



the Troll's Knit News



Volume 2: Issue 24 Fall 2008

**"The House in the Woods that
caters to you!"**

The Troll's Cove
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Hours: Thurs-Sat 10-5
Sun 12-4
Open year round

Tips and Techniques:

- When sewing on buttons on your knit garment, use elastic thread. Your button won't pull on the knitted fabric.
- When joining a new skein of yarn; knit 3 stitches using both the new and the old yarn and then knit only with the new, nice join.
- Leave shoulder stitches on stitch holders instead of binding off. When your back and front are finished, then knit them together and bind off-smooth, flat, seam.
- You can combine yarn to get a different weight: 2 fingering weight yarns equal a sport weight; two sport weight equal a worsted; two worsted equal a bulky.
- AS ALWAYS-RELAX! ENJOY!

*Thursday Knit Night:
Knitting with company*

Every Thursday evening—
rain or shine, snow, you
name it—this is our time
together.

Come when you can.
7-9 PM

I don't know about you-but my summer went way too quickly. The Orioles have already left for the South. The geese and sand hill cranes are flocking up and getting ready to do the same. BUT—

I Love FALL. Others may see it as an ending, but I feel that the world is waking up again after the long, lazy, slow, summer, and that anything is possible with the energy you feel on a cool, bracing wind.

I have many things planned for us in the months ahead. In this issue I have gathered ideas for garments/items with wide-ranging appeal, all with a mind toward changing weather and knitting whims. Of course, every schoolchild knows that fall is for learning and for growing. I'm hoping I've found ways that we can do that also. And finally, fall is for freshening things up. I've got lots of new books, needles, and yarns to tell you about.

I hope this newsletter creates curiosity and a sense of adventure.

- I have always had many back issues of "Knits and Knitters" available for you to use, now I would like to start a lending library of some of the videos/DVD's that the shop has. You will be able to rent any of them for a week for a deposit. When you return the item you will receive most of your deposit back. It will enable us to grow in our craft without investing funds in purchasing the DVD's ourselves.
- I have another "knit along" planned but organized in a little different manner.
- There will be a "knit and take" class in which we will finish a small gift during the class period that you can then take home.

I know I am excited about all the opportunities and the new yarns, patterns, and notions I have found to offer you.

A great opportunity to have some fun together and enjoy each other in our "community".

Warm Thoughts!"

Sandy

****Please don't forget to send me your email address if I do not already have it. This really helps me keep my prices down.**





Books: **Tweed Book** by Nancy Thomas 20 projects specifically designed with tweed yarn in mind. It also covers a variety of stitch patterns and techniques to help you take advantage of the nubby texture of tweed yarn. **Knitting Cuff to Cuff** by Susan Guigliume A dozen designs for knitting your garment from side to side. Directions are included for sizes xs-xxl. **Cables Untangled** by Melissa Leapman A comprehensive resource for knitters of all levels. This book contains 20 cabled projects plus a guide to using charts and understanding their symbols; a comprehensive library of both traditional and unusual rib, panel and all-over cable stitches; tips for designing your own project. **Cute Crochet for Tiny Tots** by Helen Ardley There's something for every child in the collection of 25 adorable designs for children from newborn to 4 years. **Noro Vol. 24; Mini-Knits and Catwalk** by Noro; **A new Snuggly Baby Bamboo booklet; Plus many new individual patterns from Knitting Fever, and Classic Elite.**

I also have 3 new patterns from Chris Brylisma: **1. Take 2 Jacket** 2 yarns, 2 patterns in 2 directions. Create your own classic with your own pair of yarns. The jackets understated lines and shaping are perfect anywhere, anytime.

2. Bravo Bag Belted, buckled, cabled and loaded with style. The bag will earn your praise for versatility, classy shape and ability to hold anything you need with ease. **3. Making Waves** Easy "wave" cables are perfect for felting and adding elegance to the flat surface of this bag.

Notions: HiyaHiya Needles. Stainless steel knitting needles that are wonderfully light weight; the join is very smooth; they glide through your knitting; and there is a "gift" in every package. I have continued to search for another brand of needle to offer you that would give you quality at a "reasonable" cost. When I heard about these needles I immediately contacted the distributor and asked to have them send me a set so I could try them. I have been "very" impressed! I think they compare favorably in all areas when judged against what has always been the "Cadillac" of the knitting needle. Price is only slightly higher than our "INOX". I have them in stock in a variety of sizes. Their lace needles have the same coating and point as their regular needle so there is no price difference. Hiya Hiya has a Bamboo needle available that may also work for us. It is impregnated with the resin coating so the needle will not flake apart once the coating wears off as many other brands do and which has been what I have had "against" bamboo needles and the reason I have not carried them up to now.

Yarn: OOOH! Do I have some nice new yarns for you to try. **1.** I have "Silk Garden Sock" which is the sock version of the lovely regular "Silk Garden" yarn by Noro. It is a combination of lambs wool, silk and nylon. Soft to the feel, and as we have come to expect from Noro-the colors are FABULOUS. I have one color in stock and 8 more coming. ASAP. **2. Paint Box** is 100% merino wool that is multi-colored; long color changes; a new color adventure in every stitch; felt able; glorious blending of colors. Reminds me very much of Noro. **3. Tweedie Chunky** by Sirdar is 100% machine washable alpaca, acrylic and wool, 110 yds at a great price. Softer than Encore chunky **4. Taio** by Noro is a chunky cotton that is nice for people who are allergic to wool Great year round yarn, 220 yds, What can I say-all Noro yarns are great! **5. Inca Alpaca** is alpaca in worsted weight. Will work nicely into your scarves, mittens and hats. **6. Portland Tweed** : I couldn't resist this yarn as I know you will like working with it on any of your projects. The patterns in the new tweed book I am carrying would look great in this yarn. **7. Alpaca Sox** has been available for awhile but this is the first time I decided to carry it. I think it will give you another nice option for your sock knitting, very soft, and I have solids coming also that coordinate. **8. Minnow Knits** by Jill Eaton Jill has re-worked her yarn and it is now being distributed by Classic Elite. 100% superwash merino. Machine wash gentle and dry. Worsted weight. Glorious saturated colors.

I have a few other yarns coming in also that will be worth your while to come, see, "feel" and think about a project you might like to do with it.

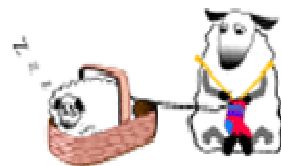
Now to talk a little about my new "Lending Library."

All of the Lucy Neatby DVD's are available in the library. Two of Meg Swanson's classic sweater videos,. The whole first season of "Knitting Daily" TV show. The "Art of Fair Isle" on CD. Plus others. As time goes on, and if this is something it appears you enjoy and make use of, I will add other items to the library. I am counting on each of you to take care of these items as if they were your own. Return them on time, so others may have access to them. ENJOY! It is a way for all of us to grow in our craft without spending a great deal of money.

Our Rules:

1. You may check each item out for 1 week.
2. Cost is \$25 with \$20 returned to you when I receive the items back in "good" condition.
3. All late items will be \$1 per day. (This is not to "make money", rather to insure that all have equal opportunity to use these resources.
4. You may renew the item once.

Classes: "We'll Keep you in Stitches."



- **All classes are \$15 unless listed otherwise. Patterns are included in some class fees.**
- **It is very helpful to me if you pre-register for the class that you want. That way I can plan for materials etc. Tel: 715-256-9930 or sschulz@athenet.net**
- **If you can't make all the sessions- I'm flexible and will be happy to help you another time as long as it is within 2 months of the class you attended.**

Fall Class Schedule:

September:

1. Knit Along: We will knit the "Painted Diamonds Bag". This bag is worked entirely using *mitered squares* with no sewing. One block builds upon another, making it fun, quick-to-knit, and a great gift or bag for yourself. If you join the group I will send/give you a part of the directions each week for 4 weeks. If you finish, not necessarily in the 4 weeks, you will receive 10% off your next purchase at the shop. **Check out my sample.**

For those of you who want help getting started we'll meet Sat. Sept. 20 1-3 pm

2. Beginning Knitting: This is for those who would like to learn to knit or haven't knit for awhile and need a refresher on the basics. In the process we'll make a hat. You'll learn to knit, purl, cast on, bind off, decrease, sew a seam.

Sat. Sept 20 and 27 3-5 pm

3. Toe Up Socks: I just always feel I need to include a "sock class" in each newsletter so decided to re-run the opportunity to learn to do socks from the toe up. You'll learn to do the "after thought heel" which eliminates the gusset.

Sun. Sept 21; Oct 5 & 19 1-3 pm

4. Anne's "Norwegian" mitten: Speaking of mittens; as many of you know, a lady brought in a mitten that her mother had made a number of years ago to see if I could develop the pattern for her. They are knit flat, and a really warm, nice mitten. You'll want to make a number of pairs.

Sat. Sept. 27 and Oct. 4 1-3 pm

5. Great American Aran Afghan: This afghan is also done in 12" blocks but all in various "cable" patterns. I thought we would start out with 4 that can either be the start of your afghan or used to make pillow covers. It will tell you if you would enjoy continuing or if "cables" aren't really your "thing".

Sun. Sept. 28: Oct. 26: Nov. 23: Dec. 7 1-3 pm

October:

1. Take Two Jacket by Chris Byslma: Two yarns, two patterns, in two directions, just too much fun! The simple classic lines allow you to accessorize to suit your own taste. You'll enjoy your own creation finding your own color and texture combination.

Sat. Oct. 4: Nov. 1 3-5pm

2. Make and Take: This is a small gift item that you will easily finish in one class. Then you'll want to make more. The sample in the shop is just waiting for you to admire.

Sun. Oct. 18 3-5 pm and repeated Sat. Nov. 8 1-3 pm

3. Norwegian Mittens: If you have tried Scandinavian two-color knitting and are ready for another challenge this is the group for you. We'll make the mittens to match the scarf we made two years ago during the Olympics. The new alpaca yarn would work wonderfully in this.

Sat. Oct. 11, 25 1-3 pm

October Cont.

4. Crochet Mittens for Baby: I always try to include a crochet group for all my people who tell me they “only” crochet. These mittens are quick to do, fun to make, do not require a lot of skill, and will earn you lots of praise when they are given away.

Sat. Oct. 11 3-5pm and repeated Nov. 1 1-3pm

5. Having a Ball sock ornament: Sock yarn, with its small gauge, tight twist, multi-colors and resilience, isn’t just for festive feet. We’ll knit a Christmas ornament with your left over sock yarn. It’s EASY and it’s fun. You’ll enjoy giving them to all your knitting friends.

Sun. Oct. 12 1-3 pm and repeated Nov. 29 1-3 pm

6. Stained Glass Scarf: Craftsmen have been turning out stained glass for centuries; now you can create a beautiful contemporize version in a scarf using “Silk Garden by Noro” and a solid color of your choice. Reminds me of an Amish quilt.

Sat. Oct. 18 1-3 pm

November:

1. Side Ways Vest: This vest is worked in a technique that I have not previously offered at the shop—”side to side”. Would look wonderful in the Paint Box yarn.


Sun. Nov. 2 and 9 1-3pm

2. Yuletide Gnomes: Our cute, friendly gnomes are the perfect addition to Christmas! With their warmth, their cute button noses and their hairy beards, they’re bound to be loved by children and grownups alike. One of the customers to the shop shared the pattern with me, and I couldn’t resist offering them to you in a class.

Sat. Nov. 15 and 22 1-3pm

3. Lacy Cap Sleeve Bolero: This bolero works up quickly in luxurious silk yarn. The lace stitch is super easy, you can finish this one-skein wonder in a day or two. Perfect for over that “little black dress” for the holidays. This is the perfect accessory—simple yet stunning.

Sun. Nov. 16 and repeated Dec. 6 1-3 pm

 **Would anyone else like to take the “Felted Pincushion class” with Jeannette. I have 4 others who are interested and we would have room for a couple more. Call me.**

 **Sat. December 13: 1-4 pm. I’ll help with any of your last-minute, unfinished Christmas projects.**

 **Annual Christmas Open House November 28-December 4th.**

 **Closed December 25th thru January 2nd.**

