

KATHY'S KREATIONS  
141 East Main Street  
Ligonier PA 15658  
724~238~9320

SEPTEMBER 2005 UPDATE

Dear Knitters,

As fiber enthusiasts, style is literally what we make it. The beauty of creating one-of-a-kind garments with one's own hands lies in all the possibilities available to us. You can choose something drapery and silky, something glitzy and fun, something classic and traditional, something furry and fuzzy, or something soft and plush -- suddenly a unique new look takes hold, dictated by what appeals to you.

Fall's reputation for luxurious, touchable yarns remains stronger than ever. The proof is just at your fingertips, and waiting right here. It's harvest time and we've got a special crop of exciting new products for your knitting and crocheting pleasure...

**"FIRST IN FASHION"**

All regularly-priced BERROCO yarns in stock  
are 10% off during September 2005

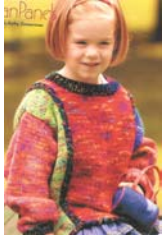
Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday  
Kathy is usually away on Wednesday, but the shop is open

We accept Mastercard, VISA, Discover/Novus, AX

Private knitting instructions are available by appointment  
Finishing services available  
Gift certificates available

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\*\*\*\*\* GREAT NEW STUFF \*\*\*\*\*

Fashion for Fall 2005 offers us glamour, classics, tailored looks, and a chance to flirt with different cultures. Instead of going into hiding, color stays very fashion forward in exciting, unexpected new ways. Don't be surprised to see spicy shades of orange adding pop to neutrals, rich jewel tones (both warm and cool) adding pizzazz to the palette and blue tones softening things up a bit. It's all in the details this season -- from shapelier silhouettes to carefully chosen style options. Texture reigns supreme with stitchwork and nubby tweeds making strong appearances. Retro jacquards, fair Isle, and houndstooth will dominate the pattern world, as does sophisticated bohemian styling and 3-D trims. Pull them all together to make your own fall fashion statement...

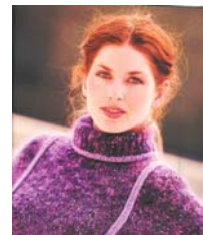
Color Cues and a media theme are the focus of Fall 2005 *KNITTER'S* magazine (\$5.95). There are colorful mosaics, color-block knits, stripes, ribs and more. Kathy has two designs featured in this issue. About "Panelist" (shown lower right), *Knitter's* says, "Novelty mohair yarn is the perfect backdrop for the cashmere trim which breaks the sweater width into sections. The color choice is sophisticated and quiet. If you are looking for more excitement in your choice go for black and cocoa, red and charcoal, or salmon and olive". Kathy's matching child's version of the panel sweater "Jelly Bean Panels" in colorful brights for kids (shown upper left)...

BERROCO YARNS helps prepare your wardrobe for a brilliant season of knit dressing with a mix of "La Boheme" and a dash of international folk inspiration: "After many attempts, the cardigan sweater has been totally deconstructed and a simple rectangle with holes can become a vest or coat with the right attitude. This season's seasoned knit fashionista knows how to layer and understands the long and short of it. Last fall's poncho fever has paved the way for dramatically upscale volume in knits. These simple shapes become a canvas for huge accessories, belts, bags and bangles. As global trends converge, knitters become citizens of the world to create a season with one common thread, creativity!"

BERROCO's collection of 4 new pattern books has more than 100 designs (\$11.95). Whether it's knitting for babies, children, girls, women, or dogs, there is something to appeal to everyone.

- #235 Bambini -- contains 28 adorable items to knit for children, from newborn to size 10  
(we love the cover hat with the button accents)
- #236 Forever Hip -- 20 cutting edge items for the knitting extrovert, inspired by  
Hollywood style, runway renegades and the knit cafes
- #237 Cold Comforts -- 15 cozy and comfortable sweaters, ponchos and wraps, with a  
variety of skill levels, very trendy
- #238 Accessorize -- jam packed with stylish accessories, tipping the scales of  
inspiration

Gear up for fall with great looks from TAHKI / STACY CHARLES. Four new collections (\$12.95 each) interpreting Bohemian/retro trends with casual, sophisticated simplicity using FILATURA DI CROSA, S. CHARLES COLLEZIONE and TAHKI yarns. Our favorite is the "Donegal Tweed" jeans jacket in the TAHKI fall/winter collection, and the "Zara" booklet...



\*\*\*\*\* MORE GREAT NEW STUFF \*\*\*\*\*

What's new from LISA KNITS? "Horseshoe Cable Crews" (\$4.00, shown right) is a classic horseshoe cable Aran weight cardigan-style sweater. Our gorgeous gray tweed shop model was worked with HARRIS YARNS by ROWAN. "Elongated Cable Vees" (\$4.00, shown lower left) is Lisa's complimentary worsted weight V-neck duo vest and cardigan. Our lovely shop model was knit with NASHUA HANDKNITS "Julia" yarn. These wear-everywhere wardrobe staples are the perfect layering pieces for fall. Pair one with tweed trousers or wear over a collared shirt.



Need a quick-knit baby gift? "A Very Easy Baby Sweater" (\$4.00, shown on page 8) is just the ticket. Knit in DK weight yarn with collar or simple crewneck, this cardigan can be made with a variety of beautiful yarns. If you don't already have Lisa's adorable "Itsy Bitsy Spider" hat pattern for kids, you'll want to take a look. The pattern is sold separately (\$4.00) or in a kit (\$14.95, wool blend)...

The gypsy spirit is alive and well this season, with romantic color & pattern, amazing lace, Sixties' bold graphics, and classic cables all making a comeback. VOGUE KNITTING Fall 2005 (\$5.99) crams its issue with styles ranging from romantic to masculine, in saturated colors and bold black and white, suiting tastes both eclectic and traditional. The Bohemian influence continues with pieces inspired by central and Eastern Europe. Get crafty with embellishments and go with the flow. Cast on!

FAMILY CIRCLE EASY CROCHET (\$5.99) was created for those who love to crochet, who want to have fun creating all sorts of things with a hook and yarn, and who are eager to learn more about their craft. There are retro styles for right now, comfy clothes for kids, grannies with a twist and great looks for fall. Get hooked!

INTERWEAVE KNITS CROCHET (\$7.99) helps you to get into the loop. There are dresses, tanks, a felted folk rug and chair pad, bags, jackets, and a variety of gifts and goodies. There is an excellent article about symbolcraft with how-to's to read any crochet diagram, well worth the read...

New from OAT COUTURE:

- GU418 Heavenly Jacket (\$4.75) -- looks great on any body, a free-flowing elegant jacket with diagonal knit border to knit in worsted weight yarn
- EK711 Building Blocks Blanket for Baby (\$4.95) -- easy to knit in DK, worsted, or chunky weight yarns, colorwork possibilities for using up stash
- PH605 Hairpin Lace Scarves (\$4.95) -- great gift ideas with this popular technique
- PH607 Hairpin Lace Ruana (\$4.95) -- perfect for cool fall evenings when just a light cover-up is needed, to crochet in DK or Aran weight yarns

Brighten your bath with flowers! FIBER TRENDS "Bathtime Blossoms" (\$5.25) are washcloths and matching soap sacks featuring garter stitch lace blossoms that look great all year. The round washcloths are worked back & forth in short row wedges. The soap sacks are knitted flat and seamed, with a satin ribbon tie or twisted cord added. Combine these lacy pieces with a fragrant bar of soap for a wonderful gift that will surely bring a bouquet of compliments...





\*\*\*\*\* NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELF \*\*\*\*\*

Shawls, ponchos, and capelets look fabulous on everyone, no matter the occasion! *Wrap Style* (\$21.95, softcover) is a collection of 24 classic and contemporary wraps from 18 innovative knitwear designers, including "Cashmere Crossings" by our own Kathy (shown left). Editors Pam Allen and Ann Budd describe it like this: "Dubbed the 'Cable Queen' by her friends, Kathy Zimmerman delights in adding personality to traditional texture motifs, working cables within cables, staggering configurations, and adding contrasting textures. Kathy has worked this poncho from side to side (leaving a slit for the neck opening along the way) so that the cables flow up one arm, across the body, then down the other arm".

The book also features simple to challenging designs that showcase an array of shape and silhouette possibilities, with a host of techniques, stitch patterns, colorwork, lace, beads, crochet and felt. A "grand plan top-down capelet" gives you a template for choosing your own yarn and stitch pattern. A Design Notebook shares creative options for making wraps in any size and shape...

The poncho is certainly giving people a whole new outlook on covering up. Whether you're using cotton or wool, strolling the boardwalk or hustling across town, the poncho is a great alternative to more traditional garments. *VOGUE KNITTING "On The Go" series Ponchos* (\$12.95, hardcover) provides a friendly next step for those novices who are ready for a new challenge, but are not yet committed to the demands of making a sweater or jacket. The editors include a range of skill levels and tastes in compiling this collection, from elegant mohair and mesh designs to rustic cabled and fisherman's fare. There are even a few kid's styles to ensure that no one is left out of this popular fashion trend...

No matter what you call them -- caps, bonnets, pillboxes, beanies, tams, or cloches -- hats are worn for many reasons. Wear them for warmth, style, status, communication, or just for fun. The latest in the *Knitter's Dozen* series is "Hats" (\$15.95, softcover), a "Best of Knitter's" collection. Hats are wonderful projects for sampling new techniques you might not tackle on a larger scale -- short rows, miters, felting, beads, I-cord accents, mixing stripes with textures, or 2-color stranded patterns. Let the fun begin -- it's like a party on your head...

*Knitting Over The Edge* (\$29.95, hardcover) is the second essential collection of over 350 decorative borders by Nicky Epstein. Readers will find unusual edge combinations in the form of unique ribs, cords, appliques, colors and edging. Get ready to be thrilled by a delightful array of loop-de-loops, circles, balls, bobbles, stripes, animal-inspired patterns (leopard spots, anyone?), florals and XOs. Novice knitters as well as seasoned experts will be able to customize their knitting with confidence...

LION BRAND YARN presents "Just Hats" and "Just Scarves" (\$12.00 each, softcover, Scarves shown right). Show off your personal style, create a last-minute gift, practice your stitchery, or knit up a snappy wardrobe to wear. We are pleased that two of Kathy's cabled designs are featured in the "Just Scarves" edition, including the cover!!!!



\*\*\*\*\* CLASSIC ELITE UPDATE \*\*\*\*\*

In her latest newsletter, Kathy Lacher, Director of Design & Development at CLASSIC ELITE YARNS tells us, "This fall season brings, what seems to be, a renewed interest in classic yarns that can, once again, be knit into sweaters and not just scarves. **Well, we are ready for this change.** CLASSIC ELITE has the natural fibers, the classics, the interesting basics, the quick knitting bulkies, the luxury fibers and a spectacular collection of patterns for every skill level knitter".



CLASSIC ELITE has wonderful new yarns and great new colorways in our favorites -- they have color, texture, print, mark, thin, thick, a hint of luxe, and sparkles. "Minnie" (\$12.25, 50 grams, 120 yards, 23% kid merino / 16% merino / 38% nylon / 23% polyester) has beautiful texture and a great blend of fibers. The hand is very soft and a pleasure to knit at a suggested gauge of 4.5 sts per inch on US 8 needles. The texture comes not only from the kid mohair, but from the colorful mini-nub that is marled into the twist. "Viva Cita" (\$16.75, 50 grams, 66 yards, 96% nylon / 4% polyester) is a sparkly yarn -- in fact, the name in Italian, means sparkles. It knits at 2 - 2.5 sts / inch on US 13 needles. The appealing multi-color texture is ideal for trims and accessories. "Renaissance" (\$5.75, 50 grams, 110 yards, 100% wool, worsted weight) is perfect for color work, it felts, and it has excellent stitch definition. We have added heather-look, printed colors to our supply of great solid shades.

CLASSIC ELITE's five fall pattern books (\$12.95 each) are bursting with knits as diverse as their fall collection. We are pleased that our own Kathy has four designs in this collection, including the family cabled pattern in a child's cardigan, men's pullover, and a women's cardigan knit with "Bazic" (shown upper right). Other designs are included in the "Noble Knits" book and include a mens' "Inca Alpaca" cabled pullover, a ladies "Lush" Oriental jacket, and a ladies' cabled collared pullover from "Wings" (shown lower left).

Kathy Lacher on Fall 2005 Fashion Trends: "Fall 2005 is about luxury. The media tell us Fall is about individualism, self-expression and feeling energetic about color and pattern". This fall, we are crazy about **patterning** again, combining prints, stripes, tweeds, leathers, furs, plaids, argyles, chunky knits and embroideries. **Vintage** is alive and well with hints from the 20's through the 70's. very feminine and embellished. "Granny Chic" is composed of items from grandma's closet -- pleated skirts, 3/4 length coat, handbag, and her brooch. "Classic" is a ladylike trend evolving from the 50's / 60's, a la Jackie O, Grace Kelly, and Audrey Hepburn -- clean-lined dresses with matching jackets, pencil skirts with fine gauge cardigans, and high heels. The **Ethnic Influence** (folkloric, Bohemian or gypsy) brings with it rich mixtures of jacquard patterns, plaids, belts, and leathers. **Menswear** is the "borrowed from the boys" look. **Equestrian/ swashbuckling** involves leather, large flapping capes, big boots. **Fusion** is as popular in fashion as it is in food. An Asian influence is beginning with kimono shapes, Asian prints and closures. Thanks, Kathy Lacher! More about key fashion trends next month...



\*\*\*\*\* FALL COLOR TRENDS \*\*\*\*\*

VOGUE KNITTING tells us that "the new black" spans the color spectrum: plum, burnt orange, brick red, Moroccan blue, mustard, moss green. Wear them tone on tone for maximum impact...



\*\*\*\*\* KNITTING TIPS \*\*\*\*\*

Vickie Angelo tells us that she uses fabric softener instead of detergent when felting handknit projects. Not only does this require no rinsing, but the item smells fresh instead of "sheepy". Thanks, Vickie!

Karen Frisa shared a wonderful tip during a "fixing mistakes" workshop with the Roof Garden Knitting Guild in Somerset, PA. Karen learned this idea from experienced lace knitters and gave us her permission to pass it on. Thanks, Karen! When working a complicated pattern (such as lace), carry along a fine cotton thread "lifeline" every 5-10 rows at a easy recognizable pattern row, running through each stitch. If you make a mistake and need to "un-knit", you will know that you can rip back to a familiar "safe place" without dropping stitches...

Karen Frisa also shared a tip she learned from Missy Burns from WOOL IN THE WOODS: When working a garment with hand-painted yarns, use a small amount of each hank needed for the project in the front, back, and sleeves. This will allow for an overall blended appearance and avoid color pooling or "stacking". For example, if your project calls for seven hanks of yarn, wind them into balls and use some of each for each section of the sweater plus the bands...

\*\*\*\*\* E-MAIL BAG \*\*\*\*\*

Dawn Smith asked about extended garter stitch. We weren't familiar with the term, but Dawn researched it, and it turns out this is the same as the elongated garter stitch. This is a more open version of garter stitch. Work each stitch as if to knit as in regular garter stitch but wrap the yarn around the needle twice in every stitch. On the next row, every stitch is also worked with a double wrap, but the extra wrap of the previous row is dropped. Thanks for info, Dawn!

\*\*\*\*\* WESTMORELAND COUNTY FAIR AND KNIT FOR THE CURE \*\*\*\*\*

We were pleased to sponsor a "Design - A - Scarf Contest" for this year's County Fair. There were 11 beautiful entries, each an original design knitted or crocheted with CLASSIC ELITE YARNS. The contest winners were:

- 1st place: Susan Zylka, "Coffee Table Lace", \$40 gift certificate & blue ribbon
- 2nd place: Nancy Premoshis, Moss Stitch Diamonds, \$30 gift certificate & red ribbon
- 3rd place: Cathy Torres, Fair Isle, \$20 gift certificate & white ribbon
- 4th place: Karen Sredzienski, "Firecracker Scarf", yellow ribbon
- 5th place: Dotty Cook, "Bubbles Scarf", green ribbon

Our thanks to all the talented participants. The Needlework Division of the Fair Committee reported that the overall number of knit & crochet entries was up this year from 111 to 169. It was nice to see such lovely handwork on display. We plan to sponsor the contest again next year -- more details to come.



Susan and Nancy have generously agreed to have their scarves on display in our shop as part of our annual "Knit For The Cure". The prize-winning scarf patterns and an original design by Michelle Hoke will be sold from September through December, with profits donated to cancer research. We will also feature patterns from last year's campaign, as well as chemo hat and scarf kits. Over \$500 was raised and donated last year...

\*\*\*\*\* EVEN MORE GREAT NEW STUFF \*\*\*\*\*

The felting craze continues. New from FIBER TRENDS is "Henrietta & Family" (\$5.25, #209x), a felted chicken with a weight added to her stuffing to use as a doorstop, plus little chicks.



New patterns from TWO OLD BAGS (\$7.50 each) include:

Wooly Embellishments II --three new flower pins plus an easy I-cord bracelet! There is a calla lily, a wildflower and an I-cord daisy.

Kaia's Blankets -- three square-shaped baby blankets which begin in the center and are knit circularly in garter stitch to the outer edge. Choose a plain center or lace heart design to start and then opt for one of three edgings/borders (picot, ruffle, or lace-heart) to finish your blankets

Felted Ornaments - choose from two versions each of the stocking, mitten, and hat-style ornaments. As a bonus, you can knit a bouquet of pointsettias.

Garden Party Shawl -- Is it a shawl or a scarf? You decide. Whatever your choice, this garter stitch shawl/scarf will sit securely on your shoulders because of the clever shoulder shaping included. You can choose between a picot or ruffle border/edging to finish your shawl. Choose a glamorous yarn and knit a shawl for evening or a plainer yarn and make a great shawl for everyday.

Hold It all Handbag -- a circularly knit purse with two versions (with or without a flap)

Triangle Felted Handbag -- begin with a rectangular base and choose one of three different sequences for shaping

Our shelves are filling up with new yarns for fall including: CRYSTAL PALACE "Kiddo" (\$7.50, 50 grams, 97 yards, 100% microfiber nylon), a very plush lightweight bulky great for baby items and accessories; CRYSTAL PALACE "Iceland" (\$11.95, 50 grams, 109 yards, 100% wool) great for felting; CRYSTAL PALACE "Nubbles" (\$8.25, 50 grams, 29 yards, 90% wool/10% nylon), ask to see our hat using Nubble & Iceland; LANG "Joke" (\$9.95, 50 grams, 110 yards, 10% wool/12% mohair/42% acrylic/33% nylon/3% elastane) a bi-color boucle in cool Halloween colors; SKACEL SCHULANA "Glamoro" (\$13.50, 50 grams, 66% wool/18% viscose/16% nylon), a multi-color glitz strand woven with a thick & thin strand; and LANG "Pearl" (\$9.50, 50 grams, 115 yards, 42% kid mohair / 54% acrylic/ 4% polyester) for pumpkin hats. More yarns are arriving each day...

\*\*\*\*\* KATHY'S TEXTURED HAT \*\*\*\*\*

FINISHED HEAD CIRCUMFERENCE: child's 20" (adults 22" in parentheses)

MATERIALS: CLASSIC ELITE "Renaissance" [CYCA classification 4] 110 (150) yards; US size 8 straight knitting needles; tapestry needle for finishing

GAUGE: 5 sts / 7 rows = 1"

PATTERN STITCH

Rows 1 - 4: Knit.

Rows 5 - 8: \*K1, P1; repeat from \* across.

Rows 9 - 12: Knit.

Rows 13-16: \*P1, K1; repeat from \* across.

Repeat rows 1 - 16 for pattern.

DIRECTIONS: Cast on 100 (110) sts. Work in pattern stitch until piece measures 7" (8.5"), end pattern stitch row 8 or 16.

Next Row: K1, \*K2tog; repeat from \* across to last st, K1: 51 (56) sts.

Next Row: K1, \*K2tog; repeat from \* across, end K 0 (1): 26 (29) sts. Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Draw tail through remaining sts, pull to secure. Sew back seam. Add pompom, braid, or other embellishment, if desired.

\*\*\*\*\* UPCOMING CLASSES \*\*\*\*\*

**"Color Therapy" with instructor Susan Zylka on Saturday, September 17, 2005, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm; \$10 (payment requested at time of registration, materials not included); beginner skill level**



Are you color-challenged? Selecting colors that look good together in knit or crochet can sometimes be confusing. Susan will introduce you to the world of color and help you on your way to doing colorwork with confidence. The class project will be a knit garter stitch sideways scarf combining colors of the student's choosing. Materials needed include a size US 10.5 or 11 circular knitting needle 29" length, scissors, and 650 yards assorted yarns in your favorite color palette (novelty, basic or both)...

**"Make A Shawl for Fall" with instructor Nancy Premoshis on Saturday, September 17, 2005, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm; \$10 (Payment requested at time of registration, materials not included); beginner to advanced skill level**

Knitter's choice -- choose from one of three designs (Lily Chin's Top Down, Mock Faroese Shawl; Fiber Trends Landscape Shawl or LISA KNITS On The Square). Nancy will help you get wrapped up in a little luxury...

Private knitting, crochet and hairpin lace crochet lessons (children's & adults) are also available by appointment during business hours. Students may pre-register for these events by call Kathy's Kreaions at 724-238-9320 or e-mail at kathy@kathys-kreaions.com Class supplies are not included in the cost of registration. No refunds will be given unless cancellation is made 48 hours prior to class, or in the event of inclement weather. Classes without a minimum of four students may be subject to cancellation or postponement at the discretion of the instructor.

\*\*\*\*\* READER'S KNIT NIGHT \*\*\*\*\*

Join Kathy for an evening of knitting on **Monday, September 12, 2005, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm** at Barnes & Noble, Route 30, Greensburg. Nicky Epstein's latest collection, "Over The Edge" will be our featured book. All skill levels are invited, and volunteers are available to help with questions and how-to's, including learn to knit instructions for beginners. Please bring your current projects to show and share, stop by the cafe for a chiller or capuccino, and let's knit!

\*\*\*\*\* FUN FRIDAY AND SATURDAY \*\*\*\*\*

Even more fun, now three days — it's **Fun Fridays and Fun Saturday with instructor Joyce Bischoff!** Please join us in our classroom area on **Fridays, September 16 and 23, 2005, and/or Saturday, September 24, 2005 from 10 am - 2 pm**, for a fun-filled day of knitting comradery. Joyce will be here to answer your questions and provide expert knitting assistance, with wonderful tips for more successful knitting with an emphasis on finishing tips & techniques. There is no charge to attend, but please call ahead to let us know you will be coming. Please bring your knitting, a snack or lunch if you wish, a folding chair if you've got one, and your sense of humor. You deserve to escape for a knitting break...

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

"Knit Knite" at Kathy's Kreaions

**Tuesday evening, September 13, 2005, 7 - 9 pm**

All skill levels welcome -- come, sit & knit!

FORT LIGONIER DAYS

**Friday, October 14, 2005, through Sunday, October 16, 2005**

Thursday, October 13, 2005 early bird merchant sidewalk sales

Friday, October 14, 2005, through Sunday, October 16, 2005 townwide festivities

Fall -- it's color-warm, color-wonderful. Make something beautiful for yourself this season.  
KEEP KNITTING!

Kathy