

Skeins on Main

428 S. Main St., Rochester, MI 48307 248-656-9300

www.skeinsonmain.com

Store Hours:

Closed Sunday
Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

We'll help you overcome your fear of needles.

Events at Skeins

Week of December 12, 2016

On the first day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a date for the next retreat!

That's right—we're FINALLY announcing our next retreat! It'll be April 7-9, 2016. **Registration will begin on Monday, December 19th.** All meals are being provided by the retreat center, which will also help us keep our costs down. Registration, including room, food, and up to six hours of classes, will be \$295 per person (a non-refundable deposit of \$150 will hold your spot, the remaining will be due by February 28). We'll have 2-3 people per room, depending on the room, and everyone gets their own bed! For those who would like to have a larger group together, there are also a couple of rooms that can accommodate 6-8 people each.

On the second day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a location for the next retreat!



How about ALMONT, Michigan??? We've decided to move the retreat a little closer to home, in the hopes of doing two per year. They're so much fun that one just didn't seem to be enough. So... This one will be at the Skyline Camp and Conference Center. We're giving up some little conveniences that we've gotten used to, but we're gaining two big ones! You'll need to bring bedding, a pillow, towels, and toiletries with you. BUT... you're gaining a MUCH shorter drive, no work in the kitchen, and a lower cost. Now really... isn't that worth it???



On the third day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a special guest instructor for retreat!

Each of our retreats has featured a designer or fiber artist as a special guest instructor. You didn't think we'd give that up, did you?? Of course not!! This retreat will feature Ann Weaver, the creator of Alber's Cowl and Yipes, Stripes! (which you've seen around the shop). Ann has a great deal of experience teaching around the country to shop owners, beginner knitters, advanced knitters... you name it and she's taught it. She, along with our own instructors, will be teaching a variety of classes. However, we've been listening to you and have decided to also build in a little more "down" time. We don't plan on you running out to "see the area," since it's fairly local, but we do know that people love to gather and knit, and also to work on their new skills, so we'll definitely give enough time for that.

On the fourth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a YARN CLUB for fun throughout the year!

You read it right—Skeins is starting their very own yarn club!! For each "month" (that means for each delivery month, which will be February, May, August, and November), we'll have a hand-dyer create at least one color that's exclusive to Yarn Club members. That color will remain exclusive for a minimum of two months after it's release. A project pattern will be in-



cluded, along with other suggested patterns just in case you don't like what we chose. In the event you want more, there will be a few additional skeins available each month, available only to club members. Each kit will be released on the third Friday of the month (from 7-9pm) at an exclusive "Pick Up Party." Members can come to the shop, pick up their kits, and stay for a special demonstration of any techniques that may be new or tricky for that project. And, just in case that's not enough, members will want to be on the lookout for additional exclusive events throughout the year. Come on... this is Skeins! You don't think we'd do "just the basics," do you? Can't come pick up your kit? That's ok, too. For just \$7, we'll send it to you. Each kit will contain at least two hanks (or the equivalent—if you need multiple colors we may break down skeins, which would provide additional savings to you) of hand-dyed yarn, a special gift, a pattern, other pattern suggestions, and a seat at the Pick Up Party. Can't wait to join??? Us either!! All you have to do is stop in (or you can call) and fill out a simple questionnaire about your likes and dislikes and choose which level you'd like to sign up for. One month is \$70, two months is \$135, or you can sign up for all four for just \$250! Each kit has a value of at least \$100, including the class that will be offered with it, so you'll automatically save \$30 minimum off each one. Now that's a deal!! What a great Holiday gift for those who are doing some last-minute shopping! Just sayin'...



On the fifth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a Yarn and Wine Tasting Event!

One big snowfall and we're already starting to think about warmer weather! On Saturday, January 21st, get out of the cold and come to Skeins for a taste of new spring yarns from Classic Elite, as well as a wine tasting provided by Fieldstone Winery right in downtown. The event will be from 6-9pm, and will include (of course) snacks to go with the wine. You'll get to play with five brand new spring yarns, give us your feedback, and receive free gifts from Classic Elite. Just when you thought the Holidays were over... more gifts for you! Can you believe we're actually encouraging drinking and knitting?? Oh, my. What is the world coming to?? The event is limited, so you'll want to register soon. You can call the shop or stop in to do that. The cost is \$25 per person, and includes more fun than you'll know what to do with.

On the sixth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a date for the next Dabble and Babble!



Mark it on your calendars—the next Dabble and Babble has been scheduled for Saturday, February 4th, from 5-10pm. For a \$30 donation to the Michigan Humane Society, you can take up to four fifty-minute classes (some are actually two sessions this time) and enjoy snacking your way through the evening. Registration will begin on Monday, December 19th. This event fills up VERY fast, so you'll want to register early to ensure you get the classes you want. A few of the classes may have a materials fee associated, but most can be paid at the event itself. In case you haven't attended (but really—why not?!?), we just give you a card and place stickers on it (our price stickers) throughout the evening. At the end of the evening, you can cash out before leaving. Everything is on the honor system. How refreshing, right?

The classes are as follows:

- Intro to Brioche
- 2-Color Brioche
- Double-Knitting
- Yarn Painting
- Jewelry
- Cast-Ons
- Bind-Offs
- Tinking and Frogging (Fixing Your Mistakes part 1)
- Fixing Dropped Stitches (Fixing Your Mistakes Part 2)
- 2-handed Fair Isle
- Mosaic Knitting
- How to Read a Knitting Chart
- Basic Crochet for Beginners
- Kitchener Stitch
- Quilted Embrace Stitch
- Tubular Cast On
- Kool-Aid Yarn Dying

Class sizes are limited, but we've been pretty lenient in the past. If you don't get into something you want, we won't stop you from just hanging around and listening. We only ask that you leave chairs for those who were signed up, and that you don't ask the instructor questions unless it gets particularly quiet and you're invited to. We want each instructor to be attentive to each person. Too many people makes that difficult. Just be respectful of the class and the teacher, and remember that these teachers are all donating their time for the charity, so we don't want to make it harder on them.



As if that's not enough fun, Cookie, our favorite Psychic will be back, too! You'll need to schedule your reading with her during an

hour when you don't have classes. If you haven't experienced her, you really should! She's pretty amazing, regardless of whether or not you believe. Her readings are \$25 for 15 minutes (you might want to figure on 30 minutes for the same cost—she usually runs over) and must be scheduled when you sign up. Of course the availability is limited, and Cookie always sells out, so you'll want to book this one quickly.



On the seventh day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a way to help me clean out my stash!

Beginning on January 2nd (conveniently right after we make our New Year's Resolutions) and running through Friday, January 6th, we'll take any old scrap yarn you want to get rid of, weigh it, and put \$1 per pound into your store account for future use. It doesn't matter what kind of yarn it is, or how much of it there is, as long as there's a minimum of about 10 yards per yarn (please don't bring us your cut ends—those can go in your bird feeder to help birds build nests and keep warm this winter). We'll donate the yarn to the Rose Cancer Center at Beaumont, where they have lots of little knitting elves that will make lap blankets for Hospice and Palliative Care patients. That's like a triple crown—you get to clean out stuff you don't want, you make money doing it, AND you get to do something good for your community.

On the eighth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... an all-day hideaway!



That's right – a WHOLE DAY to sit, knit, and socialize (and hide away from the pressures of the outside world)! Beginning in February, we'll offer a day of knitting during each of our class break weeks. The first one is Tuesday, February 21. Lunch will be brought in for everyone from one of our outstanding local restaurants as they sit and enjoy a day of knitting from 9:30am until 3:30pm. An instructor will be on-hand throughout the day to help with any pitfalls, and coffee, water, and snacks are always available should you suddenly find yourself needing a sugar fix or more caffeine to invigorate those fingers. The cost is only \$40, but of course space is limited. You can call the shop or stop in to sign up. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions. We'll do our best to accommodate.

On the ninth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a list of Holiday drop in classes!

Monday (12/19), 9:30-11:30 w/ Mel
 Tuesday (12/20), 9:30-11:30 w/ Kate
 Tuesday (12/20), 6-9pm w/ Jen
 Wednesday (12/21), 9:30-11:30 w/ Mel
 Wednesday (12/21), 12-2 w/ Mel
 Wednesday (12/21) 6-9 w/ Lori
 Friday (12/23), 9:30-11:30 w/ Kate
 Tuesday (12/27), 6-9pm w/ Jen
 Wednesday (12/28), 6-9pm w/ Lori
 Friday (12/30), 9:30-11:30 w/ Kate
 Monday (1/2), 9:30-11:30 w/ Mel
 Tuesday (1/3) 9:30-11:30 w/ Lori
 Tuesday (1/3), 6-9pm w/ Jen
 Wednesday (1/4), 9:30-11:30 w/ Mel
 Wednesday (1/4) 12-2 w/ Mel
 Wednesday (1/4) 6-9 w/ Sue
 Thursday (1/5) 10:30am-1:30pm w/ Mel
 Thursday (1/5) 2-4 w/ Mel
 Friday (1/6), 9:30-11:30 w/ Kate

Our drop-in classes really couldn't be easier... Simply show up (no advanced reservation required), bring your project or choose a new one, then sit and knit or crochet for as long as you want to stay. Drop-ins are \$6 per hour with a one-hour minimum, or you can use one of our handy-dandy punch cards (see back page).



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On the tenth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... a workshop to help me make socks!

While socks are an easy project to

travel with (they're small and portable), they're not always easy to do the first time out. And let's face it... this is the time of year when we need them to keep our little tootsies from freezing and falling off. Maybe you've heard that there are many different methods for making socks. There's double-pointed needles (you know, the one where you use 5 short needles and everyone around you freaks out because it looks so hard), magic loop (it's not really magic, but it is kinda cool), two circs (that's short for "circulars"), toe-up (you can probably guess that it means

you start at the toe—it's easier for perfect sizing), two socks on two circs (no more one-sock syndrome—that means you only knit one and never finish the second), and the list goes on and on. If this isn't your first sock rodeo, then you know it's REALLY hard to force yourself to finish that second sock.... You're over the yarn, over the pattern, over the whole thing. So why not eliminate all those things you're "over" by knitting both at the same time? Of course, if you were using double pointed needles, that could get dangerous with ten needles going all at once... That might not be a good idea. So how about two socks on two circulars at the same time?? They finish at the same time, you get to do two heels at the same time (better chance it'll stick in your mind), the whole shebang. How cool is that??? Melissa and Kate will be teaming up to teach this workshop. Attendees should pick up their pattern and do a gauge before the first class. Classes will be held on the following Saturdays:

- January 14, 9:30-11:30am
- January 28, 9:30-11:30 AND 12:30-2:30
- February 4, 9:30-11:30am
- February 11, 9:30-11:30am
- February 18, 9:30-11:30am

The cost is \$50 and advanced signup is required. A pattern will be furnished when you register.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... the list of Holiday hours!

Don't forget to pass this on to those who you've asked to buy you gift cards! We'll be open our regular hours throughout the Holidays, EXCEPT... we'll close at 2pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Aside from that, let the shopping commence!

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my yarn shop gave to me... SQUAT! NADA! NOTHING!

Can you believe it???

Those slackers fell asleep before coming up with something for the twelfth day! Lazy bums! Even a lump of coal (hence the photo) would have been better! Happy Holidays!



Snow Policy

Sometimes it takes a shovel over the head or, in this case, into the snow, to remind us to talk about the snow policy. So here it is... If we're canceling classes or closing the shop due to snow, we will post it on the website and on Facebook. We'll also make every effort to contact all class members to let them know. In the past we've gone according to the school closings, but it just seems to be too confusing if we open mid-way through the day, so hopefully this will alleviate any confusion.

Loyalty Program

A few of you may have noticed that we're no longer offering our birthday discounts. Instead, we've replaced it with a much better program. Everyone in our computer system (that means you REALLY want to be in there) is automatically signed up for our new loyalty program. That means that with each purchase you make (except sale yarn or trunk shows), you'll receive loyalty points that can be used on your next purchase. They add up quickly, and you can choose to use them at any time. Just ask the sales associate how many points you have accumulated and she'll be happy to let you know. Then you can apply them, or save them up for something really big!

Mille Colori Baby

Despite all the new yarns brought in during the month of November, we're still not done yet! Mille Colori Baby just couldn't be resisted, no matter how hard we tried. This self-striping, fingering-weight wool comes in gorgeous colors, some with longer stripes and some with shorter. Use it in shawls, baby clothing, adult clothing, hats, mittens, fingerless gloves... can we stop? You get the idea.



Chasing Acorns Bags

These fantastic drawstring knitting bags were offered at Shop Hop but sold out the very first day, so we just HAD to bring them back in for the Holidays. Not only do they come in super-duper cute patterns (there's something for everyone), but they also have little snaps on the bottom. Bring the bag corners into the middle, snap them in place, and the bag stands up with a squared bottom so you can use it like a little knitting bowl. WAY TOO CUTE. Wouldn't it be great if we'd thought to take a picture for you??? Sorry—we were too busy planning events. :(They also have a little thingie (that's highly technical) that allows you to hook the bag onto your belt loop in case you're walking around and knitting. Now if only it would hold your wine glass, too!! The bags are \$20 for the small, \$22 for the medium, and \$24 for the large. They truly make a great gift for the knitter that has everything. The best part is that Kim, the girl that makes them, is local, cute as a button, incredibly sweet, and LOCAL! She makes them all by hand and stands behind her work. If you have any issues, you let us know and she'll take care of it. We LOVE local!

SURPRISE!

Lori is starting to kinda go a little nuts lately... Which only means good things for you! Once each week, she'll be running a special of some sort. Some weeks it may be a free gift with purchase. Some weeks it may be an entry into a drawing for something A.MAZ.ING. Some weeks, like last week, it may be an unexpected sale that we announce on Facebook. Some weeks, it may be a deep discount on a particular yarn. You just never know what you might get, but you definitely want to pay attention to the website (which is getting overhauled during the Holidays) and Facebook. And maybe just drop in. You never know when you'll be handed a free gift just for making a purchase, a coupon for a future purchase, double loyalty points... The sky is the limit!

Punch Cards

Punch Cards are always available at Skeins and will expire one year from the date you purchased them.



Punch cards are used for drop-in classes at Skeins, but if you'd rather not commit to 9 hours, you can always purchase drop-in classes hourly for \$6. Punch cards are available in the following increments:

- \$50 for 9 hours
- \$80 for 15 hours
- \$110 for 21 hours

Punch cards are generally kept on file in the shop (if you really want to, you can keep it yourself, but please know we won't be responsible if it's lost or stolen). Please be sure to take note of the drop-in schedule, as they can only be used for drop-in classes and may not be redeemed toward workshops or special events. Our current drop-in schedule (for the Holidays) is listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Art at Skeins

Did you know that Skeins also offers art classes? On Wednesday afternoons and Thursday evenings, Gerri Boyle teaches multi-medium art classes. Students are asked to start with pencil drawings for their first project, then are able to tackle all sorts of other media as their experience level grows.



Art classes are \$65 per month, with four classes each month and a \$5 discount if you sign up at least one week prior to the start of the month. Signup can be done at any time (for example, you could sign up for December now if you should so choose). Classes are held on Wednesdays from 12-2pm Thursday evenings from 6-8pm.

Classes at Skeins

Winter is here, so many of us are now spending more time indoors, maybe enjoying the warmth of a fireplace and a warm beverage. For knitters or crocheters, it's only natural to spend more time with yummy yarn, some needles or hooks, and relaxing under a blanket. Then it happens. You get stuck. That's when you think, "I should have signed up for that class!" Don't worry—it's not too late! Classes are \$50 for the six-week session, and students enjoy a 10% discount on all in-stock yarn purchases during their session. Classes shown in gray are full. Call the shop or stop in and you can be signed up in just minutes. With all of our six-week classes, you're invited to work on whatever you'd like, at a pace you're comfortable with.

- Monday, 9:30-11:30am w/Melissa
- Monday, 12noon-2pm w/ Lori
- Monday, 5-7pm w/ Lori
- Monday, 7-9pm w/ Lori
- Tuesday, 9:30-11:30am w/ Lori
- Tuesday, 5-7pm w/ Kate
- Tuesday, 7-9pm w/ Jen
- Wednesday, 9:30-11:30am w/ Melissa
- Wednesday, 12-2pm w/ Melissa
- Wednesday, 5-7pm w/ Lori
- Wednesday, 7-9pm w/ Sue
- Wednesday, 7-9pm w/ Lori
- Thursday, 9:30-11:30am w/ Melissa
- Thursday, 12-2pm w/ Melissa
- Thursday, 4:30-6pm Young People's
- Friday, 9:30-11:30 w/ Trish
- Saturday, 10am-Noon w/ Lori
- Saturday, 12:30-2:30pm w/ Lori

Events At A Glance

- Retreat Registration, 12/19
- Yarn Club Signup, 12/19
- Yarn Buy-Back, 1/2-1/6
- 2-at-a-time on 2-circs Socks Class, \$50
1/14-2/18 (no class on 1/21)
- Yarn & Wine Tasting, \$25
1/21, 6-9pm
- Dabble & Babble, \$30
2/4, 5-10pm
- All-Day Hideaway, \$40
2/17, 9:30am-3:30pm
- Yarn Club Pick Up Party
2/17, 7-9pm
- Spring Retreat, \$295
4/7-4/9