



The Vermilion Bay Light

The Monthly VBYC Newsletter

2100 Verot School Road, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508 337-216-4564

July 2009



Venimus, Vidimus, Nodavimus

We came, We saw, We Knitted!

Saturday, June 13 was WWKIP Day: Worldwide Knit in Public Day. A healthy group of us celebrated the day with a traditional South Louisiana get-together at Girard Park in Lafayette. The weather behaved splendidly for us. Unlike the scorching temps we're enduring now, the gods were smiling on us in early June and treated us to a rather mild summer day with plenty of sunshine and comforting, cool breezes. We set up our chairs, knitting bags and the picnic buffet and hung signs around the park to "advertise" our presence there. We were not without the curious taking a look at what we were up to -- but that's why we were there: to knit in a public place. More than just knitting out in the open, we enjoyed each other's company the Acadiana way, starting off the morning with fresh cracklins and boudin from Johnson's. What a tasty treat! The WWKIP participants brought their own picnic sides to share as well as something for the grill. Unfortunately, Chris Burleigh, our designated grill master was unable to attend that morning, which meant the job fell to me. No meat was burned on the grill, and there was plenty for everyone! To keep us even cooler, we enjoyed 4 gallons of Frozen Sun daquiris. Now if that's not Louisiana, I don't know what is!



Whitney teaches Heidi to knit!



What's for lunch?

The day started off around 9:15 to stake out our territory and to assemble the grill. By 10:30, folks started arriving, some staying all day long, some just for an hour or so. And of course no knitting event is complete without the customary prize drawing. The lucky winner received a blue silk Della Q project pouch, a jaunty pair of scissors, a skein of Lamb's Pride, needles, and a little instruction book with small projects. Ann Cornell was the lucky winner! WWKIP day is only one day of the year when we change our venue to knit together in some other place. At Vermilion Bay Yarn, we are so lucky that we always have a place to come together to share in the company of fellow fiber fans. Throughout the day, anyone may come sit and work on their projects. Twice a week, we have Knit Cafe from 6pm-8pm. Those of us who can't be there during the day, are welcomed to take part in these evening times on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our gatherings are made up of folks of all ages, men and women. Our individual interests vary, our projects vary. Some knit, some crochet. Some people have worked with fiber all their lives, some have just started. It's a chance to stay in touch with our friends, see what everyone has been up to, and what everyone is working on. If you haven't been to the shop just to sit and visit, or to Knit Cafe, give it a try. Join our community! Everyone fits in at VBYC!



Kids Knit!

Back from vacation, and the kids need something to do in July? What better way to engage your children in an activity that's creative, useful, and intellectually challenging! Knitting helps foster manual dexterity, hand-eye coordination, logic skills, and problem solving, just to mention only a few of the benefits. It's an artistic activity suitable for both girls *and* boys. At The Vermilion Bay Yarn Company, we're offering a special deal for children's knitting classes throughout the month. Sign up your child(ren) for a three-week session of knitting lessons. Classes meet once a week for one hour.



The Kid's Knit summer special class fee is \$25 per child and includes basic beginner's supplies (yarn and needles) and a copy of Lucinda Guy's excellent textbook *Kid's Learn to Knit* (published by Rowan).

*Arrange a class according to your child's schedule.
Call or visit to sign up and reserve three one-hour class times.*

malabrigo yarn

Attention sweater and afghan knitters!

The two mega-turbo-super-popular colors of Malabrigo worsted have been replenished: Azul Profundo and Paris Night.



The Knit Kit

The new shipment of Knit Kits has arrived. We have the original pink/white model as well as the new, sporty black/white variety. The Knit Kit is an all-in-one fiber arts gadget about the size of a compact, housing 7 basic tools: counter, measuring tape, yarn cutter, scissors, crochet hook (to fix the bo-bo's), point protectors, and markers. Pretty nifty!

facebook

Your favorite yarn shop is now on Facebook. If you already have a FB profile, please do add your LYSO (Jason Pennington, that's me) to your friends list to get constant updates and information. It's also a way to get to know your fellow knitters, crocheters, and fiber artisans a little better! We're all very interesting and fascinating people! Look for your LYSO's bearded mug! Join our Vermilion Bay Yarn group too!



**Indisposed?
We Ship!**

Darning Eggs

Poached? Scrambled? Fried? Darned? We carry the tool for easy fiber repair: the darning egg. In our fast-paced, disposable world, the skill of darning has almost vanished. VBVC has the tools to enable you to make repairs to socks and such at home. Don't pitch it out. Fix it! We'll teach you! July 18th, 10am!



Newsletter Fans!

You can now read *The Vermilion Bay Light* online at www.vermilionbayyarnco.com



VBVC brews Community Coffee, building a local fiber community, one cup at a time. Come sit and sip!

It happens in the best of families...

Dropped stitches, missed cables, forgotten YO's, funky decreases, unexpected increases. These are just a few of the knitting errors we all encounter at some point. But what to do when they happen? How do I undo something without just ripping the whole mess down to the cast on? Can I turn a knit into a purl? How can I fix what I have without having to start completely over? Learn how July 25th!

In observance of Independence Day,
Saturday, July 4th, 2009,
The Vermilion Bay Yarn Company
will be closed.

We will re-open on
Monday, July 6th at 12noon.

VBVC wishes you all
a safe and enjoyable holiday
as we celebrate the birth of our Nation.



A Note About Special Orders

We are always happy and willing to accommodate you with special orders for your project materials, should we not have a specific yarn or color in stock. For such cases, we kindly suggest that you order a minimum of five units (skeins, hanks, etc.) of one color at a time, if possible. Thank you all very much for your continued faithful patronage. We are most eager to provide you the best customer service, as we seek to provide you the best products in the fiber arts industry.

CHRISTMAS!

It's time to start flipping through the pattern books and thinking of our loved ones near-by and far away for awesome knitted and crocheted gifts! Get a head start on all your Christmastime fiber projects now, so you have plenty of time to enjoy the eggnog, sweets, and other goodies of the season this coming December! Don't know what to knit? We can help with suggestions. Don't have patterns? We do. Come in and take a look-see. If you don't find just the right thing, describe it and we'll help you with designing your own pattern. Don't have the time? We'll make it for you!

CLASSES IN JULY

Darn It! Saturday, July 18, 10am-noon

Fixing Mistakes, July 25, 10am-noon



www.ravelry.com

Meet Other Knitters!
Join Our Group!

The Vermilion Bay
Yarn Company



Kid mohair and silk. Classy. The plush luxury of mohair is enhanced by the smooth softness of silk. What a pairing! Envision yourself wearing a fine garment of Kidsilk Haze! A peerless piece of artistry! Only at VBYC!

**ULL STUDENTS
RECEIVE
10% OFF ALL PURCHASES
EVERY DAY AT VBYC!**

Selection, Price, Service.
No One Beats VBYC!

A word from Jason about taking the plunge...

It's been hot as Hades in Louisiana and a cool plunge would be pretty nice right about now. As infernal as the weather has been, and as eager as we might be to jump into the pool, it's not always that easy, is it? The temperature change might seem so severe, that a sudden aquatic cool-down could actually be painful. Our friends may be already in the water, taunting us with threatening splashes: "Get in! Just dip into the water!" What's worse: frying poolside or that initial shock of cold on the skin? But at last, you're in! As we sit in the knitting circle, I am always happy to see the many folks who are taking a similar plunge, graduating from the knitting or crocheting "kiddy pool". Other than my mother, I know of no one else who learned to knit working socks on double points. Most of us started on a single set of needles and produced a narrow, jagged-edged, 12-foot scarf accessorized with loopy holes. We're all proud of those scarves, and we should be. They demonstrate for the first time something we did, which we couldn't do before. The second project is usually a bit better, and with each new project, the tension becomes more regular, and our work looks more like what we had anticipated from the start. Each new project builds confidence for the next. Making rectangles is a noteworthy and artistic endeavor, but it's also easy to cling to them as the zenith of one's knitting. The July challenge is to "think outside the rectangle" and take the plunge. Select another garment besides a scarf...or besides a hat, even. Take the plunge: make a pullover! "Oh, I don't know..." But wait. You DO know. You can Cast On, Knit, Purl, Increase, Decrease, Bind Off. That's all you need to take the first step to working up a "bigger" project. Start with a simple pattern, get into it, and you'll find that it's easier than you think. If you hit a snag, you have a strong support network to guide you through, just like you did when you started your crook-necked, catawampus first scarf — John Donne reminds us that "no man is an island". Branching out to other pattern forms appears daunting at first, but in the end, the work is greatly rewarded. You've overcome new challenges, and gained more useful fiber work experience to help with future projects. Take the plunge this July! Make a pullover, a cardigan, a shrug. There are plenty of patterns and styles to choose from. Once into the next level, you will be amazed how much you can do and what wonderful things you can accomplish just by setting your mind to it, sitting down, and doing it. Come on in! The water's fine!



Star-Spangled Savings
In addition to our summertime *Lana Grossa* sale,
Rowan
Milk Cotton
and Milk Cotton Fine
10% off!
Have a Happy and Safe 4th!

 **Knit Café**
Tuesdays
and Thursdays,
6pm-8pm: the bi-weekly potluck and fiber arts get-together at VBYC. We'll see you there!

If you haven't tried the Rowan Denim, you really should. It's actually blue jeans on a skein. This cotton yarn is dyed like jeans, washes like jeans, fades like jeans, wears and looks great like jeans. Make a hooded pullover of denim for the autumn! Very cool!



When are Y'all open?

The Vermilion Bay Yarn Company is open Mon. Noon-6pm, Tues. 10am-8pm, Wed. 10am-6pm, Thurs. 10am-8pm, Fri. 10am-6pm, and Sat. 10am-4pm. Knit Café Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm-8pm.