

HANDMADE HUGS

HERALD

Volume II, Issue #2, July, 2005

Handmade Hugs is a totally volunteer organization dedicated to comforting kids with security blankets. This is a local chapter of
PROJECT LINUS

Coordinator's
Corner

SUZANN MCGINNIS

WOW!! We were fast approaching and perhaps now have even passed the 7,000 blanket mark as we prepare to celebrate our five-year anniversary. Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 6, as we have another very fun-filled day planned to celebrate YOU and Linus. Councilman Dennis Zine is providing a bus, I have alerted M&L Discount Fabrics in Anaheim, Hof's Hut has lunch set for 12:30pm and Timeless Quilts is planning a royal welcome. Let me know if you plan to ride the bus and/or attend this special event - - I need a head-count for bus and restaurant.

Since we have had to pre-empt several of our Pasadena days, Cindy Reimers and I have scheduled an additional Blanket Day at the church on Saturday, August 13. Please plan to attend and share tales of fabric buying and stories of our Annual invasion of M&L.

I think from the email response, our 2-color blanket challenge is going to be HUGE!!

I'm going to let you in on a SECRET for those of you who actually like to get started early. Our next challenge . . . following the 2-color . . . will be to make a Halloween or your favorite holiday - - any holiday - - blanket to turn in on October 8.

We have contributed more than 400 snowball blocks to the Guilds for the Project Linus Sew-a-Thon to take place at the Quilt show. It's not too late to add yours to the stack. Lois Brestoff is taking sign-ups for sewing

stations for blocks of time so that they are well prepared for whoever wants to sew during the 24 hour event.

A few weeks ago, in response to a blanket thank-you I shared online, Lois wrote back commenting on her love of the Linus effort and how she thinks of every blanket as "a message in a bottle" carrying your love to the child who receives it.

Thank you for letting me carry your message.

Always, Suzann



**CELEBRATE
HANDMADE HUGS
August 6 on a chartered bus
To M&L Fabrics in Anaheim
With luncheon at Hof's Hut.**

Bus leaves from Orthopedic Center, Lindley and Sherman Way, Call Suzann to reserve your spot on the bus and at lunch. 818 994 9675, or email suzquilt@aol.com. **WE ARE FIVE YEARS OLD!!!**

TWO COLORS

And for this exercise, black and white are colors not values.

Choose your favorites, fashion them into a pleasing quilt for a child and bring that quilt to our August meeting.

Because we'll be making our Annual Trip to M&L On August 6, Suz and Cindy Reimers have arranged to have a Blanket Day at the New Apostolic Church in Pasadena on

AUGUST 13

Bring your 2-color challenge quilts that day.

Continued next column



**SUE
CAMPBELL**

In her own write.

Celebrating an October 17 occasion of her birth in Montello, Wisconsin (Wi - sconsin) is our quilter of the quarter, **SUE CAMPBELL**. Montello is about 55 miles northeast of Madison, the state capital.

"I have six older brothers, and then me, the baby girl, who obviously was spoiled all her life. Graduated from Montello High and along life's path took numerous college courses, mostly dealing with accounting and credit.

I have one fabulous son who added to the spoiling I always enjoyed from his uncles.

Moved to California in 1993 to work as a Credit Manager and continued to work in Credit and Collections until I retired.

Learned to sew on a Singer treadle machine when I was eight. My mother had me do things like making pot holders out of scraps with old toweling as the batting. I did hems on flour sack dish wipers. She taught me to embroider but couldn't teach me to knit or crochet because I'm left-handed. A classmate taught me to knit and I taught myself to crochet. My mother could only crochet from figuring out someone else's finished product but eventually I taught her to crochet from directions.

After four years of Home Ec in High School, was surprised to discover that my teacher was "of all things" one of my father's old girl friends who had never married. I don't know whether I got A's because of that fact or whether I was just a good student. I do remember that our Senior project for our final grade was a LINED business suit. Mine was green gabardine and I wore it for my first job interview (I got the job).

I have made garments for several close friends, but didn't enjoy it as much as sewing my own clothes, so I didn't do a lot of it.

My favorite type of quilt to make is machine appliqué. What fun to create creatures and/or Sunbonnet Sues using all the small pieces in my stash - - 99% trunk fabric. I'm proud to produce small quilts for Project Linus without a trip to the fabric store. I treat selection like a mystery, finding the right colors and fabric right

from my own fabric store (stash).

When I'm not sewing (when is that?) I read, read, read and once in awhile I vacuum. I'm trying to read all the suspense and murder mysteries in the library that are written by women. I like their take on life and can identify with it.

I'm also a Sweet Adeline (women's barbershop harmony organization) and absolutely love learning new music and performing with my chorus.

The best thing I ever made for myself was an outfit for my son's wedding. He told me exactly what he wanted and I produced it, color, style and fabric just as requested. I was working full-time then and had a 5-week deadline. Finding the fabric in a small town in Wisconsin was the challenge. The sewing was a snap.

The best quilt I ever made is the last one I made, and hopefully the next one I make."

Suz gets mail !



► From a Project Linus coordinator in Sacramento, CA. "I my paper today, there were some numbers and "fun facts" listed and I thought you all would like to know two of them: 53,000,000 is the number of American women who know how to knit or crochet, a 51% increase from 10 years ago. And 255 is the number of stitches knitted in 3 minutes by a Scottish woman to set the world knitting speed record."

► From a Fox Valley, WI coordinator: "Last week I picked up 40 blankets made by a group of middle school students in our area. They were encouraged to write notes and attach them to their blankets. The teacher didn't have time to read the notes, so as I sewed on labels, I read the notes. A lot of them wrote comforting messages, "Roses are red, violets are blue, we made this quilt especially for you." It was a good thing I decided to read the notes because one of them written by three boys who had worked together on a quilt read "We made this quilt for you, Please appreciate it. It took us hours." That note was removed!

► From Lisa (a Tarzana mother) "I just wanted to say that my son is hospitalized in the Pediatric ICU. He was given a quilt from your organization and I just wanted to say Thank You Very Much. It is so wonderful to know that you are taking time to do wonderful and beautiful things for sick kids. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart."

ORPHANAGE NOW OPEN !!

Nan Maples would like any of the "orphan blocks" you have stashed away. Maybe you made some in a class or started a project that never quite came together or tried a few fabrics to see how they looked . . . Maybe you have one . . . Maybe you have 20 . . . If you can part with them.

Go through that cupboard and pull out those blocks and send them to Linus for Nan to put into a quilt. This is an ongoing collection so you can bring them to a blanket day or mail them to Suzann and she'll get them to Nan.

...a *Project Linus* blanket is like a big hug when you most need one.



Your editor asked Handmade Hugs women to list what they liked most about quilting. Here are some of the answers:

- ◆ Peggy Terzian: **1)** the same reason I like a new box of crayons: color, color color. **2)** No matter what, a quilt always fits. **3)** It's something I love to do with my mom **4)** Even with repetitions it's constantly new. **5)** You can go by as few or a many rules as you like **6)** Color, COLOR, **COLOR!!** (sorry, I like that part) **7)** I got to go on a cruise because of quilting **8)** You look at things differently (did you see the inlaid tiles in the bathroom?) **9)** How else can you please yourself and please others with your work? **10)** I've met some really wonderful people who love to share fabrics, tips, tools and friendship.

- ◆ Mary Jensen **1)** My hobby stash gives my cat yet another location to curl up and feel loved. **2)** When I finally clean up my work area after finishing a quilt, my family raves at how tidy the house looks!! **3)** I can be a role model for multi-tasking (cooking while quilting, doing laundry while quilting, watching TV while quilting, conversing while quilting, etc)

- ⇒ **4)** It's a cheap form of entertainment, especially after a successful workshop featuring mega-donations of fabric **5)** Guarantees time to myself (who really wants to tag along to Joann's with me?) **6)** Seriously, I get so much enjoyment by creating something that will bring comfort to less fortunate children and their families, for I am truly blessed with a healthy and happy family of my own.

- ◆ Lisa Burroughs "You could say that quilting has taken over my life. I love the feeling I have when my hands are busy. I enjoy the peace and relaxation while piecing, the satisfaction when the color and design come together and the joy of finishing the project. I especially enjoy the lifestyle of the quilting community, my friendly mini-group, the Guild and especially the Project Linus Group."

QUILTING IN THE VALLEY 2005
presents
"Wrapped in Love"
A Quilt Show
Featuring
PROJECT LINUS

Friday, Sept 9, 2005 12pm—9pm
Saturday, September 10, 2005 9am—4pm.

At the Airtel Plaza Hotel
7277 Valjean Avenue
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Friday Night Event
Make a Quilt for Project Linus

Www.sfvqa.org/quilt show
Barbara Thornton 818 576 0023



HANDMADE HUGS HERALD is published 3 times yearly by the Volunteer Chapter of Project Linus. S McGinnis, Chapter Coordinator, 818 994 9675 D Calvin, Editor, 818 886 0184

Items of interest to Handmade Hugs members are welcome.

For additional information, please contact Suzann McGinnis at 818 994 9675, or email SuzQuilt@aol.com or to reach the national organization, Project Linus emailwww.projectlinus.org. For local schedules and meeting places go to www.handmadehugs.org. Our chapter of Project Linus has blanket making events every month— why not plan to join us? Check the Handmade Hugs website for the 2004 calendar of events and locations.

FONS & PORTER'S "LOVE OF QUILTING" magazine donates half of a year's subscription price to PROJECT LINUS. The cost is \$20 and this magazine is fast becoming one of the most inspirational and up-to-date quilting magazines on the newsstands today. Give or send your check for a new subscription or renewal to Suzann



This cute chick is not just using her broom to avoid Freeway traffic, she's using it to help clean up after a Blanket day in Pasadena. The kitchen, your work area, your dish or pan, your chair. . . The room needs to be spotless for church the next day. Let's not make Cindy do all the work or be a policeman.

Odds & Ends . . .

"Patches," a fabric store in Reseda recently had an "Out With the Old and In With the New" sale where they put all of their "more experienced" fabrics on sale for a substantial percentage off. Is your stash full of "more experienced" fabrics?

Don't forget that most of us are members of **S.A.B.L.E.** . . . And not the kind that goes with pearls. Stands for Stash Accumulated Beyond Life Expectancy.

One of the most wonderful internet sites is Marcia Hohn's "Quilter's Cache" Go to www.quilterscache.com. Then scrolling down at "Where do you want to go today? Click on "Quilting Links Galore." Click on "Charities" and scroll down to "Project Linus," where you'll find the site owners recommendations for blocks for quilts for Project Linus . . . And, of course, all these blocks are in the web-site and can be printed out.



REMEMBER WHEN . . . Suz told us she had a request from another Project Linus coordinator and asked us to send cards to the Coordinator's mother, a lady who was celebrating her 60th birthday? Suz heard back from the Coordinator who told that her mom had gotten **451** birthday cards from all over. Mom Sandy Hritz wrote "Thanks again for making my 60th birthday one that will never be forgotten."

MORE ABOUT THE SEPTEMBER 9/10 24-hour SEWATHON At "WRAPPED IN LOVE"

Fabric and supplies will be provided . . . Bring your own machine or use one already there. Bring your friends and your mini-group and earn a chance for some great prizes for every hour you spend sewing. Donate completed quilts at the show and earn even more chances. 2pm Friday, September 9 to 2pm Saturday, September 10. On Saturday at 4:15pm all the quilts made and collected at the show will be presented to our own **Suzann**, Project Linus Coordinator and **Carol Babbitt** and **Mary Balagna**, National President and Vice President of Project Linus.

Quilted with Love
Quilted with Love