



Hello blanketeers! We're looking forward to seeing you at our **next meeting - this Tuesday June 6 at 11am** at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church (15040 Union Ave. San Jose, at the corner of Hwy 85 and Union Ave) (Please note - we will be meeting in the church building this time, not the parish hall as before.) Looking forward to another great show'n'tell time together as well as sharing ideas with fellow blanketeers, our thank-you raffle and more. If you can't make it this time, remember **you can always see some of the latest blankets that we've received** on our website homepage www.sjlinus.org in the photo circles as well as our chapter **Facebook and Pinterest pages** (links can be found on the top right corner of our website homepage).

QUILTERS!! Barb is holding another **FAT QUARTER FRENZY on Monday June 12th from 10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 3:30pm.**

You will need to email Barb (sjlinus@gmail.com) to set up your 30 minute appointment. Stock up now for your summer quilting projects!

Thanks to your generosity, **we received 436 blankets in April and distributed 579 blankets through 13 partner organizations.** (May numbers will be available soon.) To view the list of our partners, see our website www.sjlinus.org under Recipients. With your help, **our chapter has donated 118,046 blankets to date. Well done!**

For the month of June only, we are asking for some extra **baby and toddler blankets**. We include a variety of styles and sizes of blankets in each bag we send out, and at this time we are short on those two sizes. We usually have plenty throughout the rest of the year. **Baby blankets are a minimum of 36"x36" and toddler blankets are approximately 40"x50"**. **Please remember: no fringe** (choking hazard), **and for our knitters and crocheters, acrylic yarns only** (to avoid allergic issues), **and only use closed stitches** (so as not to leave any openings that might catch tiny fingers and toes).

Tip of the Month: Please check out our web site regularly for updates about meetings, new events, our tip of the month and other topics. If you haven't seen it recently, our current tip reminded us **NOT TO USE PERFUME while working with your PL blankets (eg scented plastic bags, dryer sheets, on you or your clothing) and please KEEP YOUR BLANKETS FREE FROM PET FUR.** This is very important, as both make the blankets unusable by us, so please make sure your blankets are free of both of these substances before turning them in. Thank you very much!

Our next tip is a reminder that

1. We cannot accept the thin "Make It, Give It" fleece blankets made from the JoAnn Fabrics kits

of the same name. They just don't hold up well.

2. Knitters and crocheters, please use yarns of 4-ply or less. The bulky yarn blankets cannot be accommodated in our distribution bags as well as the bulky yarns create holes for little fingers and toes to get stuck in. **Knit and crochet blankets should be no larger than 40"x50" please.**

3. To all blanket label sewers, machine stitching is highly recommended. Otherwise, if sewn by hand, they must be VERY SECURELY sewn FULLY along both short edges, double thread recommended. Recently we have been receiving many blankets with the labels only tacked on the corners and they come loose very easily, often fall off and must be resown. **For machine stitchers, please make your stitches are placed on the label far enough in from the edges that they won't fray.** Again, many blankets received lately have been stitched too close to the edge and they come loose and must be resown before we can distribute them. **Thank you so much for your attention to these details.**

As you know, **our chapter is totally self funded**, and this year we are in need of additional support as we go into the summer months, to enable us to continue to provide the needed supplies to keep the chapter going strong (eg for skip-stitch fleece kits, batting, distributors supplies, tags and labels, etc). If you have access to a **matching grant** program through your employer or other agency, that's a great way to double a donation. You can also request donations from your local civic groups or businesses (eg Lions, Rotary, churches, companies you do business with). So many of these donate to nonprofits regularly and like to support those that their members and customers are active in. **Gift cards** (eg JoAnn's, Michaels) are always great. You can also give online at www.projectlinus.org (be sure to specify our chapter) or by sending a check made out Project Linus (to Sharon Lee 11061 S Stelling Rd. Cupertino CA 95014). For other ideas of how to help (eg purchase fleece and batting direct at whole prices), contact me (sjlinus@comcast.net, 408-252-1858) to discuss. **We need your help - thank you!**

I'd like to send **special thanks** to **Shirley Karabian's AAUW chapter** which continues to generously support our chapter annually and just donated 100 pieces of fleece for skip-stitch blankets, **Saratoga Retirement Community** that provides ongoing support/donations by making baby blankets to sell as a fundraiser for our chapter (100% of sales comes to us - each year they raise hundreds of dollars) and **Good Samaritan Episcopal Church - Outreach Committee** which is donating \$500 to our chapter. Thank you so much to these wonderful groups.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday and as always thank you for your generous support of Project Linus and the local children we serve and comfort. And as you know, we distribute blankets year round - so we'll look forward to seeing your lovely blankets throughout the summer.

Happy blanketeering and have a great summer!

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