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# THE KNIT STITCH

## Minnesota Machine Knitter's Collaborative

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Congratulations to all who entered the Fair! From the results posted there were two names I was unfamiliar with and have extended congratulations to them as well as an invitation to visit a meeting. MMKC members were the most prevalent names that I saw. Way to go! The State Fair review meeting is one of my favorites. Unfortunately, I made the decision to stay away this year with great hopes that next year will see me once again at the State Fair.

After a strange weather summer, I have great hopes for a long fall – to wear sweaters without covering them up with coats & jackets – unless those were knit as well!! A knit addition to one's wardrobe seems to a craft of necessity...or is it a necessity of craft? Either way, machine knitting seems to be a bit of an obsession with many of us.

Happy knitting!

- Jane

Aren't these tiny sweaters made by MariaAnn cute? Tiny knits are pretty popular right now and these could be spectacular nestled among your holiday tree branches. MariaAnn shares the **pattern on page 3**.



## ATTENTION!!! (ALMOST) LAST MINUTE OPPORTUNITY

Camp WAPO is a Great Knitting Retreat! Are you ready for a fun time? Several of us have attended Camp WAPO with our knitting machines and created beautiful projects. You are there for 3 days, only needing to knit, eat and sleep! And everyone is willing to help each other. There is also a snack table that everyone brings something (purchased items only) to share. New participants always welcome. If you are interested in attending, contact Deb (info below) ASAP!

What: Fall Camp

When: September 27-30, 2021

Where: Amery, WI

This is held at a Bible camp. There are no classes, just a time to come and knit (or sew) and have fun. It starts at 1:00 on Monday and ends at noon on Thursday. There are 6 meals included and the cost is 125.00. You'll need to bring your own bedding (single bed) and what you need for your knitting - a table or stand if you have one and a lamp if you want. For 2021, the Camp is also requiring that attendees are vaccinated or have a negative Covid test within 72 hours of coming to camp.

Since we are so close to the dates for camp Deb (fall camp) will need to know ASAP if you can come. You can email Deb or call.

d.ovsak@yahoo.com

651-353-7352

If you need another reason to attend call Patsy (952/977-9900) or Maria Ann (612/209-0473). We would be happy to chat with you about some of the adventures we have had.

### *In case you missed the email.....* **A tip from Dee:**

While watching a video on how to replace the cam latches for my circular sock machine, I found a video on double bed e-wrap cast-on for Japanese machines - Brother, Toyota & Knitmaster/Silver Reed

The young man doing the demo does a great job showing the double bed e-wrap cast-on on a Brother machine and ribber. I'll leave it to our European machine experts to tell us how this would work on those machines. The video quality is very good and he's very easy to follow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDKMQfrGjok>

## BASIC TREE ORNAMENT SWEATER (several patterns combined)

*By Maria Ann Youngs*

Machine: standard gauge    Tension: 6  
Gauge: unimportant        Yarn: sock yarn - approximately 1/2 ounce

### **BACK:**

COR ewrap cast on 22 stitches  
knit 6 rows and hang hem (picking up loops from cast on)  
COR reset RC to RC003  
K to RC032  
scrap off 7 shoulder stitches, individually each side and 8 neck stitches

### **FRONT:**

COR ewrap cast on 22 stitches  
knit 6 rows and hang hem  
COR reset RC to RC003  
K to RC026  
shape neck: COL hold L4 to R11  
K6R scrap off  
COR RC000 return R5 to R11 to work  
K6R scrap off  
scrap off 8 neck stitches

### **NECKBAND:**

join 1 shoulder seam  
hang back neck stitches (8), front center neck stitches (8) plus 4 stitches each side on front (total of 24 stitches)  
using double strand of yarn, bind off around gate pegs

### **SLEEVES:**

on same side as shoulder seam was joined hang armhole along 18 stitches, wrong side facing  
COR K6R  
then begin dec 1 stitch each side every 4R to 12 stitches in work  
K4 rows  
using double strand of yarn, bind off around gate pegs join other shoulder seam and repeat for 2nd sleeve

### **OPTIONS:**

use your imagination and creativity  
Any machine can be used, just know that you will get a bigger size on the misgauge and bulky and you will need to pick appropriate yarn for those machines  
1st sweater has needles out of work  
2nd sweater has purl side as public side with a V neck  
3rd sweater has a single cable on the front

## Book Review by Dee Z.

It's finally arrived! A Complete Guide to Machine Knitting by Lucia Tarantino was delivered today and I'm way too excited. There are 254 pages of machine knitting fun and learning for various machine types – Coppo, Dubied, Passap, Silver Reed, and Brother. Unsure why it appears these are alphabetical but then Brother is last but who cares?! Each brand of carriage is described with details on how the buttons function on each carriage.

There's just so much here but the photos are fabulous, and the descriptions are good. Chapters include

- Carriage Description
- Slopes
- How to Unload Stitches and Cast on Again While You Knit
- Increases and Decreases
- Neckline, Sleeves, Finish
- Double-Needled Knitting Machines: Casting On, Selvedges, Racking, Tubular Stitches
- Suspensions and Partial Machining
- Knitting with Coppo and Dubied Machines
- How to make Knitted Fabric

Some of the terminology is a bit different but with all the diagrams and photos, there's no way you'd be confused as to what the author is talking about. One example would be the "Partial Machining and Suspensions" – this would be partial knitting or short-rowing. To "suspend" is to put on hold. Page 186 is a great example of this as she talks about the slope for the shoulder. When it says suspend 5 stitches on the left and knit 2 rows, she's saying put 5 stitches in hold and knit 2 rows.

Tarantino also ensures that you see carriage set-ups for various techniques – for example in the same section "Partial Machining and Suspensions" on page 183 she has photos of examples and has the carriage illustrations with set-up. Because the Coppo and Dubied machines are so different, these are captured separately to avoid confusion.

There are instructions for pleats, flat rib with floats, necklines... this is a very comprehensive book. And if you want to knit the sweater on the cover, basic instructions with great schematics are provided for this as well. Now, you would need to do a swatch or two to get gauge and some charting to ensure you are knitting the right size but there's no mystery here.

Lots of practicing can be done on the various techniques and I have to say I love the dress on Pages 122/123. It's knitting stripes alternating thread with yarn and just looks like so much fun!

Even if all you do is look at the pictures, I challenge you to be uninspired. This is an excellent technique book – well laid out, great photos (I keep saying that don't I?), and wonderful images. Get those machines humming!

Some photos from the book; provided by Dee to get a feel for it:

