

PenWAG Rag

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Co-Presidents

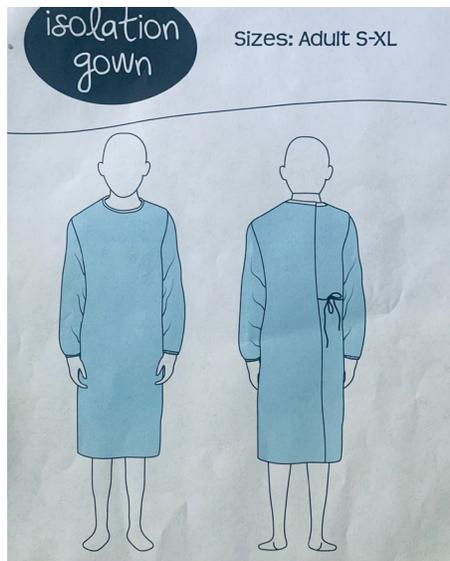


HELP NEEDED

Sewing 4 Good needs sewers and other help to make isolation gowns.

<https://www.sewing4good.org/>

Judi, Elizabeth and I have been sewing gowns, and my helper here shows the current fabric in use (Tootsie is laying down on the job, as it were). Will you help too? It's a big project! At the end of this weekly letter is the newsletter I did for them. Go read about it, please. See Judi's article on the next page. ed.



Want to truly make a difference?

In this era of Covid-19, we've all heard stories about insufficient PPE's (Personal Protective Equipment). Yes, it is true. There are medical personnel who still do not have protective gowns and who are wearing plastic bags and ponchos as their main protection against the virus.

And here is where we have an opportunity to help. A collective has been formed called Sewing4Good. It is based in our area of Northern California and also has a contingent in Southern California. The goal is to make isolation gowns for any facility that needs them. They are partnered with Topson Downs in LA (garment manufacturing firm already making these gowns) and they need sewists – us-- who will commit to making 5 gowns a week. But wait. There's more opportunity! There also is a huge need for non-sewing positions, like

- **Coordinator** – Generally herding team of sewists, dropping off material and picking up gowns
- **Inventory management** – huge need for this and coordinators right now
- **Social media**
- **Hospital liaison**
- **Fundraising**
- **Accounting**
- **Pick-up day volunteers**, including heavy lifting
- **ERP software manager**



Sewing4Good has developed standards and a pattern for universal gowns. They furnish the protective woven fabric and accessories, delivered to your door. You furnish thread and labor. You sew the gowns. Then they pick up the gowns, dropping off next week's supplies. Since this is just the second week of actual production, they are open to, and implementing, suggestions from us on the front line.

Prior to even getting out the word that help was needed, there were real orders for over 10,000 gowns, 3,000 of them in New York where, in one place, they had no isolation gowns whatsoever and were wearing plastic bags. This particular facility lacked the funds to pay for shipping, so Topson Downs handled and paid for that.

The material itself is impregnated with something that resists the virus and fully protects wearers. After we handover the gowns that we have made, they go through a process of being sanitized, packaged, and shipped. It's interesting to be in on the ground floor of creating these and knowing how badly they are needed.

We were made aware of Sewing4Good by Ronda Chaney, one of our members who is Professor and Coordinator of Cañada College's Fashion Design program. Lenore Kelly, Elizabeth Kabata and I volunteered from (PenWAG). There are already over a hundred more volunteers and much room for additional volunteers.

if you have questions to sign up, reach out to Lenore [makinbeads@yahoo.com for this project] and me [judiseip@gmail.com].

At home coloring my hair 🤪🤪🤪

threads

How-to Projects & Patterns Tools & Supplies Inspiration Fitting



In answer to a growing need, there are many initiatives and tutorials in the sewing community to make cloth face masks for healthcare providers on the front lines of the COVID-19 response.



We are just 3-4 weeks away from learning everyone's real hair color



Consultant and Professional Life Coach



How we're all gonna look after 18 months of cutting our own hair

Sewing 4 Good Newsletter

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Tuesday ,April 21



Congratulations, Bay Area sewers! We have delivered our first big order, 100 gowns to Mills-Peninsula Hospital in Burlingame. We also delivered an order for 25 gowns to protect social workers making in-home visits. See the lovely packages above prepared by Coordinator Melanie Geleyse.

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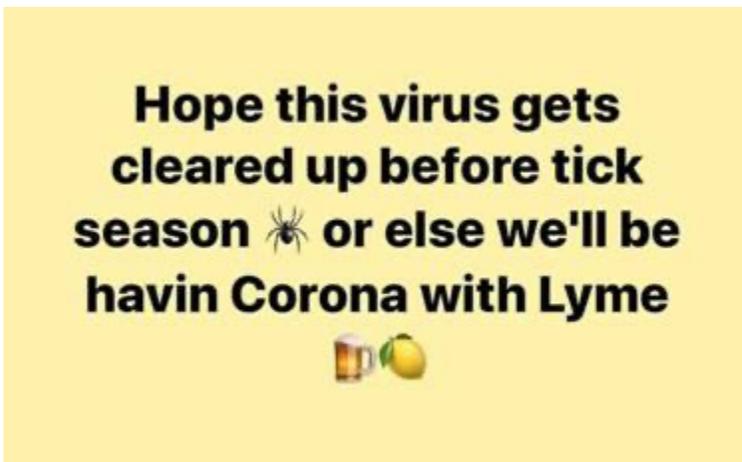
OUR NEXT ORDER

Next we ramp up for 3-4 weeks of sewing for a 2,000 gown order from Jamaica and Flushing Hospitals in New York. Thank you to those who have flexed with us and switched sizes so we are all working on Large or XL gowns for this order. We hope to ship 250 this Friday.

NEW! We have heard that it is difficult to cut patterns from such long fabric lengths or in space constraints at home. So starting this Wednesday, we'll have appointments available to come cut on designated tables at our second distribution site at 1795 Space Park Drive in Santa Clara. Details & sign-up here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UEpQDB4WyJIXb7x3MSQbIU560V7wd00lxNHDVr_txhs/edit#gid=0

NOTE: We need more 6' "Costco tables" or equivalents. Please sign up on the sheet if you can bring one to lend.



How you know when you have been in quarantine too long.



Tomorrow is the National Home School Tornado Drill. Lock your kids in the basement until you give the all clear. You're welcome!

I was so bored I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.

2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.

The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!

You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers.

Do not call the police on suspicious people in your neighborhood! Those are your neighbors without makeup and hair extensions!

Since we can't eat out, now's the perfect time to eat better, get fit, and stay healthy. We're quarantined! Who are we trying to impress? We have snacks, we have sweatpants – I say we use them!

Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands???

I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!

Me: Alexa what's the weather this weekend? Alexa: It doesn't matter – you're not going anywhere.

Can everyone please just follow the government instructions so we can knock out this coronavirus and be done?! I feel like a kindergartner who keeps losing more recess time because one or two kids can't follow directions.

When this is over...what meeting do I attend first...Weight Watchers or AA?

You all gotta send me items, links and photos
for the newsletter or there won't be one next
week!

In the early stages of the shut down, I decided to make up some lovely soft rayon I got in Thailand a few years ago. I have been intrigued with this pattern and it worked out well with this material. However the hip area is not nearly as snug as I had expected and drapes more freely than I would have liked. I may pull it up a little at the shoulders but that will create some draping inconsistent with the original pattern Judi



A wonderful workshop led by **Lisa Thorpe** was sponsored by the quilt guild in Feb. She taught **Gelli printing**, a medium new to me. The paints are clear bright (or soft) colors and applied with a brayer. For design, we used natural fern, leaves, whatever. We also used stencils and the reverse in objects that favor the colors, as well as pieces of string and various tool-like objects. Everything was 4x6 print on 5x7 fabric with a variety of textures, then used any way we wish. These would be beautiful incorporated into a shirt or jacket or possibly even down a pants leg. She teaches wearable art & surface design. Wouldn't it be fun to have her lead us in a workshop sometime?!

Judi



Pandemic street art from around the world, complements of [atlasobscura.com/](https://www.atlasobscura.com/)

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/covid-19-street-art?utm>