

Purl's of Wisdom

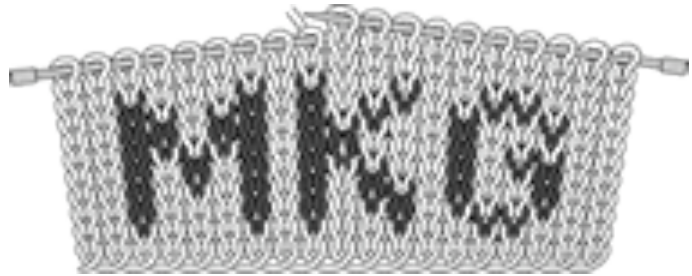
a newsletter of the Memphis Knitting guild

Happy Thanksgiving!

I hope you are able to spend time with your family and friends, and enjoy turkey (or tofurkey for you vegetarians!)

The November meeting will be our last "official" meeting for this year. While it is just 2 days before Thanksgiving, please make plans to be there. Jessica has been working hard on the program for the last couple of weeks, and you'll enjoy learning the techniques. And we all want to see your Christmas projects.

Regarding our upcoming schedule: We will have a Christmas coffee on Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30 PM at Panera Bread, 714 Germantown Parkway, Suite 39, Memphis, 38018. We will have a Holiday Party on Sunday, January 17. If you would like to host it, please let me know. The first meeting for 2010 will be Tuesday, January 26, when we will hold elections. Please update your calendars.



Please participate in our troop support. See Rita's article with details.

Our web site should be up by our November meeting! Tricia is populating it now. We'll let you know when it is ready. We'll be so much easier to find at www.memphisknittingguild.org!

We have some important business to discuss at the November meeting. Your officers have worked hard to develop a Policies and Procedures document. It is posted on the Google group. Please review it and we'll discuss it at the meeting.

See you all on the 24th!

Kathy

Thank You!

Sarah T. taught us tons about recycling yarn last month. Thank you so much Sarah!

Book Review: Baby Beanies



Baby Beanies by Amanda Keeyes is filled with special hats for the little ones in your life. I love this book for a number of reasons.

First, it has 29 well photographed hats in 4 different sizes. Most hats are not just shown in “girl” or “boy” colors, but in both or a neutral color.

Second, it covers all skill levels from a very basic beanie, The Simple Roll-Brimmed Hat, to a fair isle, Euro Bebe. The book also includes patterns with cables, bobbles, and lots of stripes. It has a wide range of finishing techniques including pompoms, tassels, i-coed, and appliqué.

Third, it uses a wide variety of yarn, in both weight and brand. Most knitters will be able to find something in their stash to make the perfect hat out of this book.

Because of all these reasons, my copy of Baby Beanies has gotten a lot of use this year (that and the 13 baby showers that I’ve gone to). It is a great resource to have in your personal library to dig out for a quick last minute gift.

Laura

Purpose

The Memphis Knitting Guild’s goal is to provide knitters of all skill levels a forum for sharing their mutual interest in knitting and learning new skills.

The Memphis Knitting Guild is a Member of TKGA.

Please join us for our regular meetings the 4th Tuesday at the Poplar-White Station Library, 5094 Poplar Ave, Memphis, TN 38117. Meetings begin with a meet and greet at 6pm.

Future Guild Meetings

January 27
February 24
March 24
April 28
May 26
June 23
July 26*
August 25
September 29
October 27
November 24

*Annual Member Picnic, held off-site *

Charity Project

As we discussed at the last meeting, we are working on care packages for soldiers in Iraq. Please bring your donations to the next meeting. Special thanks to Jessica for acquiring the list of acceptable items. (see listing below)

Choose anything from any section

travel size toiletry items such as shampoo, deodorant, talcum powder, playing cards, books

Food

beef jerky, candy(not chocolate), gum trail mix, fruit in flip top cans(put cans in plastic bags), cereal bars,granola bars, Special K bars, coffee instant and regular, filters

Personal Hygiene

antibacterial wipes, anti-fungal for their feet-athletes foot cream, foot powder, -no aerosol bottles, band aids, cough lozenges, small packs of Kleenex, shower-to -shower powder, combs, paper, pens, envelopes, lip balms, eye drops, q-tips, nail clippers, small tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, sunscreen

Entertainment

Comics and paperback books, crossword puzzle books, DVDs, CDs, Gameboys and games(ask your kids and their friends for games they don't want anymore), clean magazines, sports stuff (baseballs, footballs, old gloves, frisbees, etc.

(basics: small and light, uses AA batteries, nothing rechargeable)

Misc

Batteries, alkaline-mostly AA-size, but some AAA also, disposable cameras

Thank you!

Rita

Top Free Patterns of 2009

Looking for some great holiday gift knits? Here are 10 free patterns that have topped the Ravelry charts this year:

1. Turn a Square by Brooklyn Tweed. This simple beanie is a great last minute gift for any guy or girl. It can be found at: <http://www.brooklyntweed.net/turnasquare.html>
 2. Woolly Wormhead. This British designer has unique hats for people of all ages. Some of my favorites include the Merit Beret and the Baby Jester Hat. Her free patterns page can be found at: <http://www.woollywormhead.com/free-patterns/>
 3. Drop Stitch Scarf by Christine Vogel is perfect to use up a lone skein or two of variegated worsted. I can see it looking awesome out of handspun. <http://christine.typepad.com/knitting/easy-drop-stitch-scarf-pa.html>
 4. Traveling Woman Shawl by Liz Abinante is one of the new popular smallish shawls. It's made out of just 1 skein of sock yarn. The pattern is found at: <http://feministy.com/traveling-woman/>
 5. Amy Swenson has many free patterns for wonderful projects like the Stolen Moments Wrap and A Better Bucket Hat. You can find these and many others at: <http://make1yarns.com/patterns/>
 6. Monster Chunks by Rebecca Danger are adorable and a great way to use up little leftovers of yarn. They may be the cutest toys ever. You can find Monster Chunks at: <http://www.rebeccadanger.typepad.com/DangerCraftsMonsterChunksKnittingPattern.pdf>
 7. Through the Loops is a design company by Kirsten Kapur. She has several free patterns including one that I have made several times, the Chickadee Cowl. You can find all of her wonderful designs (although only some are free) at: <http://www.throughtheloops.typepad.com/designs/>
 8. I love giving dishcloths to people with a special bar of soap or other goody. The Circle Cloth pattern by Hakucho looks like lots of fun. You can find it at: <http://hakucho.blogspot.com/2008/09/circle-cloth-pattern.html>
 9. Handknit Tree Ornaments are always so cute! I've even seen people use them as gift tags by embroidering someone special's name on them. Cheers by Cheryl Niamath would be perfect for this! You can find it at: <http://fetchingknits.thruhere.net/>
 10. Scrappy Lengthwise Scarf by Zona Sherman is another great way to use up all your leftover wee skeins of yarn. You could even make it after the holidays out of all the scraps from your holiday projects. You can find the pattern at: <http://zona.livejournal.com/2008/09/11/>
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