#### **Double Ewe Yarn Shop**

From: Double Ewe Yarn Shop [kelly@double-ewe-yarn.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2007 7:30 PM

To: info@double-ewe-yarn.com
Subject: News from Double Ewe - Issue 8

# News from Double Ewe

November 1, 2007

# Happy Birthday Two Ewes!

Double Ewe is one year old! The shop's actual birthday is tomorrow (or today, depending on when you read this) November 1st, but we'll be celebrating it next week, all week. Stop in and join us! We're going to have daily door prizes - we'll draw a name from all of the visitors from each day. (My vendors were very generous - I have some lovely prizes!) Then on Saturday, we'll have another drawing that will include everyone from the whole week. We're also going to have surprise discounts - you'll pick a lollipop from my basket, and you'll get a discount or prize; everyone's a winner, but some of you will be bigger winners! And of course there will be treats...after all, it's a birthday party.

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# November's Yarn of the Month: Cleckheaton Country 8-Ply

November's Yarn of the Month is grown and spun in Australia. **Cleckheaton Country 8-Ply** is a DK/light worsted weight 100% wool. There are several reasons I like this yarn so much:

- 1. 100% wool: Nice warm mittens, hats & scarves. I always recommend 100% wool for mittens it keeps your hands warm even when they get wet. And it's soft, not itchy. It knits up beautifully and is smooth & comfortable against the skin. It's also great for lightweight sweaters and easy-care children's & baby garments.
- 2. Machine washable: Wool is naturally dirt-repellant, but at some point you're going to want to wash it; this makes it easy.
- 3. Lots of colors: Right now, I have eight solid colors in stock, and five variegated; however, I'm expanding my color selection and will have sixteen solid colors very soon hopefully by next week.
- 4. 50 gram skeins: The smaller skein size makes it perfect for colorwork. You won't be buying a lot of extra yarn just to get the small amount you might need for a contrast color. Make sense?

It's also very affordable at \$4.55/skein for the solid colors, \$6.15 for variegated. And during November it's 10% off, so it's just \$4.10 for solids, \$5.54 for variegated.

# Charitable Knitting

There are many charities to knit for, and we've been narrowing it down to a couple we'd like to support. I'd like to put together an email list to communicate with those of you who are interested in participating. There's no obligation if you sign up for the email list - this is just an easy way to share information. So, if you're interested, please send a guick email

to: charities@double-ewe-yarn.com, or you can give me a call at 763.780.2465.

#### Wish List

Are you hard to shop for? Do your friends and family have a hard time knowing what you really want? Start your Wish List at Double Ewe!

How it works: Just fill out your Wish List card which will be kept on file in the shop. Give your loved ones the pass-along card you'll receive when you sign up, and we'll let them know what you really want. Problem solved.

# Special Event: Entrelac Bootcamp

Looking for something to do the day after Thanksgiving without having to fight the crowds? Spend the day at the yarn shop learning something new. Join us for a crash course in entrelac while making a unique bag or hat. What is Entrelac? It's a technique that creates a textured diamond pattern that looks like basket-woven strips of knitted fabric. This technique can be applied to a lot of projects: sweaters, vests, shawls, pillows, afghans, scarves, even socks. It's fun, and a little bit addictive.

Date: Friday, November 24th

Time: 10 am - 5 pm, breaking for lunch from 12:30 - 1:30

Follow up: a follow-up session will be scheduled a couple of weeks after the bootcamp - a date will be agreed upon at

that time. Cost: \$50.00

Call me at 763.780.2465 to register.

### New Stuff

**Lantern Moon** - Baskets, totes, silk needle organizers and gorgeous luxury needles in Rosewood, Ebony and Blondwood. A Lantern Moon gift would be appreciated by any knitter. Lantern Moon's mission statement states: "Lantern Moon is proud to offer beautiful and functional handcrafted products. We acknowledge the skills and cultures of the people who make them and are inspired by the communities that use them. Lantern Moon supports socially and globally conscious living."

**Frog Tree Alpaca Worsted** - 100% alpaca (worsted). We loved the Merino & Alpaca Fingering so much, we decided to bring in another Frog Tree yarn. Alpaca fibers are called the "Gold of the Andes" because of their silky feel and lustrous tones. Rustic, soft and warm single-ply, another new personal favorite for me.

**Mer-made Medium Heavy** - 100% superwash merino wool. This 6-ply yarn is machine washable and extremely soft, so it's perfect for children's clothing and blankets. 100% wool means they'll stay warm and cozy through any weather. Gorgeous shaded colors. Spun and dyed by Blackberry Ridge in Mount Horeb, WI.

**Harmony 12" Circular Needles** - These are the needles I mentioned in our September newsletter. I said, "I usually find 12" circular needles difficult to knit with; however Harmony has made some to our specifications with shorter bamboo tips making them easier to use. With very flexible cables & smooth joins, these would be nice for baby hats or the arms of small children's sweaters." At that time, we had a pretty small supply, and they went fast. I'm mentioning them here again because we now have a good stock of sizes 3 - 10 1/2.

Fortissima Socka Color - Another gorgeous self-striping sock yarn.

Oh, and I have to mention the **Trekking XXL** colorways we recently got in - they're the same colorways as Life Style. Hard to describe, but really pretty. Check 'em out.

#### **Coming in November:**

Encore Colorspun Worsted - Self Striping Patterns from Mochimochiland.com

Expanded Colors Cleckheaton Country 8-Ply Malabrigo Lace Weight Malabrigo Worsted & Chunky - new colors ...and more...

## Knitting On the Internet - Ravelry.com

In our October newsletter, I shared some of my favorite knitting blogs, and I said I'd be writing about Ravelry.com this month. However, I haven't had much of a chance to poke around on it, so I'm putting this off for a month. (Sometimes I'm so lame.) But I will say, if you enjoy reading about what other people are knitting and looking for ideas, I strongly suggest signing up for Ravelry. Just go to www.ravelry.com, and at the left, under the title "Don't Have An Account", click "Add your name to the list". Be warned though: it been known to seriously cut into your knitting time.

#### Guest Columnist

Each month, I feature a guest columnist. Maybe you like to write, but don't have the time to commit to a knitting blog. I'd love to to see personal essays, technique articles, and book reviews. Tell us about your visit to a woolen mill or to an alpaca farm. Share your personal knitting trials and successes. If you're interested in contributing, just email me at kelly@double-ewe-yarn.com. Don't be shy! This month's column is by Ann:

#### **Ann's Ramblings**

November 2007

Kelly asked me to write an article for the newsletter and I've been thinking for some time about all the things I'd like to tell you. I think I'll start with my trip with three of my friends to see Crazy Aunt Purl (http://www.crazyauntpurl.com) read from her new book at the Barnes and Noble at the Mall of America. Crazy Aunt Purl aka Laurie Perry writes a hilarious blog and now has a book "Drunk Divorced & Covered in Cat Hair: The True-Life Misadventures of a 30-Something Who Learned to Knit After He Split". Yes there is knitting content in this article! Laurie survived her divorce by using knitting as part of her therapy. So when April (who blogs at http://a2zme.blogspot.com/) and Betty and I went to the book signing the thing to do was to bring our knitting. It was amazing to see a crowd of people (I was going to say women but there were some men too) all sitting in chairs and knitting as they waited. I saw one woman wearing a beautiful shawl, many felted purses and then all the socks that people were either knitting or wearing. The gal sitting next to me blogs as knittingstar (http://knittingstar.blogspot.com/). She was knitting a fabulous striped scarf for her fiancé, and she wowed everyone around her when she switched colors and spit spliced. You are thinking: What!! Spit splicing, what is that and ick too. Let me tell you as someone who hates to sew in ends that spit splicing is a cool knitting technique to have in your arsenal. If you're using wool yarn (not superwash) you can remove half of the plies or split the fiber in the last couple of inches of each end of your yarn, then lay them on top of each other, spit on your hand (or if you're really squeamish use some water) and then roll & rub them together to felt them together. The object is to make the two ends into one yarn so you can just keep knitting with no ends to sew in. If my explanation is as clear as mud you can ask Kelly to show you the next time you're in the store. Or see this website about spit splicing (http://morcatknits.typepad.com/spitsplicing/2005/03/or how to join .html)

Laurie read from her book and answered questions in a cute Southern accent. She had us all laughing. Then we lined up and she signed our books. Funny thing about the lining up part. Barnes and Noble had a young man in charge of the event and he was impressed that we were all knitting, so he dismissed us by rows so that we could keep knitting instead of standing in line. How's that for a great idea!

I recommend visiting Laurie's blog. You'll find yourself laughing out loud as you read about her life. The book is great and even has a bunch of knitting patterns in the back.

### November & December Classes

We still have openings in the following classes:

Knitting 101: Beginning Knitting

4 sessions, Saturday mornings starting December 1st

Finishing Techniques

1 session, Saturday afternoon, December 1st

Fixing Mistakes (one of our most popular class)

1 session, Wednesday evening, November 28th

Knitter's Choice: Help night/morning

Thursday evenings/Tuesday mornings through November & December

Fair Isle Little Lucy Bag

4 sessions, Tuesday afternoons starting November 6th

Baby Socks/Intro to Socks

1 session, 3 dates available: Nov 15th, Nov 17th, and Dec 29th

Double Knit Headband

3 sessions - Wednesday evenings starting December 5th or

Saturday afternoons starting December 8th.

For details about the classes, visit our website at http://www.double-ewe-yarn.com/Calendar.htm, or give me a call at 763.780.2465.

Thanks to all of you for supporting Double Ewe in it's first year. What a blast it's been!

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