



*Lines from
Linus!*

Lititz-Lancaster Chapter Project Linus

November 2009

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WebLinks

<http://www.projectlinus.org>

Project Linus Headquarters

<http://www.orgsites.com/pa/lancprojectlinus/>
Local Chapter Website

Contact

Linford Moyer

Call 717 393-1648 or email
a090453@netzero.net

Project Linus

c/o Linford Moyer
328 N. Plum St.
Lancaster, PA 17602

Note from Linford

Each time I look over the blankets and quilts created by the blanketeers and quilters I'm amazed by their talent and creativity.

The Make-a-Blanket-Day (MABD) at Dove Westgate Church on October 24 was a day of fun, a tasty lunch, and creativity as nearly 150 blankets were finished to donate to children of Lancaster County.

The Knights of Columbus chapter of Lancaster recently donated \$150 from the proceeds of their golf tournament to benefit our chapter of Project Linus.

Linford Moyer

Fundraiser Results: The fundraiser held at Isaac's Restaurant and Deli on September 15, 2009 raised \$37.58 for the Lancaster Chapter of Project Linus. Thanks to all those who enjoyed a meal at Isaac's.

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.

Blanketeers, please remember every blanket you have donated has touched the hearts of children and their families. Please keep

the blankets coming as you are "Making a difference".

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

On September 29, 2009 Spc. Ross E. Vogel III of Red Lion in York County died in Iraq. He left his widow, Kristen, and two children. Project Linus was pleased to donate two red, white, and blue blankets to the children.

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

Below is a statement posted by National Blanket Beacon:

Please do not make your blankets out of tapestry, burlap, upholstery fabric, 70's type double knit, felt, vinyl, wool, or wool yarn. Please do not use fabric that has been stored in a damp area or has a musty smell. Mold spores can cause an allergic reaction in a child and are very difficult to remove from the fabric. Blankets that smell of smoke cannot be accepted.

More information and free pattern links can be found on the local and national web sites.

Yarnies-please check yarns carefully for wool content as many new yarns are incorporating a low percentage of wool in their content and no wool is allowed in Linus blankets.

What Else Can I Do to Help?

- Donate stamps for newsletters (each newsletter mailing takes two rolls of stamps for a cost of \$88; 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 Linford 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 Donna Witmyer of Venture Jets has agreed to take on the responsibility of printing the newsletter. But each mailing costs \$88. 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, we often 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.

Quilting Bees and Yarn-Ins

QUILTING BEE DATES in 2010:

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

- February 20, 2010 - **National Make a Blanket Day (MABD)**
- April 17, 2010
- June 19, 2010
- August 21, 2010
- October 16, 2010

Chapter Quilting Bee Location: Location is at Landis Homes community room. Directions can be found on our website <http://www.orgsites.com/pa/lancprojectlinus/>. Unless otherwise noted, quilting bees are from 10 am until 2 pm.

YARN-IN DATES in 2010:

The 4th Saturday of **every other month** crocheters and knitters gather at the Ephrata Library in the multi-purpose room from 10 AM until noon. The multi-purpose room is located near the front entrance of the library. Yarn is available for free to be returned later as a blanket. For those unable to attend yarn-ins but desiring free yarn to sew blankets, contact Linford at 393-1648 or e-mail at a090453@netzero.net.

- January 23, 2010
- March 27, 2010
- May- none due to Memorial Day weekend
- July 24, 2010
- September 25, 2010

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

 *Leola-* **Curves** - 2268 New Holland Pike, Leola. Drop off during business hours. Hours: Mon/Wed 6 am to 1 pm and from 2 pm to 8 pm; Tue/Thurs 8 am to 1 pm and from 3 pm to 7 pm; Fri 6 am to 1 pm and from 2 pm to 7 pm; Sat 8 am to 11 am. Call 717 661-7474 for more info.

New Holland- **New Holland Rec Center** - 123 N. Shirk Rd., New Holland. Drop off during Rec hours. Call 717 354-4747 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

New Drop Off Location in Leola!

Blanketeers and quilters who live east of Lancaster now have a new drop off location. It is located at 2268 New Holland Pike in Leola and can be found in the CURVES business. The business is owned by Laura Meisl, a new blanketeer.

Blanket Tips

Please be careful when storing blankets before dropping off. If blankets have a mildew smell they cannot be used. Blankets should be stored in a dry location. 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.
- Fleece blankets-**single layer fleece** are preferred as double layered are very heavy; check out links on the national and local websites for finishing ideas; fringes do not need to be knotted but can be cut with wavy scissors, etc.
- Please do not store blankets with **mothballs** as it renders them unusable.

Yarnies- Please check yarns carefully for wool content as many new yarns are incorporating a low percentage of wool in their content and no wool is allowed in Linus blankets.

TAPS/Snowball Express Update

There is some uncertainty about the necessity of red, white, and blue blankets for the Taps program next year. Barb McClean, the Linus Taps coordinator has informed us that her military contact is being transferred

next year.

However, there is an organization (Snowball Express) that this chapter has been supportive of in the past. They have a continuing need for red, white, and blue blankets. Ladies, please continue your efforts in making patriotic blankets so that we can ship to Snowball Express (www.snowballexpress.org) in November.

SNOWBALL EXPRESS UPDATE

Our chapter was able to ship 89 red, white, and blue blankets to Snowball Express of Waverly, Texas in early September. They were distributed to children whose mother or father had been killed in military service. Sandy and John Horrex supplied the boxes and paid the shipping cost. Thanks, Sandy and John. This shipment depleted the supply of r,w, and b blankets that Project Linus has on hand. So, ladies please keep the red, white, and blue blankets coming.

An additional 23 r,w,and b blankets were shipped to Snowball Express in early November.

Thank You Notes Received

Thank you card from Clare House:

Dear friends at Project Linus,

Thank you so much for your donation of blankets for our children. They are so beautiful and will definitely keep us warm and cozy during cool fall and winter nights. It means so much to us that you took the time to think of us. We really appreciate your support.

Thanks again,

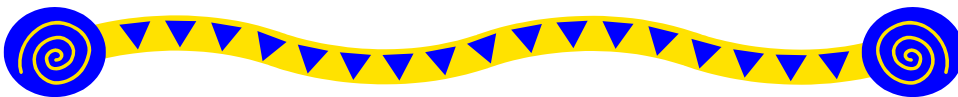
Clare House

Thank you card from Milagro House:

Dear Project Linus,

Thank you all so much for blessing us with so many beautiful blankets. The mothers and children were so appreciative.

Gratefully, Ellen



Over 22,435 blankets delivered to children in need (September 2009 reporting to National)

Since the Lititz/Lancaster Chapter of Project Linus began 10 years ago...over 22,435 blankets have found their way into the hands of children in need.

Congratulations! Wow! Please keep up the wonderful needlework!

Project Linus
c/o Linford Moyer
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Lancaster, PA 17602