

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



Dear Knitters & Crocheters,

Are you looking for a little something in this season's colors to add some spark to last season's outfit? Add a little razzle-dazzle -- accessorize! Whether exploring the countryside or on the daily trek to work, we all appreciate dependable, cozy cold weather chill chasers. This year, we think we've put together our best selection of yarns, patterns, and project ideas ever to help you layer on the comfort and joy.

Here at Kathy's Kreations, friendly, knowledgeable customer service is always in season. You'll find inspiration for heartwarming gifts perfect for everyone on your list, from quick-knitting trendy hats and cowls to great crocheted last-minute one-skein wonders. They'll look great, even when the weather doesn't.

Handcrafts not only entertain us, they connect us, by creating treasured memories and lasting impressions. Consider the possibilities that you hold in your hands. Share the joy and show your loved ones and friends how much you appreciate them with something beautiful made by you, the old-fashioned way -- by hand!

"HAVE A WOOL YULE" All regularly-priced 100% wool yarns in stock are 10% off throughout December 2010

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

Kathy is usually away on Wednesday, but the shop is open

THINK THURSDAYS!

We're open 'til 7 pm Thursdays until December 16th 12 noon - 4 pm Sundays until December 5th (weather permitting, please call ahead) Free KNIT AND CROCHET-IN Thursday from 5 - 7 pm -- come & stitch!

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 COME IN - CALL UP - LOG ON e-mail <u>kathy@kathys-kreations</u> please visit our website <u>www.kathys-kreations.com</u> Copyright 2010
 XRX / Knitter's Magazine



*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Kathy's Kreations is the knitting and crocheting equivalent of Santa's Workshop. We know firsthand what holiday stitchers need and our shelves are brimming with ideas to cover everyone on your list. Our yarns, patterns and tools combined with the know-how to help you get started are sure to get your needles clicking and hooks hooking. For chic and contemporary wearables, here's what's exciting and new...

Spectacular sweaters and accessories can heat up your look when temperatures drop. Fashion combined with function and flair adds up to timeless style. Who doesn't appreciate great texture and rewarding knits? And who does it better than *Knitter's Magazine*? Arriving at triple digits is its own milestone, but K100, their hundredth issue, represents more than 25 years of publishing a magazine. CONGRATULATIONS, Knitter's!

Kathy's work has appeared in *Knitter's* since K40 (can it really be 60 issues?) and has the privilege of designing five designs for this special double issue! Within these pages you are in for a real knitting treat. K100 features "designs to suit many tastes, skill levels, and interests -- from cables to textures, to colorful intarsia and ways to work with variegated yarns. Classic silhouettes and some with more unique approaches to construction and fit will entertain you." Here's what KNITTER's says about Kathy's designs:

- --- "What's your angle?" (shown upper left) The classic cardigan becomes a modern work of art with diamond and lozenge cables and ribs. Texture can be so appealing in an luxurious alpaca yarn. Finish your masterpiece with 5 pairs of great buttons; you are ready for any occasion. Yarn Info: Kollage Yarns Solace (\$11.50, 50 grams, 91 yards, 70% alpaca/ 30% silk, CYCA #4)
- --- "Lilac & Lattice" (shown lower right) From working the open scallop edge and graphic lattice stitch-work to final button placement, you will find adventure in a single knit. The refreshing color offers a hint of feminity. Yarn Info: Universal Yarn Debbie Macomber Blossom Street Collection Gerbera Solid (\$7.50, 50 grams, 93 yards, 100% wool, CYCA #4)
- --- "Cranberry Plaid" (shown page 7, lower left) Texture and color come together in a shawl-collar pullover. The paired blue stripes and asymmetric button placement are the perfect foil for the knit and purl pattern in multicolor yarn.
- ---- "Homecoming" (shown page 6, upper right) Take the classic silhouette and make it shine with simple openwork cables, ribs, and a tweed yarn. The earthy heather and tweed yarn shines and offers a knit worthy of year-round wear. Yarn Info: Kraemer Yarns Tatamy Tweed Worsted (\$6.50, 100 grams, 180 yards, 40% cotton / 60% acrylic, CYCA #4)
- "Trifecta" (shown page 8, upper left) Hit the jackpot with a fabric that combines three colors and three stitch patterns. The wide collar and cotton/ wool blend yarn make for comfortable year round dressing.
 Yarn Info: SKACEL COLLECION Schulana Merino Cotton 90 (\$11.50, 50 grams, 99 yards, 53% merino wool / 47% cotton, CYCA #4)

Each time we pick up this issue, we find it hard to put down -- there's so much on these pages to spark creativity and inspiration! Thank you to Eleanor Swogger and Marilee Roney for test knitting garments. Stay tuned for K101, the winter issue -- Kathy is working on three more "high definition" designs...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

New from LISA KNITS patterns are AC-022 "Hat & Mitten Scarf" (shown right) and HT-027 "A Girl and Her Dog" (shown lower left, \$4.00 each). The textured seed stitch gridwork scarf is knit with worsted weight yarn, and the mini-hats & scarves are worked separately and applied. The minis can also be used as holiday ornaments for packages, wreaths



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Lisa Knits

and home decor. The cable & rib greyhound snood and matching owner's hat reminds us to knit snuggly items as the cold winter winds approach and we're out walking the dog...

Warm your world with 27 winter knits you'll adore from INTERWEAVE *Knits* Winter 2010 (\$6.99), which is all about yarn. As Eunny Jang states in her editorial: "Every one of these projects in this issue is a showcase for the particular yarn and fiber it is worked in: Plump cables worked in lofty wool for deep, yielding texture; slinky garter-stitch stripes in silk for heavy drape; simple knit and purl textures worked in alpaca and wool for subtle, blurry definition -- these projects are all about uncovering the intrinsic character of a yarn and then showing it off. The knitter's art, artfully considered. From fun experiments with color and textures, to cables combined with bold silhouettes, to explorations of how two yarns can work together, to clever socks and stockings, to true outerwear, this issue is a roadmap for where yarn and fiber can go, given a little time and effort. Find the beauty in something and fashion it into something even better -- that's what we knitters do. A good thought to end the year on". We agree, Eunny!

Knits wil have you loving your knitting with playful color the easy way, sweaters to bust your stash, zippers from A to Z and a sock for every foot. Our favorite design is Deborah Newton's 1920s-inspired "Evergreen Vest" with heavy horseshoe cables flowing upward from set-in pockets in a gentle A-line shape from our new arrival TAHKI "Tara Tweed" (\$7.50, 50 grams, 122 yards, 80% wool / 20% nylon, CYCA #4), a wool-blend tweed with a slightly brushed appearance, giving loft and soft texture to textured stitches...

One of Kathy's highlights at the Bedford Springs Knittreat was meeting mother & daughter designers Jane and Jill Bigelow. We are pleased to carry their pattern line, "A B-ewe-tiful Design" (\$6.00 each). Many of our customers are fond of classic sweaters with a fresh approach. Be sure to check out "Textured Squared Pullover" (high on Kathy's to-do list), "Faux Argyle" (modular garter motifs with a clever argyle appearance), a "Basic Raglan Cardigan with Cables" (every girl's gotta have one), and "Sideways Gloves" (Judy's favorite, a glove with ruffled button cuff worked sideways in a self-striping yarn)...

No holiday update would be complete without our shopgals' suggestions for stocking stuffers and "what knitters and crocheters want". We highly recommend these favorites:



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CLOVER new point protectors petit (tiny pink mini-stoppers, \$5.95); highlighter tape in bright colors (\$3.95, not just for stitchers); "Knit Happy" notebook (\$6.95) and sticky note organizer (\$4.50); blocking wires (\$26.50 for set), CLOVER flower head t-pins(\$4.50); ADDI colorcoded handle crochet hooks (\$7.50); Eucalan minis (\$5.50)and lots of doodads & gadget. When all else fails, we've got gift certificates and we mail order anywhere -- no problem!





*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

Sock- Yarn One Skein Wonders (\$18.95, soft cover) inspires knitters to use sock yarn for more than just keeping their feet warm with 101 projects that are made using just one skein of yarn. Contributed by yarn shops and designers throughout North America, the projects include baby clothes, mittens, scarves, hats, jewelry, cozies, bags and more! This is the fourth book in the *One-Skein Wonder* series with

250,000 combined copies in print -- look for One-Skein Wonders, 101 Designer One-Skein Wonders, and Luxury Yarn One-Skein wonders on our shelves. These stylish, funto-knit items require little yarn, but deliver big results!

Start your own tradition of heirloom lace! A master of knitted lace, designer Margaret Stove shares her personal knitting journey of learning to create lace from scratch. Her spectacular designs are truly the pinnacle of the craft, and *Wrapped In Lace* (\$26.95, soft cover) follows Margaret as she knits and designs her own "wedding ring shawls" -- legendary large knitted lace shawls so fine and delicate that each can be drawn through a wedding ring.

Accompanying Margaret's story are in-depth descriptions of each set of lace techniques, patterns, and traditions to inform and inspire. The book also includes 11 original patterns for lace shawls, stoles, and scarves. Embark on your own journey in knitted lace as you travel around the world with gorgeous projects that highlight techniques from the Faroe Islands, Shetland Islands, Orenburg, and Estonia, as well as more contemporary European work. Margaret even details the process of inventing and perfecting new lace motifs that represent her New Zealand home.

An expert on lace repair and conservation, Margaret also teaches you how to preserve and repair your knitted lace treasures. For the first time, she shares her secrets of grafting lace invisibly, finessing yarnovers to make lace with just the right amount of transparency, and designing your own magnificent and unique knitted lace...

What should be the most valuable tool in your knitting bag? Now with 5 hours of instruction on two DVDs, *The Knitter's Companion* (\$24.95, spiral bound) is every knitter's perfect reference guide! Join Vicki Square for this hands-on knitting experience. With her encouraging approach, Vicki teaches you every technique included in the book as well as several bonus techniques. Kathy has extra notes, tips & techniques stuck inside her copy, plus she loves the knitting gauge. You have everything you need in this one handy resource except the yarn...

Did you know that celebrated knitwear designer Nicky Epstein is the featured guest teacher at the 7th annual Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet Festival this coming February 11 - 13, 2011? Now you can own Nicky's latest book, *Knitting Block by Block* (\$29.99, hard cover). Create gorgeous sweaters, bags, afghans, and toys just by knitting the simplest of shapes -- a block! No one forgets the sweet victory of completing that first swatch, but most of us quickly move on to more complex constructions. In this comprehensive volume, Nicky Epstein reimagines the humble block with 150 new patterns and masterfully demonstrates how to mix, match, and easily combine them into stunning one-of-a-kind garments and accessories. Blocks are quick to knit, portable pieces perfect for group and charity projects, and now not just limited to afghans! This book gives you the tools to unlock a world of creative possibilities and confidently build your own design "blockbusters" one block at a time...



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together

*** EASY MOGULS SCARF ***

Need an EASY quick scarf idea for last-minute holiday knitting? Try a scarf with two skeins of MOUNTAIN COLORS "Moguls". Using size 11 knitting needles, cast on 13 stitches. Knit every row (garter stitch) until scarf is desired length or until you have 2 yards of yarn remaining. Bind off. Weave in ends. Block lightly and enjoy. This scarf is super simple and super fast...

*** SPECTACULAR SWEATERS ***

This article appeared in the Tribune-Review, written by Joanne Klimovich Harrop, Friday, November 5, 2010: "Angled bottoms. Chunky fabrics. Interesting prints. This season's sweaters exude elegance and artistry with anything-goes style. Gone are the days of the solid color button-down front cardigan. This season, knits not only keep you warm, but add vibrancy to your wardrobe...

Having sweater options can take you from the work week straight into the weekend. Wear them over a dress, skirt or slacks for work. For more casual affairs, pair with jeans or leggings. Most of these sweaters can be worn by women of different ages and body types...

Try a camel, gray or black sweater that hits from mid-thigh or knee length and is chunky, but not too bulky. Change the look by adding a different belt or layer it over different outfits. The look is completely different over black trousers and a polished belt than with jeans, a chunky brown belt and boots...

Fur-trimmed sweaters are another option for transitioning into colder temperatures. They are perfect come holiday time...

This year is all about sweaters, from patterned Fair Isle and feminine pointelle to cashmere and cardigans. Think Nordic and Fair Isle motifs are the definition of traditional? Not this year, reports *Self* magazine. Creative variations and fresh color combos give them new life. Pair them unconventionally, too -- with patterned pants or a skirt, not the typical solids... Limit your palette to colors found in nature...

if you do choose a solid cardigan, select one that's slim fit with a slouchy collar to be on trend, according to *Lucky* magazine. Choose a grandpa basic sweater but in a nicely modern cut. Sequins on sleeves or collars add an interesting touch to a solid hue."

*** TIPS FOR SWEATER CARE ***

Keep your knits looking like new with these tips from *Self* magazine:

- ---- Sweaters don't require a wash after every wear. (Hooray! Kathy adds, wear a tee or long-sleeve T-neck under your sweaters for layering & prolonged wear before cleaning) If one is solied, check the tag to see whether it's machine washable or hand-wash. A good gentle cleanser is EUCALAN no-rinse delicate wash, available here at Kathy's Kreations.
- --- Fold knits a different way after each wear to avoid perma-creasing.
- --- A sweater shaver is the best way to remove pills. We recommend De-Fuzz-It. Practice on a place that doesn't show, like under the arm. Glide the shaver lightly and slowly.
- --- Before storing your knits, clean them. If you've worn them -- even for only a quick try-on -- bugs will be attracted to eau de you.



*** HOLIDAY PROMOTION ***

Thank you for making Kathy's Kreations your favorite LYS (local yarn shop). Now through December 15, 2010, Classic Elite Yarns and Kathy's Kreations are sponsoring a "Love Your Shop" special promotion. Classic Elite is rewarding our LYS entreprenurial spirit by giving everyone a present!

Spend \$40 or more on ANY regularly-price yarn or books (that's right, ANY COMPANY!) between now and December 15, 2010, send a copy of your itemized receipt to Classic Elite and they will send you a recent pattern book and three mini-skeins of Classic Elite yarn, just for buying local!

Address: Classic Elite Yarns; 122 Western Avenue; Lowell, MA 01851.

It's their "thank you" to all the knitters and crocheters who recognize the value of supporting our local communities and independently-owned and operated small businesses. Find out more about the Love Your Shop giveaway on their blog and view complete rules and details on their website (www.classiceliteyarns.com)...

- *** WHERE'S KATHY??? ***
- --- Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet Festival (Market); February 11-13, 2011; Four Points Sheraton North; Mars, PA (for info call 724-963-7030 or e-mail above address)
- --- Stitches West; February 17-20, 2011, Santa Clara, California; teaching classes including Knit To Fit, Create-A-Cable, Slip Stitch Sampler, Intro to Combining Lace & Cable Patterns
- --- Stitches South; April 14 -17, 2011, Atlanta, Georgia; teaching classes including Knit To Fit, Create-A-Cable, Slip Stitch Sampler, Intro to Combining Lace & Cable

*** THE "WE CARE" TREE ***

Thanks to all who contributed warm winter items (hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, socks, slippers, sweaters, etc.) for the "We Care Tree", aiding the Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild program for children in need in our neighboring communites through the Westmoreland County and Fayette County Food Banks and local service unit of the Salvation Army. This year, we collected 53 hats, 1 pair of mittens, 2 scarves, 2 shawls and 7 blankets. On behalf of "Caps For Kids", your support and participation are greatly appreciated. We will continue to collect donations of new hand-knit, hand-crocheted or purchased commercially-made hats, mittens, gloves, headbands, scarves, socks, sweaters, etc. until December 23rd...

*** CHRISTMAS IN LIGONIER VALLEY ***

Get away from the hectic pace of the holidays and visit Ligonier for a step back in time. We will be participating in the town-wide Open House on Sunday, December 5, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. The Festival of Lights with more than 50 decorated trees & wreaths will be displayed at the Ligonier Town Hall Community Room from



Saturday, December 4, 2010, through Sunday, December 12, 2010. Look for our "There's No Business Like Snow Business" wreath with handknit snowmen ornaments handmade and designed by Nancy Caldwell...

*** ICE FEST ***

Please join us as the Ligonier Diamond is transformed into a winter wonderland / ice palace on Saturday and Sunday, January 22-23, 2011. Special activites include merchant sales, ice sculptures, kettle corn, buggy rides and other fun stuff...

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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: Mondays, December 6, 2010, and January 3, 2011, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Come knit!

*** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, December 14, 2010, and January 11, 2011; 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. We are planning an after-hours pizza party for our December gathering. 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, December 17, 2010, and January 21, 2011; 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...

*** WALKING THE DOG HAT OR MITTS" Saturday, December 11, 2010, 1pm - 4 pm with instructor Kathy Zimmerman; \$20.00 registration fee plus pattern purchase ***

The newest installment in KOLLAGE YARNS "Feed Your Creativity" Series is the "Dog Walking Trio", designed by our own Kathy. Worked in "Solace", "Glisten" or "Fantastic" yarn, this set features a seed stitch scarf with pocket (to carry dog treats, your credit card & key), a matching hat, and mittens with fold-back tops. The set is worked in three shades, alternating colors every row, and garter stitch accents. Choose to make the hat or mitts in class -- how often do you get a chance to take a class with the designer of the project?

*** "FEARLESS KNITTING WORKSHOP" Saturday January 15, 2011, 1 pm - 4 pm with instructor Kathy Zimmerman; \$20.00 registration fee* ***

Are you intimidated by that project you've been longing to knit but are afraid to attempt because it looks too hard, you don't know how to make it fit your body, you've never knit a cardigan, etc. Kathy will share her professional designer expertise with you to help you master new skills and confidently tackle that challenge. *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, crocheting, felting, Oxford rug punch, drop spindle, and spinning lessons available by appointment. Group classes in a variety of intermediate knitting skills are being planned, or we would be glad to do a specific class for groups of 4 or more. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 30 years !

Best wishes from all of us at Kathy's Kreations to you and your families for a truly wonderful holiday season. KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING! Kathy