



# Knitty Couture

## Newsletter

Spring Awakens!

With the warm weather on the rise (though sometimes it's hard to tell with St. Louis finickiness), my knitting fingers feel a bit revived from the cold and in need of more knitting.

I recently finished EZ's tomten jacket and a great market bag – just in time to take with me to the Soulard Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings. Since, I've begun several garments, socks, and will soon cast-on for the Summer Knit Along lace project. What are you working on?

### Current Events

#### Local Demonstration – Sheep Shearing and Spinning at Bowood Farms

On **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**, **Peggy McCallie** will shear a few of the Shetland sheep that she raises on her WildFlower Farm, near Dittmer, Mo., at Bowood Farms!



Peggy's items -- woven from her own yarn -- also are sold exclusively at Bowood. She'll have balls of the yarn for sale, as well.

As a bonus, Knitty Couture will stop by Bowood for a spinning demonstration. We'll have both spindles and spinning wheels to demonstrate spinning on both. We'll offer free lessons to those interested!



Call **Bowood Farms** at **314-454-6868** for more information, or visit their website at **www.bowoodfarms.com**.

The event starts at **2 p.m.**, rain or shine, in a field across the street from the garden center, **4605 Olive Street** in the **Central West End**.

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### Groups

Sundays: Open Knit-in, 1pm-6pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays: Spinning Group, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Thursdays: Knit Night, 5pm-8pm

### Shop Hours

Mon	Closed
Tues	11am - 6pm
Wed	11am - 6pm
Thurs	11am - 8pm
Fri	11am - 6pm
Sat	11am - 6pm
Sun	1pm - 6pm

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### **Farm Day - Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

We goofed! The field trip to **Prairieland Peruvian Alpaca Farm** in Worden, IL is actually scheduled for **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**. **Fee: \$10**. There is still room and time to sign up!

Those attending will **meet at the shop at noon** and ride over to the farm for a fun afternoon (i.e., **1pm - 4pm**). We'll learn about alpacas, how they are raised, the shearing and processing of their ultra-soft fleece, and we'll even have a chance to buy yarn and roving sheared from the animals we meet!

Lita Murphy and her alpacas welcome you to their farm!

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### **Cupcake Class**

Ever since our friend, Ann, made us this knitted cupcake, it has become the most-loved piece of display in the shop.

To satisfy those inquiries for patterns and classes, we've finally teamed up with Ann to bring you the **Cupcake Class**.

The first class is scheduled for **Sundays, April 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 1pm – 3pm**. Space is limited so please call, 314.727.6500, or come by the shop to secure a reservation.

#### **Class fee: \$50**

Needles (dpm US 5 & 9). All other materials will be included.

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### **Community Knitting!**

#### **The Red Thread Project**



This is a brilliant event and not only showcases the love of those involved, but those to whom these hats will go.

At the forefront of this project is Lindsay Obermeyer, whose exhibitions throughout the United States have highlighted the creativity between art and textiles.

This active community exhibit engages local participants to wear and display knitted hats which will then be donated to local programs.

**If you would like contribute to this effort**, the Red Thread Project and Knitty Couture welcomes you to drop off your donated knitted hats at the shop. All hat sizes are appreciated.

To view additional pictures of the Red Thread Project, visit <http://www.lbostudio.com/>.

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### **Summer Knit Along!**

We want to do a Summer Knit Along and would like your suggestions on what it should be.

Our **Ravelry group** has suggested the **Juno Regina Stole** from Knitty which we really like.

What do you think?

With everyone's approval, we might start the Knit Along on **Sunday, May 3rd**.

You'll need the following:

- Laceweight, appr. 950 – 1100 yd; fingering weight, appr. 750 yd
- US4 – US 6 needles
- Tapestry needle
- Blocking pins



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### **Washcloths for the Summer Windows!**

We're thinking about doing a **washcloth theme** for our window display this summer (June-August) and are recruiting your help. While we love knitting all the displays for the shop, what better way to involve you, our knitter friends, than to start with a window theme?

We've started on the washcloths but will need just a few more to make the windows look especially great. Drop by your knitted washcloths and **receive 10% off an item for each washcloth borrowed**. Borrowed washcloths will be returned once the display is changed in the Fall.

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## **Other Events**

### **Knit Clinic**

Knit clinic is back!! At this **twice-weekly help session**, we'll help you solve project problems and provide guidance on your work.

A minimal **fee of \$10** will let you sit, get more personalized help, and ask as many questions as you'd like.

Knit clinic sessions are on **Sundays, 4:30pm-5:30pm**, and **Wednesdays, 5pm-6pm**.

### **Knit for Newborns- Help Keep Missouri Kids Warm**

We are continuing to invite knitters and crocheters to use up their stash to knit toys for Missouri children and families. These items are given to the staff of **Nurses for Newborns Foundation** and distributed to the children and families that they service.

Caps, garments, blankets, and toys for newborns - 4 years olds are welcomed! Just drop them by the shop!

### **Classes**

The **Summer 2009 Class Calendar** is now available! A full listing can be found on our website, [www.knittycouture.com](http://www.knittycouture.com).

Offered this summer are the two basic knitting classes (beginner & advanced), three of Elizabeth Zimmermann's classic designs (tomten jacket, baby surprise jacket, & adult surprise jacket), a market bag, socks (cuff-down & on two circles), and seaming.

As always, we **also offer individual lessons** on all topics, including spinning, brioche, mittens, advanced colorwork, crochet, socks (toe-up, magic loop), and design.

Visit [www.knittycouture.com](http://www.knittycouture.com) for more information and printable PDFs.

### Demonstrations

Don't forget. We also continue to offer free workshops every **1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays** of the month, **6pm – 7pm.**

Demonstrations for May - July are scheduled as follow:

**May 7<sup>th</sup>: Cables**

**June 4<sup>th</sup>: Splicing**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Long-tail Cast-on**

## At the Shop

### Rowan Denim

We're excited to feature **Rowan Denim** as our Summer Yarn this year.

This fantastic yarn fades and ages with washing and wears just like those favorite jeans of yours.

Available in **four colors**: Ecrú (cream), Memphis (light blue), Tennessee (blue), & Nashville (dark blue).

If you need inspiration, we've stocked the pattern book, **Denim People**. For the shop, we're planning on knitting a pair of baby blue jeans.



VIKs get 10% off on this yarn.

### The Knit Kit

The **Knit Kit** is this wonderful, nifty, handy tool for all you knitters.

Analogous to the Swiss Army knife, the **Knit Kit** is loaded with a variety of useful parts.

There are the following:  
Row counter (which can be locked)  
Tape measure  
Crochet hook  
Thread cutter  
Scissors (airplane friendly)  
Stitch markers  
Point Protectors

All in one!

## What We're Doing

### On the Needles

#### Ariel

Cookie A's Marilinda socks with the **Chameleon Colorworks Bambino** sock yarn. They will double as my May socks and a gift for my MIL.

#### Eileen

I'm using **Dream in Color Smooshy** for a pair of socks for my husband, and I going to begin a pair of Fair Isle mittens in **Jamieson Shetland DK**.

#### Siri

I'm working on socks in **Fleece Artist** in the best color of red ever, and I am just about to cast on my second sweater using **Eco wool**. Keep you finger crossed for me.

Thi I just casted on for my May socks, a cardigan out of the **Wool Cotton**, and a baseball raglan out of sportweight alpaca.

### Staff Picks

#### Ariel

Definitely the **Chameleon Colorworks Bambino**, I loooooove it. I knit a row and just sit back and admire the yarn.

#### Eileen

I'm pretty excited to be doing fair isle with the **Jamieson Shetland DK**...but I'm dreaming about the **Simply Shetland Lambswool**.

#### Siri

I'm picking the **Eco Wool** -- 475 yards for \$15.50! What's there not to love and have you seen the new green color?

#### Thi

I'm working with **Rowan Wool Cotton** right now and absolutely love it!