

**FREE CLASSIC ELITE
YARN TASTING
8/5/11 & 8/6/11**

**KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-9320
AUGUST 2011 UPDATE**

**SALLY MELVILLE
WORKSHOP
9/18/11**

Dear Knitters,

Enjoy summer before it's gone -- take your stitching along! If you always seem to be on the go, grab your needles and hooks as you head out the door. Let your imagination help you find those spaces in your schedule -- no matter how small -- into which you can slip a few stitches. You'll be amazed at what you can accomplish while travelling in the car (as a passenger), on a lunch break, or waiting at the dentist's office.

Many stitchers always have a bring-along portable project to take advantage of any windows of opportunity to knit or crochet. We can help you find the perfect choice from our large selection of handy tote bags, interchangeable needle sets and hooks, accessory organizers, patterns and one-skein wonder ideas.

Try setting aside a few uninterrupted hours on your vacation or staycation -- when you find that's enough time to finish a scarf, hat or shawllette, you'll be pleasantly surprised. Summer is going fast -- take some time to breathe deeply, relax, and marvel at how cleverly creative you can be...

"STITCH AND RELAX"

**All regularly-priced BERROCO yarns in stock
are 10% off throughout August 2011**

10% Tuesdays are back!

**Receive 10% off as many regularly-priced items as you can fit into
your Kathy's Kreations logo tote bag on Tuesdays only**

Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday

Kathy is usually away on Wednesday, but the shop is open

"End of Summer" Sale in Progress

We accept Mastercard, VISA, Discover, AX
Private knitting, crochet, spinning, and drop spindle
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 ***

A magical transition occurs every year, and it's the one we stitchers all wait for: Fall! The next few months lend themselves to knitting and crocheting. Maybe it's the end of lazy summer days or the drifting into longer nights keeping us indoors, but something compels us to pick up needles and hooks and stitch. A big part of the appeal is the fibers -- alpaca, wool, mohair, and all manner of fuzzy yarns return to our shelves for fall knits. Begin your fall stitching journey with these delights...

Interweave Knits Fall 2011 (\$6.99) helps you fall into place with 22 classics to start knitting right now. Editor Eunny Jang tells us in her "Strands" column: "We knitters know that *time* and *season* are fluid concepts. It might be August, but we are already dreaming of cool, crisp October. It might be ninety degrees in the shade, but we're digging through our baskets of wool and breaking out our cable needles. We need to prepare -- knitting a sweater doesn't happen in a weekend, so we'll take that head start on fall cardigans and pullovers, thank you very much. Mitten knitting over a slice of peach pie -- what could be more natural?"

This issue of *Knits* gathers project ideas that work for every week of autumn -- discover and create ethereal lace, chunky cables, and rustic colorwork. *Knits* has you covered -- literally! Explore techniques like "extreme double knitting". Intrigued? You're sure to be inspired to make something new -- fall will be here before we know it!

There's something about a vintage piece of needlework that makes us think about how the piece was used, who made it, what fibers were used, and how we can pay homage to the artisan by actually using the piece. *Crochet Traditions* (\$14.99) shares crochet's rich history with you in this special issue of *Piecework* magazine. You'll meet many extraordinary crocheters from the past as you discover vintage edgings. In addition to 39+ classic projects, there is a treasury of crochet techniques -- lace, filet, Irish and more. This issue includes such diverse topics as crocheting at the White House to Victorian-style embellished buttons to playful, practical pot holders and baby hats. Whether you just started crocheting or are an old hand, the stories and projects provide an appreciation for the craftsmanship...

Without a doubt, if you were to ask us what one person had had the most direct trendsetting influence on the fashion world this summer, we would answer without hesitation: Kate Middleton. Her sense of style pairs traditional with modern for a fabulous, classic look that is positively timeless. Many knitters were awed by Duchess Kate's green shawl with ruffled edge in which she was seen "out shopping" shortly after the royal wedding. We are pleased to introduce what we affectionately call the "Copy-Kate Shawl", a pattern by PLYMOUTH YARN that reminds us of her simple but elegant wrap (\$4.50, shown lower right, PLYMOUTH pattern 1939). Made from our latest arrival, "Worsted Merino Superwash" (\$14.50, 100 grams, 218 yards, 100% superwash fine merino wool, CYCA #4), a knitter's dream!

From PLYMOUTH YARNS comes the newest member of the Encore family, "Coffee Beenz" (\$8.50, 100 grams, 214 yards, 75% acrylic / 25% wool, CYCA #4). This full-bodied yarn comes in 7 marl colors, great for ladies' and men's knits. Ask about the great pattern support -- we love the men's tweed-look henley pullover...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Outstanding yarns and brilliant designs are the hallmark of CLASSIC ELITE YARNS. We were so smitten with their offerings for the upcoming season that we are featuring them at our annual yarn tasting August 5 & 6 -- stop by for a **free** sample. Their newest MountainTop Collection features three yarns spun from undyed fibers, giving a range of colors that naturally go together (the hottest trend we spotted at the TNNA market this June). "Vista" and "Crestone" are two interchangeable worsted weight yarns. "Vista" (\$8.50) is a 50/50 blend of wool and superfine alpaca, and "Crestone" (\$6.95) is 100% wool; both yarns are 100 yards per hank. Though all of the colors in the MountainTop Collection are natural shades, "Vista's" spectrum is solid, while "Crestone's" are two natural shades plied together, adding a touch of visual interest. All of the garments in booklet 9148 (\$9.95) can be knit with either yarn, how wonderful is that? We love everything about the "Highland Fling" shawl (shown upper right): the sideways garter stitch verticals, the sawtooth lace edging worked as you go, and bobbles mixed in. Shawls and wraps are the #1 favorite projects among our customers now -- they are always the perfect size!



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Classic Elite Yarns

"Vail", like its namesake, is pure luxury, but, unlike it's namesake, it won't cost you a fortune! A lightweight fingering weight designed to be used for garments and accessories, "Vail" is 70% baby alpaca and 30% bamboo viscose, 236 yards, \$9.50. The bamboo gives it the most delicate luster and drape, while the alpaca adds even more drape and an ethereal softness. This is the yarn everyone cooed over at TNNA, and it promises to be one of our Fall's standouts...

Have you heard the newly-coined expression "workhorse yarn"? No, it's not referring to fiber from a farm animal, but rather describes certain characteristics of the yarn. It should be season-spanning, versatile, and easy care, with excellent value in terms of yardage and reasonable price. BERROCO "Comfort" and PLYMOUTH "Encore" both fit easily into this category. Check out our newest arrivals for their softness and beautiful color range to see what sets these yarns apart from the rest of the workhorse crowd...

When teaching at Stitches West in California, Kathy found two amazing "Made in the USA" products, which are now on our shelves. "Lo-Lo" by Bar-Maids is an enriched, effective, long-lasting moisturizing alternative to lotions. Bar-Maids is a family-owned business creating natural skin care products based on recipes handed down from their grandmother, formulated for all skin types. "Lo-Lo Bar" (\$14.25) and "Lo-Lo To Go" (\$8.50 travel size) are a must-have addition to your take-along project tote. We invite you to try a sample from our tester. Kathy knits A LOT and found this to be the only product to protect her hands. WALKER BAGS (shown lower left, yarn keepers shown are \$24.50 - \$26.50) are designed in house and manufactured in San Francisco, CA. These quality mesh bags are recognized worldwide and are distinguished for their sharp and clean design. Walker was first to create mesh zipper cases and continues to incorporate unique materials when designing new styles...

Our customers can't seem to get their fill of sock yarn! They are knitting and crocheting shawls, wraps, scarves, hats, gloves, mitts, baby garments and booties, and socks, too. PLYMOUTH YARNS add a touch of glitz to the traditional self-striping sock yarn with "Stiletto" (\$14.50, 110 grams, 384 yards, 70% superwash merino wool / 23% nylon / 7% lurex). There is a free PLYMOUTH sock pattern with your purchase and don't forget to ask us about the "Seven Circles" Scarf...



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Walker Bags



*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

Kick up your knitting creativity with new sock patterns from the masters! You're in the good company of experts in *Sock Knitting Master Class* (\$26.95, soft cover, shown left). Ann Budd has assembled the supreme signature elements and techniques of 15 top knitwear designers into one ideal sock knitting resource. You'll learn the fundamentals of great sock design from top-down to toe-up, with 17 brand-new sock patterns showcasing the best in knit design. Plus, a bonus DVD with Ann Budd giving extra tips for mastering socks.

Discover ingenious ways to integrate beautiful techniques such as cables, twisted stitches, lace, stranded colorwork, entrelac, shadow knitting, and intarsia worked in the round. You'll also learn inventive ways to start and end socks, shape heels and toes, and knit the soles. Color, intricacy, and charm -- these top-designer socks have everything. And, with *Sock Knitting Master Class*, you'll have all the tools and advice to make them like an expert...

Tunisian crochet is a generations-old needlework technique that today's crocheters -- and knitters -- are re-discovering. Also known as afghan stitch, this versatile technique is worked on a long needle with a crochet hook on one end. In *Get Hooked on Tunisian Crochet* (\$22.99, soft cover), best-selling author Sheryl Thies puts Tunisian crochet to beautiful use with a striking collection of garments, accessories, and items for home decor. Be at the forefront of a stitching comeback!

Diamonds are a knitter's best friend! *Entrelac: The Essential Guide to Interlace Knitting* (\$24.95, hardback) by Rosemary Drysdale delivers more than 65 unique pattern stitches and over 25 beautiful fashion and home decor designs -- all featuring this hot trend in knitwear. The entrelac technique, which creates an interlocking diamond pattern, adds texture and visual interest to knitted fabrics and opens up a world of stitch possibilities. Whether you're knitting entrelac for the first time or you're looking to expand your skills, you'll find everything you need in this essential resource. Designs include: a luscious wrap knit in dazzling variegated yarn; an urban-chic poncho with a cozy turtleneck and a beautiful entrelac panel; a sweetly embroidered cardigan and other adorable knits for babies and kids; oversized pillows showcasing a variety of stitch patterns; and an eco-friendly linen tote to carry your groceries in style...

Weather still a little too steamy to stitch? How about reading a knitting mystery? In her two novels, *Moon Spinners* (\$14.00, paperback) and *The Wedding Shawl* (\$24.95, hardback), Sally Goldenbaum welcomes you to the idyllic fishing village of Sea Harbor, where the fresh salty air carries a hint of murder, and where the Seaside Knitters can be counted on to gather the clues and untangle more puzzlers without dropping a stitch. In *Unraveled*, Maggie Sefton spins a tightly stitched tale with more twists and turns than the scrumptious yarns in the fictitious shop of Lambspun, with a spunky sleuth and a cast of fun, engaging characters...

It's summertime and the knitting is easy. Curl up with the One-Skein Wonder series (\$18.95 each, soft cover) -- we've got all four in stock. Choose from *One-Skein Wonders*, *101 Designer one-Skein Wonders*, *Luxury Yarn One-Skein Wonders* and *Sock Yarn One-Skein Wonders* -- small treasures you can knit from single skeins...

*** EACH ONE, TEACH ONE ***

Most avid knitters fondly remember the person who first taught them to knit. Pay it forward this summer by teaching someone to knit, Here's a cute poem we found on *KnittingDaily.com* that you might find helpful for teaching kids to knit (start yarn in back):

"In through the front door,
Run around the back,
Hop through the window,
Off jumps Jack"

*** PURL SHELL WRAP ***

An original design for Kraemer Yarns; reprinted with permission; shown lower right

Skill Level: Intermediate

MATERIALS: "Tatamy" by KRAEMER YARNS, 3.5 oz. / 100 gram skeins, each approx. 250 yards (45% cotton / 55% acrylic, CYCA #3, six skeins #Y1726 harvest gold; 24" circular knitting needle US size 5 (3.75 mm) OR SIZE NEEDED TO OBTAIN GAUGE

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: 16" wide X 72" long

GAUGE: 23 sts and 30 rows = 4" in purl shell stitch pattern using US 5 (3.75 mm) needles

TAKE TIME TO SAVE TIME, CHECK YOUR GAUGE

abbreviations: K- knit; P - purl; sts- stitches; yo - yarn over; wyif - with yarn in front;

P5tog - purl 5 sts together; P3tog - purl 3 sts together; rep - repeat

PURL SHELL PATTERN (multiple of 6 + 3)

Row 1 (right side): K.

Row 2: K.

Row 3: K1, (K1, yo, K1) in next st, *K5 wrapping yarn twice for each st, (K1, yo, K1, yo, K1) in next st; repeat from * to last 7 sts, end K5 wrapping yarn twice for each st, (K1, yo, K1) in next st, K1.

Row 4: K4; *slip 5 sts wyif dropping extra wraps, then insert left-hand needle back into these 5 long sts and P5tog, K5; rep from * to last 4 sts, end K4.

Row 5: K.

Row 6: K.

Row 7: K1, K3 wrapping yarn twice for each st; *(K1, yo, K1, yo, K1) in next st, K5 wrapping yarn twice for each st; rep from * to last 5 sts, end (K1, yo, K1, yo, K1) in next st, K3 wrapping yarn twice for each st, K1.

Row 8: K1, slip 3 sts wyif dropping extra wraps, insert left-hand needle into these 3 sts and P3tog; *K5, slip 5 sts wyif dropping extra wraps, insert left-hand needle into these 5 sts and P5tog; rep from * to last 9 sts, end K5, sl 3 sts wyif dropping extra wraps, insert needle into these 3 sts and P3tog, K1.

Repeat rows 1 - 8 for pattern.

DIRECTIONS

With circular needle, cast on 95 sts. K 3 rows.

Begin pattern (right side): K1 (edge); beginning with row 1, work purl shell pattern to last st, end K1 (edge). Keeping first and last st in garter (K every row), work in pat as est until piece measures approximately 71.5", ending with row 2 of pattern. K 3 rows. Bind off all sts as if to knit.

FINISHING: Weave in all ends. Block lightly to measurements.

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Kraemer Yarns

*** TEAM COLORS SCARF ***

It's that time of year -- Steeler Training Camp has begun at nearby St. Vincent College. You know what that means -- time to start knitting black and gold accessories! Kathy has designed this easy-knit scarf with striped borders and a solid mid-section -- choose your favorite team colors and start knitting!



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Kathy Zimmerman

MATERIALS: KRAEMER YARNS "Tatamy DK" one skein each black Y1718 (color A) and harvest gold Y1726 (color B); knitting needles US 5

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: 6" X 60"

GAUGE: 6 sts / 7.75 rows = 1" in pattern stitch

PATTERN STITCH (multiple of 4 sts, shown upper right)

Row 1 (right side); With color A, knit across.

Row 2: With color A, K1 (edge), P2; *K2, P2; repeat from * across row to last stitch, K1 (edge).

Row 3: With color B, knit across.

Row 4: With color B, K1 (edge), P2; *K2, P2; repeat from * across row to last stitch, K1 (edge).

Repeat rows 1 - 4 for pattern stitch.

DIRECTIONS: With color A, cast on 36 stitches.

Set-Up Row (wrong side): With color A, K1 (edge), P2; *K2, P2; repeat from * across row to last stitch, K1 (edge).

Beginning with row 1 of pattern, work in pattern stitch for 6", end wrong side. Repeat rows 1 & 2 only until piece measures 54" or 6" less than desired length. Beginning with row 3, work pattern stitch for 6", ending with row 2 of pattern. Bind off all stitches in pattern with color A. Weave in ends. Fringe, if desired. Enjoy!

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*** EASY HAND-DYED SCARF ***

Thanks to Eleanor Swogger, Merchandise Manager for KRAEMER YARNS, for sharing this pattern with us! KRAEMER has a wonderful "Natural Skeins" collection, ideal for trying your "hand" at dyeing your own yarn!

Choose two hand dyed yarns of the same weight. With a needle at least one size larger than size recommended for the yarn, cast on a multiple of four stitches with one color of yarn. (Cast on for KRAEMER "Shirley" scarf was 24 stitches on a size 11 needle. Scarf is 4 ¾ inches wide.) Adjust stitch count for desired width of scarf.

Row 1: Slip 1 as to knit, K1, P2, *K2, P2, repeat from * to end of row.

Change to second color but do not cut color 1.

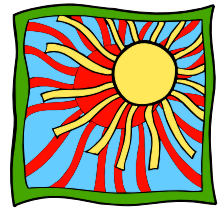
Row 2 and all following rows: Same as row 1.

Change colors every two rows being sure to bring new color under old color when changing colors. (Hint: New color will be at beginning of row when it is time to change colors.) Work until scarf is desired length working one row with desired bind off color. Bind off all stitches in pattern.

Eleanor Swogger shares this information about KRAEMER YARNS Natural Skeins line: "The Natural Skeins line is developed to dye before use. If you want to use them in their natural state, gently wash hanks and allow them to dry. This will allow the yarn to bloom and give you a more accurate gauge".

*** LACE KNITTING TIP ***

From *Interweave Knits* Fall 2011: "Lace knitters find it helpful to have a "lifeline", in case they need to rip back or "re-visit" an error. Try using a small circular needle instead of thread or yarn. Simply insert it through every stitch of the current row and leave the needles hanging on those stitches. If you need to rip back, everything below that row will be preserved on the circular needle 'lifeline'...



*** TA-DA, SUMMER'S TOP PERFORMERS ***

Cardigans are the perfect summer choice! They're easily thrown on over a tank for cooler evenings or breezy days, and they're great for layering to keep your skin out of the sun. Our favorites: Kathy's KOLLAGE patterns "Shore thing" in Corntastic and "Kollage Kimono" in Fantastic; LISA KNITS "Summer Breeze"; PLYMOUTH pattern 12945 patterned kimono jacket and CLASSIC ELITE "Elizabeth" in Liberty Wool Print...

*** WHERE'S KATHY???

- Stitches Midwest August 25 - 28, 2011; Schaumburg, Illinois; teaching classes Knit To fit; Slip Stitch Sampler; Intro to Combining Lace & Cable; Ruffles, Frills and Scalloped Edgings (classes filled, ask for waiting list)
- 26th Annual Knitter's Day Out; Friday & Saturday, September 9 & 10, 2011; Central PA College; Summerdale, PA; vendor and teaching All About V-Necks, Make It Your Own (Fit & Sizing), and the Sideways Knit Cabled Hat (provisional cast on, short rows, and cable knitting); Kathy's classes filled; event details available at www.knittersdayout.org
- Teaching Finishing techniques, seaming and blocking; Golden Dome Knitting Guild; Greensburg, PA; Thursday, September 15, 2011
- Fall Knitting Workshop hosted by Kathy Zimmerman and Carol Smith; September 30 - October 2, 2011; workshop is filled, ask for waiting list
- Bedford Springs Knittreat; November 3-6, 2011; Bedford Springs Resort & Spa; Bedford, PA; mini-market vendor featuring CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS and teaching "Button, Button", a technique workshop on buttonhole methods, buttonhole placement, "ribbing rules" and closure options. For information, call 412-963-7030 or e-mail www.pghknitandcrochet.com

*** WESTMORELAND COUNTY FAIR DESIGN-A-SCARF CONTEST ***

Kathy's Kreations is pleased to again sponsor the "Design-A-Scarf" contest at the Westmoreland County Fair August 20 - 27, 2011. Entry must be a scarf of original design knitted or crocheted with a natural fiber made in the USA. Stop by the Fair to see the winners...

*** FOOD BANK DRIVE NOW THRU AUGUST 14 ***

The Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild is accepting non-perishable food item donations for food banks in Westmoreland / Fayette counties, now through August 14, 2011. You may drop off any donations at Kathy's Kreations for this community service drive...

*** FORT LIGONIER DAYS ***

Dates for Fort Ligonier Days are Friday through Sunday, October 14 - 16, 2011. Early bird merchant sidewalk sales begin Thursday, October 13th. In addition to our usual yarn sale, we will feature a variety of children's and adults' hats, scarves, mitts and accessories for purchase, including a bevy of pumpkin hats and Patty Menta's stone & stud tee shirts that you've seen our shoppals wearing...



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

Join the "First Mondays" Knit Club for an evening of knitting & fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate; Greensburg, PA. Meeting dates are **Monday, August 1, 2011, and Monday, September 12 (2nd Monday because of Labor Day holiday) 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.** Come knit!

***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, August 9, 2011 and September 13, 2011; 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, August 19, 2011, and September 16, 2011; 10 am - 2 pm *****

All knitters & crocheters welcome! Our instructor Joyce Bischoff is available for help with your questions, skill building and how-to's for projects purchased here. Please call ahead to let us know you will be coming, as space is limited. Please bring your knitting, a snack if you wish, and a sense of humor...

***** LAUREL HIGHLANDS KNITTING GUILD MEETING; Thursdays, August 25, 2011, and September 22, 2011, 7 - 9 pm *****

All knitters are cordially invited to the Laurel Highlands Knitting Guild meeting on Thursday evening, August 25, 2011, and September 22, 2011, 7 pm - 9 pm, in Room A of the Ligonier Town Hall on the Diamond. You may attend twice as a guest before joining the group. Please bring along worsted weight yarn and corresponding knitting needles...

***** YARN TASTING Friday and Saturday, August 5 & 6, 2011*****

What is a "yarn tasting"? Stop by Kathy's Kreations on Friday, August 5, 2011, 9 am - 8 pm and Saturday, 6, 2011, 9 am - 5 pm, to sample some of our best-selling CLASSIC ELITE YARNS absolutely FREE! Bring along a variety of knitting needles or crochet hooks to work a few rows of new yarns Vail, Crestone, Toboggan, Pirouette, and Avenue (shown upper right). We will have a free "tasting" scarf pattern and information about upcoming fall yarns...

***** "ESSENTIAL SKILLS" WORKSHOP WITH KNITTING SUPERSTAR SALLY MELVILLE *****

We are thrilled and delighted to host a six-hour workshop with international knitting celebrity, knitwear designer, author and teacher par excellence Sally Melville! The topic is "Essential Skills" and the date is **Sunday, September 18, 2011 (8:30 am - mid pm).** This workshop explores and explains the many techniques we should all have in our knitting repertoire. Sally will discuss which choices are suited to each situation and why, and we'll practice them all with lots of hands-on experience. Call 724-238-9320 for more information (registration is limited, and on a first-come, first-served basis)...

Private knitting, crocheting, felting, drop spindle, and spinning lessons available by appointment. We would be glad to do a specific class for groups of 4 or more. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 31 years !

Life is like a ball of yarn, roll with it! Enjoy the last few weeks of summer...

KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING!

Kathy