

"From the Heart"

Volunteers are angels in disguise.



From the Heart's

January 2014

Grateful Thread

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Letter from Lois

Paying it forward ...have you tried it? What does it mean? It's a term describing the beneficiary of a good deed repaying it to others.

Keeping our homeless warm (many who are veterans who have served their country...keeping us safe) would be a great way to accomplish this. I'm sure there are many ways we can give back using our stitches.

The next several months will be so cold we will be turning up our thermostats, adding another blanket to our beds and taking out that heavier jacket when we have to go outside.

Suppose you didn't have that thermostat, that extra blanket or access to a nice warm winter outfit? What would you do?

Our homeless are in that position. Some are taken in by Caritas and similar programs and housed in churches or other buildings at night. Others are spending their nights

shivering under bridges and in alleys. A few may even find a large, empty box in which to huddle. Our warm hats, mittens and scarves made with wool or wool blends or large blankets in which to wrap up may not be the total solution but will give as much comfort as our hooks and needles can supply.

You might check your closets for anything you are not using that can give some comfort to these people...men, women and children. Sweaters would be wonderful for them to layer under their coats and jackets. Maybe we could make some pullovers in stripes using up some of our leftovers. I'm sure we have some top-down patterns that require no or few seams. If we use larger needles, making them not quite so bulky, they would easily fit under outer clothing and create a thermal effect to help trap the warmth close to their bodies. Acrylics would work for this...making that barrier doesn't require wool. Now that the rush of the holidays is behind us we can turn our attention and stitches toward helping care for our community. Give it some thought. How can YOU help?

See you at the shop!

Lois

Current Needs

We currently need solid colored scarves to put with hats, any size blankets and hats. As always, please make whatever you enjoy as we can use anything you make.

Fredericksburg / King George Area Current Needs

We currently need baby items such as hats, sweaters and blankets. Blankets of all sizes, chemo hats and shrugs . As always, please make whatever you enjoy as we can use anything you make.

Please, No more Bereavement Blankets needed!

At this time we do not need any more bereavement blankets. Thanks for the wonderful blankets you have all made!

Help Us Keep Our Expenses Down

Are you on our Newsletter mailing list instead of the email list? If you have an email address help us save on postage costs by letting us send the Newsletter to you via email, please.

Have you changed your email address? If your email address changes please send us your name, the old email address and the new email address so we can update our records. If you only send us the new email address we cannot locate you!

Inclement Weather

The colder weather is here and winter weather is on its way. We want to be sure everyone knows that the shop will not open if the local schools are closed. We don't want any of you to be put in harm's way, especially with the urgent need for you to be creating things to keep people warm. Stay safe this winter and do not come to the shop when the weather is bad.

'Waste Not Workshop' Working with less than a full skein

Date: Saturday January 11 **Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 pm

Location: 5994 Plank Road, Fredericksburg - Ruritan Building

Learn how to use up your leftovers. We will have leftover yarn, patterns and help available. See how leftovers can make up into useful, beautiful items. All items completed will be delivered to various groups in the community.

Come and spend the day, a couple of hours or whatever time you have.

Bring a dish to share. Plates, cups and utensils will be provided. Coffee, hot tea and iced tea will be available. The building has a large kitchen available to us.

Various demonstrations will be given on topics such as how to read a pattern. If you are willing to demonstrate an item which can be made from leftovers, please contact Pam at 540.972.3602.

Finished items can also be turned in at the event. Everyone is welcome so bring your friends and relatives.

We hope to see you there for a full day of fun, fellowship and stitching.

Stop by the Shop

When was the last time you sat, stitched and enjoyed the camaraderie at the shop?

Eleanor Cannon is the January scheduler. Contact her at e-cannon@msn.com, 804-282-0440 or 804-514-1168.

Congratulations to Joanne Fairbanks who is the winner for the December shopkeeper prize. Joanne, there will be a nice bag of yarn at the shop for you to pick up for a special project

"Learn to Knit" at Tuckahoe Library

From the Heart has been asked to teach basic knitting skills Monday, February 3, 2014 - 6:30 pm at the Tuckahoe Library. We need volunteers to teach. Please contact Lois at 804-305-4971

Donation Inventory Numbers

<u>Previous Total</u>	
Mid 2002 - 2012	150,977
<u>2013</u>	
Jan - Nov	22,246
December	<u>2,501</u>
	21,747
Grand Total	175,724