

In The Loop

July 2006

TO OUR WONDERFUL SKEIN LANE COMMUNITY

We hope that you had a Happy July 4th! In celebration we closed on Tuesday and followed it up with our closed summer Wednesday. It was a two-day holiday for Skein Lane.

We are starting the month off with a bang! **All books and patterns are on sale - 30% off - from July 1 thru July 10.** It's a great time to expand your library.

Our hot project for the month is a "revisit" to one of Cat Bordhi's wonderful mobius designs, [Sage Rhythm Wrap](#), featured on page 57 of *A Treasury of Magical Knitting*. Sharon has knit it in a lovely taupe color of Muskat from Garnstudio.

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. Be sure to include details of your project, i.e. pattern, yarn and any tips.

The [Einstein Coat](#) knitalong got underway last month. This wonderful coat is from Sally Melville's *The Knit Stitch*. Several of us are inspired to have our coats done to "show off" to Sally when she is here in November. We will continue to meet on Saturdays from 1 - 3pm until we accomplish that goal. The July knitalong, the [Log Cabin Blanket](#) begins July 15. As I mentioned last month, I am eager to do this knitted quilt. It puts me in the spirit of my grandmother and her quilting.

We know it's really been wonderful summer weather and a little hard to think about Christmas....but while you are enjoying the summer it is a great time to get a jump on those projects. Small projects are very portable and cotton blankets are good to knit or crochet now. Some of your vacation projects could be: pillows, socks, hats, purses, patterned wash cloths, the list goes on! These same projects can quickly become your Christmas presents!

Knitting is such a wonderful journey. Recently one of our customers brought in a knitting magazine published in the early 70's. As I was flipping through the pages, I focused almost immediately on the pattern that I had used to knit a vest that I still have in the shop as a show and tell. I flashed back to the time when I made it - my great aunt Ruth and I were waiting for my grandparents to arrive at the train depot in Chico. When we learned that their train was delayed by a rock slide in Feather River Canyon, I immediately sought out the local yarn shop. Nine hours later I had a great deal of the back done!

Just one more story! One of our young customers, 7-yr old Brigid, has chosen yarn to knit a roof for the house she is making for the fairies who come to visit. These fairies come often and need a place to stay. We hear such wonderful stories!

As always, we look forward to seeing you, helping you with your yarn choices and providing project support.

Our best,

Carolyn and staff

More news follows:

KNIT PICKING SALES

* Check out our new [sale](#) section!

LEARNING @ SKEIN LANE

Upcoming Classes

JP is teaching two classes - [Lace Knitting](#) and [Cables](#).

Ellen is teaching [Creative Color](#).

Carolyn is teaching [Beginning Knitting - Level 3](#)

Kimberly is teaching a [Teen's Class](#).

Carolyn's Fall series of [Knitting Workshop](#) gets underway mid-September.

Register early to reserve your space.

We will once again be offering [Kids Camp](#) in July and August. This is a great chance for young people to come together and share their love of knitting!

We are just finishing up our top-down sock class. Tell us if you would like some more sock classes in August. We will be offering a beginning knitting class in August. Check our website for the dates.

KNITALONGS

As mentioned above, we have several knitalongs in process. The knitalongs are very popular....join us for these fun projects.

[The Einstein Coat](#)

[The Log Cabin Quilt](#)

[The Great American Afghan # Block Party](#)

[24/7 Jacket](#)

YARN EVENTS

The [Mystery Fiber Feast](#): Saturday, July 22 from 3-5pm. Seating is limited so sign up early.

SKEIN LANE KNOW HOW

As I have been working on my Einstein Coat I knew that I wanted to do one -row buttonholes. The best instructions that I have seen for this comes from *The Knit Stitch* by Sally Melville and *The Knitter's Guide to Sweater Design* by Carmen Michelson and Mary-Ann Davis. I am going to quote directly from the *The Knitter's Guide to Sweater Design* which was published in 1989.

"This single-row buttonhole is firm and strong. A major advantage it has over other horizontal buttonholes is that it requires no finishing work. It looks best if worked on the wrong side of the fabric. Plan the buttonhole to begin at least three stitches in from an edge. All the slip stitches are slipped purlwise."

1. Knit to the stitches for the buttonhole. Bring the yarn to the front and slip a stitch, Put the yarn to the back and slip a second stitch. Drop the yarn, which will not be used again until Step 4.
2. Pass the first slipped stitch over the second slipped stitch to bind off the first stitch of the buttonhole. Continue to slip a stitch and pass the previous slipped stitch over it until all of the buttonhole stitches are bound off.
3. Pass the last slipped stitch back to the left needle. Turn the work.
4. Pick up the yarn and put it to the back of the work. Working the Cable Cast-On, cast on the number of stitches bound off.
5. Cast on one extra stitch, but bring the yarn to the front between this extra stitch and the last buttonhole stitch before placing the extra stitch on the left needle. This extra stitch does not need to be twisted when it is placed on the left needle. Turn the work.
6. Slip a stitch from the left needle, pass the extra stitch over the slipped stitch and tighten the extra stitch firmly. Finish the row.

A final comment from Carolyn - to be sure that you are making the buttonhole the right size for your button(s), make a buttonhole in your swatch.

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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