

SHALL WE KNIT?

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Christmas is almost here! Are you ready? I'm doing what I usually do and adding more things to my knitting and sewing list than is humanly possible with the time remaining. It will be what it will be - my family isn't surprised if there isn't at least one partially finished item under the tree.

If you still need to grab a gift or 2 our UAFO fundraiser will be open right up until December 29th. And we promise we won't tell anyone that you didn't make it!

If you haven't already registered for our Retreat (and why haven't you? It's going to be so much fun) we still have a few spots available and have added day passes to the registration. Maybe you need to hint to someone you would like to find this under your tree?

UAFO FUNDRAISER - Year 4!

(Rescue an Under-Appreciated Finished Object)

Despite all the resolutions, the determinations, the I've-got-this-under-control's, we still produce them - amazing Finished Objects that we just don't love. So we have some gorgeous pieces that Knitters have donated and 100% of the sale goes to charity.

Over the past four years, we've raised \$4,000 for local charities! That's just amazing! This year, we'll return to our roots and send our proceeds to the Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region (<http://www.wcswr.org/>).

All the delightful objects will be available to be appreciated and purchased in 2 rooms at Shall We Knit? during regular shop hours until **December 29th**. Bring your shopping buddies. Heck, if you decide it's a perfect Christmas present for someone on your list, we promise not to tell that it's not your own creation.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Sat. Dec. 22nd 10:00 - 4:00

Sun. Dec. 23rd - Wed. Dec. 26th - CLOSED

Thurs. Dec. 27th 10:00 - 8:00

Fri. Dec. 28th 10:00 - 9:00

Sat. Dec. 29th 10:00 - 4:00

Sun. Dec. 30th - Tues. Jan. 1st CLOSED

Wed. Jan. 2nd back to regular hours.



A Shall We Knit? Retreat Yarnplay: From Swatch to Sweater

January 18-20, 2019

Elmhurst Inn, Ingersoll, ON
SOME SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE

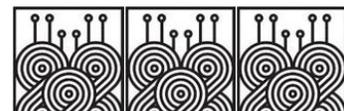
Just added to our Retreat schedule is a Shibui fashion show tied in with our Saturday evening get together. If you are coming and have knit any Shibui patterns or projects using their yarns please let us know so we can add them to our show. We would love to see them.

This year we are pleased to have the very talented Janelle Martin and Lynne Sosnowski teaching. The full class outline and schedule can be found on back page as well as on our website.

So start talking to your knitting friends and plan a weekend away. This might even be a great idea to hint strongly you would like for a Christmas gift!

Join us for a fun weekend away, surrounded by fellow knitters who share the same joy in stitching, in a peaceful and luxurious environment. No cooking, no chores, no children - just a couple of days of stimulating classes, excellent meals, optional spa treatments, a pop-up shop filled with goodies (and exclusives!), and fun in good company.

***Want to come but just can't do the nights away? We have just added a **day pass**. The day pass is for both days (sorry we can't split it up by days) and includes all Saturday and Sunday classes, lunch, dinner and snacks on Saturday and snacks and brunch on Sunday.





Classes, workshops, help...

Guided Project Class with Erin

Every Tuesday 11:30 - 12:30 \$10

The popular guided project class is perfect when you need help but can't wait for a special class and you need more than we can help with over the counter. This is dedicated time when you can sign up ahead of time, come with whatever project you are working on, and get help. You can pick a single project and get help with it each week along the way, or you are welcome to bring a new problem to each class and get help with something new each time. Guided Project class is a book as you go - you pay \$10 for an hour of guided time.

**** we are pondering doing a Guided Project class once a month on a Saturday. Please let us know what you think.**



Beginner Brioche with Erin

Sat. Jan. 12th 10:00 - 12:00 \$30

The shawl pattern "Lemon Difficult" by Kate Atherley is included in the price of the class.

Level: Intermediate (you know how to cast on, knit, and purl comfortably)

Brioche knitting produces a beautiful lofty, cushy, double layer of fabric that is reversible. The stitch is surprisingly easy yet intriguing to knit - it's rhythmic, but with just enough going on to keep it interesting.

In this class we'll learn how to work two colour brioche while making a shawl. We'll cover brioche knit ("bark") and brioche purl ("burp") stitches, how to read brioche patterns, and how to work with two colours. We'll also go over some important tips for keeping your knitting sorted out and on track.

Learn to Crochet with Erin

Sat. Jan. 12th 1:00 - 3:00 \$35

This class is for absolute beginners or those working on basic skills. We'll start at the very beginning (a very good place to start) and cover all the basics - from how to hold your hook and tension yarn, to making your very first crochet stitch.

Crochet hook, yarn, and a simple washcloth pattern are included in the class.

Next Steps in Lace - a Mystery Shawl KAL with Janelle

3rd Thursday of month (usually) January - July

A new skills building club and a mystery shawl!

Building on the lace knitting skills gained in the "Building with Lace" club, this new shawl (rectangular stole) introduces knitters to the beauty of Bavarian and Japanese lace patterns. Club members will meet each month and receive the next part of the shawl design, a week before it is available to online subscribers.

Meet once-a-month for seven months, from January to July. Each class builds on the lace skills learned in the previous month. By the end you'll have a stunning shawl to wear with pride. We work through skills including pattern reading, swatching, working with lace charts, knitting lace, Japanese stitches, Bavarian stitches, Kitchener stitch in pattern, and blocking. Additional techniques include cables, twisted stitches, raised stitches, knitting with beads, and an introduction to some advanced lace knitting techniques.

At only \$15 per session, plus a one-time purchase of the pattern at \$7.50, this is an affordable way to build your lace knitting chops. We do ask that you purchase your shawl yarn at Shall We Knit?

***if all classes are paid prior to first class you will receive a ball of Cascade Superwash to use for your class swatching.

Knit Afghan Squares 2019 with Lynne

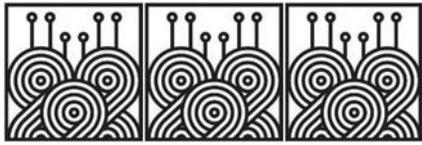
Starting Jan. 24th 6:30 - 8:30

\$15/month or pay in advance and get year for \$160

We've changed the name from our tongue-in-cheek "Square Dancing" but the content remains the same: this class is a once-a-month meeting for a year - once you're signed up you can attend as many or as few as you need. The class is a great way to improve your skills with only a small amount of knitting - a block - each month, and at the end of the year you have an afghan. We work through skills including pattern reading, swatching, basic charts, seaming, and blocking. And we learn how to do simple patterns of purls & knits as well as cables, slipped-stitches, mock cables, increases & decreases and even lace!

Another bonus of this class is that it is priced lower than our regular class cost. Only \$15 per session, plus a one-time purchase of a pattern book at \$21.50, it's a small investment in building your knitting repertoire. We do ask that you purchase your afghan yarn at Shall We Knit?

Approximately 7 skeins of Cascade 220 or an equivalent are needed, and we will hold your yarn for you and allow you to purchase it as you use it. 2019 will be our seventh year offering this class - dozens of students have taken part already.



Fixing Your Mistakes with Lynne

Sat. Jan. 26th 9:30 - 12:30 \$30

There's nothing under earth and sky that will keep us from making mistakes, it's just part of human nature. But when it comes to knitting, there are lots of things we can do to prevent mistakes in the first place and then other tricks we can use to keep small mistakes from becoming big disasters.

This KnitHow class starts with learning how to read your knit fabric - we first brush up on how stitches should look and line up, so we can prevent a mistake as we're knitting. We then look at pattern reading and understanding, so we can know what we're meant to do before we do it. We have lots of strategies to explore to help us stay on pattern. We will practice counting stitches and rows and get a working understanding of gauge.

Once we've done some actual knitting (please see homework requirements below), we will look at diagnosing our mistake, and we will talk about cosmetic versus structural remedies. Then we will work our way through fixes for the most common mistakes including: dropped stitch, slipped stitch, twisted stitch, accidental hole, split yarn, purl instead of knit and vice-versa.

We will continue with "disaster management", including learning how to unknit small amounts as well as when and how to rip out sections of a piece.

An RMT is in the House with Joanne

Sat. Jan. 26th 1:00 - 2:30

OR Thurs. Feb. 21st 6:30 - 8:00

\$10 class fee will be donated to Learning for Humanity

We as knitters open ourselves up to various shoulder, neck and arm issues. Even the best posture that we adopt along with the length of time we sit knitting does open us up to injury later down the road.

- Carpal Tunnel
- Tendonitis at the elbow
- Headaches
- Tingling into the hand or weak feeling grip

During this 1.5-hour class you will learn how to identify if you are having issues with your neck, shoulders and arms. If you are not having issues now, we will talk about what to watch for, so recovery time will be shortened when issues arise. We will talk about proper posture. I will teach you some simple self massage techniques and stretches for your forearms to help keep issues at bay. AND as always, I am available to answer any of your questions.

Join us for a fun, informative class that could lengthen your knitting obsession.

Learn Lace with Lynne

Sat. Jan. 26th & Feb. 9th 1:30 - 3:30 \$50

Few things make a knitter feel more capable than producing a lace-patterned fabric. From a simple scarf to a majestic shawl, the back of a mitten to the hem of a sweater - lace allows us to add beauty, texture and lightness to our finished items. If you can knit and purl and recognize one from the other, and have a few small projects under your belt, you can learn how to knit lace. We will start with understanding what lace is, and what sort of materials are appropriate for knitting lace. Students will come to class with a completed swatch (see homework below) that we will use to discuss how gauge and blocking affect lace fabric. We will experiment with appropriate cast-ons, and then get started on our patterns.

Using a sample chart, we will learn the basics of knitting from charts and how they apply to knitting flat and knitting in the round. We will look at the charts for our two patterns and understand the symbols used and the fabric produced. We'll explore mistake-prevention tools including: stitch markers, lifelines and annotation.

In our second session we will troubleshoot any issues that arose since our first class. Then we will move on to understanding how shaping happens in lace, and what is meant by "keeping pattern correct". We'll expand our lace repertoire by looking at different lace traditions and patterns, and talk about how and when to add beads to our lace.

We'll then talk about appropriate next steps in knitting lace, including how to choose patterns within a knitter's skill set.

Beginner Knitting with Kerry

Sat. Feb. 2nd 1:00 - 3:00 \$40 includes materials

OR Sat. Feb. 23rd. 1:00 - 3:00

Class price includes materials

Want to learn to knit, but don't know

where to start? This is the class for you! In this class, you'll learn the very basics of knitting: casting on, the knit stitch, the purl stitch, and binding off. No prior experience needed.



Beginner Knitting Part 2 with Kerry

Sat. Mar. 2nd 1:00 - 3:00 \$25 plus materials

Skill Level: Just past beginner

This class is for beginners with a bit of experience: I'll assume you know how to cast on, knit, purl, and bind off, but if you need a bit of practice that's fine - I'll review these at the start of class.

What I teach for the rest of the class depends on the interests of the students. Potential topics include increasing/decreasing, fixing mistakes, circular knitting, reading a pattern, finishing a project, etc. So bring your questions and any projects you're working on!



A Shall We Knit? Retreat - January 18-20, 2019 Yarnplay: From Swatch to Sweater

Options!! Cause who doesn't like options? You can book for the full weekend Fri. evening to Sunday brunch with your own private room or we have double rooms that you can share with a friend or we can find you a friend. OR we now have a daypass so you can come just for the two days and go home and sleep in your own bed.

Just added to our Retreat schedule is a Shibui fashion show tied in with our Saturday evening get together. If you are coming and have knit any Shibui patterns or projects using their yarns please let us know so we can add them to our show. We would love to see them.

Saturday morning will break into two groups for a "first swatch date" class. Janelle will lead "Solid Foundations", a hands-on class where you get to work with and sample an exquisite selection of yarns (kit included in registration) while learning about good sweater fabric characteristics, performance and care. Lynne will lead "Bright Plumage", another hands-on class where you also get to work with and sample yarns (this kit also included with registration) while learning about colour effects such as how to build fades, marls and ombres for use in sweaters and accessories. (Both classes will be offered again Sunday morning and the groups will switch.)

Saturday midday will break for a delicious lunch, and then attendees have the option of booking a spa treatment with the Elmhurst Inn, or joining one of two "going steady sweater" classes. Janelle will lead "Where Does This End?" - a sweater-focused class on edges including picking up stitches, edge treatments, bands and collar choices, and how to work applied edgings. Lynne will lead "Where Do I Put My Hands?" - a class for sweaters and accessories on seven ways to work pockets with fashion and function in mind.

Attendees will have some free time Saturday evening (book spa services! have a nap! go for a walk on the beautiful grounds!), and then we'll gather again for Cocktail Chatter, followed by a splendid dinner. Our evening highlight will be a fashion show, featuring pieces worked in the Shibui yarns that were sampled in the morning classes.

Sunday morning brunch will be followed by a second offering of Saturday morning's classes, so that everyone will have a chance to attend both "first swatch date" classes.

Sprinkled throughout the weekend will be opportunities to visit the special offerings in the pop-up shop, as well as plenty of relaxing and knitting in big and small groups, with refreshments and snacks in hand, all in a space of our own (that's pyjama-friendly!).

A very limited number of spaces are available, to keep our group a cosy and friendly size, so don't wait before signing up.

Friday evening welcome talk: "Sweet Swatches: The Internet Dating of Knitting"

Do you hear the word "swatch" and think it surely must be spelled with four letters? Settle in to your weekend at the Elmhurst with your favourite beverage and something to stitch while Lynne shows you the why's and how's of swatching, and how to make it a speed-dating process you might actually enjoy. Bring along a swatch or two - perhaps "exes" that lied, or great second date material, or even just one for the dreamy "someday" file. We'll show you all the tricks to get to know your yarn well enough to go steady.

Saturday morning class, "First Date", two groups:

"Solid Foundations" with Janelle Martin

One of the most common questions knitters have is about yarn substitution. If the yarn is the right weight for the pattern you should just be able to use any yarn you want, right? If only it were that simple! Every type of fibre has its own characteristics and strengths. How that fibre is processed also affects the final results of your knitting. So how do we figure out what yarn to use? In this hands-on class, you'll be exploring the wonderful world of fibre while knitting the sample yarns from a kit that's included in your registration. We'll talk about the main animal and plant fibre types, different types of yarn construction, working with multiple yarns and the difference plies can make.

"Bright Plumage" with Lynne Sosnowski

This is a hands-on class where you get to work with and sample yarns from a kit that's included in your registration. We'll explore colour effects such as how to build fades, marls and ombres for use in sweaters and accessories. Students will actually knit the yarns in their kit, learning about layering multiple strands for effect or function, how to choose colours that work together, and what sorts of patterns lend themselves to this kind of colourplay.

Saturday afternoon class, "Going Steady", two groups:

"Where does this end?" with Janelle Martin

You've knit the sweater pieces and sewn it together but now what? We have many different edge treatment options that allow us to customize our sweater. This class focuses on the edges of our sweater to finish them - edge treatments, sweater bands and collars. The presentation explains choices that need to be made during the planning of your sweater and those which can be delayed. Student will have the opportunity to practice picking up stitches and work several types of applied edgings. In order to be able to participate, there is a small amount of homework involved prior to class.

"Where do I put my hands?" with Lynne Sosnowski

Hand-knitting allows us so much choice in making sweaters - finding the just-right yarn, choosing the fit and style, and customizing the features and fittings to be just what we want. Ladies' ready-to-wear garments have been sorely lacking in pockets since the dawn of fabric, so this class for sweaters and accessories will present seven ways to work POCKETS with fashion and function in mind. Students will see a presentation on the methods used and the pros and cons of each, and then will have an opportunity to work an afterthought pocket in class. In order to be able to participate, there is a small amount of homework involved prior to class.

Saturday evening pre-dinner reception: "Cocktail Chatter: The Sweater That Got Away"

Join the whole retreat gang for a pre-dinner cocktail and a bit of friendly chat about sweaters we swooned over but weren't a "love connection", followed by a splendid dinner. Our evening highlight will be a fashion show, featuring pieces worked in the yarns that were sampled in the morning classes.

Sunday morning class, "First Date", two groups alternated (repeated from Saturday morning)