

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Williamson, Travis, & Hays Counties of Texas

We provide children with blankets full of hugs.

January 2011/Volume 3, Issue 1

Next Meeting

February 19, 2011: 10:00 am-3:00 pm

North Meeting Location:
203 Industrial Blvd.
Cedar Park, TX 78613

South Meeting Location:
Manchaca Baptist Church
215 FM 1626
Manchaca TX 78652



News

Our national organization was the grand prize winner of \$50,000 from JoAnn's Fabric's Craft for a Cause 2010 contest! Many thanks to all who participated.

Our total blanket distribution for 2010 reached a total of 1949 blankets. In the years we've been a chapter of the national Project Linus organization, our group has distributed over 7,000 blankets. That's a lot of comforted little ones!

From Anita Howe, our Chapter Coordinator: *I particularly want to thank all those who work so hard to insure we have blankets available. I also appreciate all the adults who share their volunteer spirit with youth groups. We are so grateful for all our young volunteers who make blankets for us.*



Wonderful news on the web at http://www.bernatcares.com/Project_Linus_CAL/ of a 'Crochet-along & Knit-along' sponsored by Bernat Yarns in support of Project Linus. There are four patterns there and they're offering help to new knitters and crocheters with the stitches as they work through the patterns. **And** when you purchase the Bernat yarns used in the Project Linus blankets between February 9th and 23rd, you will receive 25% off.

Helen Bokman reminds us of the ongoing request from Dell Children's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 30 handmade flannel receiving blankets (~36"×36") per month. Please keep them coming! (And, *Thanks!*)

(We repeat ourselves here...well, yes, we're getting older, but also because our audience changes from month to month, so bear with us.) As we said last month, a few

years back we had a donation of a Grace Quilting Frame. It allows you to machine quilt about a foot length of quilt using your sewing machine before you roll the quilt in order to quilt another foot. While it may intimidate some quilters, there are videos on YouTube (and on the Bernina website—their frame is manufactured by Grace) which demonstrate how easy it is to use a frame like this and how quickly you can get a quilt onto the frame and quilted. The problem now is to find a new place for it as the person who is storing it would like to reclaim her space. If there are no takers, we will sell it on craigslist and use the money for supplies. You will have to pick it up—contact Anita Howe, our coordinator, at ahowe@sellsaustinhomes.com for more info. This is the last call: after this month it goes on craigslist.

A formatting note about our newsletter: as of this month, in case you read your newsletter without printing it, the blue URLs ("links") for websites and email addresses are 'live' links and you should be able to click on them and go to the named web places without having to type the URL into your browser.

Make a Blanket Day 2011

Each year the national Project Linus organization sponsors **Make-a-Blanket Day** on the third Saturday in February. It is a nationwide event to draw attention to our work and increase blanket donations. And, once again this year, we



have special incentive for participants: a drawing for a Janome Electronic Sewing Machine model DC2010. We're changing our raffle scheme a bit to reward those who turn in larger, harder-to-make blankets. At the time you turn in your blankets (at either location of Austin Sew-

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n-Vac; see their listings later in this newsletter), you will fill out a cover sheet for all your blankets, and then receive serially-numbered tickets based on blanket size. The bigger the blanket, the more chances you have to win the machine!

If you make blankets for us, please...

- Include your name, address or email with your blanket(s), so we will know whom to thank.
- Wash your blanket (if possible) before turning it in.
- If you've made a fleece blanket, please be sure the selvages are trimmed off.
- Please do not make your blankets out of tapestry, burlap, upholstery fabric, 70's-type double-knits, felt, vinyl, wool, or wool yarn. Please do not use fabric that has been stored in a damp area or has a musty

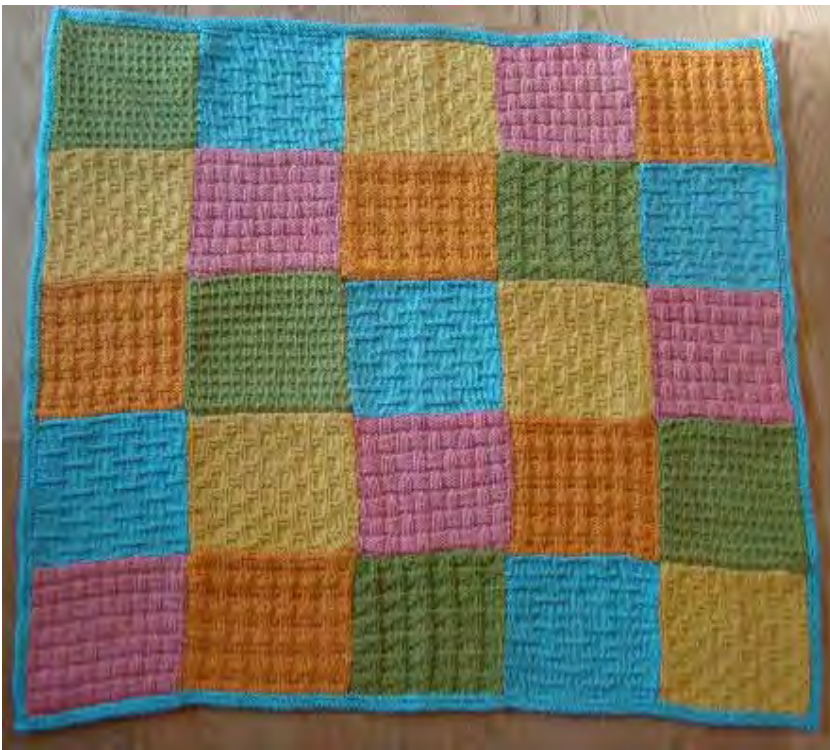
smell. Mold spores can cause an allergic reaction in a child and are very difficult to remove from the fabric. We regret that blankets smelling of smoke or having pet hair on them cannot be accepted.

- Be especially careful about checking for pins if you use them in the construction of your blankets.
- Make sure when knitting or crocheting to securely tie off yarn ends and weave them into the blanket.
- No embellishments such as buttons, glitter or anything that will come off because small children put things in their mouths.
- A suggested label format to include with each blanket donated:
<Your Name>. <Street Number / Street Name>,
<City, State, Zip>, <Email Address>

Join our Group on Facebook!

Find us as "Project Linus of Williamson, Travis, & Hays Counties, Texas"

Blankie Ideas



Dream Catcher Baby Blanket

<http://205.251.136.198/blog/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/dream-catcher-pattern-11.pdf>

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Lollipop Afghan

<http://www.freevintagecrochet.com/afghans/lollipop-afghan-pattern.html>



Connecting Threads website.

Many, many patterns and great sewing ideas

http://www.connectingthreads.com/patterns/Free_Quilting_and_Sewing_Patterns

Places to leave blankets...

Thanks to these businesses which support our efforts by collecting blankets from blanketeers who don't attend meetings. And thanks for using them. Any way we can get more blankets is terrific!

Austin Sew & Vac

Mike and Robyn Smith
1401 S. I-35, Ste #170
Round Rock, TX 78664
(512) 310-7349

Austin Sew & Vac South

8213 Brodie Lane
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 899-8176

B & B Quilting and Gifts

Nancy Brinkley & Lori Beckers
107 S. Austin Steet
Buda, TX 78610
www.bbquilting.com
(512)312-2299

Glassica, Inc.

Heide Fowler
820 South Austin Ave.
Georgetown, Texas 78628
(512) 778-9398
www.DisplayYourArt.com

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Learning Express Toys

Joe and Mary Theriot
Gateway Market
9607 Research Blvd, Ste 110
Austin, TX 78759
(512) 795-9770

Poppy Quilt 'N Sew

Anita Brockell
4106 Williams Drive (RM 2338)
Georgetown, TX 78628
(512)863-6108
www.poppyquiltnsew.com

The Knitting Nest

Stacy Klaus
Recent address change—
8708 Congress Avenue, Ste. 570
Austin, TX 78748
(512) 294-8866
www.theknittingnestaustin.com

Raney House Quilts

Madilyn Dunlap
3253 Williamson Rd. (Co. Rd. 177)
Lockhart, TX 78644-2287
(512)376-5990
www.raneyhousequilts.com

Food for Thought

“Don’t say you don’t have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michaelangelo, Mother Teresea, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein.” – *Life’s Little Instruction Book*, compiled by H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

We seem to be going through a period of nostalgia, and everyone seems to think yesterday was better than today. I don't think it was, and I would advise you not to wait ten years before admitting today was great. If you're hung up on nostalgia, pretend today is yesterday and just go out and have one hell of a time. ~Art Buchwald

In 2010, our Project Linus chapter gave blankets to these organizations

Agape Pregnancy Center, Round Rock
Dell Children's Medical Center
Flying Vikings
Foster families
Hope Alliance (Shelter) Round Rock
Infant Parent Program, Austin (children up to 3 yrs.)
Kidtherapy Rehabilitation Center
Lakeway Police Dept.
March of Dimes
Marywood
Ronald McDonald House
Round Rock Police Dept.
Roxanne's House
Safeplace
Sammy's House

Sickle Cell Association of Austin
St. David's NICU Ronald McDonald Family room
St. Louise House
Starlight
Texas Baptist Children's Home, Round Rock
Texas Neuro Rehab Center
Texas Oncology
Williamson County Advocacy Center, Georgetown
Williamson County Sheriff's Office
Wonders and Worries

In addition, when we hear of individual situations where we can comfort a child, we get blankets to families too. If you know of a need, contact Anita Howe (ahowe@sellaustinhomes.com) to get help to them.

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Project Linus Contacts...

Position/Committee

- Project Linus Coordinator, Williamson / Travis/Hays Counties
- Assistant Coordinator-South
- Assistant Coordinator-North
- Chapter Communications (newsletter & website)
- Community Outreach Representative, Williamson / Travis / Hays Counties
- Special Events Coordinators

Volunteer/Contact Information

Anita Howe, (512) 930-4792,
ahowe@sellsaustinhomes.com

Jean Bishop, (512) 659-7103,
bishopTX@earthlink.net

Helen Bokman, hbokman@sbcglobal.net

Jan Everett, jan_texas@yahoo.com

Pat Beachy, pkbeachy@austin.rr.com

Pat Beachy, pkbeachy@austin.rr.com

Project Linus respects your privacy We don't share your email address or contact information with anyone outside our organization. To remove your name from our mailing list, contact jan_texas@yahoo.com

If you have questions or comments, Anita Howe at ahowe@sellsaustinhomes.com is our chapter coordinator.

To visit the Williamson/Travis/Hays County Project Linus website online, go to www.orgsites.com/tx/austinlineus/. The national Project Linus organization's website is located at www.projectlinus.org/

Quilters—

Please save barcodes from all Hobbs batting that you purchase and give them to your meeting coordinator or contact us and we'll give you a mailing address. We can redeem them for discounts on batting for Project Linus blankets.

