



Lines from
Linus!

Lititz-Lancaster Chapter Project Linus

November 2010

Volume 2010, Number 3

In This Issue

- Notes from Linford
- Project Linus Mission
Where our Donations go
- What kind of blankets do we need?
What else can I do to help?
- 2011 Quilting Bees and Yarn-Ins
- Drop Off Locations
- Blanket Tips
- Thank yous Received
- WOW! 27,929 blankets

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
lrmoayer2@verizon.net

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

Notes from Linford

Children who attended Bible School at Lititz United Methodist Church in July created 10 blankets that they donated to Project Linus.

Snowball Express is an organization that this chapter has been supportive of in the past. Ladies, thank you for your efforts in making patriotic blankets. We're making a great shipment to Snowball Express in November of 2010. Snowball Express is dedicated to taking care of the children of our fallen military heroes: <http://www.snowballexpress.org>. We have need of the patriotic blankets throughout the year. The Lititz/Lancaster chapter of Project Linus continues to support Tragedy Assistance Program For Survivors. (TAPS) This is a program to give patriotic red, white, and blue blankets to children of military personnel who die when on active duty: <http://www.taps.org>

News From National: The new Jo-Ann Non-Profit Discount Card is now available to all Project Linus chapter coordinators and volunteers at www.joann.com/VIP. The new card is valid from 8-1-10 to 8-31-11. The VIP Discount Card is valid at any Jo-Ann store and can be used for 10% off your purchase, including regular and sale priced items. Jo-Ann does require that cards be validated by store management prior to first use with proof of 501(c)(3) status and a state issued photo identification card. The Jo-Ann 40% off regular priced item coupons can be used in the same transaction as the VIP Card 10% total purchase discount, however, the 10% would not apply to any item that receives the 40% discount. The 501(c)(3) card will be available at quilting bees, yarn-ins, or by mail. If you want to obtain a card by mail, contact Linford at 393-1648 or email at lrmoayer2@verizon.net.

Lancaster Regional Hospital is in desperate need of knitted prayer shawls. If there are any knitters who are able to help or have questions, please call Lisa Garner at 299-2144 or email Lisa at schoener@verizon.net.

New door prize chair needed: Lisa Garner will be resigning as door prize chair effective December 31, 2010. If anyone has an interest in this responsibility, please contact Lisa at 299-2144 or email Lisa at schoener@verizon.net. You can also contact Linford at 393-1648 or email Linford at lrmoayer2@verizon.net

Linford Moyer

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, Manor, Penn Townships, and Mount Joy Borough
- Family Promise of Reading
- Housing Development Corporation of Lancaster
- Opportunity House of Reading
- Church of the Brethren Youth Services
- Teen Haven
- Family Center of Gap
- St. Joseph Hospital Birthing Center of Reading

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

Important Reminders

- New, handmade, washable blanket materials should not contain any wool due to allergies of children.
- Material preferred for quilts: 100% cotton as it is softer for children

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.

What Else Can I Do to Help?

- Donate stamps for newsletters (each newsletter mailing takes over \$70 of stamps; 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 e-mail list, we still have nearly 160 newsletters that must be mailed and each mailing costs over \$70. 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 Snowball Express 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.

Quilting Bees and Yarn-Ins

QUILTING BEE DATES in 2011:

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 19, 2011 - **National Make a Blanket Day (MABD)**
- April 16, 2011
- June 18, 2011
- August 20, 2011
- October 15, 2011

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 2011:

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 make blankets, contact Linford at 717-393-1648 or e-mail at lmoyer2@verizon.net. Yarnies are also very welcome at the Quilting Bees! There are comfy couches for you.

- January 22, 2011
- March 26, 2011
- May- none due to Memorial Day weekend
- July 23, 2011
- September 24, 2011

Drop Off Locations

Please include your name and address when you donate blankets. This allows us to send our thank-yous.

Lititz- Jo Stauffer's house 14 Bentley Lane, Lititz. Call 717-626-0012 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 717-625-4280

Southern Lancaster County- Carol Cover's house 612 Georgetown Rd Ronks. Call 717-687-7521 for directions and drop off times

Lancaster- KitNit Needlecrafts - 713 Old Hickory Rd. Lancaster. Hours: Tues thru Fri 10-5; and Sat. 10-3. Call 717-569-3951

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 717-684-5202 for directions. Drop off anytime leave blankets on table on screened in porch.

Elizabethtown- Christ Lutheran Church Office, East High St. Hours: Mon thru Fri 9-3. Closed on holidays. Call 717-367-2786 for directions or with questions

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.

It is no longer possible to track individual blanket donations due to the growth of this local chapter. Blanketeers will have to track their own numbers if they desire that information. The coordinator will only be tracking the total of incoming and outgoing blankets.

Thank You Notes Received

Thank you from Lydia's Parents:

Dear Project Linus,

Lydia Grace was born August 13, 2010 at Ephrata Hospital. She received a blanket and hat from you. Thank you so much for what you do. It is greatly appreciated by us and by so many others.

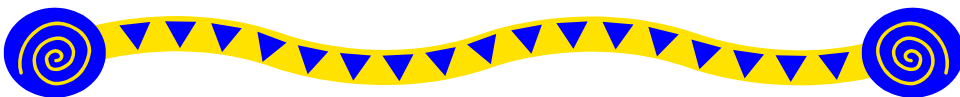
Sincerely, Mike and Ally-Lydia's parents

Mike and Ally also donated 72 stamps to Project Linus which will be a huge help in mailing cost of newsletters.

A letter from Carolyn:

Although I am not a crafter, I just wanted to let you know how sweet this project is and how much the mothers appreciate it. My daughter just had her baby down at York Hospital and they gave her some lovely hand crocheted things and she was so blessed. Thank you for blessing the new moms.

Your friend, Carolyn



Over 27,929 blankets delivered to children in need (as of end of September, 2010)

Since the Lititz/Lancaster Chapter of Project Linus began 10 years ago...over 27,929 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
328 N. Plum St
Lancaster, PA 17602