

Westchester Knitting Guild Newsletter ©

This newsletter is for the exclusive use of members of the WKG.



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Cindy Haub



Monday June 24th, 7:00 pm.

Stranded Color Work

Our June lecturer is Cindy Haub, who lives 25 miles outside of Philadelphia. She has been knitting for 18 years and enjoys knitting everything from Lace to Color Work—she especially likes to knit gloves. For the last 3 years, she has won First Place for her color work gloves at Maryland Sheep & Wool.

In this lecture she'll give us a better understanding of Color Work by covering:

- ◆ Holding yarn in two hands
- ◆ Yarn dominance
- ◆ Trapping floats
- ◆ The best yarn to use for color work

In addition to talking about these topics, she will do a quick lesson on doing color work with 2 hands. If you are interested in trying it, here is the homework for the Lecture:

Pick two contrasting colors of worsted weight yarn. Using either double points or magic loop and needle size for your yarn.

Cast on 48 stitches with main color join in the round and do a knit 2 purl 2 for 6 rounds

From the President

(Random thoughts on knitting)

At this time of year my thoughts turn to summer weight fibers, especially cotton and linen. I know many people do not like working with linen because some linen yarn can feel stiff and scratchy until it is washed. I for one remain undeterred. I currently have 18 mini skeins of linen, each skein a different color waiting for me. Last year I used my mini skeins to make Stephen West's Unicorn Parallelogram scarf. The linen version was my second; I had made one in wool for winter use.

Cotton has its own characteristics, soft, and washable but lacking the ability to spring back when stretched. Cotton is great for baby bibs, towels, wash cloths, scarves and sweaters. Within the last year three new cousins were born, and so I am busy making bibs for each baby. Bibs are a good way to play around with stitch motifs; clearly garter works, as does stockinette, but so do any number of other stitch iterations. I am currently using stitch patterns from Cecilia Campochiaro's book Sequence Knitting, as well as Barbara Walker's many volumes of stitch combinations.

Share your knitting discoveries with your fellow guild members, we welcome guild members contributions whether written or visual.

It is Spring, cross-pollinating is a good thing!

See page 6 for Suzanne Kavic's take on the subject of cotton and linen. We are all on the same wave length!

As always, Happy Knitting

J. Evelyne Liebmann



There is still time!



The color work workshop, Vinterfjell hat, with Cindy Haub has **TWO openings.**

It will be held on Sunday, June 23, 1:30-4:30 pm at the Mt. Pleasant library.

Please contact Suzanne K right away if you would like to attend (using the following email):

WKGeducation@gmail.com

Cindy, who has won many awards for her work, will be teaching us how to do color work using Continental and throwing techniques one in each hand and for each of the colors for each row. She will be addressing tension issues, so if you've tried this technique before and ended up knitting much tighter, or much looser than you've ever knit before, she can help you fix that! This is not a class for beginner knitters (although it is appropriate for advanced beginners and up) and you must be comfortable knitting in the round and reading charts.

You'll need to come to the class with your yarns, having already purchased and printed the pattern from Ravelry with the cuff of the hat completed, as we will jump into the Color work as soon as the class begins.

Since this is a fairly intensive class, if you haven't finished the cuff, the class will NOT wait for you to catch up!

The price of the class is \$50 for WKG members and \$60 for nonmembers.

K A L

During the last Guild meeting I led a workshop on my favorite toe-up sock techniques. We learned Judy's Magic Cast On. I find it the best way to control the stitches and the most attractive. It's a bit of a challenge but worth, I believe, the effort.

So during our next meeting, after reviewing the CO technique and getting some feedback on your experiences, we are going to continue with my next favorite technique -- the heel; it's my favorite because there are no pick-up-and-knit's or w&t's included. It is just straightforward. If you all agree, we can then look at my favorite bind off -- Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind Off. It's easy to remember and lives up to its promise.

The reason I'm proceeding through all these steps is that I am unable to attend our July meeting. We can talk about more meetings or, knowing that I am at the "Help Desk", I'll always be available and willing to meet you if you have questions or just want to share your thoughts and show me what you've accomplished.

If you were not able to join us during the first session, please don't hesitate to come and see what this is all about.

Hope to see you about 5:45 at our next Guild meeting.

Dorothy Freeman

Summer time ... and the knitting is easy!

Some knitters don't want to knit due to summer temperatures – it's just too hot. I don't think knitting is a seasonal sport so I choose projects and fibers to use at this time, under these conditions. Here are some ideas to comfortably knit during the warmer months.

First, Kids Kloset has put out a request for children's clothing for the summer season. One suggestion I have is to knit cotton toddler size sweaters, especially cardigans. They are quick and comfortable to work on.

Second, cotton cancer caps are another idea. Most women undergoing chemotherapy would like to wear a cap but wool or even acrylic is too uncomfortable. Very soft and pretty cotton would be greatly appreciated.

Third, we always need premie blankets (15" square) and even premie caps. You must use acrylic to insure a non-allergic fiber for such sensitive skin. Also, the caps cannot have a seam; so if you do not excel in knitting in the round this would be a good project to improve – or learn – this technique.

Fourth, may we suggest you consider wool and knit a very small project, like baby socks. I (Dorothy) have been knitting baby socks with wool sock yarn – it's fun, quick and rewarding. I would love to share the pattern with you.

All these projects are needed and the recipients will be most grateful. As always, we want to thank you for all you do for those in need.

Dorothy Freeman and Linda Cramer

Summer Knitting

Do you knit in the summer? I'm always surprised at how many people view knitting as a winter-only sport. True, bulky wool and metal needles are not a great combination poolside, but there are other fantastic fiber options and patterns to keep you busy all summer long.

If you haven't already, give linen or cotton yarns a try. Cool and drapey, linen is perfect for summer tops. It softens up incredibly with washing and drying, especially if you throw it IN THE DRYER. Cotton is strong, breathable and comfortable against the skin. It also gets softer with washing and is machine washable. Both fibers are not as "springy" as wool, so can feel a little stiffer to knit but the results are worth it! Of course, lighter weight wool and wool blend yarns (think lace, fingering, sport) are also great, especially for smaller projects.

In addition to pretty summer tops, projects that are perfect for the warmer weather include socks, lace shawls and scarves, and accessories. Think headbands, knitted jewelry, tote bags, washcloths, pillows and even toys. It's a great time to work up all the smaller projects that you use as gifts throughout the year.

And of course, we can still knit the "heavy" stuff inside with the air conditioning!

Suzanne K

News of Interest

Program date change:

Melissa Leapman will still be doing the modular shawl workshop Sunday October 13, but her talk will be November 4.

Suzanne Sunday

We are on Instagram!

@westchesterknittingguild

And we can be tagged on Instagram with:

#westchesterknittingguild

Many thanks to Suzanne Kavic ,our education coordinator, for setting us up on Instagram. (We are also on Facebook) Contact Suzanne if you have something you think would be of interest to post on Instagram.



Knitting News

Calendar

June 24th Cindy Haub
July 22nd Picnic

MEETING SCHEDULE

5:45 Knit Along
6:45 Announcements &
Show and Tell
7:00 Program

Meetings are held on the 4th
Monday of the month at the

Pleasantville Library

350 Bedford Road
Pleasantville, NY 10570
914-741-0276

www.mountpleasantlibrary.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- It's time to renew your membership for 2019. Annual dues are \$35. Jeanne will accept payment at the next meeting.
- Please bring finished items for charity to the monthly meetings.
- Please bring donations of yarn and plastic or wood knitting needles for the prison knitting program at Taconic to monthly meetings.
- Guests are welcome. There will be a \$10 fee for guests.

MEETING ETIQUETTE REMINDER

We are fortunate to have high quality presenters during our monthly meetings. Even if you are not interested in the presentation or mini-workshop, please be respectful of others and remember:

- No talking during presentation
- Wait until Q&A period to ask questions
- Wait for the presentation to end before trying on, or looking at samples

Thank you for your cooperation.

westchesterknittingguild.com

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