

## **Sock Workshop – Top Down Socks in Four Parts**

### **Sue Slottke**

This is not a “how to knit this sock pattern” class, but rather a workshop to help you create your own sock recipe, in four sessions. Each session will discuss the different ways to do the topic, for example different cast on methods and different types of cuffs. Attend any or all sessions that interest you.

To get the most from this workshop you should know how to knit, purl, yarn over and decrease, and how to knit in the round. It is not necessary to have made socks if you have made mittens or hats. Knitting in class is encouraged! This class is recommended for advanced beginners.

#### **Session 1: Cast on and Cuffs**

We will discuss various cast-on methods, types of needles and yarn, patterns vs recipes and the various cuff styles that are possible. Samples will be shown, and tutorials will be recommended. If you're knitting you will cast on in the round on your preferred type of needle(s). This session will get you started on the journey to socks. We'll also discuss various options for sock patterns.

#### **Session 2: Legs**

We'll talk about measuring for a good fit; vanilla socks or patterned legs; letting the yarn do the work (self-patterning, stripes, etc.) cables, colorwork and lace; adding embellishments. We will discuss knitting childrens' socks, and I'll tell you the names of my favorite sock knitting books. If you're knitting you'll start the leg and knit to the heel.

#### **Session 3: Heels**

In this session you'll learn about options, from heel flap and gusset style, short row heels, true afterthought heels and afterthought heels using waste yarn. There are many varieties of shaped heels and ways to fit large and small feet. Also for discussion: the Fish Lips Kiss heel (paid pattern on Ravelry \$2.49) by Sox Therapy.

#### **Session 4: Foot and Toe**

In the fourth session we'll discuss the various types of toe shapes and grafting your sock end, knitting shortie socks and knitting two at a time. Also for brief discussion: toe-up socks and how that process differs (Disclaimer: I am firmly in Camp Cuff Down but others in the shop will teach toe up!)

***If you plan to knit during the session(s) please bring or purchase in the shop 100 grams of sock or fingering yarn. You'll need small (size 0-3) knitting needles of the style you prefer, knitting markers, pen and paper. Store staff can help you choose anything you need, and there is a 10% discount on class supplies purchased at Fox River Fibers. I recommend a solid color yarn if you are a beginner.***