



THE KNIT STITCH

❖ *PRESIDENT'S CORNER*

Next month will be our annual meeting where the membership will approve the new Board of Directors. These are:

President: Heather Sweet
Vice-President: Nancy Docken
Treasurer: Jane Niemi
Secretary: Kris King
Member-At-Large: Robin Brown
Events: Patsy Fisk
Ex-Officio: Maria Ann Youngs

Maria Ann Youngs
President

❖ *MUSINGS FROM JANE...*

Yarn Bombing, once a phenomenon, now a daily sighting began with Magda Sayeg, a textile artist. *Yarn bombing is when you take knitted or crocheted materials out into the environment, graffiti style, without permission or unsanctioned.* See more of this artist's words from the following Ted Talk:

http://www.ted.com/talks/magda_sayeg_how_yarn_bombing_grew_into_a_worldwide_movement?utm

Gale Woods Farm: A last minute invitation was extended to the Collaborative to demo machine knitting at the annual Sheep Shearing event. WOW! Did we have fun! In line with the other demos going on – wet felting an egg, also a dryer ball, mixing roving on a carding machine, hand knitting, and Saori weaving – all using WOOL - we did thrumming on the machine. Kids got to try their hands at the machine. Moms and dads were intrigued and happy to see their kids so interested in the variety of ways to use the roving and wool they had just seen shorn from the sheep. Nothing like imprinting textiles on youngsters and introduce them to machine knitting!

Stay tuned...upcoming surprise...make sure to come to the October meeting for a fun filled surprise / contest and December for the finale. It's a secret for now... shhhhhh

Founders' Fest: Things are coming together for a grand event. We are very excited about the new venue and the line-up of demonstrators. The direct link to register is: <http://www.midwestmachineknitters.org/events/foundersfest/>

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED...

Advice for Singer Sewing Machine 1949 Manual Prepare yourself for sewing. Think about what you are going to do. Never approach sewing with a sigh or lackadaisically. Good results are difficult when indifference dominates. Never try to sew with a sink full of dirty dishes or beds unmade. When there are urgent housekeeping chores, do these first so that your mind is free to enjoy your sewing. When you sew, make yourself as attractive as possible. Put on a clean dress, have your hair in order, powder and lipstick out on. If you are in constant fear that a visitor might drop in or your husband will come home, and you will not look neatly put together you will not enjoy your sewing.

❖ *PRESENTATIONS*

January – We talked about knitting machine manuals and a challenge was issued to our membership to try a new technique and bring it to the next meeting... did you accept the challenge?

February – Mid-gauge socks! Jane did a fabulous job showing us techniques to knit wonderfully warm socks on our mid-gauge machines.

March – Jason did an awesome job demonstrating weaving techniques. I (this is Dee) for one am really disappointed that I could not be there for this demo. If you haven't tried weaving on your machines, that's definitely something you should list as a goal for 2016!

Updates for July and August...

Heather Sweet will be doing Reformed Rib technique in July and Dee Kupka will be knitting with wire on the knitting machine in August.

The complete list of presentations is on our MMKC website and on our Ravelry home page.



Midwest Machine Knitters' Collaborative

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❖ *RAMBLINGS OF AN EASILY DISTRACTED
KNITTER*

I have so many projects running around in my head that I just don't know where to start! Recently, I moved my machines around in an effort to be more efficient. I even posted a list on my door of projects that are either in the works or that I really want to knit. But, alas, I have not taken the time to make progress on any of them. I wonder if I should block out a day each week and barricade myself in my room...

Happy Knitting!
Maria Ann

❖ *MINNESOTA STATE FAIR 2016*



**Don't wait!
Start knitting NOW if you haven't
already!**

❖ *HAPPENINGS*

Rocking Horse Farm Dye Workshop, St. Cloud, MN

- Saturday, May 28, 2016

Contact Jason or Carole for more details: **320-252-2996**

Textile Center garage sale; Minneapolis, MN

- Saturday, April 9

For details, visit the Textile Center of Minnesota website:
<http://www.textilecentermn.org/>.

Spring Fling; Peru, IN

- Friday & Saturday, April 15 & 16;
<http://www.knitknackshop.com/>

Yarnover; Hopkins, MN

- Saturday, April 23; <http://www.knitters.org/>

Purls of Joy; Princeton, MN

- Friday & Saturday, April 29 & 30; contact Cindy Schmatz
cindyschmatz@gmail.com or call 612-390-1279

Shepherd's Harvest; Lake Elmo, MN

- May 13 – 15, 2016; <http://shepherdsharvestfestival.org/>

MKC Founders' Fest 2016!

- Saturday and Sunday, July 30 & 31, 2016. Visit the MMKC Events page on our website for details and registration!

<http://www.midwestmachineknitters.org/events/foundersfest/>

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION

Knit Wear Photos on Facebook

As some of you might know, Caroline Munroe has been posting some wonderful photos on the Midwest Machine Knitters Collaborative Facebook page. If you are a member of Facebook make sure to check them out.
<https://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaMachineKnittingClub/>



SOURCES OF INSPIRATION (CONTINUED)

MERCEDES-BENZ FASHION WEEK TOKYO

<http://www.stylewylde.com/tfw/>



watch this any time at your convenience and watch it over and over again as you need.



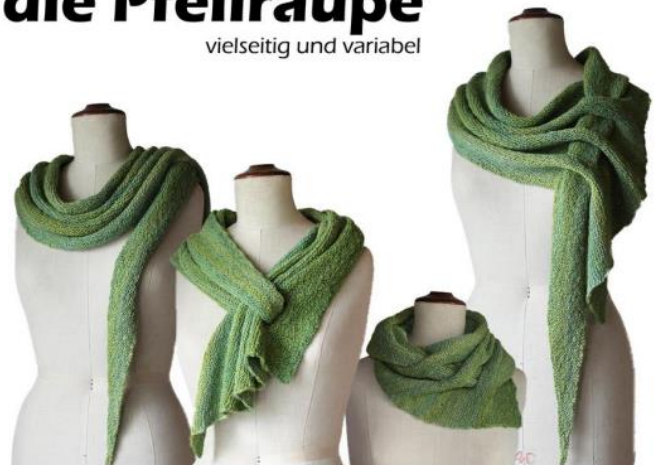
PFEILRAUPE

by [Alpi Alpenrose](#)

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/pfeilraupe>

This is a free pattern download in several languages (hand knit), very easily converted to machine knitting. We've seen this felted although it definitely does not need to be felted. It's on my "to get done soon" list.

die Pfeilraupe
vielseitig und variabel



SUSAN GUAGLIUMI – MACHINE KNITTING LESSONS ON CRAFTSY

<http://www.craftsy.com>

If you haven't done so already, get out to Craftsy and do a search on classes by Susan Guagliumi. If this name sounds familiar, we're going to be very fortunate this year to have Susan join us at Founders' Fest 2016. This series of lessons that she has recorded on Craftsy showcases her excellent demonstration/instruction skills. Well worth the cost of purchasing the online class price. You can

SAGITTARIUS TOP

by Marianne Henio

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/sagittarius-top>



COZY FELTED SLIPPERS

by Susan Guagliumi

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/cozy-felted-slippers>



CALDO ABBRACCIO

by Katia sd

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/caldo-abbraccio>

RAGGEDY ANN SWEATER

by Marianne Henio

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/raggedy-ann-sweater>



FOR SALE

A Brother 940 knitting machine with ribber, garter carriage (aka g-carriage) and a USB cable to link a computer to the knitting machine for Design-a-Knit (DAK) - \$700.00

Contact Joanne Zutz: 651-459-9270



KNITTING WITH LYCRA

By Dee Kupka

Some tips/hints when knitting with Lycra

- ❖ Remove the fair isle brushes from your sinker plate assembly
- ❖ Yes, you need to make a swatch that includes the Lycra! You will need to steam your swatch.
- ❖ If knitting Lycra with cotton, you need to wash your swatch after you have steamed it.
- ❖ Don't move your swatch while steaming until the swatch stops moving (shrinking, resizing)... then you can kill the swatch if desired.
- ❖ If you run the Lycra with your yarn you will have a more relaxed stitch. If you feed the Lycra separately from the yarn, your stitches will be tighter.
- ❖ Do not put Lycra in your yarn tension mast on your flatbed machine.
- ❖ If knitting Fair Isle, try knitting the Lycra with the color in feeder A or feeder 1 – depending on your machine.
- ❖ Lycra is often used in socks – either the leg only, the foot only, or the entire sock. You will need to make samples to determine your preferences.
- ❖ Machine type does not matter – standard (4.5mm), mid-gauge (6.5 or 7.0mm), bulky (8.0 or 9.0mm), or circular sock machines.

If you've never used Lycra and would like to try this, see Dee Kupka as she has some she's willing to share. Note, Jane loves having Lycra added to her knit socks.



Textile Center
A national center for fiber art

Textile Center Bamboo (Guild) NEW Level of Membership

To recognize and celebrate the importance of Guilds to Textile Center's community, a new membership level has been created especially for individuals who are also members of one of our many affiliated guilds.

The Bamboo (Guild) membership is available for \$30 annually and provides these Textile Center member benefits:

- 10% Textile Center Shop discount + special offers
- Borrowing privileges in the Textile Center Pat O'Connor Library of over 28,000 books, periodicals, media materials, and textile tools
- Discounts on more than 150 classes, seminars, and workshops a year
- Inclusion of your artwork in our annual member exhibition, *A Common Thread*
- 50%+ discount on facility rental, including meeting rooms, Dye Lab, auditorium
- Discounts on special events such as the pre-sale for the annual World's Largest Textile Garage Sale
- Higher commission rate as an artist in the Textile Center Shop
- Discounts at participating retailers, who sell a variety of fiber and equipment

Take advantage of this opportunity and apply to be a Bamboo Level Member below!

New or **Renewing**

*Please indicate guild affiliation(s)

Your Name

Your Address

City State Zip code

Your preferred email

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Payment: Check* Through Your Guild Credit Card
*payable to Textile Center at the Shop

 3000 University Avenue SE, Suite 100
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414
tele: 612.436.0464
fax: 612.436.0466
www.textilecentermn.org