

# Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Orange County, NY/Pike County, PA Chapter

June 2005

## BLANKET MAKING DAYS

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 &

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006

(our 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

**Our blankets days have been "sew" successful that we are having at least two a year.**

**Town of Wallkill Community Center**

**10am to 3pm No experience needed!**

**There's a job for everyone to do.**

**Come and join in the fun.**

**What to bring:** Finished blankets, fabric, scissors, sewing or quilting supplies & tools. We will be finishing up blankets. Sewing isn't the only job! We will need lots of help ironing, cutting, pinning and tying square knots. Bring a lunch if you wish. Community service hours are available by participating at these events. The young at heart of all ages are invited to share their knowledge, skills, time and energy to make a blanket for a child in need of a hug. Sewing machines, material, & yarn will be available to make blankets on site. Instructions in various skills will be offered.

**Monthly Meetings at the Town of Wallkill Community Center - Wes Warren Drive Middletown 10 am to noon**

### 2005

August 27      Sept 17      Oct 15  
November 19      December 17

### 2006

January 21      February 18  
March 18      April 15  
May 20      June 17  
July 15      August 19  
September 16      October 21  
November 18      December 16

**Looking for Meeting Places in Pike County, PA if you know of a place, please contact the chapter coordinator.**

**6,465 children have received a blanket from this chapter since January 2001.**

- ✂ The Orange County Chapter started January 2001 and Pike County was added October 2004.
- ✂ Project Linus was born December 24, 1995 & has donated 1,347,535 blankets as of June 24, 2005.
- ✂ If 60% of them are fabric, that translates into about 2,425,563 yards of fabric. If 40% are afghans, that is over 4 million skeins of yarn.
- ✂ If each blanket is an average of 60" long, and we laid them end to end, they would stretch 6,737,675 feet or 1,276 miles. They would span the widest part of the Grand Canyon 85 times.
- ✂ Project Linus delivers an average of 939 blankets per day, 365 days per year. That means that about 39 blankets are delivered every hour of the day, or about 1 every 1.5 minutes.
- ✂ As of June 24, 2005, Project Linus has 357 chapters in the US. There are chapters in all states except Alaska.
- ✂ On average, we estimate a volunteer force of about 35,000 people in the US & over 100 people locally.



## WHERE THE BLANKETS GO

Hospitals  
Police Departments  
Ambulance Corps & Fire Depts.  
Friend's House (children's shelter)  
American Red Cross  
CASA - Court Appointed Special Assistants  
Social Service Agencies associated with Orange County & Pike County  
Private donations

## Blanket Specifications

This is an on-going project do not feel pressured or guilty to meet any deadline.

A Project Linus tag is sewn into each blanket

♥ **New, Handmade, Washable, Dryable.**

Suitable Materials: 100% cotton fabric, flannel, polar fleece, or acrylic yarn.

**Made in infant, child or teen friendly colors. Remember that these blankets should be colorful, cheerful, and cuddly.**

Approximate SIZES (Please, none smaller)

✂ **36" X 36"** ✂ **40" x 60"** ✂ **60" x 72"**

**Don't --**

- ♥ Make blankets out of tapestry, upholstery fabric, burlap, felt, vinyl, wool, wool yarn, or any other scratch fabrics or laces. Also, please do not donate these materials, we just cannot use them.
- ♥ Attach buttons or similar decorative items to a blanket. They can be a choking hazard to children.
- ♥ Use paint to decorate a blanket.

**Please Note . . .** Blankets that smell of smoke or strong chemicals (including perfumed fabric softeners) or have pet hair on them are not acceptable as they may produce a severe allergic reaction in the children. Unfortunately, washing these blankets does not always remove the problem.

**PLEASE CHECK BLANKETS FOR STRAIGHT PINS** or switch to safety pins to hold pieces together. It is better that you find the straight pin than the child who receives your blanket.

**If in doubt, would the blanket you plan to donate be welcomed by you and or a child you loved if you were on the receiving end of a Project Linus blanket?**

***We never have enough "boy" blankets.***

***Please consider making a boy blanket for every girl blanket you make. If you can only make one blanket, make it a boy blanket or a blanket that will work for either a boy or girl.***

## Project Linus Quilt Patterns

are still available from Quilters Warehouse via the internet at [www.quilterswarehouse.com](http://www.quilterswarehouse.com)

When you purchase Project Linus patterns for \$10 each pattern, 100% of the proceeds go to Project Linus and you can designate the Orange County / Pike County chapter.

## Postage and E-mail Addresses

I'm trying to send as many newsletters as possible by e-mail. If I don't have your e-mail address, please let me know.

E-mail me at: [oclinus@ptd.net](mailto:oclinus@ptd.net)

**If you bring just 5 new first-class postage stamps to Blanket Days or meetings, this would take care of mailing newsletters.**

## Kids Helping Kids

♥ This program has gotten off to a great start!

♥ Woodbury and Greenwood Lake Libraries have taken part in this program. They had the children in their summer reading program color muslin squares. Quilts were made and given back to the library to hang the quilts for a time so the community could see the children's work.

♥ We need more organizations to introduce Project Linus to the community through the coloring of muslin squares to be made into blankets.

♥ Several church groups have had their children color the squares & quilts were made from them.

♥ Volunteers are always needed to attach freezer paper to muslin and cut the squares for this project. If you can help, please contact the chapter coordinator for the supplies needed to make the squares or you can make your own muslin squares and donate them to the chapter for use in this program.

♥ **Do you belong to a group that would like to participate or can you help by turning these wonderful blocks into a blanket?? Please contact the chapter coordinator.**

## Wish List

**We are in constant need of supplies to continue our work. Won't you please help us fulfill our Wish List?**

**Volunteers . . .**

**Blankets . . .**

**Blanket Supplies . . .**

♥ New, unused washable cotton fabric, flannel or polar fleece

♥ Low-loft batting

♥ Acrylic yarn

**Other Donations (tax deductible) . . .**

♥ Gift certificates to Walmart, Joann's, Michael's

♥ Cash donations for batting, postage stamps, paper, ink cartridges for printing.

♥ **How are monetary donations used by the chapter?** There are many expenses involved in maintaining Project Linus. Normal expenses for our organization are: fabric, batting, yarn, other blanket making supplies, blanket labels, newsletter supplies, postage. What you WON'T find on our list are payroll expenses. Project Linus is, and always will be, 100% volunteer.

## Reasons to Volunteer

- ✂ Did you know that people who volunteer live longer than those who don't?
- ✂ Volunteering makes you feel needed.
- ✂ Volunteering can lead to learning new skills.
- ✂ What better ways to spend a day or a dollar?
- ❖ Volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.
- ❖ We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give. – Winston Churchill
- ❖ The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. – Mahatma Gandhi
- ❖ Nobody cares how much you know unless they know how much you care. (unknown)
- ❖ Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. --Elizabeth Andrew
- ❖ **Volunteers are love in motion!**

## **GET A GREAT MAGAZINE AND HELP PROJECT LINUS!!**

*Project Linus has teamed up with Fons & Porter's "Love of Quilting" Magazine to bring all of you a wonderful offer.*

*Order or renew a subscription for the regular rate of \$20 for one year, and Fons & Porter will donate **HALF** of that to your local chapter!*

*Each bi-monthly issue is packed with tips, tricks, and shortcuts as well as projects, patterns and a lot of creative inspiration. For more details or to subscribe/renew, see the Project Linus National website.*

### **I know of a child who really needs a blanket. What can I do?**

Most children receive a Project Linus blanket through the local hospital, shelter, or other agency. If you know a child in crisis who will not likely get a Project Linus blanket from one of these facilities, please contact the chapter coordinator.

### **Help Us Celebrate Birthdays !!**

We are collecting the month and day of your birthday in order for everyone to help you celebrate. Please provide this information to the Chapter Coordinator.

### **Help Us Celebrate Our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

Come and join us at the start of our 5<sup>th</sup> year.

If you have a suggestion for our blanket making day or know of an organization which can donate to our blanket making day, please let the chapter coordinator know in order to plan this special day for everyone.

### **Contact Information –**

**Chapter Coordinator – Julia Sullivan**

**Phone - 845-692-2536 or 570-775-0539**

**Email – [oclinus@ptd.net](mailto:oclinus@ptd.net) or [pclinus@ptd.net](mailto:pclinus@ptd.net)**

**Website -**

**[www.orgsites.com/ny/projectlinusocny](http://www.orgsites.com/ny/projectlinusocny) or**

**[www.orgsites.com/pa/pcpalinus](http://www.orgsites.com/pa/pcpalinus)**

### Mission Statement

Project Linus is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization with a two-fold mission.

*First*, it is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth & comfort to children, who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need, through the gifts of new, homemade, washable blankets & afghans, lovingly crafted by volunteer "blanketeers".

*Second*, it is our mission to provide a rewarding & fun service opportunity for interested individuals & groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

### Ways You Can Help

- ✂ Donate your time to sew in labels or help out at future events
- ✂ Donate NEW materials such as yarn, batting, fabric, etc. NEW postage stamps
- ✂ Donate Gift Certificates to Walmart / JoAnn Fabrics / A.C. Moore / Rag Shop  
If you would like to throw in your two cents, Project Linus will gladly take it!  
**COLLECT YOUR LOOSE CHANGE & DONATE TO PROJECT LINUS**
- ✂ Volunteer to cut muslin squares for the Kids Helping Kids Program

**Project**  **Linus**  
*Providing Security Through Blankets*

**Orange County, NY/Pike County, PA Chapter**  
**Chapter Coordinator – Julia Sullivan**  
**2745 Hemlock Farms**  
**Lords Valley, PA 18428**