

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Bakersfield, Fresno, Kern & Tulare Counties CA Chapter

February 2012

www.projectlinusbakersfield.org
www.projectlinusfresno.com

661-589-1854

Email: Quilts4kidz@sbcglobal.net

What a fabulous month February is. Not only do we get to get Patriotic by celebrating the Presidents birthdays but we also get to show our loved ones how much we love them with Valentine's day. How great is that?

We also have an opportunity to show love to our community by coming to our Annual Make a Blanket day on February 25, 2012 at Centennial High School. Page 2 of the flier has all of the information that you need about the event.

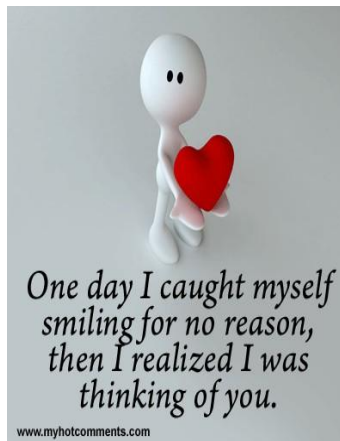
We have come to a point that is very critical in our chapter. We are delivering approximately 500 blankets per month in the Valley. Our surplus blankets are almost gone and we are not going to be able to supply blankets to the organizations that we support. My choice then becomes which hospital, county facility or other entity do we not deliver to. I don't want to tell Jamison Center that I can't deliver blankets there. I don't want to not deliver blankets to any of the children's hospitals or to the sexual assault victims. Yesterday, Greenlawn Mortuary called and asked if they could have a blanket for a family of a two year old that had passed away. They wanted something special for the mother to lay her son on and then give to her after the services. How do I tell them, "No".

I see the value of the blanket everyday when my 10 year old runs around the house acting like batman or when he is snuggled up in front of the television at night. Project Linus

provides an something healing for each one of use that makes the blanket as well as for the recipient.

If you live in Tehachapi, Debbie's Fabrics, etc is now a drop off location. Also, in Porterville, Calico Mermaid is now a drop off location. As always when you drop off blankets would you please label your bags Project Linus and if you want a thank you note, please put your name and address on the note so we can make sure that we thank you appropriately. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers. I am so thankful for the friendships that are mine because of Project Linus. You are the bestest, and the greatest. No other chapter compares with us!

Michele



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February 2012

Quilt Challenge Theme is **Pink**

All quilters, knitters and crocheters are welcome to participate. Your quilts should be at least 45x45.

A charm will be given to all who complete the blanket challenge.

Crochet/Knitted challenge is

Pink

Afghans should be at least 36x36

March 2012

Quilt Challenge Theme is **Flowers**

All quilters, knitters and crocheters are welcome to participate. Your quilts should be at least 45x45.

A charm will be given to all who complete the blanket challenge.

Crochet/Knitted challenge is

Lime Green

Afghans should be at least 36x36

Project Linus Community Make-A-Blanket Day February 25, 2012

10:00a.m – 2:00p.m.

Centennial High School
8601 Hageman Rd, Bakersfield, CA



As a community would you like to join with Project Linus to help serve the special needs of children in our area?

Here is how you can help:

- Bring fabric/materials/scissors and help us make blankets.
- You may bring **handmade** completed blankets ready to donate
- Fabric (1 1/2 yard lengths) batting and yarn may be donated (flannel, cotton and fleece are accepted)
- **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.** Any help is appreciated
- Project Linus welcomes all styles of blankets...crocheted, knitted, quilted, fleece.
- Blankets are for infants through teen years, so any size is appropriate.
- **MATERIAL LIST TO MAKE A FLEECE BLANKET:**

3 yards of fleece and good scissors

All donations benefit the Bakersfield, Kern County Chapter of Project Linus. Each chapter of Project Linus is self-sustaining and we rely on donations to help us provide for children in our community. Our local chapter is donating approximately 500 blankets per month to children in crisis situations in the local area.

For more information contact:

Michele Willis, Project Linus Bakersfield Chapter Coordinator
quilts4kidz@sbcglobal.net
www.projectlinusbakersfield.org
661-589-1854



Crochet Granny Throw pattern from Lion Brand Yarn

GAUGE:

Square = 12 x 12 in. [30.5 x 30.5 cm]. BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR GAUGE. When you match the gauge in a pattern, your project will be the size specified in the pattern and the materials specified in the pattern will be sufficient. If it takes you fewer stitches and rows to make a 4 in. [10 cm] square, try using a smaller size hook or needles; if more stitches and rows, try a larger size hook or needles.

STITCH EXPLANATION:

dc2tog (dec dc) Yo, insert hook into st and draw up a loop, yo and draw through 2 loops. Yo, insert hook into next st and draw up a loop. Yo, draw through 2 loops, yo, draw through all loops on hook.

dc3tog (dec 2 dc) [Yo, insert hook in next st and draw up a loop, yo and draw through 2 loops] 3 times, yo, draw through all loops on hook.

CL (Cluster) [Yo, insert hook in space and draw up a loop, yo and draw through 2 loops] 3 times in same space, yo, draw through all loops on hook.

AFGHAN

SQUARE 1

With A, ch 4, join with sl st to form a ring.

Rnd 1 (RS): Ch 4, (dc, ch 1) 7 times in ring, join with sl st in 3rd ch of beg ch - 8 ch-1 sp.

Rnd 2: Ch 3, 2 dc in beg ch-1 sp, 3 dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 3, * 3 dc in each of next 2 ch-1 sp, ch 3, rep from * around, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-3 sp.

Rnd 3: Ch 3, dc2tog over next 2 dc, ch 3, dc3tog over next 3 dc, ch 3, * (CL, ch 3, CL) in next corner ch-3 sp, ch 3, [dc3tog over next 3 dc, ch 3] twice, rep from * twice, (CL, ch 3, CL) in next corner ch-3 sp, ch 3, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-3 sp.

Fasten off A.

Rnd 4: Join B in beg ch-3 sp, ch 3, 2 dc in same ch-3 sp, ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-3 sp, ch 1, * (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in corner ch-3 sp, ch 1, (3 dc, ch 1) in each of next 3 ch-3 sp, rep from * twice, (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc) in corner ch-3 sp, ch 1, 3 dc in next ch-3 sp, ch 1, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-3 sp and 5 groups of 3 dc on each side.

Rnd 5: Ch 3, dc2tog over next 2 dc, ch 3, [dc3tog over next 3 dc, ch 3] twice, * (CL, ch 3, CL, ch 3) in next corner ch-3 sp, [dc3tog over next 3 dc, ch 3] 5 times, rep from * twice, (CL, ch 3, CL, ch 3) in next corner ch-3 sp, [dc3tog over next 3 dc, ch 3] twice, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-3 sp.

Fasten off B.

Rnd 6: Join C in beg ch-3 sp, ch 3, 2 dc in same ch-3 sp, ch 1, (3 dc, ch 1) in each of next 2 ch-3 sp, * (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc, ch 1) in corner ch-3 sp, (3 dc, ch 1) in each of next 6 ch-3 sp, rep from * twice, (3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc, ch 1) in corner ch-3 sp, (3 dc, ch 1) in each of last 3 ch-3 sp, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-3 sp and 8 groups of 3 dc on each side.

Rnd 7: Ch 3, * (skip next ch-1 sp, dc in each of next 3 dc) across to next corner, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner ch-3 sp, rep from * around, end (skip next ch-1 sp, dc in each of next 3 dc) across to beg, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-2 sp and 28 dc across each side.

Rnd 8: Ch 3, * dc in each dc across to next corner ch-2 sp, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner ch-2 sp, rep from * 3 times, end with dc in each dc across last side to beg, join with sl st in top of beg ch - 4 corner ch-2 sp and 32 dc across each side. Fasten off C. CONT PG 3

SQUARES 2-12

Make as for Square 1, working in the following color sequence:

Square 2 C, D, B.

Square 3 D, E, A.

Square 4 E, C, D.

Square 5 D, B, C.

Square 6 E, A, E.

Square 7 B, D, E.

Square 8 C, B, A.

Square 9 B, D, C.

Square 10 E, A, C.

Square 11 D, C, B.

Square 12 C, E, D.

FINISHING

Sew Squares tog, following Assembly Diagram for placement.

Border

Rnd 1: From RS, join E in any corner ch-2 sp. Ch 3, (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner ch-2 space, dc in each dc around, working (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in each corner ch-2 sp, join with sl st in top of beg ch.

Rnds 2-3: Ch 3, * dc in each dc around, work (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in corner ch-2 sp, rep from * around, join with sl st in top of beg ch.

Fasten off. Weave in ends.

One of my Blanketeers sent this to me and I had to share:

"One of the guys at work, four year old son was taken to the hospital with a popcorn kernel imbedded in his ear canal. They ended up having to do out-patient surgery, because no one could get it out (not even ER). The little things are very small and slick! The little guy was the recipient of a Project Linus Blanket! When they got home, he ran to his bedroom with the blanket, yanked his old blanket off the bed and proudly laid out his new blanket in its place. He just LOVES that blanket!

Guess that's why we do it!"

Trudy Novak, Chapter Coordinator
Klamath Falls OR

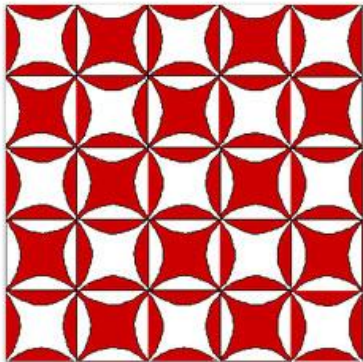
Rob Peter to Pay Paul

Our Project Linus Chapter owns this quilts set if you are interested in making this quilt. Please contact Michele to make arrangements to bring the AccuGo to the next meeting along with the Die for you to use. 661-589-1854 or quilts4kidz@sbcglobal.net

You've probably heard the phrase 'Rob Peter to Pay Paul'. Many of you have probably "Robbed Peter to Pay Paul" by taking money from your savings account to cover a debt in your checking account or pouring soda from one glass to another to make the amounts even to appease your children.

It is thought that the original phrase came from King Edward VI who ordered St. Peter's Church in Westminster to sell some of its land in order to pay for the repair of St. Paul's in London.

The quilt block 'Rob Peter to Pay Paul' is a classic featuring curved seams. Typically this block is considered a block for experienced quilters, but this has changed with the AccuQuilt GO!® Fabric Cutter.



Years ago, quilters would have to painstakingly cut out and pin each piece often losing accuracy and making the completion of a successful block challenging. The time to do this cutting can be very overwhelming. Fortunately, quilters with an AccuQuilt [GO!® Fabric Cutter](#) or [Studio™ Fabric Cutter](#) no longer have to worry about the accuracy of the cuts or the extensive time spent cutting.

The traditional Rob Peter to Pay Paul quilt has typically been a two-color quilt. A red and white version is shown here. Hand quilters often show their talents in the centers of the blocks by stitching intricate designs.

Notice that there are two different blocks that alternate featuring a positive and negative version of the same block.



GO! Rob Peter to Pay Paul die

The block appears to have a chunk "bitten" out of it. It appears as though bites were taken from one of the squares and added to another square.

The AccuQuilt Rob Peter to Pay Paul design is a two-die set. The 'Peter' portion of the die set is the large part with the bites taken out then there is the 'Paul' part that is the bite.

With the AccuQuilt GO! Fabric Cutter, a quilter can cut up to six layers of fabric in one pass. This makes it so much easier than the traditional method of pinning and scissor cutting from times past.

Bakersfield Calendar

Feb 7 LDS Church 9-noon
 Feb 14 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Feb 21 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Feb 23 Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 Feb25 Make A Blanket Day - Centennial High School 10-3
 Mar 6 LDS Church 9-noon
 March 13 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Mar 20 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Mar 22 Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 Apr 3 LDS Church 9-noon
 Apr 10 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Apr 17 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Apr 26 Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 May 1 LDS Church 9-noon
 May 4-6 Valley Shop Hop
 May 8 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 May 15 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 May 24 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 June 5 LDS Church 9-noon
 June 12 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 June 19 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 June 28 Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 July 3, LDS Church 9-noon
 July 10, Strawberry Patches 10-1
 July 17, LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 July 26, Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 Aug 7, LDS Church 9-noon
 Aug 14, Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Aug 21 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Aug 23 Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 Sept 4, LDS Church 9-noon
 Sept 8, Make A Blanket Day, LDS Church Fruitvale Ave 10-3
 Sept 11, Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Sept 18, LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Sept 27, Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 Oct 2, LDS Church 9-noon
 Oct 9, Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Oct 16, LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Oct 25, Bolts to Bindings 5:30 - 9p
 Nov 6, LDS Church 9-noon
 Nov 13, Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Nov 20, LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Dec 4, LDS Church 9-noon
 Dec 11, Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Dec 18, LDS LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p
 Jan 8, 2013 Strawberry Patches 10-1
 Jan 15, 2013 LDS Church 9-noon /Mercy Hosp 6p – 9p

Blanket Drop Off Locations

Please indicate that blankets are for Project Linus on the bags when you leave them at the drop off locations.

Bakersfield

Strawberry Patches

6439 Ming Ave, Ste C
Bakersfield, CA

Bolts to Bindings

930 Wible Rd*NEW*
Bakersfield, CA

ABC's of Creative Pursuits

1412 17th St, Ste E
Haberfelde Gallery
Bakersfield, CA

Ellie Jayes

1608 19th St
Bakersfield CA

FRESNO

Cottage Quilts

1732 W Bullard Ave
Fresno, CA 93711
559-447-0599

Hope Lutheran Church

364 E Barstow Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
559-439-4320

CLOVIS

D & J Sewing Center

2700 N Clovis Ave #103 Clovis, CA 93612
559-225-4927

Quilters Paradise, Inc

339 Pollasky Ave, Clovis, CA
559-297-7817

Visalia

Thimble Towne

400 W Caldwell Ave, Ste F
Visalia, CA 93277

Hanford

Quilters Quarters

880 N Irwin
Hanford, CA 93203

NEW**Tehachapi** NEW

Debbie's Fabrics, etc

112 E Tehachapi Blvd
Tehachapi, CA 93561
661-823-7114

NEW**PORTERVILLE** NEW

Calico Mermaid

122 N Main
Porterville, CA
559-793-2510

ADDRESSES to Calendar locations:

LDS Church, 316 A Street, 93304

Mercy Hospital/Truxtun Ave, Clerou Room, 93301

Bolts to Bindings, 2437 Oak Street Bakersfield Ca 93301

Strawberry Patches, 6433 Ming Ave Bakersfield, CA 93309

We're on the Web!

www.projectlinusbakersfield.org
www.projectlinusfresno.com

Sponsors

the following businesses are donating sponsorships monthly to our local Project Linus Chapter.

Darrel's Mini Storage- Storage Unit
Cruz thru Car Wash - Fundraiser
Strawberry Patches - Constant Contact



Date: Sunday, February 12, 2012

Time: 12noon-3:30pm

Place: AMF Westchester Lanes

Address: 1819 30th Street, Bakersfield, CA

For: 3 Games & Shoe Rental & A Lot of Fun!

Contact:

Chris Bowles, Fire Captain
Bakersfield Fire Department
661-833-2876

Thank you for your beautiful work. The little blanket was very useful when my little girl was sick. I wish the best for you and your organization.

Happy New Year and hopefully there will always be people so generous like you all.

Thank s again. My daughter is better.

See you soon. Happy New Year.

Today and always,

Yolanda Lopez

Project Linus

10720 Palm Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Phone: 661-589-1854
E-mail:
quilts4kidz@sbcglobal.net

Calendar – Clovis

Quilters Paradise, 339 Pollasky Ave

May 17 10-2

D & J Sewing, 2700 N Clovis

Feb 11, 10 -1

March 3, 10 - 1

May 4-6 Valley Shop Hop

Tips For Caring For Fleece

- Fleece DOESN'T shrink so there is no need to pre-treat fleece, you can start your new fleece project immediately!
- Wash fleece in lukewarm water avoiding bleach and fabric softener. For drying, use low heat for a short time.
- Pressing fleece is NOT recommended. While constructing your project, if pressing becomes necessary, hold iron above fleece and steam, using fingers, to press seam flat. Direct contact with iron may create a permanent imprint on fleece.

Tips For Finding The "Right Side" Of Fleece

- Before starting a project, determine the right side of the fleece fabric, pull on the cut edges of the fabric in both directions, fleece will stretch more on the cross grain. Once you have determined the edge with the most stretch, continue to pull gently, the fleece will curl to the wrong side.

Tips For A No Sew Fleece Blanket

- The main fleece piece and contrast fleece piece should have opposite directions of stretch, to make fringe easier to tie.
- Fringe for ties should be 1" wide by 3" long for best result.
- Cut fringe for main fleece and contrast fleece together so you have matching fringe to tie. The preferable method used to cut fringe is with a rotary cutter.

Tips For Finishing Fleece

- Fleece is a non-fraying fabric, (the raw edges do not need to be finished). There are many ways to decoratively finish a fleece fabric: binding, hemming, fringe, beaded fringe, appliqué, blanket stitch, embroidery, quilting or using decorative rotary blades to create an edge shape. The ways of finishing a fleece project or garment is only limited by your imagination.

Mary-thon: Forsyth woman started running and ended up with a fitness following:

From the Herald & Review:

FORSYTH - At age 47, Mary Balagna faced a crisis. She was significantly overweight and experiencing serious health issues. "I figured I was getting old, and that wasn't true," she said. Ready to do something different, she wrote herself a long letter dictating some of the changes she was going to make, and by focusing on increasing her physical activity level, she has been making progress ever since. Change came slowly. Balagna built up her stamina, continued shedding pounds and in 2010, at age 54, she competed in her first half marathon at the Rock 'n' Roll Las Vegas Marathon. "I'd never done anything athletic in my whole life," she said. "Never earned a medal. Never played a sport." Balagna involved her family in her training for and participation in the 13.1-mile race. When she decided to do another one in 2011, she sought additional motivation. She invited her friends and family to train along with her at their own pace. Instead of training for a race, she invited them to complete a long-term exercise challenge. Instead of the 26.2 miles of a marathon, they did her version, the Mary-thon, which consisted of 26 consecutive weeks of exercising 30 minutes a day, five days a week. Balagna, a Forsyth resident, provided motivational materials including gel bracelets, T-shirts, emails and the all-important medals for those who finished. A friend helped her put together a website, www.marython.net. In 2011, 115 people signed up to participate, and 75 finished, Balagna said. She built two weeks of leeway into the program to account for any issues that might come up. For the 2012 Mary-thon, 351 people from more than 35 states had signed up by mid-January. Registration requires a fee of \$35 to cover the costs of the materials and mailings plus a \$15 donation to Project Linus, an organization that provides comforting, handmade blankets to ill, traumatized and needy children. Balagna serves as the organization's national vice president. "It's just been really fun," she said of the journey. "We've had a lot of people that wanted to be involved." Participants can register until July 1, as long as there are 26 weeks left in the year, Balagna said. "We had people finishing on New Year's Eve," she said. Those who simply want to track their progress and receive motivation without the medal and other goodies can participate for free, Balagna said. "It started out just being a personal thing for me, but just to hear the people talk about it and about how much it's changed their lives; I think it's unique," she said. "... We have people of every fitness level." Jolene and Steve Ison, 53 and 52, respectively, participated in last year's Mary-thon with their son, Nathan, 16. The MacArthur High School student walks outdoors with his parents when the weather is nice, but in the wintertime, he uses his physical education class as his Mary-thon activity. Nathan, who has limited language skills because of autism, has expressed pride at the end of some walks, commenting on the distance the family traveled. "He's very proud of himself," his mom said. Nathan has received blankets from Project Linus, so the cause is important to the family. The Isons heard about the Mary-thon through Balagna, who is a friend. They said they were ready to make a positive change. "We were huge couch potatoes," Jolene Ison said. She and her husband have lost a combined 95 pounds since they started walking in May. "If we can do this, anybody can do it," she said. The family took a short break for the holidays and started their Mary-thon for 2012 last week. Steve Ison said that when he travels for work, the couple has taken to looking for bike trails in different cities so they can continue their exercise. "There's always a place to walk," his wife said. "The only equipment you need to walk is a pair of shoes." The family, which also includes two sons ages 17 and 23, has become more unified in terms of its fitness goals, the Isons said. "We're a work in progress," Jolene Ison said. "We're not going to give up."

Read more: [Mary-thon: Forsyth woman started running and ended up with a fitness following http://herald-review.com/news/local/mary-thon-forsyth-woman-started-running-and-ended-up-with/article_7dbf42a2-48a3-11e1-ab73-001871e3ce6c.html#ixzz1kq569SHU](http://herald-review.com/news/local/mary-thon-forsyth-woman-started-running-and-ended-up-with/article_7dbf42a2-48a3-11e1-ab73-001871e3ce6c.html#ixzz1kq569SHU)

From the Herald & Review



"Do it now.

You become successful the moment you start moving toward a worthwhile goal."

~Author Unknown

Go to: Marython.net to join the 2012 Moving Forward Mary-thon and change your life!

Happy Birthday

*Joyce Calvillo * Linda Strieby*

*A baby is born with a need to be loved - and never outgrows it.
~Frank A. Clark*