

News for Ewes

May 2026 Volume XXVI Number 5



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

As our guild season comes to a close, we celebrate with our annual yarn and tools silent auction. This event is sure to delight as you connect with guild members and place bids on promising lots. Bring a bag with you to bring home your winnings! Also at our May meeting we have elections for board positions for next year. Make sure to collect your ballot at the membership table and cast your vote. I look forward to seeing everyone at our May meeting. AND, if you visit Shepherd's Wool Market on May 9th, come visit our guild sit and stitch in the pavilion!

Thanks
Ingrid Lembach



Upcoming Meetings

All Hands Meetings
May 11th (Yarn Auction)
June 8th (picnic)
Summer break
September 28th

meeting starts at 7:00

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

Board Meetings
April 20th
May 18th

7:00 via Zoom
Link upon request

May Preview

And with that, our sustainability program has come to a close. We have enjoyed presenting on thrifting, mending, modifying and fiber sourcing, and hope that we have inspired you to look at your stash, WIPs and finished makes a little differently than you did before.

We would like to thank everyone who helped with this year's programs and hope to expand that support into a programming committee next year. Any amount of help with behind the scenes planning and organizing for next year's programs will be appreciated. All backgrounds and skill levels are welcome. Please reach out to vicepresident@rochesterknitting.org if you are interested in being part of the team!

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at our annual RKG yarn and tools auction!

Anna Powell and Sarah Blankenship
Vice Presidents

Auction Night is Here!!!



Community Knitting and Auction

May is a special Guild meeting for 2 reasons. First, it's the last time to donate your finished items before our summer break. So please drop off any items you have to donate at the Community Knitting table at the start of the meeting. Once the auction starts, those tables will be used to tabulate purchases. And remember, for any item you donate in May, your name gets added to the raffle for two \$25 gift certificates to the member shop of your choice.

Second, the May meeting is our much awaited yarn & tool auction. I have over 300 lots of yarn, as well as the 4 for \$1 bins. Anna and Sarah have a range of tools and notions, as well as some "mystery bags" that were very popular last year. Remember, the money from the auction goes to support our guild, so please be generous in your bidding! Cash, check or Venmo will be accepted. And don't forget your shopping bag to get all of your purchases home.

Pat Butterfield

Shop Liaison

Welcome May. Let's see if April showers do bring May flowers. In our yarn world, we do not need to wait for May.

May 1st to October 31st in NY we have what is called the NY Fiber Trail. Use the Fiber Trail passport to collect stamps from yarn shops, mills, and sheep/alpaca farms throughout the state.

A visit to each location earns you a stamp. Submit your passport by the end of the expiration to be entered into the drawing for various prizes.

Visit your local participating yarn shop to get a passport or ask for one at this weekend's Shepherd's Wool Market

Have fun making your own yarn crawl for the summer & fall.

More info can be found at NYFiberTrail.com

Have a great summer. See you at the yarn auction, picnic, or just out & about.

Brenda Mudd

Publicity

Shepherd's Wool Market

The Rochester Knitting Guild will be hosting a casual sit and stitch circle at the Shepherd's Wool Market on May 9, 10-4. Come hang out, bring a project to work on and maybe a lawn chair, and chat with us after shopping with local fiber vendors. We'll have space in/around the pavilion outside of the market with other local guilds. This is a great daytime opportunity to show off projects that you're working on, projects you've made recently, and new purchases from the market!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Rachel Silva

Guild Picnic

The Guild picnic is back! This strictly social event will be back at at Quinzi Lodge in East Rochester on June 8th.

The Guild will provide hot dogs (veggie and traditional), rolls, condiments, paper products and bottled water. We are asking attendees to bring a side dish (last name N through Z or a dessert Last Name A through M).



Hints from the help Table

On the Border

For her birthday, my niece asked me for an afghan, and I was delighted. My mistake was buying the yarn before I knew what I would make. After weeks of serious cogitation, I decided on a machine-made, color-block strip afghan. I cast on 30 stitches; 300 rows and four colors later, I had my first strip, and my first problem. I didn't have enough yarn to fulfill my original idea, and too many colors were backordered. I found more of only 2 colors.

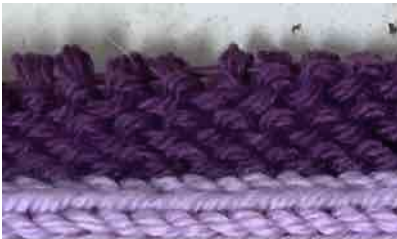
My niece is not yet 13, yet she is 5'10". I can't skimp on her blanket. My solution was to knit as many strips in the colorblock pattern as I could with all 4 colors, and use the 2 remaining ones to add a wide stripes to both ends.

But then, I finished and joined 9 colorblock strips, and realized I had enough of all four colors to frame the afghan with a modified Log Cabin border.

So, finally, we arrive at the first point of this column: how useful and attractive a border can be. It can control the curl of plain stockinette, and harmonize the various colors. The top and bottom edges are easy to do; just pick up and knit every stitch along the edge. Then, knit garter stitch rows to complete the first block of the frame.



Here's second point: because in stockinette, a stitch is wider than a row is tall, reconciliation depends on the gauge of the yarn. For the afghan, the gauge was 4 stitches and 6 rows to the inch, which reduces to a ratio of 2/3. Thus, the pick-up sequence was "pick up 2 stitches, skip 1" to get a flat, even seam.



Please feel free to send in your questions and tips so we can all learn together.

helptable@rochesterknitting.org

Debby Abrahams

Guild Notes

- The photos in this newsletter are of yarn that you will be able to bid on at t Monday's silent auction.
- *Auction Payments:* the Guild accepts cash, check, and Venmo. Please see the Treasurer's note below about Venmo payments.
- *In Memoriam:* Suzanne Brendze and Gail Dodd. They will be fondly remembered and deeply missed by their friends in the Rochester Knitting Guild. We are grateful for their contributions to our community.
- *September Meeting:* The first meeting of our new season will be September 28th. Our typical meeting day conflicts with the high holidays celebrated by our hosts this year.
- *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
- *Upcoming Fiber Events:* The Shepherd's Wool Market is May 9th at the Rush United Methodist Church (10:00 to 4:00 and the CNY Fiber Arts Festival is June 6th and 7th at Herkimer County Fairgrounds. THE WNY Fiber Arts festival is September 26th.
- *Show and Tell:* Remember to bring your projects to share with us
- *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.

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



Guild Elections

We will be voting for the 2026–2027 Board at our May 11th meeting. The board positions up for election are Director and President (please note that this year's election will include waiving the term limit for the president position.)

Curious about what our board members and volunteers really DO? Here are the (abridged) descriptions of the positions:



Elected Positions

President: oversees the Board and acts as the liaison between the Guild and our member community. Officer elected by majority of the members from a nomination

Vice President: coordinates the monthly programming for the Guild. They may present these lectures themselves or find guest speakers. Officers elected by majority of the members from a nomination

Directors 1 and 2: act as liaison between the Guild membership and the board. If you're not comfortable speaking with the Board directly about a matter, these folks are your advocates. There are two Directors (two years per position) elected by majority of the members from a nomination

Secretary: records the minutes of all business meetings of the Guild and the Board and may carry on necessary correspondence on behalf of the Guild. Officer elected by majority of the members from a nomination

Treasurer: manages the money and financial accounts of the Guild and conducts budget assembly and review. Officer elected by majority of the members from a nomination

Immediate Past President: chairs the Nominating Committee for Board positions. Officer carried from the President position

Voluntary Positions

Financial Reviewer: works with Treasurer to review the Guild's finances and provides a report to the Board. Volunteer

Librarian: maintains library materials and the distribution of Guild resources to members. Volunteer

Membership Coordinator: receives dues and applications for membership and maintains the membership list. Volunteer

Newsletter Coordinator: prepares and distributes the newsletter to Guild members. Volunteer

Community Projects Coordinator: receive donated items and coordinates donation to community organizations. Volunteer

Publicity Coordinator: responsible for all publicity and announcements of the Guild's activities. Volunteer

Shop Liaison: responsible for liaising between Guild Shop members and the Guild. Volunteer

Yarn Auction Coordinator: responsible for the collection and coordination of yarn and other items for the Guild auction. Volunteer

Tech Team: responsible for the maintenance and updating of the Guild's web site. Volunteer

Workshop Team: plans and oversees workshop classes offered to Guild members and community non-members. Volunteer



2025—2026 Board

President	Ingrid	president@rochesterknitting.org
VicePresidents	Anna & Sarah	vicepresident@rochesterknitting.org
Past President	Margaret	pastpresident@rochesterknitting.org
Secretary	Lisa	secretary@rochesterknitting.org
Treasurer	Heather	treasurer@rochesterknitting.org
Membership	Joan&Anne	membership@rochesterknitting.org
Library/Knit Resources	Katy	librarian@rochesterknitting.org
Tech Team	Joan, <i>et.al.</i>	webmistress@rochesterknitting.org
Newsletter	Natalie	newsletter@rochesterknitting.org
Community Service	Pat	communityservice@rochesterknitting.org
Shop Liaison	Brenda	shopliaison@rochesterknitting.org
Auction	Pat	auction@rochesterknitting.org
Workshops		workshops@rochesterknitting.org
Retreat	Nina	nina.raqueno@gmail.com
Financial Review	Holly	audit@rochesterknitting.org
Directors	Marcie & Kate	director2year@rochesterknitting.org
Publicity	Rachel	publicity@rochesterknitting.org

April Block

Clown Car

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/clown-car/>

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.birchtreefiberartsco.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>

