

"From the Heart"
Volunteers are angels in disguise.



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Letter from Lois

Thanks everyone for answering our requests for jackets and sweaters for the Caroline County children, the hats and socks for our Kuwait military and blankets...blankets as well as squares for creating blankets for kids, adults, sick and the homeless...you have outdone yourselves! Did you know you have had a part in creating almost **180,000** items in our 12 years? Now that's a lot of yarn!

It's truly amazing how we can mention a need to you and KABAM! you are on it!! And in a big way! When the sweater/jacket call went out you answered it by creating over 150 of them. When we asked for hats, about 300 came in and socks...I lost count on them! Your ability to whip up items at just the mere mention of a need is astonishing.

Of course, with all those projects coming in, the yarn has fast been going out. Our cubbies have been emptier than I've ever seen them, and this is a good thing! It just shows how prolific we are, how much we care and enjoy helping others. Our incoming yarn donations as well as funds for purchasing yarn have been very slow. And I can

well understand that. With the economy the way it has been for so long now things like yarn are not just high on anyone's list of priorities. But...our friends at Coordinated Colors Yarn Shop in Yorktown and Gloucester have come through for us once again. They have donated about 500 skeins of beautiful, acrylic yarn for our use. They are always so generous, they certainly help keep our membership stitching and we greatly appreciate their help.

As much as you have done, and believe me, it's incredible how you always manage to help solve a problem when it arrives, we still have a great demand for those sweaters and jackets as well as blankets for everyone from the tiniest infants to chemo patients. Also we need the larger ones for the bone marrow patients as well as the homeless on our cold, cold streets.

Now that we have better yarn choices at the shop (for a while anyway...) I hope you will find time to stop in to pick your favorite colors and most of all, I hope you can find the time to just sit and stitch with us for a while. Our shop has become such a wonderful, relaxing place to be. Plan to sit and stitch with friends, chat about most anything, bring a sandwich and have lunch or slip out across the street for something to eat. If there is something new you would like to learn about knitting or crocheting, by all means, just let me know. Very probably we can line someone up to meet you there and hold a mini workshop. Also, with a little heads up someone could arrange to meet you there if you find you have a stitching problem with one of your projects.

Our shop is so comfortable, what with sofas and rockers, surrounded by yarn and friends...all we are missing is you, and maybe a fireplace!!

Again, thank you to ALL for your wonderful, caring attitude, your desire to help others and your faithful commitment to everyone involved with From the Heart as well as those who benefit from your beautiful stitches.

Come see us soon at the shop!

Lois

Current Needs

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

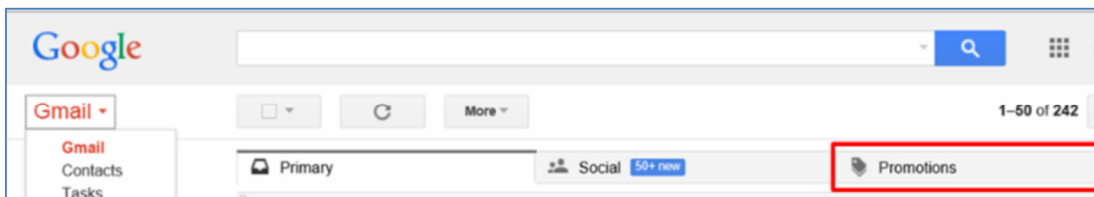
PLEASE LOCK DOORS (front and back) UPON LEAVING THE SHOP!

Quite frequently we have found the shop door(s) unlocked. It appears some folks are going into the shop for various reasons but fail to lock up when they leave. We don't have a problem with our members stopping in when necessary but we do have a problem with the door being left unlocked after departure.

Gmail Account Information

Do you have a Gmail account or know anyone who does? Since August Gmail has made a change to their system which is being rolled out to Gmail users over a period of time. Once the account has been rolled out to the new format you may think you are not getting our newsletter when you really are, it is just found in a different place.

Once you are at your Gmail Inbox, you will need to click on the 'Promotions' tab to see any emails that are newsletters or other types of 'mass mailings' .



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.

Announcing the 2014 From the Heart Annual Retreat

Saturday August 23, 2014

Well, all, that time is upon us again and to start the ball rolling, we are seeking ideas and suggestions for our 2014 Retreat. We have gone through all the evaluations from last year and, although the consensus was that a terrific time was had by all, we still want to hear from you regarding what you would like to see and do this year ☺

We have already made some basic decisions such as the date (given above) and the fact that the vendors were so thoroughly enjoyed that we will be asking them to rejoin us this year. The Yarn Barn, Coordinated Colors and the Williamsburg Chocolatier have already agreed so start putting those pennies aside now ☺

What we really need to know from YOU are the following :

1. What would you like to see offered as a class?
2. What speaker topics are you specifically interested in?
3. Can you help out with?
 - a. Teaching a class (what topic if you can?)
 - b. Bingo
 - c. Setting up on Friday night/Saturday morning
 - d. Helping with pre-planning (such as making centerpieces or helping fill goodie bags when the time comes)
 - e. Anything else you can think of...

The From the Heart Annual Retest is our way of saying THANK YOU to all of you who work so hard all year long to help other people. This is our chance to celebrate each other so let's all pull together and make it the best Retreat yet. You can start the ball rolling by contacting Tricia Ennis at ennis1000@verizon.net to reply to the questions above and by marking your calendar now.

Save the Date
Saturday August 23, 2014
2014 From the Heart Annual Retreat

Stop by the Shop

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

Ann Robbins is the February scheduler. Contact her at aerobbins@live.com or 804-270-6247 or 804-921-1174.

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

'Goodie Bag' from Past Retreats

Over the past several years we have all received a 'goodie bag' as we signed in at the retreat. Some people have used them as project bags while others say they really do not use them.

Are you using your bags? If not, why not turn it in and it can be sent to the women's shelter as a toiletry bag.

Donation Inventory Numbers

Previous Total

Mid 2002 - 2013 175,724

2014

January 1,627

1,627

Grand Total 177,3514

FIELD TRIP to Coordinated Colors

Hi all,

It has been a while since we have had a From the Heart Field Trip so it is time to take a visit to the new [Coordinated Colors Yarn Shop](#) in Gloucester.

We will be meeting at the shop on Westbriar at 9.15 am on **Friday February 7th**. We will then travel to Gloucester for a morning of yarn heaven, have lunch in Gloucester at a new restaurant called Daffodil Vintage. Following lunch we will head back to Richmond and expect to be back at the shop at about 4pm.

Please let us know if you would like to join us as we are trying to organize car pools to take us and we also need to let the restaurant know how many to expect for lunch.

Those of you who live nearer to Gloucester can, of course, plan to simply show up at Coordinated Colors but we would still need to know if you plan to have lunch with us so we can give Daffodil Vintage a heads up.

Thanks so much - hope to see you Friday :-)

Lois and Tricia
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