

# Garden District Needlework Shop, L.L.C.

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We are open Wednesday through Friday from 10am- 4pm and Saturdays from 10am- 5pm



## News from the Garden District

Volume 7, Issue 1

### Market News

April 2007

#### Knitting News

### Spring Cleanup Sale

**April 14th through April 21st**

Make sure to get in to see what we have on sale this month!

- Many of our novelty yarns will be deeply discounted up to 50%.
- Selected needlepoint canvases 20-50% off.
- Back issues of magazines will be 20% off and selected books 10% off.
- Single pattern leaflets 50%.
- Selected knitting needles will be discounted up to 50%.
- All yarns presently in the sale room will go down to 75% off.

### New Yarns

The trend this spring is for lace, lace and more lace. Come in to see our shipment of Kid Seta by Madil. We have 9 solid and 6 variegated glorious colorways, many of which were used to knit some of the patterns in the much-loved book, Victorian Lace Today.

[http://www.cascadeyarns.com/madil\\_KidSeta.asp](http://www.cascadeyarns.com/madil_KidSeta.asp) We have quite a bit of new yarn suitable for lace including Brushed Mohair and Silk from Claudia Handpaint.

The other trend this spring is for socks! We have new sock yarns by Fiesta and Claudia Handpaint and we have restocked our supply of Koigu.

We have received our shipment of Panda Cotton from Crystal Palace Yarns. It is a fingering weight blend of bamboo, cotton and elastic nylon, which gives it a nice stretch. Great for sensitive skins and children and anyone who might be unable to wear wool. Fabulous for socks in our hot humid climate. We also carry Cascade Fixation, a cotton and elastic sport weight yarn.

We have also received new cotton summer yarns from Nashua. Check out their web site for the gorgeous solid and variegated colorways of Cotton DK, Ecologie Cotton and Cilantro. <http://www.westminsterfibers.com/Yarns/>

We have new colors of Provence cotton by Classic Elite for all those summer projects.

#### Needlepoint News

The trunk show from Heartstrings, Mile High Princess and Shear Creations will be here May 1st through May 31st. There are some really cute designs for summer included. To see examples of these designs, please visit the following web site:

<http://www.artistscollection.net/Artists%20Collection/Welcome.html>

Check out our resource guide on page 4 of this newsletter for needlepoint resources including free patterns, stitch guides and needlework organizations.

#### Community Bulletin Board

If you have a fiber-related group or activity, let us know about it so we can post it in our newsletter. Please e-mail the information to us, including a contact number. All of the following are open to the public, but there may be a membership fee.

Knitting Guild: 2nd Monday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; St. Charles Presbyterian Church at 1525 State Street.

Crescent City Needlework Guild: Mondays at Whim House at Longue View Gardens from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. (excluding August and December and major holidays)

American Needlepoint Guild meets at Colonial Country Club in Harrahan on the second Wednesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Knitwits meets at Borders Book Store (Vets and Causeway) on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Knitting Meetup at Urban Cup monthly. Please see <http://knitting.meetup.com/1108/?qj=si6> for more information.

Stitch N Bitch NOLA group meets weekly. Please see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SnBNOLA/> for more information.

For the quilters out there go to <http://www.gulfstatesquilting.org/> for information on their events and meetings.

New Orleans Knots is a hand and machine sewing group. Go to <http://www.nolaknots.com> for more information.

Garden District's own Knit at Night Group will meet from 5—8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the store. Please join us with your knitting projects.

Also join us in the store on the 4th Saturday each month from 1-4 pm for our Sock it to Me Club. For sock knitters to meet and greet and share resources with one another.

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## Our Regular Knitting & Needlepoint Classes

### Help!

Are you stuck on a stitch or a technique. We are available on Wednesdays and Friday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. Come meet our expert staff. No appointment is needed if you can be helped in a minute or two, or three. However, if you are stuck and need more time, we would be happy to schedule a private lesson to help you with your problem.

### Needlepoint One

Needlepoint One project will feature basic and decorative stitches and the students will learn how to count, use a variety of stitches and threads, and compensate partial stitches. Taught. This class is taught by Diana Johnson in 4 sessions of 2 Hours at \$135.00. Includes canvas, fibers, needles and book. Thursday 10 am-12 pm.

### Beginning Knitting

This is an ongoing class. Learn to cast on, knit, purl, and bind off. Projects include scarf and hat, additional projects can be made, time permitting. This class is taught in 3 sessions of 2 Hours at \$25.00 a session, pay-as-you-go. Project materials (needles, yarn, instruction book) are \$20.00 plus tax and must be purchased from GDNS. Wednesday and Friday 10 am-12 pm.

### Intermediate Knitting

This is an ongoing class. Builds on techniques learned in Knitting Basics. This class is for the intermediate knitter who has a specific project in mind. We will help you form start to finish and help you expand your knitting skills. Project materials are additional and must be purchased from GDNS. Wednesday and Friday 10 am-12 pm.

### Continental (European) Knitting

Learning continental knitting can give you options while knitting. Some knitters find that they can knit to a more consistent gauge and can knit more quickly in this manner. Especially helpful to those with arthritis or joint problems, as this method requires less movement of the arms and hands. Thursday from 10-12 pm. \$25.00 a session, pay-as-you-go.

### Private Lesson

Available by appointment only. \$20.00 per hour.

\*Please see the calendar on our website for updated information on classes.

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## Saturday Knitting Workshops

Scheduled Saturday Workshops (see the calendar on our website for specific dates and times)

**Beginning Knitting** (Class is free, kit is \$20.00)

**Advanced Beginning Knitting (1 session)** - Felted Stash Purse/Bag, (Class is free, materials \$35.00)

Sock Classes—2 sessions—\$35.00 for both sessions plus materials

**Socks 101**—Knitting one sock at a time on two circular needles.

**Socks 201**—Knitting two socks at one time on two circular needles.

**Socks 301**—Toe-up socks, one at a time on two circular needles.

**Socks 401**—Designing a pair of socks, any gauge, any size.

## Upcoming Events

**Sock It To Me Club**—Sit and knit for sock-knitters. A place to talk about and knit socks, trade internet resources, discuss free patterns, stitches and yarns. Inviting all sock-knitters, new and old. If you would to learn how to make socks, please see our calendar for scheduled classes. We will meet on the 4th Saturday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

### Trunk Shows

The Beau Geste truck show previously scheduled for April 26th, 27th and 28th has been cancelled.

Mile High Princess, Heartstrings, and Shear Creations trunk show will be here in May.

### Class Policies

**Class Materials:** Except when noted, yarns **must** be purchased from GDNS. Come in as soon as possible to pick out your supplies in case we need to order something. Please come to class with any gadgets you might need.

**Pre-Registration:** Pre-registration is required for all classes. 50% of the class fee is due at registration. You may register by phone via Visa/MasterCard. Of course, you can always register in person!

**Minimum:** A minimum of three students is required in order for a class to run. You will be notified one week in advance in the minimum is not met and your deposit will be refunded.

**Balance:** The balance for class fees is due on the first day of class.

**Cancellation:** Store credit can be issued for your deposit if we are notified one week before the start of the class. After this point, deposits are non-refundable.

*Out of courtesy to our instructors, no make-up classes are given.*

**Special Fee Classes:** 100% payment due at the time of registration.

## Free Patterns Featuring Some Of Our In-Stock Yarns



### Simple Bow Hat

Created by Jan Lewis - <http://knittingandmore.blogspot.com/>

This cute little hat can be made with any yarn and in any size as long as the CO is in a multiple of 10 so the i-cord can be threaded properly.

### Materials:

Any yarn will do. I've used both baby and worsted weight. 16 in circular needles – one in size suggested for yarn weight and one smaller for rolled brim DPNs in size suggested for yarn weight

\*Instructions are given for a size that would fit about a 4 yr old using Bernat Softee Baby and size 3 and 4 – 16 in circs\*

### Instructions:

CO 90 stitches

Using smaller circular needle (US 3) and being careful not to twist join stitches and knit for 10-11 rows.

Switch to larger needle (US 4) and knit about 8 rows. **NOTE:** this can vary based on yarn and your preferences about where you want the eyelets for the bow.

Eyelet Row: \*k2, YO, k2tog\* repeat between \* around hat.  
Continue knitting till hat is about 5.5 in from rolled edge, or about 6-6.5 in from the CO edge. This will vary with the size hat you are making.

### Decreases:

(Use DPNs when stitches become too tight on circular needle)

\*k8, k2tog\* repeat between \* around hat

Knit 2 rows even

\*k7, k2tog\* around

Knit 2 rows even

\*k6, k2tog\* around

Knit 1 row even

\*k5, k2tog\* around

Knit 1 row even

\*k4, k2tog\* around

Knit 1 row even

\*k3, k2tog\* around

Continue decreasing till you have about 9 stitches, cut yarn about 12 in long and thread through yarn needle and put through stitches left on needles. Cinch it up gently and go through top again then weave in end. Weave in all other ends.

### I-cord:

Using 2 size US 3 DPNs and 3 stitches make an i-cord long enough to go around hat and tie a bow. I tested it by putting the stitches on a holder and threading through the eyelets. I can't give an exact length because it varies with yarn weight, needle size and personal preferences.

Have fun!

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<http://knittingandmore.blogspot.com/>



### Mae's Slippers

Materials:

50g 100% wool (I used half a skein of Brown Sheep that I had around)  
4.5mm (US 7) needles (the wool calls for larger, but I wanted to make sure that the gauge was tight) [I wanted mine to look more like ballet slippers, so I used dk weight wool and #2 needles--M]  
Tapestry needle

### Sole:

Cast on 8 stitches.

Knit 2 rows plain.

Then:

Row 1: k1, inc1, k6, inc1, k1 (10 st)

Row 2: knit

Repeat these two rows until there are 22 stitches.

Continue in garter stitch over these 22 stitches until piece measures 3 cm.

Row 1: k2tog, knit last 2, k2tog

Row 2: Repeat Row 1. (18 stitches)

[I worked these decreases on one side of the sole only, over 8 rows. This makes a left sole and a right sole--M]

Continue in garter stitch over these 18 stitches until piece measures 5 cm less than desired foot length.

Row 1: k2tog, knit to last 2, k2tog.

Repeat this row 4 times (10 stitches)

Cast off.

### Upper:

Cast on 8 stitches.

Row 1: k1, inc1, knit to last stitch, inc1, k1.

Row 2: Purl [I worked one knit stitch at the beginning of every reverse row to form a selvage that is easier to sew together--M]

Repeat these two rows until there are 28 stitches.

Row 1: k1, inc1, k5, inc1, k1 (put these 9 stitches on stitch holder) k to end.

Row 2: p7, k14

Row 3: knit

Row 4: p7, k14

Turn work and cast off 14 stitches, knit to end. (7 stitches)

Next row: p1, inc1, p5, inc1, p1 (these 9 stitches will form the sides of the slipper).

Row 1: knit

Row 2: p7, k2

Repeat these two rows until the strip measures 30cm. Notice that the 2 inside stitches worked in garter stitch form a mini border that ensures that the slipper sides won't curl inward.

Using kitchener stitch, graft these 9 stitches to the 9 live stitches left on stitch holder. This way there will be no seams that might hurt the foot while walking. Fasten off yarn.

Note: It's always better to make the slipper a little smaller rather than larger, as the wool will stretch. I've made them quite a bit smaller than my feet and they fit like a glove.

Sew the sole to the upper.

### Strap:

Cast on 6 stitches and knit in garter stitch for 16 rows. Cast off. Sew to upper. [I picked up 6 stitches on one side, knitted the strap and then grafted the end to the other side--M]

Obtained at

[http://gasparotto.typepad.com/miscellanea/2006/09/maes\\_slippers\\_t.html](http://gasparotto.typepad.com/miscellanea/2006/09/maes_slippers_t.html)

## *GDNS Suggested Internet Resources & Reading*

### *Knitting Help and Tips*

<http://www.knittinghelp.com>

- Free online Knitting Videos! Knitting instruction from Cast-on to Bind-off, and everything in between

<http://www.knitty.com>

- Free patterns and tips and tricks articles

<http://www.thediary.com/blog/index.php?p=260>

- Tutorial on reading knitting charts

<http://www.tata-tatao.to/knit/e-index.html>

- ABC's of knitting

### *Free Knitting Patterns*

<http://www.knittingpatterncentral.com>

- The largest set of categorized patterns around

<http://www.straw.com/>

- Large collection of free patterns using Crystal Palace Yarns

<http://www.knittychick.com/freebiepatterns.htm>

- Large collection of felted purses and other items

### *Needlepoint Resources*

<http://www.needlepoint.org/index.php>

- American Needlework Guild

<http://www.tnaa.org/>

- The National NeedleArts Association

<http://www.stitching.com/npg/index.html>

- A Guide to Needlepoint—A Beginner's Basics

### *Free Patterns*

<http://www.carolelake.com/FreePatterns.htm>

- CHL Designs Site

<http://www.caron-net.com/>

- The Caron Collection Site

<http://www.rainbowgallery.com/>

- Rainbow Gallery Threads

### *Books and Journals*

We will be reviewing knitting and crochet books in each newsletter. We are not professional editors, but would like to share our thoughts and experiences with each book. There are three categories that we feel books will fall into. The first category is "must take if stranded on a desert island." The category name says it all. These are the staff's favorites and we could not face our knitting future without them either beside our chair or in our knitting bag. The second category is "good addition to your personal library." These are books that we feel you will return to either use or to find inspiration. The third category is "borrow the book from the library." Again the category name says it all.

### *Book Reviews*