

# 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 2014

## *What You're Counting Counts!*

*So often we lose sight of what is really important. With these difficult times upon us, Penny and I have had to re-evaluate what we are doing. To my surprise, I have discovered that I have lost focus on what the shop is all about. It's time to re-evaluate.*

*In my dealings with the Amish and Quaker communities, I have learned their unique perspective on the purpose of life. When they collectively work (like a barn raising) they are said to “frolic”. When they meet to pray and worship, they are said to “labor”. The main focus of their life is to pray-thus it is considered their life's work, or their labor. Gathering together as a community is play-thus they frolic. For years we have worked to get the shop to the point where it could provide financially for us. It isn't, nor will it ever be a main source of our income. We have been counting the wrong coins.*

*The shop is not to be our labor, but our “frolic”. It is a gathering of community, a home for creativity, and place of support and encouragement.*

*The measure of its' success is not counted in the till, but in the personal successes of our customers-from those who have gone on to design and teach to those who have just completed their first project. These are the standards by which we are measured.*

*So for now, Penny and I will continue to labor before the Lord, going boldly before the throne of grace to ask for the provisions to maintain the shop, and plead for His blessings upon all those who frolic within. For they are the true measure of His blessing and our success.*

## November Classes

**Needle Tatting (Tuesdays, Oct 28 – Nov 18 7PM-9PM)** – Many of us have heirloom pillow cases and sheets with lace tatted edging. You can easily create tomorrow's heirloom pieces with needle tatting. It's as simple as wrapping a string around your finger! The class fee is \$80. Materials are not included, and run less than \$25. The class is limited to 4 students.

**Sideways Knit gloves (Wednesdays, Oct 29 – Nov 19 7PM-9PM)** – Here is a simple project that's quick and easy. A single skein of worsted weight yarn can become a nice warm pair of gloves without using double pointed needles or purling! You'll need 1 skein of yarn, #5 straight needles, stitch markers, a row counter, and a darning needle. The class fee is \$80, and the pattern is included. Class is limited to 4 students, and all the necessary techniques are covered in the class. If you can do a knit stitch-you can do this!

**The Felted Hat (Thursdays, Oct 30 – Nov 20 7PM-9PM)** – A classic returns! Simple, fashionable, and warm, this project is quick and easy. You'll work with circular and double-pointed needles to create a hat that's as individual as you are. These are great gifts, and we'll do the felting in the shop. The class fee is \$80, and materials run about \$25 (depending on your choice of yarn). The class is limited to 4 students, and ends before the holiday.

***Please note that the shop will be closed November 1-2 as we travel to Wisconsin to close our summer home and November 27-28 for the Thanksgiving holiday.***

**Tickets for the Final Wool Warp and Wheel Winter Retreat are still available.**

Our 2015 retreat will be at the Willowood Inn in Baraboo Wisconsin.

The dates are January 23-25. The prices are as follows:

\$125/person double occupancy

\$175/person single occupancy

We must pay for the Inn in advance, so all reservations are NOT refundable. Please make your payment by cash or check. **Only 3 rooms remain.** Contact Penny at the shop for details complete details and reservations.