

ISOLATION INSPIRATION

by Thelma Newbury

When all this started way back in March, I thought, "now is my time to get all those artworks that have been buzzing around in my head done!". As it turns out, I have only managed to do four. The whole situation is distracting. So instead, when a friend sent me a pattern to make masks, I made the first one. Then someone else sent me a pattern and I made one of those. Four patterns in total were tried, and I took the best features of each and made my own pattern. Then, of course, elastic became a hard to acquire commodity. What to use instead? Pony tail elastics became the go-to product. The only difficulty there is, is the fact that pony tail elastics are only 5" long when cut at the join point. This meant devising different sizes because faces do not come in the same size and shape.

I offered the masks to the Oneness Gogos - a group of local grandmothers who make crafts, hold sales, teas, etc. to raise funds for the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. There are 24 groups within the Greater Vancouver area, and 240 groups across Canada.

Canadian grandmothers support grass root projects in Sub-Saharan Africa where grandmothers are raising millions of children orphaned by HIV & AIDS.

Then I offered the masks to the South Surrey White Rock Art Society.

So far we have sold 277 at \$5.00 each. This is a community service and it seemed inappropriate to over charge. However, a lot of our customers have recognized Oneness Gogos are fundraising and have generously given us more.

See Photo Page 15



Thelma is a fibre artist who makes pictures on an artist canvass. She periodically contributes to SPOTLIGHT on the ARTS. Contact Thelma at onenessgogos@gmail.com

