

april ▪ may ▪ june
2010

A GRAND YARN

fine yarns ▪ patterns ▪ classes

greetings

Dear Friends of A Grand Yarn,

As we enter a new season, we can't help but compare spring gardening with knitting. Both keep your hands busy. Both require time, patience, and the occasional ripping out. And both reward us with beautiful colors and a sense of accomplishment.

So how does your knitting garden grow? Are you looking for some colorful yarn waiting to be planted in a fun new project? Are you anxious to boost your knitting growth with a class? Is it time to decide whether a stalled project is worth tending or ripping out? Whatever the case may be, we hope that this spring at A Grand Yarn we can help your knitting flourish.

We are so excited about our class lineup this season. Among our new offerings are Zippers 101, a class for the zipper-phobic; Merry Jane or Moc-a-Sock Booties, the most adorable baby footwear with socks built in; Springtime Shawlette, a workshop giving you the option of several different shawlette patterns that share similar shaping; and CeCe Sweater, an elegant spring cardigan knit in one piece with a simple lace pattern. And that's just a few of the many new classes. Plus, we have several returning favorites, like Jogless Stripes in the Round, Constant Companion, Knit Your First Socks, and Central Park Hoodie. You'll find all the details in this newsletter. We hope you discover a class that's just right for you.

With visions of the sun shining, flowers popping up, and knitting projects blooming everywhere, we wish you a wonderful spring, and we look forward to seeing you at A Grand Yarn. Happy knitting!

Sincerely,
Mary and the AGY Staff

spring simply grand

We are currently working on our newest Simply Grand pattern, the Taiyo Cropped Cardigan. This fun little garment is knit from the top down with yarnovers detailing the raglan sleeves. It can be knit out of just three skeins of Noro Taiyo (40% cotton, 30% silk, 15% wool, 15% nylon) or the same yardage of a comparable yarn. The Cropped Cardigan is perfect for layering during the spring and summer and is surprisingly quick to knit. The pattern will be available in the store April 10. Simply Grand patterns are free with purchase of yarn for the project.

Simply Grand Taiyo Cropped Cardigan
Available April 10

trunk show

We are excited to announce our first trunk show from Alpaca with a Twist, the company behind one of our favorite yarns: Highlander. They will be sending us a variety of models to have on display in our store from April 21 to 28. All through the week of the show, you can stop in and take a look at the samples. We can't wait to see what arrives, and we hope you can join us at some point during the event.

Alpaca with a Twist Trunk Show
April 21 – 28



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classes at a grand yarn

Registration: Class registration begins immediately on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-payment is required with registration to secure your spot in the class. You can register in person or over the phone. Supplies are not included in the class fee.

Cancellations: You may cancel up to one week before the first class for a full refund. If you cancel later than that, we will issue a refund if we are able to fill your space. You can transfer class fees to apply to another class within the same semester if you still let us know a week prior to the original class. If a class does not fill with the minimum students, we will cancel the class and issue a full refund.

Student Discounts: Students receive a non-transferable, one-time 10% storewide discount card at the time of registration. The discount is valid through the last day of class. The AGY Club discount can be applied on top of the class discount. You will need to present your discount card at the time of purchase.

Skill Level: Our class descriptions include a skill level to help you choose classes that suit your abilities.

Learn To. You have never picked up needles or you need a refresher of the basics. *Beginner.* You know how to cast on, knit, purl, and bind off. *Advanced Beginner.* You are comfortable with knitting, purling, and binding off. Some experience with shaping. *Intermediate.* You have completed many projects, can read most patterns, and are ready for more challenging projects.

Private Lessons: If you can't make one of the class times, there is a specific skill or project you want to learn, or you work better one-on-one, consider making an appointment for a private lesson. Our teachers are available for lessons on any skill or project you have in mind. Lessons are \$25 per hour for one person or \$35 per hour for two people.

Special Group Classes: Ask us about possibilities of arranging your own group for a specific class.

getting started

BEGINNING KNITTING: SCARF AND HAT with Gerda Porter

Wednesdays: 4/14, 4/21, 5/5, 5/12 – 5:30-7:30

Fee: \$65

Saturdays: 5/8, 5/15, 5/29, 6/5 – 10:30-12:30

If you want to become a knitter, this is an excellent place to start. This comprehensive class will help you learn to cast on, knit, purl, increase, decrease, cast off, and read patterns. Over the course of the class, you will work on a scarf and a hat. You can even make yourself a matching set! (Skill Level: Learn To. 4 sessions. Maximum 6 students.)

join the club

STITCH CLUB with Leslie Huppin

In this popular workshop, Leslie teaches a single stitch pattern that you can add to your repertoire. Each session, you will receive a handout that details the stitch pattern, gives use suggestions, and provides a spot where you can attach your own stitch swatch. Students may start the Stitch Club at any session. (Skill Level: Beginner and Up. 1 session.)

Fee: \$18 for the first session (includes stitch notebook and yarn), \$7.50 each session thereafter

Tuesdays: 4/6, 4/20, 5/4, 5/18, 6/1, 6/22 – 12:30-1:30

Tuesdays: 4/6, 4/20, 5/4, 5/18, 6/1, 6/22 – 5:00-6:00

SOCK CLUB with Kathleen Cubley

Fee: \$7.50

In this fun club, there is a new featured pattern and sock yarn. Sock Clubbers will have the option to purchase the featured yarn for 15% off that night only. During the gathering, Kathleen will provide a pattern and handout and will take you through tips and tricks for success with the sock. Please note that this class is for those who have completed at least one pair of socks. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. \$7.50 per session.)

Wednesdays: 4/28, 6/23 – 6:00-7:00

building skills

ZIPPERS 101 with Pat Nerbun NEW!

Friday: 4/16 – 1:00-3:00 *Fee: \$25*
Friday: 6/11 – 1:00-3:00
Saturday: 6/12 – 1:00-3:00

Do you so dread the idea of putting a zipper into a knitted project that you completely avoid patterns for sweaters with zippers? Well, this is the class for you. Join Pat as she demystifies zipper installation for knitted sweaters. In just two hours you can start getting over zipper-phobia and open yourself up to an entire new world of sweaters. You might even find yourself adding zippers to sweaters that weren't even originally designed with one. Be sure not to miss this invaluable class! (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

OOPS! with Gerda Porter

Saturday: 4/24 – 10:30-12:30 *Fee: \$25*
Thursday: 5/13 – 12:30-2:30

Don't let a mistake derail your project! In this immensely helpful class, Gerda will teach you how to correct your mistakes so that one little goof doesn't mean you have to rip out the whole thing. These are invaluable skills to have that will save you a lot of time and frustration in your knitting. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

CABLING WITHOUT A CABLE NEEDLE with Karen Wohlen

Friday: 4/30 – 10:30-12:30 *Fee: \$25*

In this class, Karen will teach you how to say goodbye to cable needles and hello to much faster cabling. Without all that stopping and going, your knitting becomes much more efficient. This is a great class you don't want to miss. Please note that previous cable knitting experience is required. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

JOGLESS STRIPES IN THE ROUND with Mary Perry

Wednesday: 4/21 – 10:30-12:30 *Fee: \$25*

One of the only dampers on the joy of knitting in the round is the fact that when you are striping you get that annoying little color jog at the beginning of the round. Well, Mary can teach you how to eliminate that jog and add that extra level of neatness to your knitting. This is one of those skills that you will use time and time again. Please note that experience knitting in the round is required. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

babies & kids

MERRY JANE OR MOC-A-SOCK BOOTIES NEW!

with Mary Perry *Fee: \$30*
Tuesday: 4/13 – 1:00-2:00 & Thursday: 4/15 – 1:00-3:00
 In this class, you will have the option of knitting the Merry Jane or Moc-a-Sock Booties from Bekah Knits. The Merry Janes, as you might expect, look like the classic little buckled shoes, but with a great addition: the sock is built in. The Moc-a-Socks have a more boyish, loafer style, but again with the sock built in. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 2 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

SAARTJE'S BOOTIES with Mary Perry NEW!

Wednesday: 5/12 – 10:30-1:00 *Fee: \$30*
 Saartje's Booties are phenomenally popular on Ravelry, with over 7,000 people having made them. In this class, Mary will guide you through this adorable and cute project, which features crossover straps to help keep them on the tiny feet. These make an absolutely precious baby gift. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

ITTY BITTY SUIT YOURSELF with Gerda Porter NEW!

Thursdays: 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 – 3:00-5:00 *Fee: \$35*
 In Gerda's new Suit Yourself class, you can pick any project (or projects) out of the three wonderful *Itty Bitty* books by Susan B. Anderson: *Itty Bitty Hats*, *Itty Bitty Nursery*, or *Itty Bitty Toys*. Let Gerda help you through the process of knitting some extra-special gifts for some extra-special little ones. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 3 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

ROBIN HOOD BABY JACKET with Gerda Porter NEW!

Thursdays: 5/6, 5/13, 5/20 – 3:00-5:00 *Fee: \$50*
 This heirloom sweater from *Adorable Knits for Tots* by Zoe Mellor features a hood (hence, the name) and many cables. Sized from 6 months up to 4 years and suitable for boys or girls, this sweater is a can't-lose gift. Gerda's class is an excellent way to practice knitting many cables in a small, manageable project. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 3 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

BABY BOBBI BEAR with Kathleen Cubley NEW!

Tuesdays: 4/27 & 5/11 – 5:30-7:30 *Fee: \$35*
 This sweet knitted bear from a Blue Sky Alpaca pattern is intended for babies and kids, but we won't blame you if you just want to knit one for yourself that you can cuddle up with. Join Kathleen as she guides you through knitting this charming toy, which includes some strategic shaping to give the face character. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 2 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

socks

KNIT YOUR FIRST SOCKS with Gerda Porter

Saturdays: 4/24, 5/1, 5/15 – 1:00-3:00 *Fee: \$50*

Socks are great projects to work on: they're small, portable, and fun. If you have been wanting to learn how to knit socks, this is a great place to start. In this class, Gerda will teach you how to knit socks in the traditional way from the cuff down. Students will have the option of knitting on double-points or on one long circular using the Magic Loop method. You just might get hooked! (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 3 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

in the bag

CONSTANT COMPANION with Leslie Huppin

Tuesdays: 5/4 & 6/1 – 2:00-4:00 *Fee: \$35*

This class is a perennial favorite at AGY. The "Companion" felted bags have a fun-to-knit and practical design with a rectangular base and sides picked up from there. A unique i-cord bind-off gives the top of the bag extra durability. In this class, students will have the option of knitting any one of the three sizes. (Skill Level: Beginner and Up. 2 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

accessories

LACE RIBBON SCARF with Leslie Huppin **NEW!**

Tuesday: 6/22 – 2:00-4:00

Fee: \$25

This creative scarf from Knitty takes some strategically placed shaping and yarnovers to achieve an effect of zig-zag columns framed by open lacey sections. The Lace Ribbon Scarf is also an excellent use for sock yarn (whether you are a sock yarn addict or whether you have been eyeing sock yarn but don't want to knit socks). Join Leslie as she takes you step-by-step through this project and equips you for success with this year-round accessory. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

SPRINGTIME SHAWLETTE with Karen Wohlen **NEW!**

Friday: 5/7 – 1:00-3:00

Fee: \$25

Shawlettes are simply small, almost scarf-like versions of shawls, and they are perfectly suited for spring and summer. In this fun new workshop, you will have the choice of knitting one of a number of shawlettes, including the Citron, Gaia, Textured Shawl, or Storm Cloud Shawlette. Although these shawlettes achieve different looks, they all have a similar structure, casting on and building out from the top center. In this class, Karen will take you through how to knit the shapes and provide you with tips to ensure success. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

PIMPELLIESE SCARF with Leslie Huppin **NEW!**

Tuesday: 5/18 – 2:00-4:00

Fee: \$25

In this fun new class, Leslie will teach you how to knit the Pimpelliense Scarf, a lovely triangular scarf (otherwise known as a shawlette) that is worked from point to point with a garter stitch body and a lace border. This project is another excellent way to use sock yarn. And not only is it perfect for wearing in the spring, but it is also the type of lightweight, small project that's ideal for knitting during this season. (Skill Level: Intermediate. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

FAROESE SHAWL with LeAnn Whiting

Fridays: 4/9, 4/23, 5/28 – 1:00-3:00

Fee: \$50

What makes a Faroese shawl really distinctive is the shaping, which is designed to hug your shoulders and make the garment easily wearable. In this very special class, LeAnn will walk you through knitting a magnificent lace Faroese shawl designed by Lucy Neatby. If you have been wanting to take on a more ambitious lace project, this is the class for you. (Skill Level: Intermediate. 3 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

LINEN STITCH SCARF with Leslie Huppin

Tuesday: 5/11 – 2:00-3:00

Fee: \$15

We had to bring back Leslie's linen stitch scarf, which is a great year-round accessory. Knit in Manos Silk Blend (or another yarn of your choice) and worked lengthwise, the pattern calls for the ends of your yarn to double as the fringe. The stitch is fun to do, and the scarf is one absolutely anyone would love. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 1 session. Maximum 8 students.)

sweaters

DESIGN YOUR OWN T-SHIRT SWEATER with Pat Nerbun **NEW!**

Saturdays: 4/10, 5/1, 5/22, 6/12 – 10:30-12:30

Fee: \$65

In this exciting new class with Pat, you will learn how to design and knit your own t-shirt sweater based on a shirt or sweater you love. For the first session, you simply come with a garment you would like to model your project after, and if you already have your yarn picked out, you can come with a completed gauge swatch. Pat will guide you through the details of knitting a short-sleeved sweater that is truly a custom design. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 4 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

CECE SWEATER with Gerda Porter **NEW!**

Thursdays: 4/22, 5/6, 5/20 – 12:30-2:30

Fee: \$50

We love this elegant lightweight sweater designed by Bonnie Marie Burns of Chic Knits. Knit in one piece in a simple but striking lace pattern, this is the perfect garment to put on over a t-shirt, cami, or sun dress. With short or $\frac{3}{4}$ -length sleeve options, CeCe is a versatile pattern that fits into anyone's wardrobe. Join Gerda as you learn to knit this project that is as wonderful to make as it is to wear. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 3 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

WONDERFUL WALLABY with Gerda Porter

Wednesdays: 5/5, 5/19, 6/2, 6/16 – 12:30-2:30

Fee: \$65

One of our all-time most popular projects at AGY, the Wonderful Wallaby is a hooded sweatshirt-style sweater perfect for men, women, kids, and adults of all sizes and tastes. The sweater is worked in the round from the bottom up, so there's hardly any finishing. Gerda is our resident Wonderful Wallaby Wonder Woman, and she has all sorts of tips and tricks to make your first Wallaby a roaring success. Students have the option of knitting any size, from a child's 2 through an adult XXL. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 4 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

CENTRAL PARK HOODIE with Pat Nerbun

Fridays: 4/16, 5/7, 5/21, 6/11, 7/2 – 10:30-12:30

Fee: \$75

The Central Park Hoodie from Interweave is a hugely popular sweater, with over 3,000 knitters listed as making it on Ravelry. This beautiful, casual sweater is the kind you will want to wear constantly and will be so proud to say that you knit. With cables up the sides, sleeves, and hood, the sweater has a lot of visual interest and is a ton of fun to make. (Skill Level: Advanced Beginner and Up. 5 sessions. Maximum 8 students.)

suit yourself

In this knitting-circle-style class taught by Gerda Porter, students have the option of knitting anything they want. You can select a project you would like to launch but are a little wary of doing on your own. Or you can pick something you are already working on but need help finishing. The idea is to get the class experience—receiving help from a skilled teacher, getting to know other knitters, encouraging your classmates, and ultimately achieving project success—but with projects of your own choosing. Think of it as the Build-Your-Own-Class Class. (6 sessions. Maximum 6 students.)

Wednesdays: 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19 – 3:00-5:00 (Fee: \$67)

Thursdays: 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20 – 5:30-7:30 (Fee: \$67)

knitting garden tools

When it's time for springtime gardening, you have to get out the appropriate tools, like gloves, a trowel, and a watering can. When it comes to knitting, these are just a few of our favorite tools for helping your projects grow:

- **Row Counter.** You can say goodbye to tally marks and Post-It notes with this handy gadget. One of the best is the Clover Kacha Kacha. It's wonderful not having to spend time figuring out where you left off.
- **Lantern Moon Repair Hook.** This ingenious little hook is always there when you need to pick up a dropped stitch. It is short, so it doesn't take up much room in your gadget bag. Plus, it's easy to find in its accompanying green case.
- **Yarn Bra.** Some yarns balls have the tendency to fall apart and get tangled while you knit. A yarn bra helps keep a ball together while not hindering you from easily pulling out your working yarn.
- **Ring Markers.** Ring markers aren't just for marking the beginning of a round. They are also great for marking stitch pattern repeats, shaping locations, or even batches of stitches when you are casting on a huge number.
- **Cute Tape Measure.** Yes, an inch is an inch no matter what the tape measure looks like. But it certainly is fun to pull from your gadget bag one shaped like a sheep or a ladybug or a chicken. Besides, the cuteness can act as a consolation if your gauge is way off.
- **Clover Pom Pom Maker.** Making a pom pom to adorn a hat, scarf, bag, or any sort of project is a snap with a handy maker. No more cutting out of cardboard rings!



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