



KATHY'S KREATIONS  
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FEBUARY 2017 UPDATE

Dear Stitchers,

Did you set any knitting or crocheting goals for 2017? In general, it's good to consider setting a few, in order to try something new to challenge and inspire yourself. As you work to achieve your goals, you will boost your self-confidence by experimenting with fiber and expanding your skills. When we wear that one-of-a-kind garment or colorful cowl -- made with our own hands -- we gain self-assurance, and it's practical, too!

As winter moves into spring, ponchos, vests and tabards provide easy project options for experienced stitchers, with some of them very beginner-friendly. Tahki Yarns tells us, "Knitted cardigans and jackets are essential winter wear. Knitters and crocheters love their sweaters, but warm layers offer an unmatched level of versatility and flexibility. Thrown over lightweight clothing or under heavy winter coats, layers can shepherd your wardrobe through the changing season. Layers will also fight back the chill of a cold office and add style and panache to any outfit."

Winter accessories are always on trend, but this year we have a few looks in particular rising to prominence. It's cold out there, so one can never have too many cowls, scarves and hats. In fact, we might argue one can have too few. Quick-knit, cozy, aviator-style hats are trendy, probably because they offer unparalleled warmth and cover our ears. Ponytail hats, both crochet and knit, are quite the rage. "Super" scarves made long and wide with super chunky yarns trap warmth and can be worn long or bundled around the neck. Cold weather accessories easily warm up a winter outfit, and your wardrobe might necessitate a few or more color options. They also make wonderful "palette" cleansers to boost a new year of knitting.

We can help you achieve your stitching goals, whether it be trying a new technique like brioche, making your first sweater or shawl, or mastering Magic Loop socks. And, somebody always needs a new pair of mittens. Let's explore our imaginations and the richness of our craft together!

**"BUNDLE UP! IT'S COLD OUT THERE"**  
10% off all purchases of in-stock,  
regularly-priced 100% wool yarns (all weights)  
during February 2017  
Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Monday through Saturday

We accept Mastercard, VISA, Discover, AX  
Private knitting and crocheting lessons  
Instructions are available by appointment  
Finishing services & gift certificates available  
Mail orders available -- no order too small!  
Shopping at Kathy's Kreations has never been easier  
COME IN - CALL UP - LOG ON  
Like us, follow us and share us on Facebook!  
"We Love Kathy's" on Ravelry

e-mail [kathy@kathys-kreations.com](mailto:kathy@kathys-kreations.com)  
please visit our website <http://www.kathys-kreations.com>



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

Timeless, classic style -- it's infusing the cold, wintry air. What it signals is an assured, understated elegance. Knits this season have beautifully evolved into a rarified state, with quality as the key. They exude elegance with pure, polished details. We are looking forward to spring, as iconic looks take a fresh and colorful new direction. Start off spring right with sweaters and versatile layers for now and the months ahead...

In the Spring 2017 issue of *Interweave Knits* (\$7.99, shown upper left and page 4, lower left), aka the Explorers Issue, the editors share beauty and adventure with you. In the fashion story Ship to Shore, they have gone to sea to feature nautical knits, classic ganseys, and updated interpretations of traditional cables and motifs. We are THRILLED to share Narragansett Gansey, the cover design by our own Kathy, with you, or as we say here: KATHY GOT A COVER! About this designs, *Knits* says: "Imagine climbing aboard a sailboat, unfurling the sails, and heading out for a cool day on the bay in the Narragansett Gansey. This gansey was made for the sea as well as the shore." It uses a traditional worsted weight wool and features trinity stitch, rope cables and diagonal textures with a cozy ribbed T-neck.

We love all the classic cabled and nautical knits in this issue which will take projects from the coast to your closet, along with the other explorations like "The Last Safari" evoking the colors of Africa, and the journey to the co-ops of Manos del Uruguay in South America. We love the collection of projects that carry lessons from the past and bring traditional styles and techniques to the modern knitter...

CLAUDIA HANDPAINTED YARNS "Addiction" (\$14.95, 50 grams, 175 yards, 100% extra fine merino wool, CYCA #2) yarn is a true pleasure to knit and crochet with. Every hand-dyed color combination is striking, allowing the yarn to take center stage in the most basic of projects. This fingering weight yarn is soft, soft, soft! Two skeins of Addiction will make a pair of adult-sized socks and one will make CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS "Turkish Bed Socks" (pattern \$6.50). New colors include Martinique Shutters, Clouds and Inverness. If the color names have you intrigued, stop in to see them in person -- they're lovely!

In his editorial in K125 *Knitter's Magazine* (\$6.95, lower right), editor Rick Mondragon states: "There are many ways to pick a knitting project, and knitters approach it from different directions. Some want to focus on the process, whether it be simple stitching, interesting techniques, or full-blown challenges. Others are more interested in the resulting product, garment, silhouette, and fit. While yet others may focus on aesthetics before anything else." For technique fans, this issue offers ideas that will keep your mind engaged, as well as your hands -- like cables, sideways construction, ridges, ripples, waves, brioche, miters, and clusters. A rich assortment of techniques, silhouettes, and looks are peppered throughout this issue with the theme *What's Your Angle?*

The magic of taking yarn and needles and making interesting fabrics often comes from stitch combinations in a single, solid color. Kathy is pleased to have one of her cardigan designs included in this issue. *Knitter's* says: "The almost-solid color of *Heather Mist* is perfect for showcasing the stair-like pattern. Not quite a basketweave, the stitch pattern includes a turn that reminds one of a turn between flights of stairs -- placed perfectly to visually 'nip in' at the waistline." Kathy chose BERROCO YARNS "Artisan" for this project (\$14.50, 50 grams, 123 yards, 80% merino wool / 20% silk, CYCA #4). This issue marks the last issue of this wonderful magazine that we will all surely miss. Kathy has been proud to be associated with its staff and management, and is grateful for the opportunity to design for *Knitter's* during its long run...



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

Spring may still be a few weeks away on the calendar, but BERROCO YARN'S Spring 2017 yarn collection has sprung! Here's what's new and next for spring:

- Your new favorite superwash wool is here. BERROCO's first-ever superwash Peruvian wool, "Ultra Wool" has arrived (\$11.50, 100 grams, 219 yards, 100% superwash wool, CYCA #4, shown upper right page 5). They've launched this line with a whopping 64 colors, so there's plenty of shades for whatever project you want to knit or crochet. The first shades are starting to arrive, and, as always, we are glad to special order any others for you. You can easily use this versatile yarn in any pattern that calls for worsted weight.
- "Pima 100" (\$10.50, 100 grams, 219 yards, 100% pima cotton, CYCA #4) is pure pima unmercerized cotton in a matte finish for a sophisticated palette, spun into a 4-ply yarn for superior softness and stitch definition. With the perfect amount of tight twist, this is the ultimate in yarn for warm-weather garments including tops, cardigans and pullovers.
- "Summer Silk" (\$13.50, 50 grams, 240 yards, 45% silk / 43% cotton / 12% nylon, CYCA #3) is a delightful summer-y DK blend of silk and cotton in a lightweight yarn. This dreamy chainette yarn is incredibly soft to the touch -- there aren't too many yarns around that are softer. A great choice for wool-sensitive people, "Summer Silk" offers a palette of contemporary solid colors that will let you create wonderfully wearable garments and accessories.
- "Nebula" (\$20.50, 100 grams, 416 yards, 100% superwash merino wool, CYCA #2) is an otherworldly 100% merino superwash single yarn in long-color repeats. Self-stripping, squishy-soft, and machine-washable, the color repeats create gorgeous variegated strata. The color combinations in this yarn are amazing! We sold out our first order within days and more is on the way.



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The Brown Stitch

Now that you have these great yarns for inspiration, what to make? We have several new and exciting patterns for your knitting pleasure:

- THE BROWN STITCH "Coastal Gradient" (\$6.50, shown upper right): This fingering weight, buttoned wrap cowl features 6 sections of gradient stripes. It is knit lengthwise, working back and forth on a long circular needle. Stitches are picked up on either end to create buttonbands. HiKoo "Sueno" gradient kits work well with this pattern.
- THE BROWN STITCH "Carmella Cowl" (\$6.50): This seamless infinity cowl uses bulky weight yarn in three textured stitches for a quick & easy accessory.
- JOJI LOCATELLI "The Girl From The Grocery Store" (\$7.50): an asymmetrical shawl with a lot of character, constructed sideways from tip to tip. Some stitches are increased at one side while some stitches are decreased on the opposite, giving this triangle wrap its biased look. This is a good pattern for beginners and "my first shawl" project.
- CARINA SPENCER "Lucy Cloche" (\$6.50): This women's sassy vintage-style cloche is worked seamlessly from the bottom up using short rows to create an asymmetrical folded brim that is sewn into place during finishing. The woven, contrast band completes the look.
- CARINA SPENCER "Sugar Maple" (\$6.50): a simple, asymmetrical tee designed to accentuate the impact of gradient dyed yarns like BERROCO "Nebula". This sweater features a hi-lo, straight back and a-line, chevron pointed front. It is knit seamlessly from the top down, minimizing finishing work, and making it easy enough for an advanced beginner.
- LAURA CHAU "Just Enough Ruffles" (\$5.50): A fun, quick-knitting scarf with just enough ruffle, perfect for showing off super soft yarns and handspuns! Ask to see our shop model made with drapery HiKOO "Sueno Worsted" merino and bamboo blend. This scarf is shaped with short rows and gently curves toward the ends -- perfect for wrapping around your neck without too much bulk. Any way you work it, this scarf is just enough!



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Carina Spencer



\*\*\* DREAM CLUB BY DREAM IN COLOR \*\*\*

We are proud to announce that we will be among the yarn shops featuring a late winter, 3-month Dream Club featuring DREAM IN COLOR yarns paired with JOJI LOCATELLI shawl patterns. The Club will take place in February, March and April 2017, and will be our featured knit alongs for that respective month. February will be the first month with two skeins of *Cosette DK* for the fun and sassy shawl, "The Way From Brighton" (\$70.00 kit, with pattern included, colorway shown upper left). Versatile *Cosette DK* is a heavenly blend of fibers in a sumptuous 3-ply. With 20% cashmere, *Cosette* has remarkable softness, wonderful drape, and works up with a super soft, subtle halo. The concept of this luxurious asymmetrical shawl pattern features short rows, bias knitting and a frilly bobbly edge. The fringe of one of the sides of this triangle is worked first. Stitches are then picked up to work the rest of the shawl in one piece. The triangular shape is achieved by using short rows.

In March, a four partial skeins kit of *Jilly with Cashmere* in exclusive colorways will arrive for the "Peeping Cowl", a wonderful combination of stripes and stitch patterns. April brings "Amazing Day" and a custom gradient kit in *Smooshy with Cashmere*, which promises to be an eye-popping combination.

Every beautiful shawl deserves an equally beautiful shawl pin to keep it in place. Have you seen our large collection from PARADISE? They are the perfect accents to showcase the wrap you have meticulously made by hand. New arrivals include a wooden spiral (\$15.50) and antique brass kilt pin with swirl embellishment (\$19.50). We will be bringing these and much more fun fiber-related stuff to the Pittsburgh Knit & Crochet Festival during the big event at David Lawrence Convention Center March 24 - 26, 2017...

\*\*\* ATTENTION, RAVELRY USERS! \*\*\*

Ravelry.com is the central internet gathering place for the fiber arts. It is a rich database of patterns and yarns, a personal notebook area for each user, and a vibrant community with thousands of targeted groups and discussion forums. Kathy's Kreations is a Ravelry Pro yarn shop. What does that mean? You may purchase your Ravelry pattern downloads through us, at the same price that you pay on Ravelry. We will see that your pattern is sent to your personal Ravelry library (or e-mail, if you are not a member). You will also be supporting this local yarn shop, which is much appreciated! Ask us for more details. We also have two Ravelry groups which we would love to have you join -- the Kathy Zimmerman group for Kathy's designs and We Love Kathy's, for friends of the shop!

\*\*\* A MESSAGE FROM MEGHAN \*\*\*

We were moved by the editor's letter in the Spring 2017 issue of *Interweave Knits*. Editor Meghan Babin writes: "In a complex and often conflicted world, knitters are lucky -- we have a craft that binds us together, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, nationality, politics, and gender. We have a common interest that brings out 'the better angels of our nature.' As knitters, we have an opportunity to reach out across social barriers and discover the extraordinary similarities in our ordinary human experiences. Whether it involves participating in a Sit and Knit group or simply being open when someone approaches you in a coffee shop with your interest in knitting, you have endless opportunities to reach out to someone on neutral ground and to find beauty in unexpected places. And in expected places as well". Thanks for those insightful words, Meghan! We invite you to join our community of stitchers here at Kathy's Kreations and find fellowship with each other through a shared interest and love of stitching. See pages 7 & 8 for information and dates...



\*\*\* YARN COLOR ISN'T EVERYTHING \*\*\*

Our thanks to Sharon Greve for granting permission to re-print her column *The Dropped Stitch* from the January-February edition of *The Pennsylvania & West Virginia Register*. With all the new yarns arriving almost daily like BERROCO "Ultra Wool" (shown right), this is very helpful information:



"From the moment she entered the shop for the exciting big sale, a particular colorful skein of yarn caught her eye, drawing her deeply into a yarn display. She quickly scooped up a few skeins and approached the cashier. But wait -- there's something missing. She didn't read the skein label that provides valuable information to ensure a successful colorful project. As consumers we are accustomed to reading product labels, especially on food items. Yarn labels, known as bands, are no exception.

With fiber available from all over the world now, reading and understanding band information is crucial for project success. Standardized global symbols for laundering are listed in knitting books, magazines, and on the internet for easy reference. It's beneficial to familiarize yourself with their meanings for better yarn selection appropriate for your knitting projects. What? You don't understand a symbol? The label is in a foreign language? Consult your local yarn store or the internet for assistance.

Look for the following helpful band content before purchasing that luscious yarn:

**Yarn name and manufacturer:** important in case more yarn needs to be purchased.

**Country origin:** dyes and their permanence can vary from country to country.

**Weight of ball/skein:** needed for patterns that don't list needed yardage or meters.

**Fiber content:** recipient may be allergic to certain fibers. Some fibers drape well, if needed, and some stretch with certain patterns.

**Gauge:** number of stitches and rows in four inches of work is crucial to correct sizing.

**Recommended needles:** important to acquire proper gauge for correct sizing. Not everyone can knit to gauge so some knitters may need to go up or down in needle size, depending on how tightly or loosely they knit.

**Dye lot number:** use the same dye lot for all balls/skeins needed for the project. Mixing dye lots can be disastrous as colors will vary and not blend. Not all blacks and whites are the same.

**Color/shade name/number:** use the same for all balls/skeins needed for the project. Again, avoid a disaster.

**Care:** wash, dry, or dry clean instructions? Many a knitted item has been shrunk or felted due to improper care.

**Price:** probably the biggest decision maker for your purchase.

When gifting your finished project (even to yourself!), it is advisable to include a yarn band from the project. Or, at least, include the fiber content and care instructions so your gift will last a long time. Proudly include your name.

**Labels/ball bands -- a must read!"**

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\*\*\* HOW MANY YARDS IN A METER?

This is one of our most frequently-asked questions. Kathy's response is usually: "Multiply meters by 1.1 to determine yards." This is an approximate and quick way to determine yards. Also, if you have enough yarn in meters, you will have enough in yards.

CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS *The Learn To Knit Companion* says this about yarns: "Knitting yarns come in a vast array of options: fine or thick, sleek or textured, smooth or fuzzy, matte or shiny. Some are made of animal fibers (wool, alpaca, cashmere...); some are made of plant fibers (cotton, linen, hemp...), and some of synthetic fibers (nylon, polyester, acrylic...). And some are blends. Time is precious, so always knit with high quality yarns. And always knit with yarns you love". Kathy adds: "Your time is always the most valuable part of your project".

\*\*\* NEW YARN WEIGHT CATEGORY ADDED \*\*\*

Over the past year, a variety of super thick yarns have been introduced to the fiber marketplace. These yarns, many used for arm knitting, do not fit the current gauge guidelines in the Craft Yarn Council's Standard Yarn Weight System. Accordingly, the council consulted with industry manufacturers and publishers, and the decision was made to add a seventh category to its Yarn Weight System called "Jumbo." This addition also resulted in slight gauge adjustments to its Super Bulky category #6 which is now 7 - 11 sts per 4", recommended needle size US 11 to 17, crochet hook M - Q. The goal with this change is to make it easier for crocheters and knitters to understand the type of fabric these Jumbo yarns create and the range of hooks and needles generally required. The Jumbo category gauge is 6 sts and fewer per 4" in both crochet and knit, recommended needle size US 17 & larger, crochet hook Q and larger...

\*\*\* PANTONE COLOR FORECAST SPRING 2017 \*\*\*

From colors that are bright and vivid to those that convey a sense of earthiness, Pantone's Spring 2017 Fashion Color Report top 10 colors for spring are "reminiscent of the hues that surround us in nature." There is a renewed sense of imagination which captures the promises, hope and transformation that we yearn for each spring -- a mixture of vitality, relaxation and the great outdoors.

Niagara -- Comfortable and dependable, Niagara leads the Report as the most prevalent color for spring 2017. Niagara is a classic denim-like blue that speaks to our desire for ease and relaxation.

Primrose Yellow -- By contrast, Primrose Yellow sparkles with heat and vitality. Inviting us into its instant warmth, this joyful yellow shade takes us to a destination marked by enthusiasm, good cheer and sunny days.

Lapis Blue -- Conveying even more energy is Lapis Blue. Strong and confident, this intense blue shade is imbued with an inner radiance.

Flame -- A red-based orange, Flame, is gregarious and fun. Flamboyant and vivacious, this wonderfully theatrical shade adds fiery heat to the spring 2017 palette.

Island Paradise -- Island Paradise is a refreshing aqua that calls to mind a change of scenery. A cool blue green shade that speaks to our dream of the great escape to pristine waters, Island Paradise is emblematic of tropical settings and our desire to unwind.

Pale Dogwood -- Continuing the tranquil mood, Pale Dogwood is a quiet and peaceful pink shade that engenders an aura of innocence and purity. The unobtrusive Pale Dogwood is a subtle pink whose soft touch infuses a healthy glow.

Greenery -- Bringing forth a refreshing take, Greenery is a tangy yellow-green that speaks to our need to explore, experiment and reinvent. Illustrative of flourishing foliage, the fertile attributes of Greenery signals one to take a deep breath, oxygenate and reinvigorate.

Pantone proclaims this shade as the "Color of the Year."

Pink Yarrow -- Tropical and festive, Pink Yarrow is a whimsical, unignorable hue that tempts and tantalizes. Bold, attention getting and tempestuous, the lively Pink Yarrow is a captivating and stimulating color that lifts spirits and gets the adrenaline going.

Kale -- Evocative of the great outdoors and a healthy lifestyle, Kale is another foliage-based green that conjures up our desire to connect to nature, similar to the more vivacious Greenery. And, just as we see in nature, this lush and fertile natural green shade provides the perfect complimentary background to the more vibrant shades in the palette. It's like the invigorating feeling of breathing fresh mountain air.

Hazelnut -- Rounding out the spring 2017 colors is Hazelnut, a key neutral for spring. This shade brings to mind a natural earthiness. Unpretentious and with an inherent warmth, Hazelnut is a transitional color that effortlessly connects the seasons.





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

- PITTSBURGH KNIT & CROCHET FESTIVAL March 24-26, 2017; save the date NOW. Kathy will be in Market booths 401 & 402 in Hall C, 2nd floor, David L. Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh. Our new spot on the 2nd floor features plenty of natural lighting and space. Michelle Hunter will be joining us for a book signing on Saturday March 26, 2017, at lunch break. Hope to see you there!
- 6TH ANNUAL SPRING BREAK April 21 - 23, 2017. Accomplished knitter and instructor, Merrily Clark, will teach a two-day colorwork and technique knitting workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA hosted by Kathy Zimmerman and Kathy's Kreations. Merrily learned to knit when she was in high school. She quickly found that she needed to adjust the neck of any sweater pattern, which quickly led to designing her own sweaters, using simple rectangles, and sketching the neck decreases on graph paper. Although she likes to use cables, sometimes combined with lace, her all-time favorite form of knitting is using many, many colors, finding shades that blend beautifully, or bright colors that work well together.

Our weekend project is the "Enchantment Shawl" (shown upper right). The colorway shown combines elements of water, earth and trees as in "once upon a time in an enchanted forest". You may select high or low contrasting colorways. The lace border is knit first, sideways following a very simple chart. The main body of the shawl is then picked up along the long edge and filled in with bands or motifs and short rows.

The weekend package includes an after-hours Soup & Sliders party and special shopping time at Kathy's Kreations (Friday evening); an informal meet & greet on Friday evening to get acquainted; morning coffee breaks and two lunches at the Ramada; classes Saturday and Sunday; extended lunch break on Saturday with time to shop in the pretty little town of Ligonier and goodie bags including project yarn and pattern.

Overnight lodging is not included and is optional for local participants. The Ramada has set up a special rate for us, so please make your own reservations by calling 724-238-9545. Space is limited on a first-come, first-served basis, so please e-mail Kathy's Kreations ([kathy@kathys-kreations.com](mailto:kathy@kathys-kreations.com)) to request a flyer or call 724-238-9320 for more information. Attendees will receive a 10% discount on all regularly-priced knitting supplies and yarn all weekend.

- KNITTREAT November 9 - 12, 2017. This very special weekend event will be moving from OMNI Bedford Springs to picturesque WISP Resort at Deep Creek in McHenry, MD. Kathy will be once again teaching as well as having a market space. Join us for a relaxing weekend of knitting and fellowship at the beautiful lodge...

\*\*\* A FOND FAREWELL TO KNITTER'S MAGAZINE \*\*\*

We recently received a letter from Benjamin Levisay of XRX which said: "It's been 32 years and 125 issues -- from K1 to K125. As life has changed over 3+ decades, the worlds of publishing and knitting have also evolved. To meet the new challenges, we have grown along the way -- happily adding XRX Books, STITCHES events, and an active digital presence. Meanwhile, the major shift in the marketplace from paid-print to free-digital content required different approaches. Now, the recent retirement of key members of our publishing team allows us to refocus for the next generation of XRX. So, K125 (Winter 2016, in print and digital format) is the final issue of *Knitter's Magazine*.

Back to the refocus: STITCHES will continue to be front and center... Thank you for your friendship and support of *Knitter's Magazine*."

We will truly miss *Knitter's* and wish the XRX staff the best in their future endeavors online and at STITCHES events...



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

Join the "First Mondays" Club for an evening of knitting, crocheting and fellowship, at Panera Bread Greengate in Greensburg, PA. Next meeting dates are Monday evenings February 6, 2017, and March 6, 2017; 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. All skill levels of knitters and crocheters welcome!

\*\*\* "KNITTING IN THE AFTERNOON" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesdays, February 14, 2017, and March 14, 2017; 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm (rsvp please) \*\*\*

Join us for stitching & lots of fun conversation. All skill levels of knitters & crocheters are welcome! Please call ahead to rsvp in case there has been a weather scheduling change...

\*\*\* SATURDAY SIT-N-KNIT February 11, 2017 and March 11, 2017; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm; (rsvp please) \*\*\*

Come sit 'n knit! We do much more than just knit -- we share conversations, ideas, favorite patterns, and knitting tricks. Join us at Kathy's Kreations for fellowship and stitching for projects purchased here. Open to all skill levels...

\*\*\* FUN FRIDAYS, February 17, 2017, and March 17, 2017; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm \*\*\*

Come in for the yarn and leave with friendships! Join our "knitting community" for fellowship, stitching, and how-to's for projects purchased here. Whether this is your first project or your hundredth, this is the place for you to learn, grow and enjoy being with other knitters and crocheters just like you. Please call ahead to let us know you will be coming, as space is limited. All skill levels welcome!

\*\*\* FEBRUARY KNIT-ALONG (KAL) \*\*\*

Stop by on Fridays in February from 10 am - 2 pm (rsvp please) to work on our newest KALs with your stitching friends to cheer you on. This month, we feature "The Way From Brighton" -- as well as WIPs from previous KALs. Not working on the KALs? You are still welcome to come -- simply bring any knit or crochet project purchased at Kathy's Kreations and join the group (free!). Follow us on "We Love Kathy's" Ravelry group February 2017 thread...

\*\*\* HOT BRIOCHE KNITTING CLASS \*\*\*

Brioche stitch is one of those knitting stitches that seem so complicated that knitters are often intimidated. Our first class this month filled up so quickly that we are offering it again by popular demand. Join instructor Kathy Zimmerman on Saturdays, February 4, 2017, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm OR April 1, 2017, from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm for the how-to's for this family of deeply textured stitches. These patterns form deep, well-defined ribbing with a lot of stretch, making them ideal for knitted articles subject to pulling and twisting. Students will be introduced to techniques used to make six variations: Brioche Stitch, Pearl Stitch, Shaker Stitch, Rose Fabric, Horizontal Brioche and Beaded Shaker. The "hands on" class project is a cowl worked in the Beaded Shaker pattern. Take the hottest accessory from the runway to your knitting needles!

Class supplies for students to bring to class: chunky weight yarn approximately 180 yards; US 10 knitting needles (20" - 24" circular); row counter; stitch marker; scissors. The design is suitable for advanced beginner skill level and beyond. Registration is \$20.

\*\*\* DISAPPEARING LOOP CAST ON KNITTING CLASS \*\*\*

Our popular January knit along shawl, *Changing Light*, (shown upper left) featured a unique cast on method. The Disappearing Loop Cast On is the recommended technique, but it has proven to be a bit tricky. Instructor Marian Lech is offering a class on Saturday, February 4, 2017, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm to help you navigate this innovative drawstring-type cast on method. Wasn't one of your New Year's resolutions to improve your knitting skills and learn something new? This is the class for you!

Class supplies for students to bring include sport weight yarn (recommended yarn Sueno), and US size 5 double-pointed needles. The instructions for this class will be on double points. Registration is \$20 for instruction plus *Changing Light* pattern purchase if needed (\$5.50). Please call us at 724-238-9320 to register for the class and more information for needed yardage requirements if you wish to work on the shawl project.

Private knitting and crocheting lessons available by appointment. Learning to knit or correcting mistakes are not the only reasons to have a one-on-one tutoring lesson. Learn new techniques like lace or short rows, or get help with a pattern before starting -- our instructors can do it all! Additional group classes are forming -- ask us for details. We would be glad to do a specific class topic for groups of 4 or more. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for more than 36 years !

Your LYS provides more than just the raw materials for your next project -- it supports needlecrafts in countless ways -- with classes, help, inspiration, and more. To help ensure the longevity of our passions, we hope that you will "Find it here; buy it here; keep us here". Thank you for supporting this small, independent LYS!

KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING ~ Kathy