

THE MONTHLY CABLE



Peggy's Purls By Peggy Baxter

January's planning meeting was very productive. A special thank you goes to Ann Wicker and Stephanie Baxter, our new co-vice pres. for gathering great ideas from the guild members for our 2016 programs. I think by the time we adjourned, our calendar was almost completely filled with programs being taught by willing guild members.

Speaking of talented guild members, our new KAL/CAL chairmen, Kim Burk, showed us two beautiful shawls for our first 2016 Knit Along and Crochet Along. Looking forward to seeing guild member's versions in March. Another hardworking chairman, is Nancy Livingstone. She is our Workshop chairman and not only is she working out the details for a special knitting workshop, but I think she is finalizing the details for a chartered bus road trip. More info coming soon!

Don't forget to contact my friend, Muriel Mitchell (www.towncentertravel.com) and sign up for our Knitting and Crochet for Charity Cruise, (Princess Cruises), Sept. 19

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-24. We'll fly up to Vancouver and then cruise down the coast to San Pedro with stops in Victoria and San Francisco.

Finally, celebrate Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, at ESSS's Sit 'n Knit, 12:30 - 3:30 at the Joslyn Center. Are you a new ESSS member? This is a great way to get to know other guild members AND because the attendees bring wonderful snacks, you'll get a free lunch too.

Since I'll be at Stitches West instead of the Feb. guild meeting, I know I'm leaving the meeting in very capable hands, so I'll see you in March.

Peggy B

February Program Notes

By Stephanie Baxter and Ann Wicker

Thanks to all of you who participated in our planning meeting in January and an especially heartfelt thanks to those who volunteered to help with the monthly programs this year. We think we have a fun year planned with exciting monthly programs based on your feedback from the survey. The Challenge will make a return engagement later this year. Workshops and field trips are in the works.

Our February program will be an opportunity to work on an UFO (unfinished object) in a small group. If you have an item that is unfinished because of a difficulty or problem, this will be a chance to get some help from your fellow members. Don't have any UFOs (lucky you!)? Bring a project that you are proud of and share it with the group. This is will also a great time to get to know each other better.

Since we will both **not** be at the February meeting, Laura Stone will be facilitating this program. Thank you, Laura! A look ahead... March's program will be Decorative Cast Ons, presented by Joan Whitten. Watch for details in next month's newsletter and on our website.

Survey Results

By Ann Wicker

To all that filled out the survey, a big thank you. Your opinions and wishes do count! Here are some of the highlights from the survey:

- A majority of you want the monthly programs to have an educational focus, cover one topic and last one hour. You want the program to be either a hands-on opportunity to learn or a demonstration. You also appreciate the chance to interact with others during the program.
- The top two reasons for not staying for the program are time constraints or the program not being of interest.
- Top 5 knitting topics are short rows, knitting tips & tricks, lace knitting, stash busting and knitting travel. Top crochet topics are crochet basics and Tunisian crochet (it was a tie). Top write-in topic is Brioche knitting.

We have used these results to help with the monthly programing. So you will see programs covering some of your favorite topics this year.

Next Meeting: **February 20, 2016**
10.30 am – 1.30 pm at the Joslyn Center

First CAL/KAL 2016

By Kim Burk

Let's hope this is a Year of BIG Things! (All good, of course), and kick it off with a KAL / CAL of shawls that feature BIG holes! We can share our shawls at the March meeting. First off is the (free) crocheted, Virus Shawl.

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/virus-shawl---virustuch>

This pattern is done from chart only. On the Ravelry pattern page, there's a link to her blog. Scroll down just a bit to the pink ombre shawl. Click on the link. It says it's the written pattern, but you'll get the chart.

Only four rows of repeat. No fancy increases. If you can count to 4, 7 and 10, you've got this one down! Repeat the four rows as many times as you like until it's the size you want.

Do NOT choose the pattern by Orchidee flower. I've heard she took this non-copyright, vintage stitch pattern, called it her own, and her pattern is difficult to work from!

There's a separate pattern that someone worked out for a Scallop Border for Virus Shawl, but I wanted something lacier, so I simply added a 3 chain picot in between the last row of dcs.

I made this one with 4 colors of worsted Lion Brand Amazing from my stash, but you could use a fingering or sock yarn and make a lacier version.

For the KAL, I found a free pattern in my faves, a knit shawl with BIG holes, called Blubb, Blubb, Blubb.

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

I'm making my shawl with size 3 needles and Mini Mochi, because I'm curious to see how this looks in a long color changing yarn, but again, you can use any yarn/needles you like! Check out the projects made in this pattern for more ideas.



Virus Shawl



Blubb Blubb Blubb Shawl

ROAD TRIP!!

By Nancy Livingstone

The Workshop Committee is planning an ESSS Road Trip for Sunday, March 20th, 2016. We'll be hiring a bus to take us on a fun-filled fiber-y adventure to Highland Springs Resort in Cherry Valley, CA for their annual Sheep Shearing event. Come one, come all!

The details:

- Sunday, March 20th, 2016
- Leave El Segundo at 9:00am
- Sheep Shearing Event from 11:00am – 2:00pm
- Return to El Segundo 4:30pm (Time approximate)
- Cost: Still negotiating, but likely somewhere ~ \$35.

The events:

- Live sheep shearing and skirting of fleeces
- Kids wool crafts
- Wool processing demonstrations
- Natural dyes
- Hand spinning demos and try your hand at using a drop spindle
- Feed the sheep

Vendors are a goat milk soap company, the ladies who do the drop spindle teaching, and products from the resort's own organic farm, among others.

As we're still in the planning stage, more info and details will be forthcoming and may change slightly from this announcement, but in the meantime, please email Ann Wicker at wicker123@ca.rr.com to be put on the list of interested members.



Membership Update

By Laura Geisel

We had 54 members in attendance during the January meeting, with 1 guests.

We now have 137 current members.!

**Can't wait to see you at StitchesWest Feb. 18 - 21 in Santa Clara, CA.
Lots of Koigu, patterns, yarn bowls and beautiful shawl pins.**

Merilyn - Foxyknits



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Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Location
February Sit and Knit	February 14th, 2015 12.30 – 3.30pm	Joslyn Center
Stitches West	Feb 18-21 2016	Hyatt, Santa Clara
QuiltCon	Feb 18-21, 2016	Pasadena Convention Center
2016 YKGA Conference	July 13-16 2016	Charleston, South Carolina

Charity Report

By Catherine McFarlane

Reported at the meeting in January 2016: The new year is off to a great start! We gave a total of 153 items, 14 baby blankets, 32 hats, 36 toys, 3 sweaters, 47 lemons 20 scarves/cowls, and 1 miscellaneous item giving us a year-to-date total of 153.

The contributions were made to 8 charities.

There are many ways of reporting your charity donations: The Charity Donations thread on the Sliptstitchers' Ravelry group; the donations sheet at the meeting; Email catherinemcfarlane@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you so much for getting those nests to us. We really appreciate the time you put into making them. We will put them into good use when baby bird season rolls around. Thanks for thinking of us and the birds.
Denys Hemen
Hospital Manager California Wildlife Center

Notice Board

Fleece Baby Blanket Projects:
by Erlinda Reed

Available for Sale are 10 fleece materials for baby blankets (trimmed of selvage only and needs to be hemmed and cut holes in it). Measures approximately 1 yard by 30 inches. In different designs. Price: \$5.00 each, payable in cash or by check. Please see Erlinda Reed after silent auction and show 'n share at the back tables by the entrance door. Thank you for your support.

Toni Salerno writes: For any machine knitters. Susan Guagliumi, world renowned machine knitter, designer, teacher & author of many machine knitting books, now has classes on Craftsby. These classes are helpful both to beginners & to more advanced knitters. \$14.99 for 8 classes that you can watch at your convenience is a real bargain...check it out.

Birthdays

February

Nancy Stroll 2/1	Angelia Robinson 2/6	Laura Martin 2/8	Cathy Keller 2/10
Gail Robinson 2/14	Cristine Jackson 2/15	Eliza Shepard 2/15	Suzanne Smith 2/16
Jill Nighswonger 2/19	Toni Stone 2/22	Carolyn Sherman 2/25	Denise Douglas 2/28
Patricia Edie 2/28			

March

Beverly Sandford 3/2	Barbara Marpe 3/3	Carol Hayes 3/4
Ema Koppelman 3/4	Cathleen Pohlman 3/8	Bebe Thomas 3/8
Rita Levin 3/11	Laura Geisel 3/12	Carol Augustine 3/15
Karen La Belle 3/15	Blair Seibert 3/18	Ginny Floyd 3/29



**ESSS Guild members only sale at Maddie Made it
30% off the total purchase of yarn, needles and notions
for the first weekend of February (2/6 & 2/7/16) only.
Maddie Made It - 2929 Rolling Hills Road. Torrance, CA. 90505.**



January Meeting Minutes

President (Peggy B) – Welcomed new Board members. No guests or new members.

Recording Secretary (Charlene K & Linda J) – December minutes were approved as written.

Corresponding Secretary (Sylvia G) – Welcome notes were sent to new members. Thank you notes were sent to Board members who completed their service: Ann Wicker and Susan Greenberg, Recording Secretaries. Thank you notes were sent to Committee Members who completed their service: Joan Whitten (Charities), Ellen Bloom and Lenora Stewart (KAL/CAL), and Kathy Bartholomew (Membership). Thank you note to Peggy Baxter from Sylvia Greer for another great year as President. Pat Schafer and Debbie Ball were sent thank you notes in November for their service as Co-Vice Presidents.

Treasurer (Peggy A) – Beginning Balance \$9,995.18; Income \$147.00; Expenses \$180.00; Ending Balance as of January 14, 2016, \$9962.18.

Vice Presidents (Ann W & Stephanie B) – Using today's program to complete survey to collaborate on Programs to be presented by members for the year.

Membership (Laura G) – We had 55 attendees in December. We have 137 members and one renewal. New members, remember to collect your badge and wear it at meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Charities (Renee H & Cathy M) – Renee not present, so Peggy will collect any scarves for her. Cathy gave Charity Report, 153 items donated since last meeting. We received a thank you note from Wildlife Center for the bird's nests we sent them. We have many charities, so if you donate, send a list of them to her email so she can record them: catherinemcfarlane@sbcglobal.net.

Merchandise (Sarah S) – We have great merchandise that is useful to knitters and has our logo. She won't be at the meeting in March, so get the things you want now.

Webmaster (Jackie B) – Working on refreshing website and she asked for good ideas. Send suggestions to her via "Contact" on webpage. She is looking for articles, pictures, great recipes and any fiber related news. If you send something to the newsletter, also include it to her for the web.

Raffle (Brandi D) – We are having great success with our raffles. If you get anything you don't want, recycle it at the next meeting.

Newsletter (Sarah W) – Please be on the lookout for articles, etc. for our newsletter. She would like to have fiber related articles.

Photography (Jan S) – Not here today, but Ellen Bloom will take pictures for her.

Coffee & Refreshments (Ema K) – There is a sign-up list in the kitchen. Please donate treats for meetings.

Mentoring (Jurhee B) No Report.

Historian (Betty D) – She brought in the ESSS Scrapbook for all to see. If you have photos or events that we participate in, she would like to include a photo for the scrapbook.

Hospitality (Toni S) – We have a fine for people who don't wear their badge when they come to meetings, \$1. Names of unclaimed badges were called, and a few were present to collect them. Temporary badges are given to those members who don't yet have a badge.

El Segundo Liaison (Laura S) – They turned in the forms to reserve our meeting room through June. We were informed to not stack chairs after our meeting. Just push them to the walls.

KAL/CAL (Kim B) – Virus shawl shown as the Crochet Knit Along, done in Lion Brand Amazing yarn. She is working on the knit version, Blub, Blub, Blub. March is the due date for them. The patterns will be published in the newsletter and she will be available to help anyone during our Sit N' Knit sessions.

Workshop (Nancy L.) – Survey coming out to gather various ideas for workshops. Ana Petrova suggested "Swing Knitting" from someone she knows.

OLD BUSINESS- Lemon Update – We completed and sent 252 lemons to the Craft Yarn Council of America. We are awaiting word of the status of who won the challenge.

By Linda Jensen

Case Gifts – we had close to 200 and they were thrilled with them.

Peggy thanked everyone who participated in the December Potluck and mentioned that recipes for some of the homemade items could be additions to our newsletter.

Also Thanked everyone again for a great Fire and Vendor Sale.

NEW BUSINESS- We need a small program for the February meeting as many of the members will be attending Stitches West. It is expected that there will be a small group, so a small program will be required. It was decided that we do UFO's, Time Outs and Mentoring to finish those projects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS

Cathy McFarlane will be collecting the Red Baby Hats for the American Heart Association.

Peggy is still collecting small premie sweaters. Suggested to use the "Poppy Cardigan" pattern on Ravelry and acrylic or cotton yarn.

14-17 Jan, Bead and Design Show, Pasadena

14 Feb, Sit 'N Knit, 12:30-3:30, Joslyn Center

18-21 Feb, Stitches West, Santa Clara, CA.

RAFFLE (Toni S) – After raffle, they will put out stuff for free. Come and get it.

SHOW & SHARE

June Ling: Yoda toy, crocheted.

Carolyn Sherman: Redesigned Multnomah Shawl from the Knit Along a couple of years back. Used two colors and modified back to suit her better.

Peggy Baxter: Modeled one of her early knits, with purchased beading from a Colleen Davis inspired pattern.

Carol Hayes: Knitted Sheep Pillow from Purl Soho with bobbles in Alpaca and Worsted Wool.

Ellen Bloom: Crocheted Rainbow Ruana Shawl, done in Kauni Effect yarn.

Ana Petrova: Knitted Swirly Swirl neck warmer, done in cashmere.

Linda Jensen: Machine Knit Hoodie with zipper and pockets, done in Cashmere Boucle.

Merlyn Burnside/Ann Wicker/Dagny Tennyson/Nancy Stoll: Crocheted Moroccan Tote, in cotton classic. Pattern is Moogly by Tamara Kelly.

Susan Greenberg: Knitted Cowl, done in Koigu KPPPM. Pattern is Peek-A-Boo Gradient Cowl, Wrapped in Color, with her modifications.

Patti Bernstein: Knit Cable Sweater in Cream Cascade yarn. Pattern is Shakespeare in Love by Carol Sunday.

Kathy Bartholomew: Knitted Minerva Cowl, done in Malabrigo Mecha and Nicha, from Twist Yarns.

Dorothy Akiyama: Crocheted Triangular Scarf.

TODAY'S PROGRAM - Worked out a year of suggested programs from a survey of participants.

Adjourned: 1:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Jensen