Meet Jane Woellhof: Lend-a-Hand Project

wildflowerknits.com/blog/meet-jane-woellhoff

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Jane Woellhof

Jane and Ron Woellhof live in Texas, but come to Manhattan often to visit family here. I've had the good fortune to be touched by Jane's story over the years. They make one or two trips a year to Manhattan and whenever they stop in, I learn a little more. They own Showcase Antiques in Fredricksburg, Texas, so maybe it was only natural that she'd become involved in historical preservation. Jane has been teaching kids to knit for years. She gets them knitting with little tiny needles as they learn to make miniature socks and mittens in no time! For the past couple years, she and the kids she teaches have been making and assembling kits to sell to support the preservation of school houses in Texas under the non-profit Friends of Gillespie County Schools. She was featured last year in Interweave's "Knitting Traditions."

"The Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools is a nonprofit organization formed to preserve old one-room schools in and around Fredericksburg, Texas... Visit www.historicschools.org for more information... The Lend-a-Hand program enlists volunteers to knit miniature mittens and socks and to produce kits with instructions and the necessary yarn for knitting a miniature mitten or sock as a fundraiser to support the Friends of Gillespie County Schools."- an excerpt from a feature in <a href="Interweave's "Knitting Traditions" Fall 2011.

Jane came to visit for one of our knit nights and had some of her kits last year. We've had them available in the shop, with proceeds going to the **Lend-a-Hand** program. This year she has some adorable **cookie cutter kits**.



cookie cutter kit

Each kit contains

- Handmade miniature mitten cookie cutter (metal)
- A wax-lined bag for your baked cookies
- Cookie recipes from the early country school students
- Lend-a-Hand handmade gift tag with a red bow
- Friends yellow imprinted school pencil

• Friends Driving Tour Brochure with the schools' history & map

You can connect with the <u>Gillespie Schools</u> project and the <u>Lend-a-Hand kits</u> on facebook, too.