

Project Joe's Blankets

There are Masons who know about Amaranth and some of you have never come in to contact with the charitable work that our members do for the Community.

A little bit about Amaranth.

The Order of the Amaranth is a co-educational, fraternal organization for Masons and female relatives. It promotes and encourages the practice and principles of Truth, Faith, Wisdom and Charity in everyday life, through traditional rites handed down through the generations. We share time and friendships through some traditions as well as today's modern functions, adventures in travel and participation in community events throughout Washington, the United States and many countries around the world.

Our "Courts" work together to raise funds for the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation to support research in finding better management of Diabetes, improved treatments and to find a cure.

We also provide scholarships to our Masonic children.

Occasionally, we also have had other projects that we bring awareness to like Autism Speaks and The Red Shoe Fund.

Charity is one of our core principals. Charity can come in different ways but it always lets the person receiving the charity know that someone out there thinks about them. Charity is not always giving money to help fund Diabetes Research projects. It can come in many forms. During these current times, we forget that not everyone has a support system or even a family to help them. One small act of kindness makes a difference.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been unable to meet or have the same fund-raising events.

One of our special members, Chris Werre, decided to create a new Charitable fundraiser in memory of her husband Joe Werre. Joe passed away in 2020 during this pandemic. Her husband was a member of Bremerton Court, Bremerton, Washington and they had been married for 40 years. Chris originally made blankets for people that she knew or sold them at craft fairs.

At the beginning of December, she decided to create a new tradition and a way to keep her memories of Joe alive. Due to him passing away, she was no longer going to the Dialysis clinic with her husband. However, when she was going, she noticed there were a number of individuals who were there with no one.

With many encouraging supporters, Chris has created "Project Joe's Blankets". The object was to provide blankets to patients while sitting in the dialysis chair. These blankets are a way to show someone who is alone in the world, that someone is thinking about them and that they matter. The blankets provide comfort to the person curled up in the blanket. One small act of kindness has turned into a much larger act.

Chris Werre is a member of the Order of the Amaranth. She has donated 133 blankets as of April 6, 2021, with many helping hands of her supporters. I am honored and humbled by the sheer act of grace

and kindness that she has started. Many of us have donated blankets to her cause. She credits being part of the order of the Amaranth for her generous work.

It is the other way around. The Order of the Amaranth is a much better organization because of Chris. Anyone who comes into contact with her learns what a wonderful and generous person she really is. I am very fortunate to know Chris and am very proud to call her my friend.

If you would like to donate fabric or donate a blanket to her cause, it only takes a total of four yards of flannel. One, two yard piece for the front and one, two yard piece for the back. Even if you don't sew, you can certainly donate to the project. If you would like to get in touch with her, we will help you do so.

Chris Werre is a leader and proves that charity and kindness are core principals of the Order of the Amaranth and she exudes the calling to help others.

Thank you, Chris, for your kindness and thoughts of how you can help others realize that everyone matters, even if you don't know the person at all.

For contact information, you may contact H.L. Heather Hughes, Grand Associate Matron of Washington, Order of the Amaranth. My email address is hawilson13@hotmail.com or my phone number is (206)713-2648.