

The Thread

*"Stitching our community together,
one thread at a time!"*

Message from the President

Although we haven't had snow yet, winter is here and the cold weather will be with us for a while. A cold winter day is a great time to cozy up with your favorite pattern and start stitching. Our recipients are very grateful for every warm hat, scarf, shawl and blanket we deliver. It is the time of the year when our items are needed the most. Sadly, the need is great but look at the numbers we have delivered in such a short time.

Remember every single item touches so many lives. You are all appreciated by our board members but also by the people we deliver the items to, the person who gets to present it to the final recipient and of course the person is able to accept and enjoy the item you made for them. Thank you for your efforts to help us warm the hearts and bodies of our community!

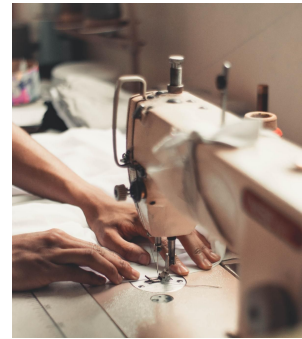
Stay safe, warm and healthy!

Pam

Community Threads

Our Mission Statement:

*Our mission is to serve the community
by providing items of warmth,
comfort and dignity,
hand crafted by our volunteers
and clothing donated by
our neighbors.*



New Members

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Brenda Troy | 8. Michael Morton |
| 2. Carol Minter | 9. Nancy Sweeney |
| 3. Diane Brunjes | 10. Peg Waters |
| 4. Jackie Estes | 11. Rebecca Kennedy |
| 5. Koko Swann | 12. Ruth Jaquith |
| 6. Liz Hood | 13. Stacy-Lynn Estes |
| 7. Marti Manson | 14. Valerie Fronzo |



Inclement Weather Policy

Meetings will be cancelled if Spotsylvania schools open late or are closed due to weather.

Stitch Count	Last Month's #s	Grand Total
Handmade Items	556	1052
From the Closet	Last Month's #s	Grand Total
Clothes	418	1328

February Birthdays

- Liz Hood
- Peg Waters



\$\$\$\$ FUNdraising \$\$\$\$

Thank you to all who have donated!

The **Ruritan** does not charge us a fee to hold our meetings there but there will be a donation envelope at each meeting should you wish to make a donation to help with the operating costs of the facility.

Additionally, there will be a **Community Threads** donation envelope at each meeting should you wish to donate funds to help with the overhead and operating budget of our group.

If you know of a person or business that might be willing to make a donation or become a sponsor, please reach out to them. If you prefer not reach out, then provide us with the information and we will contact them.



Masks are **OPTIONAL**

Masks will continue to be optional.
We want everyone to feel safe and comfortable.
We know our members want the same & will remain home if having any symptoms.

Ruritan Yard Sale April 24th & 15th

Are you decluttering?
Keep the Ruritan in mind for the items you want to get rid of. The proceeds of the sale provides scholarships to local students.

Immediate Needs

- Shawls for men & women
- Lap blankets for men & women
- Wheelchair Totes
- Walker Totes
- Button Shirts for dignity bibs

School age through adult for Male & Female:

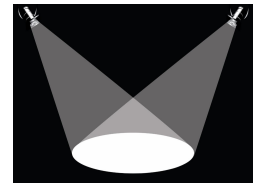
- Hats
- Scarves

New or gently used clothes

- Ladies 2x, 3x, 4x tops & pants
- Ladies 4, 6, 8, 10 tops
- Men's or ladies button shirts for dignity bibs

As always, we encourage you make ANYTHING you like to make, and we will find a good home for it!

Community Spotlight: Thank you!



Ladies,

A million thanks for the big bag of goodies dropped off at

Paramount Senior Living yesterday! What a treasure trove! I am always so touched by your kindness to our residents and they are most appreciative! Yesterday I immediately took the fidget mats to our Memory Care residents and the reception those mats received was so heartwarming.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts!

Blessings to you all,
Natalie Hallahan

Upcoming & Ongoing Needs

- baby sweaters
 - baby hats must be **STRETCHY** and at least the size of a grapefruit
 - blankets - lap/large and baby
 - dignity bibs
 - fiddle aprons/mats
 - hats - adult/children - male & female
 - scarves - adult/children
 - shawls
 - shirt protectors
 - toys
 - walker totes
 - wheelchair totes for back & side
-

Event Schedule - Fredericksburg

Unless otherwise noted; all Events are at the Chancellor Ruritan Club 5994 Plank Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Member Meetings 9:30-12:30

FEB 8 th	Wednesday
FEB 21 st	Tuesday
MAR 8 th	Wednesday
MAR 21 st	Tuesday
APRIL 5 th	Wednesday
APRIL 18 th	Tuesday
MAY 10 th	Wednesday
MAY 23 rd	Tuesday
JUNE 7 th	Wednesday
JUNE 17 th	Saturday Workshop 10- 3
JUNE 20 th	Tuesday

Event Schedule - King George

All Events are at the Smoot Library Room A
9533 Kings Highway. King George, VA 22485

Member Meetings - Friday

10:30 am - 1:30 pm

FEB 3rd
FEB 17th
MAR 3rd
MAR 17th
APRIL 14th
APRIL 28th

Meet the Board

Pam Greswolde – President 540-661-7967
Jeannie Duris - Secretary
Linda Foldvik – Treasurer 703-395-4064
Kathy Weaver – Communications 540-809-5218
Hollie Seibert – Creative Director
Bertha Rector - 540-907-5259
Doris Bowling - 540-406-7237

Please reach out to any of the board members with comments, thoughts, and suggestions.

POTENTIAL Workshop Classes

We have volunteers offering to teach the following:

1. Crocheting
2. Knitting
3. How to read a crochet or knitting pattern
4. How to join crocheted squares
5. Basic quilting
6. Making items with a loom
7. Wheelchair & Walker totes

If you are interested in taking any of these classes there will be sign up sheets at the meetings.

Good News!

There is so much interest in the workshop we have scheduled another one for this fall!

Save the date and watch for more news.
Saturday Nov 4th 10 -3 at the Ruritan.



Tips, Tricks & Resources:

If you have a pattern you want to share, or a link to a great tutorial, send an email to communitythreads@comcast.net so it can be posted in the newsletter next month to share with other members.

Tip of the Month:

Put your pattern down in a plastic sheet protector and use a dry erase marker to mark off rows on the plastic. Use a binder clip to make sure the pattern is secure enough not to move a row up or down from your marks.

Project Size Guidelines For Community Threads

Constantly Needed Items

Project	Size	Notes
Large Blankets	48"x 50" up to full bed size	Large rectangular
Lap Blankets	32-36" square	not necessarily square, no less 32" width & length
Chemo Blankets	32-34 x 48-50"	Rectangular
Chemo caps	all sizes	no wool, washable - male & female colors winter - acrylic mix, fun fur with acrylic summer -cotton, acrylic & fun fur, or cotton & fun fur
Baby blankets	30" to 40" square	no wool
Baby sweaters	newborn to toddler	no wool
Baby hats	fit a grapefruit or larger	no wool – hats should fit a 5" ball
Baby booties	newborn	no wool
Hats & Scarves	all sizes - child to adult	matching sets are helpful - male & female colors wool mix okay - tag with red yarn can be made & turned in year-round
Shawls	all sizes	

Appreciated when available

Project	Size	Notes
Book Totes	Approx. 8 x 10	Kits or fabric & ribbon available
Fiddle Mats		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern and fabric available)
Dignity Bibs		Men & Women
Shirt protectors		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern & fabric available) Velcro at neck
Sweaters	child to adult	all male & female colors
Walker totes		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern and fabric available)
Wheelchair tote for back		Sewn – Men & Women (pattern and fabric available)
Wheelchair tote for side	Approx. 8 x 10	Kits or fabric & ribbon available
Toys	all types	crochet, knit or sewn – example: blankets & hats for bears
Pet cozy	18" up to 3 feet any shape	Blankets for animals in distress great way to use slightly soiled yarn or scratchy yarn

The above projects are suggestions, but anything you want to make will warm the hearts and bodies of those in need.

Fiddle Mat Supplies

We are seeking miscellaneous supplies for making fiddle mats - items you may have and are willing to donate so we can make more of them:

bobbins, spools, nylon zippers 5"-7", bells, small plastic toys with loops or holes to string the together, plastic buckles, pom-poms, plastic rings (like you see in the picture), crocheted shapes or anything that could be added to these mats.

Our memory care facility residents love these mats and they cost \$80-\$90 each to purchase! The facilities can't purchase them so REALLY appreciate ours.



Special Events
Mark your calendars NOW
Workshop: Saturday June 17, 2023
 Watch your newsletter for more details!

Any suggestions for
 the newsletter please email
communitythreads@comcast.net

Crochet Wheelchair Wrap Pattern

Introduction

This little wrap was designed specifically for the elderly - particularly those confined to wheelchairs or to bed. The short length prevents it from getting caught in wheels. The shape helps keep in on the shoulders where many elderly get cold. Being open down the front makes it easy for medical personnel to access arms for blood pressure readings and such.

Materials List

12 ounces of worsted weight yarn
H hook

Finished Size

Approximately 18 inches long (down the center back) and approximately 80 inches around the bottom edge

Gauge

14 dc = 4 inches
8 rows = 4 inches

Notes

V stitch = 1dc, ch1, 1dc

The Pattern

Chain 54



Row 1: dc in 3rd ch from hook, ch 1, 2 dc in next ch, *dc in next 11 ch, v st in next ch, repeat from * 2 times, dc in next 11 ch, 2 dc in next ch, ch 1, 1 dc in each of last 2 ch, ch 2, turn (58 dc and 5 ch 1 spaces)

Row 2: dc in next dc, ch 1, 2 dc in next dc, *dc in next 13 dc, V st in ch1 space, repeat from * 2 times, dc in next 13 dc, 2 dc in next dc, ch 1, dc in last dc and in top of turning ch, ch2, turn (8 sts increased).

Rows 3 - 28: repeat row 2, following established pattern, always increasing the number of dc between V sts by 2 (each row increases by a total of 8 sts).

Row 29: dc in next dc, ch 1, skip ch 1 space, dc in next dc, *ch 1, skip 1 dc and dc in next st, repeat from * to V st in previous row, ch 1, V st in ch 1 space of V st, ch 1, skip next dc, dc in next dc repeat from * across row to last dc. Ch 1, skip ch 1 space, dc in next dc, dc in last dc and in top of turning ch, ch 2, turn .

Row 30: dc in each dc and ch 1 space across, end off, weave in ends.

The author of this pattern, Susan A. Coes, allows its use for non-commercial purposes only. Please do not re-distribute for profit.

<http://needleworkersroom.blogspot.com/2008/12/wheelchair-wrap.html>