



Black Sheep

at Orenco

September 2015

Shop "News"

Classes, Classes, Classes!

- If you haven't checked out the calendar lately, you may be surprised to find over 20 classes on the books for the next few months. We have exciting classes in needle felting, bobbin lace, tatting, knitting, crochet, spinning, and many more.

New Magazines:

- You read that right, we have fantastic new issues of Knit Scene, Piecework, Knit Purl and Interweave Crochet in the shop.

New Articles:

- Read on for fun tips and helpful ideas from our BlackSheep Minions.
- Do you have an article or idea for the newsletter? Submit it to Tina at tina@blacksheepatorenco.com.



Craft-A-Longs:

- Click for Babies (Purple Hat) Campaign has started. 10% off your purple yarn purchase for this charity knit.
- Carol Feller Sweater KAL begins Oct. 1. We are offering a free pattern with purchase of yarn for the sweater and 10% off your yarn if you purchase it before Sept. 15!
- BlackSheep Hoppy Feet is still going strong. Tuesday nights and Saturday mornings, we begin our Chicken Little Socks for September!
- Ilwaco Shawlette KAL is hosted by Kelli on Mondays from 4:30-6:30pm. Come knit along on with Kelli!

New to the Shop:

- Expanded needle felting selection!
- Ch-ch-changes to the shop layout!
- Fall is trickling in with new Arne and Carlos sock yarn from Skacel and Bulky Alpaca handpaints from Misti Alpaca.

Carol Feller Sweater KAL

Tina and Kelli met Carol Feller at TNNA in May. She was so lovely to meet and greet and she told of us her fun KAL coming this fall. Well, the KAL is finally here!

Join us on Mondays in October and November from 4:30-6:30pm for the Mithral Sweater KAL by Carol Feller. For those of you who are joining us, we have a special offer. Early birds will receive a free pattern and 10% off your yarn purchase if you commit and pay by Sept. 15, 2015. If you miss the cut-off date, the pattern will still be free with yarn purchase before Oct. 1, 2015. We will special order your color, so come in soon to choose. The KAL starts in October and Carol is entering finished sweaters in a prize drawing if completed by December 4th with photos posted.



Black Sheep Hoppy Feet

~Hop Through a Year of Sock Techniques~

September's socks, "Chicken Little," are knit with lightweight bamboo and wool blend yarn and have chicken tracks and eggs dancing down the sock! You can order your sock club kits through the shop or [online](#). We are now offering individual kits, but they are going fast!

There is a sock club knit-a-long with our usual Tuesday night group from 6:30-8:30pm and Saturday morning from 10:30am-12pm.

Click for Babies (Purple Hat)

It's that time of year again! The [Click for Babies \(Purple Hat\)](#) campaign has begun. Stop in to the shop for pattern inspiration and 10% off purple yarn for your charity knitting or crocheting. Drop off your completed hats by Sept. 30 to ensure that they reach the collection point in time.

Read the sizing and yarn information carefully to ensure that your special hat is chosen for a special baby. The Click for Babies website is linked above, but we have also included the information on our Ravelry page and our Facebook page.



Ilwaco Shawlette KAL~ from Kelli

To celebrate the release of my latest design, and because there has been some interest, I thought it would be fun to host a KAL for the Ilwaco Shawlette. Since I'm now at the shop on Mondays, I'll be hosting a knit-a-long group from 4:30-6:30pm at the BlackSheep shop too.

Knit this shawlette. Finish before September 30. Post a picture on Ravelry in your project page for the Ilwaco Shawlette (make sure you put in the pattern so that it will link and I can find your entry). You are entered for a prize!

DECODING PATTERN SKILL LEVELS

~by **Bobbie Wallace**

Did you notice those little bars printed on patterns, supposedly telling you how easy (or difficult) a pattern is? Ever start a pattern thinking you were an intermediate knitter only to find out you were in over your head on a pattern marked “Intermediate”? If you’re anything like me, I bet you wondered who came up with those quirky little bars and just who decides what level a pattern fits in! Let’s demystify those bars and learn just what each one means for knitters and for crocheters!

The Craft Yarn Council is made up of the country’s largest yarn manufactures, knit and crochet magazine publishers, and pattern companies along with The National NeedleArts Association, the Crochet Guild of America, and The Knitting Guild Association, as well as designers and consumers. They came together more than 30 years ago to set industry standards for everything from measurements and sizes, to symbols, yarn and needle sizes, chart symbols, and even guidelines for industry designers. Ultimately, their objective is to design global standards and guidelines that will be used by companies worldwide.


BEGINNER The description associated with this symbol for knitters says: “Projects for first-time knitters using basic knit and purl stitches. Minimal shaping.” For crocheters it’s “basic stitches” instead of knit and purl. So generally, these are flat and smallish; think dishrags, small scarves, coasters or mug rugs. For knitters, these are generally garter stitch or stockinette; for crocheters, probably chain, single, and double crochet stitches.


EASY Here, the description knitters and crocheters is the same: “Projects using basic stitches, repetitive stitch patterns, simple color changes, and simple shaping and finishing.” This is where we see some textural patterns appear, maybe some stripes or edges in a second color, and some basic shaping for hats or cowls, maybe even some very simple shawls could be in this category.


INTERMEDIATE Here’s where it starts to get interesting! If you want to dip your toe in the deep end of the pool, this is the level for you. The description for knitters is: “Projects with a variety of stitches, such as basic cables and lace, simple intarsia, double-pointed needles and knitting in the round needle techniques, mid-level shaping and finishing.” Think about those gorgeous fisherman style sweaters, lacy shawls, and graphic designs; likewise, if you’re a sock or mitten knitter; this is the sweet spot.

The crocheters have a bit different description here: “Projects using a variety of techniques, such as basic lace patterns or color patterns, mid-level shaping and finishing.” Although the description differs a bit, the projects are similar; here will be the more textural stitch patterns, lacy shawls, and multiple colors. Maybe even some simple sweater designs, especially for babies and children, will show up here.


EXPERIENCED Here there be dragons; this category is not for the faint of heart! The perils are many, but the rewards great. Knitters beware; your description is: “Projects using advanced techniques and stitches, such as short rows, fair isle, more intricate intarsia, cables, lace patterns, and numerous color changes.” These are the patterns you can’t take to knit night (unless you want to frog it all out the next day!) This is where all those beautiful, multi-color sweaters show up, fancy cabled sweaters, lacy shawls, and shapely sweaters reside.

The crochet description sounds even scarier: “Projects with intricate stitch patterns, techniques and dimension, such as non-repeating patterns, multi-color techniques, fine threads, small hooks, detailed shaping and refined finishing.” This is where you find all those fancy doilies and tablecloths are found; especially the ones that need heavy starch to stand upright, lacy collars and edgings on heirloom hankies.

Next month, we’ll decipher those mysterious yarn weight symbols!
Source: Craft Yarn Council’s www.yarnstandards.com

Join Bobbie for a monthly knitting techniques class. September is all about Casting-On and Binding-Off!



Free Click Baby Hats patterns from Kelli Slack just for BlackSheep at Orenco. Available on Ravelry or at the shop!



Upcoming September Classes

Check out our list of new classes below:

- **Beginning Shuttle Tatting**, Saturday, September 5, 12, & 19 @10:30am-12pm (\$45)
- **Adding Beads to Your Knitting**, Tuesday, September 8 @ 4:30pm-6:30pm (\$20)
- **Learn Bobbin Lace**, Sunday, September 13 & 20 @ 1:30pm-4:30pm and Monday, September 28 @ 5:30pm-8:30pm
- **Beginning Crochet**, Monday, September 14 & 21 @ 6pm-8pm (\$35)
- **Advance Your Knitting Techniques**, Cast-On, Bind-Off, Sunday, September 20 @2-4pm, \$30
- **Felted Pumpkins**, Wednesday, September 23, @ 6-8:30pm, \$40
- **Easy Sewn Bags**, Sunday, September 27 @ 11am-2pm (\$30)

Events

Weekly Events:

- Monday Meet-Up 4:30-6:30pm
- Tuesday Morning Handwork Guild 10:30am-12pm
- Tuesday Night Almost Beginners & Black Sheep Hoppy Feet-A-Long 6:30-8:30pm
- Thursday Night Handwork Guild 6:30-8:30pm
- Saturday Morning Advanced Group @ 10:30am-12pm

Monthly Events:

- 2nd Friday Chardon-Knitting and Cabernet-Crochet (9/11/15 & 10/9/16)
- 3rd Tuesday Spin-Night (9/15/15 & 10/20/2015)
- 2nd Sunday @ the Farmer's Market (9/13/15 & 10/11/15)

For more detailed information check out the calendar at the Black Sheep website (www.blacksheepatorenco.com).