



KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-9320
MARCH 2019 UPDATE



Dear Stitchers,

Spring is finally on the horizon! As the start of welcome warmer weather draws ever closer, our new arrivals are ready right now, as fresh as spring itself! Now is the time to energize your wardrobe with a closet refresh -- get started on transitional garments to layer now, then wear later, too.

What are the new trends we've spotted? A lightness of touch and classic simplicity stand out for Spring/Summer 2019 fashions. The "retro" influence is still going strong with folk elements from the 70s/80s/90s eras evident, showing up in details like patchwork crochet and fishnet openwork -- a crafty theme with artisanal handiwork gone high-end. Lace, a familiar spring wardrobe staple, is being re-worked into more masculine silhouettes. Bows, from small and dainty to very large, are showing up on everything from hat to shoulder accents. Black-and-white checks, butterfly details, feathers, polka dots, and pattern mixing are all having a fashion "moment". If you don't have much time to stitch a sweater, knit or crochet a chic scarf or cover-up to freshen up something already in your closet. Hint: Rectangular wraps and lightweight ponchos in larger gauge yarns are easier to make and may not require as much concentration as projects with more shaping!

Not necessarily a new thing, VOGUE suggests that we add more beige into our wardrobes this spring as accents, or even head-to-toe. Whether we christen it with a fancy name like "contemporary oatmeal" or "stony ground", VOGUE predicts that neutral down-to-earth tones are back in a big way. It's time to lighten up.

Looking forward to the bright side of summer? Don a little yellow. The color of lemons, marigolds, and butter will give us all a sunny disposition. Joyful Tutti frutti "California Vibe" shades will also be in the fashion forefront, for everything from wraps to more tailored garments like lightweight cardigans. Whatever your knitting or crocheting pleasure, let's get started now...

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*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

What kind of knitted / crocheted garments and pattern details are making their way into mainstream fashion for Spring / Summer 2019? Look for exaggerated sleeve styles like billowy, bell, ruffled and flutter shapes to have a presence. Interest in brioche patterns has increased recently and that trend is not going away. Colorwork yokes continue to be fashion forward for warm weather sweaters, from the whimsical to the more subdued. Color blocking is making a comeback with large sections of contrasting colors and big, bold stripes prominently featured. The fashionable boxy, drop-shoulder sweater is coupled with big yarns this summer in airy, lacy textures that are perfect for a cover-up on a cool evening. Stop in to see what's new in yarns and project ideas to incorporate these trends into your knit and crochet wardrobe for the new season, along with these fine products...

Who doesn't love a subtle touch of glitter? ROZETTI YARNS "Alpaculence" (\$10.75, shown upper left, 536 yards, 100 grams, 76% acrylic / 9% wool / 9% alpaca / 6% glitter, CYCA #1) is a single-ply yarn with generous yardage. Its halo of alpaca and a glittery glitz is ideal for sweaters, scarves, shawls and enchanted evenings. This yarn shades from one color to the next for a look of ... Decadence? Opulence? Alpaculence?

We love COLOR! New shades of your favorite fingering, sport / DK, and worsted weight hand-painted yarns have arrived from DREAM IN COLOR and MADELINE TOSH -- full, rich saturated colors, soft muted heathers, clear brights, subtle shades, simple monochromatic schemes, and complicated multi-color mixtures. "Jilly", "Smoochy", "Cozette", "Classy", "Tosh Merino Light", "Tosh DK", "Vintage" have arrived just in time to make layering pieces for spring, like our "Odyssey" Shawl April knit along (see page 4)...

We also love TWEED! Our knitting friend Michelle "Knit Purl" Hunter chose one of our favorite yarns, HiKOO "Kenzie", for her next Progressive Needles Knit Along (see details page 5). "Kenzie" (\$10.50, 50 grams, 160 yards, 50% merino wool / 25% nylon / 10% angora / 10% alpaca / 5% silk noils, CYCA #3) just may be the perfect tweed. New Zealand merino, angora and alpaca lend softness and body, nylon adds strength and silk noils contribute delicate texture and color accents. The smooth, round 3-ply yarn knits into a cohesive fabric that blooms when wet blocked. The angora haze is just fuzzy enough to lend a cozy feel and soft halo, without obscuring stitch definition...

It's shawl season -- wraps are perfect trans-seasonal pieces for layering. Having a problem with your knitted or crochet shawl staying in place when draped around your shoulders? We have a large selection of decorative shawl pins from PARADISE, as well as clever, super strong, double-sided MAGNET BUTTON closure sets (\$19.95)...

LYKKE Driftwood 6" double-pointed needles have arrived in US sizes 0 - 2.5 for socks and small gauge projects (\$8.50, set of 5). We also have a supply of extra cords for the LYKKE interchangeable sets in 20" - 24" - 32" - 40" and 47" lengths (\$9.50)...

The original designer is unknown, but crochet shawl lovers everywhere have been inspired to make the *Virus Shawl*, a lovely triangular shawl. Our shop model, shown lower right, was crocheted for us by shop friend Mary Pickar with SCHOEPEL's "Zauber Flower" (36.50, 150 grams, 656 yards, 100% superwash merino wool from Patagonia, CYCA #1). This lightweight yarn with a long stripe gradient is an extra-large cake with the full color repeat occurring in just one beautiful cake...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

To knit a sweater with minimal finishing requirements, cast on a top-down pattern. These patterns are knit in the round from the neck down using circular knitting needles for the body and sleeves and double-pointed needles, FlexiFlips or Magic Loop for the cuffs. We carry a large selection of needles as well as top-down patterns from KNITTING PURE & SIMPLE. Pattern 1305 "Beginner Cable Pullover" (\$5.95 shown at right), is great for knitters who want to try cables for the first time, or experienced knitters looking for an easy-to-knit sweater with worsted weight and top-down construction. The designer, Diane Soucy, offers helpful hints for keeping track of the stitch patterns. Side shaping is optional...



Looking forward to spring, it's time to get organized! We have cotton fabric & mesh zippered bag organizers from DELLA Q (\$26.50, set of 3) for corralling your projects to take them along when you are on the go, as well as ADDI / SKACEL FlexiFlip organizers (\$32.50). We have KNITTER'S PRIDE Hand block printed fabric bags to store straight needles (\$11.50). plus co-ordinating print large magnetic Knitting Chart Keepers for storing and holding patterns and charts (\$23.95)...

BERROCO "Remix Light" (\$12.50, 100 grams, 432 yards, 30% nylon / 27% cotton / 24% acrylic / 10% silk / 9% linen, CYCA #3) is a unique yarn made with recycled "waste fibers" -- bits of fabric leftover from the cutting machines -- of ready-to-wear clothing manufacturers. The fibers are shredded into small strips and then blended together and plied, as you would a natural fiber, to create a beautiful yarn that's slightly tweedy and entirely wool-free. New-to-us shades have recently arrived, as well as BERROCO's "Ultra Wool DK" (\$12.50, 100 grams, 292 yards, 100% superwash wool, CYCA #3). Their 100% superwash wool is now available in a lighter weight! The DK version of our popular "Ultra Wool" is machine washable and available in a wide range of colors, making it the perfect choice for projects requiring easy care.

The 2nd Annual LYS (Local Yarn Shop Day) is just around the corner! Please join us for this nationwide event designed to show support for small businesses while bringing together a unique community of knitters, crocheters, weavers and spinners to drive awareness and celebrate the importance of your local store and crafting community. Its aim is to help brick-and-mortar stores by encouraging yarn lovers to visit their local store and discover the great things it can offer, while at the same time enjoying a day of treats, fun, and meeting like-minded crafters. This year's LYS Day will take place on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

We plan to feature WONDERLAND YARNS special LYS-exclusive color (a rich, deep purple) on merino wool bases "Mary Ann" (sock), "Mad Hatter" (sport), and "March Hare" (worsted). These go-to yarns cover it all: softness, elasticity and wearability.

In addition, we will have a limited edition LYS DAY Special Kit for the Dimishing Colors Cowl (shown on page 6, lower right). WONDERLAND YARNS couldn't resist pairing their LYS Day 2019 colorway with Jub-Jub Bird, one of their core tonal colorways.



They are a perfect match for this quick, bold knit. WONDERLAND loves to play with the "Alice in Wonderland" theme. Perhaps Alice didn't like growing and shrinking, but it sure makes knitting more fun! One set of stripes grows taller while the other grows shorter in this simple yet striking cowl. The 19" tall X 30" around ample size makes it versatile -- from cowl to hood -- to keep the chill at bay on blustery days. The kit (colors shown lower left) comes with the pattern and two skeins of "Mary Ann" 80% superwash merino / 20% nylon. Supplies will be limited, but advance orders will be accepted...



*** MARCH KNIT ALONG ***

It was introduced to rave reviews at the Vogue Knitting Live event in January. And now we are introducing it to you! Our selection for the March 2019 knit along is *Odyssey* by designer Joji Locatelli (shown left, pattern available free on Ravelry, ask us for details). This is a crescent-shaped shawl in 3 colors of medium-weight yarn. Each color section ends with a lace band that features striking big eyelets and wavy texture. Kathy has chosen three shades of DREAM IN COLOR "Classy" for her project. Pick three colors to write your own odyssey with this shawl!

Join us for fun knitting every Friday during March 2019 at Kathy's Kreations from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm for the group project, the continuation of previous KALs, or any other works in progress purchased here. If you can't join us in person, follow us on the Ravelry March 2019 shop thread at "We Love Kathy's"...

*** UPCOMING KNITTING CLASSES (call 724-238-9320 to register for all classes) ***

Colorwork can seem like a challenging task, but, luckily, instructor Karen McCullough will introduce you to a wonderful new knitting technique each month with panels from Michelle Hunter's *Building In Color* book. Don't worry about jumping in late -- it is never too late for the color series. Join Karen on **Tuesday, March 5, 2019, 10:00 am - 12 noon** to learn *Mosaic*, a subcategory of slip stitch knitting. As in slip stitch patterns, mosaic designs are achieved by working only one color in a row. These dense, two-color geometric designs may be worked in garter stitch, stockinette stitch, or a combination of the two. Registration fee is \$10 per class plus materials. Join Karen as she explores the fascinating world of colorful knitting, advance your current skills, master new techniques and learn more about Mosaic stitches -- all in an encouraging, fun environment!

Knitting, and knitted lace in particular, has its own language. To understand it, it helps to have an expert to guide you through the terminology and technical how-to's. In the *Building With Lace* series based on Michelle Hunter's book, a gorgeous sampler shawl is knit as a wearable showcase of your lace skills. Join instructor Kathy Erhard as she demonstrates interesting techniques used to make this dazzling design. Classes continue on **March 23, 2019** from 9:00 am - 12 noon at Kathy's Kreations and will be held on Saturday mornings of each month through October. In this class, learn to make extra large eyelets with the *Double Yarnover* technique and discovering the decorative *Wrap Stitch*. Please choose your favorite color of HiKOO "Rylie" from Kathy's Kreations or one of her other select yarns for this class, Michelle Hunter's *Building With Lace* book, and bring US size 5 24-inch circular needles. Registration fee is \$20 per class...

Whether you want to broaden your horizons, learn something new or improve your colorwork skills, the *Vaip Cowl* is a fun-to-work project with eye-catching colors and attractive designs. This cowl includes several different color patterns that will keep your interest as you knit, while providing the chance to perfect your Fair Isle stranded knitting technique. And for those who don't enjoy wearing cowls, this project may be worked instead as a scarf. Join instructor Kathy Erhard on **Saturday, March 23, 2019** from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Kathy's Kreations to learn the knitting skills that will make knitting with two colors and seaming easy. Please see Kathy Z for your choice of striking *Vaip Cowl* kit, available in a variety of color schemes from CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS. You will also need two US size 2 (2.75 mm) 24" (60 cm) circular needles, a US size 2 (2.75 mm) 9" circular needle for swatching and a tapestry needle. Registration fee is \$20 per class. Here is student Shirley L (photo lower right) with her gorgeous work in progress & she is lovin' it...



*** APRIL 2019 PROGRESSIVE NEEDLES KNIT ALONG ***

Mark your calendars -- Michelle "Knit Purl" Hunter is returning to lead our April 2019 Progressive Needles Knit Along. Beginning on April 4, 2019, Michelle Hunter will be releasing the first portion of *Cable Channel*, a stylish pillow featuring an original cable pattern. Knit in HiKOO "Kenzie" (shown upper right), the mystery design features a rich fabric to add beauty and texture to any decor. Pillows provide the perfect platform to explore new techniques and hone finishing skills. They also make great gifts!



Cable Channel is knit in one piece with simple seaming and features a button closure to allow for easy washing and assembly. The front and back are knit in different stitch patterns to keep the project interesting and texturally charming. Both written and charted instruction, along with video support, are provided to guarantee success.

HiKOO "Kenzie" delivers the excellent stitch definition and durability best suited for casual luxury. Available in over 25 colors, there is a shade to match every decor or provide that perfect "pop" of color. We have just received a large selection of "Kenzie" yarn and have SKACEL buttons in stock. Be sure to purchase your supplies early to insure you get the shade you want.

The KAL starts Thursday, April 4, 2019 and continues every Thursday in April. A knit along is for fun with friends. Join us at Kathy's Kreations every Friday to work on the project!

Materials

- 4 skeins "Kenzie" by HiKOO (50% New Zealand merino / 25% nylon/ 10% angora / 10% alpaca / 5% silk noils). Michelle will be using #1024 Hokitika.
- US #6 (4.0 mm) 24" circular needles or size needed to obtain gauge
- 14" pillow form
- four 7/8" buttons

*** JEAN'S SCARF ***

This is an original design by Vina McLeod Rudolph, knit for her BFF, Jean. Vina chose a beautiful green tonal shade of HiKOO "Sueno Worsted" for her project. Thanks to Vina for sharing her pattern!

SIZE: Adult's one size fits all

FINISHED MEASUREMENT: 5" X 64"

MATERIALS: HiKOO "Sueno Worsted" two skeins; US Size 8 (5.0 mm) knitting needles; two stitch markers; tapestry needle for finishing

GAUGE: approximately 7.5 stitches / 8.5 rows = 1", relaxed (not stretched)

DIRECTIONS: Cast on 38 sts.

Set-Up Row (wrong side): Slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 5, place marker; knit 2, [purl 2, knit 2] 6 times; place marker, knit 6.

Row 1: Slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 5, slip marker; purl 2, [knit 2, purl 2] 6 times, slip marker; knit 6.

Row 2: Slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 5, slip marker; knit 2, [purl 2, knit 2] 6 times, slip marker; knit 6.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 for pattern until piece measures 64" or desired length. Bind off all stitches in pattern. Weave in ends with tapestry needles. Block lightly if needed, and enjoy!

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*** TIPS, TRICKS, AND THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE ***



From Kathy E --- our stranded colorwork instructor

- If you want your stranded or slip stitch colorwork pattern to stand out, focus on the "value" of your color choices (how dark or light the colors are). Take a photo of the proposed color selections with your cell phone on grayscale. Sometimes, two colors which appear very different will blend together in an unexpected way. A high contrast in value will help the eye to pick out the pattern...

From Dixie V --- a long-time friend of the shop

- Save those small balls of leftover yarn from knitting socks. Sometimes, they are needed again to repair a hole. [Kathy adds: one of our knitting friends, Linda L, an avid sock knitter, stores her stash sock yarn with its intended pattern in a Christmas ornament organizer box with compartments. She also keeps her extra bits of yarn in there for mending.]

From Kathy Z -- answering a question from Dixie V

- If you are repairing a garment that has had several washings, the new yarn may be brighter in color than the garment that was washed several times. Make it a habit when seaming your finished garments to weave in a sizable length of the original yarn into the body seam. You will always know where to find a little extra for a repair. And, it will have been laundered an equal amount of times as the garment...

From *Simple Tips & Inspiration for Knitters* -- inquiring knitters want to know!

- Keep a needle gauge tool in your knitting tote bag for those times when you can't remember the size of your unmarked needles. This is particularly handy for double-pointed needles. [Kathy adds: The KNITTER'S PRIDE needle view sizer also has a magnifier with 10 cm & 4" lines so that you can measure your stitch and row gauge, in addition to the needle size]...

From Eleanor S -- Eleanor had a wealth of great information to share with us!

- Use a different color marker for the beginning of the round than used for pattern separation throughout your project. [Kathy adds: Our custom-made stitch markers by Linda Cable feature a set of stitch markers with beads and one with a matching charm to mark the beginning of the round. We will feature these at Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet!]
- Use a removable locking stitch marker on the right-side of work as a reminder that it is the public side, continuing to move it up as your work progresses, particularly if both sides are similar.
- Place removable markers to mark decreases, increases, and short rows.
- Start with a smaller piece like sleeves to check pattern and gauge. Check gauge after 4", 8" etc. to make sure it is still holding. It is easier to start with sleeve, change needle size if needed after a few inches, as it is less noticeable and you may not need to rip back.
- Avoid unnecessary seaming and joining. Do cardigan button bands and sweater neckbands with a new ball of yarn to avoid hiding joins in the band.
- When working a garment, join a new ball of yarn at the edge where it can be concealed in a seam. If the edge is not going to have a seam (as in a shawl or scarf), join a new ball of yarn where it can best be concealed.

"Try This" inspired by *Zen and the Art of Knitting* by Bernadette Murphy

- Knit or crochet as an act of healing for others. Stitch your thoughts of healing and wellness for people you don't know and shower them with hand-knitted kindness. Kathy's Kreations collects cold weather items all year for the Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild "Caps For Kids" project; chemo hats for the Arnold Palmer Cancer Treatment Center; and green 100% cotton dishcloths and ornaments, pompoms, snowflakes for our holiday Christmas Tree display to be donated afterwards to the area Food Bank.



*** SAVE THE DATES ***

- PITTSBURGH CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL / KNIT & CROCHET FESTIVAL

Excitement is building for the 15 Year Anniversary Celebration of the Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet / Creative Arts Festival! This event will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Green Tree, PA (Pittsburgh) on March 15, 16, and 17, 2019. Look for us in booths 25 & 26. We will be bringing a large selection of hand-dyed yarns by DREAM IN COLOR, WONDERLAND YARNS, MADELINE TOSH, DRAGONFLY FIBERS, and our latest yarns; ADDI FlexiFlips; ChiaGoo knitting needles (fixed circulars and interchangeable); KNITTER'S PRIDE CUBICS; PRYM dpns; LYKKE driftwood needles; NEEDLE KEEPERS; LoLo Bars; MagneButtons; snap-on Faux Fur pompom puffs; crochet hooks; gadgets & notions; KNITTER'S PRIDE row counter rings; LEE highlighter tape; EUCALAN wool wash; plenty of HiKOO "Kenzie" in anticipation of Michelle Hunter's April Knit Along; and our latest project ideas / patterns. Designer and teacher Kathy Erhard will be at our booths on Saturday, March 16, 2019, for a Meet & Greet and to sign her patterns. We will be premiering Kathy's new *Zebra Fade* design and pattern at the Festival. If you have any special class supplies or requests for any items that we stock, we will be glad to bring them to the Festival for you. This show is sure to delight all knitters, crocheters, quilters and crafters -- you won't want to miss it! For information, visit pghknitandcrochet.com



- KATHY'S KREATIONS "Spring Break Weekend" April 5 - 7, 2019 (see info below)
- 2nd annual LYS DAY Saturday, April 27, 2019 (see upper right) featuring a freebie with all purchases; WONDERLAND YARNS LYS special colorway; our 39th birthday party; a door prize drawing and more!
- 6th annual STEEL VALLEY YARN CRAWL August 2 - 11, 2019
- KNITTER'S DAY OUT (KDO) Friday & Saturday September 27 & 28, 2019
- FORT LIGONIER DAYS October 11 - 13, 2019

*** SPRING BREAK WEEKEND APRIL 5 - 7, 2019 ***

Kathy's Kreations invites you to join us for our **8th annual "Spring Break" Knitting Workshop Weekend** on April 5 - 7, 2019. Instructors Gaile Morrison and Rhonda Slinghoff from the Lancaster, PA area will be team teaching a two-day knitting workshop for intermediate and experienced knitters at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA, hosted by Kathy Zimmerman. This will be a weekend to engage in the "therapy" of knitting and learn exercises, tips and tricks that will keep your hands and body healthy while knitting.

Workshop class topics include Outlander-inspired Celtic mitts, an original design by Rhonda, and the "Carol Shawl", a worsted weight wrap suitable for variegated or handpainted yarn (photo lower right), worked with BERROCO YARNS "Millefiori". On Friday evening, Gaile Morrison will lead an entertaining knit-along for "Gaile's Magical Self-Fringing Scarf" (shown on page 8, modelled by Carol H).

The weekend package includes an after-hours Soup & Sliders party and special shopping time at Kathy's Kreations (begins Friday afternoon); an informal meet & greet on Friday evening to get acquainted; an optional Friday evening knit-along; morning coffee breaks and two lunches at the Ramada; classes Saturday and Sunday; hand treatments; chair yoga; extended lunch break on Saturday with time to shop in the pretty little town of Ligonier and goodie bags. Registration is \$250 per person.

Overnight lodging is not included and is optional for local participants. 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 call 724-238-9320 or contact Kathy by e-mail kathy@kathys-kreations.com to request a flyer with registration form. Spring Break is a unique way for knitters to come together, learn from knitting experts and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow enthusiasts in a relaxing setting...





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

Join the "First Mondays" group for an evening of knitting, crocheting and fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate in Greensburg, PA. Meeting dates are Monday evenings March 4, 2019 and April 1, 2019; 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm.

***** "KNITTING IN THE AFTERNOON" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesdays, March 12, 2019 and April 9, 2019; 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm (rsvp please, all skill levels welcome) *****

Join us for stitching, lots of fun conversation and maybe ice cream --even if it's chilly outside!

***** SATURDAY SIT-N-KNIT March 9, 2019 and April 13, 2019; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm; (rsvp please, all skill levels welcome) *****

Join us at Kathy's Kreations for fellowship and stitching for projects purchased here.

***** FUN FRIDAYS, March 15, 2019 and April 20, 2019; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm *****

Come in for the yarn and leave with friendships! Join our "knitting community" for fellowship, stitching, and how-to's for projects purchased here. Whether this is your first project or your hundredth, this is the place for you to learn, grow and enjoy being with other knitters and crocheters just like you...

***** MARCH KNIT-ALONG (KAL) *****

Stop by on Fridays in MARCH from 10 am - 2 pm (rsvp please) to work on our newest KALs with your stitching friends to cheer you on. Our featured project is a gorgeous new shawl design from JOJI LOCATELLI: "Odyssey". Not working on the KAL? You are still welcome to come -- simply bring any knit or crochet project purchased at Kathy's Kreations and join the group (free!). Follow us on "We Love Kathy's" Ravelry group March 2019 thread and the Kathy Zimmerman Group KAL...

***** "BUILDING IN COLOR" Tuesday, March 5, 2019, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon (knit)**

***** "BUILDING WITH LACE" Saturday, March 23, 2019, 9:00 am - 12 noon (knit)**

***** "VAIP COWL" Saturday, March 23, 2019, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm (knit)**

Private knitting and crocheting lessons available by appointment. Learning to knit or correcting mistakes are not the only reasons to have a one-on-one tutoring lesson. Learn new techniques like lace or short rows, or get help with a pattern before starting -- our instructors can do it all! Additional group classes are forming -- ask us for details. We would be glad to do a specific class topic for groups of 4 or more. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for more than 38 years!

OK, so we know we relax when we knit and crochet. It seems that something more essential than just relaxation is happening. How true -- creativity happens, and our imaginations become stronger. We are making something -- our needles / hooks, this yarn, these hands and this series of repetitive movements is making something! Creativity and the meditative aspects are all connected. This is your brain on stitching...

KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING!

Kathy