

# *In The Loop*

October 2006

## **Dear Skein Lane Community:**

My many thanks and appreciation to you all who made the closing of Skein Lane's retail store front such a fun time. Just today it has been a little over two weeks since I moved the last of the "stuff" from the retail shop, and we are now settling into the next chapter of Skein Lane - The Studio.

## **Classes**

Our [Knitting Workshops](#) are well underway with six in process - check the schedule as there are spots available for drop in (\$5.00 per drop in) on Tues, Thurs and Sat am. Our winter workshops will start on January 2. Sign up early.

As winter approaches socks are uppermost in some of our minds and we have embarked on knitting socks from *Vintage Socks* by Nancy Bush. In November we have a new offering - [Gentleman's Shooting Socks](#).

JP is back with us - her beautiful baby girl was born in August. JP will be teaching [Beginning Knitting](#) on the first two Monday evenings in November. There is still time to learn to click those needles to make a special holiday present.

## **Consultation by appointment**

In our studio setting we have added consultation hours. If you need help you can either call or e-mail for free consultation. You can also schedule an in-person consultation appointment for a fee of \$5.00 for 15 minutes or \$20.00 per hour. We look forward to being able to help you with your knitting opportunities.

## **Guest Instructors**

[Sally Melville](#) will be joining us on November 17, 18, & 19 for her wonderful offerings of classes. The workshops are full but there is still room to sign up for Friday evening and have the chance to hear Sally talk about her knitting experiences and, of course, her flair for creativity. The workshops will be held at [Arlington Community Church](#), 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. The room that we have chosen is much like a very large living room with plenty of room and a fireplace - a wonderful warm setting and our thanks to one of our Skein Lane community for offering this resource. The parking lot is directly across the street.

[Helen Hamann](#) has just been added to our line-up of guest instructors. She will be with us on Saturday, January 20. She is a native of Peru, an international knitwear designer and alpaca enthusiast who designs have been featured in many magazines and catalog. Her new book, *Andean Inspired Knits*, released in

September 2006, introduces her collection of designs in soft alpaca. Join us for this inspiring workshop.

### **Special Events**

**A Yarn Swap** - Join us for a "Trick or Treat" yarn swap. Bring two balls of yarn and "bag" them in a mystery bag for exchange. This event should prove to be lively as we swap yarns during our knitting workshops and we will also have an open house at 208 Carmel Ave in El Cerrito (just two blocks from the old shop) on Sunday, November 5 from 2-3pm. Join us and see what new treasures you will gain.

### **Trunk Shows**

We are delighted to offer the [Interweave Funky Knits Trunk Show](#). These items will be shown during all classes and at an open house at 208 Carmel Ave in El Cerrito (just two blocks from the old shop) on Sunday,

### **Knitting Retreat**

Our [knitting retreat](#) with Nancy Bush in September turned out to be a great weekend. A wonderful knitting weekend and a chance to spend time with old and new friends. Photos from the retreat will be up on the website next. Next year's retreat will again be in September at Marconi Conference Center with [Chris Bylsma](#) returning as our guest instructor. Be sure to sign up soon as the retreat space fills quickly.

### **Knitalongs**

We are still knitting along...our [Einstein Coats](#), [24/7 Jackets](#), and [Log Cabin Afghans](#) are growing. We will embark on a new knitalong in January. If you have one of these items in progress, join us on Saturday afternoons from 2-4pm. The fee is complimentary if the yarn was purchased from Skein Lane or \$5.00.

### **Customer Projects**

Our [customer project page](#) is up and we will continue to add your wonderful photos. If you have photos that you would like to share, please e-mail to [skeinlane@aol.com](mailto:skeinlane@aol.com). Be sure to include details of your project, i.e. pattern, yarn and any tips.

### **Yarn Offerings**

It's exciting that we still have a small offering of yarn available in our studio. Currently we have Cotton Fleece from Brown Sheep, Deco Ribbon and Waikiki (in skein put-up) from Crystal Palace, and other miscellaneous yarns: Silke Tweed, Sock Yarns, and some Novelties...an array of yarn. Call 510.525.9276 or e-mail [skeinlane@aol.com](mailto:skeinlane@aol.com) if you are looking for any these yarns. You might guess that I have stocked two of my favorites - the cotton fleece and waikiki- I've seen them knit together into a beautiful fabric. I

I'm quite excited that I've just completed two garments - a prayer

shawl knit in Noro's Silver Thaw and the Napa Throw knit in Colinette's Zanziba and Mohair. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in this new chapter of Skein Lane.

My best and knit on!

*Carolyn*

### **SKEIN LANE KNOW HOW**

This is really a quick tip this month. It's call do what I say and not what I do! How many of you have thought you will remember what special steps you took on a garment or what needle size you used? I always think I am going to remember and darn if I don't and then that's when I bemoan the fact that I didn't keep a better knitting journal. A knitting journal can be invaluable and I encourage you and me to keep one.

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](mailto: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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