Through the Shop Window

…the "little shop around the corner" on Mill Street

"From the unique to the antique!"

5605 Mill Street, Richmond, IL60071 (815) 678-4063

January 2016

Hibernation

It's that time of year. I see the light of day only on the weekends. It's dark when I leave for work, and dark when I leave for home. I'm just thrilled to death.

It's that time of year-time to curl up by the hearth and enjoy the warmth of the fire. There's nothing as hypnotizing as the flickering flames, sending us off to enjoy the sleep of a lengthy nap-only to be brought back to reality by a cool draft as the embers die out. The soft glowing lamps bathe the room in warm yellow light, as if to defy the constant darkness. Frost coats the windows inside while snow blankets the landscape below. The stars above are mirrored by the glistening of the moonlight on the snowpack. What a pity that I'll have to go out and see it (lawn mowing has been replaced by snow removal).

I would just love to stay in, stoking the fire and hibernating until the sun returns to melt the grip of winter-but I have to work for a living. I have to go out to get wood, shovel the drive way, drive in the show to and from work- so much for the romance of a sleigh ride across the fields and servants stoking the fire and serving tea (I wonder what they really put in that tea to warm people up).

But back to reality. For now, I'll enjoy the few moments I can steal to knit, spin, or weave, keeping a nice wool blanket over my lap and a dog or two at my feet, poking the fire as needed to keep the chill out of the house, and enjoying a rare moment of solitude. After all, I am one who believes that winter is best enjoyed from the inside. There is something very alluring about the prospect of a "long winters' nap". Wool socks, hot tea, a warm fire….What could be better? Maybe we'll get snowed in (until April)-no such luck. More snow, more shoveling, more cold, more work…..such is life in the Midwest (and in spite of everything, I do love it).

But for now, I think I'll just take a little nap. Wake me up around April.

Now, what's my pattern…sip, slip, knit, snooze, repeat……..ZZzzzzzzzzzzzzzz Oops, I dropped a stitch. Oh well, zzzzzzzz…..

Classes

We will offer classes ONLY by request. You may stop in the shop, tell us what you would like to learn, and we'll customize a class for you that fits our schedule. Not sure what you want to learn? Come in with some ideas and we'll help you decide. Knitting, Spinning, Crochet, Tatting; we offer it all.

Shop Winter Hours
Thurs-Fri 7PM-9PM
1st and 3rd Saturday and Sunday each month
10AM-5PM
Open Workshop is on the 1st and 3rd Sunday each month
Other shop hours are "per chance"

Winter Retreat

All rooms for the 2016 Winter Retreat have been sold. Thank you for your support of this event.

Locks In

We will be hosting a "Locks In" at the shop on Saturday, February 27th from 10 AM – 7 AM on the 28th. Come spend the night (or at least part of it) enjoying the fire and working on your fiber projects. We will serve a light breakfast at the end of the event, so please sign up so we know how much food to prepare. There is no cost to attend, and there will be discounts for those who shop after midnight!

Fiber in the Forest 2016

You can now reserve your site for our 2016 Fiber in the Forest. The event will be held at Chain-O-Lakes State park, June 24-26. We will be camping in the Honeysuckle section of the park. Sites can be reserved on the "Reserve America" site on line. Everyone is responsible for their own meals and camping. We will have a screen room on our site set up on our site so people will have a mosquito free place to work.

This event was a hit last summer, and we expect the same this year. Those who do not camp can visit us in the park at no cost. So bring your knitting, a lawn chair, and a picnic basket of goodies to eat.