

KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
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APRIL 2010 UPDATE

Dear Knitters & Stitchers,

There is nothing more welcome than putting away the winter gear and getting ready for warm weather. Spring is in the air and there are a lot of new looks out there this season. We not only have everything you need to pull it all together, but we've got bright, sunny ideas to make your stitching fun. Knitting needles and crochet hooks ready? It's going to be quite a spring at Kathy's Kreations!

One common theme running through our yarn shop this season is color, and lots of it. From subtle pastels to bold "fashion statement" shades to rich jewel tones, you'll find the entire spectrum practically blooming on our shelves. If you've been timid about experimenting with color in the past, you may be surprised by how great a bright color can make you look and feel. We'll help guide you through the process of harmonizing colors and textures to create items that are personal, contemporary and stunningly beautiful. We've got the know-how not only to help you with learning color, but other skill building techniques as well -- in knit, crochet, Oxford Rug Punch, drop spindle and spinning, from novice to experienced. Expert one-on-one help with our certified instructors is our specialty, plus designer Kathy Zimmerman will be doing "Designer Demos" every Saturday this month (see page 4).

Did you know that Kathy's Kreations celebrates 30 years in business this month? Fashion trends may come and go, but our commitment to our customers will never waiver. We resolve to continue providing the best quality yarns, accessories and project ideas in the fiber industry. Stop in soon to see what the buzz is all about! Our April promotions:

"KNIT A CLASSIC!"

10% off all regularly-priced CLASSIC ELITE yarns in stock

TOTE BAG TUESDAYS

**Bring in your vinyl "Kathy's Kreations" tote or
recycle a "Kathy's logo" shopping bag**

Get 10% off as much regularly-priced merchandise as you can fit into the bag!

KATHY ZIMMERMAN Designer pat sale

30% off all patterns in the "Kathy's Collections" binder

30% off all NASHUA HANDKNITS and CLASSIC ELITE pattern booklets

Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday

Kathy is usually away on Wednesday, but the shop is open
We accept Mastercard, VISA, Discover, AX

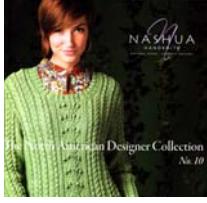
Private knitting, crochet, spinning and rug punch instructions
are available by appointment
Finishing services available
Gift certificates available

Shopping at Kathy's Kreations has never been easier

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please visit our website www.kathys-kreations.com



*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

In the March 2010 issue of *Yarn Market News*, Leslie Petrovski writes about bright ideas: "Predictions are dangerous. But we don't believe we're going too far out on a limb with this one: Color knitting is going to be hot." We agree. Having mastered scarves, socks, lace and fancy stitches, knitters and crocheters need a fresh challenge and color suits the season. Colorwork garments, cowls and caps are frequenting the pages of fashion magazines and book titles. Because color knitting is about making something more than the sum of its parts, many of the go-to yarns for these projects are also our favorite stand-bys. This spring, we're all about color, and here's what's new, what's now, what's next at Kathy's Kreations. Knit. Crochet. Be happy.

One of Kathy's greatest thrills as a designer is to have a cover design on a booklet or magazine. We are pleased that her "Nature Trail" ladies' cabled pullover graces the cover of NASHUA HANDKNITS *The North American Designer Collection No. 10* (\$14.95, shown upper left). Knit with "Creative Focus Cotton" (\$5.50, 50 grams, 93 yards, 100% mercerized cotton, medium #4), this U-neck pullover features vertical panels of rope cables bordered by textured ribs and a central "branching bud" cable panel as the focal point of the piece. Kathy will be doing a "Designer Demo" of the knots and bobbles used in this design on Saturday, April 17, 2010, 10 am - 3 pm, here in the shop.

This collection also features spectacular lace cardie and floral designs from Deborah Newton, Marilynn Patrick, Barbara Khouri, Susan Mills, Robin Melanson, and Gayle Bunn. All of these sweaters feature NASHUA HANDKNITS yarns which can be found on our shelves...

Need a new perspective on your stitching? In this season of the earth's re-birth, VOGUE KNITTING Spring / Summer 2010 (\$6.99) has a few ways to revive your knitting mojo. This issue explores the new face of lace with romantic cardigans, sexy capelets, beach chic and lush scarves. At the seemingly opposite end of the fashion spectrum are the trend-setting "global fusion" knits -- earthy, elegant tops inspired by African textiles. There is an excellent in-depth tutorial, "Beyond Kitchener" which explains how to graft any combination of knit and purl stitches, using charts. And don't forget that it is the "year of the scarf" -- yes, for summer! THE hot accent for warm weather is the summer scarf, dressing up bared shoulders and shells in the coolest way...

Colors are blooming in the Spring / Summer 2010 issue of *Knit Simple* (\$6.99). Celebrate the rites of spring knitting with the cool, calm pastel collection. You'll find a simple and stylish top for any occasion, with flirty touches like ruffles, pleats, and interesting neck treatments. Bright and funky kids' sweaters are quite style-savvy. Whether the soiree calls for a strappy sundress or a slinky gown, no summer party is complete without a knitted or crocheted shrug, cardie or shawl. There are also projects for the great outdoors, the beach and your home...

Crisp summer cottons and crochet styles go together like sand and sea. *Interweave Crochet* (\$6.99, shown right) has 23 fresh designs for spring, including 7 shell-stitch inspired designs. In addition to the charming sweaters, there is roomy "Buttercup Bag" tote perfect for take-along projects and gorgeous rugs, curtains and pillows...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Welcome to the Cotton Club! The beautiful palettes of TAHKI / STACY CHARLES "Cotton Classic" (\$6.50, 50 grams, 108 yards, 100% mercerized cotton, medium #4) and new "Cotton Classic Lite" (\$6.50, 50 grams, 146 yards, 100% mercerized cotton, light #3) reflect the nostalgic feelings of love and romance. "Cotton Classic Lite" is equally fantastic as a knitting or crochet yarn. It offers the same superior quality as "Cotton Classic", our best-selling machine washable cotton crepe for years, but in a lighter DK weight. The color range is gorgeous and includes 25 of the best-selling shades from the "Cotton Classic" range. The feminine pieces in their new pattern collection, "Garden Variety" (\$17.25, shown upper right) can be paired with everything from your vintage frocks to a beloved pair of jeans, transporting you to a romantic setting no matter where you may be...



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Stacy Charles

As soon as FILATURA DI CROSA's "Tempo" (\$12.50, 50 grams, 114 yards, 51% cotton / 37% acrylic / 12% polyamide; medium #4) arrived, Kathy began plotting her next project. Will it be LISA KNITS "Light & Lacy Poncho AC009", a drapery wrap, or LISA KNITS "Fitted Tees SW013", a basic textured short-sleeved tee? Either style will show off the beauty of this soft, multi-colored blend. Which one will she choose?

Prolific knitwear designer and world-renowned author Nicky Epstein has added her own groundbreaking sense of style to a unique line of pewter-look buttons for JHB INTERNATIONAL. The buttons sport knitter-friendly motifs like sheep and rams, as well as medieval themes like castles, knights, gates, crowns and jesters. They range in size from tiny (1/2") to just over 1-1/2". Customers are loving them for sweaters, purses, pillows and embellishments...

Never lose your knit knacks again! The "Knit Kit" includes a tape measure, stitch counter, thread cutter, scissors, crochet hook, stitch markers, and point protectors all in one compact device (black case, \$20.95). The new teal color kit (\$22.95) adds a handy double-ended crochet and darning needle. Great for traveling by car or plane, and for knitters "on the go". This item makes a great gift...

New from GEDIFRA comes an elegant self-stripping cotton in new summer shades, "Fiorista Fino" ((\$9.95, 50 grams, 126 yards, 88% cotton / 12% polyester, light #3). The gradual change of colors reminds us of a vivid summer sunset...

Give your knitting a touch of elegance with a silk-covered "Knit Out" box from LANTERN MOON (\$29.95, shown open, lower left). The 5" floral print square features a keyhole opening on one side through which you thread the yarn, keeping it tangle-free. A dainty strap makes transportation a cinch. The lid closes snugly to protect yarns from dust and tiny hands (or paws)...



The fiber of the season? Nothing says summer like crisp, clean warm weather classic linen yarn. LOUET YARNS "Euroflax" (\$23.95, 100 grams, 270 yards, 100% wet spun linen, fine #2) creates beautifully textured stitches. Easy care (machine wash & dry), it comes in 26 gorgeous colors. Ask Tracey about her curtains & valance project. Check out our other linen blends, BERROCO "Origami" and CLASSIC ELITE YARNS "Soft Linen"...

© 2010
Lantern Moon



*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

Experience the folk tradition of knitting with wool! The quintessential European knitting cultures of Iceland, Sweden, Norway, and the Shetland Isles offer abundant folk art and handicraft customs. In *Northern Knits* (\$24.95, soft cover, shown at left), author Lucinda Guy explores these rich landscapes and showcases their vintage designs, wools, and classic style.

With a gorgeous collection of 20 women's garments and accessories, all using traditional knitting techniques and folk motifs, this book reveals the many classic wool yarns and designs that make regional knitting unique. Explore a range of techniques and pattern ideas including knitting in the round, lace, Fair Isle, twined knitting, embroidery, and more...

Have you always wanted to learn about Tunisian crochet but couldn't find anyone to ask? Your quest is over! *Tunisian Crochet: the Look of Knitting With The Ease Of Crochet* (\$24.95, soft cover) brings Tunisian crochet -- also called afghan sitch -- into the realm of high fashion with exquisite stitch patterns, meticulous shaping, and attractive finishing. Sixteen chic projects for apparel, accessories, and home decor are described and illustrated in full detail -- all created using Tunisian crochet techniques...

Enhance your inner artist! If you are interested in learning more about color theory and how to design with multiple colors, we recommend these best sellers from our bookshelves: *Kristin Knits* by Kristin Nicholas (\$24.95, hardback, 27 inspired designs for playing with color); *Color by Kristin* (\$24.95, hardback, how to design with color); *Styles* by Sally Melville (\$28.95, soft cover, a unique and elegant approach to your yarn stash); *The Knitting Experience: Color* by Sally Melville (\$24.95, soft cover, color techniques for beginners and beyond); *Knits From A Painter's Palette* (\$24.95, hard cover, modular masterpieces in handpainted yarns) and *Knitting With Hand-Dyed Yarns* by Missy Burns (\$28.95, soft cover, how to show off striking skeins of hand-dyed yarns with spectacular fashions)...

*** DESIGNER DEMOS WITH KATHY ***

Here's your chance to get one-on-one time with designer Kathy Zimmerman doing mini-tutorials on the following topics Saturdays 10 am - 3 pm all month long!

April 3 - Flawless Cables: The "Cable Queen" shows you how to keep track of rows & shares her trade secrets for working neater cable crossings. Kathy will be working on Jill Eaton's *Après Ski Chapeau* cabled hat with "Minnowmerino" yarn. This cabled hat was inspired by the USA women's ski team from the Vancouver Olympics -- free pattern with purchase of yarn to make this hat.

April 10 - Working with the new pompom and "cocoon-style" novelty yarns. This is a fun fiber and Kathy will show you how to knit a very easy scarf

April 17 - Perfect bobbles & Irish knots every time -- have you ever "strangled a bobble"? Kathy's knot technique was featured in her design for the NASHUA HANDKNITS Magazine Volume 2, Fall/Winter 09/10 -- "Design Collection" from six top designers, and in the current *North American Designer Collection No. 10*

April 24 - Most frequently asked questions about lace techniques -- the correct way to work a yarn-over, how-to's for ssk & central double decreases; Kathy will demo the pattern stitch from "The Katharine Hepburn Cardigan" from the book *Lace Style* and her guest designer spotlight from Season 3 of Knitting Daily TV, which began airing in summer 2009

*** INQUIRING KNITTERS WANT TO KNOW ***

One of the biggest changes we've seen during our 30 years in business is the steady growth of the Internet. Through our ever-expanding website, our monthly newsletter updates are read globally by our subscribers. Recently, Janice S of England e-mailed: "I am making a garment and have come across the term 'wrap 1 and turn' and am not sure what to do". Janice also wrote, "I will keep using your website, as our knitting group is looking for ideas and group projects to start for our Summer fetes and bazaars. We love all the American things as they are so innovative and colourful".

Thank you for your e-mail, Janice. "Wrap and turn" is a knitting technique most commonly used when working a "short row". Short rows are partial rows done to shape knitting, such as sock heels, necks, or shoulders. The row is worked part way, then turned back and forth until the required number of extra rows are completed. The "wrap" is worked to prevent a hole when turning. When you reach the point where you are to turn, slip the next stitch. Bring the yarn from the back to the front of the work if knitting, or from the front to the back if purling. Slip the stitch back to the left needle, thus wrapping the stitch that was slipped, then turn your work. This is what is meant by "wrap 1 and turn". Be certain that the yarn is in the correct position, depending on whether the next stitch is knit or purl, and continue back across the row. After the short rows are completed, and you are ready to work the wrapped stitch, pick up the wrap with the tip of your right needle and work it together with its stitch. This will hide the wrap, and the shaping will have a smooth appearance.

For more information, please see Vicki Square's excellent illustrations in *The Knitter's Companion* (\$19.95, spiral bound) on our bookshelves.

*** KNITTING FOR DIABETICS ***

Lisa Carnahan of LISA KNITS tells us that knitters are singing the praises of her "Boomerang Socks" for people with diabetes, multiple sclerosis, peripheral neuropathy or impaired circulation in the feet. The traditional German style heel shaping features a smooth heel with less pressure and minimal ridges. Lisa's patterns are available in 6 sts per inch or 8 sts per inch gauge, and cuff-down or toe-up versions (\$4.00 each, shown lower left). Since the gusset is reversible, the entire sock may be worked with the smoother knit side against the skin for added comfort, if desired...

*** FIBER-TASTIC FIBER TASTING SPIN-IN ***

Spin happy? We can help. All spinners are invited to join us to celebrate spring and Earth Day on Saturday, **April 24, 2010, 9 am - 5 pm**. You may bring your own spinning wheel, pull up a chair, and "taste" samples of premium natural fibers from KRAEMER YARNS (Pennsylvania fibers), BROWN SHEEP YARNS (USA fibers) and LOUET YARNS (North American fibers). Roving and fiber will be available to purchase and we will also have a selection of locally processed Pennsylvania, clean premium wool and mohair fibers available to purchase.



A large basket of locally-made drop spindles will be available for you to try (ages 10 & up, please), or you are welcome to try basic spinning on our shop model LOUET S-51 spinning wheel under the supervision of our instructor, Tracey Earhart. There is no charge to attend the fiber-tasting or how-to sessions, but we do ask that you call ahead, as space is limited and we would like to assure that plenty of fiber is available for everyone to enjoy...

*** WAVE & SHIELD SCARF ***

Our thanks to our dear designer friend and nationally-known knitting instructor Shanta Moitra for sharing her scarf pattern with us for our birthday. The graceful, lacy pattern with its pretty curves and its combination of textures was originally knit for Shanta's sister-in-law. Knit with "Classic One Fifty", a gorgeous, soft, lightweight merino wool yarn from CLASSIC ELITE that provides excellent drape and stitch definition.



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Kathy's Creations

FINISHED SIZE: 7" X 64"

MATERIALS: CLASSIC ELITE "Classic One Fifty" (100% fine merino wool, 50 grams, 150 yards, CYCA yarn classification 3); US size 6 knitting needles, two stitch markers

WAVE & SHIELD STITCH PATTERN (multiple of 14 + 1)

Row 1 (right side): K1; *yo, K2, P3, P3tog, P3, K2, yo, K1; repeat from *.

Row 2: *P4, K7, P3; repeat from * across, end P1.

Row 3: K1; *K1, yo, K2, P2, P3tog, P2, K2, yo, K2; repeat from *.

Row 4: *P5, K5, P4; repeat from *, end P1.

Row 5: K1; *K2, yo, K2, P1, P3tog, P1, K2, yo, K3; repeat from *.

Row 6: *P6, K3, P5; rep from *, end P1.

Row 7: K1; *K3, yo, K2, P3tog, K2, yo, K4; repeat from *.

Row 8: *P7, K1, P6; repeat from *, end P1.

Row 9: P2tog; *P3, K2, yo, K1, yo, K2, P3, P3tog; repeat from *, end last repeat P2tog.

Row 10: *K4, P7, K3; repeat from *, end K1.

Row 11: P2tog; *P2, K2, yo, K3, yo, K2, P2, P3tog; repeat from *, end last repeat P2tog.

Row 12: *K3, P9, K2; repeat from *, end K1.

Row 13: P2tog; *P1, K2, yo, K5, yo, K2, P1, P3tog; repeat from *, end last repeat P2tog.

Row 14: *K2, P11, K1; repeat from *, end K1.

Row 15: P2tog; *K2, yo, K7, yo, K2, P3tog; repeat from *, end last repeat P2tog.

Row 16: *K1, P13; repeat from *, end K1.

Repeat rows 1 - 16 .

Original pattern source: *A Treasury of Knitting Patterns* by Barbara Walker, page 163.

Note: Slip markers every row.

DIRECTIONS: Cast on 49 stitches. Knit 9 rows (5 garter ridges), end WS.

Set-up pattern (right side): K3 (garter edge), place marker (pm); beg with row 1, work wave & shield pattern across center 43 sts, pm; K3 (garter edge). Keeping 3 sts at beg & end every row in garter (K every row), work in pat until approx. 63" completed, end with row 8 or 16 of pattern. Knit 9 rows, end RS. BO all sts as if to knit on next row.

Weave in ends. Block lightly.

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*** FELTING WITHOUT AN AUTOMATIC WASHER ***

Kathy and Betty Lou recently attended the Deep Creek Knitting Retreat, including a Felted Flowers class from Nora Bellows of NONI DESIGNS. Their class projects for "Camellia Flowers" (pattern \$6.50) will soon be on display. One of the big "no kidding" tips for felting small items is using a clean bucket, new toilet plunger, and very hot water. Add a little Eucalan wool wash to the mix and plunge strenuously until the item is felted to your liking. For more information, see Nora's pattern or check out this article <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEfall07/FEATfeltinggoldway.html>

*** COLOR FORECAST ***

Each season, PANTONE surveys designers of New York Fashion Week to collect feedback on prominent collection colors, color inspiration and color philosophy to create the PANTONE Fashion Color Report, which serves as a reference tool for fashion enthusiasts and retailers. According to the PANTONE Fashion Color Report for Spring 2010, executive director Leatrice Eiseman, said: "Now, more than ever, women are vigilant when it comes to spending. Instead of reinventing their wardrobe at the start of each season, consumers want pieces to complement what they already own. Pairing a bold color with a basic piece or freshening up their look with bright accents addresses the need for practicality, as well as fun." Doesn't this make you glad to be a knitter or crocheter? You can have a great time MAKING those bright accents and an even better time wearing them!

According to the report, "Vibrant brights add a sense of excitement to the palette, especially when set against practical neutrals that provide a safety net for cautious consumers. Spring and summer naturally evoke feelings of calm ocean waters and tranquil beach vacations in cool, vibrant, tropical **Turquoise**. The soothing hue from the blue-green family conjures feeling of escape, especially when paired with **Amparo blue**. With more warmth than the typical spring navy, this particular shade of blue is extremely appealing because of its brighter, more energetic attitude. Like the scent of a blossoming flower, **Violet** lends a romantic air to the warm-weather palette. This intriguing purplish hue is a distinctive addition to any wardrobe.

Yellow has made its mark on fashion and spring will further this trend with gleaming **Aurora**. Reminiscent of the first glimpse of yellow as the sun begins to rise over the horizon, this shimmering, slightly greenish yellow adds a bold infusion. Energy continues to surge throughout the warmer hues, leading to provocative **Fusion Coral**. This inviting orange connects directly to tangy **Tomato Puree**, this season's classic red. Pair it with **Turquoise** for a retro look. Thoughtful, cautious neutrals provide a dependable backbone to the brights of spring. Kick back and enjoy the bubbly luxury of **Pink Champagne**. This delicate, wispy tint is the season's newest neutral. The melding of **Pink Champagne, Tomato Puree and Amparo Blue** is a refreshing take on the classic springtime combination of red, white and blue.

Three additional neutrals round out the palette. **Tuscany**, a warm beige hue, provides the perfect backdrop and works well as a solid base with dynamic accents like **Fusion Coral** or **Violet**. **Dried Herb** is the ultimate green neutral, pairing well with all other colors. Ideal for bigger ticket items, **Eucalyptus** is the eternal, practical gray. Choose this nuanced neutral and add brightly colored exclamation points in shoes, jewelry and handbags."

OK, so now, how do we as knitters and crocheters translate this forecast into projects? Our own Tracey Earhart uses them very effectively in our beautiful "Happy Birthday" window display -- isn't she clever? Pretty with a purpose -- take your cue from our windows and bring a little bit of the fashion runways onto Main Street. For more information, please visit www.pantone.com/spring 2010

*** WORKING WITH COCOON YARN ***

Halla Miller recently completed a gorgeous pillow from the pink & purple shade of ROZETTI "Cocoon" yarn. When binding off a garter stitch project, Halla recommends working the bind-off row by knitting the first stitch, *then working the next 2 sts on the fine strand by knitting them together, then binding off; repeat from * until all stitches are bound off. This is a fun yarn for making easy projects. Stop in for our tutorial with Kathy on April 10 for tips on working with the new novelty yarns...



***** CALENDAR OF EVENTS *****

Join the "First Monday" Knit Club for an evening of knitting & fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate, Greensburg, PA on the first Monday of each month: **Mondays, April 5, 2010, and May 3, 2010, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.** Come knit with us!



***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, April 13, 2010, and May 11, 2010, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (rsvp please) *****

Join Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild members for an evening of knitting & lots of fun conversation with experienced knitters. All skill levels are welcome to come, sit & knit! In the event of nasty weather, please call ahead to make sure we are meeting...

***** FUN FRIDAYS, April 16, 2010, and May 21, 2010; 10 am - 2 pm *****

All knitters & crocheters welcome! An instructor is available for help with your questions, skill building and how-to's for projects purchased here. Please call ahead to let us know you will be coming, as space is limited. Please bring your knitting, a snack if you wish, and a sense of humor...

***** ON LINE CONNECTIONS *****

Are you a member of Ravelry.com? We invite you to join the more than 80 members of the "We Love Kathy's" group, for knitters to enjoy the camaraderie of our shop online! There is also a "Kathy Zimmerman" group for fans of Kathy's designs...

***** CABLE SAMPLER CLASS Saturday, May 1, 2010, 1 pm - 4 pm with instructor Kathy Zimmerman; \$20.00 registration fee *****

Learn how to knit cables with the cable queen herself! The Cable Sampler Scarf first appeared in Debbie Macomber's novel, *Summer On Blossom Street*. Now you can learn to knit cables like a pro. Additional class materials to be supplied by the student include 650 yards smooth DK weight yarn in a light to medium shade, US size 6 knitting needles and a cable needle. *Registration fee must be pre-paid at the time of registration to reserve a space in class. If you need to cancel, we will refund tuition up to 48 hours prior to the class. After that, we will refund half of the tuition in the form of a store credit. Unless noted, class fees do not include materials. Classes without a minimum of 4 students may be subject to cancellation or postponement, at the discretion of the instructor. Exceptions will be made for bad weather. Students may pre-register for classes by calling Kathy's Kreations at 724-238-9320 or sending e-mail to kathy@kathys-kreations.com

Private knitting, crochet, felting, Oxford rug punch, drop spindle, and spinning lessons available by appointment. Group classes in a variety of intermediate knitting skills, finishing techniques, socks, problem solving help and beginner spinning are now forming -- check with us for dates. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for 30 years !

One of the greatest honors ever at Kathy's Kreations is being named by *Knitter's Stash* as one of America's best-loved yarn shops. Each shop in that book contributes its own brand of style and ingenuity to the world of knitting. Each shop is a reflection of its ownership and of its customers. On behalf of everyone at Kathy's Kreations, it is our ongoing pleasure to provide you, our wonderful customers (in our opinion, the best anywhere), an oasis of creativity and fellowship. Thank you for a great, successful first 30 years -- and we promise you, the best is yet to come! **KEEP KNITTING! Kathy**