2017 Vermont Fall Knitting Retreat at Trapp Family Lodge Resort in Stowe, VT

The hills will be alive with the sound of 25 pairs of clicking needles at this knitting retreat.

**TOPIC: Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose**

25 Students & 2 Teachers
2 Full Days of Teaching

Arrive: Oct 26nd, 2017 (Checkin in at 3pm)
Leave: Oct 29th, 2017 (Checkout at 11am)

Two special projects that focus on recycling, reusing, and repurposing materials to create new projects.

That’s right, stay at the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe, Vermont (USA). Our second year at this special location in Vermont. Held in the beautiful Austrian Resort Hotel. Limited to 25 attendees + spouses, partners or friends. Two teachers with over 30 years experienced combined will teach you some new techniques. Donna Druchunas & Ann Weaver (Authors, Mentors, Teachers & Avid Knitters) will guide you through reusing, recycling, & repurposing your old projects. So come join them & enjoy the company of other knitters in a great setting in Stowe, VT & the historic Trapp Family Lodge

**INTRO**

Guest teacher Ann Weaver (weaverknits.com) will teach steeking and show you how to remake pullovers into cardigans.

Donna Druchunas will teach rug knitting and show you how to make yarn from old t-shirts and knit up a traditional rag rug.
There’s no need to pick and choose between classes. Your retreat registration includes all of the sessions with both Donna and Ann. We’ve customized our workshops to create one-of-a-kind experience for you.

Materials are listed below and we’ll have books, Needless, and yarn available for purchase in case you forget something.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

The Sound of Music viewing while knitting.
History tour with Trapp Family Member.
Breakfast buffet & 3 course dinner included with your resort reservation each day.
Special guest Michael Hampton from Hampton Fiber Mills and Spinnery.
Teacher Ann Weaver from Weaverknits.com
This is going to be so much fun, why not join Donna & Ann for this one of a kind retreat at the historic Trapp Family Lodge.

Sheep to Shawl, LLC (producer of Vermont Fall Knitting Retreat) is not in any way associated Trapp Family Lodge or their respective partners.

In order to keep the room rate at a reasonable cost, please be aware that you must stay at the Trapp Family Lodge to attend this retreat.

**WORKSHOPS**

No Risk, All Reward STEEKS with Ann Weaver (weaverknits.com)

Eyeing colorwork cardigan patterns? Tired of working purl rows on Stockinette cardigans? Afraid to cut your knitting? Overcome your fear with NO RISK.

In this workshop, we’ll steek old or thrifted sweaters (bring your own or purchase one from my collection). You don’t have to knit anything in preparation. You’ll work through all the steps of steeking a sweater, and you’ll be ready—and excited—to steek your own work.

We’ll be doing crocheted and hand-sewn steeks on our sweaters. Ann will demonstrate and provide examples of both methods and discuss the pros and cons of each.

You’ll leave the workshop with a booklet of photo tutorials for all the techniques discussed.

What you will learn:

How to crochet a steek (no crochet experience necessary)
How to hand sew a steek
How to cut a steek
How to pick up stitches for a buttonband
How to knit a buttonband
How to perform other modifications, such as shortening the body, changing the sleeve length, and changing the collar
How to add ribbon facing to cover your steek skills required: Picking up stitches

Knitting Rag Rugs with Donna Druchunas

Rugs provide a stress-free way to learn to knit. Even if you only know how to cast on and do the knit stitch, you can create stylish and functional rugs for your home. Since rugs are simple shapes, there are no armholes or necklines to shape, no buttonholes to remember, and no constant measuring to ensure proper fit. You can use your precious knitting to slow down and let your hands memorize the motions. Knitted rugs also provide a perfect palette for exploring creativity, experimenting with new types of yarns, and creating pieces of knitted art. If you’re looking for a challenge, you can create truly beautiful works-of-art while learning new skills.

In this class, we will learn to make an oval knitted rug inspired by Early American braided rugs. Made from old rags, these early rugs represent frugality and parsimony, but their flamboyant colors speak of a love for beauty. This rug, made of alternating Garter and Stockinette Stitch strips, gives you the chance to bring the classic braided look into your own home.

The workshop will cover the following topics:

- Materials and supplies needed for rug knitting, including how to make yarn from old t-shirts
- Selecting and arranging colors
- Designing and knitting the rug center
- Designing and knitting the rug strips
- Seaming techniques
- Edging options

MATERIALS

For STEEKING

This list might seem overwhelming—don’t stress out. You can get everything you need on the day of the workshop. I’ll have sweaters, and you’ll be able to purchase yarn, needles, and crochet hooks for the steek and buttonband at the event.

Sweater to steek:
One or more sweaters to steek OR $12 per sweater you’d like to purchase from me. I’ll have good-quality thrifted wool sweaters in a variety of colors and sizes.

If you bring a sweater to steek, be sure it meets these criteria:

- 100% wool or nearly 100% wool
- Gauge no smaller than 8 stitches per inch
No fancy texture patterns (simple cables and ribbing are fine, and colorwork is encouraged)

A few more suggestions:
1. Beware complex collars. The more complex the collar, the more complex the steek. If you’re up for a challenge, bring something complicated.
2. The darker the sweater, the more difficult it will be to see your stitches.

Yarn:

A small amount (50 yd) “sticky” fingering weight 100% wool yarn, NOT superwash, for crocheting steeks. Jamieson’s Shetland and lopi yarns are great for this.

Yarn to knit your buttonband. You can use your steeking yarn or a different yarn; your button bands do not need to be worked in a “sticky” wool yarn. If you’re purchasing a sweater from me, you can get a skein (or a few mini-skeins) of yarn for your buttonband during the workshop.

Needles:

Size B or C crochet hook

Knitting needles, size 4, 5, 6, 7 . . . I recommend bringing several sizes so you can experiment and determine which works best for your project. Circular needles of any length will work.

Other:

Sharp scissors. We are going to cut these sweaters.

Sharp tapestry needle (large enough to thread with fingering weight yarn and SHARP)

Safety pins or removable stitch markers

For RUG KNITTING

5 or 10 old t-shirts (I have a huge pile of old t-shirts that you can also select from to add colors to your project.)

Big knitting needles. If you have several sizes of big-fat needles, bring them with you. I suggest sizes 13 and UP. I will also have needles for sale.

Basic knitting tool kit.

Large, sharp scissors. We are going to cut up t-shirts.

You will receive an updated materials list approximately one month before the retreat.

SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to change. This is just a quick overview.

Thursday:

3PM checkin

Arrival and settle in at the Trapp Family Lodge Resort.

5 PM – 6 PM – Meet & greet in the Mozart room.

6 pm-7:30 pm – Dinner included with reservation. (Included)

8 PM-9:30 PM – Relax and knit with the group or spend time on your own to get ready for tomorrow’s classes.
Friday

7:30 AM – 9 AM – Breakfast in the main dining room. (Included)
9 AM – 12 Noon – Steeking class with Ann Weaver.
12 Noon – 1 PM – Lunch on your own.
1 PM – 5 PM – Steeking classes with Ann Weaver.
1 Hour Break
6 PM – 7:30 PM – Dinner together in the main dining room. (Included)
8 PM – 9:30 PM – Knit by the fireplace and listen to a talk about historical knitting with Donna.

Saturday:

7:30 AM – 9 AM – Breakfast in the main dining room. (Included)
9 AM – 10:30 AM – Sound of music history tour. (Highlight)
30 Minute Break
11 AM – 1 PM – Rug knitting class with Donna Druchunas, make t-shirt yarn.
1 PM – 3 PM – Lunch on your own or discover Stowe, VT restaurants.
3 PM – 5 PM – Rug knitting class with Donna Druchunas, cast on for a rug.
1 HR Break
6 PM – 7:30 PM – Dinner together in the main dining room. (Included)
8 PM – 9:30 PM – Continue working on your rug by the fireplace and listen to a talk by Michael Hampton about sheep farming and yarn spinning businesses in Vermont. Michael will have yarn for sale. (Highlight)

Sunday:

7:30 AM – 9 AM – Breakfast in the main dining room. (Included)
Checkout is 11 AM. Depart the lodge for a day of tourism or you can head home if needed. If you need an extra day at the lodge, please notify staff at reservation time.

Your teachers are on-site and will be available for questions anytime.
Schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Your Teacher & Host for this Retreat

Anne Weaver from Weaverknits.com
Ann Weaver sees knitting patterns in container ships, Tom Waits lyrics, Moby-Dick, classic cocktails, and the work of artists like Josef Albers and Mark Rothko. When she is not traveling to teach knitting workshops, Ann lives in Baltimore, where she works as a freelance editor and writer and spends her free time volunteering and working to bring change to her community. You can follow Ann on Instagram and find her designs Ravelry, where her username is weaverknits.

Ann’s design work reflects the quest for adventure; while retaining a clean, wearable aesthetic, Weaverknits designs experiment with asymmetry, unusual color and yarn combinations, and androgyny. In the past, Ann’s designs have been featured in online and print magazines and books, and are also available as individual patterns. Craft Work Knit is her first self-published collection of patterns, inspired by her family, friends, and the practical garments she wears to work every day.

Her motto for 2017 is “Let’s do what we can.”
Donna Druchunas escaped a corporate cubicle to honor her passions for knitting, world travel, research, and writing. She is the author of numerous knitting books including best sellers: Arctic Lace, Successful Lace Knitting, Stories in Stitches, and Lithuanian Knitting just to mention a few.

Before she returned to knitting, Donna spent almost 20 years working in corporate cubicles as a writer, designer, and creative services manager. Her cubes were in military training facilities, small businesses, and large corporations. During that time, she wrote and designed marketing materials, training courses and technical manuals for many types of hardware and software products.

Donna’s a little slow, and it took her almost two decades and several jobs to figure out it was the whole career she didn’t like, not just each individual job. But it wasn’t until her friend Kris, who is also a knitter and writer, asked, “If you can write about how to install a hard drive, why can’t you write about how to knit?” that it dawned on Donna that she could use the skills she had to make a living in a field she loved.

Today, Donna lives in the U.S. State of Vermont with her husband, mother, and three cats who all help her test the usability and comfort of her finished knitted items. Sheep to Shawl, LLC is her business and sole income. It is run by her and her husband and other dedicated friends and knitters. You can learn more about her on her personal website.

Ravelry Member: Druchunas

Resort Lodging

Your lodging is paid separately from your workshop fee. Explained below under payment options.

Stay at the Trapp Family Lodge located in Stowe, Vermont. Just minutes to the village of Stowe, Vermont and Stowe Ski Resort. An easy drive to & from Montreal, Burlington Vermont, NYC, or all points south in New England.

The Trapp Family Lodge is a 2,500-acre, four-and-a-half-star resort. The lodge is managed by Sam von Trapp, son of Johannes von Trapp. The Trapp family, largely fictionalized in The Sound of Music — based loosely on The Story of the Trapp Family Singers by Maria von Trapp — left Austria shortly after its annexation by Nazi Germany in 1938. Baron Georg von Trapp and his wife Maria settled with their family in Vermont in 1942. After the Baron’s death in 1947, the family expanded and operated their home as a 27-room ski lodge. It was destroyed by fire on 20 December 1980, forcing 45 people, including Baroness von Trapp, to flee in their nightclothes. A new Austrian-style lodge with 93 rooms was opened in 1983.

AUSTRIAN-INSPIRED LODGING IN BEAUTIFUL STOWE, VT

Situated on 2,500 acres in beautiful Stowe, Vermont, Trapp Family Lodge is a unique mountain resort featuring Austrian-inspired architecture and European-style accommodations. The Lodge offers stunning mountain views, old-world comforts, and impeccable service, along with activities for every season.
The Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe has been an iconic feature of the Vermont landscape for more than half a century. What was originally the home of the von Trapp family has evolved over the years into today’s lodging options, including 96 rooms in the rustic, Austrian-style Main Lodge. Choose from one-room Studio Suites or opt for more space with One- and Two-Bedroom Family Suites, all of which feature charming, old-world furnishings and décor, complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi throughout the Lodge, and access to a long list of indoor and outdoor resort amenities, including all sorts of trails.

Settle into one of the delightful rooms or suites with European furnishings and mountain views from your balcony. Indulge in the charm of an alpine lodge, the conveniences of a modern resort, and the warmth of a family-run property. Enjoy year-round activities such as, but not limited to, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, backcountry skiing, hiking, mountain biking, tennis, and yoga.

MEALS

** Breakfast buffet & 3 course dinner is included with your Trapp Family Lodge Reservation **

You are welcome to explore the local restaurants in the area for lunches or the restaurants at the lodge. Spouses, partners, friends not attending retreat can have breakfast & dinner with you as long as they are included on your Trapp Family Lodge reservation.

Enjoy European-style cuisine in the Main Dining Room of the Trapp Family Lodge. Open for breakfast and dinner, this expansive, wood-paneled room offers a relaxed, gourmet dining experience complemented with attentive service and beautiful mountain views. Add in farm-to-table ingredients and you have the recipe for a deliciously fresh meal that you won’t soon forget.

TRAVEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Flying

The closest airports are Burlington, Vermont (47 minute drive), Manchester, New Hampshire, (3:12 drive), Plattsburg, NY (2:12 drive) or Montreal, Canada (2:37 drive) 

Train

Amtrak stops in Waterbury, Burlington and Montpelier, Vermont, each about two hours away by car.

At this time we can not provide transportation to and from the Airport or Train stations.

Driving by car to Stowe, Vermont

Burlington, Vermont (48min) l Montreal, Canada (2:37) l Boston, Mass (3:14)
New York City (6hrs) l Albany, NY (3:37) l Portland, ME (3:44)
Payment Option Procedure

The 2017 Vermont Fall Knitting Retreat
at Trapp Family Lodge Stowe, Vermont

Oct 26th – 29th, 2016
Arrive for Thursday Dinner or for meet and greet at night and leave after Sunday Breakfast

Workshop fees: $475 (USD) Includes handouts, misc supplies, knitting surprises, yarn, mailings, teacher fees, conference room rental, etc.

Trapp Family Lodging is not included in this price.

Please call Trapp Family Lodge and use reservation code 50M7EY “Sheep to Shawl” (pricing info below)

A deposit of $150 (USD) will hold your spot for this retreat right now.

Workshop Fee Terms: Balance is due two months before the first day of retreat on or before Sept 1st, 2016. Limited to only 25 people. If you cancel, you are responsible for filling your spot for this retreat. Your deposit is transferable to another person. If we fill your spot before Sept 1st, 2017 with our waiting list or by you, we will refund your $150 in full. If you cancel after Sept 1st, 2017, your deposit is non-refundable.Trapp Family Lodge reservations (refunds & fees) is handled separately from these terms.

Please be aware that you must stay at the Trapp Family Lodge to attend this retreat.

Deposit: http://nekretreats.com/vermont-fall-knitting-retreat/

Reserve Lodging

Please call Trapp Family Lodge at (800) 826-7000 and use reservation code #50M7EY “Sheep to Shawl” to make a one night deposit at the lodge to hold your room.

Three night knitting package
Deluxe Single rate, one person, one room, 3 nights: $818.70
Deluxe Double rate, two people, one room, 3 nights: $1109.40 (can be non-knitters)

Reservation includes:

Huge Breakfast each day
Three course chef select dinner each night
Room Taxes
Meal Gratuities
Private History Tour of the lodge
Movie Showing of the Real Maria documentary
Afternoon Tea & Cookies
Free Wifi (in room & common areas)
Valet Parking or Self Parking
Sound of Music film nightly
Fitness Center & Pools
Local Phone Calls (Cell service is spotty)

Reservation does not include: Mandatory $6 luggage fee per person per day or housekeeping gratuities.

Single rate room: $818.70 total l Double rate room: $1109.40 total
Cancellations? 30 days or less prior to arrival: %50 of deposited amount will be refunded
72 hrs or less prior to arrival: All deposits are subject to full forfeiture of one night stay

Call Trapp Family Lodge at (800) 826-7000 and use reservation code #50M7EY “Sheep to Shawl” to make a reservation at the lodge.

Total Estimated Cost Retreat & Lodging: Single $1294 l Double $2059 (two knitters)
Want to pay by check? Send a check with what retreat & deposit to (please email us to hold your spot):

Sheep to Shawl, LLC
315 Elm St
Barton, VT 05822

2017 Vermont Fall Knitting retreat is produced by Sheep to Shawl, LLC

Copyright © Sheep To Shawl, LLC