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WebLinks

<http://www.projectlinus.org>
Project Linus Headquarters website

Contact Sherran Payne

call 717 684-5202 or
email n3lom@juno.com.

Project Linus

c/o Sherran Payne
1373 Malleable Rd
Columbia PA 17512

Letter from Sherran

Hoping everyone's New Year has gotten off to a great start! Our chapter has definitely had a good beginning for 2006. In January, we had a number of inquiries from our chapter link through United Way. It is always exciting to add new blanketeers.

Last February, I assumed the role of coordinator from Lisa. I cannot believe a year has passed and that our chapter continues to grow and be very active. I must really thank Lisa Garner, Jo Stauffer, and Mim Snyder for helping me in coordinating the quilting bees and yarn-ins. You have kept our chapter strong through your continued support. Our database lists over 300 blanketeers. Not everyone has the ability to remain extremely active but I am very thankful for each and everyone one of you. Without you, the children would not receive comfort in their times of need.

Please keep up your wonderful handiwork. Our chapter will be providing fleece blankets to the Burn Camp and blankets to the Hospice Camp this summer. So please keep the blankets coming. Another special project for our chapter this year will be to send blankets to a Memorial Day Service in Washington, D.C. for children of fallen heroes. You can visit www.taps.org to learn more. Please be sure to use patriotic materials, red, white and blue for these blankets. I'll need them by the beginning of May to ship in time for the service.

My Thanks!

Thank You to Amy Smith and Diana Masterson of Brubaker's Sewing Center for hosting our Make A Blanket Day!!!

Thank you to all those who supervised stations, donated door prizes and brought food to Make A Blanket Day.

Thank You to all who participated in Make A Blanket Day.

Thank You to Susan Loss who continues to supply our chapter with funds through a grant where she works.

Thank You to Mim Snyder and Bonnie Brubaker for participating in AC Moore's Yarn Day by having a Project Linus display. Also **thank you** to Edith Zook for holding Yarn-in for us as these two events coincided.

Thank You to Nancy McHenry for sprucing up our email newsletter. It looks great!

Thank You for the fabric and material and quilt tops that you donated and were brought to our chapter by Priscilla and Bruce Storrs.

Special Thanks to the Armstrong Marietta Ceiling Plant for continuing to copy our quarterly newsletters. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Project Linus Mission

Fellow Blanketeers: The following description of Project Linus will be included in each newsletter. Please feel free to share your newsletter with friends. Hopefully the information provided will help newcomers understand our two-fold mission:

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

- First, it is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "Blanketeers."
- Second, it is our mission to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

Where Our Donations Go

Our blankets are donated to:

- Women's and Babies Hospital
- Lancaster General Hospital: Pediatrics and ER
- Milagro House
- Clare House
- Ephrata Community Hospital
- Hospice of Lancaster (Coping Kids Program)
- Deb's House
- Cleft Palate Clinic
- Mom's House
- Samaritan Counseling Center
- YWCA
- Love Inc.
- Lancaster Police Dept.
- York Children's Home

What Kind of Blankets Do We Need?

New, handmade, washable blankets for preemies through early teens.

Blankets should be: MADE OF NEW MATERIALS

- Knitted, quilted (please include batting in quilts), crocheted, fleece, sewn, etc.
- Child friendly colors and patterns
- Sizes: 36 X 36 to 40 x 60 requirement by National

Our chapter takes 30x30 as requested by one of our hospitals
Our chapter also takes 24" wide by 18-36" long for Ephrata Neonatal unit

Please visit the National website where more information and free pattern links are provided: www.projectlinus.org

Looking Ahead

Spring Fund-raiser

May 13 (Saturday), 2006, we are having a one day fund-raiser at Stauffer's of Kissel Hill in Lititz to help with chapter costs. We will be asking for 6 volunteers to help in making the 100' sub (you will need to wear a hairnet) and additional people to operate a sub stand that day. We will do half hour to hour shifts till the sub is sold. If you are unable to volunteer time, please spread the word to friends to come purchase their lunch from Project Linus.

Please contact Sherran at 684-5202 or email her at n3lom@juno.com to sign up to help by April 14!! Our chapter is counting on your assistance to make this fund-raiser a success.

What Else Can I Do to Help?

- Donate stamps for newsletters (each newsletter mailing takes two rolls of stamps for a cost of \$78; so even a book of stamps helps defray the cost)
- Donate gift certificates from JoAnn Fabrics or AC Moore (enables us to purchase batting, material and yarn)
- Volunteer to help with our fund-raisers
- Check with your place of employment to see if they have a volunteer grant program application
- Organize a (church or scout) youth group fund-raiser and donate the proceeds to Project Linus
- Ask your child's elementary school principal if they would be interested in sponsoring a penny collection for Project Linus. I have information on how to organize this activity.

Successful Make a Blanket Day (MABD): February 18, 2006

64 people ventured to Brubaker's Sewing Center in New Holland for MABD. Besides enjoying the company of fellow blanketers, the day added over 500 blankets to our chapter. Blankets were dropped off as well as made that day. There were a total of 959 chances for the Janome sewing machine since October. This is a new record for our chapter.

Diana Masterson gave a demonstration of the Janome sewing machine that was being chanced. Door prizes and food added to the enjoyment of the day.

Winner of the Janome Sewing machine was pulled from the chances by last year's winner Peggy Dick. **Kathleen Van Gorden** is the owner of the new Janome machine. Our chapter will be excited to see the blankets Kathleen creates with her new machine.

2006 Quilting Bee Schedule

Please join us to make quilts for Project Linus. Fabric kits are available. You just need to bring your sewing machine (if desired) and a sack lunch. We sew and tie quilts and enjoy seeing the quilts that others have brought with them. Come prepared to enjoy yourself while working on this worthwhile cause!

QUILTING BEE DATES:

- April 22, 2006
- June 17, 2006
- August 19, 2006
- October 21, 2006

(One of these bee's will be held at Boehm's Church. Date to be determined later.)

Where:

St. Anne Catholic Church Parish Center, Lancaster
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Any questions, call Lisa Garner 299-2144.

Dates after April 22 are subject to change so call Lisa to confirm.

YARN-IN:

The fourth Saturday of every month crocheters and knitters gather at the Ephrata Library from 10 AM till noon. Blanketeers bring what they are working on as well as any blankets they want to donate. Yarn is available for free to be returned at another time in the form of a blanket. Unable to attend yarn-in's but interested in receiving free yarn to make blankets contact Sherran at 684-5202 or email n3lom@juno.com

Dates:

March 26	July 23
April 23	Aug 27
May 28	Sept 24
June 25	Oct 22

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

Please include your name when you donate blankets! We have a database that we must track our blanket donations. If you do not include your name, the blanket is listed under anonymous.

Lititz- **Weave Got Class** (formerly Forget Me Knot Gifts and Quilts) - 61 E.Main St. during shop hours

Brickerville- **The Ball and Skein Shop** - shopping center at Brickerville House during shop hours

Southern County- **Carol Cover's** house 612 Georgetown Rd Ronks. Call 687-7521 for directions and drop off times

Lancaster- **Charmaine Caesar's** house 37 East Liberty St. Call 394-5983 for directions. Drop off blankets any Wednesday and Thursday from 6 to 9 PM

Lancaster- **KitNit Needlecrafts** - 713 Old Hickory Rd. Lancaster. Hours M-F 10-5; Wed. 10-8, and Sat. 10-3. Call 569-3951

New Holland- **Brubaker's Sewing Center** - 20 N. Roberts Ave, New Holland. Drop off during store hours. Call 354-8332 for more info.

Columbia- **Sherran Payne's** house 1373 Malleable Rd. Call 684-5202 for directions. Drop off anytime leave blankets on table on screened in porch

Elizabethtown- **Christ Lutheran Church Office**, East High St. 1st week of every month from 9 to 3. Call 367-2786 for directions or with questions

Blanket Tips

- **Please remove all pins** before handing in blankets
- **Batting should be included** in all sewn blankets (quilts) except for fleece
- If you are attaching labels but don't like hand sewing, the labels can be attached using **Ultra Heat'N Bond**
- Please **check for loose yarn ends** before handing in blankets
- New, handmade, washable blanket materials **should not contain any wool** due to allergies of children
- Material preferred for quilts: 100% cotton, it is softer for children
- On fleece, **remove printed salvage end** before fringing or finishing
- If you attach your name and/or address to a blanket **please use yarn or a return mailing address label** - Remember all pins must be removed.

Thank You Notes Received

Mom's House sent a card. "We want you to know how much we appreciate your blankets. You have not only warmed our bodies but our hearts. We thank you. Christine & Melanie" Comments from 7 parents were written: "Thank you. It means alot." "God Bless" "Thank you so much my daughter loves blankets." "Thank you for your donation. It was truly a blessing. God Bless You." "Thank You so much. God Bless U" "Thanks" "Thank You"

Mark and Jennifer Pontzer sent a donation and these words of thanks: "My husband and I would like to Thank You for your part in making our daughter's stillbirth a little easier. On Nov. 12th we welcomed our daughter into the world. In coping with this news and preparing for this unexpected delivery we didn't think to bring any clothing for the baby to the hospital. Because of your time and love, we were given a beautiful blanket and matching hat to dress our baby girl. Thank you for making a difficult time easier."

Clare house: "...I would like to thank you for your donation of blankets. Please know that your generosity and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated. The children and teens just loved the blankets." Jennifer Powell, Executive Director

Children's Home of York: "Thank you for providing the Children's Home of York with the wonderful donation of handmade fleece blankets. We at the children's home of York appreciate your kindness. These items will be given to all our children for the holiday season. What a special treat for those in our care! Not only will the blankets provide physical warmth, but the emotional security offered by having a blanket made 'especially for you' is immeasurable. How wonderful! The blankets will warm their souls and their bodies." Laurie Spagnola, President

At the February Yarn-In, a Dad stopped by the door. He was holding his daughter. He shared that the family received a PL blanket when she was born as she was only 4lbs... He wanted us to know how much the family appreciated the beautiful blanket. His daughter is now weighing 22 lbs and doing well.

The following poem was written by Nancy Rich, a 90 year old blanketeer in an Ohio chapter.

Linus Club

We sit and sew and sew
For the Linus Club you know
We make the piles grow and grow
We send them to and frow
To cover people from head to toe
For those big and small we don't even know
To help make their smiles glow