast Oregon light doesn't wash out colors and is her favorite, along with an inexpensive camera and a good lens.

This was in some ways a technical program, but with a clear message that these were tools to use to express your thoughts and emotions through your photography and your art.

Vivian Aubrey gave a delightful and engaging presentation at our February meeting, teaching us how to take better photographs of our knitting.

An experienced product and portrait photographer, she has a wealth of knowledge about her subject and shared it with us.



Vivian talked us through lighting (outdoors and no flash is desirable), backgrounds (keep them calm and watch out for unexpected things you may not have noticed when you took the photo), composition, getting a natural look of people, using props (mostly none), and more.



Each concept was illustrated with some of her gorgeous photographs. These photos are from

her <u>website</u> and there are lots more there to give you ideas and inspiration.

Hilary Forrest

# Board Member Profile: Y'vonne Cutright, Co-Program Chairman for the past 2 years

This is a fun position because I've had the opportunity to meet many people I wouldn't have met otherwise. I've also learned there can be much more involved in 'behind the scenes' organizing for a presentation than I originally thought. Of all the board positions, this has be one of the most interesting and fun.

I've been knitting for too many years to admit, and have had some amazing experiences because of knitting. I began teaching knitting when I realized, while in a class being taught by another knitter, that I knew more than I thought I did about knitting. It gave me an opportunity to use my skills learned as a school teacher to teach knitting. One of the joys of teaching is to see the joy on someone's face when they 'get it' – that is the greatest!

# What did I knit in the past year?

Most of my knitting time is spent making samples for all the classes I teach. I teach at two local shops, Twisted on the east side and For Yarn's Sake on the west side. They both have wonderful yarns and I can hardly leave either one without taking something home to cuddle.

I feel strongly that students have to see a real example of what I'm helping them create and that takes time. I'm also working on the Master Knitter program sponsored by TKGA because I know I will strengthen my current skills and learn new ones to make me a more knowledgeable knitter. I feel very strongly that I owe it to my students to give them my best so they can become better knitters – that's why they're taking the class in the first place!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 21 Abernethy Spring Fiber Sale at The Grange

15745 S Harley Rd, Oregon City

April 11-12 'Sheepish in Seattle' bus trip from The

Traveling Ewe For info see:

thetravelingewe.com

June 5-8 Vogue Knitting LIVE Destination

Experience: Imperial Stock Ranch

June 19-21 Black Sheep Gathering

August Knit & Crochet Out – Tigard Library,

Date TBD

Sept 26 & 27 Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival (OFFF)

Classes on the 25th

Oct 16-18 TKG Fall Retreat with Beth Brown-Reinsel

Nov 1-6 Sivia Harding Retreat 'Uncommon Cowls'

Friday Harbor, WA For info contact:

siviaknits@gmail.com

Nov 6-8 Columbia Gorge Fiber Festival,

The Dalles

For information on more events far and wide, check out

the events link on knittersreview.com

### **MARCH BOARD MEETING**

Where: Café Allegro

12386 Main Street, Tigard

When: March 26, 2015 (4th Thursday)

Time: 5:30PM Dinner, 6pm Meeting We will discuss the upcoming April Guild meeting as well as prepare for the May program. All board members must attend and any interested guild members are welcome to attend the meeting.

Madrona Fiber Arts is held every year around Valentine's Day in Tacoma. The excitement starts early as attendees have their eyes on classes they want to take and are ready to pounce as soon as registration becomes available, since many of the classes fill up very quickly. Quite a few of our guild members have made this a tradition and have gone for many years; others are new to the experience. Here are several reviews that cover the gamut of attendees, from newbies to old hands, that may inspire you to get yourself to this eagerly-awaited event! Because of space constraints, there will be more reviews on the website, so check them out!

I have always been curious about "Madrona". So I have lived vicariously through others regarding their experience. This year, <u>The Traveling Ewe</u> offered a bus ride to Madrona. I signed up very shortly after the trip was available. What is not to like about an almost door-to-door trip (with a bathroom) for a 2-3 hour drive.! The hardest part for me was getting up extra early to be at the Park N Fly lot where I could safely leave my car for the day.

When I arrived, the bus was waiting and I parked and entered the bus. JJ greeted us and basically acted as a flight attendant regarding bus safety. My friend and I picked seats part way back and settled in with our knitting. We talked all the way up. It was lovely to be dropped off right at the door to the Hotel Murano in Tacoma. No parking worries, no weather worries, basically no worries at all. We enjoyed some shopping at the Market and then found a spot in the Rotunda. We visited with other attendees and had a wonderful time. When it was time to head home, there was the bus right at the front door. There was plenty of room for storing all our purchases and we managed to talk all the way home. We arrived back at the Park N Fly lot in good time. I would definitely take this trip again. It was a wonderful, no-hassle way to attend a large, busy event in a not-too-far-away city.

-Nadine Foster

I try to attend Madrona Fiber Arts every two years. (I have an agreement with my husband.) This was my year to go. I took a full load of classes and I was busy. The class I enjoyed the most was learning to spin on a Turkish hand spindle; it was taught by Ilisha Helfman. We received beautiful Jenkins spindles as part of our class fee and some fiber samples. I concentrated on spinning one sample and then plying it. I was successful! Ilisha spoke at our guild on Jazz knitting. She was wearing a gorgeous shawl made out of her spindle-spun fiber that was based on a Tiffany lampshade. The colors and textures were incredible.

I also took two classes from Margaret Radcliffe on perfect edges and knitted collars. This lady packs a huge amount of knowledge in her 3 and 6-hour classes. I learned a lot about picking up stitches and collar shaping. I also had a lot of homework for this class that paid off when we were doing our class knitting. We took full advantage of those samples during class.

Amy Herzog taught a class called 'Knitting Bootcamp'. She had tons of samples to share with us and does beautiful shaped sweaters. This was a lecture-style class. She is very knowledgeable and, in the future, I would like to take her 'Fit to Flatter' class.

My last class was knitting Mawata with Stephanie Pearl-McPhee. She is an excellent teacher. I loved the history of knitting with silk and we got to open the silkworm cocoons and make a silk hankie. We then got to knit with a dry raw silk hankie. Magic.

It is not just the classes that make Madrona so wonderful. The hotel is beautiful and full of glass art pieces. During Madrona there are men and women all over the hotel knitting and spinning. The energy is incredible and so motivating. Especially in the market, I was very motivated to part with my cash. So many beautiful yarns and fibers! The delight of the vendor when I showed her the shawl I had made out of her wonderful natural wool was so rewarding. She took my picture in the shawl! That made my day. I had a wonderful time. I can hardly wait for Madrona 2017! (I may need to try and amend my agreement with my husband.)

-Karen Wegener

I went to Madrona staying from Wednedsay to Monday. The classes were fantastic (since this was my 14th year that is saying something!).

Amy Herzog's 'Fit to Flatter' was a real eye opener and Franklin Habit made mosaic and shadow knitting a real pleasure. If my sweaters do not fit after the two classes I took from Amy Herzog, it will definitely be "operator error" because I have all the info necessary to make it perfect.

Cheryl Huffman came from Florida and being roomies we had a great visit. Everyone was so glad to see her. If you have never been to Madrona and/or their vendor market, you are definitely missing out on a wonderful experience. Can hardly wait for next year.

-Donna Lee Palin

#### TIGARD KNITTING GUILD TECHNIQUE WORKSHOP - MAY 9

#### STRIPES INTERRUPTED MICHELLE BERNSTEIN, INSTRUCTOR

In this class, you'll learn several slipped-stitch patterns using two or three colors (but only one per row!). Play with color and texture and experiment with your own ideas, too. Design a cowl or hat using simple formulas and the slip-stitch pattern of your choice: you're the designer in this project!

**COST: \$30** 

MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE: 20 (THERE WILL BE A WAITING LIST IF IT FILLS)

WHERE: THE GATHERING ROOM, HUDSON PLAZA, 12950 SW PACIFIC HWY, TIGARD

TIME: 10am - 4pm WITH A ONE-HOUR LUNCH BREAK

2015 Spring Workshop Registration Form
Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Email address
Phone Number
Be sure to read the <u>Tigard Knitting Guild Event Policy</u> on the website under 'Odds & Ends'. It has all the details on payments, cancellations, refunds, etc.
Make check payable to:
TIGARD KNITTING GUILD
Or mail this form and check to:
Barbara Halvin
225 SW Hemlock Street
Dundee, OR 97115

The Tigard Knitting Guild is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is "to encourage and support the ongoing development of skills and creativity in knitting by providing fellowship and education opportunities." The Guild meets once a month on the third Thursday at the Tigard Senior Center at 8815 SW Omara Street. Meetings start promptly at 7:00pm. Annual membership dues are \$24.00, with 1/2 price for the second member of a household, and may be sent to the TKG treasurer. Guests of members may attend no more than two Guild meetings per year without membership. Our membership roster is provided to facilitate communication between members. It is not to be used for commercial purposes, and we hope that members will respect this intent. TKG News is a publication of the Tigard Knitting Guild. It is printed once a month and is free to guild members in good standing. Visit our website at www.tigardknittingguild.org



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