



Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Montgomery County, TX Chapter

Chapter Website:

<http://www.orgsites.com/tx/montgomerycountyprojectlinus/index.html>

Volume 2, Issue 1

August 1, 2011

Friendships strengthened through our common goal.

Institute was Fantastic!

Friends who had attended an PL Institute, which will now be called *Conference*, had tried to describe what the event involved and what it was like but it's something you must experience to fully appreciate. There were wonderful classes, workshops, food, door prizes, freebies galore, speakers and a wonderful hospital-ity room for simply hanging out and visiting with Chapter Coordinators from all over the U.S. The bond I felt with other coordinators was immediate, as if we had known each other for years. I came home with an overwhelming feeling of gratitude to be part of this organization and the impact it is making in the lives of children.

Karen Loucks Rinedollar is a name you may already know but if not, let me tell you about her. Karen is the *founder* of Project Linus and a wonderful person to get to know. She has just completed a book explaining how Project Linus got its start and it is great. Part of the proceeds from the book, *Working for Peanuts*, will be donated to the organization. Please let me know if you would like a copy and I will be happy to contact her.

Changes are in the making for future Conferences with the hope of allowing more people to attend and I'll keep you updated as we get information from Headquarters. After much discussion, the consensus was to return to having the PL Conference every year! No better way to "re-charge" the old batteries of the Chapter Coordinator than a few days at Conference and I'm so excited about it that you may just have to 'shut me up'!

Sept. 1 Meeting — All are Needed!

I hope your summer has been a good one with some vacation time and plenty of "play time"!

The first meeting this fall, Sept. 1, is going to be SO busy and my hope is that **all** of you will be able to attend. I anticipate we could have over 100 blankets to prepare for delivery and I believe we will welcome some new people who would like to take part in Project Linus through our chapter. I also have several items I need your input on (see page 3) so you can see the day will be busy but also lots of fun as we get to catch up on what's gone on over the summer.

Please bring your machine with you if possible.

Also: We are going to be making bookmarks—lots—so if you aren't sewing or folding, maybe you could help stamp and color Linus! (More about this later.)

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Ms. Marc Layton

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Calendar for fall 2011 –with a change!

Note: Chapter Meetings are all held the first Thursday of the month at Faith UMC from 9:30am-1:30pm, unless otherwise noted. Bring lunch!

Sept. 1

Nov. 10 (*Please note change.*)

Oct. 6

Dec. 1

International Quilt Festival, Nov. 3-6, 2011

The George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, TX will be wall-to-wall people during this big Festival and if you haven't had a chance to attend, it's amazing. There are many beautiful quilts, classes, vendors selling so many fun things and, of course, the Project Linus Booth. We will have an opportunity to 'spread the word' about Project Linus during the festival and you might be able to attend free!

Volunteers will be needed in the PL Booth and if you would like to work a 3-hour shift, you would get in free to the festival. Time slots are 10:00am-1:00pm, 1:00pm-4:00pm and 4:00pm-7:00pm. Since the Houston Chapter and our chapter are the only two which are very close, I assured those in charge that some of our members would probably be available to help. All you need to do is talk about PL and possibly help make the simple quilt from prepared kits and I will assist as needed.

Please let me know if you would like to work one of the time slots and I'll make sure your name is on the list so you get in free! (email: thewoodlandslinus@yahoo.com)

Due to the Festival falling on our regular meeting day, we are going to meet the second Thursday of November to allow everyone to head to "H-town"!

Discount Cards will be offered again this year through JoAnn Fabrics!

Step 1: Complete the necessary information on the website for JoAnn Fabrics.

Step 2: You will receive your VIP Card through the mail in a couple of weeks.

Step 3: You need proof that you are eligible to receive the VIP discounts and that is accomplished by getting a Project Linus card from Ms. Marc and I hope to have those at the Sept. 1 meeting.

Have you invited someone new to attend a Chapter Meeting with you?

Food for Thought!

Please give the following possibilities your consideration so you can provide your input at our meeting on Sept. 1.



- ⇒ Many of you wrote that you would like to learn more about one of the skills we use in making blankets. Would you like to have part of a chapter meeting designated for learning these skills such as basic quilting, crochet, knitting, working with fleece, special quilt blocks and techniques?
- ⇒ Would you like us to have snacks/refreshments at our chapter meetings and if so, would you be willing to help provide these?
- ⇒ Would you like to help plan and prepare for our Christmas Party, Dec. 1, 2011, at our regular meeting time?

Funds are needed to help with chapter needs.

Our Chapter is growing and that's wonderful! Along with the growth is an increased need for supplies such as fabric, batting, yarn, ribbon, postage and printing materials. Here are some possible ways we might be able to cover these costs:

- ◆ Give a gift of \$5 to Project Linus to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion and a beautiful card would be given to recipient.
- ◆ Purchase a \$5 kit to complete at home and return as a donated blanket for our PL kids. The kit would have the pattern, instructions, pre-cut pieces for the quilt top and the backing. You would only need to provide the batting and binding.
- ◆ Are you associated with any company that provides funds to non-profits through programs such as "Dollars for Doers"? This is a means by which volunteer hours equate to dollars for a non-profit such as ours.
- ◆ Our chapter hosting an event for the benefit of our chapter of Project Linus with a percentage going to Faith UMC. Such an event might have various handmade items for sale along with silent auction items.



Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Montgomery County, TX Chapter



Chapter Meetings
are held at

Faith United
Methodist Church
2403 Rayford Rd.
Spring, TX

unless otherwise
noted.

Blanket Guidelines

Blankets must be new, handmade and washable, free from any odors such as smoke or chemicals.

Sizes of blankets need to be a minimum of 36" x 36".

Kinds of blankets vary according to the preference of the Blanketeer and can include:

Pieced quilts or panels, quilted or tied

Crocheted or Knitted blanket

Fleece blankets without selvages, and finished with a hem, fringe or crochet edge

Child-friendly colors, please!

Check your blanket before donating it, making sure there are no pins left in the fabric. Please do not attach small decorative items such as buttons since these are potential choking hazards.

Need Pattern Ideas? Go to www.projectlinus.org for lots of patterns and information.

You are making such a difference!

I want to tell you how much I appreciate each of you for your hard work in providing blankets to the children who need them in Montgomery Co. We have received letters of appreciation from several agencies and always words of thanks as the blankets are dropped off.

You have helped provide comfort and security to over 1600 children through your generous donations of blankets.

You are making a difference in the lives of these children.

The Mission of Project Linus

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.

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