

# *In The Loop*

April 2007

## **Dear Skein Lane Community:**

The beautiful weather is still calling me to the yard. How about you? I've noticed that my knitting fingers are looking a little weathered from pulling those lovely flowering weeds. But the weather is good and so is the knitting. [My Nantucket Jacket](#) is continuing to grow and I have socks galore in process. One [pair are finished](#) and were sent off to my friend in Nashville, and I wore the [other pair](#) on one of the cold days of this past week. One [Moderne Baby Blanket](#) is just rows away from being done and I am ready to start the next one.

Thank you for all your kind thoughts about Sandy Olson. When it was time to update the front page of our website, I found it hard to take her photo down...so I created an [In Memoriam](#) page in honor of Sandy and my mother.

My local retailer news for this month includes an announcement from Ellen Graves. You may recall that last month I mentioned Ellen was embarking on opening a yarn shop...well she just called me with the official news - K2tog will launch it's on-line business in mid-May and the store front will open at 1230 Solano Ave, Albany in early July. Congratulations to Ellen!

And next weekend I am going to visit [EwePhoric Yarns](#) in Arnold. I met Suzanne and David at TNNA in early 2004 just as they were getting ready to open their business. We've kept in touch, but I have not had an opportunity to visit with them or their shop in Arnold. As it turns out I will be staying with my niece's three children in Manteca that weekend, and of course I came up with a field trip related to yarn...what else! We also have family to visit in Arnold ...and I was flattered when I described this day's outing to my 12-year old nephew and his response was "Awesome!" He really likes his grandparents so it will be a good trip for all.

Speaking of field trips, a couple of weeks ago several of us headed up to Petaluma to visit [Knitterly](#). It's a lovely shop in a terrific setting. We did a little yarn shopping and then we lunched at a nearby outdoor cafe and talked knitting.

This morning I was asked to post information about a fund raiser and that made me think it would be good to have a community/charity paragraph in this newsletter. This comes to us from Al Kostalas. *"Hi, I am a subscriber to your newsletter and I was hoping that in the next issue you might help me spread the word about the Knitters Against AIDS! Team i've set up for this year's AIDS Walk SF (in July). All of the information, as well as links to team sign-ups, can be found at <http://knitAWSF.blogspot.com>. I think this will be a really fun event for knitters*

*all across the Bay Area, and I would love some help with getting the word out."*  
Good luck All!

### **Events and Guests**

[West Valley Alpaca Open House](#) is happening May 6. For those of you who would like to spend a day at an Alpaca farm this will be a day filled with activities to inspire all. Let me know if you are interested in going and we will coordinate a Skein Lane caravan.

Evite invitations are forthcoming to our [Customer Fashion Show](#). It's always inspiring to see everyone's work.

[Lorna Miser](#) will be here this coming Sunday, April 15 for a class : ***Easy Tips for Knitting with Hand-Dyed Yarns***. If you can't take the workshop, but would like a chance to meet Lorna pack a lunch and join us during the lunch break from noon until 1:30 pm. We will be at the [Kensington Community Center](#) at 59 Arlington, Kensington.

[Helen Hamann](#) will be joining us again in early October. We will have yet another chance to be inspired and learn more. Stay tuned for her class offerings with dates and times.

### **Classes**

Our Spring Session of [Knitting Workshops](#) began March 20. There is room for drop-in on Tuesday and Thursday am workshops. Just call ahead 510.525.9276.

We are having so much fun knitting the socks from Nancy Bush's *Vintage Socks* book. Now that we have mastered some of the techniques the class has evolved into a [Vintage Sock Club](#). Each month we will start a new sock and forge ahead. The sock for the month of April is **The Fancy Silk Sock** that begins on page 77.

For those of you who want to learn to knit basic socks, we will be offering our next [basic sock](#) class in June. And if you are one of those saying "[Why would anyone ever want to knit socks?](#)" just take a look of some the socks that Kimberly has knit. (Yes, she was one of those!) And I knit socks for one our friends that we see at an annual reunion, and she said they are her favorite socks and because she doesn't want them to wear out, she saves them for special occasions....looks like I better knit another pair. I am just elated that I've just finished a pair for another friend who often asked, "[Where are my socks?](#)" She now has them!

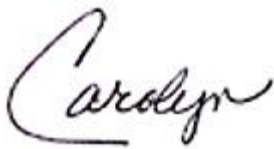
Join us for our [Ruffled Roses Scarf](#) in May.

In our studio setting we have added consultation hours. If you need help you can either call or e-mail for free consultation. You can also schedule an in-person

consultation appointment for a fee of \$5.00 for 15 minutes or \$20.00 per hour. We look forward to being able to help you with your knitting opportunities.

It's exciting that we have a small offering of yarn available in our studio. In addition to our sock yarns, we currently have Cotton Fleece from Brown Sheep, Deco Ribbon and Waikiki (in skein put-up) from Crystal Palace, and other miscellaneous yarns: Silke Tweed, Sock Yarns, and some Novelties...an array of yarn. Call 510.525.9276 or e-mail [skeinlane@aol.com](mailto:skeinlane@aol.com) if you are looking for any these yarns. You might guess that I have stocked two of my favorites - the cotton fleece and silky wool.

My best and knit on!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn".

#### **SKEIN LANE KNOW HOW**

[My tip for the month!](#) As I was stitching the pocket on my almost completed Oregon Vest, I found that my pocket wanted to "travel" at an angle. I undid what I had stitched and then put in a basting thread of contrasting color....and then used that as my guide from the inside of the garment to be sure that my pocket was laying "squared". The basting thread saved my patience and sanity! Happy knitting to all.

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](mailto: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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