



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



Dear Knitters & Crocheters,

What are you doing this weekend? At Kathy's Kreations, October finds us headed off to yarn tastings, "positively posh" fundraisers, and teaching workshops, as well as welcoming you here for Fort Ligonier Days, fearless knitting, a little "natural" pampering and a fall fiber fix.

The Laurel Highlands are sporting their gorgeous autumn shades right here, right now. You can celebrate the season by taking a journey to a world of color and texture when you knit or crochet. With that in mind, we've filled our shelves with products for making nifty accessories and straightforward classic garments -- from comfortable sweaters with lots of texture and lively touches -- to cozy cowls, hats and mittens -- to items for the home. There are lots of project ideas for layering and season-spanning dressing, too. We've got what you need to help you cozy up with your needles, hooks, some fantastic yarn, and a brand new project, so stop in soon...

"OCTOBER IS MOHAIR MONTH"

**All regularly-priced mohair or mohair-blend yarns in stock
are 10% off throughout October 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 & 12 noon - 4 pm Sundays
Free KNIT AND CROCHET-IN every 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 kathy@kathys-kreations
please visit our website www.kathys-kreations.com



*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Fall is a wonderful season of the year to visit Kathy's Kreation's. New things are arriving every day, meaning lots of fantastic yarns, creative patterns, inspiring books, clever gadgets, and cool accessories all for you, with your time and budget in mind! Here's what's new, what's now...

INTERWEAVE PRESS presents a special issue, *Knits Weekend* (\$7.99). In her editorial, Eunny Jang states: "In my search for serenity outside work, I find myself drawn to knitting that feels fresh, unfussy, straightforward. I'm thinking about the classics -- boyfriend sweaters you want to live in; rustic cables that look right with a pencil skirt or paddock boots; *comfortable* knits that look and feel good on everyone."

"The pages of this issue are filled with that kind of knitting: soft textures for spring; light-weight knits to beat the heat; fiber-focused projects for fall; and cozy, dense fabrics for cold weather." This issue features simple, classic, casual knits for fun on weekend days, and every other day, too.

We are pleased that one of Kathy's designs, "Chesapeake Pullover" (shown above left) is included in this outstanding collection of knits for all seasons. *Knits* says, "This pullover shines up close. A pebbly small-scale knit-and-purl pattern on the sleeves contrasts with the wider, shadowy body patterning, while three different ribs at cuffs, hem and shawl collar set up patterning and frame the body fabric. Kathy Zimmerman uses a cotton/wool blend to help the stitches pop." This sweater was knit from BROWN SHEEP "Cotton Fleece" (\$8.50, 100 grams, 215 yards, 80% cotton / 20% merino wool, CYCA #3), a true workhorse yarn that is easy, pure and elemental.

There's a lot to like about this issue -- the cozy up / cool down knits for all seasons, body-friendly shapes, favorite sweaters for men, adorable designs for kids, and knits for every day...

Thoughts of the holidays will soon be here, full of bustle and holly, comfort and joy. What fun it is to watch your loved one's faces light up when they unwrap a knitted or crocheted gift! *Knit Simple Holiday 2010* (\$6.99) can help you get started on the holiday cheer with 45+ gifts you'll love. There are three-of-a-kind knitting investments (one vest design in three different versions), his & hers quick gift ideas, and comfort zone cuddly hot-water bottle cozies kids will adore. Our faves are the baker's dozen of nifty quick-knit gifts, presented two by two (his & hers, yin & yang, knit & purl) and the stuffed toy fox. Cast them on and wrap them up...

New from REGIA is "Hand-dye Effect" sock yarn (\$15.50, 100 grams, 460 yards, 70% superwash wool / 25% polyamide / 5% acrylic, CYCA #2), in a beautiful range of colorways sure to tickle your toes...

The newest installment in KOLLAGE YARNS "Feed Your Creativity" Series is the "Dog Walking Trio" (shown lower right), designed by our own Kathy. Worked in "Solace" 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. Kathy will teach this as a class later this fall, stay tuned for details -- how often do you get a chance to take a class with the designer of the project?



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Lisa Carnahan's designs are the tried-and-true variety of classics that you will enjoy wearing as much as you enjoyed knitting them. New from LISA KNITS are "Coral Reef", "Heather Fields" and "Cabled Mitten Trio" (\$4.00 each). "Coral Reef" SW-050 (shown at right) is a 3/4 length sleeved crewneck textured stitch A-line jacket that is perfect for trans-seasonal layering. Worked in light worsted weight yarn and sized to fit 34" - 58" chests, it features a five button closure that ends at mid-waist. "Heather Fields" SW-051 (shown lower left) is a sport weight long-sleeved cardigan with garter rib accents on the lower body & sleeves, and stockinette background on the yoke and upper sleeve. Also sized to fit 34" - 58" chests, the ribbed collar and wide buttonband echo the garter rib for added visual interest. "Cabled Mitten Trio" (shown upper left, page 6) coordinates with pattern #HT-016 Cabled Cable Trio. Now you can knit a matched set in your choice of worsted yarn in these lovely Aran patterns...



From MANOS DEL URUGAUAY comes two new yarns. "Maxima" (\$12.50, 100 grams, 219 yards, 100% extrafine merino kettle dyed wool, CYCA #4) is known as the "fair trade merino". "Serena" (\$13.50, 50 grams, 170 yards, 60% baby alpaca / 40% pima cotton, CYCA #3) is a luxurious season-spanning blend of baby alpaca and pima cotton. Both yarns are hand dyed in large kettles to create a marbelized, subtly striated effect that forms a rich palette of glorious colors. No two skeins are exactly alike and there are no dye lots...

You know how much we love gadgets, and we've got some nifty stitch markers for you! CLOVER introduces triangular-shaped stitch markers that really stay on the needle while not getting in the way in four different sizes from extra small to large (\$5.95/pack). For sheep lovers, LANTERN MOON introduces handcrafted tiny sheep markers (\$7.50 / pack) hanging from circular rings, and a brown sheep retractable tape measure (\$10.50)...

Following on the success of ROWAN Purelife "Revive" in Spring 2010, we now launch ROWAN's second fully recycled yarn "Renew" (\$10.25, 50 grams, 82 yards, 93% recycled wool / 7% polyamide, CYCA #5). Made from recycled wool, with a fabulous tweedy character (we know you have a need for tweed), it is now available in 8 rustic shades ranging from a natural stone through to a deep vibrant blue. Pattern support includes "Purelife Autumn" book (\$19.95) -- ask to see our gorgeous cropped ribbed cardie model...

New from TAHKI YARNS are three new shades of last fall's popular "Presto" (\$8.50, 50 grams, 60 yards, 48% wool / 46% acrylic / 3% nylon / 3% mohair, CYCA #5). The "Tapestry" booklet offers several gorgeous knits, named after songs written by Carole King. "Seaside Tweed" includes inspiration for their new tweed yarns arriving soon -- soft, lightweight and flecked with beauty...



Other new patterns include the "Gavroche Cap" (\$6.50), a ribbed newsboy-style hat with brim from CLAUDIA HANDPAINTS, and KNIT ONE, CROCHET TOO "Jadeite Cardigan" and "Winter Cable Cowl" (\$4.50 each). And lots more inspiration to come -- check us out!



*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELF ***

In *More Last-Minute Knitted Gifts* (\$27.50, shown left), Joelle Hoverson presents a collection of 30 fresh, new ideas for elegant gifts for knitters of all skill levels. As in her previous book, *Last-Minute Knitted Gifts*, she organizes her projects according to the estimated time it takes to complete them -- from less than two hours to more than eight -- because she understands the desire to knit something beautiful must often be balanced by the reality of a busy schedule. She also includes quick, creative suggestions for customizing and wrapping gifts to make them feel even more special to both maker and recipient. Among the projects featured are pyramid-shaped sachets, coffee cup sleeves, bracelets, holiday ornaments, mittens, gloves, hats, sweaters for adults and children, baby blankets and throws. Exquisite photography only adds to the irresistibility of every project and to the pleasure of turning the pages of this unique volume...

Think about entrelac (and knitting) in a whole new way! *Entree to Entrelac* (\$19.95, softcover) is the definitive guide from a biased knitter. Whether you are new to entrelac, have dabbled some, or love it and just want more interesting designs to try, this book is for you. For knitters who have never tried entrelac (or tried without success), the book is designed to work as a series of skills and concepts, each building on the previous, with projects along the way to apply what you have learned. Knitters with some entrelac experience can review the basics and then learn options for shaping, seaming, joins and the challenges associated with entrelac...

In the classic collection *Knitting 24 / 7* (\$21.95, soft cover), celebrated designer Veroik Avery present 30 stylish designs, all easily stitched on the go -- during those "in between" moments when your attention might be divided but your hands are free -- commuting on the train, waiting for an appointment, watching a ball game, listening to a lecture, watching a movie, maybe even waiting for the coffee to brew. Avery designed all the projects with the realities of our busy lifestyles in mind. Many projects are small and easy to transport, the stitch patterns are a cinch to memorize, and the designs are timelessly fashionable, so once you bind off, you'll enjoy wearing what you make as much as you enjoyed creating it. Sweaters, scarves, shrugs, hats, mitts, and more -- everything you need to keep your needles clicking twenty-four seven. That's what we call bliss...

Do you dream of knitting sweaters that youngsters will love so much they'll wear them to shreds? *Timeless Knits for Kids (Size 4 - 14)*, \$24.95, soft cover) by Chris de Longpre provides the instructions you need, authored by a master knitter, serene teacher, and devoted grandma. Open the book and have a look at the kids inside -- wrapped in the security of knitted love, playing with wild abandon. The designs are timeless, using basic techniques in a variety of sizes from the end of toddlerhood to late childhood. Included are pullovers, vests, and cardigans to suit the tastes of both boys and girls. There are both top-down and bottom-up architectures, with modified T, raglan, saddle shoulders, and set-in sleeves, all with minimal sewing. These basics will prove to be useful in any child's wardrobe, and, because they are timeless, they can be handed down from child to child for many years...

*** MORE NEW BOOKS ***

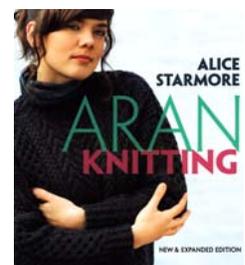
The Knitter's Year (\$24.95, hardback) by Debbie Bliss is the avid knitter's *dream*. What better way to mark the weeks that have passed, and those that lie ahead, than with 52 original hand-knit projects, specially chosen for each season of the year? Unique garments and accessories are yours to be had -- or given away -- each of them charming, useful, and simple enough to make in one week or less. World-reknowned knitwear designer Debbie Bliss provides a delightful assortment of projects that range in scale from the sizeable to the small: a cozy, chunky scarf takes a few balls of yarn, while more modest napkin rings can be made with remnants. But Debbie just doesn't have your time and budget in mind -- you're also bound to find something to suit the season and your mood. With her trademark good taste and flair for providing step-by-step instructions any knitter, beginner or experienced, can follow, Debbie Bliss has given us yet another fantastic source for attractive, practical handknits that are a joy to create and a pleasure to wear and use. And the knowledge that *next* week holds the promise of another new project can certainly make your "knitter's year" a very good year indeed...

Everything is coming up roses with *100 Flowers to Knit & Crochet* (\$21.95, soft cover) a delightful collection of flowers to knit and crochet by author Lesley Stanfield. Use them to embellish clothing and accessories, or to decorate gift-wrapped packages. We love the sunflowers, acorns and oak leaves (in both knit and crochet versions)...

With their gloriously vivid designs, the patterns in *Fabulous Fair Isle Knitting* by Patty Knox (\$22.99, soft cover) are both distinctive and inspiring. Using original motifs based on the Fair Isle principle of combining rich patterns and contrasting colors, you can choose from sweaters, hats and scarves for the entire family to fun items like legwarmers, slipper socks, or a stylish bag. The Design Your Own section is all about setting free your creativity to create your own Fair Isle designs. Brush up your skills at Kathy's basic Fair Isle technique class at our upcoming November weekend workshop...

Also at next month's workshop, Carolyn CollenDebuse will be teaching how to sculpt wool roving with a barbed felting needle to make a three-dimensional bird. *Wool Pets* (\$15.99, softcover) explains the techniques and gives you the tools to make freeform figures and adorable pets. Using only wool, a felting needle and a foam pad, you can create bugs, griaffles, trolls, penguins, and mermaids. No need to cut or wet the wool; just shape and needle it, adding details as you go...

The definitive guide to designing and knitting in the Irish Aran tradition, *Aran Knitting* by Alice Starmore (\$29.95, soft cover) is a highly sought-after book returning to print after a decade's absence in a revised and expanded version. In this guide, internationally renowned knitwear designer Starmore presents a fascinating history of Aran knitting and an analysis of the traditional style, in addition to a complete workshop in technique, pattern and design. It provides complete directions and charted patterns for the original edition's fourteen designs -- many of them re-knit in contemporary yarns, plus a new design. Patterns include the St. Brigid, one of the author's most popular hand-knitted designs, which represents a step forward from Aran knitting into Celtic design. Beginners and experienced knitters alike will cherish this comprehensive guide to a beloved craft by the stitchmaster herself...



*** DESIGN-A-SCARF CONTEST ***

It was our pleasure to sponsor the annual Design-A-Scarf contest at the 2010 Westmoreland County Fair. Congratulations to first place winner Nancy Premoshis and third place winner Karen Sredzienski. We will be sponsoring this event again in 2011, with the theme of USA yarns. All projects must be an original knitted or crocheted design submitted with a label bearing the "Made in the USA" label and written pattern design.



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

- South Hills Knitting Guild Thursday, October 21, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA; lace & cables combination scarf workshop
- Knitter's Retreat at Bedford Springs Spa and Resort November 5 - 7, 2010, Bedford, PA; Bedford Springs Spa Mitt, an original design by Kathy especially for this retreat workshop (for info, call 724- 963-7030 or e-mail pghknitandcrochet@gmail.com)
- Stitches West; February 17-20, 2011, Santa Clara, California; classes include Knit To Fit, Create-A-Cable, Slip Stitch Savvy, Intro to Combining Lace & Cable Patterns

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

Positively Posh is an indoor "boutique style" fundraising shopping experience produced by the Latrobe Area Hospital Aid Society of Excelsa Health at the Fred Rogers Center, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA on Saturday, October 23, 2010, from 10 am - 4 pm. Proceeds from this event will support new Digital Mammography equipment at Excelsa Latrobe Hospital. Tracey and Linda G will represent Kathy's Kreations, and we will be selling hand-knit hats/ mittens sets for children and adults, ski hats, wine bottle toppers, felted slippers, as well as a variety of other fashion items and accessories made with quality natural fibers...

*** FORT LIGONIER DAYS***

Save the dates Friday through Sunday October 8, 9, 10, 2010, and stop by to help us celebrate this annual "don't-miss-it" happening! Our "Early Bird" sidewalk sale will be 9 am - 7 pm on Thursday, October 7, 2010 with savings on clearance items...

*** OUR FALL KNITTING WORKSHOP ***

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

The weekend package includes an after-hours pizza party and special shopping time at Kathy's Kreations (attendees receive a 10% discount on regularly-priced yarns and accessories in stock), two breakfasts, two lunches, classes Saturday and Sunday, selected class supplies, "free time" to shop in the pretty town of Ligonier and goodie bags. The price is \$175 per person. Rooms are not included, but the Ramada Inn has set up a special rate for attendees, so please make your own reservations by calling 724-238-9545. Space is limited to only 25 people, so please e-mail us and send a check for the full amount of \$175 to Kathy's Kreations @ 141 East Main Street; Ligonier, PA 15658. For questions, please contact Carol Smith at 724-757-4858.

*** OPEN HOLE KNIT SCARF & SHAWL ***

The concept for this scarf pattern was shared by Jeanne Osman, who received it from the Circle of Stitchers adult activity group in Plum, PA which meets at the Plum Community Library. It is similar to the one-row scarf which appeared in last month's newsletter, and we love the possibilities of "just one row" pattern stitches.

DIMENSIONS: scarf approx. 5" wide X 60" long, after blocking; shawl directions in parentheses, approx. 15" wide X 72" long, after blocking

MATERIALS: worsted weight yarn (CYCA #4) 200 yards for scarf, 600 yards for shawl ; US 13 (9.0 mm) knitting needles

GAUGE: not critical; approximately 3 sts per inch after blocking

SKILL LEVEL: Intermediate

PATTERN STITCH (multiple of 3, stitch detail shown lower left)

All Rows: *K1, yo, K2tog; repeat from * across row.

ABBREVIATIONS: K - knit; K2tog - knit 2 stitches together; yo - yarn over

DIRECTIONS: Cast on 15 (45) stitches. K 3 rows. Work in pattern stitch until piece measures approx. 60" (72") or desired length. K 3 rows. Bind off all stitches as if to knit. Weave in ends and block.

DESIGN OPTIONS: Adjust the width of the scarf / shawl by casting on more or less multiples of 3 stitches, working with a thicker/thinner yarn or smaller needles.

*** SPECIAL EVENT ***

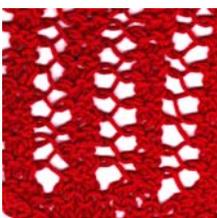
Be a "natural" beauty in your knitting and in your bath! Whether you are knitting for yourself or thinking ahead to the holidays and gifts, we have a special event planned for you! Come join our shoppal and Independent Avon Representative, Michelle Hoke, on Saturday, October 23, 2010 while she demonstrates her pattern for a back scrubbie. The pattern is free with the purchase of an AVON "Naturals" gift set in your choice of scents. Michelle uses TRENDSETTER "Pakucho" (a 100% certified organic cotton yarn) to knit her models...

*** INQUIRING KNITTERS WANT TO KNOW ***

One frequently-asked question in Kathy's classes at Knitter's Day Out was: "How do I know which way to slip the stitch when working a slip-stitch pattern or a decrease?"

Good question! When you will be completing a knitting action such as a slip, slip knit (ssk) decrease or slip 1, knit 1, pass the slip stitch over decrease (skp), always slip the stitch knitwise (as if you were knitting it). When the stitch is not going to be worked on that particular row, such as in a slip stitch pattern, slip purlwise (as if you were purling it). If the pattern direction does not state which way to slip the stitch, always slip as if to purl unless told otherwise.

Another was: "My yarn-overs never look right. Which way do I wrap the yarn when working a yo"? (Kathy smiles). If the yarn-over does not leave a hole, you have probably wrapped the yarn in the wrong direction. There are four possible scenarios for yarnovers: going between a knit to a knit, a knit to a purl, a purl to a knit, or a purl to a purl. In every case, always bring the yarn between the needle tips TOWARD you and then over the needle from front to back. Then, bring the working yarn into position to make the next stitch. If going from a knit to a purl, remember to wrap the yarn-over completely around the needle to make a new stitch...



***** 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, October 4, 2010, and November 1, 2010, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.** Come knit!



***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, October 12, 2010 and November 9, 2010; 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (rsvp please) *****

Join Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild members for an evening of knitting & lots of fun conversation with experienced knitters. All skill levels are welcome to come, sit & knit! In the event of nasty weather, please call ahead to make sure we are meeting...

***** FUN FRIDAYS, October 15, 2010 and November 19, 2010; 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...

***** INTRO TO LACE AND CABLE COMBINATIONS Saturday, October 16, 2010, 1pm - 4 pm with instructor Kathy Zimmerman; \$20.00 registration fee* *****

Creative combinations of lace and cable techniques can result in truly artistic knitting. Kathy will discuss the importance of gauge, treating the two pattern stitches as a unit, interpreting chart symbols, and tips for keeping track of the patterns. The "hands on" class project is a scarf based upon the Katharine Hepburn sweater from INTERWEAVE PRESS "Lace Style" book. The student will have an opportunity to knit a basic rope cable in combination with a simple openwork panel. Class supplies for students to bring: worsted weight yarn 450 yards; US 7 or 8 knitting needles (straight or 16" - 24" circular); row counter; stitch markers; scissors.

***** "FEARLESS KNITTING WORKSHOP" Saturday October 30, 2010, 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, crochet, 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 !

The crisp air reminds us that it's time to start planning for cooler weather and the holidays ahead. What could be more special than giving a present stitched by hand? Besides, it is a wonderful feeling to spend our leisure time working on projects for loved ones, friends or ourselves, doing something we truly enjoy. Let our yarns and designs inspire you to create something beautiful with your hands, and enjoy your own personal stitching journey. Thanks for making us your local yarn shop. KEEP KNITTING!

Kathy