

May
2017

What the Knit!

A 501(c)(3) corporation PO Box 21594, Bakersfield , CA 93390

[Website](#) [Ravelry Group](#) [Facebook Group](#) [Contact Us](#) [TKGA](#)

Thank you, April Cox, for your service as our guild Sunshine Chairperson! April is stepping down and we wish to thank her for the time she has given for the last couple of years. Above and beyond! For Valentine's Day, April made us each heart shaped stitch markers. As she described in last month's newsletter, she sent out birthday cards each month as well as Sympathy, Get Well, and Thank you notes. She reminded us that the Sunshine Chairperson depends on other members to alert her if they feel a guild member should be recognized with a personal note. Renee Petrowsky has volunteered to fill April's shoes. When you are ready to spread a little Sunshine, please call Renee Petrowsky at (559) 916-2371 or email her at renee@petrowsky.com.

Quick Glance Calendar 2017

May 13th Guild Meeting

May 13th Retreat Payment Due
(see page 2)

May 20th 9:00 AM to Noon
Social Knitting at the Ming Ave Library

June 10th 9:00 AM to Noon
World Wide Knit in Public Day at the
Marketplace

June 17th 9:00 AM to Noon
Social Knitting at the Ming Ave Library

July 8th Guild Meeting - Seaming Pt 2

July 15th Social Knitting

August 12th Guild Meeting

August 12th Retreat Balance Due

Sept 15th Knitted Kocker Showdown

Sept 20th - Oct 1st Kern County Fair

Sept 29th - Oct 1st WTK! Fall Retreat

Full Calendar on website

And a huge Thank You to **Sharon Wainwright** and **Janie Reiland** our Guild Meeting Greeters! Sharon is stepping down and we will need a volunteer to fill her shoes. More on that on page 4.



May 13th Guild Meeting 9 AM to Noon
at the Library on Ming Ave
Educational Topic : Seaming Pt 1
Prepare your swatches ahead of time.*

***Preparation – 3 swatches**

Use worsted weight wool yarn in a very light solid color. Size US 7 needles.

Work in Stockinette with a long tail cast on and standard bind off. Block flat.

Knit two swatches that are 11 stitches by 20 rows and knit a third swatch that is 20 stitches by 10 rows.

Bring a pair of scissors, a tapestry needle, and a length of dark or contrasting color yarn for the seaming.

May 13th, 2017 is the due date
for the 2nd installment payment
towards the Fall Retreat 2017

If you have already registered and paid your deposit, this installment is \$105.00. Please mail it or bring it to the Guild meeting on May 13th. If you haven't signed up yet, there is still room for more 11 more participants. Details are in the Retreat Application on page 9 of this newsletter.

Also, early birds can get a jump start on Binka Schwan's Knitting 911 class on page 10.

Help support fiber arts in Kern County!
Plan to participate in the Kern County Fair in September. Pull out your UFOs. Weave in your ends. Let's enter as many items as we can and encourage our knitting friends who may not be in the Guild to enter as well. The more the merrier!



Our needles will be flying this Spring and Summer. The Retreat, the Fair, and a Knitted Knockers Showdown are all vying for our attention in September.

...says Jacqui Engstrand, "I don't know too much yet, what I do know is that it will be \$25 to enter, with all money going to support knitted knockers, to get the stuffing, organza bags, display boxes etc. The deadline will probably be mid September to enter & the knockers will be dropped off to the breast center by mid to late Sept also. We will have people's choice award, best representation of your theme/brand, most creative & if anyone can think of other categories I am open! They will be on display in the cancer center Oct 1 – 19. October 19th is our VIPink event & that will be when the winners are announced."

Congratulations to Jacqui Engstrand!

Nurse of the Year for San Joaquin Hospital for Humanitarian Services!

Jacqui's story is a good example of how knitting can spill over and affect our community in unexpected ways. Jacqui moved to Los Angeles from Romsley England (near Birmingham) in 1990. She'd known since early girlhood that she would be a nurse when she grew up and was one of many graduates who answered a call from the United States to help relieve the nursing shortage at the time. What an adventure! She came for one year but stayed on and has been here ever since.



Jacqui has spent the last ten years in Bakersfield working with cancer and burn patients. Prior to that she worked in Los Angeles for 17 years with HIV patients. In 2005, she was one of 10 nurses in the ***Nation*** nominated by patients for the HIV/AIDS Nurse of the Year Award! In 2009, Jacqui won **Nurse of the Year for Community Health for San Joaquin Hospital and Kern County**.

She is not one to sit still. Jacqui presides over the local Oncology Nursing Society Chapter and is involved with Girl Scouts as a troop leader, a trainer of new Girl Scout troop leaders and is the nurse at large Girl Scout events.

Later this May she's off to Lake Arrowhead to be the designated nurse for women attending a [Casting for Recovery](#) retreat weekend. The women who are "in all stages of breast cancer treatment and recovery" learn how to fly fish in a beautiful outdoor setting far from the stress of treatment.

Jacqui discovered WTK! at our April 2016 Open House, about 6 months after she started working at the Breast Center in San Joaquin Hospital (Adventist Health). Jacqui's story is a good example of how knitting can spill over and affect our community in unexpected ways. While she doesn't recall exactly how she discovered the **Knitted Knockers** Organization, Jacqui immediately saw the logic in matching local knitters with local women in need of comfortable lightweight breast prosthetics. She is our unofficial chairperson for Knitted Knockers. Do not miss the **Knitted Knocker Showdown!** Entries due in September. Winners will be announced October 19th. Watch for details and photos on the WTK! website.

There about 10-15 people knitting the knockers which are given away to the women who need and want them. To date, 160 knockers have been knit up, she distributed the 100th knocker on Friday April 28th! Fun fact...

Carolyn Borso knit 50 % of them!

P.S. It was a pleasure meeting Jacqui's friend Paula Conlee from Vancouver, WA. Paula joined WTK! at the April Guild Meeting. She works in 2 yarn stores at home. She began knitting 8 years ago while recovering from an illness.



Be sure to bid the following members a “Happy May Birthday”

Beth Bywaters

Ruth Rockridge

Caryn Sorensen

Along with **Amanda Swanson** who shares this adorable party photo...



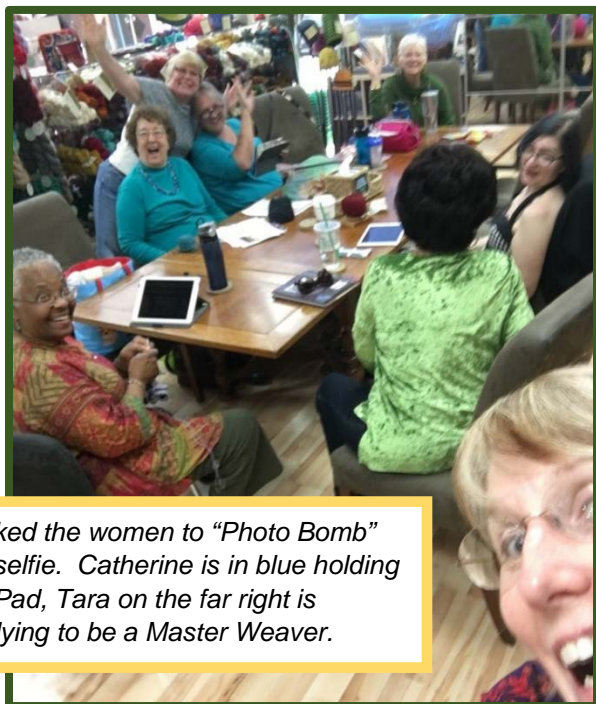
“My favorite birthday party was my eighth. My mom planned a scavenger hunt all over town. She enlisted a couple of moms to load all the party guests into their minivans so we could find clues at the library, my grandparents' houses, and a few other places, then finally at Sweet Surrender, which was set up for a surprise party. I also remember getting the game Clue that year. The photo shows my sister on the left, **me in the center**, and my cousin balancing a balloon on her nose.”

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

GREETER - The greeter welcomes all parties who pass the threshold at monthly Guild meeting. They sign everyone in and maintain and distribute name tags and raffle tickets. No word yet on whether Janie Reiland is ready to step down as Sharon's right-hand gal, but you may contact them both to get an idea of what is involved.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - The editor must be able to type, cut, paste and light fires. Computer experience with WORD, ADOBE (or similar programs), email distribution and the ability to manipulate text, photos, and links is also helpful. Claire will work with you to show you what she has done and you can take it and run with it. She didn't know how to do half of this until she started. She worked closely with Cindy McBride to incorporate items into the What the Knit! website. You will gather news and information from other members, the Board, and outside sources. Claire promises to remain a contributor but she will be taking on other Guild responsibilities and won't have enough time to devote to the newsletter.

I was eager



I asked the women to "Photo Bomb" my selfie. Catherine is in blue holding an iPad, Tara on the far right is studying to be a Master Weaver.

to return to **Green Plant Yarn** shop ever since I found it last year. It is located dangerously close to my sister's house in **San Jose, CA**. Walking distance close. I was in that neck of the woods on a recent weekend and decided to carve out an hour to sit and knit before driving home. I introduced myself and was warmly welcomed by the shop and 6-8 ladies who had gathered that day for social knitting. Perfect timing! Knitters are like 3rd cousins you find on Ancestry.com. There's a kinship even if you've never met before. I joined them at the beautiful long dining room table and zipped out a few rows on my current project.

The shop is well organized and well stocked. They offer a class for beginning knitters and the knitters spoke highly of the shop's "Yarn Doc". Twice a week at appointed times, you can bring in your tough knitting problem and receive professional help. Watch for the sign "**The Doctor is In**".

On display was a shop sample of a scarf pattern that looked like interconnected flames. It caught my eye last year and I was intrigued by it again. I took that as a sign to purchase the yarn and the pattern. Available on Ravelry ["Optical Delusion: Conflagration" by Kim McBrien Evans](#). One of the ladies present, Catherine, had knit this scarf and she showed me the pattern and offered some tips. It looks really tricky and it may drive me insane. On the other hand, it has the potential to be a Kern County prize winner in 2018. Fair Warning!

Now, how do I get on that judging panel?...

San Jose has seen their fair share of yarn stores closing. Don't let this one go! Please support them by visiting if you are in San Jose or passing by that area. It's not too far from the Winchester Mystery House which, if you have a choice between one or the other, you should absolutely skip the Mystery House and go to Green Planet Yarn. Hands down. No contest. Spend your money on yarn instead. This is my humble opinion. My name's Claire Christian.



This may sound silly, but I got a kick out of their bathroom. Instead of paper towels, the owner supplies a selection of small cloth towels. Very homey and welcoming.

Click here for [Green Planet Yarn's Excellent Website](#)

Hosted by
What the Knit Guild

All types of fiber crafts welcome! Spinning, Knitting, Crochet

World Wide Knit in Public Day!

SATURDAY

10
June



ENTRY

FREE!

9am to Noon

Things to bring
CHAIR - HAT - WATER- YARN- NEEDLES...



AT THE MARKETPLACE - FOUNTAIN



9000 MING AVE. BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311

What the Knit! 2017 Fall Retreat (updated 4-30-2017)

Date: **September 29, 30th, & Oct 1, 2017**

Location: St Anthony Retreat Center, Three Rivers, CA <http://www.stanthonyretreat.org>

Time: Starting at 11:30am on Friday and ending after lunch on Sunday

Cost: * **\$362.70** (*WTK! guild member w/dbl rm occupancy)

For the first time, we will have two instructors: **Beth Brown-Reinsel** and **Binka Schwan**. And we are expanding the number of student positions to 35. The students will be divided into 20 and 15. The 20 students will be in the big room that we have used previously. The 15 will be in one of the smaller rooms on the East side of that building. The students will stay put for the entire weekend. For example, the 20 in the larger room, will stay in the larger room throughout the weekend. Each instructor will work with each set of students for 6 hours. They will teach in those rooms for 3 hours on Friday and 3 hours on Saturday morning. After lunch the instructors will switch rooms. They will repeat their class again to the opposite students.

Beth Brown Reinsel <http://www.knittingtraditions.com>



Beth is a world-renowned knitting instructor and TKGA Master Hand Knitter. She has a wonderfully warm and friendly style of teaching knitting. She loves to share her knowledge of the skill of the craft along with its history. She will be teaching us traditional styles of stranded knitting, in particular a Fair Isle Tam. *"This Fair Isle class is for knitters who would like to venture*

into two-color knitting but haven't had the chance. A small tam on double pointed needles and/or two circular needles will be worked. Knitting with a color in each hand, weaving yarn to reduce snagging, reading tam charts, knitting traditional peerie [little pattern repeats], border, and star patterns, and shaping of the tam will all be covered. Four colors will be used, although never more than two in a round. The class will end with a discussion of tam structure and the wonderful variety of color combinations chosen by the students." Beth feels there will be plenty of time for everyone to become comfortable with the technique over the course of the weekend.



Binka Schwan



Binka is also a TKGA Master Hand Knitter and is a current Co-Chair on the TKGA Master Hand Knitting Committee. She is also the Vice President of Education for The Knitting Guild Association (TKGA). Binka has published a series of articles and has taught many classes in her series of Knitting 911. She is an expert on fixing and preventing mistakes.

Binka has prepared a list of swatches for you to make up prior to the Retreat Weekend. See attached **"Knitting 911" Homework**.

What the Knit! 2017 Fall Retreat

| Retreat Cost Breakdown & Timetable | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Due Dates | | WTK! Guild Member | ¹ Non-member |
| March 11th, 2017 | Deposit* for instruction (non-refundable) | \$157.70 | \$182.70 |
| May 13th, 2017 | 2nd installment room & board at St. Anthony's Retreat Center | \$105.00 double room | \$105.00 double room |
| August 12, 2017 | 3rd installment room & board at St. Anthony's Retreat Center | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |

TOTAL \$362.70 \$387.70

The cost of the program is based upon the fixed teacher costs and the fixed room and board costs of the retreat center. The deposit*, due upon sending in this application, is equivalent to one student's portion of the fixed teacher costs. The remainder (room & board) will be divided into two payments, one due by the May 13th Guild meeting and the second due by the August 12th Guild meeting.

*The deposit is non-refundable. If you find that your circumstances change and you cannot attend, if there is a person to fill your spot from the waiting list, your deposit will be refunded.

¹ If you are not a current What the Knit! Guild member, there is an additional \$25 fee which would cover your membership for the 2017 year. Guild dues are non-refundable.

If you prefer other sleeping arrangements, you can choose to stay at a nearby hotel and participate in the student and social activities planned. In that event, your **deposit** would be your total cost (\$157.70 for members and \$182.70 for non-members) and if you would like to take your meals at St Anthony, each meal is \$15.

Once we have received 35 deposits, a waiting list will be formed. You will be notified if you are placed on the waiting list.

What the Knit! 2017 Fall Retreat Application Form

If you have not yet registered, mail in this form along with a check for \$262.70 (or \$287.70 if you are not a current guild member).

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Your Name | Cell Ph |
| E-mail | Home Ph |
| Ravelry Name | |
| Roommate's Name (if you have one): | |
| Specify Food Allergies or Preferences: | |
| Are you a member of What the Knit! Guild? | please circle YES NO |
| Are you able to negotiate stairs? | please circle YES NO |
| ³ Are you staying elsewhere, in a local hotel or "other"? | please circle YES NO |
| If staying elsewhere , will you be participating in meals at the retreat center? (each meal is \$15) | please circle YES NO |

contact person is
Katherine Birkbeck
knkbirkbeck@gmail.com

Make check out to:
What the Knit! Guild
PO BOX 21594
Bakersfield, CA 93390

| Due Date | | WTK! Guild Member | ¹ Non- member |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| May 13 th , 2017 | Deposit + 2 nd installment | \$262.70 dbl rm | \$287.70 dbl rm |
| August 12, 2017 | 3rd installment | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| | TOTAL | \$362.70 | \$387.70 |

For Office Use

Homework to prepare for “Knitting 911 with Binka Schwan” at the What the Knit! Fall Retreat 2017

Supplies for Class

Small amount of yarn for in-class swatching:

#4 (medium) smooth light colored yarn, preferably wool or wool blend

#5 (bulky) smooth light-colored yarn, preferably wool or wool blend

Knitting needles appropriate for #4 and #5 yarn

Crochet hook(s), sizes, E, F, or G

Tapestry needle

Cable needle

Homework Swatches - Basic Knitting 911

Most swatches will not be bound off. Cut the working yarn, leaving about 20 inches yarn.

Place all stitches on holders, dpns or waste yarn. You will be working on one swatch at a time in class. Be prepared to transfer the three basic swatches from holders to working needles.

Garter Stitch Swatch

Cast on 20 stitches with #4 yarn. Work 20 rows (10 ridges) garter stitch. Do not bind off

Stockinette Stitch Swatch

Cast on 20 stitches with #4 yarn. Work 20 rows Stockinette Stitch. Do not bind off.

Seed Stitch Swatch

Cast on 20 stitches with #4 yarn. Work 20 rows Seed Stitch. Do not bind off.

Cable Mistake Swatches - Advanced Knitting 911

Use #5 (bulky) yarn and appropriate needles for these swatches. It is easier to repair the cable if worked with bulky weight yarn. Note: There are mis-crossed cables in these swatches. Just knit as presented. We will be fixing the mistakes in class.

Abbreviations:

C8B - Place first 4 stitches on cable needle and hold in back of work. Work next 4 stitches, then work the 4 stitches from the cable needle.

C8F - Place first 4 stitches on cable needle and hold in front of work. Work next 4 stitches, then work the 4 stitches from the cable needle.

Swatch 1: Cutting a Cable Repair
CO 20 sts.

Row 1 (RS): K4, p2, k8, p2, k4.
Row 2 and all WS rows: P4, k2, p8, k2, p4.
Row 3: Rep Row 1.
Row 5: K4, p2, C8B, p2, k4.
Row 7: Rep Row 1.
Row 9: Rep Row 1.
Row 11: Rep Row 1.
Row 13: K4, p2, C8F, p2, k4.
Row 15: Rep Row 1.
Row 16: Rep Row 2.

Repeat rows 1-8 one more time. There will be one mis-crossed cable. Bind off all stitches.

Swatch 2: Duplicate Stitch Repair and Laddering Down Repair
CO 20 Sts

Row 1 (RS): K4, p2, k8, p2, k4.
Row 2 and all WS rows: P4, k2, p8, k2, p4.
Row 3: Rep Row 1.
Row 5: K4, p2, C8B, p2, k4.
Row 7: Rep Row 1.
Row 9: Rep Row 1.
Row 11: Rep Row 1.
Row 13: K4, p2, C8F, p2, k4.
Row 15: Rep Row 1.
Row 16: Rep Row 2.

Repeat rows 9-16 one more time. There will be 2 mis-crossed cables.

Do not bind off. Place all stitches on holder.
Cut yarn leaving enough for bind off row.

Lace Repair Swatch

If time permits, we will be working a lace swatch in class. It will be worked in worsted weight (#4) yarn. Make certain you have enough yarn and appropriate needles to work a small swatch. Swatch directions will be given to you in class.

**Knitting 911
homework due
September 29th in
time for class"**

April 8, 2017 Guild Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:16 AM by President Suzanne Bryan. There were 29 present. Attending board members were Amy St Amour, Katherine Birkbeck, Cathy Henry, Jacki Rickels, and Suzanne Bryan.

Introductions were made. During our show and tell session, the following yarns and patterns were mentioned:

Amazing yarn by Lion Brand
Ponchilini California Dreamin
Opal yarn
Yowza Weigh It, by Susan B. Anderson
Secret Garden shawl
Waiting for Rain shawl w/beads
Stone Point
Imagina and Hollywood Flair, by Vera Sanon

Announcements:

The guild is currently accepting nominations for Board members. Names can be submitted until 4/15/17. On May 1, Ballots will be sent out and can be returned by email to Cindy McBride, or put into a sealed envelope which another member can deliver to the June 10 meeting.

The educational component of the May meeting will be seaming and we will be breaking out into small groups for instruction. Suggested homework will be sent out prior to the meeting. Members are encouraged to use light colored, smooth yarn.

Our June 10 meeting will be held at the Marketplace for Knit in Public Day.

At our July meeting we will continue to explore seaming.

Suggested topics for our meetings were how to use the guild's web page, FaceBook group, Ravelry (including Bundles), and Suzanne's YouTube channel and blog. Future educational subjects may include uneven edge stitches, enlarged last stitch when binding off, cables, jogless jog, and beads.

Jacqui Engstrom talked about October Breast Awareness month. There will be contests such as Fun Knitted Knockers and Knitted Knocker Showdown.

Education:

Suzanne taught us how to weave in ends.

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:45.

Approximately 7 went to Tina Marie's for lunch.

Minutes taken by Katherine Birkbeck, Vice President
Typed by Renee Petrowsky, Secretary

April 28, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:27 pm by President Suzanne Bryan held at her home. Board members present were Suzanne, Renee Petrowsky, Sharon Wainwright, Kate Birkbeck, Cathy Henry, and Amy St Amour.

New Business

We need a new Sunshine Chairperson and a new Greeter Chairperson. A notice asking for volunteers will be placed in the newsletter.

Jacki Rickels requested that we find a new treasurer. Claire Christian has agreed to take on the position, so we will need to find a new newsletter editor. We will ask for a volunteer in the newsletter.

Suzanne made a motion that we accept Jacki's resignation. Sharon seconded. The motion passed. Suzanne made a motion that we accept Claire as treasurer. Cathy seconded. The motion passed.

Cathy noted that the current committee chairpersons need to be notified about attending the June Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 pm.

Our next Board meeting will be on June 24, 2017, at 9:00 at Suzanne's home.

Renee Petrowsky
Secretary

More information available on our Guild Website www.what-the-knit.org :

Newsletters
Guild and Board Meeting Minutes
Calendar of all guild events
List of Guild Officers Past and Present
Photos from Guild Events