



KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
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JULY 2012 UPDATE

Dear Stitches,

Did somebody say summer? What exactly does that mean -- birds chirping, picnics in the park, iced tea and lemonade? In the fiber world, it means the opportunity to try something new in your chosen needleart, while adding style and flair to your wardrobe or home decor. Here at Kathy's Kreations, we'll help you find inspiration with the perfect knitting or crocheting project.

Vivid neon color accents will freshen last season's favorite outfit. Bright accessories look fantastic with black, white, navy and khaki basics. Scarves for summer? You bet! A lightweight, airy scarf can be a wardrobe's workhorse -- a simple pick-me-up with pizzazz. Wear two together for a smashing splash of color. Ask us about the CHURCHMOUSE linen stitch and ruffle scarves in CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS "Fingering Merino" and Bias Before & After scarves in CLASSIC ELITE "Silky Alpaca Lace" and now in CLAUDIA "Linen". Funny thing about these projects: when you finish your first scarf, another one soon follows onto the needles! Lacy shawls and shawlettes are a sign of personal style, and, for the most part, you want to draw attention to them. This is the accessory you'll want with you all the time. It goes under a light jacket, over a cardie, with a low neckline or a high one, and it's the perfect thing to keep at the office or when going out to a restaurant where the temperature can vary. And the latest trend is knitted skirts, a chic and ladylike way to dress this summer. Crochet is very fashion-forward, not tablecloths and curtains, but TEXTURE! Clout plus a feminine look. And no outfit is complete without a structured bag -- we've got some great new ones from JORDANA PAIGE and NAMASTE, which do double duty as a purse and project tote.

What are you waiting for? Enhance your skills and take your stitching to the next level!

JULY IS "BUY AMERICAN YARNS" MONTH
All regularly-priced yarns with "Made In The USA" on the label
in stock are 10% off throughout July 2012

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 drop spindle
instructions are available by appointment
Finishing services & gift certificates available
Shopping at Kathy's Kreations has never been easier
COME IN - CALL UP - LOG ON
e-mail kathy@kathys-kreations
please visit our website www.kathys-kreations.com





***GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Knitting and crocheting are about so many things: the yarn, the patterns, making something beautiful, but most of all it's about finding a pasttime that you love.

At this year's National Needlework Association (TNNA) Market and Trade Show in Columbus, Kathy was honored and excited to meet and greet fellow yarn shop attendees in the KRAEMER YARNS booth, and sign copies of her latest pattern booklet. KRAEMER gathered together 13 (a knitter's dozen!) of Kathy's patterns designed exclusively for their yarns. As KRAEMER states in the introduction, "Intricate cables and beautiful textures are key elements of Kathy's style and the patterns in this book, full of her style!" The cover design, "Double Zigzag Swing Jacket" shown upper left, is a beautiful A-line jacket knit with "Perfection Worsted", flattering to many figure types. This jacket was featured in the TNNA Fashion Show. The pattern collection will be available later this month (\$13.50, spiral bound) and Kathy will be glad to personally sign your copy...

We are also very excited to introduce KRAEMER YARNS "Perfection Lights" (\$7.95, 100 grams, 200 yards, 70% acrylic / 30% domestic merino wool, CYCA #4). KRAEMER has added a touch of sparkle to their already popular "Perfection Worsted". The glamorous yarn is now available in 8 evening colors. This will be one of the yarns featured at our yarn tasting on July 20 & 21, 2012. Stop in for a look...

Every knitter loves a little knit. In *Knitscene Accessories 2012* (\$14.99), INTERWEAVE brings you 35 designs that pack a lot of style, and, in some cases, a lot of technique, into a small package. Editor Lisa Shroyer tells us: "You can play with luxe yarns, hand-dyes and novelties, or pull something from your stash and whip up a quick project. The editorial themes range from rustic fisherman to urban hipster to out-there sci-fi. These crazy themes reflect the nature of accessories -- they make your style from day to day. Use them to change up your look, your mood, even your identity. Sweaters are the staples of a knitter's wardrobe, but little knits are the embellishment. I'd go so far to say that accessories are the *fun* in your wardrobe -- and your knitting bag. An issue such as this offers trend-driven, yet still timeless, content for the serious knitter". Keep this issue on your shelf, as you'll come back to it again and again. You'll find the content constantly refreshing, constantly inspiring. While you're working up a pair of mitts or a slouchy cap, you'll learn new techniques like Fair Isle, intarsia, twisted stitches, and the dangerous-sounding dropped stitch, and it's all good knitting...

Make room in your closet for 25 essential pieces from *knit.wear* magazine (\$14.99). The spring 2012 issue of this special publication from INTERWEAVE is packed with simple, flattering knits you'll want to wear right now! Our pick is the "nonesuch cowl" (shown right), with dropped stitches inserting light, gauzy stripes into a solid fabric. A half-twist before binding off creates a Mobius-strip shape that can be worn around the neck or draped over the head. Plus, take an in-depth look at short rows with Erica Patberg to learn about working yarn-over short rows and Japanese short rows. Learn couture finishing tips from Kathy Augustine & re-imagine color with Glenna C. Harris. Combine the best of classic favorites with new yarns and silhouettes to create a collection of casual knits that you'll enjoy knitting and wearing...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Knitting is 3-D, and short rows may be the slickest trick for building shape and contour as we create the fabric. It seems that short row techniques are everywhere this summer and we've got the perfect project to master them, LISA KNITS AC-030 "Ahead of The Curve" scarf and capelet (\$5.00, shown right). The crescent-shaped scarf is worked with smaller wedges in NORO's colorful "Taiyo" (\$18.50, 100 grams, 220 yards, CYCA #4). Other new arrivals from LISA KNITS are AC-028 "Ivy on the Trellis" (\$5.00), a staggered openwork pattern for a scarf or two sizes of wraps, and AC-029 "Beachcomber" (\$5.00) a triangular-shaped worsted weight stockinette shawl with openwork accents and a scalloped border than will span the seasons...



Attention, Madeline Tosh mavens! We have finally received new shipments of "Tosh Sock", "Tosh Chunky" and "Pashmina", but they are selling out fast...

Pittsburgh Steeler Training Camp begins at St. Vincent College at the end of July. Now is the time to start knitting black and gold accessories to be ready in time for the season kick-off. We are thrilled that Claudia McLean of CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS has dyed her "Silk Lace 20/2" 100% silk yarn to our request for Steelers black and gold. Our plan is to knit a CHURCHMOUSE DESIGNS "Bias Before & After" scarf in each of the two colors and wear them together on game day to show our colors and support the team. Anyone else want to knit or crochet black & gold accessories in a knit/crochet-along?

While at TNNA, Kathy took a "Sweet Tomato Heel" socks class with designer Cat Bordhi, using FROG TREE's new DK yarn, "Ewetopia" (\$8.95, 50 grams, 109 yards, 50% superwash merino wool / 50% merino wool, CYCA #3). It is exceptionally springy with a tight twist, resulting in an ergonomically superior yarn, very important to the seasoned knitter. The texture is compelling, tactile, and pleasing to the eye. Kathy liked it so much that we are now stocking this yarn...

New from Europe is "Seide" (\$11.50, 50 grams, 143 yards, 50% silk / 50% merino extrafine wool; CYCA #3). This exquisite sport /DK blend is a dream to stitch and a great basic for garments...

Linen fibers are enjoying a resurgence, particularly for skirts. New from FIESTA YARNS is luxurious hand-dyed "Linnette" (\$28.95, 100 grams, 380 yards, 70% linen / 30% pima cotton, CYCA #3), in a beautiful color cruise limited shade "Seattle"...

The July / August issue of *Piecework* magazine (\$6.99) is dedicated to the color blue -- its importance, how it has been used, and how some traditional methods of achieving the color are being preserved. From Nancy Bush's Egyptian socks to knit vintage quilt squares, it's all interesting stuff...



You'll love making the easy patriotic little girl's dress from KRAEMER YARNS "Tatamy DK" (\$6.95, 100 grams, 250 yards, 50% cotton / 50% acrylic, CYCA#3). The pattern is free with the purchase of yarn to make this darling project...



*** FALL FLING WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT ***

Kathy's Kreations invites you to join us for a "Fall Fling" knitting workshop weekend, hosted by Carol Smith and Kathy Zimmerman. Accomplished knitter, instructor, and Merchandise Manager for Kraemer Yarns of Nazareth, PA, Eleanor Swogger, will teach a two-day workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA. The hands-on classes will be a "Getting Started With Bead Knitting", a

purled I-cord simple spiral bracelet project; "Lace & Beads" fingerless mitts (shown upper left), and "Playing with Mitered Knitting". In the beading classes, you will learn two different methods for incorporating beads into your knitting, as well as basic lace techniques in the mitt class. In the mitered knitting class, you will learn the how-to's to create the basic garter stitch square and how to customize your look to create the desired fabric. For skill levels beginner, intermediate and beyond, students must be able to knit and purl.

The weekend package includes an after-hours "soup and sliders" party and special shopping time at Kathy's Kreations (Friday evening); coffee breaks and two lunches at the Ramada; classes Saturday and Sunday; free time to shop in the pretty little town of Ligonier and goodie bags. The "early bird" price is \$175 per person before August 1, 2012 and \$200 per person after August 1, 2012. Overnight lodging is not included, but the Ramada has set up a special rate for us, so please make your own reservations by calling 724-238-9545. Space is limited on a first-come, first-served basis, so please e-mail or call 724-238-9320 (already over 2/3-filled). KATHY'S KREATIONS will be open on Sunday, September 23, 2012, from 12 noon - 4 pm. Attendees will receive a 10% discount on all regularly-priced knitting supplies and yarn all weekend...

*** WHERE'S KATHY? ***

August 9 - 12, 2012: Kathy will be teaching once again at Stitches Midwest in Schaumburg, IL. Class schedule is available at <http://www.knittinguniverse.com> (Knitter's Magazine website). Class topics include Knit to Fit; Ruffles, Scallops and Frills; Intro to combining Lace and Cable and Slip-Stitch Savvy. To view Kathy's classes, go to <http://knittinguniverse.com/portal/KZimmerman STSMW12>

August 22, 2012: Kathy will be the featured instructor for the Pittsburgh East Knitting Guild in Monroeville, PA. Kathy's program, "Textures & Cables Fingerless Mitts" is an original design for KRAEMER YARNS, featured in Kathy's pattern collection.

September 7 - 8, 2012: Kathy will be a featured teacher at Knitter's Day Out in Summerdale, PA, at Central PA College and Donna Dunlap will be manning Kathy's market booth; details are available at <http://www.knittersdayout.org>. Class topics are Brioche Basics, Getting the Most out of Self-Striping Yarns and Holes on Purpose (lace knitting basics).

September 21 - 23, 2012: Kathy and Carol Smith will host the 3rd Annual Fall Workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA with guest teacher Eleanor Swogger.

Registrations are now being accepted but space is limited (just a few spaces left)

October 4 - 7, 2012: Kathy will be the featured instructor at a "Knitting Superstar" weekend for the Atlanta Knitting Guild; Atlanta, GA

October 26 - 27, 2012: Kathy will be the guest teacher at the Western Reserve Knitting Guild in Canfield, OH for a weekend workshop

November 1 - 4, 2012: Omni Bedford Springs Fall Knittreat; Kathy will teach "Lace-Back Fingerless Gloves; details at <http://www.knittreat.com>

*** TNNA NEWS ***

Kathy, Linda, Betty Lou, Lisa and Eleanor travelled to the TNNA (The National Needlework Association) trade show and Market recently. It was exciting to see the new yarns, products and re-connect with our friends in the industry! Here's a brief report of what's happening for fall:

The fashion show started the event. There is definitely a return to the classics as "Old Meets New". Trends include a shift to feminine dressing in the return of jackets, cardigans and skirts but with a contemporary look. Here's the Pantone fashion & color forecast from VOGUE KNITTING (stop by to see the shade cards in person):

Hip to Be A Square: Kitschy colorwork is the new cool (Bright Chartreuse)

Army & Navy: Military-inspired details add a sleek and structured note (French Roast, a dark chocolate brown shade)

All That Glitters: Liquid metallics go for the gold (Honey Gold)

Blow-Up: mid-century modern outerwear goes oversize -- and then some (Olympian Blue)

My Fair Lady: luxe lace and fur grace prim necklines (Pink Flambe, a rose shade)

If It Ain't Baroque: Jacquard fabrics bring old-world glamour (Rhapsody, shades of lavender)

Pastel Me Over: creamy pastels are the new neutral (Rose Smoke, a pale beige tone)

Yo La Tango: 2012's key color keeps us warm through the winter (Tangerine Tango)

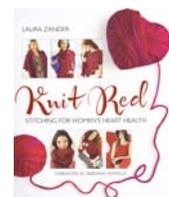
Married To The Sea: The Aran sweater makes a grand return to form (Titanium gray)

Peplum Rally: Fall's key silhouette is fun and flattering (Ultramarine Green, a true green, from a child's crayon box)

One of the most exciting initiatives we have been a part of is "Stitch Red, Sticking It To Heart Disease", a campaign started by Jimmy Beans Wool founder Laura Zander. Heart disease is the #1 killer of US women each year. One in four women will die of heart disease while one in 30 will die of breast cancer. Many yarn companies are offering "Stitch Red" products, joining an industry-wide initiative to raise awareness and to help prevent heart disease in women. The designs we are seeing are so beautiful and anyone who knows Kathy knows she loves to wear red. Kathy has a red "Knit For The Cure" shawl project in the works, which should be available later this fall. There is also an outstanding *Knit Red* book (\$19.95, hardback, shown lower right) featuring the talents of many of today's top knitwear designers...

We met with Stacy Charles at the TAHKI / STACY CHARLES booth, where jewel tones, metallics, textured sweaters, and sparkling multi-tonal pullovers define Fall fashion. The FILATURA DI CROSA line has teamed with the fabulous Kristin Omdahl, knit and crochet designer extraordinaire, to produce DUETS CROCHET (coming soon). Kristin showed us her beautiful collection of crochet designs that move from delicate, airy, floral motifs to structured, cabled, post-stitch patterns, all of which add up to flattering shapes that can easily be adjusted for all sizes. We also ordered "Crystal", a sophisticated yarn with subtle sequins. Kathy's is going a little glitzy...

Other new products coming in: KOLLAGE square needles made in the USA; HiyaHiya kitty snips; HiyaHiya sharps; ADDI cables with lifeline insert for interchangeable lace set; NAMASTE "Harlow" bags and organizers; TIMELESS TOTES see-through totes with our shop logo; and JHB buttons...



*** TNNA NEWS ***

Whether you knit, crochet, craft or just adore fiber, **Friday October 12, 2012** has been declared "I LOVE YARN DAY" by the Craft Yarn Council. This is also Fort Ligonier Days here in Ligonier.

If you plan to visit Kathy's on that date, please be sure to say

"I LOVE YARN" to receive **\$5 off your purchase of \$25** or more of regularly-priced yarn...



MILLAMIA, Scandanavian-inspired designs and supersoft merino yarn that knitters love to knit and children love to wear, is now available in the USA, distributed by CLASSIC ELITE YARNS. MILLAMIA's publications (see lower left) include the books *Bright Young Things*, *The Close Knit Gang*, and *Wonderland*, as well as as a range of individual patterns and kits featuring "Naturally Soft Merino" yarn (50 grams, 136 yards, CYCA#3). Kristin Nicholas also returns to the CLASSIC ELITE family with her wool/mohair/alpaca yarn "Color by Kristin" in a spectacular range of colorways that Kristin is known for...

We are always on the lookout for high-quality products made in the USA. We will soon debut ATENTI BAGS, which are designed and handcrafted in Los Angeles in unique combinations of fabrics and trims. These beautiful bags are fully-lined, most in water resistant taffeta with a zippered pocket, and an open divided pocket with a cell phone slot...

You know we can't resist classy gadgets. LANTERN MOON tool caddies are a velvet rose shaped caddy with a tapestry base. Cable needles, crochet hooks, repair tools, snips and more can be tucked into the petals of this cool-looking flower. Gotta get it! LANTERN MOON "Stitch Red" totes are ideal for summer on-the-go knitting...

There are a couple of hand-dyed yarns which we think are the best of the best. Look for new shipments of MADELINE TOSH "Merino Light", "Pashmina" and "Tosh Sock" to arrive in new colors, and also CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS in "Fingering Merino" and "Linen". Many of our customers are now knitting the "Bias Before & After Scarf" with one skein of CLAUDIA "Linen". We will give you a free addendum to anyone who buys the pattern, or has bought it from us in the past.

CHIC KNITS patterns by designer Bonnie Marie Burns are not only modern designs for modern knitters -- we think they are classic designs that our customers will love as much as we do. Simple, tasteful, and elegant, these versatile designs are appealing for work or casual time...

JAMES BRETT /WESTMINSTER FIBERS "Marble Chunky" will soon be available in 4 new colors and on our shelves. We've got a great pattern idea for a comfort shawl with this yarn, KATE JACKSON's "November Ruffle". Kate's patterns and several others from DEEP SOUTH FIBERS (Stephen West, Ysolda, Tot Toppers and more) will arrive soon...



There's so much extra to tell you but you will just need to come in and see the amazing new products for yourself!

*** ASK AN EXPERT ***

For more good knitting tips and to meet Eleanor Swogger of KRAEMER YARNS in person, please stop by our Yarn Tasting / Summer On The Diamond on **Friday July 20 & Saturday, July 21, 2012, from 10 am - 4 pm**. Eleanor has generously answered these questions from our customers -- thanks, Eleanor!



Q. "I'm confused about which yarn to use for sock knitting. What's best?"

A. For traditional lightweight socks, choose a fingering weight yarn spun with a hard (tight) twist. For durability and wearability, the twist is actually more important than added nylon content. Be sure to knit a tight fabric for socks!

Q: "I have heard that my projects would look better if I blocked them, but I don't have a clue how to get started. Can you help me?"

A. Let's talk about the tools needed for blocking. First, you need a smooth surface to do your blocking. You can buy a blocking board. The advantage of a blocking board is that it usually has markings which help in measuring. The second choice for a blocking surface is a series of flat interlocking foam blocks, like the puzzle-piece style used for children's playrooms. The advantage of this system is that the blocks can be put together in the shape of the item to be blocked. Another alternative is to buy a piece of Styrofoam insulation at a home improvement store. These sheets are usually 4'X8' in size. The store will usually cut the piece in half if you ask. It can be taped together again on the back with duct tape for a folding board. The advantage to the styrofoam method is that your piece can be pinned to the board and the board can be stood on end to dry. This works well for someone with little space. You can use a bed or carpeted floor with a sheet covering the carpet for blocking if you do not want to buy special blocking tools.

You will also need blocking T-pins. Be sure the pins are rustproof. If you are blocking a large piece, you may need several packs of pins. Blocking wires are optional. Most blocking wires come in sets with several lengths and with some wires that are very flexible for curves. Be sure to have a good measuring device -- a tape measure or yard stick. The clear quilter's yardsticks are ideal as you can see through them for accurate measurements. Fishing line or dental floss are also optional tools, especially if blocking a large round or curved shawl.

Kathy adds: Kathy's Kreations has blocking blocks, blocking wires, T-pins, measuring tapes and other items for your blocking & finishing needs...

*** DESIGN A SCARF CONTEST ***

Kathy's Kreations is again pleased to sponsor a "Design A Scarf" contest for knitters or crocheters at the annual Westmoreland County Agricultural Fair August 19 - 26, 2012. This year's entries must be made with a natural fiber "Made in the USA". Entry form / fair catalog may be obtained at local farm stores or from the Entry Secretary. Prizes include gift certificates from Kathy's Kreations: 1st -- \$40; 2nd -- \$30; 3rd -- \$20. See you at the County Fair...

*** KNITTING TIP ***

--- Work seed stitch in the round over an odd number of stitches and you will not have a distortion at the end of the round line (from Lisa Carnahan of LISA KNITS -- thank you!)



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

Join the "First Mondays" Club for an evening of knitting, crochet and fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate; Greensburg, PA. Meeting dates are **July 2, 2012, and August 6, 2012, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**. All skill levels of knitters and crocheters welcome!

***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, July 10, 2012, and August 14, 2012; 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (rsvp please) *****

Join Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild members for an evening of stitching & lots of fun conversation (non-members welcome). All skill levels of knitters & crocheters are welcome to come, sit & stitch! In the event of nasty weather, please call ahead to make sure we are meeting...

***** FUN FRIDAYS, July 20, 2012, and August 17, 2012; 10 am - 2 pm *****

All knitters & crocheters welcome! Our instructor Joyce Bischoff 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.

***** RAVELRY GROUP MEET AND GREET *****

Members of the "We Love Kathy's" Ravelry group will be gathering at Kathy's Kreations on Saturday mornings **July 14, 2012, and August 11, 2012; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**. Please bring your knitting, crocheting and any projects to show and share. We meet on the second Saturday of every month. All group members will receive a 10% discount on regularly-priced merchandise purchases on this "Meet and Greet Day". Not a member? Ask us how you can join!

***** SPECIAL EVENT YARN TASTING and SUMMER ON THE DIAMOND *****

"Summer On The Diamond" merchant sidewalk sales / arts & crafts show will be held on **Friday, July 20, 2012 and Saturday, July 21, 2012, 9 am - 5 pm**. We will be offering selected handknit accessories and hand-painted yarns for sale outdoors, plus close-out bargains indoors. You won't want to miss this happens-only-once-a-year event!

You are cordially invited to a **free** KRAEMER YARNS yarn tasting with Merchandise Manager Eleanor Swogger on **Friday, July 20, 2012 and Saturday, July 21, 2012, 10 am to 4 pm**. Please bring along knitting needles and crochet hooks in a size that you would normally use to knit DK and worsted weight yarns. Come meet Eleanor and try out the wonderful MADE IN THE USA yarns from KRAEMER YARN's mill in Nazareth, PA. Please call ahead to let us know you are coming so that we have enough yarn available for everyone. Eleanor will also have a large selection of one-of-a-kind hand-dyed yarns from KRAEMER's "Natural Skeins" collection available to purchase.

***** "THE STROLL" SIDEWALK SALE AND STITCH RED NIGHT*****

Join us for "The Stroll" sidewalk sale on Friday, August 3, 2012, another fun happening with an "oldies" flavor. Kathy's Kreations will be open 9 am - 8 pm! We will have STITCH RED NIGHT after 5 pm -- please bring along something red to knit or crochet!

Private knitting, crocheting, felting, drop spindle, and spinning lessons available by appointment. 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 32 years !

Knitting and crocheting washes the dust of everyday life from the soul.

KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING! Kathy