

The Thread

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

Message from the President

As I look out my window thinking about what to write I see signs of spring already. The forsythia are starting to get their color and the jonquils are blooming!

We started this amazing group just three short months ago and when you look at the number of items, we have delivered I think you will be as amazed as I am.

We sent out an email asking how Community Threads has impacted your life and we really would like to know please, send us even a short note. I will tell you how we have impacted one family of seven who lost EVERYTHING in a fire. They were lucky in that no one was injured, and no lives lost, but they had nothing. We were able to provide them with so many items – handmade blankets, quilts and each child a different color 'I Spy Game', along with new and gently used clothing, sheets, towels and household items totaling 242 items! The person I delivered the items to was so surprised, amazed, and appreciative of the help we could provide to this family. What an impact!

Thank you for all you do for our community!

Pam



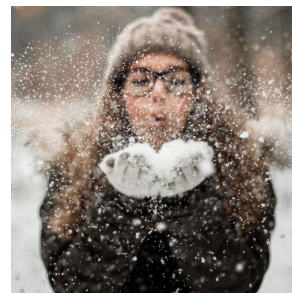
Our Mission Statement:

*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

Tracey Lineman
Wanda LaRue



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	365	1425
From the Closet	Last Month's #s	Grand Total
Clothes	469	1799

March Birthdays

- Darlene Jenkins
- Jeanette Perry
- Jeannie Duris
- Joan Wood



\$\$\$\$ 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 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 14th & 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

- Colorful blankets of any size for the children's cancer center - toddlers to teens
- Lap blankets for men & women
- Baby blankets
- Dialysis mitts (fingerless gloves)
- Shawls for men & women
- Walker & wheelchair totes

New or gently used clothes:

- Ladies 2x, 3x, 4x tops & pants
- Ladies 4, 6, 8, 10 tops
- Men's & 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!



Thank you very much for your gracious donation! We appreciate your support for victims, survivors, and their children. Your donation helps us provide essential needs to victims and survivors of domestic violence. Thank you!

- Empowerhouse

Upcoming & Ongoing Needs

- baby sweaters
 - blankets – lap/large and baby
 - dignity bibs
 - fiddle mats
 - shawls
 - shirt protectors
 - toys
 - walker totes
 - wheelchair totes for back & side
-

POTENTIAL Workshop Classes

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

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

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 571-774-8488
Holli 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

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

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.



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 of the Month:

Use a larger hook size for crochet foundation chains
than what you're using for the rest of your project.
This helps prevent it from becoming too tight. Or if your
foundation chain is too loose, you can correct it by
going down a hook size.



Create a neat knitted edge with an easy chain slip stitch. I said "goodbye" to nubby garter stitch edges forever the minute I knit my first slipped stitch chain edge. The slipped chain creates an attractive braid-like edge along the right side.

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.

Helpful Tips

- Please tag every item. There are tags available at every meeting, and you may take a stack home.
- On items containing wool, please tie on the item tags using red yarn so that we can identify them. Some people are sensitive to wool.
- Yarn is available at every meeting, or you can use your own. If you use Community Threads yarn, the yarn should be logged out on a Sign-In/Sign-Out sheet, and any completed items using Community Threads yarn should be logged in on a Sign-In/Sign-Out sheet.
- If you wash item(s), please do not use scented fabric softener, many are allergic.
- If you write on the back of the item tag, please put only your first name and/or washing instructions.
- Remember to tie at least 2 knots when not using the magic knot to ensure it does not come undone in washing.
- Weave ends in more than inch and trim closely.
- To ensure your donation is distributed to the intended group, please make sure it meets the requested size. Many times, you can add a border if needed.

If you need help, contact: communitythreads@comcast.net

Pam Greswolde (540) 661-7967 or Kathy Weaver (571) 774-8488

Lacy Blanket

Marti Manson

Materials: Size 11 Needles

Yarn: Loops & Threads Snuggly Wuggly Big Skein – (14 oz. & 1263 yards)
#3 weigh

I used two colors held together and used approximately 4.5 ounces of each color. (approximately 360 yards of each color)

Gauge:

My gauge in the lacy pattern was 2.5 stitches per inch.

Pattern:

Using size 11 needles, cast on 76 stitches.

Row 1: K1, P1 across the row.

Row 2: P1, K1 across the row.

Row 3: Repeat Row 1.

Row 4: Repeat Row 2.

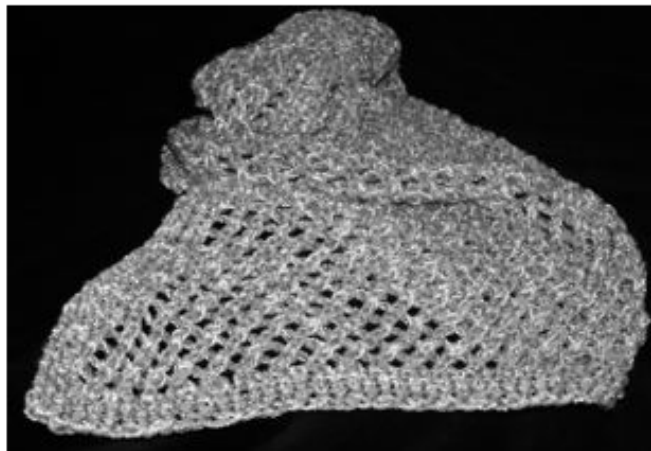
Row 5: K1, P1, K1, P1, *yo (yarn over), K2tog, repeat from * to the last 4 st (stitches), K1, P1, K1, P1.

Row 6: P1, K1, P1, K1, purl across the row to the last 4 st, P1, K1, P1, K1.

Repeat Rows 5 & 6 until the blanket measures 29 inches.

Then repeat Rows 1 – 4.
Bind off in pattern.

The blanket may be oddly shaped at this point, but during the blocking you straighten it out.



Fingerless Gloves

Pam Greswolde

Approx. 2 oz. worsted or bulky weight yarn

I hook

Ch. 23, join in round with sl st, ch 1.

Round 1: sc around, join with sl st, ch 2.

Round 2: *dc, sc, repeat from * around, join with sl st and ch 1

Round 3: * sc in dc below, dc in sc below. Repeat from * around, join with sl st and ch 2

Round 4: Repeat round 2

Round 5: Repeat round 3

Round 6 - 17: Repeat rounds 2 and 3 alternating.

Round 18: dc, sc, dc, sc across leaving the last 5 stitches unworked. Ch2 and turn.

Round 19: Repeat round 3

Round 20: Repeat round 2

Round 21: Repeat round 3 joining with a sl st to other side of the thumb. Chain 2.

Round 22: Repeat round 2.

Round 23: Repeat round 3.

Round 24: Repeat round 2. Fasten off and weave in the end.

Note: For dialysis patents they need to be long enough to come up to the elbow so just add more rows to achieve desired length.



Special Events Mark your calendars NOW

Workshop: Saturday June 17, 2023

Food, Fun, Friends and YARN - lots of YARN!
Watch your upcoming newsletters for additional details!

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

Community Threads | 10540 Carriage Road, Spotsylvania, VA 22551

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