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SOUTH CAROLINA KNITTING GUILD

EWE'S NEWS

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President's Place

Lainy Haule, thank you for teaching us the basics for designing our own shawls. I am sure each of us can begin the process of planning a shawl after listening to your excellent presentation and studying your list of hints and suggestions. Once again, your samples were gorgeous!

Thank you to the twenty-eight ladies who contributed tips and hints to the SC Knitting Guild Tip Book. Without you, the booklet would not have been possible. One lucky participant, Nancy Humphreys, won a set of KnitPicks acrylic needles. I hope you are enjoying them!

At our May meeting, we would like to hear brief reports from Stitches South. So, pay attention in class and shop well!

Nancy Groff



Upcoming Events:

- Guild Meeting, May 10, 6:45 PM, McAlister Square
- Carolina Fiberfest, NC State Fairgrounds, May 21-23
- Stitch 'n Pitch May 23

May Program

we will have a chiropractor and massage therapist visiting to give us hints and exercises to help prevent repetitive motion injuries.

June program - The program will be on blocking. If you have anything that needs to be blocked bring it and Nancy G will demonstrate what method you should use to block your garment. Be sure and also note down what the fiber is as that may determine what method is used.

Nancy McFarlane

Welcome!

We are happy to welcome these new members:

We were glad to have these visitors at our April meeting:

Pat Lorenz
204 Bird Mountain Road
Landrum, SC 29356
864-457-2320,
patlorenz@windstream.net

Flo Renfroe
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Hilton Head Island SC 29925
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Madeline Hantz

Elda Newsome

Amy Utz

Cindy Moore
2 Tralee Lane
Greer, SC 29650
864-469-6550
bfcyclist@gmail.com

Good To Know

A good time was had by all on the bus to Stitches South in Atlanta. Everyone enjoyed the door prizes and the shopping trip to Market. Thank you, Celeste Banet, for contacting the bus lines for us and getting us started on this adventure.

Those of us who took classes studied new techniques, learned new ideas to use in our knitting, and made new friends. The dates for the next Stitches South are April 14-17, 2011, so mark your calendars now. Take a class next year!



An Outlook On Various Ways Of Substituting Knitting Yarn

So you've found a pattern in your great aunt's stash that you just have to knit, but the yarn is no longer available; do not despair, yarn substitution is not as complicated as it may first appear – all you need is a bit of paper and pencil and rudimentary maths!

If you're lucky your pattern should indicate the yardage or meterage per ball of the original yarn. For example, if the original yarn had 100 yards per ball and you require 9 balls to make your chosen size, you'll require 900yds of equivalent yarn. (There is a word of warning here; you should be substituting yarn of equal weight ie. if the pattern calls for double knit you really need to substitute with double knit yarn.)

If you really can't establish the original yarn yardage (a bit of research on the internet can often assist here) the following rough estimate gives a starting point. First you need to work out the wraps-per-inch of your chosen yarn. To do this, wrap the yarn evenly around a ruler (graduated in inches). Do not pull the yarn too tight and make sure the strands lay evenly next to each other. Count the number of strands over an inch and this will give you the wraps-per-inch (WPI) of the yarn. Multiply the WPI by 100 and this will give you the approximate yardage for a basic, medium adult sweater. If your chosen pattern has any fancy elements (ie. cables or lace stitches) you will need to buy additional yarn. I would recommend buying a couple of extra skeins or balls anyway to be on the safe side, these can always be used to knit scarves, mittens, dolls clothes or be added to your stash for inspiration to strike later!

As always, when you have purchased your yarn, as tempting as it is, don't dive straight in and cast on the back, take the time to do a tension swatch first. Not only will this help you get used to any repeat pattern and decide whether you actually like the pattern/yarn combination but it will ensure that your garment fits after all your hard work.

THE PERFECT COMBINATION

- A beautiful spring afternoon
- Friends all around you knitting and chatting
- The crack of the bat and cheers of the crowd

So where are you? **STITCH 'N PITCH DAY at the Greenville Drive! Sunday, May 23, 4 PM**

Our seats are on the west side (backs to the sun) and under the overhang.

Buy your tickets for just \$5 (Guild members) and \$7 for nonmembers from Deborah Douglas.

DEADLINE—May Guild Meeting

**HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!
HELP! HELP!**

Yes, we need your help for Stitch 'n Pitch!

We need door prizes to be given away during the game. It does not have to be related to knitting. It can be a new item you already have, something you're willing to buy, or something you can ask a shop to donate.

Please give items to Carolyn Freshour.

WEBSITE INFORMATION

When you go to our Guild website, www.scknittingguild.com, the login is knitter and the password is 2010member (no spaces and no capital letters).

2010 SC Knitting Guild Officers

At our October meeting, we elected officers for the upcoming year. Your new officers are:

President - Nancy Groff
 Vice President/Programs - Nancy McFarlane
 Vice President/Special Projects - Michele Kesler
 Treasurer - Deborah Douglas
 Newsletter - Carolyn Freshour
 Library - Terry Gentry
 Charity - Robin and Carole Paul
 Hostesses - Carol Murdock, Teri Gabric, and Judy Frazier

KNITTING AND TRUCK DRIVERS?!!!

Iowa-based Don Hummer Trucking Corp. last year started a loosely organized "sewing club," and encourages drivers who are nimble with a needle to show off their handiwork at headquarters. "We want them to pass the time to make themselves happy, rather than get frustrated waiting," said Dena Boelter, Hummer's human-resources manager, an avid sewer who calls the hobby a great stress reliever that can be done almost anywhere.

Kevin Abraham-Banks, a 37-year-old trucker with a shaved head and dragon tattoos, passes time at truck stops with his cocoa and knitting.

Mr. Banks, who lives in Sioux Falls, S.D., and hauls romaine lettuce between California and the Midwest, learned to knit last year after load-volumes slowed. Creating something tangible beats sitting around the truck stop "talking about who has a bigger radio," he said. He's finished a scarf and socks and is working on a sweater for his wife.

"The fact that you can take strands of thread and basically make something out of it, that's awesome I think," he said. "It's pretty cool stuff, man."

GIANT TRAVELING SOCK

The world's biggest sock is a traveling knitting project that began in Europe and is now making its way around America. The sock is 10.5 feet in diameter and, at this point, about 6 feet long. Eight people can work on it at a time.

KNITTING DEVELOPS CONFIDENCE

In Redding, Calif., a teacher has her kids with developmental disabilities [knitting with Knifty Knitters](#) (knitting looms). Peggy Colwell says completing projects ~ the kids mostly use the school colors of red and black ~ gives a boost of confidence because they've finished something they can use afterward.

COMBAT WORK STRESS

Health officials at NHS Highland have concluded that knitting is a good way to keep work stress at bay, reports The Daily Express. Following a new initiative, workers at NHS Highland have been striking new friendships over balls of wool at lunch, instead of grabbing a sandwich.

Organiser Fiona Clarke, [health promotion](#) specialist at NHS Highland, described knitting as "the new yoga". She said: "Every knitter knows it is good for you because it really calms you down and de-stresses."



Charity Corner

Carol & Robin Paul

Last month we collected no items because we were away.

That means we need double the number of items brought to our May meeting.

Will you give a few hours of your time to help someone less fortunate than you?

Thank you!
Carol and Robin

CHARITY KNITTING

In charity news this week, knitters have been [working up teddy bears](#) for Reno firefighters to distribute to kids, knitting clubs are stitching up comfort for kids in [Rwanda](#) and [Bangladesh](#), a New Zealand woman is working on [sweaters for babies in Africa](#), ladies at a senior center have [loom knit almost 500 hats](#) for cancer patients; people in the Brookline, Mass., area can get involved in a project [knitting for veterans](#), while others are [knitting hats for soldiers](#); and some fifth-grade girls in Arkansas have knit up a [bunch of hats for preemies](#). . Good going, all.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Item	Deposit	Debit	Balance
March Balance Forward			3191.11
Deposits	206.00		
Expenses	1183.76		
April Ending Balance			2243.35



Ideas/ articles for the newsletter?

Please contact Carolyn Freshour, 286-3978, usmgirl@gmail.com

Address or Email Changes?

Please contact Deborah Douglas

deborah2001@gmail.com

Address Service Requested

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.SCKNITTINGGUILD.COM

NEWS EWES CAN USE!



If you have information you'd like to place in the June newsletter, please call or email it to me by May 25th..

Thanks!

Carolyn Freshour

864-286-3978

usmgirl@gmail.com

Knitting On the Web



Looking for cute, new patterns or gifts? Check out some of these sites next time you need a project for kids or even a special item for yourself:

Www.knitchmagazine.com is a free e-mail knitting newsletter which describes new yarns, profiles people in the knitting world, offers news articles, and lots of free patterns.

Know of a great site?

Please share it!

Knit Happens:

AC Moore: Join Gail and the Girls at AC Moore any Thursday from 10 am - 2pm.

BAM KnitWits: Join the KnitWits every Wednesday at Books-A-Million on Laurens Road from 6:30pm-8pm (at least). Sit & Knit!

Wednesday Evenings YO-C Group meets at Java Jolt on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. each week. Come and join the fun. We knit and crochet, and everyone is welcome!

Thursdays 6-8 Greenville Knits at 4 different locations around Greenville each month.

Check out the Greenville Knits! page on Ravelry for the locations.

