

WOOLGATHERINGS

FROM AYLIN

December 2003

Aylin's Woolgatherer

7245 Arlington Blvd.
Loehmann's Plaza
Suite 318 (Above 7-11)
Falls Church, VA 22042
703-573-1900
800-776-WOOL (9665)
www.aylins-wool.com

Special Interest:

ANNIVERSARY SALE JANUARY 2, 3 & 5

Our Family Room opens
Wednesdays, starting
in January – 3 to 7pm.

Be sure to check our Sale
Nook

The Northern Virginia
chapter of the Crochet
Guild of America meets in
our Family Room on the
2nd Thursday of each
month from 6:30-8:30 pm.
Come join this fun group.

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It doesn't seem possible that I opened for business 29 years ago. My first storefront location was in the Willston Center, where we were wedged between a hardware store and a shoe shop. After 3 1/2 years there, we moved to Loehmann's Plaza, on the mall level. Then in 1987, we were able to move to our third floor studio, which gives us a bit more privacy & a lot more light.

We have enjoyed times when knitting and crochet were wildly popular and have weathered some years when they were not as much in vogue. These days, we can scarcely catch our breath because of the flood of customers in the shop. What a glorious predicament. I sincerely hope you are enjoying the wealth of yarn and patterns available and that we are carrying what you need and want for your projects.

To thank you, our valued clients, we are again hosting our big anniversary sale on the first three business days of the new year. All yarn and kits will be at least 25% off. We will have refreshments on hand, and I look forward to welcoming you to celebrate 29 years of business.

Remember, we sell gift certificates. If your family members are looking for ideas, you might want to add us to your holiday wish list. You would then have "money" to spend at the sale.

Occasionally, I regret being as busy as we have been lately. As you know, we have always provided assistance to knitters and crocheters who need help. We will make every effort to continue doing so if you have bought your materials from us, if we are not terribly busy, and if your problem isn't a major one. If significant help is needed, we may suggest that you sign up for a class or a private lesson with one of our teachers. It is difficult to predict when we will not be terribly busy, although helping people with stalled projects is generally out of the question on Saturdays.

The opening of our "family room" relaxation area has been delayed a bit. We have installed comfortable furniture and lovely curtains made by our own Rita Hare, and will be ready to open on Wednesdays in January. Do stop by for a while to knit and crochet with us. We will be open between 3 and 8:30 p.m., and the cost is \$5.

I wish all of you a happy holiday and a wonderful year in 2004. We all look forward to seeing you soon.

Aylin

STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Now that you have bought all of these goodies (yarn, needles, implements), you obviously need places to put them. We have some beautiful tote bags, knitting stands, needle cases, zippered pouches, and eyeglass cases – something to fit all of your needs.

The tote bags are in every imaginable style: purely practical see-through vinyl, bright whimsical oilcloth, exotic Turkish kilim-look, quilted briefcases with tons of zippered pockets, and truly exquisite beaded and sequined velour. We have needle cases in tooled and jeweled metal, quilted ones for circulars, extra long pouches for 14" straights, and a number that are for mixed needles and hooks.

We also carry Nancy's Knit Knack laminated cards, which are wonderful little tip sheets and project information cards to carry with you, and we sell Nancy's downloadable software that will give you all of the information and project cards for your computer. If you're like us, you sometimes forget what yarn you have stashed. This would be a great way to keep track of what you have and where it's stowed.

GATHERING OF YARNS...YARNS...YARNS....

Our journey starts with **127 Print** wool, full color dashes of multi-colors that knits up in a unique pattern all of its own design. Jo Sharp brings **Rare Comfort** mohair to the table along with **Silken Tweed** and **Felted Tweed** in wonderful Fall colors. Tahki's **Isabella**, a lovely boucle wool and mohair, comes to our gathering with **Shannon**, a multi-color tweed; both are conversation getters in rich mixes of colors.

Bunny is just full of soft bounce. How about Adrienne Vittadini's terrific eye catchers: **Nadia**, a two-color twisted zebra thick and thin yarn great for that winter turtle neck, and **Natasha**, a luscious wool alpaca mohair. Don't forget Classic Elite's **Beatrice** - this one lights up the room with a new array of spiral colors.

I don't know about you, but there is always room for Stacy Charles. How about **Curly** with woolly loops and shiny curls? Euroyarns has a special **Two In One** excitement. There are two different yarns: one small, even boucle and a lofty twisted yarn. These yarns are special because they are in the same color code and work together well to make an unusual texture combination.

Take a look at **Tokyo** by Stacy Charles. It's a multi-threaded yarn combination with tiny flag accents. Reynolds' **Panama**, a short cotton eyelash with a twist of multi colors to blend. Muench's **Vamos** is a soft eyelash, vareigated and furry.

We have more! How about **Happy**, a short eyelash, and **Magic**, a rayon velvety touch. You have to float through the air with this woven, bulky, soft, fluffy yarn, **Cashair** by Westminster Fibers. **Hanna Silk**'s rich beautiful texture stands by for that special holiday gift. Well, this is only a peek at all of the wonderful textures and colors of yarns. There are so many more yarns just waiting to share their pleasures and intrigue with you. So don't wait any longer. Come in and join the gathering.

INSPIRATION STATION! BOOK AND PATTERN NOOK

CHASE AWAY THE CHILLS IN 2 HOT-ITEM JACKETS!

Looking for a lot of style with minimal time to invest? Select an exquisite Turkish brocade from our ready-made vest selections. Next choose complementing yarns to knit only the sleeves and bands! Aylin has rewritten clear & simple directions to create the stunning "Carolyn Jacket" that was all the rage at this fall's Stitches East Market!!

Bias is a complement in the "Pyramid Jacket" designed by our very own instructor Louise Lighthart. Easy garter stitch & unique diagonal construction combine to fit and flatter every figure type! Come see! It's closure-free & sure to be that perfect about-town staple to your wardrobe!

AROUND THE WORLD – 90 MINUTES???

Immerse your mind, heart & fingers in cultures of the continents with 3 new books by Interweave Press. Folk Bags, Folk Mittens and Folk Vests take you on a journey into colors, patterns & techniques form around the globe. Let tales of the cultures that inspired them take you on magic carpet ride!!

CROCHET CRAZE

Crocheted Aran Sweaters – Jane Peever

Crochet for Tots – Nancy Queen

Kids Can Do It – Crocheting – Gwen

Kunsler & Jackie Young

From Needles to Hook – The

Needlework Stop

Simple Crochet – Erika Knight

DIMINISHING THE PAIN OF FINISHING

Compendium of Finishing Techniques –

Naomi McEneely

Knitter's Book of Finishing Techniques –

Nancie Wiseman

FUN & FANCY

Felted Knits – Interweave Press

Jamieson's Shetland Knitting Book 3

TAKING STOCK OF SOCKS

Cool Socks for Warm Feet – Lucy Neatby

Foot Notes – Joseph Madls, "The Sock Guy"

KNIT AND CROCHET CLASSES 2004

KNITTING CLASSES

“Camp” - Brigitte Reydams

Mondays 10 a.m. – noon
January 5 – March 16
Bring your own project
\$15 per class \$100 for 10 sessions

Beginning/Intermediate Knitting - Harriet Twigg

Tuesdays 10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
January 16, – February 17 .
2/24 – 3/30; 4/13 – 5/18/2004
\$80 for 6 sessions

“Camp” - Louise Lighthart

Thursdays 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays 10 a.m.–noon
Bring your own project
\$20 per session or
\$80 for 6 sessions

Mitred Squares;

Pyramid Jacket; or

Entrelac - Louise Lighthart

Let us know of your interest.
We'll take your name and try to form a class.

Knit Along - Debra Lee

Saturdays 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Dec 6, 13, 20, 27; Jan 3, 10, 17, 24; Feb 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr 3, 10, 17, 24.
Bring your own project
\$20 per session

Knitting from Patterns

Debra Lee

Saturdays 1 – 3 p.m.
Dec 6, 13, 20, 27; Jan 3, 10, 17, 24; Feb 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr 3, 10, 17, 24.
\$25 per session or
\$80 for 4 sessions

Knitting for Beginners

Debra Lee

Saturdays 3 – 5 p.m.
Jan 3, 10, 17, 24; Feb 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr 3, 10, 17, 24.
\$80/4 consecutive sessions

CROCHET CLASSES

Beginning/Intermediate

Karen Klemp

Tuesdays 6 – 8 p.m.
January 6 – February 10
February 17 – March 30
(no class on March 2)
6 sessions \$80

Beginning/Intermediate

Karen Klemp

Wednesdays 10 a.m.-noon
January 7 – February 11
February 18 - March 24
6 sessions \$80

Ruffles & Flourishes

Karen Klemp

Saturday, January 31
10 a.m.-1 p.m. - \$50

Scarves & Shawls

Karen Klemp

Saturday, March 6
10 a.m.- 1 p.m. - \$50

SPECIAL ATTRACTION – COMING IN MARCH

Beth Brown-Reinsel is coming to Aylin's to teach three workshops the weekend of **March 27-28, 2004**. On Saturday, we will offer **two 3-hour workshops: Norwegian Purl** in the morning and **Swedish Cast-ons and Knitting Techniques** in the afternoon; On Sunday, Beth will teach her fabulous 6-hour class, **Aran Pullovers from the Top Down**. The Saturday sessions are \$75 each; the Sunday workshop is \$150. Please be sure to register as early as possible, because space is limited.

Lily Chin is next up, in November of 2004. Check this space in our next newsletter for more information.

Report from STITCHES 2003

Stitches 2003 was located in Atlantic City this year. Four of us from the shop set up our booth like a mini Aylin's Woolgatherer. It was a lot of hard work, but lots of fun too. We saw new products, new & old friends & many gorgeous sweaters knitted by attendees at the show. Among the products we saw were the wooden knitting needles by Lantern Moon, which we are now carrying! We received our first shipment and they are beautiful! The fabric & yarn for Carolyn's Jackets & yarn for Lou's Pyramid Jacket were very popular for us. Completed samples of both are in the shop if you are interested in seeing them. We also have some wonderful Hanne Falkenburg kits. Vogue Knitting Magazine just featured an article on her. As we write this newsletter, we have already discussed Stitches 2004 & what we may want to do next year. For those who have not attended before, think about it for next October. And for those of you who stopped by our booth, Thank you!

STORE HOURS:

Mon, Tues, Fri & Sat
10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday (As of Jan. 8th, open for Stitch & Sip b/w 3pm – 8:30pm)
10 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday
10 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Closed Sunday

Hey Ladies -

*You know that we love our customers and think your kids are so cute. We all like to have a good time, and even though the yarn isn't as breakable as Waterford Crystal, it still can seem to cost as much and is quite fragile in its own way. We need to keep it as intact as possible so we can proudly sell it. Please help us keep our wonderful yarns looking as fresh as they should. We here behind the counter sure appreciate your understanding.
Many thanks from the staff!*

MANRA RETREAT

The Mid-Atlantic Needlework Retailers Association is hosting a special weekend retreat April 16-18, 2004 at

The Clarion Hotel & Conference Center
Antietam Creek
901 Dual Highway
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Registration: \$300 per person double occupancy
\$390 per person single occupancy
includes room for Friday and Saturday nights, breakfast buffet Saturday and Sunday, Friday night indoor poolside reception with cash bar, Saturday night buffet dinner, free mini lectures/demonstrations/classes Saturday and Sunday, all taxes and gratuities

Aylin & Karen Klemp (our wonderful crochet guru & teacher) will teach a joint knit/crochet class.
Stitching lounge will be open from 12 noon Friday until Sunday at 3 p.m.

You may register at Aylin's. One-half of the fee is payable by December 15; the balance is due in February.

Sure hope you can join us.

Aylin's Woolgatherer
7245 Arlington Boulevard,
Suite 318
Falls Church, VA 22042

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Dulles, VA

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