

# NORTH COAST KNITTERS

President: Colleen Davis, 633-3792

Secretary: Phyllis Bates, 436-1419

## **The Next Meeting**

Tuesday, July 1 at 1:00

Home Arts Division

Second Floor of the Grandstand Building  
Del Mar Fairgrounds

## **Our Day at the Fair**

We shall hold a knitting demonstration during our day at the Del Mar Fair. This is a good way to bring attention to our group, even if we are there only one day. The plan is to have someone present from ten o'clock when the Fair opens until late afternoon. Some of us signed up at the last meeting to be sure the booth is always occupied.

Bring a current knitting project to work on so the public can see the process of knitting. You may also bring items to be on display either on a table or backdrop while you are present. Attach your name to these items.

Speaking of names, we shall sport new name tags to identify us as members. Colleen Davis has passes for members who will be participating. She is making a sign for the booth.

If you would like to get more information and a free pass, you can do so by dropping by Colleen's home, 530 Stratford, Encinitas, on Tuesday, June 24, at 1 o'clock. This is also an opportunity to see Colleen's knitting workroom.

If you cannot be at the Fair on July 1 you may still have an item on display at our booth. Bring to Colleen's home. Be sure your name is attached to the item. It will be at the Fair only while our group is present.  
**Directions:** From Freeway 15, exit west on Encinitas Boulevard, turn left onto Vulcan and go to the next traffic light, D Street. Turn left and proceed up the hill as far as you can go. Just after you round the bend, start watching for 530 Stratford.

## **Future Plans**

### **A Knit-Trip/August**

A trip to the Julian Yarn Company is arranged for August 5. Arrangements will be announced.

### **Knitters Sweaters/July 4-13**

Sweaters from the summer issue of Knitters Magazine will be on display at Common Threads July 4 through July 13. Be sure to stop by the shop to see them.

### **Guild Conference/July**

The Knitting Guild of America will hold its West Coast Conference in Sacramento, July 10 to 13, at the Raddison Hotel. For a Conference Brochure, call TKGa at (423) 524-2401.

### **Fiber Workshop**

Cochenille Design Studio presents its 6th Designer Retreat from July 18-20 at the Rancho Santa Fe Inn. Three well known instructors, Rebekah Younger, Susan Lazear, and Ginger Lutters, will conduct workshops on Dyeing Yarns and Knits, Creating Designer Yarns, and Designing with Novelty Knits.

Call Phyllis Bates if you would like a brochure.

### **The Meeting Past**

After a meeting at La Colonia Center, we adjourned to meet at Common Threads where Caryl Nelson told us that really fine garment finishing depends upon planning ahead. She suggests leaving one firm stitch along all seams and making all shaping details inside this stitch instead of utilizing the edge stitch. She spoke about using short rows to shape shoulder seams, to add extra fabric across a heavy bosom or rounded shoulders to improve fit and make the bottom edge of a garment hand evenly.

Colleen related how short rows could be used for a decorative effect.

### ***A History of Knitting and Looping***

I visited the Textile Museum in Washington D.C. for the showing of 700 Years of Knitting History. The show included 140 pieces of knitted and looped wear. The earliest item shown was a sock from Egypt from the 12-14th century. The pattern looks remarkably like modern Scandinavian designs, done in red on a white ground. Also included were French silk stockings, U.S. colonial knee stockings, money pouches, jackets, fancy gloves, and a weskit. Three infant caps of exceedingly fine yarn were of knitting patterns that have been preserved to the present. These had colored beadwork on the crowns.

Looping is also an old technique and was among the early crafts of South America. In looping the base row is attached to a rod and loops are worked downward from the base row with a threaded needle. The yarns used were usually from alpacas, llamas, and related animals. Both natural and brightly colored dyed yarns were used to make tote bags, shawls, gloves, and hose. The looping technique was sometimes used in conjunction with knitting, introduced by the Spaniards.

This is the show that was mentioned in the Patternworks newsletter. -PPB

### ***Wearable Art Show***

Colleen Davis had a sweater accepted for the Wearable Art Fashion Show at the Bazaar del Mondo in June. Items that are modeled are selected from entries by a panel of judges.

### ***A Book for Crocheters***

*Vanessa-Ann's Cozy Crocheted Afghans*  
Nancy Fitzpatrick, ed.

1992. Oxmoor House, Inc. Birmingham, AL

Variety and color are the temptations of this collection. A devoted crocheter would like to indulge in many of these projects. The afghans represent lots of different techniques and stitches. The

Painter's Palette is made of sixteen different yarns combined in many stitches that is both very up-to-date and impressionistic in feeling. Sweet Dreams is a charming infant's afghan that has a nice new quality about it. Swirling Leaves in deep tones has a modern, masculine look. Victorian spirit is embodied in Fancy Filigree. Woven Elegance has a serene orderly geometric precision. Others would suit the sportsman or the person who is style is definitely romantic.

Each of the forty-eight afghans is illustrated in full color and is shown in a setting that reflects the style. Directions are included for completing each afghan as shown, as well as materials and their sources. Diagrams and graphs are included where needed.

Knitters would find the book interesting for its sense of style and interesting color combining. It would be challenging to recreate these using knitting needles.

The hardbound book is available at bookstores.

### ***Dues***

If you would like to join our group, pay dues to Phyllis Bates. A check for \$7 payable to North Coast Knitters pays through January 1998.

### ***Our Newsletter***

The newsletter is prepared about two weeks before the meetings. If you have items of interest to the group, please let now about them.



# NORTH COAST KNITTERS

President: Colleen Davis, (760)633-3792

Secretary: Phyllis Bates, (760)436-1419

## **The Next Meeting**

Tuesday, August 5 at 1:00  
La Colonia Recreation Center  
715 Valley St, Solana Beach

## **Mid Summer Knitin'**

Bring a project to work on while we meet and chat. Check out the Zig Zag Stitch in this issue.

The trip to the Julian Yarn company has been postponed until a later date.

**Directions to La Colonia:** From I-5, take the Via de La Valle exit west; at the traffic signal at the Del Mar Fair Grounds, turn right onto Valley; continue to the Y where you will keep to the right fork, which is Valley. The Community Center and park are on the left. There is plenty of parking space available.

If you have not already done so, get a supply of our "business" cards so you can carry a few in your wallet to give to potential members.

**Dues:** If you would like to join our group, pay dues to Phyllis Bates. A check for \$6 pays through Jan. 1998.

## **The Meeting Past**

The results of our meeting at the Del Mar Fair will be hard to assess. There would be no clear way to tell if we made any impact on the public. Showing knitted wear in July is like selling refrigerators to Eskimos. Although we talked with many people, we cannot be sure that any will be interested or able to join our group.

On a positive note—we had a fine time knitting and exchanging ideas among ourselves. Everyone who was there brought samples of knitting, so we had a nice variety of projects to show.

To identify our table, Colleen made a sign. One it she listed the purpose for our

group:

- To stimulate
- To educate
- To inspire
- To promote the art and techniques of knitting.

This is a succinct statement for our guild.

## **Zig Zag Stitch/August**

A textured pattern with an open work vertical design element. This is the stitch pattern that Phyllis Bates was using on the lavender top she was knitting at the Fair, and for which directions were requested. It comes from a Cascade/Hayfield pattern in *Fashion Knitting Magazine*.

Multiple of  $5n+1$

Row 1 (RS): k1,\*p1,yo, sl1-k1-*pss*o, p1,k1\*

Row 2: P1, \*k1, p2, k1, p1\*

Row 3: K1, \*p1, k2tog, yo, p1, k1\*

Row 4: Rep row 2.

Try it with your own choice of fiber and bring to the next meeting to compare with others' efforts. A four-inch square will provide a visual reminder for future use.

## **Shop Closing.**

Stina's Knitting Shoppe in Carlsbad is closing at the end of July. The owner will be moving to northern California.

## **Newsletter Items**

This newsletter is prepared about two weeks before the meetings. If you have items of interest to the group, please let us know about them.

Included with this newsletter for members is a roster (which I hope is now correct) and a list of mail order sources, compiled for you by Julia Duvall.

## ***Yarn by Mail or Phone***

Julia Duvall has prepared a list of sources for yarns and supplies. Julia maintains her long-established designer accounts with two companies both of which have all varieties of quality yarns including mohair, cotton, wool, ribbon and doll hair. She has offered to order for you in whole packs or cones from **Berroco** and **Ironstone**. She has sample cards and will bring to the meeting if you call her beforehand.

### ***Other Sources***

Julia also has catalogs for many of the following on her list. She has offered to bring some to meetings at your request.

#### **Bead Warehouse**

P.O. Box 8550, Burlington VT 05402  
1-800-736-0781

Beads for your knits. Catalog.

#### **Bendigo Woolen Mills**

P.O. Box 27164, Columbus OH 43227  
1-800-829-9665

Australian wool and cotton, skeins & cones, good quality at bulk prices, 200 gm skeins.

#### **Buttons by the Websters**

11 N. Main St, Ashland OR 97520  
1-800 482-9801

Buttons, spinning yarns, weaver's supplies.

#### **Fingerlakes Woolen Mills**

1193 Stewart's Corners Rd, Genoa, NY 13071

Roving type wool, hand dyed wool, ribbon, 50-50 wool/angora, silk & wool, wholesale only, no co-ops. Retail through the Woolery.

#### **Frugal Knitting Haus**

P.O. Box 30036, Stockton CA 95213  
Extensive book list

#### **Herrschners**

2800 Hoover Rd, Stevens Point WI 54481  
1-800-441-0838

Craft kits, embroidery kits, extensive Patons yarns, crochet threads, DMC

#### **Knitting Basket**

760 N. Lake Blvd, Tahoe City CA 96145  
1-800-252-9276(YARN)

VIP Guild with \$15 annual fee for discounts and monthly newsletters. Sale yarns at 30 to 50% discount.

#### **Knitting-by-the Sea/ Das Nadelhaus**

547 N. Main St, Fort Bragg CA 95437  
1-800-994-7909; Home: 1-707-964-9163

Retreats on Mendicino Coast, Catalog

#### **L'Atelier**

Redondo Beach CA

French, Italian, Any Blatt, Bonton, Knitting Fever, Missoni, Tiber. Club designs, discounts @\$65 per year.

#### **Lion Brand Yarns**

34 W. 15th St, New York NY 10011  
1-800-258-9276 (9-5 EST, M-F)

Vanna White's Favorite Yarns, Jiffy, Woolease, chenilles.

#### **Mary Maxim**

2001 Holland Ave, P.O.Box 5019, Port Huron MI 48061  
1-800 962-9504

Crafts, acrylic yarns, inexpensive kits.

#### **North Island Designs (Maine Wool)**

280 York St, York ME 03909  
1-800-548-5648

Great kits, unusual designs; wool, cotton, fleece, Peace fleece.

#### **Pandora's Closet**

2610 Lee St, Greenville TX 75401  
1-800-544-3957

Hayfield, Brown Sheep, Patons, Brunswick, DMC, Swedish Yarn, Inc. books.



Patternworks

P.O. Box 1690, Poughkeepsie NY 12601  
1-800-438-5464

Name brand yarns, kits, buttons,  
tools, books.

Ram Wools

143 Smith St, Winnipeg, N B  
Canada R3C 1J5  
1-800-263-8002

Exclusive designs from several  
countries at 1/4-1/3 off due to favorable  
exchange rate for U.S. customers.

Schoolhouse Press (Elizabeth Zimmerman,  
Meg Swanson) 6899 Cary Bluff, Pittsville  
WI 54466

1-800-YOU-KNIT (968-5648)

Books, videos, handmade porcelain  
, wood, pewter buttons, own wool yarns.  
Knitting retreats (hopefully in summer).

Smiley's Yarns

9206 Jamaica Ave, Woodhaven NY 11421

Discounted and discontinued yarns.  
Flyer via mail several times per year with  
samples (No phone)

The Stitchery

120 N. Meadows Rd, Medfield MA 02052

Embroidery, cross stitch, needlepoint  
kits, some knit kits, hooked rugs.

The Unicorn Books

1338 Ross St, Petaluma CA 94954

Extensive list of books for knitters  
and other handcrafts. Looms, supplies.

The Woolery

RD 1 Genoa, NY 13071

1-315-497-1542

See Fingerlakes Mills

T.L.C. Yarns

32022 8th Ave, So., Roy WA 98580

1-800-382-1820

Wash. state 100% wool

Wanderings Country Store

P.O.Box 4344, Warren NJ 07059

1-800-456-5648 (KNIT)

Great kits, mostly ski, Scandinavian,  
wool, wool blends, color pictures.

Wool Connection

Rte 10, Riverdale Farms, Avon CT 06001

1-800-933-9665

Kits, wool, cotton, tools, buttons

Yarns Unlimited

828 Pico Blvd #1, P.O.Box 1161

Santa Monica CA 90405

1-800-310-395-4267 or 3880

Discount yarns, cheaper by the bag,  
sales.

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## **The Next Meeting**

Tuesday, September 3 at 1:00  
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## **So Say the Pros**

Joan Knute has attended the Knitting Guild of America Regional Conference at Sacramento. She attended two classes by Laura Bryant, one on Color and Color Balance and the other on Free Form Knitting. She also took a class from Lily Chin about Embroidery on Knits. She will tell us about the ideas presented in these classes.

Bring your completed summer project, if you were ambitious enough to finish one during these very humid days.

Get out a scrap of yarn and try Colleen's Mitered Stockinette Square (see below — it's one of Laura Bryant's techniques) and also check out the Zig Zag Stitch in last newsletter. Let's see what difference yarn texture, needle size, and individual tastes make for the same stitch patterns.

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exchanging ideas among ourselves. Everyone who was there brought samples of knitting, so we had a nice variety of projects to show.

## **Stockinette Mitered Square/September**

Colleen Davis is continuing her vest using mitered squares from this pattern.

For a 15 stitch square, cast on 30 stitches.

Row 1: Knit across and place a marker at the center.

Row 2: Purl to within two stitches of the marker, purl 2 stitches together, slip marker, purl 2 stitches together **through the back** loops, purl to the end, turn.

Row 3: Knit to within 2 stitches of the marker, knit 2 stitches together, slip marker, slip 1 stitch, knit one stitch and pass the slipped stitch over the knit stitch (or s, s, k as a neater decrease), knit to end of row.

Continue to work in stockinette stitch, decreasing on two of three row s until one stitch remains.

The squares can be made separately and joined together or pick up 15 stitches along one edge, cast on 15 more and repeat the above process for another attached square.

Changing color and texture of yarn changes the look of the squares. Try it with your own choice of fiber and bring to the next meeting to compare with others' efforts. A square will provide a visual reminder for future use.

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