

**Green Mountain Fibers
May 2009 E-News**

It's Mother's Day weekend!

How did it get here so quickly? Visit us for our **Mother's Day 10-10-10 event**. We will have **10 gift certificates** to give away, **valued at \$10 each**. We'll also take **10% off** your purchases, excluding consignment items, throughout the weekend. Come to the store to shop or knit with us a while. It's a great time to start a new spring project and who knows... you could be a lucky winner.

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Time is running out to register for the Margaret Klein Wilson workshops on June 6 and 7. Registration will close on May 16 so be sure to sign up now if you'd like to take one or both of these fabulous classes.

Fair Isle will be offered on Saturday, June 6 from 12 noon until 4PM.

Through working a small 3-color gem of a Teddy Bear Sweater, you'll gain hands on practice in using this practical knitting technique when working Fair Isle projects. The discussion includes a review of Fair Isle basics.

Steeking workshop will be held on Sunday June 7 from 10AM to 2PM.

(Beginner/Intermediate) Traditional knitters from several cultures have, for centuries, included steeks in the structure of sweaters knit in the round with several colors in a charted design. The mere mention of "steeks" or cutting knitting is enough to inspire some knitters to shriek "no, no, no" and run fast in the other direction. In this class our project includes knitting a simple 2-color "wrist" with "steek" stitches. The steek stitches will be cut to give you a mini-steeking experience; then finishing touches will be added and voila – a decorative wrist "ornament." The methods of knitting in the round with 2 colors, cutting open the steek sts and finishing the edges securely and practically are easily transferable to other more complex garments designed with steeks.

Margaret authored the Green Mountain Spinnery book and has her own line of marvelous yarn from her own flock of Merino sheep. She will be having a small trunk show while at the shop, and it will be possible for knitters to acquire some of her yarns & patterns. All knitters and fiber artists are welcome to stop in and visit, but class sizes are strictly limited so don't delay; sign up today!! You may take both workshops for \$125, an impressive addition to your skill set; or if you like, pick one or the other for only \$65. And as always, class materials will be discounted. Green Mountain Fibers will provide light refreshments for our students but feel free to bring a lunch if you like.

Please call the shop or email for any further information, and to register.

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It's not too soon to think about Christmas, especially if you'd like to give a hand-knit gift to the special people in your life. We now have the *One Skein Wonders* book series in stock and they are just chock full of fabulous gift ideas. Beginning in June, we'll highlight two special projects per month to help you get started on holiday knitting and they'll be available at 10% off. Check in the store for details or be on the lookout for the e-news. Plan to start your Christmas knitting with us and even leave your finished items for safe and secret storage. We'll turn your projects over to you in December, gift wrapped for giving. It's our own version of a Christmas Club!

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Socks... Socks... and More Socks... Make this your “Sock Summer”

We will offer three sock classes this summer in June, July, and August using the new and fabulous book, *Sock Innovation*, by Cookie A. (designer of the monkey sock). In June, we'll offer Ange made from Jitterbug; July will be Milo made from Lorna's Laces; and August will be Sunshine made from Schaefer. Cost for each class is \$35. With the purchase of *Sock Innovation*, you'll receive a special “buy two, get one free” ... classes that is and sock yarn for classes will be available at 10% off.

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Four Hundred Years of Green Mountain Fibers, July 24-26 – combines Vermont's agricultural heritage with the whimsy of “Champ” (Lake Champlain's own “sea monster”). Visit local sheep, alpaca, and goat farms to see how fiber is produced in Vermont (self-guided driving tour); take a class at Green Mountain Fibers in Rutland to learn how to design and create original clothing from local fibers for the “Dress Champ” competition, take part in spinning and dyeing demonstrations and related classes, and more. For Festival details visit:

http://celebratechamplain.org/component/option,com_eventlist/Itemid,66/func,details/did,137/

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As featured in the Rutland Herald, “Labor of Love” article:

During World War II “Knit Your Bit” appeared on a famous poster showing a pair of socks in progress including the line, “Our boys need socks!”

Today our military men and women need helmet liners. Uncle Sam provides only silk liners, and an industrious local group has been knitting helmet liners in washable wool to keep our soldiers warm. When a wool helmet liner has been provided to someone we usually hear back that everyone in their group would like one.



With requests from one to fifty helmet liners at a time, we could sure use your help. If you know someone in the military who needs one or if you can help knit for others, please contact us.

We knit as a group on Sunday afternoons from 1-5 pm, at Green Mountain Fibers Yarn Shop on Woodstock Ave, Rutland, or you can knit at home and bring in the finished liners. We'll get them to a soldier who's cold.

And if you'd like to sit & knit with us on Sundays and work on your own project that's fine, too. We love company.

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Knitters Getaway in the Green Mountains, July 30 – Aug. 2 - designed by the Monday Night Knit Group at Finger Lakes Fibers. While in Vermont, the group will plan their itinerary together each day – and may include just sitting and knitting or a hike on Vermont's Long Trail and a hot stone massage at the end of the day. Possible side trips to Green Mountain Spinnery in Putney, yarn shops in Saratoga, NY or Northampton, Mass., or Shelburne Museum's quilt and textile collection. If you'd like to join the gals from Finger Lakes, check their website for details (www.fingerlakesfibers.com).