

# ♥ Project Linus News ♥

Providing Comfort & Security . . . Through Blankets

January 2003

Southwest Idaho Chapter

Established February 1998

Volume 4, Issue 1

**F**ive years already! Can you believe it? Six volunteers attended the first meeting in February 1998 - today we have many times more than six volunteers. That first year we delivered 91 blankets - in 2002 we delivered 964 blankets to kids who needed a hug and received it when they needed it the most.

I hope you can come to our 5th Birthday Party at Robinson's in Nampa on February 1. We will be working on blankets, but if you just want to come by to see what we're doing, eat some good food, and visit with other volunteers, you are welcome!

The Silver Sage Girl Scout Council adopted Project Linus again this year as their service project. I picked up 50 blankets from their office last week, and they tell me they will have more.

The Project Linus booth at the Boise Quilt Show in September was a roaring success! We're still trying to get all the blocks sewed together that were made that weekend - all 1001 of them!

Our chapter would not be where it is today without all you wonderful volunteers who have made blankets, donated fabric and batting, volunteered to help at the Quilt Show and the Crime Prevention Fair, and sewed on hundreds of labels.

*Donna*

When things start  
to go wrong,  
Don't go with them!

## Blanket Buzz

Thank You so much - we absolutely LOVE the blankets and quilts you donate with love. You are life savers for our tiny patients. We can't begin to tell you what you mean to us. Love from ALL the NICU staff - Thank you again!

*Joyce L. @ St. Luke's*

We had a tiny little girl as a patient that was so frightened of the crinkly paper on the examining table in the treatment room that it was difficult to perform the necessary examination. The nurse got a Project Linus blanket off the shelf for her, the exam was completed with no further problems and she went back to her room snuggled in her new blanket.

*Amy R.*

*Child Life Specialist, St. Luke's*

I, as the Emergency Department Manager, want to THANK YOU for these blankets that make such a difference here with the children we treat. It is a special gift that helps make the experience not so traumatic for the child, and especially for the family.

*Dawn L. Unit Director,  
Emergency Department, St. Al's*

A story I'd like to share is one of a 13 year old girl I gave a blanket to who is battling cancer. She was very, very shy and withdrawn, but a beautiful child, nonetheless. Anyhow, about a week after I gave her the blanket, I got the sweetest note from her; she wanted to start a support group for teenagers in this area who are battling cancer, and this blanket gave her the courage to go ahead with it.

*Terry R.*

*Logansport, Indiana coordinator*

## *Celebrate!*

**5th Anniversary  
Make A Blanket Day Celebration**  
has been **changed** to  
**February 1, 2003**

at

Robinson's Sewing Center  
572 Caldwell Blvd., Nampa, Idaho

Come join in the fun!

Bring your favorite appetizer  
or finger food.

Cake & beverages will be provided.

Door prizes and other surprises!

Last Thursday, one of our troopers intercepted a mother and her 4-year old daughter who had been kidnapped from Michigan. Both had spent two days in a vehicle with little to eat and had to sleep in the car. The trooper gave the child your blanket to try to help lessen the traumatic experience. I wish you could have seen her face - the biggest smile you can imagine. The mother was very appreciative of the gift and expressed her thanks to us. Your kindness touched two lives last week and on behalf of the Virginia State Police, we thank you also. Your time and consideration to such a worthwhile project is noted.

*Letter from the Virginia State Police to  
Ruth C., Virginia coordinator*

Greg loved his blanket he received in the hospital. He refers to it as "Linus."

*From the mother of a child that received a  
blanket from our Southwest Idaho Project  
Linus Chapter.*

♥ The best kind of sleep beneath heaven above is under a blanket handmade with love! ♥

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# Project ♥ Linus

21484 Case Lane  
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Providing Comfort and Security  
. . .Through Blankets



## Blanket Sizes

We have always told you that we could use blankets of any size and that is still true. However, we have been receiving more small blankets than we have larger size blankets. We give blankets to kids from newborn up to age 19. Small blankets are suitable only for the babies and small toddlers, but larger sizes work for all ages. That said, we won't refuse smaller blankets and we do need them, but we really would appreciate it if you could sometimes toss in a few bigger blankets among the small ones. We need 45" x 60" blankets and occasionally one even larger.

## Please, Please!!

Quilts - Batting should be securely sewn into outer seams. If the blankets are tied, place ties **no further apart** than every 4" - 6" with the ties trimmed to no more than approximately 2" long.

Afghans - No loose and loopy stitches. Little fingers and toes and medical instruments can get caught in the big loops.

Be sure blankets are free of odors and pet hair.

## Postage Stamps

Costs keep going up for postage stamps and copying charges. If each of you would bring just 5 new first-class postage stamps to each blanket day, that would take care of mailing our newsletters.

## ♥ Make A Blanket Days ♥

February 1, 2003

April 26, 2003

June 28, 2003

~ 10 am - 3 pm ~

Robinson's Sewing Center  
572 Caldwell Blvd Nampa, ID  
208 466-7642

March 14, 2003

May 9, 2003

July 11, 2003

~ 10:30 am ~

Marilynn's Pickets & Patchwork  
118 Main Street Nyssa, OR  
541 372-5336

## Project Linus Trivia

Project Linus has delivered 600,000 blankets nationwide.

Project Linus delivers an average of 386 blankets per day, 365 days per year. That means that about 16 blankets are delivered every hour, every day, or about 1 every 4 minutes.

On average, Project Linus estimates a volunteer force of about 25,000 people in the United States.

## Wilder Students & Project Linus

The six students in the Adult Living Class at Wilder High School made 6 quilts for Project Linus last fall. They hated to give up their quilts they had made, so as soon as the Project Linus quilts were finished, they immediately started making a quilt for themselves. One of the students has since had major surgery. He will not be able to attend school for the rest of this school year, so we plan to give him a blanket!

## Thank You! Thank You!

To Doris and Gary Robinson for their support of our Project Linus Chapter. Doris is my co-coordinator, she lets us use their store for our Blanket Days and a drop-off point for donations. We store all our supplies and blankets in the back room of their Nampa store, and they both answer many phone calls about Project Linus. Doris and Gary - you are greatly appreciated!

To Marilynn's Pickets and Patchwork in Nyssa, Oregon, for their support. They also serve as a drop-off point for blankets and other donations. They hold a Blanket Day at their store every other month. Thank you, Marilynn and Pat!

*Volunteers  
Are Very  
Important People!*