



ET CETERA

A Newsletter for Knitting Etc.

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Roving, Natural or Dyed, All Local



We now stock several shades of **natural roving** from Spot Hollow Farm in Trumansburg, and **beautifully hand dyed wool locks** from Spinners Hill in Bainbridge. Make sure to check out these local beauties for your next spinning or needle felting project.

Coming soon: spinning and needle felting classes. Interested? Please [drop Hickory a line](#) and she'll make it happen!



Happy Stitching Hour

Come to the next Happy Stitching Hour on **Friday, February 5, from 5 to 7 pm.**

Join us for this social knitting time, meet some new people, re-connect with others, and just hang out. We'll chat, knit, gossip, stitch, wind down after the long work week, and shop this month's Happy Hour Sale! We will not be offering any knitting instructions or help, just a knitting visit.... The event is free. First come first serve. We have seats for approximately 15 people. Feel free to bring a snack or drinks to share!



Details for **February's Happy Hour Sale** will be announced a week prior to the event.

Upcoming Classes

Plus: Get a one-time 15% discount while your class is in session!

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Join A Club!

Are you a **sock** or **fair isle** knitter? Do you want to refine your techniques? Join our **Sock Club** or **Fair Isle Club!**

Calling for Submissions

We invite submissions of patterns or writings on knitting-related topics for our newsletter. If we use your work, you will have your fame and receive a \$50 gift certificate!

The submission must be your original design or writing that has not been accepted for publication elsewhere.

Knitting Basics: Felted Mittens

This is a basic knitting skills class for beginners or "scarf knitters." You will learn knit, purl, increase, decrease, seaming, and felting by making these very warm practical mittens from [Knitspot!](#)



[Dates & Details](#)

3fer

3fer is three for one! One skein of [Schaefer Yarn's Nichole](#) will make you all three items in this pattern, the cap, the mitts, and even the cowl! Using beads is optional, you can make all three items with beads, or without, or make the cap with beads for your mom, the mitts without for yourself, and the cowl for your kid's fourth grade teacher. 3fer is based on an easy slip stitch pattern that is created by wrapping the yarn twice around the right hand ndl and then cabling it on the next row. Designer Laura Nelkin will show you how.



[Dates & Details](#)

Beaded Circulate

Laura Nelkin's patterns are definitely favorites around here! This is a beaded lace faux moebius scarf. In one afternoon you'll learn all the techniques used to make *Circulate* by working up a mini version you can wear as a bracelet. There will still be plenty of yarn in your skein for the real thing as well. Techniques include bead placement, garter st lace, reading charts, attached beaded i-cord edging, and grafting. The lovely model at the store is made with [Schaefer Heather](#). Come try it on!



[Dates & Details](#)

By making your submission, you give Knitting Etc permissions to publish your work and distribute it in our newsletter and on our web site.

Pattern Submissions: Please specify the yarn used and gauge with color photographs of the finished product.

Please include a couple of sentences about yourself to be published with your pattern or writing.

E-mail all submissions in plain text or Microsoft Word format to: submissions@knittingetcithaca.com

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Crochet Squares

Beginning crocheters! Learn many crochet techniques by making different squares with Cathy Merwin. Using the book *200 Crochet Squares*, you'll learn a style each week and put them together for a blanket or pillows or use them singly as coasters. So many possibilities, so many fun and beautiful squares! After this you will be ready to tackle larger crochet projects or finish that crochet edging on your knitting!



[Dates & Details](#)

The Wallaby Hoodie

The Wonderful Wallaby, a classic pullover with a hood, is the perfect first sweater. It has great style and you'll wear it all the time. And you can make it in worsted weight wool, cotton, or other alternative fibers so it can be the perfect winter or spring sweater!



The pattern has sizes from toddler to adult.

[Dates & Details](#)

Stocking in February

You know it's too hot to knit for Christmas in July. You know you are too frazzled to knit for Christmas in December. Get a jump on Christmas, and be ready early in 2010! Using a pattern that gives forty variations and choices-and adding some of our own-and knitting with [Cascade 220](#)'s almost endless color choices, knit one or more stockings, on circular needles, during the socked-in quiet of Sunday afternoons in February. Lynda Bogel will help you with color stranding, making heels, adding Latvian braids or I-cord, knitting someone's name upside down. You'll be lolling about next December after designing



and knitting these stockings this winter.

[Dates & Details](#)

Sven Sweater

Here's an easy, bottom up, seamless sweater with a very nice colorful yoke pattern in stranded fair isle. This is a great class for first time sweater knitters, or for those who haven't tried seamless sweaters yet. Knit in [worsted weight yarn](#) the sweater is a fairly quick knit. We'll make a tube for the body (you can add waist shaping if you want), two tube-like sleeves, and we'll join it all together and work with lots of great colors into the yoke. This is a sweater that's good for men, women, and children. We'll meet every other week to allow you time to knit between classes.



[Dates & Details](#)

Socks on DPNs

This class is great for knitters who just completed the "Knitting Basics" classes to move forward!

Learn all about socks: their construction, techniques for knitting in the round on double pointed needles, how to work a heel, and how to graft the toe. Theresa George will walk you through all the steps by making a mini-sock (which fits a child) so you will be on your way to make your first real pair.

[Dates & Details](#)

Fingerless Gloves Workshop

Learn Susan's tricks for a pair of perfectly fitting fingerless gloves. There are five sizes in this pattern, with only two ends to sew in! Come to class with the cuff already knit so that you can get right into the nitty gritty of the shaping with Susan in class.



These gloves can be made from any

[fingering weight](#) or [sock yarn](#). The above sample is made in Prism Saki. Alternatives include [Prism Merino Mia](#) (1 skein makes the smallest size) and [Schaefer Nichole](#).

[Dates & Details](#)

Granite Sweater

The *Branching Cable Cardigan* is just bulky enough to be a quick knit but still very wearable. It's easy to change the shaping so there are lots of options for fit. Erin will guide you through two different ways to work the cables for two slightly different looks. The [Granite](#) yarn this sweater is knit with is just wonderful! It's a soft single ply with a line of stitching down the middle, which will keep it from piling or stretching out of shape. The yarn is easy to knit with. Come pick your favorite natural shade soon because they are going fast....



[Dates & Details](#)

Norwegian Mittens

Make some beautiful and functional warm winter mittens. Fair Isle creates a double layer fabric that means extra warmth and pretty designs. These two color patterns are the simplest way to learn to knit with multiple colors at the same time! Theresa will teach you some tricks and techniques of both Fair Isle and mitten knitting. You should be comfortable with double pointed needles though, or the magic loop technique for working in the round.



[Dates & Details](#)

Crash Crochet Course in Cute Critters

Learn to crochet amigurumi animals, embellish them with cute eyes, ears, noses, tails, and other necessary details. Bring your left-over [Cascade 220](#) stash and your creativity. The



required textbook is *Amigurumi World* by Ana Paula Rimoli. Beginning crocheters are welcome!



[Dates & Details](#)

Entomology Lace Wrap



This little lace wrap has a lace pattern that is easy to get the groove of and motifs of dragonflies. And of course, Laura's favorite: a touch of beads! Knit with [Schaefer's Anne](#), which makes such lovely lace this will be a quick lace piece, and the pattern is free from Knitty.com.

[Dates & Details](#)

EZ's Green Sweater

Fresh from Schoolhouse Press is Pattern #13 "**Elizabeth Zimmermann's Green Sweater.**" This lovely sweater has a special story: the cardigan was designed and knitted by Elizabeth Zimmermann for a friend in the 1950's. The pattern is re-constructed from the 60-year-old original garment. See [Brooklyn Tweed](#) and Twist Collective ([here](#) and [here](#)) for the real story of reconstructing this sweater pattern.



Susan is going to knit this ingenious little sweater as fast as she can! Featuring a mitered neck, sleeve decreases in the middle of the sleeve, interesting waist shaping, and who knows what else? Join her in this class to find out!

[Dates & Details](#)



Undulating Waves Lace Scarf

This class is perfect for intermediate to



advanced knitters wanting to learn to knit lace with beads! Make the beautiful Undulating Waves Scarf in [Schaefer Susan](#) (100% mercerized cotton) or [Heather](#) (55% superwash merino, 30% silk, 15% nylon). In one Sunday afternoon Laura Nelkin, who designed the scarf, will teach you how to read charts, knit with beads and make the scarf's lace pattern to get you started. You will be able to finish on your own.

[Dates & Details](#)

Guided Projects

Are you ready to take on an exciting and challenging project? Do you need guidance on a project that you've been stuck on forever? Perhaps you want to see what others are knitting and seek inspirations for your next project.

The Guided Projects class is for more experienced knitters who will get to work on independent projects. The instructors are ready to help, from selecting an interesting project appropriate for your skill level, modifying patterns to suit your needs, to identifying and fixing your mistakes.

This Guided Projects class gives you the flexibility of attending any 5 weekly classes of your choosing within 3 months of signing up. After attending 5 classes, you can continue to come by paying for 5 more (which is a distinct possibility after you find out how much fun these classes are!)

[Dates & Details](#)

Essay

Knitting for Mom

By Susan Bryson Earle

My mother, the woman who taught me to knit, and who knit for me, has gone away. The person left in her place is forgetful, repeats herself, and acts embarrassingly child-like. But she is also cheerful, pretty easy to be around, and, luckily, still recognizes me. And sometimes, in her infrequent and brief clear moments, I see the loving mother I knew growing up.

Mom did not knit a lot after she married; she was busy. My birth gave her four children under the age of six. In fact, my two elder brothers, having arrived earlier on the scene, had personalized, hand-knit Christmas stockings, made even before my older sister was born. She and I had to wait some time before we got ours - I think we were in grade school by then.

Maybe that was why my favorite article of clothing as a child was the one sweater Mom made for me - not a hand-me-down from my sister - just for me, the youngest, the most easily teased, the quietest, and the last child up the mountain on family hikes - the one she kept company as we "rested."

In every slide from our camping trip in the Canadian Rockies in the summer of 1962, I am wearing that natural sheep's wool cardigan. It kept me warm in the cold, rainy Pacific Northwest. I liked the intricate design of cables and the bumpy moss stitch, and the feel of the wool itself, still coated with lanolin. It was the only sweater I had that felt that way.

I have knit for her on only two occasions, and both times what I made were Christmas presents.

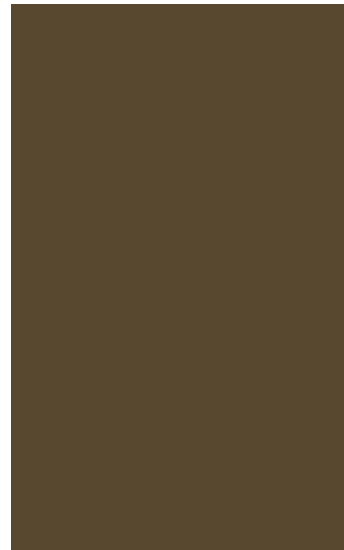
In fact, I knit for her this past Christmas, when my family visited her and Dad in California. The project was a pair of slipper socks, the second sock finished on the long flight out, of course. Calling for bulky Alpaca for the slipper part, and Alpaca/Merino for the sock part, the easy pattern I saw in the *Interweave Gift Knits* magazine sounded like something she would like. I had been told that Alzheimer patients like soft textures, that they find it soothing to touch velvet, or fleece. I myself enjoyed working with the soft alpaca, and tried to ignore the worry that this gift could end up under her bed, where she hides many of her special things.

Luckily, as soon as she unwrapped the socks, she put them on. "Oooh," she squealed with delight, "they are so soft and warm." She went upstairs to her closet and got some lace-up sandals to wear with them, so she wouldn't slip on the bare wood floors of her house. The socks looked a little puffy, squeezed into the shoes, and she wore this odd combination for the whole time we were there. She even wore it on an outing to the local yarn shop, where she told the saleswoman three different times, proudly, enthusiastically, that I had made them.

The other hand-knit present I gave her, twelve years ago, was an afghan made with soft blue and green yarn. The basket weave pattern required enough concentration to make the knitting interesting, but not so much that it kept the work from being

relaxing. I knit it during the three months of physical therapy I endured after knee surgery. Once the bending and tightening and lifting of my sore leg was over, I would sit on the cushioned table, with ice on my knee, and knit. It was comforting to think of her as I made it.

After she opened my present that Christmas, the afghan was draped over the back of her white couch, and remained there until last May. I was visiting her, and she insisted that I take the afghan back to Ithaca with me. Perhaps she worried that my innocent sister-in-law, her favorite scapegoat, would take it. Or maybe she was briefly in one of her clear windows and she remembered the pride of craftsmanship knitting gives us, and the love that goes into it, and she wanted to make sure that I got it back.



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