



KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
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OCTOBER 2009 UPDATE

Dear Knitters,

Fall is always exciting here at Kathy's Creations. The Ligonier Valley countryside is making a vibrant color statement with beautiful shades of reds, golds, oranges and browns. Sensational new fibers, patterns, project ideas and accessories refresh our shelves as a new knitting season unfolds. Customers arrive, proudly wearing their finished garments in the latest fall trends, eager to begin holiday gift projects and cozy items for the cooler days ahead.

There's a special excitement this year. In addition to our large Knit For The Cure pattern collection to benefit breast cancer research, we've added scarf patterns to raise awareness about ovarian cancer, leukemia and colon cancer. Also, our enticing window displays will feature Kathy's original designs and model garments, celebrating the arrival of her very own DVD Knitting Daily workshop for Interweave Press, "Classic to Creative Knit Cables". That's just a sampling of what awaits -- we hope you'll join us soon for some inspiration, some stash enrichment and to find out more about our products...

"OCTOBER IS MOHAIR MONTH"

**10% off all regularly-priced mohair or mohair blend yarns
in stock during October 2009**

**Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday
12 noon - 4:00 pm Sundays through October 18, then
12 noon - 4:00 pm Sundays November 1 through December 13**

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 Creations 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 ***

Special projects deserve special yarns and special tools to make them. When you start with the best materials, an innovative idea, designer support, and guidance from our knowledgeable staff, the end result is sure to be inspiring. "Fall" for knitting this season -- we've got textured sweaters for work and play, home dec ideas for your comfort zone, quick & cozy neck warmers, colorful socks and easy-peasy clever accessories -- what better way to usher in the knitting season?

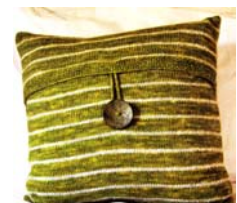
The weekend! Open hours to fill as you please. For many of us, knitting is always in the mix. What does weekend knitting mean to you? *INTERWEAVE KNITS Weekend* (\$7.99) explores all the things that weekend knitting can be. There are simple, casual sweaters you'd be comfortable wearing all weekend, projects for guys and kids, fun items for your home and pets. There are projects for all kinds of knitters, but they all feel thoughtful, "*knitterly*", as editor Eunny Jang tells us in her editorial. She urges us to: "Knit what you love, for and with your favorite people, in places that make you feel good". When clever techniques and constructions are combined with interesting stitch patterns, even simple, casual knitting becomes fun, exciting and absorbing -- perfect for weekend knitting OR knitting with the weekend in mind. Whether you prefer knitting rich textures for outdoor activities, curling up with sock knitting, or making comfy sweaters for running errands, there is something on the pages of this magazine for everyone.

We are pleased that two of Kathy's designs are featured in this issue. So, how did she interpret the weekend theme? With a casual rustic tweed "weekend warrior" cabled V-neck men's pullover ("Twisted Pine", shown upper left), knit with simple yet complex textures in a yarn with character. Her "Minimalist Mohair Stripe" pillow (shown lower right) is cozy and cuddly with simple stitches, visual richness and easy embellishment, perfect for your favorite knitting nook, or for curling up with a book...

Go ahead, get your gift list out. *KNIT SIMPLE Holiday 2009* (\$6.99) will help you get a head start on holiday and gift knitting a lovely batch of surprises. There are 50 ways to stretch your knitting dollars, festive trimmings (simple stockings and ornaments), snazzy gift sets and quick knits for him. Color is a welcome way to energize even the coldest day and this issue makes every hue count. Our picks are the easy knit cardigans that are well-suited for work and layering...

INTERWEAVE CROCHET Fall 2009 (\$6.99) showcases 22 cool designs for fall, 5 one-skein projects and 5 quick gifts to make now. We love this magazine as a wonderful example of how beautiful crochet can be -- especially the cappuccino cardigan. This is a short-sleeved A-line sweater with a swingy hem, a versatile topper to dress up or down through the changing season. Our favorite quick gifts are the pink lady scarf, the leaf peeper hats and orchard mitts...

New from *CLASSIC ELITE* is pattern booklet #9104 "Winter Whimsy" (\$14.95) featuring contemporary handknit designs including a mohair drop stitch dress, alpaca scarf & hat, openwork gauntlets, short-sleeved pullover and mitts in "Lush" angora blend, an embroidered button jacket, big collar cardigan and much more...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

New from ARTFUL YARNS is a lovely multi-color yarn that embodies all the shades of autumn, "Vineyard" (\$9.50, 50 grams, 98 yards, 55% wool / 45% acrylic, CYCA yarn classification 5). Included on the ball band are directions for one-skein fingerless mitts -- you gotta love those one-ball wonders that work up quickly! Pattern support includes booklet 92252 (\$9.50), which features a classic honeycomb & rib cardigan design by Kathy (shown right). This yarn is very popular for LISA KNITS "Quick & Cozy" neck warmers...



As you know, our focus this season has been trying to stock more "Made In The USA" brands. From REYNOLDS YARNS comes "Great American Yarns Superfine Merino Wool" (\$10.95, 50 grams, 93 yards, 100% superfine merino wool, CYCA yarn classification 4). This gorgeous yarn is a single-ply Aran weight which works up to 4 sts per inch on US size 9 needles. Pattern support includes REYNOLDS pattern booklet 82491 (\$7.50, cabled diamond pullover shown lower left). The diamond cabled pullover is our shopgals' favorite, enhanced with an offset neckline and button closure as well as a dramatic extension of the diamond cable pattern that falls below one cuff and the bottom edge. This booklet also includes faux cable socks, Fair Isle socks, a striped hat & scarf set, lacey hat, and cabled hat...

In last month's newsletter, we told you about the fashion world's continued love affair with hand-dyed looks, specifically the transition from dramatic, vibrant self-striping towards a softer semi-solid, monochromatic kettle-dyed approach, particularly for garment knitting. We've got a great yarn for you -- it is our pleasure to introduce MANOS DEL URAGUAY "Rittenhouse Merino 5-Ply" (\$14.50, 100 grams, 241 yards, 100% pure extrafine merino wool kettle dyed, CYCA yarn classification 4). We were impressed with its remarkable hand, subtle shading, and gorgeous stitch definition. Also new from MANOS are semi-solid shades of Silk Blend DK and Wool Classica in rich fall colors hand-dyed in a way only done by MANOS...

New from KOLLAGE YARNS is "Glisten" (\$11.95, 50 grams, 91 yards, 70% alpaca / 25% silk / 5% estellina, CYCA yarn classification 4). Last month, we introduced you to the patterns which Kathy has done for this yarn, and there is an upcoming "Glisten" design in the fall 2009 issue of KNITTER'S MAGAZINE (more about that next time)...

What's new from LISA KNITS? Later this month, Lisa will premiere several new "Top Down" sweater patterns, knit from the neck down. We promise you that we will be the very first shop to have them. By the way, Lisa will be teaching her new "Boomerang" sock technique later this month (see page 8 for details and time), which would look gorgeous in TREKKING "Hand Art" sock yarn, a soft monochromatic yarn with a subtle multi-color wrap (\$20.50 100 grams, 459 yards, 75% superwash wool / 25% nylon, CYCA yarn classification 2)...



New from BERROCO comes "Cuzco" (\$9.50, 50 grams, 130 yards, 50% superfine alpaca / 50% Peruvian wool, CYCA yarn classification 5). This lightweight bulky yarn with a twist comes in rich, heather tones. It is ideal for accesories like neck warmers, hats, and mitts, as well as lovely jackets and cardigans. Pattern booklet #281 (\$8.50) also features a gorgeous cable & textured afghan...



*** NOW ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

Cables are one of the most popular knitting techniques because they create the most wonderful surface interest and add scale to any knitted fabric, whether they are classic textured ropes, romantic twists, or rugged braids. Become a cable master with *Classic to Creative Knit Cables* and Kathy Zimmerman (\$19.95, shown left). Kathy will gladly personally autograph a DVD for you, whether purchased in-house or by mail order.

This DVD includes:

- an introduction to the rich variety of cable designs, types of cable needles, and how to read and interpret a stitch chart.
- step-by-step cabling techniques used in Kathy's "Deep Creek Scarf" and "Princess Cable Sweater" patterns -- two updated classics with timeless stitches are included as free downloads in companion with this video.
- special how-to chapter on avoiding cable-knitting errors and how to fix problems such as incorrectly crossed cables or cables with gaps on the sides

Knit the colors of Australia with *Swing, Swagger, Drape* (\$24.95, soft cover). What's it all about? For author Jane Slicer-Smith, it is an approach that begins with color and inspiration, then builds in shape and silhouette to arrive at designs that make sense. For you, it is a collection of refined knits with great-looking timeless style. The central pieces in this collection -- the swing coats, swagger jackets, and drapes -- show what makes a Jane Slicer-Smith design unique: a masterful use of color, fabrics that move, shapes that flatter, and customized fit. From choosing your palette, through checking the measurements, to seaming and blocking, Jane explains her practiced and pragmatic approach to knitting successful garments. With clear instructions that highlight options in design, construction, and color -- *Swing, Swagger, Drape* empowers knitters!

In *All New Homespun Handknit* (\$22.95, softcover), knitters will find ideal projects for small amounts of very special yarn, ranging from simple items to knit in an afternoon to spectacular lace wraps to treasure. More than 25 distinguished designs showcase the color, texture, and incomparable feel of yarn spun by hand. Each pattern includes the information needed to create the best yarn for the project or even substitute the right commercial yarn. Spinners, please be sure to check out our new spinning section with LOUET roving...

Take your stranded colorwork knitting off the charts! With *The New Stranded Colorwork: Techniques & Patterns for Vibrant Knitwear* (\$24.95, soft cover), Mary Scott Huff's brand-new take on classic traditions of stranded colorwork techniques will have you confidently working on charted colorwork designs. From casting on and managing two balls of yarn to adding steeks and finishing cut edges, you'll be guided through all stranded colorwork techniques and given a host of contemporary and innovative designs along the way...

Bring ancient Incan textiles to the 21st Century with *Inca Knits* (\$24.95, soft cover). The newest book in the Marianne Isager collection, this book includes 15 South American - inspired knit designs in this author's signature style. Featured garments combine stunning colorwork such as vibrant stripes, zigzags, and geometric motifs...

*** ALSO ON OUR BOOKSHELVES ***

A sensational-looking purse is a woman's most essential fashion accessory. *One Ball Knits: Purses* (\$18.95, soft cover) features 20 different designer-caliber handbag styles -- each created from a single ball of yarn. The projects are organized by season: five each for spring, summer, fall and winter. From the comfortably casual to the sleekly chic, you'll find designs that complement your personal style. And no one will ever guess just how simple and fun these purses are to make!

*** YARN-TASTING BOOKMARKS FROM JENNIFER FERRENCE ***

Inspired by our recent "yarn tastings", Jen shared these bookmarks with us, for you to enjoy, too. Choose one of your samples (or something from your stash!) and create a functional swatch that you can use to mark the page of your favorite work of fiction or nonfiction. Thank you, Jen -- clever idea! Materials: US Size 8 knitting needles; "Taste" of new Fall yarns (each 25 yard sample will make one bookmark)

A Nod to the Classics

With needles and yarn sample, cast on 10 stitches.

Every row: (K1, P1) to end.

Repeat this simple rib pattern until your bookmark is the length you'd like it to be.

You may choose to create a tassel or fringe with any remaining yarn from the sample.

Essay on The Seeds of Nature

Featuring a knitted fringe, inspired by a Chris Bylsma workshop on dropped stitches.

With yarn sample and needles, cast on 40 stitches.

Row 1: (K1,P1) to last 4 stitches; knit 4.

Row 2: Purl 4; (P1, K1) to end.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 to desired width of bookmark.

Be sure you have just completed Row 2 of the pattern, then Bind Off all but the last 3 stitches, following the pattern stitches of Row 1.

Leave the 3 live stitches on your left needle and finish off the Bind Off, allowing about 6 inches at the tail end of the yarn to weave in later as part of the fringe.

Now for the fun part! Create the knitted fringe by dropping the 3 remaining stitches off of the left-hand needle. Unravel them completely, and admire your looped fringe! Tie a knot at the base of each loop to secure. You can use the tail of the BO to create another loop. Block if necessary to straighten and smoothe the fringe.

What's Life Without a Little Romance Novel?

- *Abbreviations:*

K2tog: Knit two stitches together as one.

yo: yarn over by bringing the yarn to the front of the work as if to purl

With needles and yarn sample, cast on 7 stitches.

Knit 2 rows.

Row 3: K1, K2tog, K1, yo, K2tog, K1.

Row 4: Purl..

Rows 5 and 6: Knit

Repeat rows 3 through 6 to desired length.

Knit 2 rows.

Bind off. Block lightly, if needed.

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*** KNIT FOR THE CURE ***

In fall 2004, we began our "Knit For The Cure" pattern collection as a loving tribute to all those who have struggled against various forms of cancer, those who have survived and those who have not. Kathy was inspired to begin this effort following her mother's battle with leukemia, and was soon joined by her shoppals and friends of Kathy's Kreations who wished to contribute. 100% of the profits from the sale of these patterns go to fund research for the specific cause designated by the individual designers. To date, the collection numbers over 24 patterns and has raised over \$1,000 for a variety of causes. Our hope is that knitters will knit and wear these scarves, perhaps even making them for friends, knowing that every pattern purchase will help the fight.



The following patterns join our current "Knit For The Cure" pink collection benefitting breast cancer research & treatment (patterns \$4.00 each):

"Climbing Cables Hat" designed by Lisa Carnahan in memory of Bucky Carnahan, with profits to be donated to a southwestern PA cancer center

"The 'Not So Lacy' Lace Scarf", designed by Susan Shabo in honor of Michelle Brokenbek, to raise awareness and promote education about ovarian cancer (teal color support, openwork ridge pattern stitch detail shown lower left)

"Carol's Stitch Bits Scarf", designed by Kathy Zimmerman in honor of Carol Urban, to raise awareness and promote early detection of colon cancer (sapphire / navy color support, feather & fan with seed stitch pattern stitch detail shown page 8 upper left)

"Elizabeth's Angels", designed by Susan Zylka in memory of her Aunt Betty (Susan tells us that her hands were always busy creating a needlework project), to raise awareness and promote education about ovarian cancer (teal color support, openwork pattern stitch detail shown upper right in Kollage Yarns "Fantastic"). The openwork ridges reminded Susan of angel wings, and felt it was a fitting choice to honor her aunt. Susan's scarf was the first place winner in the 2009 Westmoreland County Fair Design-A-Scarf contest sponsored by Kathy's Kreations. We appreciate that she shared her pattern with us for this collection and re-knit her entry for our display.

Kits featuring some of Knit For The Cure projects are available, with price varying according to yarn and quantity needed for project. For related items, please be sure to check out NONI pattern 209 for forget-me-not flowers to knit and felt, to wear and show your support.

*** FORT LIGONIER DAYS ***

It's a happening you won't want to miss! This town-wide celebration will be held October 9 - 11, 2009, with merchant sidewalk sales, crafts, food, entertainment and a big Saturday parade. We will be open Thursday 9 am - 5pm, Friday 9 am - 6pm, Saturday 9am - 6pm and Sunday 9am - 5 pm, and will have sidewalk sales (outdoors as weather permits) and indoors (on our clearance table). Tracey will be doing spinning wheel and drop spindle demonstrations. Won't you please join us?

*** KNITTREAT ***

Kathy will be teaching at the Bedford Springs Resort in Bedford, PA on November 5 - 8, 2009. Her classes feature an original design, "The Bedford Springs Shawl", a seed stitch mohair shawl worked in your choice of edgings -- ruffle, frill, or scallop -- knit with KRAEMER YARNS elegant "Fountain Hill" yarn. For information, contact Barb at (412) 963- 7030.



*** INQUIRING KNITTERS WANT TO KNOW ***

Marylou B recently e-mailed: "My pattern states to slip one stitch at the beginning of every row for an edge stitch. I'm confused. Do I slip to knit or slip to purl?"

When a pattern direction states "slip one knitwise", it means "as if to knit", and "slip one purlwise" means "as if to purl". Slip knitwise only if you are working decreases (slip, slip, knit decrease, etc.) or are instructed to "slip knitwise". Otherwise, slip purlwise. In your case, always slip as if to purl.

On a related matter, if you are not sure whether to slip a stitch with yarn in front (wyif) or with yarn in back (wyib), always slip yarn on wrong side of work unless instructed otherwise. Thanks for asking!

*** KNITTING TIPS AND TRICKS ***

Even if your gauge swatch is correct, continue to measure and re-check your gauge periodically throughout the project. Your gauge can change as you relax.

If your knitting needs to be ripped back several rows (it happens to everyone on occasion), rip back to one row before the problem. Slide a smaller size needle through the loops (it is not necessary that these stitches be oriented properly). With the working needle in your left hand, rep the last row stitch by stitch, orienting the stitches correctly and fixing the problem stitch(es).

When starting the heel flap when knitting socks on two circular needles, tuck the unused needle inside the sock. It won't dangle or be in the way, and will not stretch out the sides of the sock. More importantly, you will be able to find it when you need it again...

*** KATHY'S EASY RIB SCARF ***

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: approx. 7" X 64"

MATERIALS: Worsted weight yarn 600 yards (sample knit with MANOS DEL URAGUAY Rittenhouse Merino 5-Ply 3 balls); US size 8 knitting needles or size needed to obtain gauge

NOTE: for best results when working with kettle-dyed yarns, alternate three balls when knitting (every row)

GAUGE: 6 sts / 7 rows = 1", slightly stretched, after blocking

PATTERN STITCH (multiple of 12 + 7, stitch detail lower right):

Row 1 (right side): K3, *P1, K2, P3, K1, P3, K2; repeat from * across row to last 4 sts, end P1, K3.

Row 2: P3, *K1, P2, K3, P1, K3, P2; repeat from * across to last 4 sts, end K1, P3.

Repeat rows 1 & 2 for pattern.

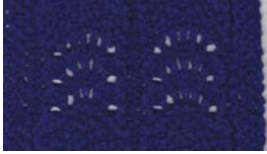
DIRECTIONS: With US 8 needles, cast on 43 sts.

Set-up row (wrong side): P3, *K1, P2, K3, P1, K3, P2; repeat from * across to last 4 sts, end K1, P3.

Continue with US 8 needles and work in pattern stitch (see note for working with kettle-dyed yarns) until piece measures 64" or desired length. Bind off all stitches.

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

Join the Reader's Knit Club for an evening of knitting & fellowship on **Mondays, October 5, 2009 and November 2, 2009 from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm** at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Route 30, Greensburg, PA.

***** "KNIT KNITE" AT KATHY'S KREATIONS Tuesday evenings, October 13, 2009, and November 10, 2009, from 7 - 9 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!

***** FUN FRIDAY, October 16, 2009; 10 am - 2 pm with instructor Betty Lou Glasso; rsvp (limited registration) *****

All knitters & crocheters welcome! Betty Lou 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.

***** UPCOMING SKILL-BUILDING CLASSES (ask to see class project samples on display) *****

"Intro to Rug Punch" with instructor Tracey Earhart Saturdays, choose one: October 3, 2009 or October 31, 2009 or November 7, 2009; 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm; registration fee \$50.00 Beginner class, includes frame, Monk's cloth, instruction and use of templates. Needle and yarn additional purchase.

"Boomerang Sock Heel" with instructor Lisa Carnahan; Saturday, October 24, 2009

10am -12 noon; \$25 registration fee includes LISA KNITS pattern of choice for boomerang socks

Lisa has designed cuff down and toe-up versions in two different gauges (fingering and DK), adapting a traditional, "old" German method for heel shaping, updating it for today's knitters. Preclass work requires knitting a sock to the beginning of the heel.

"Fantastic Finishes" with instructor Nancy Premoshis Saturday, October 24, 2009; 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

\$25 registration fee Please bring 2 stockinette and 2 garter stitch swatches, Chibi tapestry needle, extra yarn & corresponding knitting needles

"Stash Buster Patchwork Bag" with instructor Nancy Premoshis Saturday, October 31, 2009, 9:30 am -

12:30 pm; \$25 registration fee A "stash buster" class -- please bring at least 200 yards odds & ends worsted weight yarn in a variety of complimentary colors and US 8 knitting needles

"Socks In The Morning" with instructor Tracey Earhart Saturday, November 14, 2009; 9:30 am - 12:00 noon; registration fee \$25.00 Beginner class; class supplies not included

"Intermediate Rug Punch Class" with instructor Tracey Earhart Saturday, November 14, 2009; 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm; registration fee \$50.00 This class advances Rug Punchers to new levels of design transfers, creating patterns, working with different materials, building frames, punch-hooking a big rug, Christmas ornaments and more. Open to students who have completed an introductory class with Tracey. Bring your frame and needle(s). All supplies -- except yarns -- included in the cost of the class.

*Registration fee must be pre-paid at the time of registration to reserve a space in class. If you need to cancel, we will refund tuition up to 48 hours prior to the class. After that, we will refund half of the tuition in the form of a store credit. Unless noted, class fees do not include materials. Classes without a minimum of 4 students may be subject to cancellation or postponement, at the discretion of the instructor. Exceptions will be made for inclement weather. Students may pre-register for classes by calling Kathy's Kreations at 724-238-9320 or sending e-mail to kathy@kathys-kreations.com

Private knitting, crochet, felting, rug punch, drop spindle, and spinning lessons available by appointment. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for almost 30 years!

I always think of fall as a time of beginnings. We have all sorts of fresh starts to spark your knitting and stitching creativity to "make it your own".

It's all gonna be good -- KEEP KNITTING!

Kathy