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~ Newsletter

## WoolWinders: A Knitting Salon Holiday 2004 Newsletter

## November 2004

Dear Lew,

*Ready for the Holidays? WoolWinders: A Knitting Salon Can Help!*



We are in a hectic, enjoyable, and sometimes stressful time of year. As Thanksgiving, Chanuka, Christmas, and other holidays approach, we are often overextended in our enthusiasm to ensure that our loved ones are well fed and well gifted. We see this at the store as our

wonderful customers come in eager to create gorgeous scarves, purses, belts, sweaters, afghans and the like for members of families and dear friends. We can help in a number of ways!

First, our staff is first rate at helping you pick the perfect yarn and pattern for your project. Pat, Kim, Adrian, Karina, Brooks, Lynn, Marietta, Jessica, and Jacqui and Lew stand at the ready to advise, select, cajole, and encourage you ever step of the way. We know our stock inside and out; we respect your technical level and budget, and will be around to help should you hit a snag.

Second, don't forget our one night LAST MINUTE GIFT bonanza. Join us on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 from 6-8 PM when we present more than fifteen patterns that can be knit in less than two days. We promise! We have tested all of them! For just \$15.00 you will receive all the patterns, some new technique instruction, a 10% discount on all yarn and supplies, wine/cheese and camaraderie. This is always a highlight of the WoolWinders Holiday season! Call or email Jacqui to register.

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Finally, we encourage you to take a deep breath, and give yourself permission to enjoy the holiday season! Come in and create your OWN wish list, so that your family and friends can give you those things you are craving at WoolWinders. It's not that we DON'T enjoy the husbands running in at the last minute with those "deer trapped in headlights" looks; it's that we KNOW you want something more than a gift certificate! So help them out by perusing our stock, filling out an index card which we can share with them, and sit back and revel in opening those perfect knitting gifts! Stumped for ideas? Here are:

### *Top Ten Favorite Gifts for the 2004 Holiday Season*

10: Little Box of Scarves/Little Box of Sweaters. More than 40 patterns ranging from rank beginner to elegantly experienced.

9: Five skeins of Koigu Yarn and the Charlotte's Web Shawl Pattern. Challenging. Beautiful. A work of art that will keep you busy during the crummy winter weather.

8. Wool in the Woods Americana Throw Kit: Exquisite hand-dyed yarns that knit on a size 17 needles for a gorgeous (and quick) afghan.

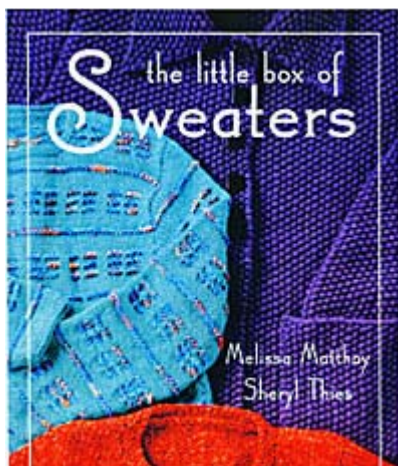
7. One skein of Wild Stuff or Cool Stuff by Prism Yarns. Come on. You know you deserve it!

6. 1000 Sweaters and 1200 yards of DK Weight yarn. Let the designer in you break free.

5. Susan Todd Knitting Bag: Go retro with these fabulous designs that hold everything. And let them spring for a matching accessory kit. He has gear for his hobby, you know!

4. KnitWits Hat/Purse Kits. Comes complete with yarn and instructions. Fun and funky and perfect for beginners!

3. Colinette Absolutely Fabulous or Vintage Kit. Make an afghan, vest, sweater, or poncho with exquisite hand dyed yarns from Wales.



2. Lantern Moon Standing Knitting Basket. Filled with goodies. Lots of goodies.

1. Five skeins of Noro's new yarn Transitions. Read our article about this incredible yarn in the newsletter. Begin knitting and watch as the colors AND fibers change. Five will make a fabulous sweater. Three will do a shawl. Expensive. But you're worth it.



### *We Are Wound Up About -- Transitions*



Noro yarns astound and amaze us every season. His (yes, there really is a Mr. Noro) use and selection of colors are remarkable. Many of us became fearless knitters watching the colors change as we knit his Silk Garden, Kureyon and Iro. We grew accustomed to his whimsical approach of eliminating and adding seven colors a season and learned to buy MORE than we thought we needed in case he nixed a favorite! And just when we thought that we knew all of his tricks: his use of silk and cotton and ribbon, his exploration into wire and texture, he came up with something almost beyond belief.

What makes TRANSITIONS so unusual? Well, consider this. As you watch the colors change, you begin to see new FIBERS emerge! And in perfect coordinated harmony. Move from wool to silk to cashmere to alpaca to angora to camel and finally kid mohair. The possibilities are endless. Think scarves, hats, bags, sweaters, and even coats. We are knitting up the free pattern enclosed in this newsletter- a fabulous drop stitch shawl made by holding Transitions with Rowan's Kidsilk Haze. Three skeins of Transitions will create this lovely shawl on size 15 needles!

Transitions. The name says it all. 132 yards of fabulous fiber and color changes for \$25.99. We predict that Noro will consider this among his finest work.



### *FREE PATTERN: DROP STITCH TRANSITIONS SHAWL*

#### Materials:

3 Skeins of Transitions  
2 Skeins of Kidsilk Haze  
Size 15 needles

Gauge: 2.5 Stitches/inch in pattern.  
Size: 22" x 65 " excluding fringe

Cast on 56 stitches with both yarns held together.

Knit 5 rows.

Row 1: K1, drop stitch to end, k1

Row 2-6: Knit

Row 7; As row 1

Row 8-12: Knit

Repeat these 12 rows, until desired length.

Knit 5 rows.

Fringe if desired.

And, Yes we are knitting up a sample at the store. Stop over and see it in progress. It is beautiful, easy, quick, and very unique.

### *Winter Class List*

We are excited by the Winter 2005 Class schedule! Check out our new classes: Charlotte's Web Shawl, Knitted Toys, Continental Knitting, Lace Knitting and Working from a Chart. Or take old favorites like the Knitting Safari, Socks (DP and circular needles!), Pattern Alteration and the like. For those absolute beginners, we offer --- ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS! Literally no experience required. And don't forget that we also offer private lessons at \$35/hour.

We ask that you pay for classes at the time of registration. Classes marked with an asterisk (\*) have additional materials charges for which you will receive a 10% discount! Please call ahead regarding necessary materials, and PLEASE WIND YOUR YARN BEFORE THE FIRST CLASS! Thanks.

Date/Time	Status	Fee
<b>*ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS</b>		
Sun. Jan 23/30 : 10 AM -12 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
Tues. Feb. 1/8 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
Sun. Feb. 20-27 : 10 AM-12 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
Wed. Mar. 2/9 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*KNITTING SAFARI</b>		
Wed. Jan. 5/12/19/26 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$95
Wed. Feb. 2/9/16/23 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$95
Sun. Mar. 6/13/20/27 : 10-12 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$95
<b>WEEKEND PONCHO</b>		
Mon. Jan. 3/10 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*MONDAY METHODS</b>		
<b>Continental Knitting</b>		
Mon. Jan. 17 : 6-7 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$15
<b>Lace Knitting</b>		
Mon. Jan. 24 : 6-7 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$15
<b>Working from a Chart</b>		
Mon. Jan. 31 : 6-7 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$15
<b>*SOCKS</b>		

Tues. Jan. 18/25 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*SOCKS ON 2 CIRCULAR NEEDLES</b>		
Wed. Mar. 15/22 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*FELTED BAG</b>		
Sun. Feb. 6/13 : 10 AM -12 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*BEGINNING CROCHET</b>		
Tue. Jan. 4/11 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>CAST ON TECHNIQUES</b>		
Mon. Feb. 7 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$35
<b>FINISHING TECHNIQUES</b>		
Tues. Mar. 1/8 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*CHARLOTTE'S WEB SHAWL</b>		
Sun. Jan. 9/16 : 10 AM -12 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>PATTERN ADAPTATION</b>		
Mon. Mar. 7 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$35
<b>*KNIT TOYS</b>		
Mon. Feb. 21/28 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65
<b>*SPRING SHELL</b>		
Mon. Mar. 14/21 : 6-8 PM	<b>OPEN</b>	\$65

### WoolWinders Class Descriptions

**Absolute Beginners:** No previous experience or knowledge of knitting required. In two two - hour sessions we will learn the cast-on, knit and purl stitch, bind off, decrease and increase. Students will create a simple project by the end of the second class.

**Knitting Safari: Intermediate :** Get out your pith helmet and blowgun! We will progress to the next step by selecting a project of your choice that is beyond your current capabilities. Work with a teacher and group for four weeks (8 hours) to learn pattern reading, stitch definition, color work, or anything else you want!



**Finishing Techniques:** Good finishing techniques are the difference between handmade and homemade! Learn the basics of finishing: invisible seams, three needle bind-off, picking up stitches, buttonholes and bands. Students should bring four (4) swatches about 6"x6"; three bound off, and three left on stitch holder.

**Beginning Crochet:** Learn the basics of crochet: single, double, crab stitch, edgings. Students will create a crochet dishcloth/coaster.

**Socks:** Ever wondered why sock knitting is so popular? Socks are fun, useful, and very portable projects! Learn the basics of knitting socks: knitting on double pointed needles, turning a heel, and weaving stitches at the toe using the Kitchener stitch! You will complete a mini-sock in the class. Must know how to cast on, knit, decrease, and pick up stitches.

**Socks on 2 Circular Needles:** Intrigued by socks by muddled by doublepointed

needles? Learn to make socks using two circular needles. Never drop another dp needle on the metro again!

**Felted Bag:** Felting involves knitting with pure wool and then "boiling" the project in a washing machine with hot water and maximum agitation. The result? Pure fabulous felt. We will make a felted market bag (samples on display at the shop) and explore the embellishments of needle felting as well!

**Charlotte's Web Shawl:** Using five skeins of the the deliciously hand -died Koigu yarns, students will learn to make the popular Charlotte's Web shawl. A great way to learn chart reading as well as lace knitting. Students should have basic knitting skills and be rather fearless!

**Knit Toys:** have a special little (or not so little) person who needs a gift? Join us in making knit toys! Animals, blocks, dolls abound! Students should know how to cast on, knit, purl, bind off, increase and decrease.

**Cast On Methods:** Many projects call for unique ways of casting on. Learn the long tail, cable, provisional, and our personal favorite The Twisted German, among others.

**Pattern Adaptation:** Frustrated by patterns that don't seem to fit correctly or have details you would like to add/subtract? In this class, you will learn how to adapt patterns to your measurements and individual needs. Please bring a favorite sweater that fits you well.

**Weekend Poncho:** Make the latest craze in less than a weekend! In two two-hour sessions, you will learn to make a fabulous knit poncho perfectly suited for the winter weather, including all finishing techniques!

**Monday Methods:** Short on time but eager to learn? These one-hour sessions are perfect for you. Only beginner skills needed.

**Continental Knitting:** Learn to knit holding the yarn in your left hand and "picking" rather than wrapping the stitch.

**Lace Knitting:** Work with markers and stitch patterns to create beautiful lace scarves, shawls, blankets, and even sweaters!

**Working from a Chart:** Don't be intimidated by patterns that are charted rather than written! We will unlock the secrets!

**Spring Shell:** Get started on that first shell of the spring!. Once you pick your yarn and get your gauge, we will create a personalized Sweater Wizard pattern for you! Then work with a teacher to learn every step of creating that perfect shell including armhole decreases/edges, and finishing. A great way of making sure that first (or twentieth) shell really fits and suits you!

*WHAT'S NEW*



Wow! All of our Fall/Winter Inventory is in and moving off the shelves quickly! Come see before the spring things start arriving in late January!

**NOVELTY:** Prism Yarns fabulous hand dyed selections of Cool/Wild Stuff (whole and half skeins), Biwa, Diana, and Bon Bon. Lana Grossa Viale.

**SPORT/DK:** New colors of Elsebeth Lavold Silky Wool and Silky Tweed. Lana Grossa Cool Wool and Cool Wool Print. New colors of Rowan Felted Tweed . Rowan

Yorkshire Tweed DK. Rowan Kidsilk Haze. 35 colors of Koigu.

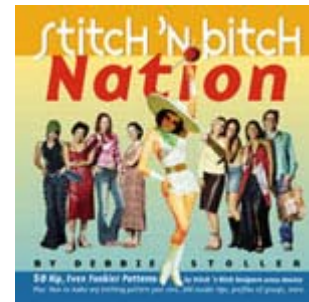
**WORSTED:** New colors of Noro Silk Garden, Kureyon, and Blossom; new colors of Debbie Bliss Cashmerino Aran. Rowan Kid Classic. Lana Grossa Fumo.

**CHUNKY:** Rowan Polar, Muench Tessin, new colors of Noro Iro and Kochoron; Noro Yoroi and Transitions. Berroco Medley. New colors of Rowan Chunky Print.

**SUPERCHUNKY:** New colors of Debbie Bliss Superchunky; Lana Grossa Colore; Rowan Ribbon Twist; new colors of Rowan Big Wool, Biggie Print.

**KITS:** Wool in the Woods Americana Afghan Kit; new colors of Colinette Absolutely Fabulous Throw Kits. Knit Whits hats/bags.

**PATTERNS/BOOKS:** New offerings from Koigu, Dale, Rowan, Debbie Bliss, Noro, Elsebeth Lavold and Design Source; New Fiber Trends, Knitting Pure and Simple, Oat Couture; Michele Wyman. New books from Noro, Debbie Bliss, Nikki Epstein, Cornelia Tuttle Hamilton; Eagerly awaiting the new Debbie Stoller Stitch n' Bitch Nation (which has shipped to us and due in the store on Monday)!



### *KNITTING TIP*

Are you flummoxed when you have to split a skein of yarn so that you can work with two strands? Here is an easy way to tell when you have two equal amounts: When winding the skein, count the number of wrapped loops. Then divide by two. When you have rolled the yarn that number of times, cut it and wind the second ball. Voila!

### *Holiday Hours*

Wednesday, November 24: 11 am-2 pm  
 Thursday, November 25: CLOSED  
 Friday, December 24: 11 am- 2 pm  
 Saturday, December 25: CLOSED  
 Friday, December 31: 11 am - 2 pm  
 Saturday, January 1: CLOSED

### *Quick Links...*

- [WoolWinders: A Knitting Salon Website \(the "Blog"\)](#)
- [Write to Us!](#)
- [Meet Our Staff!](#)
- [Want to Buy Our Yarns Without Going Outside?](#)
- [Our Philosophy!](#)
- [Directions and Store Hours](#)

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