



the Troll's Knit News

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

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



Make Time for Yarn Everyday!

My accomplishments are worth something-

I think that we, as knitters often diminish our skills. You make something beautiful, you sweat, you curse, you use a calculator, you rip back, you re-do, you cultivate a skill... You hang tough and churn out something remarkable, something that's the result of hours and hours of your life and effort, and you feel pretty darn proud of yourself. Then someone walks up and says, "Wow! Did you make that? That's fantastic". Then something comes over us and many of us knitters will turn, look the person in the eye and say, "It was easy."

Knitters so often complain that we aren't taken seriously as artisans and that knitting remains undervalued. This desire to make everything we do seem easy, our discomfort with the recognition of our talents, is not the way other people behave about their skills. Do lawyers say, "It was nothing"? Nope. They say, "That's \$250 an hour. It took me a long time to learn to do this." We need to learn to take credit for our skill and the product of our hard work. So that the next time someone comes up to us and tells us that our knitting is awesome, we need to look them in the eye and tell them the truth. "Thank you. It was a challenge, but I did it."

Summer Knitting. Summer knitting can be difficult. Not because it's any more difficult to do in the summer, just that our summer season is so short that we want to cram as many things into it that we can. Knitting can easily be looked at as something we do in the cooler months of the year. Nothing could be further from the truth. There are wonderful fabrics to knit that add another dimension to our knit wardrobe. The newsletter this time tries to offer a nice mix of small easy projects and projects that will increase your knitting knowledge.

I'm in the shop each day Thursday through Sunday now. Gerry is enjoying his summer vacation. Do drop in to get some new ideas, a new yarn or a needle, or get help with a technique, enjoy our beautiful setting, partake in Thursday Knit Open Knitting and meet some other knitters in our Trolls Cove Knitting Community.

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.**



Tips and Techniques:

- **Recycle your favorites:** Cut up an old sweater that has seen better days and sew a great cushion cover.
- **Want to straighten out kinky wool after you un-knit a project?** Use your dishwasher as a steaming chamber. Place your yarn in the dishwasher once you reach the air dry cycle, and let the steam do the trick—a good way to get maximum use of energy.
- **To ward off moths,** put small chunks of Irish Spring bath soap with your wool.
- **Rather than spending money on Woolite to wash your wool** (it actually attracts dirt anyway) use inexpensive baby shampoo. It leaves no residue and gets wool very clean.

*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



Latest Buzz:

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 to the shop. I can't add everything but I will definitely investigate your request.

New yarn I've added since we last talked:

Heritage Sock yarn: by Cascade is an amazingly soft fingering weight yarn in a great variety of solid colors. Perfect for socks but also wonderful for shawls and baby items. I have 9 colors available.

Opal Sock: continues to be one of the shop favorites. I have just been able to get 24 more skeins in a variety of colors. Opal is unusual in that once a colorway is sold out they never make it again, which is why I am unable to re-order colors.

Rialto DK: This is one of Debbie Bliss's yarns that are featured in her magazine. She has created a 100% fine merino superwash wool which is multi-season yarn with the rich softness of light weight merino. It stays cool in the summer and is warm in the winter. The light spin gives it added durability and great bounce. I have 10 colors available.

Sirdar Juicy DK: This yarn is made from a silky blend of 80% bamboo and 20% cotton and comes in a variety of mouthwatering summer colors such as watermelon and papaya. This is a true rounded summer yarn with an incredible softness that makes it great to knit with and to wear.

Ty-Dy Sock: I couldn't resist this sock yarn. When you crave bright colors in a self-striping yarn this is the yarn for you. It is soft to the touch. A blend of wool/nylon that will wear well. It too can be used for more than just socks.

Pima Tencel: I've added 4 new colors to this cotton and natural fiber blend. It drapes and feels like silk but is machine washable.

New patterns/books I have added since we last talked:

Knitting More Circles Around Socks: Here is an exciting new selection of fun sock patterns. Includes the toe-up and top down knitting techniques, 12 all new sock patterns in a range of skill levels, and has patterns for men, women and children.

Purple Lace Cardigan: A lace knit, one button cardigan that looks like it has been worked in crochet.

Crayon Square Blanket: Takes 2 skeins each of 5 different color of Cotonade yarn. It is comprised of 4 large mitered squares that are put together and an interesting fringe.

Diagonal Squares Tee: Feminine t-shirt pattern accented with lace at the bottom of the sleeves and a row of mitered squares knit into the bottom of the tee before you add the lace.

Big Shrug: Continues to be one of our most popular patterns for summer knitting. Lots of possibilities for its use. Check out the sample I have on the mannequin in the shop.

Beach Tank and Bag: Knit this easy sleeveless tank made with one of our cotton yarns. The draw string bag would work on the beach as well as about town.



Classes: “We’ll Keep you in Stitches.”

- **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.**

Title: Hey, Teach

Session: Thursday, July 2, 16 & 30 10:30-12:00 or Saturdays, July 18, August 1 & 15th 3-5 pm

Cost: \$15 for all 3 sessions

Materials: Stop in the shop to pick out your yarn. You’ll need a size 4 and 6 needle.

Description: This “baby doll” fit short sleeve cardigan flatters all shapes. The lace yoke is easy enough to master but requires that you pay attention to your “yarn overs” and matching decreases throughout the under-arm and neck shaping. You can dress this little sweater up or down.

Title: Sock Club

Session: Every Friday afternoon from July 3-August 28th 1-3 pm

Cost: \$5 for every session you attend

Materials: Sock yarn and the corresponding needles.

Description: Every third session we will learn a new technique and start a new pattern. By the end of the summer you’ll have 3 new pairs of socks to wear and you’ll have learned a couple of new techniques. This is a come when you can or come every time. THE MORE THE MERRIER!!

Title: KFYS (Knit from your stash Saturdays!)

Session: July 18, August 1, August 15, August 29 10:30-12 noon

Cost: \$5 per session or \$15 for all 4 sessions

Materials: See the description.

Description: Bring your yarn or lonesome pattern to the shop to match with a project-get help. You can even exchange with your classmates for a completely new look.

Title: Friends Knit Class

Session: You choose the dates. Call the shop to set up your own private knitting class.

Cost: \$15

Materials: To be determined by the group.

Description: Do you have a group of friends who would like to take a knitting class on a specific topic, but just can’t find a class to fit your schedule? This class is designed for that purpose. Get a group of friends together (2 or more), pick a subject and call me.

Title: Helena (Baby Sweater)

Session: July 9, 23 & August 6 1-3 pm

Cost: \$15

Materials: DK weight, superwash yarn; size 3 and 6 needles

Description: This pretty little sweater uses top-down raglan construction for minimal finishing. Tie-closures so no need to make button holes.

Classes Continued:

Title: Market/Beach Bag

Session: Saturday, July 18 1-3 pm or Thursday, July 30th 1-3 pm

Cost: \$10

Materials: Worsted weight cotton yarn and corresponding needle size. I have a number of choices for you.

Description: Knit this bag to carry your groceries or things to the beach. It knits quickly with an easy mesh pattern that is not so open that your purchases poke out. Mine is made with Sundance with double knit handles. Check out my sample to see how quickly it will go together for you.

Title: Kids Camp

Session: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 23-25 10:30-11:30

Cost: \$15

Materials: Size 11 needles and 1 skein of Chunky Encore yarn

Description: We'll talk about all the cool new yarns; why there are so many different types of needles; what else do I need and where can I get them; how to make the knit and purl stitch; how to cast on and bind off.

We'll make a triangle kerchief.

Title: Crochet Mesh Top

Session: July 25, August 1 1-3 pm

Cost: \$15

Materials: Worsted weight cotton yarn, size I crochet hook

Description: Crochet this tee using only basic crochet stitches. Use it alone or over another top. It's made in two pieces with minimal finishing.

Title: Sophia, cable edged cardigan (on the cover of "French Girl Knits").

Session: August 8, 22 and September 5 1-3 pm

Cost: \$15

Materials: Come into the shop and chose your yarn before the class begins.

Description: A Chanel-style jacket that realigns the normally horizontal Roman Stripe pattern. You make two body sections and sew them together. A very unusual design but also very wearable.

Title: A Family Beret (Fair Isle, Two-color Knitting)

Session: August 8, 22 3-5 pm

Cost: \$15

Materials: Rialto or other DK weight yarn and appropriate needle.

Description: This beret is made with 4 different sport weight colors of yarn, but never more than 2 at a time. It is comprised of ribbing, a border pattern area, the "wheel" area in which the top part of the beret is created. We'll learn the double cast on, tubular ribbing, slipping stitches, centered double decrease and I-cord finish.

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



Important Dates:

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

Happy Knitting!
Sandy