

Green Mountain Fibers & Yarn News

March 2016 Enews



Before I wax poetic, there's an important update on our hours that I need to make. **Beginning the first week of April, we will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 5th and 6th.** Of course, that means we will be **open from Thursday thru Monday.** This is not a decision I make lightly having been open seven days a week for the last seven years. But, sometimes sanity and sound business decisions must prevail. That said, we all understand yarn emergencies and if you have one, we'll try to be accommodating. You can reach me most days on my cell phone (802-236-2851) and if I'm in town, I'll be happy to go to the shop.

This also means that our Tuesday/Wednesday Learn to Knit will be moved to Thursday/Friday Learn to Knit. We'll put this in the paper and hope that everyone sees it!

Phew... I'm glad to have that decision - and announcement - behind me and hope you all understand.



Now on to knitting news -

What's on your needles? Personally, I'm desperate to take my many projects off needles so I can cast on without guilt. On Saturday afternoon, Cindi N and I were commiserating about our many UFOs. She had five in her bag; I had about the same number. But, of course, this was just one bag for each of us. I don't even want to think about the other bags and all the bins on the shelves in my spare room. So, easy does it and tackle this just like you "eat an elephant" - one bite at a time!

My sights are set on finishing the "Cha-Ching" fingerless mitts by Laura Nelkin. After a concerted effort to knit just one repeat a day, I am finally down to the thumb! This bodes well for completion but no resting on my laurels until it's actually finished.



I have two other projects that are "must finish!" Both have been on needles since before

I opened the shop - yes, eight years and counting. A second sock worked all the way to the gusset in yarn from Finger Lakes Fibers and the Stormwater scarf with sea cell yarn from a Nova Scotia trip in 2007. This is a 16-row repeat that I cranked out in about 20 minutes (even fixing a lost YO) - so, one per day and it'll be done in about 10 days! Pretty brainless, huh?

Also in the bag is a gorgeous mohair shawl. So simple, but I had made a bonehead move, forgetting the 3-stitch garter edge about three inches into the shawl and only realizing this when the edges were rolling instead of lying flat. After discussing this with Mary, there was no way I was ripping back or starting again. We landed on a fix that worked. I took the second stitch on each edge back to the point of mistake and worked it back up in garter using that most amazing tool with a crochet hook at each end! And, VOILA! While it's not perfect, the edge no longer rolls. I left this project in the shop for Marjorie who graciously offered to help... which means it could actually get finished. Thanks Marjorie!

Then there's the beaded scarf - I've decided that this is my "go to meeting" project since the beading is all done and it's K2P2 ribbing. It's so beautiful and I can't wait to wear it - must knit faster. And speaking of the beaded scarf, Mary will have a class on April 16th if you'd like to make one yourself. I think Mary has completed two (maybe three) since I've been toying with my first.

Football season is long over but I still have my Seattle Seahawks Scoreboard cowl on needles. It's really not my fault - it's those dang Seahawks that kept racking up too many points game after game. The scoreboard cowl is knit according to the points on the board - one row for each point scored either by the home team or the opponent in their respective colors. This cowl is already 7' long and I still have three weeks of play to knit - more than a hundred more rows! It's definitely a conversation piece! The idea and pattern came from Skacel. <http://scoreboardkal.com/>



This is what happens when I don't send an enews for months - I just cannot stop talking.



So what's new?

We received a shipment of spring fibers, including KFI 100% luxury silk in new colors and

Juniper Moon Farms Neve 100% cotton worsted weight yarn from Peru - in colors to complement your spring and summer wardrobe. I started the "Summer Scarf" by Melissa Leapman - a free pattern on Ravelry and left it in the shop. It's just about 10' long so far (another UFO) but enough to see the pattern and stitch definition.

Also new is Ella Rae superwash merino in DK weight. I must say that I haven't started anything with this yet. However, I do have a Findley Dappled project on needles. It's the Sumac Shawl/Scarf by [Irina Poludnenko](#) and available on Ravelry. I've been carrying that Findley around for about two months waiting for the inspiration and this was it. It's beautiful, airy elegance and such a simple pattern of YO K2TOG offset with garter rows. I just love it! I can also see this pattern in mohair or luxury silk for a glorious drape.



Sweater knitting

I understand that Sandy and Marjorie have started a top down cardigan, a Knitting Pure and Simple pattern that makes the best and easiest sweaters. If you're interested in joining them for this "knit along" stop by on Sunday afternoon and join in. I currently have three sweaters on needles - what a surprise! One is a Carol Feller knit along from about four years ago that I barely started. Another is in Cascade Ecological wool with glorious cables and woven-look sleeves. It's so stunning and quite fun but not the project to take out unless you're ready to concentrate. The third one - I'm embarrassed to say I'm finishing (or not) for Martha. The Cascade pattern is a bit of a bear and we've both had our fits over it. I'm finally at a point where I just need to sit down and knit for an hour and it'll be done - so do it!

Sit-n-Knit is still going strong on Sunday but Monday is hit or miss. It would be good to give a call to the shop (802-775-7800) to let us know you're coming. Sandy will normally stay until 7 waiting for you all to arrive. I know that warmer weather motivates some folks to do outdoor activities like gardening or biking but we want to be there for you, if you're a year-round knitter as I am.



Please remember to like us on Facebook and share our posts. It sure does help to get the word out.

Happy knitting, crocheting (yes, our yarn does crochet too!), spinning, or weaving.

Kathleen, George, and Louisa



Save 25%

Present this coupon to receive 25% off your next yarn or fiber purchase, excluding consignment items and special orders. Digital coupons are acceptable.

Offer Expires: Monday, April 4, 2016.