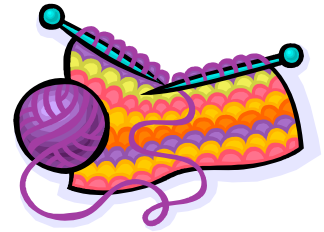


KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-9320
SEPTEMBER 2007 UPDATE



Dear Knitters,

It's harvest time in Ligonier Valley, and that means it's also time to knit and crochet! We've got a bumper crop of gorgeous yarns and fabulous accessories for your stitching pleasure -- a veritable buffet of fibers, needles, hooks, totes and patterns to spark your creativity. Now, you can make what you love, and love what you make.

According to an industry study by the National Needlework Association in *Yarn Market News*, knitters report that they want projects that are functional and feel wonderful. There is more of a demand for natural fibers to create items that are not only enjoyable to knit and crochet, but enjoyable to wear.

Hand-dyed yarns are having a big impact this season. Inspired by nature, yarn artisans are expressing their unique personalities through their fibers this fall, allowing knitters and crocheters to do the same. We've just received several shipments of lightweight handpainted yarns for socks, shawls and baby items, and you can expect to see finer gauge merinos on the scene for sweaters, skirts and jackets. Felting continues to be another strong trend, including wet felting, needle felting, and felted knitting/crochet.

We've got it all here, so stop by to get your pick of our bountiful, ripe selections:

"IT'S A FINE TIME TO KNIT AND CROCHET!"
All regularly-priced
Nashua Handknits Yarns in stock
are 10% off during September 2007



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 and crochet instructions are available by appointment

Finishing services available

Gift certificates available

Shopping at Kathy's Kreations has never been easier

COME IN - CALL UP - LOG ON

Telephone 724-238-9320

e-mail kathy@kathys-kreations.com

please visit our website www.kathys-kreations.com



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

Can you feel it in the crisp, cool morning air? Summer is gently drifting into fall -- that beautiful season of the year when nature proudly shows its glory here in the Laurel Mountains. We've taken our cue from the brilliant foliage by combining colors, fibers and textures into a fabulous collection of products to ready you for the season ahead. Celebrate the harvest...

In *Knitter's Magazine* Fall 2007 (\$5.95), "clever details come together in knits with character, for clothing that is a joy to knit and wear". This issue's theme, "All is Fine" is reflected in fine yarns, fine mixes, knit finery and fine living home decor. We are pleased that Kathy's "Rustic Refined" cardigan, knit with ROWAN YARNS "Tapestry" is included in this medley (shown upper left). About this design, *Knitter's* says, "Rustic Refined makes the best of stacking yarn in a textured jacket complete with pockets, collar and matching rib trims, perfect for work or play". Fine living is about comfort and you'll enjoy the fine selection of projects...

It's no secret that we love tweed yarns. We're pleased to introduce DALE OF NORWAY "Harlequin", an exciting new luxury yarn (\$9.50, 50 grams, 120 yards, 35% wool / 25% microfiber / 20% alpaca / 10% cashmere / 10% viscose, CYCA yarn classification 4). Buttery soft and comfortable, you'll want to cocoon yourself in this delicious blend. Create instant wardrobe classics using 12 wonderful tweed colors, ranging from classic to fashion shades. Book 8305 (\$11.50) features sweaters, vests, hoodies and a Fair Isle houndstooth purse. We've got the accessory kits for the purse (heavy duty zipper, button and leather strap embellishments, \$5.50/pkg). Ask to see our purse model in progress...

The classics are making a huge comeback! One of our favorite spectacular newbies is CLASSIC ELITE YARNS "Classic One Fifty" (\$6.95, 50 grams, 150 yards, 100% fine merino wool, CYCA yarn classification 3). This beautiful yarn has a lovely hand and a wide color range, perfect for your colorwork or textured designs. Its finer, light weight gauge makes it an excellent choice for season-spanning garments. Support patterns can be found in the "Celebrated Classics" booklet (see page 5)...

Colorwork and texture take center stage in *INTERWEAVE KNITS* Fall 2007 (\$6.99). In her column, new editor Eunny Jang tells us: "The thing I've always loved about knitting is the sense of unlimited possibility -- it's in every new stitch, each new project, each new technique I learn". This issue is packed with ideas to spark your creativity with 29 knits to chase the chill. We love Deborah Newton's insightful article, "Exploring Cables" -- this is worth the read for her tips alone. One of Kathy's designs is included in this exploration of cabled sweaters, "Dickinson Pullover" (shown lower right), about which *Knits* says: "A lofty plaited and twisted center cable flows out of deep, luxurious ribbing. Raglan shoulder construction allows for a comfortable sweater without bulk. A crossover neckband edges the deep V-neck and adds a little sportiness to the ultimate weekend sweater". There are also sock projects, Fair Isle fingerless mitts, vests, hats and scarves, all of which are very popular items for fall and holiday gifts. There is also a knitter's guide to organic yarns -- all in all, a very good issue jammed packed with ideas and solid information...



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

If you've never ventured into sock knitting, there's never been a better opportunity to jump in feet first! Small and portable, a socks project can be tucked into one of our LANTERN MOON silk tafetta bags (\$11.95) or PORT-A-POCKET totes (\$17.95). Why not try one of our new sock yarns to experiment with new stitch patterns and color combinations?



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Handknits / WFI

- REGIA "Kaffe Fassett Design Line" (\$8.50, 50 grams, 231 yards, 75% superwash wool / 25% polyamide) a hard-wearing sock yarn with great colorways for guys & gals
- REGIA "Galaxy" (\$8.50, 50 grams, 231 yards, 75% superwash wool / 25% polyamide) definitely our "coolest" and most unique self-stripping pick -- the stripes make elliptical rings resembling the rings around Saturn
- COLINETTE "Jitterbug" (\$21.50, 100 grams, 293 yards, 100% merino wool, CYCA yarn classification 2) in monochromatic hand-painted colorways inspired by the paintings of Salvador Dali; single-hank pattern for a pair of socks inside each label
- CLAUDIA HAND PAINTED YARNS "Fingering Weight Merino" (\$12.50, 50 grams, 180 yards, 100% merino wool, CYCA yarn classification 2) each handpainted skein is unique; ideal for socks and openwork wraps; a black and gold team colorway is available for Steelers fans

Knitting socks has never been so easy. The ultimate in creature comfort, soft hand-knit socks are one of life's little luxuries. *Easy Knitted Socks* (\$19.95, softcover) is a user-friendly guide featuring 20 simple yet stunning designs, many of which can be made in a weekend. Choose from chunky, funky, cute and cozy styles for all the family: slouchy Sunday socks; butterfly and bumble boots; stripey toddler toasties; love-heart slippers and extra-special socks using sumptuous yarns and embellishments...

Cat Bordhi once again turns the sock knitting world on its heel with her long-awaited *New Pathways for Sock Knitters: Book One* (\$28.95, softcover). Cat outlines eight sock architectures, with master patterns that can be customized for any foot, yarn type, or needles, in sizes ranging from infant to large adult. This book has all the elements to empower you to knit socks with freedom and joy...

NASHUA HANDKNITS presents several new booklets in the North American Lifestyle Series (\$14.95 each). New titles include:

The North American Designer Collection No. 5 --- Kathy's "Belted Aran" (shown upper right) knit with Creative Focus Worsted is part of this compilation

Skate -- trendy styles for teens and young adults: Kathy's "Cropped Cardigan" (shown lower left), worked with Creative Focus Chunky

In The Mountains --- Kathy's "Eyelet and Ripples Pullover" (shown page 6, lower left), knit with Wooly Stripes is featured on the cover and "V-Neck Tunic" (shown page 6, upper right), worked with Vignette

Snow --- family sweaters worked in Creative Focus Worsted & Chunky
Log Cabin --- ladies' sweaters knit with luscious Creative Focus Kid Mohair
Cobblestone Streets --- fabulous accessories, totes, wraps, hats, gloves and scarves in a variety of Nashua yarns

Designer Bags --- felted and non-felted, with and without floral embellishments

Theatre --- special occasion and evening wear sweaters & wraps



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

From its premier issue ten years ago, *Interweave Knits* has provided classic to innovative garment designs from top knitwear designers and in-depth articles from expert knitters. *The Best of Interweave Knits* (\$24.95, softcover) showcases an inspiring spectrum of styles and techniques. In addition to 26 stunning designs, there are articles from the popular Beyond the Basics column that provide essential information on a variety of techniques. We are honored to have one of Kathy's designs selected for this compilation. About the Marseilles Pullover (shown upper left), editor Ann Budd remarks: "In this slim cabled pullover, Kathy Zimmerman combined trellis-like diamonds with garter-stitch interiors and crisscrossing ribs to reflect the layout of hedgerows and plantings in a formal summer garden. Kathy chose a simple boatneck (the back and front are identical), narrow garter-stitch edgings, and plain ribbed sleeves to keep the focus on the interplay of textures". We think you'll find this book to be truly special...

Knitting inspiration goes global! Celebrate the joys of living -- and knitting -- in an ever-changing world with *Folk Style* (\$24.95, soft cover). This medley of designs, influenced by a variety of cultures, is the latest entry in the Interweave Press *Style* series. Sixteen knitwear designers take inspiration from ethnic motifs and reinterpret them in this contemporary collection of diverse folk-art pieces. Projects range from sweaters, scarves, vests, shawls, socks, hats, skirts and even home decor. Whether it's a simple textured pair of mittens or a multi-colored tunic, *Folk Style* delivers innovative designs from around the world right to your doorstep...

In its 25 years of publication, *Vogue Knitting* has mirrored the fashion and social history of its time. Its articles have chronicled the knitting boom, reported on fashion trends, and provided expert tips to knitters of all skill levels. Here, for the first time, over 100 of the best articles ever published in *VK* are gathered into one comprehensive volume. *The Best of Vogue Knitting Magazine* (\$29.95, hardback) features detailed instructions on both basic and advanced knitting, a look back at the history of knitting, useful information on fiber and yarn care, an introduction to the design process, special techniques for knitting in the round, tips for correcting mistakes and much more. This one-of-a-kind book is an essential addition to every knitter's library...

You probably know her from the intricate plots she knits in her best-selling novels. Her heartwarming novels remind us what community and friendship are all about. Each book welcomes us home. Debbie Macomber knits in real life, too. *Knit Together* (\$22.99, hardback) is her first foray into non-fiction. The best-selling author reveals her inspiring life story, encouraging readers to dream big. By sharing her own tales of heartache, frustration, and triumph, she encourages you to pursue your dreams with courage and passion...

Boasting intricate geometric patterns and rich, natural colors, the knits of Fair Isle have roots in the fashions of Viking invaders, Norwegian immigrants and Spanish sailors. *Fair Isle Knitting* by Sarah Don (\$12.95, softcover) is a treasury of authentic designs with the how-to's needed to create this popular form of patterned knitting, providing practical advice on color combinations, repeats, circular needles, fitting, grafting and after-care...

***** NEW BOOKLETS FROM CLASSIC ELITE YARNS *****

Discover the pure joy of knitting with CLASSIC ELITE YARNS and its easygoing approach to versatile, classic-looking designs. Here are the latest fashion pattern booklets (\$14.95 each):

Glorious Knitting --- 14 handknitting patterns for vests, socks, hats, scarves, and sweaters in Inca Alpaca and Aspen yarns

Celebrated Classics --- Three of Kathy's designs are featured in this booklet: "Wool Bam Boo" Yoke Cardigan pattern (shown lower left and featured on the cover), Cabled Assymetrical Cardigan (shown upper right) made with new arrival yarn, "Classic One Fifty" and "Renaissance" Men's Cabled V-Neck Pullover (shown lower right on page 8). Nobody does classics like CLASSIC ELITE, and we are pleased that Kathy's work is part of this outstanding celebration

Uptown Knitting --Kathy's "Lush" Cabled Pullover (shown upper left on page 8) is soft, cozy and sure to please. This collection features a medley of pullovers, jackets, cape, girl's smocked cardigan, cabled ski hat and a crochet hat

Family Knits --- 14 handknitting patterns including a whimsical owl sweater for kids; several kids pullovers and cardigans, and ladies' jackets



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Pam Allen, Creative Director of Classic Elite Yarns, shared these tips for successful lace knitting:

- 1) Lace patterns are made of increases called yarn-overs (these make the holes, abbreviated yo) and decreases (k2togs, ssk, or double decreases)
- 2) The number of yarn-overs equals the number of decreases.

Kathy adds: the most common mistake in lace knitting that we see in the shop is a missed yarn-over, which can be corrected on the next row by picking up a strand of yarn to make a yarn-over. This month, we are featuring a **free pattern** for a market tote in your choice of knit or crochet with your purchase of CLASSIC ELITE yarn to make the project. Ask for details...

***** QUESTIONS & ANSWERS *****

Charlene B recently e-mailed us, "What does 'work stitches as they appear' mean"? This instruction means to knit the knit stitches and purl the purl stitches, as they appear on your needle...

Betty L asked, "Is there any difference between the terms lace knitting and knitted lace?" Kathy took a class with Sally Melville at TNNA, in which Sally said that lace knitting refers to openwork patterns with the yarn-overs worked on the public side. In knitted lace, the yarn-overs are worked on both sides of the fabric for a more open fabric...

Joan Walsh passed along a knitting tip which she credits to Anna Zilbourg, page 30 of *Knitting for Anarchists* as the original source. Basically, changing the size of the needles is more likely to affect the number of rows per inch than the number of stitches per inch. Think of a stitch as two pieces of yarn lying next to one another (how much will a change of needle affect thickness of yarn?) Then, think of the stitch as one piece of yarn going up the needle, over and down the other side (the yarn has farther to travel with a larger needle). Thanks for the insight, Joan and Anna!



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***** IN THE MAIL *****

Dixie V asks, "What is Guernsey knitting? What is a gansey?" In her book, *Knitting Ganseys* (1993), Beth Brown-Reinsel states, "Gansey sweaters, also known as guernseys, developed in nineteenth century England as hard-wearing garments for hard-working fishermen." They are characterized by dense, dark yarns, rich knit/purl patterns, dropped shoulders, and underarm gussets that allow the wearer additional freedom of movement. Ganseys are traditionally seamless, and knitted in the round. The typical gauge is 7 - 9 sts/ inch, producing a dense fabric impervious to wind and cold. Rae Compton, author of *The Complete Book of Traditional Guernsey and Jersey knitting* (1985), writes, "throughout the British Isles the fishermen's garment is known in some places as a guernsey, in others as a gansey, and in others it has always been and still is a jersey." The gansey or guernsey took its name from the knitted fabric that has been called guernsey since before the seamen took to wearing them...



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***** AT THE COUNTY FAIR *****

Congratulations to the winners of the 3rd annual "Design-A-Scarf" contest at the Westmoreland County Fair, sponsored by Kathy's Kreations:

First Place - Susan Zylka; Bessie's Bluebelle Scarf

Second Place - Nancy Premoshis; Textured Ribs Wooly Stripes Scarf

Third Place - Karen Sredzinski; Appliqued & Embellished Sunflower Garden Scarf

The pattern for Susan Zylka's prize-winning entry will be available as part of our "Knit For The Cure" Collection. The scarf was knit in memory of Susan's grandmother, Bessie Bergman, who taught her to knit at the age of nine years. Profits from the sale of the pattern will benefit lung cancer research and treatment. Our thanks to Susan for graciously participating in our fund-raising project. Our "Knit For The Cure" collection will be on display during October, breast cancer awareness month...

***** KATHY'S FINGERLESS MITTS *****

During cooler weather, you need something to keep your hands warm, but still need to have your fingers free. Fingerless mitts are the ideal solution, and they also make great gifts. Try a pair of these...

MATERIALS: 2 balls JO SHARP "Silkroad Aran Tweed" (200 yards heavy worsted weight) yarn; US size 7 double-pointed needles (dpns, set of five)

FINISHED SIZE: Adult's medium (approx. 8" around X 10" long)

GAUGE: 5.5 sts / 7 rows = 1" in pattern, slightly stretched

DIRECTIONS (make 2): Cast on 44 sts. Divide evenly with 11 sts on each of 4 dpns. Join, being careful not to twist sts.

Rounds 1 - 4: *K2, P2; repeat from * around.

Rounds 5 & 6: *P2, K2; repeat from * around.

Round 7: *K2, P2; repeat from * around.

Repeat round 7 until piece measures 6" total, end at marker.

Next round: Bind off 6 sts in ribbing for thumb opening, continue in rib as established.

Next Round: Cast on 6 sts over the bound-off sts. Continue in rib around. Work in ribbing as established until piece is 8" long. Repeat rounds 5 & 6.

Repeat rounds 1 - 4 once. Bind off all sts in rib pattern. Weave in all ends.

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***** ONE-SKEIN "TREAT YOURSELF" SCARVES *****

Our sincere thanks to Jennifer Ferrence for sharing these patterns! Jen tells us that each pattern may also be done with two skeins, for a longer, more luxurious scarf.

MATERIALS (same for each scarf): One (or two) skeins of TRENDSETTER YARNS "Dune"; knitting needles US size 11 for Ruffled Ends Scarf, US size 13 for Square Lace Scarf; row counter

GAUGE: not critical

Ruffled Ends Scarf (two skein directions are in parentheses)

Cast On 48 stitches with size 11 needles.

Work in stockinette stitch for 6 rows.

Row 7: K2tog all the way across the row. (24 sts)

Row 8: Purl.

Row 9: K2tog all the way across the row. (12 sts)

Row 10: Knit.

Start short-row shaping by doing the following:

Row 11-33: K1, turn, P1, turn, K2, turn, P2, turn. Continue in this manner to K12.

Row 34: K1, P10, K1.

Row 35: K12.

Repeat rows 34 and 35 until scarf measures 9.5" (19") after the ruffle, about 70 (106) rows. End with a wrong side row. For those of you who, like me, obsess about using every last bit of yarn, you should have .875 oz of yarn remaining when starting the next section.

Complete other end ruffle as follows:

Rows 71-92 (107-128) K11, turn, P11, turn, K10, turn, P10, turn (continue in this way until you K1, turn, P1, turn).

Row 93 (129): Knit in the front and the back of each stitch all the way across the row. (24 sts)

Row 94 (130): Purl

Row 95 (131): Knit in the front and the back of each stitch all the way across the row. (48 sts)

Work even in stockinette stitch for 6 rows.

Bind off and weave in ends.

Block. Scarf will curl slightly at sides.

Square Lace Scarf (shown lower right)

Cast on 13, 15, or 17 stitches with US size 13 needles.

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: K1 *yo, K2tog* rep * to * end.

Row 4: Knit.

Repeat these 4 rows until you are nearly out of yarn or the scarf is long enough. Bind off and sew in ends. Block if desired.

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

Join the Reader's Knit Club for an evening of knitting on **Mondays, September 10, 2007, and October 1, 2007, from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm** at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Route 30, Greensburg, PA. Selected picks for knitting and crochet projects will be featured...

***** **"KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS*******

Tuesday evenings, September 11, 2007, and October 9, 2007, 7 - 9 pm

Join members of the Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild for an evening of knitting, lots of fun conversation and plenty of advice from experienced knitters. All skill levels are welcome to come, sit & knit!

Private knitting, crochet, felting and hairpin lace lessons available by appointment. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 27 years!

Mark your calendar for FORT LIGONIER DAYS October 12, 13, and 14, 2007

FUN FRIDAYS with instructor Joyce Bischoff, Friday, September 7, 2007; October 19, 2007; and October 26, 2007, 10 am - 2 pm

It's fun! It's free! All knitters & crocheters welcome! Our instructor Joyce is available for knitting help with your questions and skill-building. There is no charge to attend, but please call ahead to let us know you will be coming. Please bring your knitting, a snack if you wish, and a sense of humor. In the event of inclement weather, please check with us regarding possible delay or cancellation.

Last March, our own Tracey Earhart co-ordinated a Chemo Hats Program with Adams Memorial Library in Latrobe. The caps were donated to the Arnold Palmer Pavilion at Excelsa Health Center on St. Patrick's Day. Many of the knitters who attended wished to continue gathering to work on community service charity projects. We are pleased to announce two new programs, "Knitting For A Cause -- Not Just Because", and friendship scarves for "Faith In Action". All skill levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome to attend this free gathering, which will meet twice a month on the first & third Wednesday evenings of each month from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the Reed Room at Adams Memorial Library. Specialty scarf yarns are available on our sale table as much as 50% off for the "Faith In Action" project. For further details, please contact Adams Memorial Library at (724) 539-1972 to pre-register...

A first-time customer visiting in Ligonier recently dropped by to purchase a knitting needle on a Saturday morning. At the time, Kelly was teaching a felting class, Kathy was helping customers, Jennifer was re-stocking the shelves and Tracey was doing her magic with the window displays. The customer exclaimed, "This is just like the Blossom Street shop in Debbie Macomber's books!" We were flattered by the compliment and also pleased that our customers find us to be a "happening" place. We invite you to stop by to personally experience the new season with your senses -- sight (the glorious colors of fall), smell (natural fibers), touch (soft, luxurious yarns waiting to be touched), sound (the laughter and fellowship of knitters and crocheters sharing their passion for the stitch), and taste (OK, please don't eat the yarn, but **"we"** are always in good taste). Thank you for supporting your local, independent yarn shop!

KEEP KNITTING! Kathy

