

News for Ewes

February 2026

Volume XXVI Number 2



The Rochester Knitting Guild is an organization in Rochester, NY that exists to promote learning fiber arts like knitting and crochet, to provide a social context for fiber enthusiasts, and to encourage the public to learn to explore new fiber crafts and techniques!

Rochesterknitting.org

President's Message

In a time where the news can feel loud and overwhelming, and the world unpredictable, our guild community remains a much-needed space for respite, community, and craft. Whether you're halfway through a complex sweater or just need the comfort of good company and a place to sit and stitch, we can't wait to see you.

February brings our first in person meeting of 2026. Do you have finished projects to share during show and tell? How about donations for our community knitting table? Don't forget that you can pick up donated yarn to make into something as well. Our Vice Presidents Anna and Sarah will lead game night, and you'll get a chance to take some new inspiration home from the book auction. We have a lot of fun activities ahead, including our annual retreat at the end of the month, and our in-person dyeing workshops during March.

Ingrid Lembach

Upcoming Meetings

All Hands Meetings

February 9th
March 9th
April 13th
May 11th (Yarn Auction)
June TBD (picnic)

meeting starts at 7:00

Temple B'rith Kodesh event space,
2131 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester,
NY 14618

Board Meetings

January 19th
February 16th
March 16th
April 20th
May 18th

7:00 via Zoom
Link upon request

February Preview

The February meeting will be Game Night! We had a lot of fun last year with our silly "Runway or Ravelry" game last year, but this year we are stepping it up a notch with "PROJECT BAG BINGO", so pack your project and bring your knitting or crochet bag, because we are going to have some fun with it! In addition to Game Night, the Guild Library will be hosting a silent auction, so be prepared to pick up some beautiful new-to-you books! We are looking forward to seeing you all!

Workshop Update!

I'm thrilled to announce that the board has decided to extend our natural plant dye workshops to Sunday! We now have 12 additional spots available for each class on Sunday March 29th. There are also still spots open for both Saturday classes. Registration will open to the public on February 10th, so if you were waiting for the holiday season dust to settle before signing up, or if you had wanted to sign up for more than one class, now is the time!

<https://rochesterknitting.org/rkg-2026-spring-workshop-dye-with-plants-by-nicole-cleveland-goldenrod-fiber-studio/>

Anna Powell and Sarah Blankenship
Vice Presidents

Library

Greetings from your guild librarian!

We have had some book donations which will not fit in the guild library, and are passing those books on to you! Next meeting, we will have a silent book auction, with nearly 100 books, as well as back issues of Vogue Knitting, Interweave Knits, Knitter's Magazine and more!

Book prices start at only a dollar -- all proceeds go to the guild.

Katy Mulvey

Treasurer

Please remember that RKG is not a business when sending transactions in Venmo. Venmo considers us friends and family. Even though RKG provides many opportunities, they are not taxable goods and services. Venmo takes out a fee for business purchases. If a transaction to RKG is accidentally misclassified, the sender will have to contact Venmo to get the fees refunded. Unfortunately, every transaction must be scrutinized as Venmo tends to default to the business classification. Thanks in advance for your attention to detail and your contribution to the guild.

Heather Lieb

Logo contest

Help shape the future of the Guild's look! We're creating a new visual identity to launch with our redesigned website next fall in honor of the guild's upcoming anniversary.

Learn more about the logo submissions and vote for your favorite at <https://rochesterknitting.org/contest/> Voting will close at 11:59 p.m. on February 16th, 2026.

Rachel Silva

Community Knitting and Auction

Winter is still with us and cold weather items are needed for adults and children. And small baby blankets and lap blankets for the Meals on Wheels 2026 campaign are always needed. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the February meeting. Natalie has volunteered to collect the community knitting donations for me in February (and maybe in March as well). So please see Natalie at the front table with all your donations.

Natalie will also be accepting auction donations as well. The yarn & tool auction will be in May. It's a great opportunity to donate yarn and items you're no longer using, while picking up a few new to you things to enhance your crafting. Remember, all the money raised at the auction supports our guild!

Thank you for all your donations throughout the year!

Pat Butterfield

Publicity

Tina Turner Knits Fiber Arts Festival

Visit the Rochester Knitting Guild at Tina Turner Knits Fiber Arts Festival.

Feb. 7th from 10:00 to 4:00 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. Entry fee: \$5 per person.

Make room in your stash for new fiber acquisitions! The guild will be accepting donations of any fiber craft item in like-new condition in need of a good home. Accepted items include, but aren't limited to: winter accessories, blankets, yarn, and notions.

Rachel Silva

Shop Liaison

As I sit here at Vogue Knitting Live..

Hope everyone is staying warm and catching up on lots of knitting.

This month's feature is Tina Turner Knits.

Her shop is tucked in an office type building. In the shop she has various yarn weights, being of natural fibers. A great work horse yarn is the Cascade 220, where she has a great selection of. A new yarn to her is Woolpacka, which is so nice and soft.

Tina has pick your own project classes Tuesday-Friday. Help hours Tuesday-Saturday. She offers private lessons, and finishing of projects.

A featured event is her Artisan Market. It is February 7th, 10:00 to 4:00.

thank you Tina for being a shop member.

Brenda Mudd



Hints from the help Table

Your Best Knitting Friends

Whenever I need to learn a new knitting technique these days, I turn to my best friends, Aunt Nettie, and her son, Cousin Hughie. I mean, of course, the Internet and YouTube.

By now we all know about Ravelry, one of the best social media platforms in the world. It's full of helpful advice, great patterns, a comprehensive yarn database, and lively message boards. So I won't say too much about it, except to encourage every knitter and crocheter to become a member (It's free).

But Aunt Nettie can help you find great tutorials and demonstrations of techniques that can enhance your projects and solve your problems.

Here's an example. I make a hat I call "Aral," based on a free pattern in Ravelry called Lara, that uses fur yarn for the brim and super bulky yarn for the crown. I promised a friend a blue Aral, and I had the perfect blue fur. But despite my massive stash, I didn't have a matching super bulky. I did have a perfect worsted weight yarn. The problem? Even used double, it wasn't heavy enough. It would work great if used tripled. I just didn't want to use more than one skein.

Then, I remembered a technique called Navajo plying, an easy and practical method for tripling the weight of any yarn. I asked Aunt Nettie to find me a good video, and she came through instantly. Actually, she found several, so I picked the one that I thought looked best. I clicked on it, and Cousin Hughie opened it right away. I watched the demo, and tried to follow it, but it moved just a tad too quickly for me to get it right on my first try. Fortunately, Cousin Hughie has a way of adjusting the speed of videos: click on the settings icon to slow down the display. At 75% of the normal speed, I could see exactly how to get that triple-strand out of one skein.

Another time, I made an afghan from 4 triangle pieces that needed to be joined. I could have used mattress stitch, but I wanted a flatter, more decorative join. Once again, Aunt Netty came through. I don't remember the technique since then, but Aunt Nettie does.

Want to find a knit stitch with a multiple that will fit the number of stitches in your project? Aunt Nettie will find a site that organizes repeats by count, like six stitches, or six stitches plus one.

So if you have a knitting need that Ravelry just can't help, ask Aunt Nettie. If she can't help, no one can.

Debby Abrahams

Guild Notes

- *Save the date:* The RKG Spring Knitting Retreat will be held Feb 26th to Mar 1st at Camp Stella Maris. Sign up for the Saturday workshops because all overnight spots are sold out.
- *Show and Tell:* Remember to bring your projects to share with us
- *Elections:* The Guild cannot exist without the Board. Please consider running for office or volunteering for a board position. Interested? Contact [Margaret Mullen](#).
- *Share!:* Show us your projects! Send photos of your works in progress and finished projects for work-in-progress Wednesday and finished Friday on the Guild's social media accounts. Send photos and pattern titles to Marcie Shapiro at director2year@rochesterknitting.org
- *Logo Contest:* The images on the Member Shops are the entries for our logo contest. There is also an updated version of our current logo included on the ballot. If you haven't voted yet, do it now.
- *Miss the January Meeting?:* A recording of our meeting with Jennifer Raymond of the Tinking Turtle is available in the "members' only" section of the Guild Web site. A password is required but all members in good standing should have received one from our membership team
- *Why do we have two raffles at our meetings:* The free tickets are used to confirm our attendance so we can plan for future events. The door prize is incentive for you to get your ticket. The \$1 ticket and prize is just for fun.
- *Food and drinks:* You are welcome to bring food and drink to our meetings. Please do not bring meat into the building out of respect for our hosts. Please use a container with a lid for any liquids to avoid any yarn-related accidents.



2025—2026 Board

President
Vice Presidents

Past President

Secretary

Treasurer

Membership

Library/Knit Resources

Tech Team

Newsletter

Community Service

Shop Liaison

Auction

Workshops

Retreat

Financial Review

Directors

Publicity

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Margaret

Lisa

Heather

Joan F. & Carol

Katy

Joan F

Natalie

Pat B.

Brenda

Pat

Nina

Holly

Marcie & Kate

Rachel

president@rochesterknitting.org
vicepresident@rochesterknitting.org
pastpresident@rochesterknitting.org
secretary@rochesterknitting.org
treasurer@rochesterknitting.org
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auction@rochesterknitting.org
workshops@rochesterknitting.org
nina.raqueno@gmail.com
audit@rochesterknitting.org
director2year@rochesterknitting.org
publicity@rochesterknitting.org

February Block

Maybellene

This pattern includes round by round graphics to help you visualize where the stitches go. They are not meant to be complete instructions. Rather, they complement it. Use them with the pattern to help you see where to place your stitches.

<https://everytrickonthehook.com/patterns-2/maybellene/>

Please don't hesitate to ask for help in the Discord chat channel or the Ravelry forum thread. Please remember to share progress photos in our Discord and Ravelry forums!

<https://www.ravelry.com/discuss/rkg---rochester-knitting-guild/4376585/1-25#3>

<https://discord.com/channels/1364034437159063562/1418272129962606672>



Member Shops

For more detailed information visit our [Member Shops](#) web page

Amelia's Fabric and Yarn Shoppe
ameliasfabricandyarnshoppe.com

Bead & Fiber Fantasy
beadfiberfantasy.com

Birch Tree Fiber Arts Co.
www.birchtreefiberartsc.com

Crafting for Good
Craftingforgood@mail.com

Expressions in Needleart
expressionsinneedleart.com

Embraceable Ewe
erin@embraceableewe.com

The Fuzzy Bunny
www.fuzzybunnyarn.com

Heart Forge Solutions
<https://heartforge.solutions/>

Knit For You
<https://sites.google.com/view/knitforyouny/home>

Lift Bridge Yarns
www.liftbridgeyarns.com

Little Button Craft & Press
www.littlebuttoncraft.com

Megs & Co. Yarn Shop
www.megsandco.com/shop

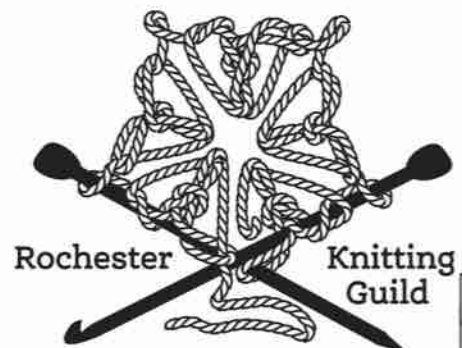
Rabbit Row Yarns & Haberdashery
www.rabbitrowyarns.com

Sew Green Rochester
www.sewgreenrochester.org

Strings 'n Things Yarn Shoppe
stringsnthingsyarn.com

Tina Turner Knits
tinaturnerknits.com/

Yarn Culture
<https://yarnculture.com>



Rochester Knitting Guild 2026 Spring Workshop

Dye With Plants! with Nicole Cleveland, Goldenrod Fiber Studio

Sat, March 28th

East Lodge, Churchville Park
101 N Main St, Churchville, NY 14428

Sun, March 29th

West Lodge, Churchville Park
101 N Main St, Churchville, NY 14428

**Registration
Open to members
on the RKG website!**



**non - member
registration opens
February 10th**

Workshop 1: Dye With Plants! – Fabric
10:30am – 1:30pm (Sat & Sun)
\$40 RKG Member Class Rate
***Additional materials fee (\$14/\$16)**

In this class, we will work with whole, dried botanical dye plants to create beautiful watercolor effects on cloth. Choose between a cotton bandana, cotton drawstring project bag, or silk scarf. You will learn the essentials of natural dyeing, including the pre-treatment processes of scouring and mordanting, as well as techniques for effective bundled botanical dyeing. All materials will be pre-treated before the workshop.

Workshop 2: Dye With Plants! – Yarn
2:30pm – 6:30pm (Sat & Sun)
\$50 RKG Member Class Rate
***Additional materials fee (\$9/\$24)**

In this class, we will work with whole, dried botanical dye plants to create beautiful speckled and variegated yarns. This extended class will cover the essentials of natural dyeing, including the pre-treatment processes of scouring and mordanting, as well as techniques for effective bundle AND immersion dyeing with plants. The yarns for this workshop will be pre-treated prior, and participants have the option to submit their own stash yarns to be pre-treated for the workshop.

Optional Lunch Provided
1:30pm – 2:30pm
\$8





Stay in the beautiful Wegman House

ROCHESTER KNITTING GUILD *And Crochet* Spring Knitting Retreat At Camp Stella Maris, Livonia, NY Feb 26 – Mar 1 2026 Come Treat Yourself to a Crafty Retreat



Ewe NEED a Retreat!



Mosaic Knitted Hat



Tunisian Crochet

A weekend of knitting and crochet fun.

Friday Evening:

- Show & Tell

Saturday Workshop Choices:

- Mosaic Knitted Hat
- Intro to Crochet Chart Reading
- Knitting on the Edge
- Intro to Tunisian Crochet Braided Headband

Saturday Evening:

- Special Guest Entertainment & Game Night

Depart Sunday afternoon



Take a workshop or two

Weekend Retreat Fee Includes:

- Choice of 2 Saturday Workshops
- Meals Friday Dinner through Sunday Brunch
- Overnight Group Accommodations

Reserve Your Bunk Today!

Please select the desired workshops and enclose the completed form with a check payable to the Rochester Knitting Guild mail to:
Nina Raqueno 5710 Old Orchard PT Livonia, NY 14487

Now accepting Venmo @RKG Treasurer ATTN RETREAT
and email registration form to nina.raqueno@gmail.com



Crochet Chart Reading

RKG Spring Knitting Retreat
Feb 26 – Mar 1, 2026
(Extra Night Thursday Feb.26th)

Name: _____

Email address: _____

(Confirmation, complete weekend schedule, & supply list will be sent by email.)

**Can't join us for the entire weekend?
Join us for Saturday Workshops!
(9am-4pm)**

- Non RKG Guild Member Fee \$ 30
- Knitting Weekend Fee \$ 250
- Weekend Fee (no workshops) \$ 200
- Saturday Day Camper Only \$ 80
(Workshops, Lunch & Snacks Included)
- XTRA Thurs. Night Lodging \$ 100
- Total Deposit Included \$ _____
- Balance Due February 1, 2026 \$ _____

- Please select 1 Morning and 1 Afternoon Workshop
- ___ Mosaic Knitted Hat (AM)
 - ___ Crochet Charts (AM)
 - ___ Tunisian Crochet (PM)
 - ___ Knitting on the Edge (PM)
 - ___ Crochet Refresher (Friday afternoon)

Questions? Contact Nina Raqueno by phone at (585) 281-3846 or by email at nina.raqueno@gmail.com.