

VOLUME 15 • ISSUE 2
OCTOBER 2010

knitting Yarns



OCTOBER 20: SOAK & ELISE DUVEKOT

We have an exciting double-header coming up for the October meeting—we will be joined by Jacqueline Sava, entrepreneur and creator of SOAK wool wash, and Elise Duvokot, knitting innovator and author of *Knit One Below*.

First up is **Jacqueline Sava**, the mastermind behind SOAK fibre wash. Since creating her first business plan as a high school project, she has had a passion for entrepreneurship and business. Launched in Canada in 2005, SOAK enjoyed immediate success with everyone from knitters to quilters to fashion-conscious clothing shoppers. Now, SOAK can be found in Boutiques and Department Stores (intimate apparel sections) in North America, the UK, Japan and beyond.

Elise Duvokot is a knitwear designer and author of the book *Knit One Below – One Stitch, Many Fabrics*, published by XRX Books in 2008. Elise's enthusiasm for novel techniques led to the completely new approach presented in this book. Her inspiration comes from geometrical patterns and from the many beautiful colors and yarns that have become available in recent years.

As far as the style of her work is concerned, it can best be described as traditional in workmanship, while modern in color and design.

She divides her time between the Old World (The Netherlands) and the New World (Canada). In addition to knitting strands of various yarns together as a designer, she knits words of

various languages together as a translator. Knitting and translating both provide ideal environments in which to be creative and productive; the best of both worlds.

NOVEMBER MEETING PREVIEW

November will see the return of our annual **Skills Exchange Mini-Workshops**. We will invite guild members to present a knitting or crochet skill that can be taught in 15 minutes.

Eight learning stations will be set up around the auditorium. Members who wish to participate will gather at a particular station, learn the skill presented and then move to the next station. It's a fun evening out, with many fun and valuable skills being shared by DKC Members.

NOTE: Volunteer teachers needed! If you have a knitting or crochet technique you'd be willing to share with your fellow guild members at the meeting, please contact a member of the executive.



Upcoming Meeting Dates

Wednesday, October 20, 2010

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Location

Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave.

NW corner of St. George St. and Sussex Ave.
on the University of Toronto campus.

TTC Access

Five-minute walk south from St. George subway station.

Parking available at several nearby locations.

Meeting Time: 7:30 p.m.

Doors Open: 6:45 p.m.

Admission

\$6.00 for guests and Newsletter Only Subscribers

Free to Full Members (please show card at door)

All Downtown Knit Collective meetings, functions and events are governed by the Rules of Conduct as determined by the Executive.

To read a copy of the Rules, please visit
www.downtownknitcollective.ca/dkc_conduct.html

Announcements

A tip for new members and a reminder for old—Dr. Knit (Denise Powell) is available at our meetings to assist you with any knitting questions that you may have. Bring your problems to the Doctor.

Mairi McKissock has been teaching Swedish Tvåändsstickning (twined knitting) in the Toronto area since she moved here three years ago. There is a lot of interest in the technique, but there are still relatively few available patterns in English. Classes will be held at Creative Yarns in Scarborough on Sunday afternoons for the remainder of the year, and interested knitters can sign up for as many sessions as needed to get help with realizing project ideas or adapting existing patterns:

Creative Yarns
269 Ellesmere Road, Scarborough
416-331-8085

The annual DKC bus trip is scheduled for Saturday November 6th. Details will be available shortly.

Our annual Skills Exchange Mini-Workshops are coming up in November—it's an opportunity to learn and share new techniques. We are currently looking for members who would like to teach at the workshops (4-6 15 minute sessions) Please contact us ASAP.

Knit East—Atlantic Fibre Fest: Scheduled for September 30, October 1 and 2, 2011. Read all about it at www.kniteast.com.

Wise Daughters Craft Market (Dundas St W and Keele St area) is hosting "It's My Yarn Party (and I'll Buy if I Want To)" Weekend Event, Friday October 15 - Sunday October 17. Read all about it on www.wisedaughters.com

YARN SWAP AND SALE: hosted by our DKC President, Carole Adams Saturday October 16th—12 noon to 8:00 pm

- yarn swap and sales, notions and gadgets available, books and magazines, ball winding
- come knit and chat
- coffee, tea and goodies will be available

If you have a large volume of knitting-related items that you would like to sell, please contact Carole at 416-621-9820 or caroleadams23@hotmail.com to book a \$5

table. Location:
299 Mill Road
Party Room - ground floor
(Burnhamthorpe bus from the Islington Subway Station OR west of Hwy 427, by car)

Join Julia Bryant and a small group of fun seeking crafters and artists for a high-spirited journey to Morocco in March 2011. We will travel down the west coast and visit the historic cities of Marakesh and Fez. We will visit local crafts people, historic sites, shop in the souks and enjoy the amazing countryside. Evenings will be spent in informal craft seminars and discussions. To wrap it all up, a Moroccan cooking class! Please contact Julia Bryant at juliajoyous@gmail.com, or visit my website www.fibrefantastics.com to download the brochure and itinerary. **ONLY 3 SPACES LEFT!**

Show and Tell

Kim showed a scarf made from Kid-Silk haze and beads she bought on the TTC Knitalong.

Donna made a grey mohair lace shawl for her (very lucky) mother's 60th birthday. It's 68" wide and took two months to make.

Elena submitted a "How I spent my summer" report. Short answer—SOCKS. She finished 'only' six pairs for elderly relatives using yarn she unravelled from old sweaters.

Jody's summer project is entitled "From Russia With Love". She has befriended a Siberian knitter (Katyusha) on Ravelry, and helped her translate her patterns into English so she can offer them for sale. She also modelled one of Katya's vests, a lovely pattern with blackberry stitch and vines.

Anastasia spent her summer finishing a bunch of UFOs. Simple Yet Effective shawl, Poseidon socks, a long cranberry scarf and a very cool Anna hat with pleats made using three-needle bind off.

Cristina showed a full-length skirt made with Noro Mitsumi. The colour changes work beautifully with the pattern and Cristina says she loves to twirl around and show it off.

Elizabeth knit a very innovative vest which she modestly claims is "just a rectangle"

out of orange bamboo from Dye-Version. She says at least 30 people stopped her to ask about it at the Kitchener Knitter's Fair.

Raffle

Gloria Williams—Kertzer Prize Pack
Anastasia Pelechaty— Estelle Hat Kit
Bonnie Jull—Diamond Prize Pack
Jody Campbell—Louet Varsity Scarf Kit
Pam Lowry—Diamond Prize Pack
Monica Reilly and Donna Campbell both won a handknit sweater from Kertzer by finding stickers hidden under the armrests in the auditorium.

Yarn Reps

A fun evening was had by all involved at our ever-popular New Yarns Kickoff. Our special guests for the night (Pam from Louet, Josie from Kertzer and Kathryn from Diamond) treated everyone to a special sneak peek of their new fall lines. It was a fun evening for socializing and of course looking at sample cards, garments, yarn baskets and even catching some flying fibre in Diamond's annual yarn toss. Thanks to all the reps for generously sharing their time and their yarn with us!



KNITTING FOR A CURE by Joan Kass

Our hats, scarves and shawls do not go unnoticed. Many, many scarves and hats were delivered to the Cancer Society at the conclusion of this year's Relay for Life. Lucy Chan, chairperson at the Toronto Centre Relay event forwarded the following lovely email to us in response to this donation:

"I always enjoy opening your shipments and was delighted with the contents! It was great to see that there are a variety of colours, yarn and designs. The hats were also a welcome donation. Please pass my thanks on to all the knitters."

Leslie Sheriff, Volunteer Resources Coordinator
Canadian Cancer Society
Princess Margaret Hospital Lodge

Denise Powell has volunteered to deliver our monthly donations to Leslie at Princess Margaret Lodge.

I encourage you all to continue knitting scarves and hats in a variety of colours. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

STITCH OF THE MONTH by Diane Martin

We are pleased to welcome Diane Martin as a regular newsletter columnist! Each month she will profile a different stitch, plus any "happy accidents" she has discovered along the way.

Basket-Weave Pattern

Worked on an even number of stitches.

Row 1: (right side) K1, * pass needle behind 1st st, k into back of 2nd st leaving it on needle, the k into front of 1st st and slip both off needle; rep from * to last st, k1.

Row 2: P2, * pass needle in front of 1st st, lift up 2nd st and p it leaving it on needle, then p 1st st and slip both off needle; rep from * 2 sts, p2.

These 2 rows form pattern.

Source: stitch insert removed from a Pingouin pattern book from the late 1980s-early 1990s
(This stitch is also called Plaited Basket Stitch in the Mary Thomas book).

HOWEVER,

This is what was knit (aka, knitter does not read the instructions and skips merrily ahead.)

Even number of stitches

Row 1: K1,* skip 1, K1B - do not drop, k skipped st, drop both from needle; rep from *, end k1.

Row 2: K1, *skip 1, p 1 - do not drop, p skipped st, drop both from needle; rep from *, end k1.

Abb. K1B = knit 1 through back loop



original basket weave

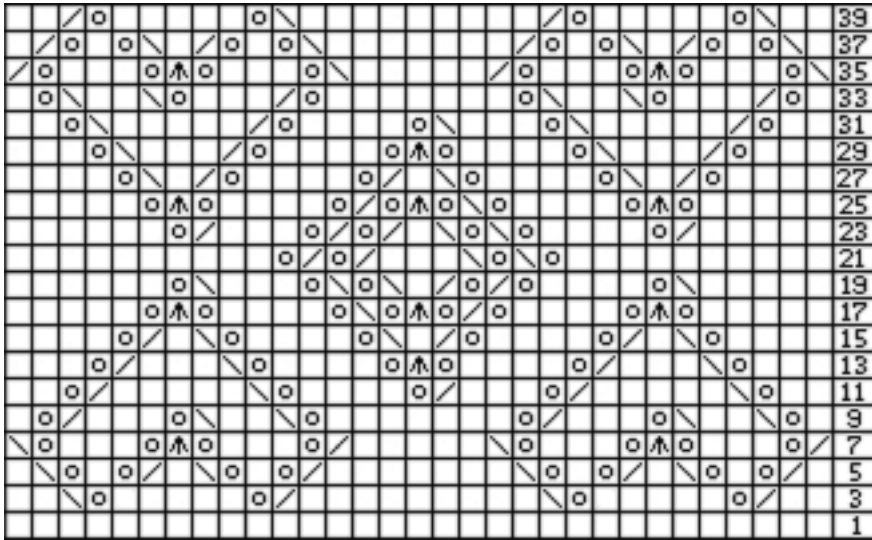


basket weave variant

Hearts & Diamonds Lace
Copyright 2010 Denise Powell

This is a pattern for a simple lace that makes a nice scarf or could be used elsewhere. If you are making a scarf, you need to add a three or four stitch garter border to each side.

The chart shows only the right side rows—wrong side rows are simply purl.



- K
- YO
- K2TOG
- ssk
- Sl 2 tog, k1, p2 sso



Knitting by Wendy Mauzeroll

UPCOMING EVENTS

CreativFestival 2010

October 22, 23 & 24

This massive fall event returns to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for its 23rd year. Fibres, fabrics, papers, beads, patterns, kits and must-have notions, tools and equipment. 200+ hands-on workshops are featured, including our own Dr. Knit, Denise Powell:

- Tips and Tricks for Upsizing Sweaters—Thurs Oct 21 9 am to noon,
- Slip Sliding Away—Thurs Oct 21, 5 pm to 7 pm
- A Hat Without a Pattern—Sat Oct 23 from 9 am to noon.

Registration and more information is available at **www.creativfestiva.ca**

5th Annual DKC Bus Trip

Details for this annual excursion are firming up fast! The trip is slated for Saturday, November 6th, departing from the Finch Subway Station.

Morning stop: Alpacas from Eighth and Mud (Hamilton)

Luncheon at a Country Inn (TBA)

Afternoon Shopping: Shall We Knit (New Hamburg)

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