



the Troll's Knit News

Volume 3: Issue 26 Spring 2009

The Troll's Cove
E801 Lauritzen Lane
Waupaca, Wis. 54981
Tel: 715-256-9930
www.thetrollscove.com
Hours: Thurs-Sat 10-5
Sun 12-4
Open year round

Tips and Techniques:

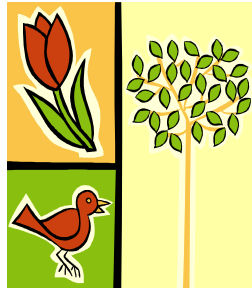
- Replace your tape measure on a regular basis. An old tape can stretch out of shape, causing inaccuracies in your measurements.
- Stitches picked up along a neckline or sleeve edge will most likely be looser than those on the body of the sweater. Avoid this tendency by using a smaller needle or crochet hook then switch to the larger one for the next row.
- Ribbing (k3 or more) will sit better and pull in tighter if you work the first knit stitch by knitting in the back of the stitch.
- If your favorite socks develop a hole in the toe, cut the toe piece off, pull off the yarn until you reach a complete round, insert your needles and reknit the toe.
- Knitting is like marriage-you don't throw in the towel just because it isn't working right now.

Beginning is easy-continuing is hard!

*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



“The House in the Woods that caters to you!”

Spring is the Season for new beginnings and fresh starts. A time to renew and recharge, and of course the perfect time to spring-clean our wardrobe. Clean and Simple. Spare lines, subtle details, minimal fuss. Why not pack away your cozy snuggle into sweaters and introduce some clean lines and pared-down shapes in light, summery yarns? This newsletter has exactly what you need with feminine designs that flatter and fit in delicious sorbet or citrus shades.

With the shorter days behind us we can look forward to spending more time in the great outdoors. With this in mind I have selected a number of relaxed knits (patterns and yarns) that will work with our warmer more relaxed days .

Start as many new projects as you can. I'm not talking about mindlessly and indiscriminately knitting any old thing with any old yarn you can get your hands onto. I am talking about choosing new projects wisely and for very specific reasons. Yet recognizing that creativity is fluid. I want to keep a steady stream of new experiences flowing with as many different kinds of projects as I can manage. Don't get me wrong; I like to finish things and wear them, use them, display them , as much as the next person. But as a primary goal, the focus on finishing can bring forward momentum to a halt. If we march through our projects with military precision, never starting something new until all the UFO are completed—you trample all over your enthusiasm and enjoyment.

I want to thank all of you who participated in the annual winter knit along this year. We have 40 very interesting squares to put into 2 afghans, each about 52x60". I hope to have the squares sewn together by the end of April and the border knit on by sometime in May. Then to publicize our creations and open up the bidding. We'll hopefully have them on display in a number of places during the summer (June and part of July) and sold to the highest bidder no later than the end of July. One afghan will be called **“Squares of Hope”** and the other **“Women Joined Together”**. The proceeds from one will go to The Family Crisis Center and the other to Women Cancer Treatment Center. I hope to begin working on the pattern booklet that will also be available for sale with the proceeds going to the same charities, as soon as everyone gets their patterns to me. **Anyone willing to help with the sewing please contact me!! Also, if you can help us find businesses willing to display our afghans, please let me know.**

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.**





I am always looking for new products, notions and yarns that I can add to the shop to increase and enlarge your enjoyment of our craft. You are the main driving force behind what I add so don't hesitate to mention things you think might make good additions. I can't add everything but I will definitely investigate your request. For example, one of you recently brought a project to Thursday Open Knitting that I had completely forgotten about. I contacted the designer, had the pattern sent and now a number of you have started making one.

- Stephanie Pearl-McPhee has a new book out. "**Things I learned from Knitting....whether I wanted to or not**" These irresistible reflections on life will have you laughing, crying and marveling out loud at how fortunate you are to be living your life as a knitter!
- **Lace Knitting to go.** Lace knitting is popular. This deck of pattern cards is not just a reference for lace stitch patterns but a source for inspiration. Better yet they are easily transported in your knitting bag.
- **Annie Adams Shawl pins, buttons, sticks, belt buckles.** Accent your personal style with these Shawl pins from Annie Adams. Each artisan made Shawl Pin is made in the USA from lead-free Pewter. They add a touch of style to your knitting. I have a number of different designs and items available. I have re-ordered a number of her items as my original inventory went very quickly. Do stop in and look them over. They are all very reasonably priced.
- **Knit Pure and Simple** has a new Cowl neck, three-quarter length sleeve pattern that I have added to our inventory. I noticed that many of the ready made tops have cowl necks so thought this might be a timely addition.
- **Big Shrug** by Two Old Bags is a combination shawl, and shrug. Easy to knit with an interesting tumbling block pattern. Mine is done is *Lyndon Hill* by Plymouth. I plan to get lots of use out of it. Come see the sample in the shop.
- **Baby Bamboo**, will have a number of new colors for spring/summer. Everyone who has worked with this yarn has absolutely loved it. I've also re-stocked on most of the original colors also so plenty of stock should be available.
- Classic Elite has a couple of new pattern booklets that I especially liked. **Heron Island** has nine warm weather designs, all with intriguing stitch details. One of these designs will be available as a class. **City Park** is a pattern booklet with eighteen designs that you will find many uses for in 3 of our 4 seasons.
- **Italian Ice**, a new shop yarns. A combination of cotton, linen, and viscose. I had carried it in the wash cloth kit. A number of you asked about being able to purchase skeins of it, so here it is. I like the fact that it does not "grow" as many linen yarns will. A very "classy" yarn. Will be featured in Knitty.com soon.
- **Sprout** is another of our new yarns. It is part of the Classic Elite yarns new Verde Collection. There is nothing else like it on the market currently. Machine washable, super soft, organic cotton with a nubby texture in a gauge of 3 sts to the inch. You'll love how fast your garments will knit with this yarn as well as the softness and colors.
- **Cotton Bamboo** in 8 colors will also be arriving shortly. This unique blend of cotton and bamboo lends a incredibly soft feel to this tightly spun, 10ply sport-weight yarn that knits to a drapery garment with wonderful shine. This is another Eco friendly yarn that I know you will enjoy using.
- **Debbie Bliss's Spring/Summer Magazine** is now in the shop. Her premiere issue sold out. I know you'll find a number of interesting ideas in this issue to make it worth adding to your library.
- **Fiber Mania: Travel Guide** to needlework shops all across the United States. Is nominally priced and a nice addition to your knitting bag for the summer months while you are on the go and looking to explore new shops in the towns you visit. (Of course, The Trolls Cove is also listed.)
- I got to thinking of all the Summer weight yarns available in the shop and wondered if you were aware of the selection? Ambrosia, Douceur, Cotonade, Ty-Dy, Italian Ice from **Knit One Crochet Too**: Dolce, Smooth Dk, Pima Tencel, Autunno from **Cascade**; Baby Bamboo, Silky Wool from **Knitting Fever**; Cotton Bamboo, Sprout, Waterlily from **Classic Elite**; Lyndon Hill from **Plymouth**; **Various sock yarns from different companies also work great when doubled for summer weight garments.** There are of course many other yarns that can "cross-over" to all the seasons such as Cascade 220 or Encore. Lots of choices !!

Knitting is like Marriage:

(From Things I learned from Knitting- - -)

You don't throw in the towel just because it isn't working right now.

There is always something happening that you really weren't expecting.

The odds are that what you end up with won't be anything like what you were trying to achieve.

The longer you work at it the better you get.

Both knitting and marriage are the triumph of hope over experience.





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

- **All classes are \$15 unless listed otherwise. Patterns are included in most 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 sandra@thetrollscove.com**
- **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.**

Beginning Knitting: This class will entail 4 sessions at which we will talk about weights of yarn; types of needles and other tools; how to cast on, bind off, knit, purl, increase, decrease, and fix our mistakes. We will make a hat is that we may learn while we knit. **April 25, May 2,9,16 1-3 pm \$35**

Beginning a Sweater: This class will also entail 4 sessions. You will learn all the skill necessary to make a garment: Knit to fit, reading a pattern, working on your garment, finishing. We will knit a top down sweater while learning these skills. **May 2,9,16, 23 10-12 am \$35**

Butterfly Scarf: Clever is what you will be saying about this scarf. It will become your favorite accessory. Knit in a number of different yarns for different looks. **April 18 or June 6 3-5 pm \$15**

Fair Isle Pillow Cover: Practice your 2 color , Fair-Isle Technique, in this 16 x 16" pillow cover. The colors you choose will determine the look of your pillow. There are many different yarns you can choose so that your pillow will be soft to the touch. **April 19 & May 3 1-3 pm \$15**

Diagonal Cabled Yoke Sweater: The cabled yoke on this sweater from Debbie Bliss' Magazine gives it the look of quilting, on an airy, open, garter-stitches cardigan. The short sleeves and clean shape make it ideal for layering over long-sleeve tees and pretty camisoles alike. Three sessions to get you going on the garter stitch body and then we'll meet again to work on the cable yoke and finishing. **April 18,May 23,June 2 1-3 pm \$15**

Sock Club: Well meet once a month. Each month we'll explore a different sock pattern, each with something new to learn. The group is open to all, but the participants should be familiar with basic sock technique either on double points or two circulars. *No need to sign-up, just show up.*

April 25, May 30, June 27 10-12 am \$10 a session

Birds: Do you watch the birds? Would you enjoy knitting birds in a variety of colors? Perhaps hang them in the window or give them as gifts. This class will be for you. No two will be alike.

April 25, May 9 3-5pm \$15

Blooming Cotton Scarf: Knitting with color can be fun but stranded color work can sometimes be intimidating. Work on this scarf with just one color per round using only knit and slip stitches. Choose colors reminiscent of your garden. **May 2, 16 3-5 pm \$15**

Continued next page:

Classes Continued:

Intarsia: Learn to knit with bobbins. We'll make a pillow cover that will later be felted so any unevenness caused by changing colors is eliminated. The diamond like design resembles designs of many cultures.

May 10,17 1-3 pm \$15

Finishing: An otherwise finely crafted piece of hand-knitting can often be spoiled by the finishing details. In this class we will explore different aspects of finishing with each class. These sessions will continue on into our summer newsletter. *No need to sign-up, just show-up!*

April 26, May 24, June 28 1-3 pm \$10 per session

1. The Basics. 2. Getting Started 3. Assembly

Berry Stitch Cardigan: This cardigan pattern is from "Heron Island booklet" by Classic Elite. A 3/4 sleeve that can be dressed up or down with any summer outfit. You'll love the style and stitch definition of this top. The yoke is a lace stitch while the base has a raised effect. Loose and free flowing design.

May 30, June 13 & 27 3-5 pm \$15

Easy Panels Afghan: Three lace panels and 2 cable panels make great summer knitting with chunky yarn. Finished in time to use it when the weather turns cool again in the fall.

May 30, June 13 & 27 1-3 pm \$15

Two Socks on two circulars: Learn to knit two socks at once on 2 circular needles. Never have to worry about making your second sock match the first again..

May 31& June 14 1-3 pm \$15

Creating a one-of-a-kind look is the whole point of making things by hand!

Important Dates:

June 11th I'll start being in the shop whenever we are open. (Gerry gets the summer off.)

June 20th we will be closed for our daughter's wedding.

I'll be open again as usual on the 21st.

July 11th we will be closed for our son's wedding.

(Once this second one is over I'll need lots of knitting to "recuperate." Ha!)

You'll never know what you can do until you TRY!



Happy Knitting!

Sandy