

KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-9320
AUGUST 2010 UPDATE

Dear Knitters & Stitchers,

Here at Kathy's Creations, "shoptalk" is usually all about yarn (of course!). Our staff likes discuss the newest yarns and patterns, what we are knitting, and what we want to knit. For us, summer's end is the most exciting time of the year. It's like Christmas morning every day, opening boxes of the latest colorful merchandise for the season ahead and lingering over the touch & feel of everything.

What *are* we knitting? We're kicking off the knitting season in style! Lisa is designing a beautiful cardie with deep textured rib trim in a rustic wool tweed, Tracey and Linda are working on Snowboarder hats & "go team" items for the Positively Posh event at St. Vincent College, Betty Lou is stitching up "Nubbles" hats and mitts, Marilee is knitting the Tilli Tomas Cosy Cowl with "Rock Star" beaded yarn, Joyce is working on new Knit For the Cure Collection scarves, and Kathy is swatching her way through a box of scrumptious Kollage yarns for the Feed Your Creativity classes. We hope you'll join us for our Yarn Tasting during "Stroll" weekend August 13 & 14 and sample some yourself!

"Countdown to Kick-Off" Team Spirit Savings Event throughout August 2010
Receive 10% off regularly-priced yarn purchases
in your favorite team colors (in-stock shades only)

Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday
Kathy is usually away on Wednesday, but the shop is open

THINK THURSDAYS!
Free KNIT AND CROCHET-IN every Thursday from 5 - 7 pm -- come & stitch!
Summer hours in progress -- open 'til 7 pm Thursdays & 12 - 4 Sundays

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 Creations has never been easier
COME IN - CALL UP - LOG ON
e-mail kathy@kathys-creations
please visit our website www.kathys-creations.com



*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Let Kathy's Creations help you get a jump on knitting for fall and beyond. Fashion, and especially knitwear, is moving at a stirring pace. Here are our latest products to kick-start your style with great layers and hot trends...

INTERWEAVE KNITS Fall 2010 (\$6.99) features 27 knits to warm your needles, tapping into modern knits that borrow from tradition, to twisted-stitch knitting, to knitting that connects to other fiber traditions, all the way back to simple knitting that celebrates the elemental appeal of the stitches themselves. We are pleased that one of Kathy's designs, "Hawthorn Pullover" is included in the Aran Textures, Vintage Silhouette story. About this design (shown upper left), KNITS says: "Quietly fine details make the Hawthorn Pullover shine: Hem ribbing flows neatly into asymmetrical cable ropes over the body and back out at the yoke, while a heathery undyed wool gives a nod toward classic fisherman's sweaters. Kathy Zimmerman adds a wide boatneck and a slim, straight fit for a neat, gamine-inspired silhouette". This sweater was knit from UNIVERSAL YARNS / FIBRA NATURA "Shepherd's Own", a Spanish merino wool which will be arriving here soon. Other heritage techniques in this issue are eight different plaid designs, architectural knits where structure and adornment meet, mitered squares, and delicate lacework...

New from KOLLAGE YARNS are three patterns designed by Kathy -- wardrobe choices that will easily transition from summer right into fall (\$7.00 each). "Line 'em Up" (shown lower right this page), a short-sleeved crewneck pullover with set-in sleeves knit with sport weight "Milky Whey" yarn, features an allover staggered cable pattern with a large grid-like central cable. Kathy re-interpreted the stitchwork in this design for Kollage's Feed Your Creativity Program, and the class will be offered next spring. "Kollage Kimono" (shown upper right, next page) was knit from "Fantastic" 100% merino worsted weight wool and is ideal for layered looks. The textured deep cuffs and bands are worked in box stitch pattern, and a smaller garter stitch band frames the fronts and neckline, worked "as you go". The custom single-button clay raku closure is courtesy of Zoe B. Buttons, by artisan Marian Lech. "Rivka's Cables" V-neck pullover (see next page, lower left), an Aran-inspired casual classic sweater suitable for weekend wear and looks great with jeans. Knit from "Corntastic", it features a central Celtic cables bordered by mirrored open cables. The vertical ribs are not only slimming, but add visual interest. All yarns are now in stock & may be sampled at our Yarn Tasting August 13 & 14...

This season, we add two great "up and coming" specialty hand painted yarn lines to our ever-growing collection of fabulous fibers. For silk yarn and merino wool, discriminating consumers choose TILLI TOMAS. Lustrous silk yarns and premier talent enable Tilli Tomas to offer creative yarns and patterns that are cutting edge, contemporary, elegant and traditional. Whether your project is a scarf, sweater, shrug, or blanket, TILLI TOMAS yarns will add a luxurious touch to your knitting. Now in stock: Pure & Simple 100% spun silk, Flurries 100% Australian merino wool with glass beads (feltable), and Rock Star 100% spun silk with glass beads -- all simply gorgeous. BLUE HERON YARNS provide quality in unique handpainted colors. We now stock Supersock and Cotton/Rayon Seed, which we will feature at the upcoming Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet Yarn Tasting October 2 at Churchill Country Club...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

New from CLASSIC ELITE YARNS is "Liberty Wool" (\$6.95 solids, \$7.95 prints, 50 grams, 122 yards, 100% washable wool, CYCA #4), a super-soft, washable wool available in four print and twelve solids, destined to become your go-to yarn for easy-care knits. At five stitches per inch, it knits up quickly and has a balanced twist that makes all stitch combinations pop. Its dedicated pattern booklet (\$9.95) offers three sweaters and three accessories -- ask to see the gorgeous Mollie ruffled scarf model knit by Marilee Roney (fun and reversible). Elizabeth, a cardigan knit side-to-side, with curvy sizing, was featured at the TNNA fashion show and received rave reviews!



"Woodland", (\$7.50, 50 grams, 131 yards, 65% wool / 35% nettles, CYCA #3), the sixth addition to the Verde Collection, is a combination of wool and environmentally-friendly nettles. Each of the fibers takes the dye differently, giving the five neutral and seven vibrant colors a lovely, heathered effect. The five designs in the companion booklet (\$9.95) show off its propensity for crisp detail whether it is in a simple rib or more intricate cable and lace work. We love the Thicket mittens, knit in the round with cables up the side and fold-up cuffs. Mittens are identical and fit either hand (see page 6, lower right). The Wildwood tam has a ribbed edge and detailed crown shaping. Read more about nettles on page 6...

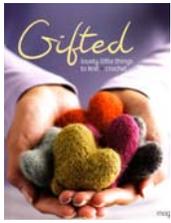
Looking for a style that is easy to wear? ANN NORLING pattern #70 "Kimono In Many Gauges" (\$4.50) is a pattern just waiting to be customized! Use different pattern stitches or just work a simple K2, P2 border and stockinette for the body. In gauges of 3.5, 4, 4.5, or 5 stitches per inch, it is sized for measurements 44" - 60" and has tips for how to vary length and pattern stitches...

If you love how soft KNIT ONE, CROCHET TOO Ty-Dy Socks feels to work with, you will love Ty-Dy Socks Dots! (\$15.95, 100 grams, 436 yards, 80% superwash wool / 20% nylon, CYCA #1) A wonderful washable blend of wool and nylon, this blend comes in a solid background peppered with multi-colored dots, something new in sock yarns and a great choice for baby wear, too. Also new from K1, C2 is DK weight "Babyboo" (\$5.95, 50 grams, 115 yards, 45% bamboo / 55% nylon, CYCA #3, machine wash), but it's not just for kids. These are two of the "nibble" yarns at our Yarn Tasting Aug 13 & 14...

TIMELESS TOTES clear vinyl organizer & tote bags with our new Kathy's Kreations logo are now here (\$10.95 - \$25.95, depending on size). These premium quality Zippered bags are made in the USA. Purchase a Kathy's tote and bring it back each time you shop to receive a 10% discount on all the regularly-priced merchandise you can fit into your tote! Being "green" can save you money...

One of the great things about being a student is heading back to campus as fall emerges in a riot of warm color. BERROCO "Campus" is aptly named; it feels like fall in a skein! "Campus" (\$10.50, 100 grams, 130 yards, 50% wool / 40% acrylic / 10% alpaca, CYCA #5) is a rustic, thick-and-thin blend with cozy warmth. The colorways are rich and expressive -- instead of a blended heather, you'll see 4 shades in each skein, distinct but coordinated. Booklet #301 (\$8.95) is devoted to this new varietal, and the patterns focus on simple basics with fall-focused details like hoods, pockets, and novel collars. Ask to see the cowl cover project now on our needles...





*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

Create thoughtful, handcrafted gifts! There's nothing quite like receiving a handmade gift, and your friends and family will love being on the receiving end of the personalized designs in *Gifted* (\$24.95, soft cover, shown left). Designer Mags Kandis inspires us with this delightful collection of beautiful, colorful little projects for you to knit, crochet, and felt.

From wearable accessories such as hats, mittens, scarves, socks, and wraps to home decor, including a tea cozy, pin cushion, needle case, and laptop cover, these 34 pieces are sweet, lively, and add a little joy to every household. Each project features creative embellishments and personal touches, including beading, buttons, needlefelting, applique, and embroidery. Mags also shares her recipes for easy food gifts and simple sewing projects such as sewn fabric gift bags and sachets to pair with gifts. *Gifted* will inspire you to grab another ball of yarn and invest a little time and love to create something special for someone special...

Experience the best of New England's seasons with inspired knitwear designs, classic wearability and contemporary style. Cherish the gorgeous and timeless appeal of America's northeast with an irresistible collection, *New England Knits* (\$24.95, soft cover). Inspired by their daily surroundings, New England based designers Cecily Glowik MacDonald and Melissa LaBarre created each piece to distinctly showcase the weather, colors and culture of the region they so love. Lushly photographed, this book is divided into three classic themes: Around the Town, Fall on the Farm, and Along the Coast. Within each section, you'll find beautiful multi-seasonal clothes and accessories, such as cardigans for layering or scarves to warm your neck when temperatures dip. You'll also fall in love with soft sweaters, durable bags, cozy mittens, and more!

If you haven't heard the buzz, we can confirm that internationally-reknoned author and designer Nicky Epstein will be the headliner at the 2011 Pittsburgh Knit and Crochet Show next February. We are pleased to stock her latest book, *Nicky Epstein's Enchanting Collection* (\$19.95, soft cover). Nicky says she was inspired to creativity by the yarn textures, fibers and colors of ASLAN TRENDS YARNS. This collection is filled with images of gardens, seasons, flowers, leaves, style, shapes, and of the word "enchant-ment". These unique, functional pieces are embellished with Nicky's special touches. There are magical shawls, shrugs, jackets, scarves, even a wedding bodice. Look for Nicky's line of "enchanting" JHB buttons on our button wall...

We are pleased to announce that *Knitted Gifts* (\$21.95, soft cover) by Ann Budd is once again in stock. This book concentrates on smaller projects that can be created in a relatively short period of time (ideal for one the go summer travel or a trip to the ball park), which is perfect for last-minute gifts. There are 30 projects for any occasion: birthday, anniversary, thank-you, get well, bon voyage, new baby, holidays and more. Our favorites from this book are the ruffled wine-bottle sleeve to catch drips, the texter gloves for those who love to communicate by text messaging, and the commuter coffee clutch, a reusable cardboard take-out coffee cup sleeve...

Every knitter has a least a few oddballs of leftover yarn in their stash that are just too beautiful to toss. We highly recommend the series *One-Skein Wonders*, *101 Designer One-Skein Wonders*, and *101 Small Indulgences: Luxury One-Skeins Wonders*, all just \$18.95 each (softcover)...

*** WHERE'S KATHY??? ***

- "Meet And Greet" at the Kollage Yarns Booth; Friday, August 20, 2010; Stitches Midwest hosted by Knitter's Magazine / XRX; Schaumburg, Illinois; come meet Kathy & have your KOLLAGE patterns autographed; Kathy will be doing "designer demos" of the Line'em Up scarf featured in the Feed Your Creativity series
- The 25th Annual Knitter's Day Out in Mechanicsburg, PA September 24 - 25, 2010; intro to combining lace & cables; ruffle, frill & scallop edgings; and slip-stitch sampler class; Donna D will be manning our booth at the Market
- The Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet Festival's inaugural Yarn Tasting; Saturday, October 2, 2010, 1-4 pm at the Churchill Valley Country Club in Pittsburgh, PA
- South Hills Knitting Guild Thursday, October 21, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA; lace & cables combination scarf workshop
- Knitter's Retreat at Bedford Springs Spa and Resort November 5 - 7, 2010, Bedford, PA; Bedford Springs Spa Mitt, an original design by Kathy especially for this retreat workshop

*** YARN TASTINGS ***

Come join us for our annual Yarn Tasting Friday and Saturday August 13 & 14. We will be open 9 am - 8 pm Friday for "The Stroll" here in Ligonier and Saturday 9 am - 5 pm. This is a free event -- please bring your own knitting needles and crochet hooks in a variety of sizes and try working a few rows. We would appreciate your rsvp in order to have enough samples for everyone. "Nibbles" of fibers will be available from KOLLAGE YARNS; BERROCO YARNS; KNIT ONE, CROCHET TOO; UNIVERSAL YARNS / DEBBIE MACOMBER BLOSSOM STREET COLLECTION and CLASSIC ELITE.

Kathy will also be a vendor at The Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet Festival's inaugural Yarn Tasting on Saturday, October 2, 2010, at the Churchill Country Club in Pittsburgh, PA. Sample hundreds of yarns from Blue Heron Yarns, Feza Yarns and Louet North America, who will showcase their *entire* yarn, fiber and product lines -- creating a mini trade show just for area knitters! All you need to bring are your knitting needles and a crochet hook. Make swatches and test the differences among wools, bamboo, cottons, cashmere, mohair, silk, and novelties. There will be hand-dyed, variegated, solids, sport weights, lace weights, bulky, chunky roving and much more. Spinning wheels will be available to test fibers, but you may bring your own. Space is limited, so register early by calling 724-963-7030 or e-mail pghknitandcrochet@gmail.com Refreshments, desserts, prizes, trunk shows and giveaways are part of this new event. Kathy's table will feature BLUE HERON and LOUET products, in addition to needles, hooks, soaps and accessories...

*** POSITIVELY POSH: A PERFECTLY DELIGHTFUL SHOPPING EXPERIENCE ***

Positively Posh is an indoor "boutique style" fundraising shopping experience produced by the Latrobe Area Hospital Aid Society of Excelsa Health at the Fred Rogers Center, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA on Saturday, October 23, 2010, from 10 am - 4 pm.

Proceeds from this event will support new Digital Mammography equipment at Excelsa Latrobe Hospital. Tracey and Linda will represent Kathy's Kreationz, and we will be selling hand-knit hats/ mittens sets for children and adults, ski hats, wine bottle toppers, felted slippers, as well as a variety of other fashion accessories made with quality natural fibers...



*** KNITTING TIP ***

When working with a heavy button closure such as the Kollage Kimono Jacket, Marilee Roney sews a large snap in place behind the button. Simply eliminate the buttonhole, sew the button in place on the top band with the snap positioned underneath it, and you'll avoid the fiber stretching from the weight of a heavy button...

Bind off edge too tight? Try substituting a crochet hook instead of knitting needles to bind off. Use the same size crochet hook as your knitting needle...

*** NETTLES, THE NEW GREEN FIBER ***

Nettles are an old fiber that is new again. Used as a fiber in pre-stone age time to weave cloth, it lost popularity when cotton was discovered and was found to be easier to harvest and spin. Nettles are weeds that are easy to grow. A perennial that requires low levels of water and little or no pesticides or fertilizers, nettles can be harvested 2-6 times per year.

Every part of the plant is usable. The leaves can be used to make a green dye or to be eaten, and are a good source of vitamin A. It has also been used for medicinal purposes for many years. The roots create a yellow dye and the stalk of the plant is where the fiber is found. Nettles fiber is a bast fiber than comes from the 2nd layer of the plant stem. The fiber is scrapped from the bark in a process called retting. The fibers are then washed, dried and the spinnable fibers are then extracted.

These fibers are similar to linen, flax and hemp but produce a softer, silkier fiber that is naturally resistant to stains, bacteria, mildew, light and insects. It shows color well, and when mixed with wool adds lightness, minimizes shrinkage and is breathable; cool in the summer and warm in the winter. (courtesy of Classic Elite Fall 2010 Newsletter to Shops)

*** KATHY'S SEED STITCH COWL ***

Kathy loves the effect of working seed stitch with a kettle-dyed semi-solid yarns. This soft merino wool is a terrific choice for layered accessories. The texture will help avoid color stacking that can occur with hand-painted yarns.

FINISHED SIZE: 28" around X 16" high

MATERIALS: MANOS DEL URAGUAY "Rittenhouse Merino 5-Ply" kettle-dyed merino wool, two 100 gram hanks (214 yards each); 24" length circular knitting needle, US size 8 (5.0 mm) OR SIZE NEEDED TO OBTAIN GAUGE; one stitch marker; tapestry needle for finishing

GAUGE: 4.75 stitches / 7 rounds = 1" in seed stitch, after blocking

SEED STITCH (worked circularly, stitch detail not shown)

Round 1: Knit 1; *purl 1, knit1; repeat from * around.

Round 2: Purl 1; *knit 1, purl 1; repeat from * around.

Repeat these two rounds for pattern.

DIRECTIONS: With circular needle, cast on 133 stitches loosely. Join, being careful not to twist stitches. Place marker for beginning of round and slip marker each round. Work in seed stitch until piece measures approximately 16" from beginning or until yarn is almost gone. Bind off all stitches loosely in pattern. Weave in all ends.

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*** FEED YOUR CREATIVITY ***

Kathy's Kreations is among one of the 40 yarn shops in the nation participating in this exciting new program from KOLLAGE YARNS! Over the next year, owner / designer Kathy Zimmerman will be offering 10 classes, 10 fibers, 10 patterns & 10 techniques to help you build your knitting skills. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to try something new using luxury yarn in a small project. Our first class starts Saturday, August 28, 2010, 1 - 4 pm with the Cable Rib Hat and Cowl (shown right). Our kits, containing the pattern and two balls of gorgeous "Glisten" silk and alpaca to make both the hat and cowl will arrive Friday, August 6. Sign up now to get the color of your choice. This is a great way to jump-start your holiday gift knitting, or treat yourself to some special accessories for the cooler weather days ahead.



Cost of the class is \$20 for instruction plus \$28 for the kit. Skill level is advanced beginner to intermediate (must be able to knit and purl). This class will help you learn how to read a basic chart, how to work with circular and double-pointed needles, how to make a ribbed cable, and how to read your knitting to keep track of rows. Supplies for the student to bring are US size 8 double-pointed needles and US size 10 16" circular needles, a circular row counter, measuring tape, tapestry needle and scissors (all may be purchased prior to class).

*** OUR FALL KNITTING WORKSHOP ***

Kathy Zimmerman of Kathy's Kreations and Carol Smith, formerly of Carol's Yarn Shop in Accident, MD, invite you to join us for a knitting workshop in historic Ligonier, PA on November 12, 13, and 14, 2010. This is a two-day event to be held at the Ramada Inn taught by famous knitter and designer Kathy Zimmerman. The workshop will teach "Fair Isle Knitting" and Braided Knitting techniques with a jeans purse project, "Finishing Techniques", plus a needle-felted Christmas ornament taught by Carolyn Collen-Dubuse.

The weekend package includes an after-hours pizza party and special shopping time at Kathy's Kreations, two breakfasts, two lunches, classes Saturday and Sunday, "free time" to shop in the pretty town of Ligonier and goodie bags. The price is \$175 per person. Rooms are not included, but the Ramada Inn has set up a special rate for attendees, so please make your own reservations by calling 724-238-9545. Space is limited to only 25 people, so please e-mail us and send a check for the full amount of \$175 to Kathy's Kreations @ 141 East Main Street; Ligonier, PA 15658. For questions, please contact Carol Smith at 724-757-4858.

*** WASHING ADVICE FOR HANDKNITS ***

Gleaned from KRAEMER YARNS July 2010 newsletter: "Proper care of handknits is important for garments to maintain their shape and surface appearance. We encourage you to read and understand the care instructions on the yarn labels.

All yarns, even easy care yarns such as Perfection and Tatamy, will benefit from being washed in a lingerie bag. Use a gentle soap (note: Kathy's stocks Eucalan and Soak, two non-rinse wool & natural fiber washes).

Do not wash your handknits in a load with towels, jeans, or other heavy items. If fibers are machine dryable, a short cycle at a low temperature is best, and then lay flat to finish drying".
(re-printed with permission of Kraemer Yarns)

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

Join the "First Mondays" Knit Club for an evening of knitting & fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate, Greensburg, PA on the first Monday of each month (the second Monday in September because of the holiday): **Mondays, August 2, 2010, and September 13, 2010, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.** Come knit with us!



***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, August 10, 2010, & September 14, 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...

***** "The Stroll" Friday evening, August 13, 2010, from 5 - 8 pm *****

Join us for our Yarn Tasting in progress 9 am - 8 pm Friday and 9 am - 5pm Saturday...

***** FUN FRIDAYS, August 20, 2010 & September 17, 2010; 10 am - 2 pm (rsvp please) *****

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...

***** KNITTING FROM STITCH PATTERN CHARTS Saturday, August 7, 2010, 1 - 4 pm with instructor Kathy Zimmerman; \$20.00 registration fee**

Stitch pattern charts can be intimidating if you've never worked one. Our stitchmaster Kathy will demystify symbols and charts once and for all! Class project is the beautiful lace FIESTA YARNS Ballet Scarf now on display. Class supplies include 350 yards DK weight yarn and US size 6 knitting needle (available for purchase prior to class).

***** CABLE RIB HAT Saturday August 28, 2010, 1- 4 pm with instructor Kathy Zimmerman; \$20.00 registration fee plus \$28 kit (see previous page for details)**

Our first in the Feed Your Creativity series -- ask to see our lovely sample model!
*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, Fair Isle, working in the round are being planned-- check with us for dates. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 30 years !

Enjoy the rest of your summer. Whether you're working on a simple garter stitch project or the most complex cable, KEEP KNITTING and KEEP LEARNING! Kathy