

KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-9320
JULY 2009 UPDATE



Dear Knitters,

Knitwear designer and knitting instructor Kathy Zimmerman began Kathy's Kreations almost thirty years ago, and it continues to be a WIP today (work in progress). Kathy strives to keep the quality of products, classes and expertise the area's best. We all love beautiful knits with sensible approaches. But, many knitters also want a challenge to keep things interesting. Our summer '09 collection does both.

Fresh, bright displays have updated our look and we will soon introduce a new logo. We are now open Sunday afternoons through mid-October for your shopping convenience. This month, we are getting involved with our community by sponsoring a non-perishable food collection drive and "A Woolly Garden Rug" rug punch project together with our neighbor business, Mommy Gear. Nancy Premoshis from Nutrimeitics will be here for "Spa Days" -- stop in for a complimentary hand massage, free bath mitt pattern and advice on skin care. "Summer in Ligonier" weekend on July 24th & 25th features our popular don't-miss-it indoor sidewalk sale. We cap off July with a very special event that has been over a year in the planning -- a super trunk show featuring 20 projects from Kristin Nicholas' book, *Kristin Knits*.

It's time to pick up your "sticks" and yarn, unleash your creativity and channel your inner artist. Kathy and Marilee have recently returned from TNNA Needlearts Market with ideas, inspiration and exciting products to fill the new shelves, with an emphasis on things made in the USA. Have a fun summer and,

BUY AMERICAN YARNS

**10% off all regularly-priced yarns in stock with the
"Made In The USA" label during July 2009**

**Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday
12 noon - 4:00 pm Sundays through mid-October
(CLOSED Saturday, July 4, will be open Sunday, July 5)**

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

Private knitting and crochet 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
Telephone 724-238-9320

e-mail kathy@kathys-kreations.com
please visit our website www.kathys-kreations.com



*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Are you prepared to ride this summer's knitting wave? For some of us, summer is when we knit lace, or when we knit socks, or when we knit something to wear over a tank top, or when we knit with cotton, bamboo or linen. Some of us just crank up the a/c and knit with the same wonderful fibers we love all year 'round. Make time for yarn every day. Knit your passion with these projects designed with portability in mind...

PIECEWORK Magazine July / August 2009 (\$6.99) is the special travel issue. Even if you won't be going anywhere soon, this issue can transport you to a variety of fiber-related ports of call. There are elegant, intriguing take-along projects for happy knitting on the road (cashmere wrist-warmers, and a diamond scarf by Nancy Bush) and stranded Norwegian tree-of-life mittens for stay-cationers & armchair travellers...

INTERWEAVE CROCHET Summer 2009 (\$6.99) is packed with mystery and magic. According to Marcy's editorial: "For some, the mystery is how to make crochet an enjoyable sport in summer. Some of us don't have to face this challenge, as we are drawn to fiber no matter the weather. We have the answer: laceweight and thread". The magic part is the 22 inspired projects for summer, weekend casual retro shapes, and elegant wedding accessories. You won't want to miss the top tips for crocheting with laceweight yarn...

We literally stopped in our tracks when we saw the new DOVETAIL DESIGNS by Val Love at the TNNA Market (\$5.50 each). Worked top down, "Starry Night Cardigan K2.34" (shown upper left), is gently flared and worked in garter stitch, beginning at the shoulders. Fitted shoulders are worked with vertical decreases below the shoulder on front and back, with the body worked in one piece. The model is knit with MOUNTAIN COLORS "River Twist" worsted merino, arriving here soon. Other new patterns are top-down "Flared Tank Top K2.37", with yarn over increases to form the body flare, creating three diamond shapes down center front and back, neck & sleeves have rolled edges and hem is finished with reverse stockinette; "Bomber Jacket K2.35" with jacket and lining knitted separately and a convertible collar; and top-down "Cropped Swing Jacket K2.36" roll collar jacket with pinhole increases below the waist to create the swing shape, flared sleeves worked in rounds from shoulder to cuff, with short rows at shoulder...

You know that we can't resist gadgets, and BOYE "Count Ten Plus" is a must for your carry-along knitting tote. In addition to a knitting needle check, simply do a gauge swatch, set the two pointers at 10 stitches, and get an estimate of stitches and rows per inch. Very handy for taking a gauge while "on the go"...

"Fibersphere" (\$20.00, 5" diameter, shown lower right, made in the USA) is the ultimate in fiber protection take-along products. This portable encapsulated sphere protects yarn from any unwanted damage, snoopy pets, or outside elements. With a polished cavity and a smooth side opening, there is no need to worry about snags and tangles. The Fibersphere also allows for easy swapping of yarns without having to cut your strand and for double stranding by locking two same-sized spheres together. Don't cut your yarn away; just open it, place your yarn inside, and snap it shut...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Shawl and lace knitters have been asking for them for years, now they are here! CLOVER proudly introduces bamboo circular needles in sizes US 0, 1 & 2 in 16", 24", 29", and 36" lengths (\$10.95 - \$12.50). Light in weight with a warm, natural feel, these needles have a metal reinforcement at the join to minimize the chance of breakage...



Stay warm with style In the beautiful "Romance" Reversible Shawl from KEEP IT SIMPLE (\$5.50, shown upper right). Two completely different stitch patterns are created using just a single 8-row repeat. Fun and simple to knit -- warm and cozy to wear. Top it off with a BRITTANY shawl pin (\$5.50)...

Award-winning jewelry designer Annie Adams presents a collection of knitting notions to compliment her selection of stylish jewelry, ANNIE ADAMS ADORNMENTS. Accent your personal style with her "Made in the USA" line of lead-free pewter accessories (shawl pin KNI 1631, \$39.00, shown lower left). In addition to her beautiful shawl pins, we are now carrying key chains with your choice of "knit", "yarn", or yarn ball (\$15.00 - \$17.00), shawl stick (\$19.99), and extra large accent buttons for purses or pillows (\$13.00 - \$23.00) in the glass display case near the checkout counter...

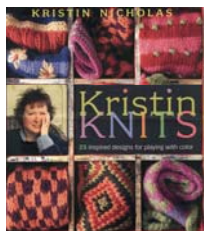
We fell in love with KNIT ONE, CROCHET TOO "Brae Tweed" at TNNA (\$8.50, 50 grams, 109 yards, 60% merino wool / 20% baby lama / 10% bamboo / 10% Donegal, CYCA yarn classification 4). It looks like a rustic tweed until you pick it up and feel the softness. Pattern support includes #1628 "Kelly Pullover". A flattering style for many, the yoke is worked with an easy 4-row gull cable and ribs, and the rest in stockinette stitch with seed stitch edgings. Another winner for K1, C2...

Felted bags are particularly well suited as totes for groceries and picnics because they are naturally insulated, don't lose their shape or their immense carrying capabilities when wet, and withstand even harse treatment, all the while looking fantastic. NONI DESIGNS feature exciting pattern for the intrepid knitter. We introduced the "Green Earth Grocery Bag" pattern earlier this spring. Noni's latest pattern is "Clematis Shopping Bag" (\$8.95), the perfect tote for any shopping trip or picnic/tote for the individual or whole family. The large shopping bag and small lunch tote can be made striped and adorned with the clematis flower for an imminently feminine look, or try rugby stripes or solids (without flower) for a great-looking but entirely unisex and utilitarian set of bags. Additional bag patterns, purse frames, flower patterns, and childrens' home dec items will be arriving soon...

JAMES BRETT "Marble" is our best-selling yarn for childrens' knits and charity knitting because of its easy care, wonderful feel and marl colorways (\$6.50, 100 grams, 240 yards, CYCA yarn classification 4, 100% acrylic). New shades like blueberry, seashell and key lime are now here for your knitting and crocheting pleasure. Six new shades of "Marble Chunky" will be on their way later this summer...



KNITTING PURE & SIMPLE #272 "Bulky Hooded Vest for Women" (\$5.50) is once again in stock. Many new patterns and yarn will be on their way during the next few weeks, so stop by & see what the buzz is all about...



*** KRISTIN KNITS TRUNK SHOW AND BOOK SPECIAL EVENT ***

Kathy's Creations is planning a special treat for our customers, one inspired by color (we have been on the waiting list for over a year). Twenty contemporary, stunningly beautiful projects from the book *Kristin Knits* (\$24.95, hard cover), written by Kathy's mentor Kristin Nicholas, will be showcased here from **July 31 - August 11, 2009**.

Personally autographed bookplates will be available with the purchase of the book (quantities limited). All projects are worked with warm, vibrant shades of our lovely NASHUA HANDKNITS "Julia" yarn (\$7.95, 50 grams, 93 yards, 50% merino / 25% alpaca / 25% kid mohair, yarn classification 4). These patterns are expressly designed to feature color in combination. If you are confident with your knitting needles, but still feel a little unsure about improvising with color, take inspiration from these charming, imaginative handknit garments to find your own color language. Knitting has never been so colorful!

*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

It's the summer of socks and here's your chance to knit socks that fit from toe to top! With the easy techniques in *Toe-Up Techniques for Hand-Knit Socks* (\$14.95, softcover, shown left), you'll knit socks from the toe up rather than the cuff down. The advantage? You can try on the socks as you go, for a perfect fit every time. There's no more grafting toes and practically no finishing work, just fun socks! Socks are the number #1 most popular take-along knitting projects among our customers. This book will help you to learn several cast-on methods, all the basics, and how to manage the tricky parts...

Fall in love with knitting again! *Feminine Knits* (\$22.95, softcover) is an intriguing pattern collection blending captivating designs with flattering, feminine silhouettes that you'll be eager to start and delighted to finish. This book showcases patterns inspired by current and vintage fashion aspects of design. There are 22 patterns for jackets, tanks, pullovers, a skirt, and accessories that feature lace, texture, and unusual pattern construction. The impeccable detailing, such as elegant edgings, flattering shaping, and tailored sleeves are timeless, wearable and interesting to knit...

*** A TRAVEL TIP ***

--- Use the cutter on your dental floss container for cutting yarn.

*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

"Spa Day" - Friday, July 17, 2009, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm; and Saturday, July 25, 2009,

9:30 am - 4:00 pm Nutrimerics consultant Nancy Premoshis (also one of our shopgals) will be here to pamper you with a hand massage, advice on skin care, a free sample of "Active Hand Cream" (one per customer, please) and a complimentary bath mitt pattern

"A Woolly Garden Community Rug Punch" Saturday, July 18, 2009 (see page 7)

"Summer in Ligonier" Friday & Saturday, July 24 & 25, 2009

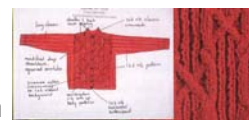
Arts & crafts on the Diamond, merchants' sidewalk sales and much more

"The Stroll" Friday, August 14, 2009, 5 - 9 pm

A relaxing evening on the town in Ligonier, a step back in time

***** NEEDLEARTS MARKET HIGHLIGHTS *****

In mid-June, Kathy and "shopgal" Marilee attended the TNNA Show in Columbus, Ohio. What an overwhelming experience -- a huge convention hall filled with new fall yarns, accessories, books, and all things fiber.



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Cardigans, cozy collars, capelets and swingy skirts made a big statement at the fashion show. We learned new buzzwords like "knitterly" (knitter-friendly), re-purposing (re-using yarn or re-thinking the original project), "clanning" (getting involved in the local community), and down-aging (baby boomer nostalgia). Here's a re-cap of who and what we saw, and a preview of what you can expect to see coming into the shop between now and early fall. Please indulge us the name-dropping, as it was such a thrill to meet with so many prominent industry people all there under one roof!

Friday night "Preview" began at the Great Wall of Yarn in the registration area, where swatches and samples of all the new yarns are available to see and touch before shopping. While there, Kate Gilbert of the "Clapotis Scarf" fame introduced herself and invited Kathy to submit designs for a new on line magazine. Afterwards, we attended the kick-off fashion show featuring two of Kathys' designs from the upcoming fall 2009 issue of Knitter's Magazine (see upper right). It was very exciting to see these two cardigans, last seen blocking on our classroom table, on the big runway & giant screen TV in a ballroom full of hundreds of shop owners and yarn industry people. Later, at the "Keep The Fleece" celebration in honor of the International Year of Natural Fibers, we met up with Interweave Knits editor Eunny Jang who told us that the special issue "Knits Weekend" will be published in October 2009. Kathy's rustic men's tweed alpaca cabled pullover and a striped envelope-style pillow will be included in the launch of this exciting new publication...

Saturday began with the TAHKI / STACY CHARLES breakfast -- our favorite way to start the market show. In addition to a slide presentation of the fall pattern booklets and features in Vogue Knitting and Interweave Press magazines, we were among the first to see the new yarns and colors. Seven new fabulous shades of "Donegal Tweed" will be arriving on our shelves, plus a great thick & thin multi-color yarn, "Presto", that will be fabulous for LISA KNITS "Quick & Cozy" collar pattern...

Kathy has designed four sweaters for KOLLAGE YARNS fall 2009 Collection, with an entire booklet planned for next spring. Look for "Glisten" sparkly alpaca silk and "Fantastic" merino wool Made-in-the-USA yarns to arrive later this fall, BLOKWRX premium blocking wire kit for knit, crochet, and lace, and Kathy's patterns, too. Owner Susan Moraca is doing wonderful things at KOLLAGE, and is striving to add more "Made in the USA" yarns with patterns from American designers. Way to go, Susan!

INTERWEAVE PRESS was taping Season 4 of Knitting Daily TV (where life meets knitting). Season 3 tapes, which includes Kathy's Cable Workshop, will begin airing this month. The DVDs will be available for purchase here, if your local PBS station does not carry it. Marilee got to meet her PBS icon Shay Pendray, who was taping with Adina Klein of TAHKI...

Products also coming in later this summer are: several new shades COLINETTE "Jitterbug" (cumin, mango lasse, melba peach, purple jam, mint julep, pagan, phoenix & nutmeg); new shades of FIESTA YARNS "Ballet" & "La Boheme" (we've special ordered some black & gold just in time for Steeler training camp), a new angora / merino blend from SKACEL plus the 8" circular ADDI TURBO with bent tips & the 16" length Addi lace circulars, KNITTING AT KNOON 18" doll sweater patterns & childrens' sunhats, and much, much more...

*** MORE FROM THE NEEDLEARTS MARKET ***

We toured the CLASSIC ELITE booth with Creative Director Pam Allen. It was literally designer central with "brooklyn tweed" blogger Jared Flood and his fall collection for Elite; Veronik Avery & her classic designs for Elite featuring made-in-the-USA "Nordique St. Denis" (gorgeous wool) and a magazine-style presentation; and Jil Eaton with her latest Minnowknits & Minnowmerino yarns. All simply stunning...

WESTMINSTER FIBERS is always a treasure trove. Our favorite ROWAN yarns are the Felted Tweed Aran, Felted Tweed Chunky, plus "Lima", which is the most unique fiber we encountered at the market. This is a buttery soft worsted weight baby alpaca blend in a beautiful palette of heatherized colors. The construction of the yarn is basically a two-stitch I-cord which traps air, while keeping it lightweight and lofty, yet maintains its elasticity. We were also impressed with two of NASHUA HANDKNITS yarns, 100% wool softly marled "Shenandoah" and wool / alpaca softly spun "Paradise". Two of Kathy's designs are featured in the upcoming NASHUA pattern booklets -- stop by the shop to see the previews. Kristin Nicholas was on hand with her new self-striping sock yarn, Best Foot Forward, with her fabulous signature color combinations, and a new design book in the works, *Color by Kristin*. Her trunk show will be here July 31...

Knitter's Magazine booth was one of the most colorful. The prominent garments were from Australian designer Jane Slicer-Smith's new book, *Swing, Swagger, Drape: The Colors of Australia* (coming in October). The central pieces in this collection -- swing coats, swagger jackets, and drapes -- show what makes this collection unique: a masterful use of color, fabrics that move, shapes that flatter, and customized fit...

Something new will be coming to our shelves -- LOUET NORTH AMERICA products. We will be carrying "Eastport Alpaca" (a heathered blend of USA grown alpaca fiber & merino combined for warmth, strength, & durability, spun at a mill here in PA), Gems Sport (used by Kathy for the Katharine Hepburn cardigan in *Lace Style*), and Euroflax linen. For spinners, we can special order looms, carders and wheels beginning this fall, plus beginner lessons if you always want to learn how-to...

Yarn caddies and see-through tote bags from TIMELESS TOTES sporting our new shop logo will be available come late summer...

MOUNTAIN COLORS luscious 46 colorways are inspired by the mountains, rivers and woodlands of the Bitterroot Valley of Montana. Look for new shades of "Twizzle" and "River Twist" to arrive later in July (imagine pine creek, firestorm, stillwater river...

New from YARN CRAFT SUPPLIES is a pattern collection from KALAMAZOO KNITS, bringing you creative designs for everyday knitting. Arriving soon will be felted flip-flops and baby sandals, one of those "must have" small indulgences...

JCA Design Director Cathy Payson's goal for fall 2009 was to move REYNOLDS and ARTFUL YARNS sweater lines forward and grow in a dramatic and exciting way. We are pleased to have Kathy's honeycomb cardigan (shown right) knit with "Vineyard" wool / acrylic blend as part of this modern yet traditional design collection...



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Artful Yarns



*** ANNOUNCING A VERY SPECIAL HAPPENING ***

Gardens are a way of showing that you believe in tomorrow, as the flowers of all tomorrows are the seeds of today. We are so pleased to announce a special project that was the "seed" of our own Tracey Earhart, and is rapidly gaining national (yes, we mean NATIONAL) attention. On **Saturday, July 18, 2009, 9 am - 5 pm**, Tracey and her "Punchette" students will come together in the Downstairs Room at Mommy Gear, located behind Kathy's Kreations to work on "A Woolly Garden Rug", with proceeds to benefit the Westmoreland County Food Bank. "Mommy Gear" has graciously donated the use of the room. There will be a potluck lunch at 12 noon.

Tracey is the area's only Certified Oxford Rug Punch Instructor and the day is open to all of her previous students. Each student will punch a 10" X 10" square, which will be assembled into a large rug. The rug is garden-themed, and each student may choose templates of veggies, fruits, flowers, birds, bees, butterflies, etc., or design their own. The rug will be on display at Kathy's Kreations during the month of August. ALL of the proceeds from the rug will go to the Food Bank, with the final drawing on Labor Day Weekend. The "Woolly Garden Rug" will help provide food for many families.

Kathy's Kreations is also having a non-perishable fruit and veggie drive (to continue the theme of the rug) now through Labor Day. We will be collecting canned goods, dried fruits / veggies or juice. You may drop off your donation during business hours. There is also a basket of vintage pattern booklets which have been donated -- the patterns are free with a donation to the Food Bank "piggy banks".

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following business for their support of this project & fun day of rug punching and sharing:

Mommy Gear -- donation of the Downstairs Room for the day

Barb Carroll of The Woolley Fox -- donation of yarn & website publicity

Amy Oxford, Oxford Rug Punch Tool inventor -- donating yarn & website publicity

Halcyon Blake, Halcyon Yarns -- donation of yarn & publicity

Kathy's Kreations -- donation of yarn & website / general publicity

Tracey -- monks cloth, event planner, rug assembly, beverages for the stitching event

For more information, please e-mail Tracey Earhart at halfmoonhollow@gmail.com with "community rug punch" in the subject line for a flyer. All volunteers must pre-register by calling Kathy's Kreations at 724-238-9320. If you wish to learn how to rug punch in order to participate, a class will be held at Kathy's on Saturday, July 11, 2009, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm (call for details)...

*** DESIGN YOUR OWN SCARF CONTEST ***

It's time to start your entries for the August 2009 Westmoreland County Fair "Design Your Own Scarf" contest sponsored by Kathy's Kreations. This year's theme is "natural fiber" -- scarves must be an original design, using 100% natural (animal or plant) yarns. Please ask for details...

KNITTER'S DAY OUT 2009 ***

Knitter's Day Out is a one-day, one-evening event in the Harrisburg, PA area with the goal of promoting knitting. The 24th annual KDO 2009 will be held on Friday, **September 25 and Saturday, September 26, 2009** at the Central Pennsylvania College. We are pleased that Kathy is one of the "headliner" guest teachers on Saturday. She will be teaching two three-hour classes -- one on slip-stitch colorplay and one on cables, featuring an original scarf design.



***** READER'S KNIT CLUB *****

Join the Reader's Knit Club for an evening of knitting & fellowship on **Mondays, July 6, 2009, and August 3, 2009, from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm** at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Route 30, Greensburg, PA...

***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, July 14, 2009, and August 11, 2009, from 7 - 9 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!

***** FUN FRIDAYS, July 10, 2009, and August 14, 2009; 10 am - 2 pm with instructor Joyce Bischoff; rsvp (limited registration) *****

All knitters & crocheters welcome! Our instructor Joyce 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.

***** UPCOMING CLASSES *****

"Learn to Rug Punch with the Oxford Rug Punch Needle" with Tracey Earhart; Saturday, July 11, 2009, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm; registration fee \$50.00

Includes rug punch frame, monk's cloth, instruction with Certified Oxford Rug Punch instructor & use of templates; for ages 10 and up; call for details about additional supplies

"Ruffled Scarf" with Nancy Premoshis; Saturday, August 1, 2009; 9:30 am - 12:00 noon; registration fee \$25.00*

*Class supplies needed include US #10. 5 or 11 needles & 100 yards chunky weight yarn for body of scarf, 100 yards chunky weight for ruffle; 2 buttons; pattern is included in class fee

*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 inclement 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, punch needle and rug punch lessons available by appointment, with a discount to students purchasing their project supplies here. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 29 years!

Summer is more than a season -- it's a mindset, a time to slip into cool knits and warm weather fashions. Whatever your stitching pleasure, Kathy's Kreations is the perfect fiber getaway for yarn lovers. Keep us on your summer travel "places to go" destination list. We love the exciting new things that are happening here this summer, and we are honored to have you as a customer. Thank you for your continued support of Kathy's Kreations. Your business is truly appreciated and we look forward to continue being your "go to" yarn shop for all of your knitting, crocheting, needlepunch, Oxford Rug Punch and coming soon, spinning needs.

KEEP KNITTING!

Kathy