

# Summer 2019 Newsletter

Hi Project Linus blanketeers and supporters. The summer is zooming along and I hope you're enjoying it. Here are a few PL updates for you:

\* **July meeting and bagging dates:** Our **July meeting will be next Tuesday July 23 7pm (EVENING meeting due to heat) at Mary Kelly's house (1366 Milton Way San Jose)**. We'd love to see you – come join us! We'll have 9-strip quilts kits, fleece kits, 'challenges', 'give-aways', yarn and more available. **Bagging day this month will be Thursday July 25**. Please drop off your completed blankets no later than July 24 to be included in this month's distribution. Thank you!!

\* **Reminder - PLEASE put your full name and contact info in EVERY BAG of blankets you drop off.**It helps us with our blanket donation tracking and following up with you if needed.

\* **URGENT: We still need bagging help this month-** A number of our regular bagging team members will be away this month, so **we need some additional volunteers to help on Thursday July 25**. They start at 9am (at Mary Kelly's house 1366 Milton Way San Jose) and it usually takes a couple hours. You get to see all the beautiful blankets that have been donated throughout the month – it's amazing. If you can help this month, **please contact Becky Guillett ASAP** (bagging leader for that date) ([becky@guillett.com](mailto:becky@guillett.com), 408-476-8317) for more details. No experience necessary – training provided. Thanks in advance for helping us out this month when we're in a bind.

\* **Blanket Stats:** With your help, our chapter continues to donate blankets to many local entities which support local children in crisis. Donations to date are nearly **92,000 blankets**. That's fantastic!

\* **Thank you's:** Thank you for the lovely blankets we received for our twins during their stay at the El Camino Mountain View NICU in January this year. It was really a lovely to have something handmade providing them cover from the bright lights. We have continued to use them at home. Many thanks, Michelle

\* **2019 Project Linus Mystery Quilt Challenge:** It's almost time to register for this year's mystery quilt challenge. If you're not familiar with the Mystery Quilt Challenge, it is a 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 videos as they complete a 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 Project Linus through an online voting process. 3 members of our chapter have won prizes in previous challenges. **Registration opens on August 19th** on our website ([www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org)) **The first clue will be revealed on Saturday, September 15th**. The quilt designs are always awesome and those who have participated in the past had a great time. Please share this info with your fellow quilters – all are welcome to participate.

\* Remember to **sign into Amazon through our website link** at [www.sjlinus.org](http://www.sjlinus.org) when ordering online. It's earns our chapter 4%-6% based on your purchases which we turn into supplies for our chapter's use. Share this simple request with everyone you know who shops at Amazon - it's easy and it pays!

\* **All blanketeers: PLEASE tie your paper blanket tags on with a KNOT in the string/yarn, not just a bow and let the string hang loosely** through the sewed on label. We continue to have tags fall off during bagging because the yarn/string comes untied. Thanks for your help.

\* **Tied Fleece blankets must have the selvage trimmed off:** We are receiving more and more tied fleece blankets this year that have not had the selvage trimmed off (the 2 edges that curl a bit, have lots of tiny pin holes and sometimes manufacturing info written on them). Those edges are rough, ugly and are not a part of a finished blanket. It takes time for someone else to 'finish' the blanket and trim those off if we receive them 'unfinished'. Please help us spread the word about this all important step (Step #1) in fleece blanket making. If you're not sure what selvage looks like, please contact me and I'll be happy to help you identify it or check out the fleece blanket instructions we provide on our web site [www.sjlinus.org](http://www.sjlinus.org) under Community Service where we have photos which shows selvage – that may help.) Thanks in advance for your help in eliminating this extra work for our blanket liaisons to the drop-off locations and other who help with the ongoing challenge.

\* Needed year-round: **Empty ink cartridges** (less than 10" in size) for recycling credit at Staples. We get our bagging/distribution bags, printing and ink, scissors, tapes, paper, bag stickers and much more for the chapter through this recycling program. (If you send them along with your blankets at the drop-off locations, please remember to double bag them in plastic so there's no leakage.)

\* Our current schedule has us **meeting on Tuesday August 20 at 1pm (daytime meeting)** at Mary's house and **bagging** will be there on **Saturday August 24**. Meeting details will be posted on our website [www.sjlinus.org](http://www.sjlinus.org) – please check before that date to confirm the final plan.

Happy blanketeering and thank you for supporting Project Linus and the children we serve together.

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Barbara Ross	Assistant Chapter Coordinator		(away until October)
Mary Kelly	Meeting and Bagging Host		(away until September)