



Lines from  
Linus!

# Lititz-Lancaster Chapter Project Linus

October, 2006

Volume 2006, Number 3

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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](mailto:n3lom@juno.com)

## Project Linus

c/o Sherran Payne  
1373 Malleable Rd  
Columbia PA 17512

## Letter from Sherran

Hope everyone had a little time to relax and enjoy the summer. Thank You for keeping the blankets coming. We have had our first major local tragedy with the Amish School shootings. Carol Cover who lives in the vicinity of the shootings has been our chapter's link to the Amish Community. We really appreciate all her help in assisting in our distribution of blankets to the children affected by the event. On Thursday, October 12, 120 blankets were delivered to the Bart Fire Hall to be distributed to the Amish Families who experienced the unthinkable. On Tuesday, October 10, blankets were given to a relative of the Roberts' family to be given to the children. Friday's Intell on October 13, there was an article about the three volunteers at Bart Fire Hall who were sorting all the donations received. In an accompanying photo was a picture of the bags of blankets we had delivered. Thank you again to each blanketeer for making our donation possible.

On Saturday, October 14th, we held our Thank You Tea. There were over twenty blanketeers in attendance. We had food, fellowship and sharing of thank you's received as well as a slide show with a sampling of blankets contributed throughout the past year. Oh yes and door prizes too. Thank you to all who joined in our celebration of blanketeers. See our website photo gallery for a few pictures.

The first Sewing Retreat was held in September. Be sure to read about this event later in the newsletter. Next year's dates are already planned.

Hope you are hungry on November 2nd . Lisa Garner has organized our next fundraiser through Isaac's. See details under Looking Ahead.

Look for the new section in the newsletter **Blanketeer Highlights**. Each newsletter either a group or an individual blanketeer will be featured. Hopefully we will eventually hear about each group or blanketeer.

With the holidays fast approaching, there will be NO Yarn-in's for November or December.

Happy Holidays to each of you and your families.

For the Children.....

*Sherran*

## Where's Sherran now?

Here Sherran goes again. I will be away once again from October 25 through December 6th. Number three grandchild is to arrive around October 28th. Both **Lisa Garner** (299-2144) and **Mim Snyder** (665-7495) have given me permission

to have their phone numbers distributed. If you are in need of labels, they will both have them and will mail them to you. Just call them. I will have distributed both October and November blanket deliveries in October before I depart. So you really will not realize I'm gone. :-)  
**Thanks Lisa and Mim** for your help in my absence. I will also be checking my email while I'm away if you need to contact me. I will **NOT** be checking for phone messages.

## 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
- Women's Place(new)
- Family Works
- Berks County Women in Crisis
- St. Mary's Home for Teen Mothers

## 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](http://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 \$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)
- 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 fund-raiser(car wash or bake sale) and donate the proceeds to Project Linus
- 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 \$78. 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

### **Help Project Linus by eating at Isaac's**

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, November 2, 2006**. Isaac's Restaurant in the Greenfield Industrial Park will be hosting a fund-raiser for Project Linus. Our chapter will receive 25% of the cost of your dinner when you give your server the completed form enclosed with the newsletter. If you misplace the form, Isaac's will have some available at the restaurant. So please be sure to ask for it before paying. The fund-raiser starts at 4PM and is only at the Greenfield location. Hope you will enjoy dinner out and help our chapter at the same time. Thank You in advance.

## **Make a Blanket Day (MABD)**

Saturday, February 17, 2007 will be our annual MABD. Our sponsor for the event continues to be Brubaker's Sewing Center in New Holland. We are very appreciative of their continued support for this event. The day of blanket making will begin at 10 AM and end at 2 PM with the drawing for the free Janome sewing machine. Chances for the sewing machine will be distributed to you when you drop off your blankets to Brubaker's beginning in January. Please bring scissors, needles and thread and join us for a wonderful day of blanketmaking.

Ah! Yes, there will be food, drink and door prizes too.

## **2007 Sewing Retreat**

Lisa Garner shared a few thoughts about the sewing retreat:

The retreat was a lot of fun. Ann Smyser and Karen Stettler from the Camp Hill Project Linus (PL) Chapter were there. It was fun to see the quilts they made and we got some great ideas for easy quilt tops to make. As quilt tops were finished we hung them on the walls for display. (See our chapter website photo gallery) Many of the ladies from another group on retreat stopped in to see what we were all about. It was great to share about PL! We had a great time sewing, talking and laughing together. We had to push Suzy Harding out the door as she didn't want to leave.

The retreat for next year has already been confirmed for **September 7 - 9, 2007**. Anyone interested in joining us should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) to get additional information. Send to **Lisa Garner**, 1102 Jamaica Rd, Lancaster, PA 17602.

## **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:**

- **MABD Feb 17, 2007** Brubaker's Sewing Center, New Holland

Other 2007 dates will be published in February 2007 and will be held at:  
St. Anne Catholic Church Parish Center, Lancaster

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Any questions, call Lisa Garner 299-2144.

### **YARN-INS:**

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

**Yarn-in Dates:** Remainder of 2006 and start of 2007

Oct 28            Mar 24  
Jan 27            Apr 28  
Feb 24

## 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. Call 625-4822

*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-* **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.

## Blanketeer Highlights

The **Willow Valley friends and family** work group formed a year ago in response to our chapter's call to comfort Hurricane Katrina's youngest survivors. They've donated over 600 quilts/blankets since September, 2005.

Key to success of this band of quilters is flexibility - encouraging anyone that would like to help to choose what they'd like to do, and when. This "loose" organization works since members live near each other in the **Willow Valley Retirement communities**.

When interviewed on the accomplishment of our 500th blanket in a year, the ladies had these comments:

- **Lois** says "Very proud....never would have suspected that I could produce like I did. I'm especially pleased with the quality of the blankets. That's important, because we want it to be a special gift for a child. We tried to take great care with a selection for the wishes and likes of each child - ballerinas, spaceships, racecars, animals, cartoon characters."
- **Margaret** reflected on the year of work "We did a tremendous job. I liked the creativity to be able to do what I wanted to do, when I was able to do it. I'm sure we touched the lives of children, and I'm happy to be able to support "the system" in a more personal way. The variety of quilts was nice for the children, and I'm grateful to good local fabric shopping in the area so we can find economical fabric."
- **Peg** is quite an artist in many ways - painting, woodworking as well as quilting. She says "I've been sewing since I was a child. I like to keep busy, and it was wonderful to work on the quilts. I took pictures to show my friends in Arizona what I've been up to." Peg is a snow bird, wintering in Arizona.
- **Naomi** likes to work on quilt bindings over the winter months. She says "Not only are the different quilts nice to work on, but it makes for a cozy job!" She took a break over the summer months, but we expect her to be busy again this winter as Peg leaves us. If you see a "perfect" binding job on one of our blankets, it is likely that Naomi did that one.
- **Nancy** says, "it's a wonderful way to link the generations: grandmothers and great-grandmothers working to comfort children. It's fun to team together for jobs, working around our quirks to get it all done. We've learned to love neon colors. Who knows? Maybe our wild quilt styles will start to creep into our personal wardrobe styles. Let's not forget our men! Francis, my Dad, proudly shows off our work to everyone in the retirement community - we're based in Willow Valley. He cleans up after us, feeds us on our workdays, and models the quilts when we take pictures. My handsome husband John cheerfully provides "muscle" as we need it (he's the only one of us that has any), and doesn't mind being the only man in the fabric shops."

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## Thank You Notes Received

A drawing from **Andrew age 7**, who was adopted in August, was forwarded from Bethany Christian Services. Dawn Yoder, the social worker, wrote, "Many thanks to you and the other ladies making blankets for our adopted children! They are a blessing to the children and their families. Please share our appreciation with the others involved."

Deb's House Family Advocate, Joelyn Metzler, wrote: "It would be my pleasure to give a personal thank you to the faces who provide this act of love for the children of **Deb's House**. The blankets consistently provide comfort and security to children

who must spend a few nights away from their family in one of our respite homes. I have the blankets on the hearth in the room where the parents fill out paperwork with me and then say goodbye to their child. So when we give them a blanket to take along as they leave, it makes the transition much easier on them. Please pass along a heartfelt "THANK YOU" from Deb's House and my regrets that I cannot deliver it in person."

From **LGH Pediatrics**, Jackie Henegar, writes: "I just wanted to thank you and all those who make the blankets provided to Pediatrics at Lancaster General. Having those blankets to provide to our patients is a wonderful opportunity for the staff to show a "caring side" despite the fact that we have to do some "not so nice things" to the children to help them get better. We, the staff, love receiving them and can't wait to see how beautiful each and every blanket is. The patients/families are always very grateful for the gift and always rave about them.

Thank you again for always thinking of our patients. We appreciate your kindness and generosity."

Mary Balagna, **National Project Linus** Vice-president wrote our chapter the following on our chapter's efforts during the time of the Amish School shootings: "Dear Sherran,

Thank you so much for the updates but especially for all you and your volunteers have done for these very special families. Your diligence in securing delivery of these blankets will truly affect the lives of the children who lived through such a horrific tragedy. Please thank your volunteers on behalf of National HQ as well. Without your kind hearts and caring spirits, our organization would not be what it is. It's truly a pleasure to be numbered among all of you as you touch the hearts of the children we serve."



## Over 11,627 blankets delivered to children in need

Since the Lititz/Lancaster Chapter of Project Linus began over 6 years ago...over 11,627 blankets have found their way into the hands of children in need.

**Congratulations! Wow!** Please keep up the wonderful needlework!





JOIN US FOR OUR  
"COMMUNITY NIGHT"  
FUNDRAISER

On Thursday, November 2, 2006, Isaac's Restaurant & Deli, on Greenfield Road, will be holding a "Community Night" to benefit Project Linus—Litz/Lancaster Chapter. Twenty-five (25%) of the cost of your meal will go directly to our chapter!

**WHERE:** Isaac's Restaurant & Deli  
565 Greenfield Road  
*(Valid at this location ONLY!)*

**WHEN:** Thursday, November 2, 2006, 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**HOW:** Bring this flyer with you to Isaac's, complete the information, and hand it to the cashier when paying.

*This form can be used for Dine-In or Takeout!*

**Please complete this information for your server.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Number of People in Party:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Cost of Meal (excluding tax):** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Coupons, discounts, or specials not valid during this fundraiser.

Thank you for partnering with Isaac's and  
Project Linus!

(Cashier, please staple receipt to flyer.)



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