

Double Ewe Yarn Shop

Subject: News from Double Ewe - Issue 9

News from Double Ewe

December 2007

When I was growing up, my favorite show was the Carol Burnett Show. I loved the Mr. Tudball & Mrs. Wiggins skits. Mr. Tudball (Tim Conway) was a businessman with a goofy accent. Mrs. Wiggins (Carol Burnett) was his secretary with a blank stare and a very slow (and odd) walk. Anyone else remember this? Very silly. One time Mrs. Wiggins was at work, wearing a very gaudy Christmas corsage, and kept talking about being so tired from all the "Christmas hubub". I think she was even playing Christmas music. The funny part was it was July; she was getting her shopping done early.

So, now we're getting deep into the holiday season; all the Mrs. Wiggins' of the world probably have their gifts all wrapped, decorations up & cookies baked. Not me. I've barely started my Christmas shopping. But it's ok; I've learned to accept that I just tend to do things at the last minute. I'll probably do the majority of my shopping on December 17th. Nothing wrong with that, right? Right. And Christmas knitting? Well...we won't talk about that right now...

If you're looking for a break from the "Christmas hubub", join us for open knitting. It's such fun: relax, knit and laugh with fellow knitters. Every Tuesday evening from 6:30 - 9:00 and Friday afternoons from 1:30 - 4:30. (Except on Tuesday, December 25th...it's Christmas!)

December's Yarn of the Month: Swirl DK from Lorna's Laces

This yarn is just gorgeous, it's created with an incredibly soft Merino wool entwined with silk. The two fibers are plied before dyeing, and because silk absorbs less dye, the lighter tone from the silk strand adds a candy stripe in coordinating shades. Kerri's written a pattern for some very cute wristwarmers that use just one skein - they're quick to knit, so there's still time! (Pattern free with purchase.) It also makes a beautiful lightweight or lacy scarf, or even luxurious socks. Just about any knitter would love to receive this yarn as a gift. Normally priced at \$12.00, during December it's 10% off, bringing it down to \$10.20 - an affordable luxury. Read an in-depth review of Swirl DK on Knitters Review. (http://www.knittersreview.com/print.asp?article=/review/product/060302_a.asp)

Gift Ideas for Knitters

Looking for a gift for a knitter? We have an assortment of knitting bags & baskets, beautiful rosewood needles from Lantern Moon, books, accessories, and of course, yarn! If you're not sure what to get, we also have gift certificates available. Who wouldn't love that? And don't forget, we can keep your wish list here at the shop, so if your loved ones aren't sure what to get you, we can let them know. Just ask for a card to fill out.

If you're going to be doing any Christmas shopping at Double Ewe, keep in mind Saturday, December 22nd is the last day we'll be opened before Christmas. We're normally closed on Sundays & Mondays, and Christmas is on Tuesday.

December Classes

The class schedule is pretty light in December, but we still have openings in the following classes:

Knitter's Choice: Help night/morning

Thursday evenings/Tuesday mornings through November & December

Baby Socks/Intro to Socks

1 session - Dec 29th

Double Knit Headband

3 sessions - Wednesday evenings starting December 5th or

Saturday afternoons starting December 8th

Just give me a call at 763-780-2465 or email me at kelly@double-ewe-yarn.com for more information or to register.

New Stuff

Encore Colorspun - Cute self-patterning tweedy colors in this very popular, easy care yarn.

Mochimochi Land Patterns - From Anna's website: "Mochimochi Land was launched in early 2007 as a place where knitted toys and people can live together in a spirit of tolerance." These patterns were previously available only from her website, but I loved these whimsical toys so much, I asked Anna if she'd allow me to sell them in my shop. I was so happy when she said yes! They arrived today, and I'm so pleased: they're printed up beautifully in color and on cardstock. You can see them at www.mochimochiland.com. We currently have the following available: Ninjabun, Sleepy Snake & Mischievous Mouse, Rainycloud, Sausage Dogs, Pepto, Tums, and Uh-Ohs. Fun stuff!

Coming VERY Soon:

Autunno from Di.Ve' - This is one of my new favorites, and when you see it and touch it, you'll know why. It's 100% merino wool, petal soft and warm. And the colors are gorgeous: rich with a tweedy, subtle pattern of color. I expect it to arrive early next week.

Fixation from Cascade - A very popular cotton/elastic blend. Great for socks, baby clothes, hats, shells, even bikinis and undergarments, if you're so inclined. They even have a lot of free patterns on their website: http://www.cascadeyarns.com/patterns_fixation.asp Arriving next week.

Panda Silk - New from Crystal Palace Yarns, a blend of bamboo, superwash merino and combed silk. The bamboo gives a great feel and a luster, the wool gives a soft feeling core and the combed silk gives it very pretty sheen and strength. Fingering weight - nice for socks & scarves. Arriving mid December.

Malabrigo - New colors for worsted & chunky, plus lace weight! Mmmmm....Malabrigo. Arriving any time now.

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 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 Sharon shares some thoughts on her first year of knitting...I have a feeling a lot of us can relate to it:

My First Year of Knitting

When I first started knitting a year or so ago, I had a wicker basket that I used to hold all my knitting supplies. I mean, it held everything I had with room to spare. I had a few skeins of extra yarn, a couple patterns and magazines and a couple different sizes of needles. But something happened; I went from being someone who knew how to knit to someone obsessed with knitting. I discovered there were stores selling fabulous yarn and knitting supplies. Before I would wander through the couple aisles at the mega craft store looking at novelty yarn and wondering what would I do with that? Then I stumbled into a real yarn store. Who knew? Suddenly it was as if someone removed my blinders and I saw for the first time how yarn was meant to be used.

From a small wicker basket my knitting supplies expanded. I went from a few skeins to more yarn than I can knit in a year. I started with buying yarn for the "next" project to buying yarn simply because it was amazing in color with no project specifically in mind. I would read a magazine and ooh and ahh over this type yarn and think well I really need to have that for my next sock! (Sock yarn was my first big love) Next I joined a monthly sock of the month club. That would be fine I told myself as I could knit a pair of socks in a couple weeks. Which meant in my brain that I could join a second sock of the month club and still keep up with the yarn entering my home on a monthly basis. This second sock club was in London. After all, who wouldn't want to see the different type of yarn they had in England?

I suddenly realized I was reading knitting books and in every book was something new to me. I began reading voraciously and absorbing as much knitted goodness as I could. I found podcasts that talked about nothing but yarn and where I could buy it on the web. This translated exponentially into yarn purchases, gadgets that were destined to be mine, and multiple sets of needles (bamboo, metal, straight and circular).

Recently I looked around my bedroom and realized it wasn't a bedroom any more. It was my knitting room which happened to contain a bed. I have cubbies filled with yarn as my original wicker basket (did I mention it is a laundry basket?) is overflowing with "special" yarn. My needles jump out of a beautiful needle case as well as being stuffed into a bottle carrier, if they are not in a current knitting project. I have a powerful lamp next to my bed so I can knit in the dark evening hours, who needs sleep? My magazines and books fill two large baskets and my loose patterns are in a 3 ring binder (or mixed in with the magazines). I have multiple projects going on including simple mindless knitting, knitting for lunch hour at work, and "what was I thinking" hard knitting.

I can't wait to see what the next year brings because I'm starting to look at roving...roving? Spinning? Wheeeeeeee!

Have a Merry Christmas!

Kelly Judson
Double Ewe Yarn Shop
9201 Lexington Ave N #5B
Circle Pines, MN 55014
763.780.2465
www.double-ewe-yarn.com

Hours:

Tues 10:00 - 9:00
Weds - Thurs 10:00 - 8:00
Fri - Sat 10:00 - 5:00
Sun - Mon Closed

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please send an email to kelly@double-ewe-yarn.com and I'll remove you immediately.