

# Project Linus Tri Cities

*Blankets for comfort*

## Newsletter

March 2017

**What a winter we've had! Even with the snow & ice, blanketeers just kept on making blankets! Thanks to all!**

## MABD! March 18

**Make a Blanket Day** is practically here again! Join us at [Richland Public Library](#) on **MARCH 18, 10:00-4:00**. We have a new quilt pattern to share, speakers from the community, a demonstration or 2, and of course there will be door prizes. See the finished "Gracie's Get Well Garden" quilts and others completed by our volunteers. Check out some new patterns (bring your machine and work on a kit!), join our knitters & crocheters ... It's a great day to connect with old and new friends. (lunch is on your own)

## "Boy blankets" vs. "Girl blankets"

We seem to be chronically short of "Boy blankets". What makes a boy blanket? Boy blankets tend to be made of bright colors, or darker colors (for older boys especially). Sport-themed fabrics, sports teams (logos or colors), animals and superhero characters, camo or some military themes, "outdoors" themes are all good for boy quilts. We recognize the distinctions are subjective, but ask that you consider who will be choosing the blanket and what their interests might be, and edit your fabric/color choices accordingly. Frequently blankets are "gender-neutral", i.e., that work for both boys and girls—bold colors or prints, licensed character prints (Star Wars or superheroes, vs. Disney princesses), and many animal prints delight all kids. Also consider the age of the child: avoid using "baby" fabric on larger quilts, and conversely, avoid "older kid fabric" on baby-sized quilts.

## Blankets for TAPS/Good Grief Camps

Our chapter will once again be providing blankets to the TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors) Memorial Day Good Grief Camp. This is one of the two national efforts we provide blankets for in order to support our military families of fallen heroes. The other is Snowball Express (more info in this newsletter). TAPS is now expanding their efforts to provide support to children and families of military personnel and veterans who commit suicide. More info about TAPS is available at [www.TAPS.org](http://www.TAPS.org) including:

[TAPS Good Grief Camp](#) for children and teens provides a safe and supportive atmosphere to conduct activities and opportunities to learn coping skills, establish and identify support systems and create awareness that they are not alone in the grief of their loved one. Children and teens meet others of their own age group to share and learn, together.

TAPS blankets are due to drop off locations by April 22nd. Fleece blankets with crocheted edges or other finishes (please no double layered blankets), light weight quilts, and crocheted/knitted blankets all work fine. These children love the patriotic blankets (please no flags that might remind a child of the flag on a casket), camouflage blankets (including pink, gray and orange ones), blankets depicting branches of the military (Army and Marines are most popular) and other children's blankets. **We do not need baby/small blankets for this effort.** Blankets should be approximately 45 x 45 (1½ yards of fleece with the selvage edges cut off makes a nice size blanket) and larger up to full size adult blankets.

## Hot tip for Granny Square Blankets



Check out this [link](#) for a quick & clever way to join granny squares into a blanket (and many other tips for knitters *and* crocheters).

(do you have a favorite site or resource for blanket-making tips, tricks or patterns? Let us know!)

## Reminders: Other ways to support Project Linus

Don't forget that you can add our local Tri-Cities chapter of Project Linus to your Fred Meyer Rewards card—our quarterly check from this source has been increasing, and we greatly appreciate those who help us out this way. You can add the national Project Linus to your Amazon Smiles account. We also accept refills of the coin jars that were distributed a year or so ago 😊

## Useful information!

### Project Linus blanket size guide

Hospitals: NICU – 28.5" x 36"  
Infant/Crib: 30"- 36" x 36-50"  
Elementary: 42"- 45" x 48"-55"  
High school: 50" – 55" x 65" – 70"  
Twin & Double bed sizes

### Drop off locations

Discount Vac & Sew - Kennewick  
Janean's Bernina – Pasco  
Quiltmania – Richland  
Sheep's Clothing – Richland  
Walla Walla Sew'n Vac – Walla Walla

## Gracie's Get Well Garden: Project Linus Mystery Quilt



Project Linus (national) created the "Gracie's Get Well Garden" mystery quilt challenge, following the "Lucky Lukey" mystery quilt challenge of 2015. We had several blanketeers who worked on this; **Donna Smith** and **Marjie Worden** both finished their quilts before the deadline, and their quilts made the finals for national voting! While they did not win, Project Linus collected over \$25,000 with this fun fundraiser! Stay tuned for the 2017 challenge, which will be posted in the late summer.

*(Donna's quilt, photo by Kriss Weeks)*

## Upcoming events:

- Quilting at the Library: **Second Thursday of each month**, 10:00-4:00, Richland Public Library (955 Northgate Drive, Richland). Next meeting: **Thursday March 9**
- Battelle work parties: **First Saturday of each month**, 10:00-4:00, ETB (3200 Innovation Boulevard, Richland, PNNL campus). Next one is **Saturday April 1**.
- Project Linus will have a table at the **Tri-Cities Quilt Show**, at the Convention Center on **March 24-25** (Friday-Saturday). Stop by to see the quilt display!

## All this & more on our Website!

Just a reminder that we have a NEW website, <http://www.projectlinus-tc.org/> You can Google us if you don't bookmark it ☺ (the old one is GONE)

Find us on Facebook! You can also "[Like](#)" our Facebook page (you don't have to be "on Facebook" to see our page) and get reminders about upcoming events, resources, tips, etc.