

**Holey Toledo Knitters  
Toledo, Ohio**



**Holey Toledo Knitting Guild  
December 2008 — Volume #8 Issue #11**

The Holey Toledo Knitters Guild meets the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 P.M. at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 915 N. Reynolds Road, just south of Dorr Street. An informal knitting and sharing session precedes the business meeting and program that begin at 7 P.M.

The Cadeaux de Fibre (*Gifts of Fiber*) items will be for sale at the MMK Gallery, 20 N. St. Clair at Perry through the holidays. If you were not able to be at the exhibit opening, check it out for special holiday gifts. Thirty per cent of each sale goes to a charity of the artist's choice.

**December 17 Meeting  
Holiday Sharing**

We will be meeting in the parlor rather than the basement for the December 17 Show 'n Tell. Bring a munchie to share, and show the holiday projects that have been keeping your needles clicking. If you have completed one of the loopy scarves demonstrated at last month's meeting, bring those as well so we can enjoy seeing the varied looks.

Completed premie hat(s) will continue to be collected.

**From the President**

***Greetings Knitters,***

As we move through our daily lives we are surrounded by news that is disturbing and extremely stressful. I find it a joy to meet with my knitting friends to enjoy conversation, laughter, sharing, and enjoyment of our craft. As I said in last December's newsletter, knitting fulfills my need to create, keeps my hands busy which in turn soothes my soul, allows me to share how much I love others when I give them gifts, and has given me many opportunities to meet like-minded special people who share my love for the craft.

Thanks for being Guild members, for enjoying knitting conversation with me, and, most of all, for just being you.

May your holiday be spent with those you love.

Happy knitting,

**Sue**



**2009 Programs**

- January 21 .....The good, the bad and the ugly (Share project)
- February 18 .....Cables and bobbles—Tracey Maris
- March 18 .....Spinning—Diane Dippold & Lee Miller
- April 15 .....Short rows—Bring your short row project
- May 20 .....Shop owner demo
- June TBA .....Stitch n' Pitch
- July 15 .....Felted Hat—Lee Miller
- August 19 .....Bring your shawl w/pattern
- September 16 .....Beading and knitting—Tracey Maris
- October 21 .....Sock Variations
- November 18 .....Needle felting
- December 16 .....Holiday party

## K2Tog — Ann Strickler

### A Christmas Letter Litany

‘Tis the week when the Christmas letters start to arrive. In general, people seem either to love or dread Christmas letters. Though I fall solidly into the first camp, I have my own standards and am not immune to rolling my eyes when I open a double-sided letter written in all caps, screaming out with no humor all the fabulous family accomplishments right down to the guinea pig learning to turn somersaults. My goal for our Christmas letters is to sketch in a few lines the highlights or lowlights that sum up the year for each person in the family. I try to compose a little snapshot.

As I wrote up my personal snapshot for the family Christmas letter for this year, I realized that without much thought, I automatically wrote about knitting. When I reread the letter, I had to wonder about the number of annual letters have I sent mentioning knitting. Do family and friends think that all I do is knit? I do do other things, don't I? Worried or proud (I wasn't sure yet) I consulted our *Christmas Memories Book* which records details of the holiday season since 1989 and holds a copy of the yearly Christmas letter.

(For those of you who dread reading holiday letters, I advise you stop reading now, because what follows is a sort of Christmas letter of Christmas letters.)

Apparently it took me awhile to get those needles going on a regular basis: though I learned to knit in 1993, it was not until the letter of 1996 that knitting is mentioned... (this is going to start you anti-holiday letter folks moaning)... in rhyme. (I'll warn you one more time; turn off the computer and walk away now.)

1996: “When the messes are cleaned and the naps are long,  
Mimi’s needles start to sing a song,  
‘Bout a log cabin quilt and a red wool sweater,  
Rag dolls with hats and it gets even better.  
For every project in process, five lay in wait.  
O! the future looks full with two kids and a state  
Of mind making plans faster  
Than time allows her two hands to master.”

In 1997, redoing the kitchen and taking ballroom dance lessons bumped knitting from the letter.

1998: “ William (seven) still loves Legos, studies Lego catalogues the way I peruse knitting magazines and sorts through more Legos than he can build with. I say, ‘Not more Legos?’ He counters, ‘Not more yarn.’”

1999: “ Last year I had resolved that this would be our year to do volunteer work. The kids and I helped a local arts group send out a bulk mailing. Then I said, “Yes” to several projects at church and before I knew it, my resolution to do more volunteer work mushroomed into a lesson in leaning to say, “No”...not because I don't want to, but because there's a limit to how much I can do. I gave up my membership in the local Needle Arts Guild in order to attend meetings of the Knitting Guild. Carried away again, I had to make a late-1999 resolution—start no new projects until the six sweaters already underway are completed. (In case you are wondering how I can claim to have too many volunteer commitments and still have managed to start six sweaters, I will explain that I often knit during meetings. Knitting helps me focus, and different types of meetings call for different kinds of knitting.)”

(Obviously it took me several years to master the art of summing up in a few sentences.)

2000: “ We're moving to England! David has accepted a two-year position with Pilkington at its Technology Centre near Manchester. Home-schooling during this time will include traveling, different cultures, castles, sheep dogs, Jane Austen, Charles Darwin, the sea etc. With all those woolly sheep dotting the countryside, England holds the promise of new venues of yarn and knitting for Ann.”

2001: Bewildered descriptions of making Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings took precedence. No knitting mentioned, but I have no doubt that a knitting needle or two was used to poke holes in the Christmas cake, so that the brandy could thoroughly soak in.

2002: “ At 42 Windy Harbour Road, a guitar version of “Nu har ve jul igen” can be heard from the upstairs. From the kitchen waft the smells of biscuits (cookies for the neighbours) and a faint clicking sound of knitting needles.”

2003: Letter devoid of knitting. Memories book states that I made new Christmas stockings for everyone but they were sewn not knit.

2004: I take up yoga. We spend Christmas in Florida with my mother-in-law who was “knitting a multi-colored poncho with fun fur trim.”

2005: We move into a new house. I am wielding paintbrushes rather than knitting needles.

2006: We get a dog. I am into altered art. It is my mother-in-law’s last Christmas. Too busy, too sticky, too sad to knit.

2007: Memories Book records that on Christmas day I am “now and then knitting a hat for David.”[hubby-dearest]

2008: “She’s been cooking a lot more lately since the 6-foot, 200-pound exchange student from Kyrgyzstan arrived. Ann doubles all recipes and has relocated the biggest soup pot from the deep recesses of the cupboard to a front and central, easy-to-reach spot. Her knitting gets done while waiting to drive home from lessons, while waiting for gigs to stage, and while waiting in the lobby for performances to end.”

Looking back, I am relieved to see that I do do more than knit but happy to note that knitting is a constant thread that pops up again and again in the annals of my life.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



Many thanks to Vicki Jueng for setting up a Holey Toledo Knitters group on Ravelry. Once you have requested and received a login, you will be able to set up your user name and password. The HTKG group is Holey Toledo. The URL is <http://www.ravelry.com> so enjoy exploring the numerous features that include free patterns, a needle inventory, blogs, and too many more to list.

## Membership Reminder from Carrie Baum

It’s time to think about renewing your HTK membership for 2009. Dues remain the same at \$15 for the year (Jan-Dec). This may be paid at the meeting or by mail. Let me know if any of your information has changed since the last roster.

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## Membership Application & Renewal Form

**Please complete and send with \$15 check made payable to Holey Toledo Knitters to:  
Carrie Baum • 5051 Saint Aubin Drive • Toledo OH 43615-5912**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am  Beginner  Intermediate  Advanced Knitter

I am willing to be called to assist a new knitter \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to give a program on: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have included any contact information which you do not want included in the roster given to all members, please mark that item DNP (do not publish).*

**President** ..... Susan Davis, 2918 Glenn Street, Toledo OH 43613, 419.472.1926,  
suemdavis@buckeye-express.com

**Vice President** ..... Tracey Maris, 3323 Gallatin Road, Toledo OH 43606, 419.535.5855; sjmu47@bex.net

**Secretary** ..... Lynda Yinger, 13820 Fike Road, Riga MI 49276, 517.486.4707, lu1122lu@aol.com

**Treasurer** ..... Sue Nailor, 305 E. Dudley St., Maumee OH 43537, 419.893.8873,

**Membership Chair** ..... Carrie Baum, 5051 Saint Aubin Dr., Toledo OH 43615-5912, 419.537.9325; carriebaum@toast.net

**Newsletter** ..... Elaine Robinson, 5009 Larkhaven Drive, Toledo OH 43623, 419.841.1648; elaine@nosibor.net

Dues will be sent to Carrie Baum who will maintain a membership database. Carrie will also coordinate a "cheer" mailing list for members who are ill or bereaved. Please let her know if you know of someone who is in need of some "cheer."

## Area Knitting News

Besides the following open knitting opportunities, we have been informed of two more.

Monday ..... Vintage Yarns, Sterns Road @ Secor 6 to 8 P.M.  
Tuesday ..... Yarn Cravin' in Perrysburg  
Tuesday ..... Barnes & Noble on Monroe Street @ 6:30

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