



August 13, 2019

Hello blanketeers and Project Linus supporters. Here's a mid-summer update from Project Linus with news, progress and plans to share:

* **August 'mini meeting' and bagging dates:** Our **August meeting will be held next Tuesday August 20 at 1pm (daytime meeting) at Mary Kelly's house (1366 Milton Way San Jose)**. (Yes, it's a week earlier than usual but we needed to move bagging day off the holiday/Labor Day weekend). Linda Taylor will be hosting the meeting. (Thank you, Linda!) We will have fleece kits for crocheting, 9-strip quilt kits and batting as well as 'challenges' to share, show'n'tell – and for this month only - everyone that comes to the meeting will get to pick something from the 'thank you raffle' bag. ☺ **We would appreciate as many finished blankets as possible to be dropped off at that day at Mary's.** Hope you can join us! Note: **Bagging day this month will be Saturday August 24.**

* **We need more baby blankets (this month) and fleece 'crochet-around-the edge' blankets (through year end)!** We've run short on these types of blankets in the last couple of months. (We try to supply a variety of blanket types and sizes to the recipient organizations.) When you're choosing projects, please consider these. At this time, we have lots of 'fleece kits' available (a fleece piece with 1 skein of yarn). If you can make up some of these kits for us yet this month (by Aug 24 bagging) it'd be especially awesome. You can pick them up at the meeting on the 20th or call/email me (sjlinus@comcast.net, 408-252-1858) if you want to stop by and pick some up at my house or Mary's this week. (REMEMBER: Please crochet a minimum of 2 rows, preferably 3. Feel free to add additional colors from your own yarn stash if you like. ☺ Thanks!)

* **Thank you's:** (1.) Project Linus-San Jose, we would like to thank the Village Quilters for the beautiful quilt that was made and given to my daughter during our stay at the Ronald McDonald House in Palo Alto. Thank you for taking the time to donate your time and talents. You are a blessing. Sincerely, Cheryl B. (2.) Thank you for the blanket from RMH (Ronald McDonald House) Stanford. We're already back home but he still loves it. Jenny McL.

* **Blanket Stats:** With your help, our chapter continues to donate blankets monthly to many local entities which support local children in crisis. Donations to date are nearly **93,000 blankets** - that's fantastic!

* **Website updates and more:** Isabelle Wimmers, our webmaster, has been taking our input and making updates and improvements for us. You may have noticed a new photo wheel for the recipient photos at the top, links to our Pinterest account as well as the Facebook page link - all on our home page. If you're looking for an uplifting 'thank you' for all you do for Project Linus, see Testimonials under Recipients on the home page. If you have blanket photos you'd like posted on the site, send them to LinusSanJose@gmail.com. If you have questions about the home page, email them to Isabelle at iwimmersFam@gmail.com. Thank you, Isabelle for taking such good care of the chapter on the web.

* **2019 Project Linus Mystery Quilt Challenge: Registration opens on August 19th** on the PLHQ website (www.projectlinus.org) This is the weekly mystery quilt reveal held once a year as a fundraiser for Project Linus. Registration is a \$15 donation to Project Linus (if you specify our chapter "South Bay / San Jose, CA" when you register, the funds will come to our chapter!). Each week a "mystery clue" is revealed. Quilters of all levels of expertise who register for the challenge will be given detailed instructions and access to online videos as they complete their quilt. The quilt challenge will be followed by a contest

for participants who are interested in entering their finished quilts. Prizes will be awarded to the quilt that raises the most money for (national) Project Linus through an online voting process. 3 members of our chapter have won prizes in previous challenges. :-)
The first clue will be revealed on Saturday, September 15th. The quilt designs are always awesome and those who have participated in the past have really enjoyed the challenge. Please share this info with your fellow quilters. It's great fun and instructional too!

* **Eagle Scout Projects:** Just an FYI – we currently have an Eagle Scout candidate whose project is to make 100 no-sew fleece blankets for our chapter. His project includes getting all the blanket making (and labeling) volunteers, supplies acquisition, quality control and fundraising. It's quite a large project as you might imagine. It will be completed this fall. I was also contacted just yesterday by another Eagle Scout candidate who would like to base his Eagle Project on Project Linus volunteering too. How wonderful! This will be our 4th such project. ☺

* **Lexus of Stevens Creek Volunteer Fair** September 14 9am-Noon: Linda Skipper will be representing us again this year at this Volunteer Fair for high school students. Thanks Linda for introducing the new, prospective blanketeers to Project Linus. If you would like to help Linda, I know she'd enjoy the company. Contact Linda at lskipper@pacbell.net or 408-374-6296.

* **Request for Knit/Crochet Instruction assistance:** Morrigan Bruce, Director of Programs for Cancer CAREpoint sent this inquiry: "CAREpoint currently hosts a Stitch & Unwind group, it's a social group rather than a formal support group, for our clients. We have this group every other Monday at 1pm. We're trying to connect with anyone in our community that might be willing to come in and help cancer patients, survivors, caregivers & families learn how to knit or crochet. I found your chapter online and thought I would reach out and see if any of your connections might be able to help us find someone for our group. Thanks for your time!" Morrigan Bruce, MPA, Director of Programs, Cancer CAREpoint, 2505 Samaritan Dr., Suite 402, San Jose, CA 95124
408.442.2052 www.cancercarepoint.org

* **Volunteers needed - Make a Blanket event at VMware Wednesday September 11, 1-3pm:** We've been asked to lead a make a (no-sew fleece) blanket event at VMware in Palo Alto (up to 20 attendees). We supply the leaders (usually 2) and the 'scissors box' and they supply the workspace full of tables, fleece and the volunteers. This is our first invitation to this location, so we'll be teaching them how to make single layer fleece blankets (without selvage!) so they will be able to hold more such events on their own in the future. If you can help with this event, please contact me as soon as possible. They need to lock down the date/time so they can get the word out to their volunteers. Thank you in advance.

* **Reminder – EVERYONE! PLEASE put your FULL NAME and CONTACT INFO in EVERY BAG of blankets you drop off (no matter how long you've been a blanketeer...)** ☺ We have lots of new folks helping with blanket intake who aren't familiar with all the first names on the tags. Also please **indicate on that slip of paper the number of blankets you are donating in that bag.** It helps us with our blanket donation tracking and following up with you if needed. We have new volunteers helping and they don't recognize your handwriting. ☺ Thank you!

* Our next **meeting is on Tuesday August 20 at 1pm (daytime meeting)** at Mary's house and **bagging** will be there on **Saturday August 24.** Meeting details are posted on our website www.sjlinus.org.

A special thanks to all who have been helping out with extra efforts while Barb and Mary are away, and I'm still limited a bit in my PL activities.

Happy blanketeering and thank you all for supporting Project Linus and the local children in crisis who we serve together.

Sharon Lee	Chapter Coordinator	sjlinus@comcast.net	408-252-1858
Barbara Ross	Assistant Chapter Coordinator	(away until October)	
Mary Kelly	Meeting and Bagging Host	(away until September)	