

Looking Towards Fall 2010

There are new yarns, patterns, and needles from our favorite companies. New book titles this fall will keep your creative juices flowing. Friday nights buzz from 7-9pm with Open Knitting energy; and Purl Girls continues on Thursday evenings.

It's going to be a wonderful fall for knitting and crochet; finishing old projects, starting new ones, holiday gifts, discovering new techniques in classes, meeting new friends and old at the shop or on retreat, and just having fun with our yarn and needles. Not that I want summer to end but I am excited for fall to arrive, Laura



Melissa Leapman...
...is coming to Creative Fibers
Wednesday Evening, October 27th
6-7pm
To kick off **Stitches East**

Melissa will be sharing her insights on her two recently published books on color. She will gladly answer questions and sign copies of her books. Light refreshments will be available.

The Highlight of Your Story

I recently saw an advertisement on the back of an Architectural Digest magazine (for a lovely chandelier) that read: Every kitchen has a story. What's the highlight of your story? And it made me think that every knitting/crochet project has a story of some sort as well.

That reminded me of a knitter who told me she dubbed her sweater the "Crime Stopper" sweater because she awoke in the early morning and couldn't sleep so she picked up her sweater project. Upon looking out the window she saw a crime in progress so she called the police, hence the Crime Stopper Sweater.

Maybe your story isn't quite so dramatic as this one. However, if you ponder it awhile, I bet your projects do have interesting stories to tell.

So, if you'd like to write up a story or two and submit them, I'd be happy to compile them and who knows, maybe we'll end up on Oprah with a best seller "story" to tell. More likely, we'll just have a good laugh or maybe a tear or two.

If you would like to submit a story I just ask that it be in an electronic format and delivered by October 31st.



Latvian Fingerless Mitts

Guest Instructor: Beth Brown-Reinsel

Saturday, November 20th
10am - 4pm

The exquisite knitting methods of Latvia will be studied in this class led by nationally known designer/instructor Beth Brown-Reinsel.

Knit one (of a pair) of fingerless mitts to learn the following techniques which can also be applied to mitten cuffs, sock tops or sleeves:

- scalloped cuff
- herringbone braid
- many subtle and beautiful variations of the half-braid

A choice of two or **three-color traditional motifs** is incorporated in the main part of the glove as well as the **gusset-less thumb** and a **picot edge** at the end.

Additional techniques to be discussed include knitting with two yarns in the right hand, two yarns in the left hand, or a yarn in each hand, as well as knitting with three colors and setting up the knitting for color changes in the braids.

This workshop is for the Intermediate knitter who is proficient with double pointed needles.

\$135 includes workshop and lunch.
Class materials are additional and receive 10% discount.

Stitches East

Thursday October 28th - Sunday October 31st

Hartford Convention Center

Put these dates on your calendar!
And plan to visit our booth at this huge knitter's convention.
If you have never been to a Stitches event, this is your chance to take classes with some of the finest instructors. Then visit our booth and see what surprises we have for you. We'll let you know our booth number as soon as it is assigned!

For more details, check out:
<http://www.knittinguniverse.com/flash/events.php>

New Yarns

Peggy is knitting an adorable shawl with Classic Elite's **Magnolia** that has a lovely sheen, 70% merino, 30% silk, 5.5 sts per inch, 120 yds, \$8.95

Jodi knit a cool short row ruffled scarf in **Liberty Print** from Classic Elite. This will be a fall class! It comes in four fabulous fall shades, 5 sts per inch, 122 yds, \$7.50 and is machine washable.

American made St. Denis **Nordique** is highly elastic and has just enough 'grab' for stranded color; it has a high affinity for texture. 6 sts per inch, 150 yds, \$7.50

We just love Elsebeth Lavold's (DK) Silky Wool. Now we have **Silky Wool XL**, a heavy worsted, 80% Wool, 20% Silk, 104 yds, 3.75 sts per inch, \$9.00. There is also a new design collection, **Book #21 City(e)scapes**.

Also from Elsebeth Lavold, **Favorite Wool 4.5** – 5 sts per inch, 109 yds, \$4.98. Laura wants to knit the cabled skirt featured in the City(e)scapes book this winter. It could be a class after the new year!

Also from Rowan, **Drift** is a super chunky cousin to Big Wool for your quick knit projects on large needles. Drift is 100% merino wool, 1.5 - 2 sts per inch, 87 yds, \$14.95

Made from 100% recycled fibers, **Remix** from Berroco is a machine washable yarn that spans the seasons, 30% Nylon, 27% Cotton, 24% Acrylic, 10% Silk, 9% Linen, 4.25 sts per inch, 216 yds, \$9.95

Berroco's (worsted) Vintage was so popular that they have created **Vintage Chunky**, 50% Acrylic, 40% Wool, 10% Nylon, 3.5 sts per inch, 130 yds, \$6.50

Looking for machine washable alpaca blend? **Peru** fits the bill. This very soft 40% Wool, 40% Acrylic, 20% Alpaca, knits at 3.5 sts per inch, 116 yds, \$9.95

Tahki's **Luna** reminds us of the discontinued Kid Silk Night, a fine strand of mohair/silk with a modest touch of sparkle (lurex). Held single stranded, it knits at 5.5 sts per inch, held double stranded it knits at 4 sts per inch, 232 yds, \$14.95

Milodon (from Araucania) is a lovely kettle dyed worsted wool, 4.75 sts per inch, 202 yds, \$18.95

Kogarashi – a new bulky weight yarn from NORO, this soft 51% Silk, 49% Wool knits at 3.5 sts per inch, 165 yds, \$19.95

Operadante is a new novelty that knits up like tuxedo ruffles. Laura has started a neck warmer but can also see this as a mitten cuff, trim around a sleeve cuff, etc.

New colors of Berroco's **Ultra Alpaca**, **Lustra** (check out the new Elbaite scarf on display) and **Vintage** have also arrived.



Sally Melville Returns!

Saturday & Sunday December 4th & 5th

Sally will be teaching three workshops that you don't want to miss:

Saturday 9-noon First Choices, Basic Shapes

No matter how advanced or experienced we are, we run the risk of making a garment that looks *awful*. Why? We make decisions in the first 20 minutes that have everything to do with the success or failure of a project. What are those decisions? Yarn, color, stitch pattern, silhouette.

This workshop gives diagnostic skills to look at these decisions. And it then follows with basic pattern drafting (and includes the set-in sleeve design). So even if you never design your own knitting, you'll have the tools to alter what you do knit to produce the best possible result.

SKILL LEVEL: anyone

Saturday 1-4 pm Knit to Flatter and Fit

A knitter who spends the time and energy to make her own clothes should be rewarded with a result that makes her happy and proud. It should fit, it should flatter, and there should be no mystery as to how this happened.

There are a few simple rules to follow; ones that will put the power for successful results into *your* competent hands.

SKILL LEVEL: anyone

Sunday 9 – 4pm Essential Skills for the Self-Taught Knitter

No matter how advanced and accomplished we are, there are holes in our experience.

This workshop explores the best methods that we should all have in our repertoire. We'll talk about which choices are best suited to each situation and why. The workshop will also provide hands-on experience.

SKILL LEVEL: beginner, intermediate and beyond: participants should have moved past scarf knitting

\$90 – morning or afternoon workshop (includes lunch)
\$165 all day (two workshops & lunch)

Purl Girls™

Thursday Evenings
6-8pm



Join Julie and others as you work on your projects, learn new techniques, get answers for questions, and chat the evening away.

\$45 for 6 weeks or drop in rate of \$10 per session

Washing Garments Inside Out

There are two good reasons to turn your garments inside out before washing them.

- If they are knitted garments, it will reduce pilling
- Colors won't fade as much when a garment is rubbing against itself rather than another garment.

So when you see a tag that instructs you to turn the garment inside out, you will know why.

Laura's Psychology of Knitting

I find that if I knit the back of my sweater first, then the sleeves, followed by the front, that my knitting actually accelerates. Let me explain.

I may not completely understand the pattern design and who wants any mistakes or misunderstandings to show up on the front. That's why I start with the back. Then let's talk about sleeves. They are very sneaky. They start out with just a few stitches at the cuffs and the rows fly by. Then you start to increase and pretty soon that sleeve is as wide as the back piece I just finished. And if you are knitting two at a time; sure they are identical but they take so **so** long. If I have gotten this far (see Joy of Completion below) then I tell myself I am on the home stretch and I knit the front. And I really do think I knit faster.

Let's move on then to the **Joy of Completion**.

We've all experienced that once or twice in our knitting lifetimes. It's the feeling when it is done and blocked and I've tried it on and ooh, **it's just right** as Goldilocks would say.

But did you know that there is another aspect of finishing?

It's called the **Relief of Guilt**.

And that's because we've all started at least one project that never got completed. Whenever we start a new project there is that little voice in the back of our mind saying "maybe this project will never know the Joy of Completion".

So when you truly complete a project you have a double celebration; the **Joy of Completion** and the **Relief of Guilt**.

Christmas Stocking Kits!



We're delighted to introduce Christmas Stocking kits from **Judy's Colors**.

It's the perfect time for you to start an heirloom collection for your loved ones.

We're also offering a class on the stockings so you can perfect your two color knitting technique.

Friday Night - Open Night

from 7- 9pm



Bring your knitting, crochet, or spinning.
Bring a friend, or just yourself.
It's free, just come and join us!

Fall Shop Hours

Monday - Wednesday	10am – 6pm
Thursday	10am – 7pm
Friday	10am – 6pm
Saturday	10am – 5pm
Sunday	1pm – 5pm

Closed

September 5th & 6th – Labor Day
November 25th - Thanksgiving
December 25th - Christmas



Come Sit and Knit

(or crochet) in our comfy Living Room.

We have lots of room and we'd love to have you enjoy it.
We even have a fireplace!

We just ask that you have lids on your beverages (we have coasters for you).

We also ask that you do not use cell phones in the Living Room.

That way we can all enjoy the relaxing environment.