



# HANDCRAFTS MONTHLY



## JUNE GATHERINGS

### Gathering - June 10

10:00 to noon at Sewing World in the upstairs classroom, 136 71 Ave. SE

If you wish, please bring along a snack to share. Remember to park in the rear and to mention us when you shop.

PLUS Demo: "What makes a good scarf GREAT?"

### Gathering - June 24

10:00 AM to noon at Donna Taylor's #28 Varshaven Place NW

From Crowchild Trail, take Shaganappi south to 40th Ave. Turn East (away from Market Mall) to the 2nd right which is Vardana Road, then next right onto Varshaven Place. RSVP 403-288-1110 or [donnat28@telus.net](mailto:donnat28@telus.net)

## JUNE at a glance

**June 2** - Clay Workshop 2, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.  
Day two of this two-day workshop.

**June 10** - Gathering, 10:00 AM to noon at Sewing World PLUS Demo: "What makes a good scarf GREAT?"

**June 15** - Knit in Public Day 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Heritage Park. Bring a project and join us as we join the Worldwide Knit in Public event.

**June 24** - Gathering, 10:00 AM to noon at Donna Taylor's

Remember to get your name on!



## NEWS FROM HANDCRAFTS COMMITTEE

### Demo: What makes a good scarf GREAT?

Diana Mitchell will host a hands-on demo after the June 10 gathering on "What makes a good scarf GREAT?"

- Get ideas for embellishments, closures, fasteners and conversion to cowls and neck warmers.
- Brainstorm in small working groups with real examples.
- See samples of scarves that started life as finely knit, single-colour, garter stitch beauties that are now WOW.

This is a fun way to add even more value to your knit and crochet scarves.

### Handcrafts patterns and workshop notes

Because some patterns are available to members with permission from the designers, we are adding a password to this part of the HANDCRAFTS page on the web site.

Under the Patterns and Workshop Notes banner click on the button. You will be asked to enter a password. The password is *ujamaa*. Be sure to spell it correctly, with all lower case letters.

Click OKAY and you will be directed to a new page with all the patterns and notes. If you encounter any problems, email [webmaster@ujamaagrandmas.com](mailto:webmaster@ujamaagrandmas.com).



**KNIT NOTES**

**Knit in Public Day - June 8 to 16**



Knit in Public Day was founded in 2005 as a way for knitters to come together and enjoy each other's company. Knitting is usually a solitary act and it's easy to sink into your work without thinking

about all the other knitters out there. KIP Day is a specific day to get out of your house and go to an event with your knitting in tow just to meet and knit with people like you. In 2012 there were 617 KIP events in 42 countries in 554 cities! Learn more at about worldwide events at [www.wkipday.com](http://www.wkipday.com)

UJAMAA GRANDMAS will Knit in Public on June 15 at Heritage Park Town Square anytime from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Bring a knitting or crochet project, your own picnic and a little something to sit on. Non-knitters please come to join the fun.

**Purse strap alternative to I-cord**

Here is a pattern from Leslie Buckle for a knitted strap that can be used on purses. It can be made with any number of odd stitches from 5 up. It creates a flat strap that retains its shape and does not curl at the edges.

Instructions here are for the 7-stitch version.

Cast on 7 stitches.

Knit 4, bring yarn to the front, slip 3. Turn.

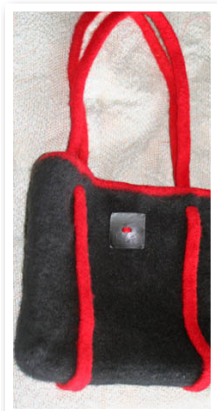
Knit 4, bring yarn to the front, slip 3. Turn.

Continue until the strap is of desired length.

Tug on the emerging strap after each row. It looks strange at the beginning, but it does start to resemble a strap after a few rows.

Felt. For a felted strap, I assume the strap will shrink about 33 - 40%. I have made the 7-stitch version with a chunky yarn (or two strands of worsted) and it felted down to about 1 inch in width. One strand of worsted, and 7 stitches felted to about 1/2 to 3/4 of an inch.

It is a good idea to experiment with different yarns and numbers of stitches. With more stitches, the centre stitch is always knit, while the group on either side are alternately slipped and knit.



**SEW WHAT?**

**Pretty little charm skirt**



Do you have a charm pack in search of a project? Joyce Goddard found a tutorial for a little girl's skirt made from a charm pack and just 0.3 metres of a co-ordinating fabric.

See the Missouri Star Quilt Company tutorial at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCyrnKAvzk>

Or in a nutshell and with Joyce's most excellent modifications.

1 charm pack or fat quarters cut into 4 1/2 " squares  
0.3 m co-ordinating fabric cut into 4" strips

Elastic. Make the skirt fit more little girls you haven't met by using elastic with button holes already built in.

**BEGIN:** Join the charm squares together to form three closed tiers as follows:

Tier 1 - 9 squares

Tier 2 - 12 squares

Tier 3 - 15 squares

**HEM:** Sew two of the long strips together and trim to 60 1/2 inches. Sew into a loop, fold in half lengthwise, press and apply to bottom of Tier 3. Press seam allowance toward the charms and top stitch.

**WAISTBAND:** Similarly cut the third strip to 32 1/2 ", sew into a loop, fold press and apply to the top of Tier 1. Press and top stitch as for the hem. Sew an additional line of topstitching along the top edge.

**CONSTRUCT:** Gather the top of Tier 3 and with right sides together, sew it to the bottom of Tier 2. Gather the top of Tier 2 and sew it to the bottom of Tier 1.

**FINISH:** Carefully pick open the seam in the waistband, insert the elastic and secure one end at the opening. Pull the button holed elastic through and sew a button onto the inside of the waistband to make it adjustable. Voila!

Joyce added rickrack on the seam of each tier and made this little matching drawstring purse. Cute!

Quilters will recognize a great opportunity to strip piece using fat quarters in the absence of a charm pack.

