

# Through the Shop Window

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



"From the unique to the antique!"

**5605 Mill Street, Richmond, IL 60071 (815) 678-4063**

October 2013

## **The Bucket Lady**

*Sadly, our old rabbit, Mr. Bean, is no more. The old bunny had a stroke and died over the Labor Day weekend. He had a long life (for a rabbit) and spent his entire life living the good life and growing fur. You might say he "kicked the bucket", and he will be missed. However, the hutch was not destined to remain empty. We have a new member of the family-Mrs. Bucket (pronounced Bouquet-if you believe her). She is a chocolate English Angora with a wonderful soft coat. She took up residence in the shop on September 9<sup>th</sup>, and is quickly adjusting to her new home. Her official duties will include providing a point of interest for our guests and of course, growing wonderful fiber for Penny's personal use.*

*Like her predecessor, she has been given the name of an English comedian (although Penny named her Theodora-she'll always be Mrs. Bucket to me). Her namesake can be seen on public TV on the show "Keeping Up Appearances".*

*Dobbie, who always thought Mr. Bean would make a good meal, seems to have the same affinity toward Mrs. Bucket, even though she is bigger than him (but what do dogs know). For her part, she seems rather indifferent to Dobbie, and scampers into her hutch when his barking becomes annoying (which is most of the time).*

*Despite her opinion, Mrs. Bucket is not show quality, as she has two white toe nails (a flaw that I feel could be remedied with a drop or two of nail polish-maybe pink?). So, it's no footlights or runways for this bunny. A simple life of hay, pellets, papaya, and a nice fur coat (rabbit, of course). And, I imagine when we're not looking, an occasional candle light supper (Mrs. Bucket is known for them-but you'll have to watch the TV show to understand).*

*So, stop by and meet our newest addition. I'm sure Mrs. Bucket is always ready for visitors. But remember, it's "Bouquet".*

## **November Classes**

**Beginning Spinning** Tuesdays 11/5-11/26 7PM-9 PM You've seen it done and you've always wanted to do it-so here's your chance. We'll teach you basic spinning on a wheel. Don't own a wheel? GOOD! You can try several different styles from the stock in the shop. In fact, you'll go home with a finished skein the first night. The class is \$125 and includes all the fiber, use of a wheel in the shop, eight hours of instruction, and studio time to practice during the month of November. We are limiting this class to 4 students-so sign up early to reserve your seat.

**Beginning Crochet** Wednesdays 11/6-11/27 7-9PM It seems that everybody is doing it. A hook, a ball of yarn, a little time, and a project is done! Crochet is fast, portable, and easy. Since the holidays are just around the corner, we'll work on a simple quick project that you can give as a gift-a basic dish cloth. You'll learn how to start, all the basic stitches, how to read a pattern, and how to read a crochet chart. The class fee is \$80, and does not include materials (under \$30 will get you a hook, cotton yarn, and a pattern booklet). The class is limited to four students, so you'll be sure to get all the help you need.

**Needle Tattting** Thursdays 11/7-11/21 7-9 PM Here's a crash course on an old craft with a modern twist. Not shuttles or bobbins to wind-a single needle and your finger are all the tools you'll need. Needle tattting is fast, easy, and fun. You can create heirloom quality projects in a fraction of the time it took grandma to make one with a shuttle. There are no bobbins to wind, no shuttles to hold-simply wrap the yarn around you finger and slide it on the needle. The class will cover the basics, including how to complete the different knots and how to follow a basic pattern. You can even use grandma's old shuttle patterns. The class is \$60, and basic materials will cost around \$25. The class is limited to 4 students.

**Please Note:** We will be closed Nov 28<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday.  
**We will be open 11AM – 5PM November 29<sup>th</sup> for our Black Sheep Sale. Don't miss it!**

## **2014 Winter Retreat Tickets are Available**

The 2014 Winter Retreat will be held January 24-26 at the Willowood Inn located in Baraboo, WI. Tickets are \$125/person double occupancy, or \$175/person single occupancy, and include: 2 nights lodging, dinner on Friday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. Tickets must be paid in advance (check or cash only), and are not refundable. This has been one of our most popular events. Please contact Penny to secure your place.

## **We have begun our Winter Hours**

**We are open Tues-Fri 7PM until 9PM, and Sat-Sun 10AM-5PM.**

Remember our Open Workshop is every Sunday, so if you need help, please stop in on Sunday and we will be glad to get you back on track.