



SHALL WE KNIT?

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Mid-January already! How did that happen? Winter makes me want to cast on all the warm woollies. I am almost done a Carbeth cardigan in Briar Rose Abundance - striped in red and orange - major dilemma is what do I do for buttons? Good thing we have a nice selection of buttons at the shop. This week I'm casting on a big cowl with our newest yarn Blue Sky Woolstok combined with Riverside Studios Mohair & Silk - haven't narrowed down colour yet - that's a tomorrow job.

We've been busy around the shop working on plans for our Knitting Retreat at The Elmhurst. The classes that Janelle Martin and Lynne Sosnowski have designed for the Retreat are amazing. So amazing that a few of the retreaters were complaining about having to pick between them (we can only fit so much into one weekend) so keep an eye on the calendar for these classes to show up in our normal shop schedule.

UAFO FUNDRAISER - Year 4!

(Rescue an Under-Appreciated Finished Object)

Thank you to everyone that donated items and Thank you to everyone that came out and purchased some of the beautiful knit items. Together we raised over \$3000 to go to Women's Crisis Centre. GO KNITTERS! Lets do this again next Winter!



An assortment of modern, elegant silhouettes with unique detailing for garments of lasting style

We have been privileged to have a Shibui trunk show for our knitting retreat at the Elmhurst and we have a couple of extra days to share the beauty. Join us Tues. Jan. 22nd - 24th at the shop and see some of the beautiful patterns knit up in the luscious Shibui yarns. If you haven't experienced the pleasure of knitting with Shibui this will be a great chance to see and fondle how these yarns knit up.



CLOSET SALE ROOM

It's a new year and not everyone knows about how our sale room (known as the Closet) works. This is a room on our 2nd floor where we put end of lines, clearance yarns, discontinued or sometimes it's just that we need room for a new yarn so a current yarn gets the boot. It is only open the 3rd week of the month and we always post the dates on our website calendar. If you called the following week looking for one more ball we would have to wait until Closet week the following month. When we close the door at the end of Closet week it becomes a black hole - it doesn't exist again until next month.



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
- Tendinitis 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.



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.**



Next Steps in Lace - a Mystery Shawl KAL with Janelle

1st Class Thurs, Jan. 17th 6:30 - 8:00 and once/mo

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.

Skill Building with 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.

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.

Fixing Your Mistakes - A KnitHow class 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.

Beginner Knitting with Kerry

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

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

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 Brioche with Erin

Sat. Feb. 16th 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.

Thrummed Mitts with Erin

Sat. Feb. 16th 1:00 - 3:00

Skills needed: comfortable knitting in the round

Thrummed mittens originate from Newfoundland and Labrador where they know what cold winters are!

"Thrumming" is a technique in which bits of wool roving are knitted into the mitten to create an inner lining that, with wear and use, will felt into an insulating layer making the mitten more windproof. In this class we'll learn how to make thrums and how to knit them securely into mittens. Pattern included with class (women's size). Here's to toasty warm hands this winter!

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!

CustomFit Basics with Lynne

Sat. Mar. 23rd 10:00 - 1:00 \$25

We've all had experience with buying garments that don't fit us perfectly, where something has to compromise. If your sweaters always have sleeves that are too long, you internalize the message that your arms are too short! Of course, the problem is that the sweater's arms are too long ... for you. In this class we begin with you, by taking several very detailed measurements (discreetly, we assure you). The sweaters we go on to make are individual, and customized to your very own shape.

In our basic class we review the sometimes dreaded concept of gauge and how Custom Fit works with your own needles and fabric, without needing to match a pattern gauge! We'll talk about what Custom Fit can (and cannot) do, discuss yarn choices and fabric characteristics, how to swatch effectively, and the sort of style choices available with CF sweaters. Students will leave with information on selecting yarn and pattern, and what stage to work towards for that perfect sweater.

Toe-Up Socks with Lynne

Sat. Mar. 23rd & Apr. 6th 2:00 - 4:00

Skill Level: Advanced-Beginner/Intermediate

Learn how to make the most of your sock yarn by starting your socks at the toes, and knitting up until you run out of yarn! We will start with a seamless toe made with a Turkish cast-on. In the second class we will work through a wrap-and-turn heel and options for casting off a stretchy sock cuff. We'll discuss sizing socks and making adaptations for different fit issues.

This class is suitable for beginner sock knitters, provided they have some experience knitting in the round. The "two-circulars method" will be used for our socks, but no previous experience with this method is necessary. Students must be able to knit and purl confidently and without assistance, and should have some familiarity with basic increases and decreases.

SHOP HOURS

Tues. & Wed. 10:00 - 5:30

Thurs. 10:00 - 8:00

Fri. 10:00 - 9:00

Sat. 10:00 - 4:00

Sun. & Mon. CLOSED