



The Center for Knit and Crochet, Inc.
2014 Annual Report

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LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

The Center for Knit and Crochet, Inc. (CKC) thanks all CKC members for supporting a fledgling organization with vital resources in 2014, and its directors and volunteers for generously sharing their time, energy, and expertise to help us pursue our goal of creating a virtual museum for knitting and crochet. In 2015, CKC members will have more opportunities to get personally involved with the ongoing work of the CKC, and will begin to reap the true benefits of membership in this visionary organization.

The CKC is exceptionally fortunate to have leadership from professionals with diverse experiences and credentials. Thanks is due to the CKC's current and former officers, Karen D. Kendrick-Hands, President; Nicole D. Scalessa, Secretary, Marilyn J. Huset, Treasurer, and directors, Mary Colucci; Jolie A. Elder; Kathleen Stiso Mullins, Ph.D.; Margaret S. Peterson; Myrna A. I. Stahman; and Barbara S. Tuceling, who have given generously of their time and expertise during a challenging and intensive period of organizational development in 2013-2014. The Board of Directors also thanks these volunteers for contributing their professional skills and experience to the work of the CKC: Kristi Gersbach, Membership Coordinator; June Hemmons Hiatt, Nomenclature Committee; Laura Chance, Technology Committee; and Sarah Newhouse, Technology Committee. Please see our [website](#) for CKC Board of Directors' and volunteers' biographies and contact information.

Our financial health and accomplishments in 2014 are outlined below.

Jennifer Lindsay
Vice President
Center for Knit and Crochet, Inc.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The CKC ended the 2014 fiscal year in solid financial condition. As of December of 2014, the CKC had augmented the resources carried over from previous years with funds from 85 paid memberships. The most significant expenses in 2014 were the 501(c)(3) application filing fee, the website hosting service, and the promotional materials the CKC purchased for use at VK LIVE.

The CKC also received significant and generous donations from Board members and others. Directors Karen Kendrick-Hands, Jennifer Lindsay, and Nicole Scalessa donated their travel expenses to attend VK LIVE in New York in order to introduce and promote the CKC. Trisha Malcolm, Editor of Vogue Knitting, waived the cost of the CKC's VK LIVE booth. Larry Hands and Karen Kendrick-Hands donated the office space that serves as the CKC's corporate headquarters in Madison, WI, the Constant Contact subscription service, and funds for marketing the CKC and facilitating correspondence with CKC members. The CKC also received pro bono legal services from Bodman, PLC in Ann Arbor, MI related to preparing the 501(c)(3) application.

2014 Financial Statements

Center for Knit and Crochet, Inc.
Financial Statements
2014

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>			
Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,945	\$ 4,526	\$ 1,419
Prepaid Expenses	145		145
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 6,090</u>	<u>\$ 4,526</u>	<u>\$ 1,564</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 6,090</u>	<u>\$ 4,526</u>	<u>\$ 1,564</u>
Liabilities and Equity			
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ 82	\$ (82)
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 82</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 82</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>
Equity			
Net Assets - Unrestricted	\$ 6,090	\$ 4,444	\$ 1,646
Total Equity	<u>\$ 6,090</u>	<u>\$ 4,444</u>	<u>\$ 1,646</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$ 6,090</u>	<u>\$ 4,526</u>	<u>\$ 1,564</u>
<u>PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT</u>			
Income			
Donations and Gifts	\$ 7,765	\$ 1,782	\$ 5,983
Membership Dues	2,975	-	2,975
Interest Earned	2	1	1
Total Income	<u>\$ 10,742</u>	<u>\$ 1,783</u>	<u>\$ 8,959</u>
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 649	\$ 550	\$ 99
Advertising and Promotion	5,398	82	5,316
Organizational Expenses	1,850	597	1,253
Rent Expense	1,200	1,200	-
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 9,096</u>	<u>\$ 2,429</u>	<u>\$ 6,668</u>
Net Income/(Loss)	<u>\$ 1,646</u>	<u>\$ (645)</u>	<u>\$ 2,291</u>

ACCOMPLISHMENTS in 2014

CKC is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation!

Attaining tax-exempt status in 2014 was a huge achievement, solidifying the credibility of the CKC to the public and other entities. The CKC is now able to give donors tax deductions for charitable gifts, and is eligible for federal, state, and local grants that will help us to further our mission to preserve and promote the art, craft, and scholarship of knitting, crochet, and related arts. **Contributions, including annual membership dues, are now fully tax-deductible retroactive to the incorporation of the organization on December 13, 2012.** We are thrilled that we attained United States Internal Revenue Service approval in just over eight months. With this major effort out of the way, we can continue to work on the following objectives:

- Developing a uniform, technically accurate, user-friendly, standardized nomenclature for knitting and crochet;
- Developing a virtual museum of high-quality digital images and catalogue records of knitted and crocheted objects; and
- Developing, curating and mounting online exhibitions, as well as temporary and traveling exhibitions, juried shows, and design competitions.

The CKC thanks Marilyn Huset, Jennifer Lindsay, Jolie Elder, Kathleen Mullins, and the law firm of Bodman PLC for their hard work on the 501(c)(3) application. For more information, please visit www.centerforknitandcrochet.org. To view the United States Internal Revenue Service letter approving the CKC's tax-exempt status, click [here](#). To receive a copy of the CKC's application for tax-exempt status, please contact Marilyn Huset, Treasurer, at mhuset@centerforknitandcrochet.org.

Vogue Knitting LIVE! 2014

In January of 2014, Karen Kendrick-Hands, Jennifer Lindsay, Nicole Scalessa, and Mary Colucci attended Vogue Knitting LIVE! in New York to introduce the CKC. The CKC thanks Trisha Malcolm, Editor of Vogue Knitting, for providing the CKC with a complimentary booth at the event. The CKC's officers gave a presentation on "A Virtual Museum for Knitting and Crochet" in the VK LIVE Marketplace and offered demos on how to safely pack and store knitted and crocheted objects. It was exciting to exchange ideas for the online museum with knitters and crocheters; the CKC recruited more than 50 Charter Members as a result of attending this event. The CKC continues to use the logo tote bags and promotional postcards purchased for VK LIVE to welcome new members.

Annual Membership Review

The CKC recruited a total of 85 members in 2014. In 2015, the CKC Board of Directors will step up its efforts to retain current members and to recruit new members online and at special events. The Board thanks Kristi Gersbach, who volunteers as the CKC's Membership Coordinator, for her extraordinary dedication and hard work acknowledging all new members and keeping current members up to date on their membership status. Ms. Gersbach also maintains the CKC's mailing list and circulates the CKC's e-mail communications to members and friends.

Annual CKC Website, Blog, and Social Media Review

The CKC thanks Nicole Scalessa for designing the CKC's logo and creating the [CKC's website](#), in January 2014. In 2014, the CKC website garnered nearly 7000 unique visitors, nearly 15,000 visits, and nearly 50,000 page views. Starting in September of 2014, Ms. Scalessa began coordinating new and regular posts to [CKC's Blog](#). She also manages the [CKC's Twitter feed](#), and the [CKC's Facebook page](#), which has 1,433 "Likes." The Facebook page generated nearly 600 new visitors to the CKC's website in 2014. The CKC has a [Ravelry Group](#), with 197 followers, actively led by Board member Jolie Elder. In 2015, the CKC will continue to use its website and social media outlets to share rich and engaging content, and to connect professionals, practitioners, scholars, collectors, enthusiasts, and the public with CKC's mission to preserve and promote the art, craft, and scholarship of knitting, crochet, and related arts. The CKC's growing digital presence will be a critical asset in the virtual museum's success as we plan for the future.

2014 Nomenclature Committee Report

The Nomenclature Committee, formed in 2014, was made possible by the generous contribution of time and expertise by Jennifer Lindsay, Committee Chair, and [June Hemmons Hiatt](#), knitting expert and noted author of *The Principles of Knitting: Methods and Techniques of Hand Knitting*, Touchstone Press, rev. ed. 2012. Ms. Hiatt developed a concise yet comprehensive framework for identifying and describing knitted and crocheted objects. The current draft of the CKC Nomenclature contains the essential general classifications applicable to both knitting and crochet, and special terminology for knitting. In 2015, [Edie Eckman](#), noted author and instructor, will join the Nomenclature Committee, review the proposed general classifications for completeness as to crochet, and develop the special crochet terminology.

Once the CKC Nomenclature is complete, anticipated in mid- to late 2015, the Nomenclature Committee will develop and seek Board approval for a plan to solicit review and comment on the CKC Nomenclature from curators and experts in knitting, crochet, and related textile traditions, and from experts in digital information management for online collections. The Nomenclature Committee will then recruit and enable testers from different communities within the CKC's core audience, and establish a streamlined and secure way to collect and evaluate their comments. Finally, the Nomenclature Committee will develop a process for approving changes to the CKC Nomenclature, and will establish a secure source from which to share the CKC Nomenclature, and any future modifications to it, with the public.

The result will be a uniform, technically accurate, user-friendly, standardized CKC Nomenclature for knitting and crochet that will provide knitters, crocheters, museums and similar collecting institutions, textile professionals, individual collectors, and members of the public with 1) a shared set of terms that can be used to describe knitted, crocheted, and related items in a consistent way; and 2) a general checklist that can be used, in full or in part, to structure the cataloguing of these objects in databases and other relational record-keeping systems. As a standard frame of reference in common use, the CKC Nomenclature will enable individuals and institutions to add terminology and terms of art that are meaningful and historically accurate to what is currently known about the knitted and crocheted objects in their care, facilitating future scholarship and exhibitions across international collections. The CKC Nomenclature will also be used to organize and disseminate the metadata collected within the Technology Committee's proposed mentoring system, described more fully below.

2014 Technology Committee Report

A Technology Committee was formed in 2014 to investigate and make recommendations on best practices and future steps for establishing a virtual museum of high-quality digital images and catalogue records of knitted and crocheted objects in CKC collections, affiliate museum/library collections, personal collections, or all three, that would be embedded in a secure format made searchable using the CKC established nomenclature.

The Technology Committee was made possible by the generous contribution of time and expertise of Nicole Scalessa, Committee Chair and IT Manager at the Library Company of Philadelphia; Laura Chance, the Temporary Librarian for Art, Art History, and Architecture at Temple University Libraries; and Sarah Newhouse, Digital Collections Archivist at the Chemical Heritage Foundation. The Committee investigated options for purchasing a museum-quality data storage and access infrastructure as basis for building and maintaining an independent system that would include both descriptive data and high-resolution images, but found the cost of such a system to be exorbitant in the short term and unsustainable over time. The Committee is currently evaluating an alternative, open source approach that would allow the CKC to function as a mentoring institution, supporting the digitization and standardized cataloging of knit and crochet collections in under-resourced institutions, and then gathering and disseminating this shared metadata from a lightweight central hub or portal that would lead everyone interested in the subject matter to collections otherwise hidden at these partner institutions, at other participating galleries, libraries, archives, museums, and among collectors. Thus conceived, the CKC's system will also provide an opportunity to engage volunteers, researchers, and students to build their own digital applications and exhibitions.

In 2015 the Technology Committee will work with the CKC Board of Directors and the Nomenclature Committee to document a plan of action that includes organizational standards of description, minimal requirements for digitization, preservation planning, and suggested workflows for those participating in the mentoring program. The CKC will then seek grant funding to implement this plan. Once the basic requirements are established, volunteers will be called upon to seek out and engage participants in the program and act as their official Center for Knit and Crochet mentor. Finally, the Technology Committee will write a second plan of action for providing access to the data shared by program partners in a centralized portal or hub managed by CKC with an intended date of implementation in 2016.

Exhibitions Update

In November 2014, Board members Karen Kendrick-Hands and Jolie Elder approached [Dr. Angharad Thomas](#) and [Beth Brown-Reinsel](#) about co-curating an online exhibition on Sanquhar gloves for CKC's website. Dr. Thomas, a Senior Lecturer at the School of Art and Design, University of Salford, Huddersfield, UK, brought a memorable collection of hand knitted Sanquhar gloves to the CKC's founding Symposium in November of 2012. She maintains a regular blog, [Knitting Gloves](#), documenting her experiments in this historical technique. She also started [The Glove Project](#). Ms. Brown-Reinsel, a noted knitter, scholar, designer and teacher, regularly teaches [an intensive workshop](#) on Sanquhar knitting. The online exhibition, under development and expected in the Fall of 2015, will share an estimated two-dozen historical and contemporary examples of Sanquhar knitting, along with current scholarship and perspectives on the history of this technique and its present resurgence of popularity.