

knitting Yarns



JANUARY 18: CAROL TOMANY

Carol Tomany, a.k.a. Anne Corcoran of Queen Anne's Lace Knitting, has created a dynamic power point presentation on the design process in knitting. Featured in the presentation are the ten scarves from her Forest Scarves Series.

Carol says, "Because I am often asked where I get the ideas for my lace designs, I decided to put together a presentation with photographs from nature showing how I have translated various aspects of the forest, for example—trees, leaves, ferns, flowers etc, into lace."

This is a great opportunity for knitters to see and discuss how a knitting pattern is developed, from something as seemingly insignificant as moss, into a pretty lace scarf.

The power point presentation lasts about 45 minutes, with time for discussion after the presentation.

Feedback from these presentations has been wonderful. As one knitter said, "I didn't realize that I was surrounded by so much design that could be used in

knitting. I now see knitting patterns in brickwork, tiles, almost everywhere."

We look forward to Carol sharing her expertise and creativity with us.



COMING UP IN FEBRUARY

Our February meeting sees the return of the ever-popular Skills Exchange Mini Workshops, and we're still looking for volunteer teachers. Please contact Cristina (programme@downtownknitcollective.ca) if you've got a technique you'd like to share.

FROLIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Tech savvy? Knowledgeable about Facebook and Twitter? Join the **Frolic Social Networking Committee**. Contact Donna Campbell (kittyknitter@bell.net).

Also, a **Frolic Volunteer Coordinator** is needed. Do you have good organizational skills? Work well with people? Please contact Wendy Mauzeroll (dkctreasurer@gmail.com).

DKC FOCUS GROUP UPDATE

More findings from the first-ever guild focus group session will be shared in the February newsletter.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

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

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DECEMBER 2011 MEETING

Approximately 120 members and guests braved a rainy winter night to attend our annual Fashion Show.

A PDF version of the full presentation, including pictures, complete design notes, descriptions and pattern information, is available on our website:

www.downtownknitcollective.ca/pdf/workofourhands.pdf

Fashion Show

This year's Fashion Show was run in a slightly different format. Broken down into categories by creative focus (each with a different MC) the models stood together as a group at the front so the garments could be appreciated for a longer stretch of time.

TR I U M P H S

Barb Scott—Triangles Within Triangles Shawl

Pattern source: Heartstring Fibre Arts

Materials: Knit Picks Shine Sport

Other than some issues in wrapping her brain around the chart repeats involved in knitting a top down triangular shawl, it went well and she is thrilled with the results.

Lesley Melliship—Transverse Noro Cardigan

Designer: Anne Weaver

Pattern Source: Interweave Knits

Materials: Noro Kureyon

The pattern is knit side to side, which allows the Noro yarn to stripe vertically. She had to rip back the left front and re-knit so that when it joined the back the colours would be continuous. Found two great big buttons to finish it off.

Rochelle Ribeiro—Patchwork Shawl

Designer: Sabine Schopf

Pattern Source: Wollzauber 01/2010

Materials: Zauberball Crazy

Rochelle started with 3 balls of Zauberball crazy, then ran out of before the end so she had to get a fourth ball. Now she's started another one with another colour of Zauberball Crazy.

Julia Bryant—Joseph's Coat of Many Colours

Tunisian crochet poncho, design based on an afghan pattern in Woman's Day Magazine over 30 years ago. When Julia had made up some of the squares for the

afghan, she decided it was too nice to put on her bed, so added strips and made it into a poncho. This started her passion for colour inlay in Tunisian crochet, and she then wanted to make a sweater, but found there were no patterns out there so had to start designing her own. The rest is history!

Pat Eldridge—Tiger Lily

Designer: Mary Ann Stephens

Materials: Stash yarn and 3mm needles

Pat started with a border done in multi-colour garter stitch with a simple colour pattern. With the rumpy texture, she likes to think of the band as a little 'rock garden' framing the lilies. She also added underarm gussets for ease of movement.

Irene Reed—Vintage Suit

A knitted suit Irene made 25-30 years ago, and congratulations are in order that she's still able to fit into it. It was a Jacobsdale Pattern and wool. The skirt is all ribbing, and the jacket has some cable detail.

Judith Hanninen—Aoelian Shawl

Designer: Elizabeth Freeman

Materials: Estelle Super Alpaca Lace

Paints, and over 2000 seed beads

The shawl took six months to complete, and was surprisingly easy to make. There were no rip-outs, as all the patterns fall over one another so it was easy to see boo-boos. A little tedious towards the end as there were almost 1000 stitches, but she really enjoyed this one and will do it again.

Wendy Mauzeroll—Pine Tree Palatine Scarf

Designer: Galina Khmeleva

Pattern source: Gossamer Webs Design Collection

Materials: Grignasco Merinosilk

Wendy began the project as a knitalong in September 2009, and it took almost 2.5 years. Six months into the project, she realized she was going to run out of yarn. In a panic, she searched stashes on Ravelry until she found a knitter in Montreal with one ball of the right colour and dye lot. The knitter took pity on Wendy and eventually agreed to sell her half of the ball.

Barb Scott—Entrelac Scarf

Designer: Kate Atherley

Materials: Noro Silk Garden

Entrelac has always fascinated Barb, and

after several failed attempts to figure it out on her own, she took a class from the amazing Kate Atherley. She loves the entrelac process so much that she has two more scarves on the needles for gifts.

Flo Flory—Beaded Pin and Bracelet:

Designer: Flo Flory

Materials: Farfalle beads

This is Flo's newest project. What is interesting is that these items are knit with farfalle beads, which are peanut-shaped and add another dimension to the item.

T E C H N I Q U E S

Lorna Aitkens—Circle Vest

Designer: Elaine Eskesen

Pattern source: "Silk Knits"

Materials: Noro Silk Garden

Lorna says this vest was very easy to knit.

This garment blocked beautifully, and has the advantage of being worn two ways.

Judith Hanninen—Camisole

Pattern source: Bergere de France

Materials: Esterelle 100% cotton

This camisole took three months to make. Judith had a terrible time sizing and ripped it out three times to get it right. She says it's really comfortable and was worth the extra effort.

Barb Scott—Felted Mittens with Fur Cuffs

Pattern source: TLC Yarn website

Materials: Patons Classic Wool and Lion Brand Fun Fur

This was Barb's first attempt at felting and her mittens turned out perfectly! They will keep her hands toasty warm this winter.

Rochelle Ribeiro—Shadow Shawl

Designer: Maureen Mason-Jamieson

Materials: Zitron Trekking XXI and

Berroco Ultra Alpaca Fine

Rochelle had no difficulty with the increases, but had trouble remembering to decrease. She does love the pattern and hopes to make another one when she has time.

Irene Reed—Shaded Jacket

Designer: Laura Bryant

Materials: Lace Wool from Prism Yarns

To give the shaded effect You start with three strands of A then change to 2A and 1B, then 1A and 2B, and finally 3B. She says it was a fun thing to knit and watch the colours change.

Judy Ponsford—Swing Jacket

Pattern source: Cabin Fever

Yarn used: Buffalo wool

The Cabin Fever swing coat is knit with white buffalo wool, which is six strands thick. Judy split it into two strands to knit this lovely, thick and warm jacket.

Pat Eldridge—Katherine of Aragon Pullover

Designer: Alice Starmore

Pattern source: Tudor Roses

Materials: Jumper weight yarn from Pat's stash in 15 shades of blue-greens, red-rusts and purples for the background, plus seven pale shades for the foreground.

This sweater is a Christmas gift for Pat's sister. She incorporated the motifs she liked and omitted those she wasn't fond of. Now that she has worked a number of Fair Isles, she has entirely stopped using dropped sleeve construction and now prefers working a bit of a cap at the top of sleeves.

Judy Ponsford—Garter Stitch Jacket

Pattern source: 1934 Vogue pattern

Materials: Fibranatura 50% wool, 50% silk
Judy took the vintage pattern and proved a classic shape and luxurious yarn are gorgeous even more than 75 years later.

S K I R T S**Marie Houghton**—Olive Heather Skirt

Designer: Veronique Avery

Yarn used: Diamond Galway Heather

What a great skirt for \$23.00! Marie doubled height of waist band and used remnant yarn to do so rather than break into another ball for the sake of a few rows. Added two strands of elastic thread through the waist band as insurance against slipping. She recommends wearing a body shaper underneath rather than worrying about fitting a liner.

Rosemary Herman—Ali Skirt

Pattern Source: Berroco

Materials: Noro Aya

Tamara Krievins—Hip in Hemp

Source: Knitty Summer 2007

Materials: Hemptathy by Elsebeth Lavold
Tamara's intent was to make the skirt as long as possible... by using every bit of the 10 balls in the bag. She ran out with just 5 more rounds to complete. Cristina to the rescue!! She just happened to have this

The Hemptathy yarn is not very sympathetic to work with, but after machine washing, the fabric is a delight to wear. Tamara accented her skirts with one of her favourite moebius wraps, this version knit in garter stitch using two strands of yarn held together: Louisa Harding Millais and Alessandra Filati Super Kid. The crocheted edging was worked in Debbie Bliss Alpaca Silk Aran yarn.

D E S I G N E R S**Michelle Porter**—Good Karma Farm Short Sleeve Cardigan

Materials: Wool/Alpaca blend from Good Karma Farm in Belfast, Maine.

Michelle based this design on the Diamond Yarn pattern #1356, which she designed for Lana Gatto Super Soft. The stitch pattern is bramble stitch. As the cardigan is a gift for her mother, she made the sleeves a few inches longer to suit her.

Denise Powell—King's Helm and Viking Helmet

Materials: Cascade 220

Two garments that are part of a single pattern. The King's Helm is a medieval helmet and aventail (chain mail neck guard) with built-in crown. The Viking Helmet is a more fanciful helmet with optional (and not historically correct!) horns, chin strap, and detachable beard. They were made as Christmas presents for her daughters' boyfriends, pattern soon to be made available on Patternfish.

Michelle Porter—Basic Cardi

Materials: Dye-Version BFL Sock

This is Michelle's own design, created to her grandmother's specifications. She made it basic stocking stitch so as not to draw away from the beauty of the yarn colours.

Pat Eldridge—Venezia

Designer: Eunny Jang

Pattern source: Interweave Knits

Materials: Jumper weight from Pat's stash in six shades of blue-green for the background with white foreground
Pat's construction varied significantly from the pattern. She started with a provisional cast-on so she could wait until the sweater was done before I decided how to finish the bottom. She used the 'try it on often and make it larger or smaller when you must' procedure. When most of the body was complete she went back and decided

she wanted additional length picked up the provisional cast on and worked downward. She also picked up and knit down from the cuffs to make them longer, and after closing the shoulder seams, picked up stitches around the sleeve opening and shaped a small cap using knit/purl rows and wrapping the stitches when turning.

C R O C H E T**Michelle Porter**—Sterling Wrap

Pattern Source: Fondle Pattern #111, free on her blog.

Materials: Cabin Fever Sterling in Tuxedo
Michelle says this is a very easy pattern, suitable for beginners or mindless work for the bus or in front of the TV. She edged it with dangling Swarovski crystals to great effect.

Julia Bryant—Swim Said the Little Fishy

This Tunisian crochet cardigan with knitted sleeves and bead design was made from 4-ply crepe yarn from Julia's stash, and wooden beads. The bead motifs depict fish, waves and reeds. The body of the sweater was worked in strips which were then joined with a single crochet on the right side. The sleeves are knitted with a wavy lace design down the centre. The welts, cuffs and neck are worked in a twisted 2x2 rib, the front bands worked in single crochet. She really enjoyed combining the different techniques.

Tamara Krievins—Swish Skirt

Designer: Josi Hannon Madera

Yarn used: Zoe worsted weight

The finished garment is a wonderful souvenir of a wonderful vacation in California! Josi is a stickler for fit: her patterns are custom-generated according to the measurements of the wearer. Negative-ease is necessary for the look and fit of the skirt, but there are also strategic increases and decreases for shaping in the tushie area. Tamara thought that this skirt would be worn mainly for elegant / formal occasions, with proper hosiery and a delicate shoe. She was surprised and delighted to be able to style the skirt with leggings, ballerina flats, and a denim jacket for casual and informal wear.

THANKS to all our knitters, models, MCs audience and executive for making this year's show a resounding success!

Frost Flowers

Multiple of 34 plus 2

Non-standard Abbrev: p2tog-b – purl 2 together through the back loops

Notes: Every row is a pattern row.

1st and last stitch of every row is knit.

Row 1 K1, *k3, k2tog, k4, yo, p2 (k2, yo, ssk)3 times, p2, yo, k4, ssk, k3; rep from *, end k1.

Row 2 K1, *p2, p2tog-b, p4, yo, p1, k2, (p2, yo, p2tog)3 times, k2, p1, yo, p4, p2tog, p2; rep from *, end k1.

Row 3 K1, *k1, k2tog, k4, yo, k2, p2, (k2, yo, ssk)3 times, p2, k2, yo, k4, ssk, k1; rep from *, end k1.

Row 4 K1, *p2tog-b, p4, yo, p3, k2, (p2, yo, p2tog)3 times, k2, p3, yo, p4, p2tog; rep from *, end k1.

Rows 5–12 Repeat Rows 1 through 4 twice more.

Row 13 K1, *yo, ssk, k2, yo, ssk, p2, yo, k2, ssk, k6, k2tog, k4, yo, p2, k2, yo, ssk, k2; rep from *, end k1.

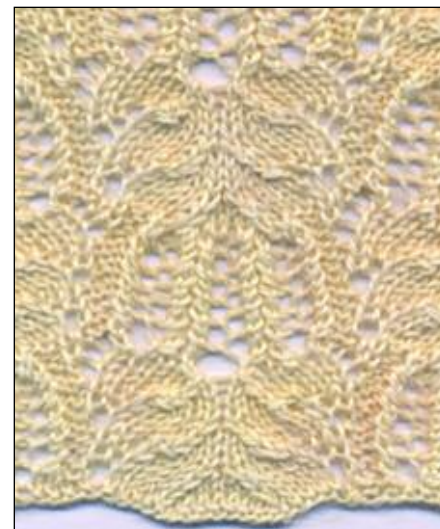
Row 14 K1, *yo, p2tog, p2, yo, p2tog, k2, p1, yo, p4, p2tog, p4, p2tog-b, p4, yo, p1, k2, p2, yo, p2tog, p2; rep from *, end k1.

Row 15 K1, *yo, ssk, k2, yo, ssk, p2, k2, yo, k4, ssk, k2, k2tog, k4, yo, k2, p2, k2, yo, ssk, k2; rep from *, end k1.

Row 16 K1, *yo, p2tog, p2, yo, p2tog, k2, p3, yo, p4, p2tog, p2tog-b, p4, yo, p3, k2, p2, yo, p2tog, p2; rep from *, end k1.

Rows 17–24 Repeat Rows 13 through 16 twice more.

Repeat Rows 1 – 24.



PUCKS N' PURLS UPDATE by Edna Zuber

Pucks n' Purls, a professional hockey game between the Toronto Marlies and the Hamilton Bulldogs, will be held Saturday, February 11, 2012 at Ricoh Coliseum. Game time is 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20, and only five weeks remain to get them—buy them now. This great family event is a marriage between hockey and knitting.

Duke the Dog Scarf: Denise Powell won the design contest with her scarf incorporating the Marlies logo. Duke, the Marlies mascot, was at the December meeting to congratulate the winner and present her with a pair of tickets to the game. Denise is busy knitting up a storm with Cascade yarn donated by Estelle Yarns, and will present Duke his new scarf during the game. Let's all be there to cheer for Denise and Duke.

Pre-Game Prize Draws: Knitting vendors and distributors are donating fabulous prizes for pre-game draws. Duke will also be tossing balls of yarn to the Pucks n' Purls sections, so start practicing your catching technique now.

The Fastest Knitter Face-Off: Linda Benne (Port Credit) and Wannietta Prescod (Angus) have agreed to face off for the Pucks n' Purls fastest knitter title. Linda set the North American record in 2004 and

Wannietta is the current (2008) Canadian champion. Watch the needles fly during intermission—hockey players don't have a lock on competitive spirit!

Post Game Skate—Exclusive to Pucks n' Purls ticket holders, there will be an hour-long post-game free skate on the Marlies ice, for up to a limit of 250 skaters. This is sure to be a highlight for hockey lovers.

Tickets will be on sale at the January DKC meeting, by contacting Joan Kass at dkcevents@hotmail.ca, or on-line. Go to www.marlies.ca/PucksNPurls. You will select the DKC or one of the many local yarn stores that are competing to sell the most on-line tickets to start the process, and the yarn store winner will be offered a special table in the Marlies Concourse.

Get all the latest information on our blog: pucksnpurls.tumblr.com



All proceeds from our meeting raffles are now being donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. So far this year we have raised \$747, with an end-of-season goal of \$1500. Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets at the start of each meeting!

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