

# Kniplebrevet nr. 154

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Dear Member,

Spring is just around the corner; the snowdrops are like small white arrows on the ground; and any day now the winter aconites will show us their yellow, happy faces and the days will get longer.

The association has been at the fair "Alt om håndarbejde" in Rødovre. We meet a lot of people who were interested in lacemaking.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the workshop/open house 3 March, from 10am to 3pm in Nyborg. Tinne Hansen will teach us reconstruction of old lace. Registration is mandatory for participating in the course. The course is free for members but it costs kr. 250.00 for non-members. In September Tinne Hansen will do a course in Lace 8. On 3 March you will also be able to browse our library and read magazines from other lace associations in Europe and the rest of the world. Coffee, tea and cake will be available.

We look forward to seeing you at our general election Saturday 16 March in Haslev at Emmaus. We are offering a workshop in the morning by Connie Zlatevski and in the afternoon a talk by Lone Nielsen and then the general election. We hope you will like to stay for the dinner. Both Mette Krebs Haagenzen, Tinne Hansen and I are standing for reelection but we hope more will want stand for election so we can have substitutes. You can read more about the general election in the magazine.

If you do not want to be a substitute, you can still be part of our work in the association. You can sign up as a volunteer and help us at fairs etc.

We hope to see a lot of you at the general election.

Kind regards

Sanna Askirk  
President

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## Lace trip with Peter Oestergaard

By *Helen Toft Pedersen* and *Bente Kathrine Nielsen*

"Morning has broken" and "On the road again" are favorite songs in the bus, when we go on lace trips.

In 2023 we travelled from Denmark through Germany to Slovenia, where the international trade fair, OI DFA, took place.

**The first day** we should drive about 590 miles; it felt like a hard day, since a lot of people were getting on board starting in Hjallerup in the northern part of Jutland to Dresden, Germany to the first sleep over.

**On the second day** we visited Annaberg – Buchholz. Many years ago, a family made a smithy using waterpower. The waterpower was used to pull big hammers. The people, who weren't working at the smithy learned to make laces and earned money thereby. A lacemaker named Barbara Urthmann (1514 – 1575) taught people in the area lacemaking, hence they could do this and make a living.

Nowadays it is a nice museum, where we met a lacemaker, who made a very long lace.

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We also visited Josef Koeck, KLOPPELSHOP, where we had the opportunity to buy whatever we wanted. And Peter prepared lunch right in front of the shop, very nice.

In the neighbor town, Tiefenbach, there is a small museum with many nice laces made of children and adults.

The last stop on the second day was Salzburg. Due to road work, we arrived very late in the evening.

**On the third day** unfortunately the shop we were meant to visit in Skofja Loka was closed because of holidays. But the castle was worth visiting. They showed some nice old and new laces as well as insight in the history of the area.

We also visited Ziri, their fine museum and the beautiful church. At the museum we saw laces made of rope – we speculated on how they were made!

A very beautiful road through the mountains led us to the 3-days sleepover in Cerknò.

**On the fourth and fifth day** we visited Idrija. We were informed about work on the school for lace makers, and it really was very interesting. The school is the biggest one in the whole world. Approximately 460 pupils attend the education both boys and girls starting at the age of 6 or 7. We recognized how well they developed as they grew older.

Since we returned to the hotel rather early, we had time to see the town Cerknò. It is very cozy with narrow streets, laces in the windows, a garden gate with a rose made in lace, and in the church yard there are lights on the tombs.

We visited the castle Mestini Muzej Idrija with a guide. We saw among other interesting things a tablecloth made for Mrs. Tito, its length is 3 meters and its width 1,80 meters. 20 ladies used 6 months to finish it, but Mrs. Tito, however, didn't get it at all.

Eleven of us had a two-hours Idrija-education at the school for lace makers. To make lace on a puddle was unknown for us, you have to place your hands different to usual, and this was of course a challenge. Everybody was very quiet and concentrated.

The teacher knew of an exhibition in the old people's home. Some of the residents and neighbors had made a lot of beautiful laces. Many of the patterns can be found in *Lace*.

In Cerknò we visited the local museum, as well. Every time we visit a new place, we are happy to see more nice laces – here we saw (among other things) masks made in lace. There were costumes and masks made in wood, too – a kind of Shrovetide perhaps.

In the evening it rained cats and dogs. The river rose, and there were lightning and thunder. Stormy weather accompanied our packing and our preparation for the OIDFA-trade fair the next day.

**The sixth and seventh day** We had to say goodbye and farewell to Cerknò and go to Nova Gorica, a town near the Slovenia-Italian boarder.

We came early to the OIDFA-trade fair; thus, we were among the first to enter the exhibition and the lace booths. You could buy whatever you desire.

OIDFA is an international organization. Therefore, some tables represented different countries with a common leitmotif: Stop the war!

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Finland won the competition with the theme "How the year goes by", they made leaves. Sweden had the theme "Cars from Volvo", it was an interesting story. Germany had made different stars.

Whenever we have had a break, we could return, and the trade fair presented new impressions.

But the rain was pouring down, so we bought an umbrella. We had to walk a long distance from the fair to our hotel, so we didn't want to get wet. The hotel was a fine Casino Hotel, so we had to show our passport to get supper.

The next day the heavy rain continued, so we were content, that we had the umbrellas.

At OIDFA we strolled and looked, and if we still were short of something, we had the time and opportunity to get it. At the end of the day, we were fed up with impressions and went back to the hotel to rest.

**On the eighth day** we left Nova Corica, went into Italy on to Austria to Salzburg. We had the opportunity to visit the castle Hellbrunn, but it is situated on a top, so some of us didn't walk up there.

**On the ninth day** we went to an old school for lace makers, now a museum. There were many fine laces in the exhibition. And Peter prepared lunch for us all in the museum.

Next stop was Magdeburg.

**On the last day** we went towards the Danish boarder.

Thank you everyone and Peter – we hope to see you again next year.

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### **Portrait of Karely Kniplinger ApS and Gunver Kold Jensen.**

For more than 50 years, needlework and, not least, lace have been the focal point of Gunver's life.

After completing his needlework teacher training at Kerteminde Husflids Højskole, Gunver began teaching during the evening school in Knlace. This led to the start-up of our own lace shop in 1997 under the name "Tråden" with sales of materials and teaching in their own premises.

At the same time, Gunver has taken an examined lace training course.

As part of a larger plan, Gunver took over the almost 150-year-old Allingåbro Hotel in 2010 with the purpose of running B&B as well as renting out party and meeting rooms. But at the same time, after a thorough renovation, there was also room for bigger and better premises for Tråden and thereby increased activities within lace.

After working closely with Karen Trend for many years, it was Karen's great wish in 2016 that Gunver should take over and continue Karely Knipleservice ApS, which since 1984 has been one of the leaders in lace in Denmark.

Karely Knipleservice ApS and thus Tråden has therefore since 2016 folded its folds in Allingåbro at the old respectable hotel with all rights over Karen Trend's more than 2000 patterns and with import and sale of various materials within lace.

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At the same time, classes and workshops are offered in the spacious rooms at the hotel, and several lace weekends are arranged every year with and without accommodation and catering – of course under expert guidance.

The thread for Karen Trend is far from cut – a continued close collaboration ensures a steady stream of new patterns and regular lace Saturdays at the hotel, which is a big draw.

Karely Knipleservice ApS participates in a wealth of fairs and exhibitions – including the fair in Tønder – Års and Haslev.

Outside the country's borders, Karely Knipleservice ApS is also spotted through Gunver's website [www.karely.dk](http://www.karely.dk) – so it is not only Danish customers who send an increasing number of orders through the webshop – but also customers from e.g. Japan – New Zealand – Australia – USA – Norway – Germany etc.

So it's safe to say that Gunver's hobby has become her livelihood.

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Three bookmarks

Pattern 154-B

Idea, design and execution: Kirsten Wohler Johansen, Roskilde

Materials: 23 bobbin pairs. 22 pairs of Bockens linen thread no.40/2 or 35/2 and one pair of Bockens linen thread 18/3 for gimp.

Start with a plait using 8 pairs, see detail drawing. This means that the 16 threads are divided into four parts, which is worked as a fourthread plait. Add pairs according to the worksheet and follow this.

The pricking is constructed so that it may be used for three variations as shown on the worksheet.

Observe that an extra pair is worked in when finishing off. This pair runs horizontal through the bottom row in linen stitch.

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KIG \*\*

Pattern 154-C

As by knitting, where one can make a KAL, meaning Knit Along, we will try to do something similar with bobbinlace. We call it KIG, which means something like 'Knipl I Gang' (Lace Along)

Lone Nielsen brought it up at the general Meeting in 2023, and we found the idea to be a good one.

The thought is that only a part of a larger pattern is published at a time, and when all parts are done, they will form a unit. The first KIG has 7 parts together. Part one and two will be published in the February bulletin, part three and four in the May bulletin, part five and six in the August bulletin and part seven in the November bulletin along with the description on how to combine the seven pieces.

Idea, design and execution: Lone Nielsen, Stubbekøbing

Materials: Bockens linen thread 60/2, K80 or Barconie cotton 30MA

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Fig. no 1: 28 pairs

Fig. no.2: 38 pairs

The figures are set up according to the worksheets. Finish off by using magical threads or the way you like it.

The marked twists continue through the whole work.

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Mona's square \*\*

Pattern 154-D

Idea, design and execution: Mona Nøhr, Nordborg

Materials. 52 pairs of Bockens linen thread no.40/2 or 50/2.

Start according to worksheet. The marked twists continue through the whole work.

Finish off by tying of or by using magical threads.

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Placemat and candle cuff \*\*

Pattern 154-E

Idea, design and execution: Inge Lindegaard, Ørslev.

Materials: 22 pairs of Bockens linen thread 35/2, linen thread no. 28/2 from Hedens Hørgarn or Goldschild linen thread 50/3.

If you wish to start and end the lace with a linen stitch ribbon, you need an extra pair for the start and for the ending. See the small detail picture.

The placemat has a linen stitch snowball in the middle as shown on the worksheet. This is replaced by a honeycomb stitch for the candle cuff.

The marked twists are valid through the whole work.

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Flamsk ramme med pletter\*\*\*

Pattern 154-F

Idea, design and execution: Anne Schelby-Pedersen, Hemmet

Materials: 24 pairs of Bockens linen thread no.60/2.

Set 23 pairs up by start and use the 24<sup>th</sup> pair as gimp around the snowballs.

The start shown on the worksheet, is a suggestion. The set up might also be vertically.

The twists apply for the whole work.

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Schawl with thick threads \*\*

Pattern 154-G

Idea, design and execution: Tinne Hansen, Hammerlev

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Materials: 42 pairs: 20 pairs of Alpaka 1 from Marianne Isager and 22 pairs of Betty from Permin or another kind of woolen yarn, matching knitting pins 8-10.

Start with fringes and a fringe knot. The thick threads are placed by the red numbers, and the thin threads by the black numbers. Mark that the edge is formed from the thick pairs. Place 2 thick open pairs on the lefthand side. These form the edge at the beginning and on the sides. These pairs are not starting with a braid. Add a thin pair at the same time. When adding the first and the last pair, a pair for the fringe is missing. You may add a pair into the knot, in order to get the two threads for the fringe.

It is important that the thick threads go as passives through the whole work. See picture of the lace. It is, however, easy to see if a thread goes in a wrong direction.

It is important that the thick threads do not get extra twists, but after linen stitches only.

Finish off with fringe knots.

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Karin's butterflies

You know Karin Holm from Kleis, you also know that she is very creative when it comes to her lace.

For the last lace Festival, she had designed and made this set, where a special butterfly is reoccurring.

Karin explains that she loves butterflies, and that this particular butterfly is her logo.

When Karin makes her big shawls, she works them from the wide side and down to the point. The pairs are connected from start and are closed with a fringe knot. This means that she has to work with very many pairs at a time, which may be difficult. Karin has solved the problem by working in smaller sections at a time and connecting them as she goes. The motive is designed and worked as a free lace on a star ground and drawn on Perspective paper/Tønder paper. Problems occurring, are solved on the way.

Karin explains that she has an idea about how to work it but does not use worksheets.

Handbag, wallet and gloves are all made as free lace.

Karin is continuing her idea and is currently working on a shawl with a peacock.

Patterns for Karins designs can not be bought.

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OIDFA congress 2023 in Slovenia

Text and foto: Kirsten Skov

OIDFA, the international lace association, holds a congress every two years. In 2023, the congress was held in Nova Gorica, Slovenia, as a collaboration between Slovenia and Italy.

Nova Gorica (the city was built after 1947) is located in the western part of Slovenia right on the border with Italy, Gorizia is located in northeastern Italy right on the border with Slovenia, only the border separates the two cities, which since 2011 have served as a common metropolitan zone.

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Historically, Gorizia has been the center of the area of Slovenia and Italy called the Karst plateau. The karst landscape is beautiful nature with up to 600-700 meters high tree-clad mountains with wonderful valleys in between, where agriculture is practiced. The area is known for stalactite caves, underground rivers, and mining. The women snapped and sold their lace, thereby contributing to the household. Gorizia was an important town with the resale of lace and the training of lacemakers throughout the Karst country.

In connection with the congress, there were exhibitions and sales stands, Friday 4 August, Saturday 5 August and Sunday 6 August, which were open to anyone interested. There were about 570 visitors over the three days. There were about 40 visitors from Denmark. At the fair there were approx. 18 sales stands primarily from Slovenia and Italy selling thread, patterns, sticks and otherwise everything a lace heart could desire..... And of course, there is always something that cannot possibly be dispensed with in the private collection.

21 countries were represented with an exhibition, and they were really nice exhibitions. The best looking stand is voted on and Finland won the prize. Finland (photo 1) had exhibited a birch tree with lace leaves in yellow, green and brown shades in 3D, it was really beautiful. Canada (photo 2) had exhibited a multitude of stars. The Czech Republic (photo 3) exhibited modern artistic lace pictures, one of the pictures was a combination of a pair of old cowbous pants and lace. Slovakia (photo 4) exhibited traditional lace on hats, among other things, and they attracted the attention of visitors with a working stand. The United States (photo 5) exhibited many smaller lace set up like a patchwork rug. Australia (photo 6) exhibited imaginative postcards with lace butterflies. Germany (photo 7) exhibited stars in many different patterns. Bulgaria (photos 8A + 8B) exhibited the most amazing lace landscapes, when viewed from a distance they resembled paintings, seen up close, the threads could be followed. Italy (photo 9) exhibited the most beautiful ribbon lace, some of the lace was lace with only three pairs. Slovenia (photo 10) exhibited Idrija lace in square frames hung like a giant riot. Spain (photo 11) exhibited lace fans/crescents with many creative patterns, which were hung up like a turmoil. Japan (photo 12) exhibited exciting lace of different Olympic disciplines e.g. swimming, cycling, rowing etc. Switzerland (photo 13) exhibited a wealth of wonderful colorful lace jewelry and lace flowers. France (photo 14) exhibited lots of white lace stars and red lace flowers. Belgium (photo 15) exhibited white lace sticks, they were fantastically beautiful and made in many different lace techniques. Hungary (photo 16) exhibited traditional Hungarian lace, including woven linen with trend lace. Holland (photo 17) exhibited small lace riots, several of the lace were in 3D, and the exhibition was incredibly evocative. Croatia (photo 18) exhibited neat ribbon lace. Sweden (photo 19) exhibited a country road filled with lace-made Volvos from different vintages, fun and cozy exhibition. Great Britain (photo 20) exhibited a wealth of lace hot air balloons in different techniques and colours. Poland (photo 21) exhibited beautiful ribbon lace.

In addition, various local lace groups in Slovenia and Italy exhibited the lace made by their members, it was very exciting and varied exhibitions with many beautiful lace. (photos 22 + 23).

At each congress there is a competition with a theme, in 2023 the theme was called "The Red Thread" and there were entries from 55 lacemakers from all over the world. The crowd's favorite was the lace "No more War", designed and snapped by Mariagrazia Giacomini (photo 24).

In addition to the fair itself and the exhibitions, there were events for OIDFA members, and there were 157 registered members from 26 countries, and it is really a pleasure to meet lacemakers from all over the world and hear/see what is being truncheon around the globe..... And here the mobile is a wonderful invention, which can contain many photos of your own lace, which are happily shown off to new friends.

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Before the congress (31 July – 3 August) it was possible to participate in 7 different lace courses of varying difficulty. Slovenian lace, Milanese, lace with three pairs and sewed lace were taught. I was on a course in a motif from Nova Gorica, Slovenia with a lace rose in ribbon, we were 13 students in the class from Malta, France, England and the USA, and we had a very skilled Slovenian lace teacher who really shared her knowledge of the techniques. By the way, I was the only Dane who had chosen to attend a course!!!!

On Friday (4 August), the OIDFA general meeting itself took place. And later on Friday there was an opening ceremony with lace history talks and mannequin performances of traditional dress, music by local musicians and afterwards a local snack. (photo 25)

Both Saturday and Sunday there were lectures on Slovenian and Italian lace history, exciting and with photos and texts on the big screen.

On Saturday evening, OIDFA dinner is organized. Two buses were filled with happy laces and we were driven out to a village in the neighborhood, where we were served an exquisite five-course menu with drinks. There was a local singer and an accordion player who entertained with local songs. And again we had the opportunity to talk and exchange with lacemakers from all over the world. Sunday there was a farewell event with local music and historical lectures and finally a local snack.

After the congress from August 7 to August 11, there was the Congress Tour. These were day trips by bus to local sights such as churches, castles, stalactite caves, museums and lace exhibitions organized by local groups in Slovenia and Italy.

In addition, it was possible to follow OIDFA on line lace courses and lectures.

The next OIDFA congress will be held in Bulgaria on 15-17 August 2025.