



*Lines from
Linus!*

Lititz-Lancaster Chapter Project Linus

December 2008

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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

Happy Holidays Everyone!!!! Where has another year gone? Our Linus Chapter remains busy as ever. On November 15, approximately 50 blanketeers attended our Thank You Tea/luncheon at Landis Homes Community Room. Linford Moyer, who is presently shadowing me as our next Chapter Coordinator, attended. So far, Linford has met blanketeers at our October Yarn-in and the tea. So Linford is beginning to learn more about our Linus Chapter. Needless to say, we are thrilled that Linford found us through the United Way request in the Sunday news. Although Linford is not a sewer, he will be performing our administrative duties with National. Thank You Linford for making sure our blanketeers will be able to continue to provide comfort to the children in need in our community.

The guest speaker at our Tea/luncheon was Mrs. Tina Shank from Penn Manor Middle School. Mrs. Shank shared how she created her make a blanket program with her 8th grade Consumer Science students. Pictures of the students in action were shared in Tina's powerpoint presentation. We thank Tina for creating her program to encourage youth to think of others as well as for the quilts we receive at the end of the school year.

127 Military blankets have been distributed to the FRG coordinators for the three National Guard Units who will be deploying after the New Year. The first contact who received the blankets emailed to say she hopes to take pictures of the children receiving them. Then she will forward to me. My second contact had already seen your beautiful handiwork as she was a nurse at Woman's & Babies until recently. She was thrilled with the blankets and said they are expecting to distribute them at their last family get-together before the unit is deployed. Hopefully the children will use them as their Daddy's hugs while he's away. Our last unit, in Gettysburg, will be handing out the blankets at their Dec. 15th Christmas party. Priscilla, Bruce, my husband and myself are invited. Let's hope the weather cooperates. It will be wonderful to see first hand how the children react to receiving their blankets. Thank You to all those who provided us the red, white & blue blankets for these special groups. In addition, 21 red, white & blues were shipped to Snowball Express in CA (TAPS).

Questions about whether Good's Stores will provide blanketeers a discount have arisen. Good's needs to know you are really a blanketeer before they can extend you any discount. I would suggest taking a Linus label with you if you are asking for a discount. A copy of the newsletter may also be accepted as proof. At present, to my knowledge, no one is guaranteed a discount.

The New Holland Recreation Center will be the new drop off location for those who used Brubaker's Sewing Center in the past. The Rec Center is presently scheduled to open January 5th. Blanketeers will find a wooden kiosk in one of the halls in which they can deposit the blankets. The kiosk will also have information about Project Linus displayed. We appreciate the Rec Center's willingness to be a drop off location.

Thank You to Amy Smith, Brubaker's Sewing Center, for all your years of support.

Please be sure to read the **Looking Ahead** section of this newsletter. It will contain information on Make A Blanket Day.

Wishing you & your families a joyous holiday season!!!!

Sherran

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.
- Lampeter Police Dept.
- York Children's Home
- Women's Place and Family Works
- Berks County Women in Crisis
- St. Mary's Home for Teen Mothers
- Water Street Rescue Mission
- Welsh Mt. Medical & Dental Clinic
- Gettysburg Hospital and Pregnancy Centers
- Chiefs of Police in Warwick, Penn Manor, Mount Joy and Penn townships

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 our chapter or National websites where more information and free pattern links are provided:

<http://www.orgsites.com/pa/lancprojectlinus/> or www.projectlinus.org.

What Else Can I Do to Help?

- Donate stamps for newsletters (each newsletter mailing takes two rolls of stamps for a cost of \$86; 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)
- Organize 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 to collect skeins of acrylic yarn to be made into blankets (each youth member could bring one or two skeins of yarn)
- Ask Sherran for National's donation letter to present to a business who might contribute to our chapter

Maybe you are wondering why we need fund-raisers for Project Linus. As we are strictly a volunteer organization, we have no funds unless we raise them ourselves.

What do we need funds for? Each year we try to keep our members informed about our chapter, 3-4 times. Although we have many on our email list, we still have nearly 200 newsletters that must be US mailed. Currently there is no cost for copying the newsletter as Armstrong continues to copy for us. But each mailing costs \$86. Thank you's are also mailed as well as reports required by National. Every Make A Blanket Day we have expenses for materials including batting, cotton fabric, etc. When we take on special projects such as TAPS, we pay shipping costs. So as you can see, our chapter couldn't exist without income. Fund-raisers or donations from businesses are our primary means of gaining income. So if you are interested in organizing fund-raisers we could certainly use your expertise.

Looking Ahead

MAKE A BLANKET DAY (MABD)

Remember our first MABD at Landis Homes Community Room will be held February 21, 2009, from 10 AM till 2PM. Sewers will need to bring their own sewing machines or sergers. The Community Room is on ground level. You can pull up and drop off your sewing machine and then park in the lot. Supplies for handsewing and handtieding will be provided. In addition, fleece will be available as fleece blankets are constructed that day. Please also bring any blanket tops or blankets you may have in progress for completion that day. Remember knitters & crocheters, there are comfy sofas and armchairs for you to join us this year. As always there will be door prizes, food & drink and the friendship of fellow blanketers. Please let Sherran know if you are attending by **Feb. 6th (684-5202 or n3lom@juno.com)**. This will enable us to have enough supplies and refreshments for those in attendance.

Be sure to check out the 2009 Quilting Bee & Yarn-in dates in their respective sections.

Quilting Bees and Yarn-Ins

QUILTING BEE: What is it?

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:

- February 21, 2009 – Make a Blanket Day at Landis Homes
- April 18, 2009
- June 20, 2009
- August 15, 2009
- October 17, 2009 (this may change if Dove Church sponsors a MABD again)

Location:

Landis Homes community room. Directions can be found on our local website: <http://www.orgsites.com/pa/lancprojectlinus/>

YARN-INS:

The fourth Saturday of **every other month** crocheters and knitters gather at the Ephrata Library from 10 AM till noon. Yarn is available for free to be returned at another time in the form of a blanket. Starting in January 2009, Linus will meet in the multipurpose room located near the front entrance to the library. The room is larger and will enable blanketeers to once again bring along their projects to work on. 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

YARN-IN DATES:

- January 24, 2009
- March 28, 2009
- July 25, 2009
- September 26, 2009

Note there is no May Yarn-In meeting since the library is closed for Memorial Day.

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

Please include your name and address when you donate blankets! This helps us track our donations as well as allows us to send our thank yous.

Lititz- Jo Stauffer's house 14 Bentley Lane, Lititz. Call 626-0012 if directions needed. You may leave blankets on her porch anytime.

Brickerville- The Ball and Skein Shop - Shopping center at Brickerville House during shop hours. Call 625-4280

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

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 be careful when storing blankets before dropping off. If blankets have a mildew smell I cannot use them. Blankets should be stored in a dry place. Again this is due to children's allergies, especially asthma, being triggered.

- **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

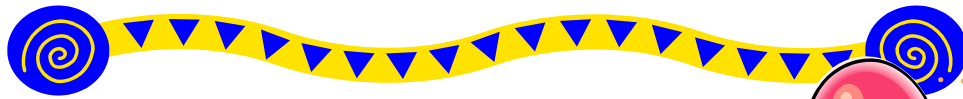
As our Thank You Tea was being setup, a mother with a set of triplets stopped in. She wanted to thank us as the triplets each received a Linus blanket when they were born. The two boys were over three pounds but their sister weighed about 2 lbs. They are 16 months old now, all healthy and developing at the normal rate. Mother shared they still use their blankets.

Lancaster Women & Babies continues to send us a Thank You note each month after receiving their blankets.

This email received from Snowball Express coordinator:

Dear Sherran, Your beautiful blankets arrived and I'm taking a break from unpacking it and 4 others. Thank you so very much for sharing. Cappy

Blanketeers, please remember every blanket you have donated has touched the hearts of a child and his family. Please keep the blankets coming as you are "Making A Difference".



Over 18,216 blankets delivered to children in need

(September 2008 reporting to National)

Since the Lititz/Lancaster Chapter of Project Linus began 10 years ago...over 18,216 blankets have found their way into the hands of children in need.

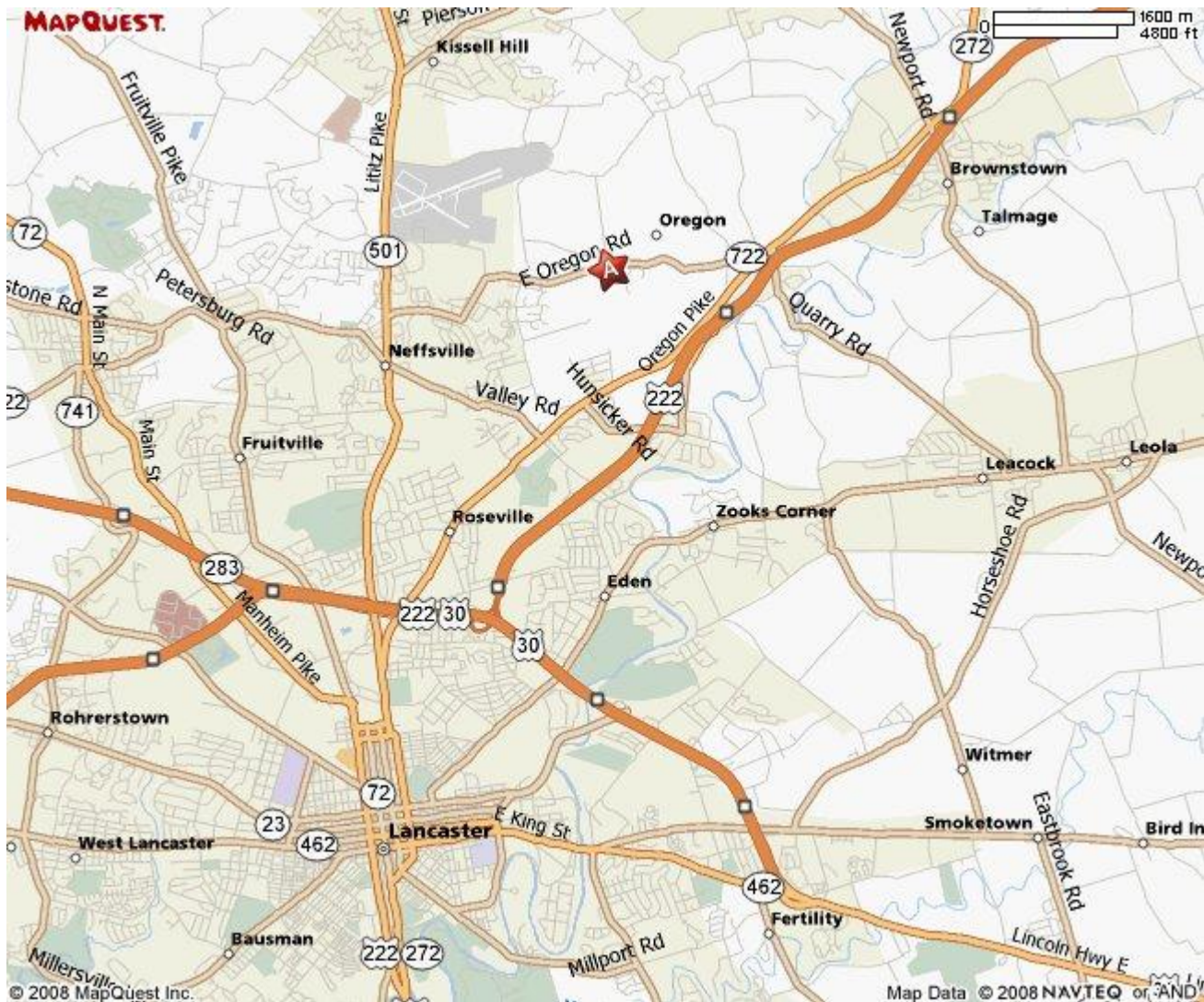
Congratulations! Wow! Please keep up the wonderful needlework!



Landis Homes Community Room (near West Entrance)
1001 E Oregon Rd
Lititz, PA 17543-9205

Directions from Lancaster:

Take Route 501 North (Lititz Pike) through Neffsville. At traffic light, turn right onto East Oregon Road (Route 722 East). Continue 2 miles to Landis Homes West entrance on the right or 2.5 miles to the Landis Homes East entrance on the right.



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