

In The Loop

May 2006

TO OUR WONDERFUL SKEIN LANE COMMUNITY

Isn't it grand that the rains have stopped? For those of us who garden, what a great opportunity to get those yards back in shape. And for those of us who garden and stitch, what a great way to end a day of gardening - to become absorbed in the fine art of knitting or crocheting.

May is a month of many special events - Mother's Day, proms, and graduations. If you are in need of a quick gift for any of this month's special occasions, we have great ideas for you - deco ribbon purse kits ([the project of the month](#)) \$23, one skein washcloth kits (a good mother/daughter project) \$10, books, [dellaQ handbags](#), and gift certificates. And, of course, there are all the wonderful yarns to consider.

Our May specials theme is to "Treat Yourself" so be sure to pamper yourself or a favorite knitter with our luxury yarn [May specials](#).

Registration for the **Knitter's fall retreat** is open. It is a delight to have our guest instructor, Nancy Bush, with us again. Nancy lectures and teaches workshops worldwide. She brings her many years of knitting experience and her great historical knowledge to share. This popular retreat fills quickly and even though we know it is often hard to plan that far ahead, 50% deposits are due May 11.

Mission Falls 1824 cotton arrived mid-April and it is a delight to have this cotton back in stock. We have some wonderful models in our front window for you to see, and we have the full line of pattern books with Mags Kandis' designs.

Speaking of models, we have two trunk shows happening in the shop right now.

Garnstudio's SilkeTweed presented in several good-looking garments.

Models and patterns from [seejaneknit](#). Several of these patterns use only one skein of yarn.

The Knit and Crochet Show April 21,22 & 23 in Oakland was a success. Take a look at our [photos](#) from the show. The Skein Lane yarn ball is developing quite a following.

I just heard a great knitting story from one my neighbors. He tells me that when he was six and had his tonsils removed his mother's friend came to sit with him and taught him how to knit. He got his knits and purls just fine and then when the scarf was long enough...he did not know how to cast off. His solution - cut the yarn and glue the stitches. Isn't that the best?!

As always, we look forward to seeing you and providing you with ongoing support and help for the projects you find at Skein Lane. And we always love to see your creativity.

Our best,

Carolyn & Staff

P.S. You may see some work being done on the store front. This business block of buildings just received a new roof and we are looking forward to the store front being painted. Feels good for the Spring.

YARN ARRIVALS

- * Mission Falls 1824 Cotton
- * Berroco's Boho and Boho Color
- * Berroco's Suede - new stock
- * Berroco's Cotton Twist - new stock
- * Berroco's Ultra Silk
- * Berroco's Touche
- * Cascade 220 - more colors

BOOK ARRIVALS

- * Mission Falls Booklets
- * Mason-Dixon Knitting

OTHER ARRIVALS

- * Denise Needles - new stock
- * dellaQ "sassy" knitting bags

HOT PROJECT

This month's hot project is the embellished [Deco Ribbon purse](#), a design from Crystal Palace and our customer, Kimberly. Our [photos](#) and models in the shop give you ideas to embellish your purse with your own creativity.

LEARNING @ SKEIN LANE

Upcoming Classes

Crochet interest and enthusiasm continues. We have added an [advanced beginning](#) crochet class that will begin in May. Join Sandy for this next level. We are also scheduling a class to make the lovely crocheted flower scarf designed by KnitWhits - this scarf attracted so much attention just being in our display window.

JP will be teaching two more classes in May: [Beginning Knitting](#) and [Socks-Toes Up](#).

Carolyn will be teaching [Socks from the Top Down](#). [Beginning Knitting Level 2](#) got underway with Carolyn on April 30th.

Ellen Graves will be teaching more classes in June: [Color Work](#) and [Finishing](#). In mid-summer, an Aran class will be offered

Carolyn's Summer series of [Knitting Workshop](#) gets underway on June 20. Register early to reserve your space.

The [24/7 Jacket Knitalong](#) is speeding to the finish line. We're having a fun making these lovely jackets. There's still time to get started on your own version or just drop by to admire everyone's progress.

The Great American Afghan Block Party will draw to a close mid-summer....to start right up again with a new afghan - The Great American Afghan #2 Block Party. Join us for this ongoing beautiful project. Stop by to see the pattern and to see the sample of the first square.

There is more coming up: Kids Camp in July and August and Sally Melville in November. Watch our [website](#) for updates.

YARN EVENTS

The [Mystery Fiber Feast](#) - will be May 21 from 3-5pm. Seating is limited so sign up early.

SKEIN LANE KNOW HOW

Tip from Carolyn. I have reminded myself that a sample swatch can be very helpful in the color design process. I embarked on one of my many UFO's which has 4 different colors of yarn. I have introduced color #4 three times (three different colors) now, and it would have been faster to sample the color combinations in swatch rather than the entire garment.

Do you have a knitting time-saver? Got a hot crochet tip? Share your know how with other Skein Laners! Submit your tip or other helpful hint for knit or crochet by email to info@skeinlane.com. If our staff chooses your tip for the newsletter, we'll mention your name with gratitude and even give you a prize.

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