



Azie's Blanket Coverage

September 2009 Edition

Covering Metro Phoenix, Arizona

Blanket Delivery Update

Thank you, volunteers! Your generous donations have made it possible for AZ Blankets 4 Kids to distribute **2,059** blankets to various agencies that assist seriously ill and traumatized children during the months of May thru August 2009.

Total deliveries from inception to date :

52,482!

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Contact us:

(480) 283-8746
info@azblankets4kids.com
www.azblankets4kids.com

Buy A Ticket to Win This Beautiful Quilt



Don't miss your chance to win this beautiful quilt. It will be on display and tickets will be available at our Fall Bee.

Join us on Saturday, October 17 at the Community Room of Chandler PD. We'll spend the day sewing, snacking and thinking about what we'll do with this quilt when we win.

The quilt was generously donated by 3 Dudes Quilting for AZ Blankets 4 Kids to use as a raffle quilt.

In March, 3 Dudes Quilting issued a challenge using fabric from Gypsy Rose by

Moda. Participants supplied 12.5" x 12.5" blocks for their entries. The finished blocks were displayed in the quilt shop and voted on by customers.

The favorite block was by Janet Perry who received a 3 Dudes Quilting gift card as a prize.

Quilt design and assembly was done by Jo Tobin (a founding member of AZ Blankets 4 Kids). It was machine quilted by Marty Norton and hand bound by Carol Denham.

Bring your sewing supplies and money for raffle tickets and we'll see you October 17th!



Above: Judy Babcock presenting her "Born to be Wild" quilt to F Troop.

Right: Detail photo of the quilt.



F Troop - Real Troopers for Kids

President Karen Johnston, Vice President Judy Babcock, and Bee Coordinator Gloria Wood attended F Troop's August meeting at the invitation of F Troop's President, Bob Howell.

The morning started with a good breakfast and a few announcements about upcoming events and another invitation to join the group at their November picn

ic / f u n d raiser. Karen had the opportunity to tell about AZ Blanket's 4 Kids purpose and share letters from families that received the comfort of the quilts. She expressed her gratitude for

the previous donations made by F Troop and let them know how the money was used. Karen also invited everyone to attend the bees and board meetings.



F Troop has been an active supporter of AZ Blankets 4 Kids through fund raisers and auctions. For the last several years they have auctioned off quilts during their November event and presented AZB4K with the proceeds. This year the twin sized quilt they will be auctioning is called Born to be Wild made by Judy Babcock. The focus squares are embroidered with motorcycles, chaps, a vest, helmets, and traffic signs.

June Bee at LPG

What better way to celebrate the first day of summer this year than at a bee hosted by Las Palmas Grand?

On a bright and sunny June 20th, 47 dedicated quilters brought their sewing machines and their will do attitudes to sew quilts, apply binding, cut kits, layer and spray quilts, iron and sew on labels.

The morning started with a smorgasbord of sweet snacks to help us make it through until lunch. Tim Most and his crew chopped and diced all morning to make us a "create your own" salad. For dessert, they had ice cream with all the toppings available.



We had a lovely surprise visit from Karen Anderson, one of the original board members (pictured above right with Phyllis Akins). Unfortunately her schedule outside of quilting is way too busy to be back on the board this year, but we will keep our fingers crossed that she will find the time in the future.



Far Left: Bonnie Becker busily quilting.

Left: Beautiful quilt made with care and kindly donated by Girl Scout Troop 2648.

Jenny Clemenshaw (below), a member of the LPG group, had the winning ticket for the door prize basket.

We ended the day full of good food, gossip and new friends. At the end of the day there were 462 preemies and quilts ready to be delivered on the way home. We also were able to prepare enough kits, binding, and layered quilts for our October bee.



Needleweilders and Their Chain Gang

There is a chain that connects the women Needleweilders at the Pyle Center in Tempe with the male inmates at the Lewis-Barchey Unit in Buckeye. The chain is crocheted in yarn.

On Thursday, Sept 24th, Lynn Conger, Correction Officer III, presented the Needleweilders with 18 afghans made by the inmates. Lynn has 12 volunteers that spend part of each day working on their project. They can't participate if they have any disciplinary reports during a 6 month period. One inmate learned to crochet from his mother, the rest are beginners and range in age from 18 to 70.

The collected afghans go to 15 different agencies such as AZ Blankets 4 Kids, Child Protective Services, Police Departments, Veterans and Senior Centers.

This is the second time Lynn has made a delivery. We love her blankets and we make sure she leaves with bags of yarn.

If you have any yarn or plastic crochet hooks to donate, please drop them off at the Pyle Center, Southern and McClintock or contact Bunnie Williams at 480-897-8440.



Fall Craft Boutique at Pyle Center

Once again, it's time for the Fall Craft Boutique at Pyle Adult Recreation Center in Tempe (corner of Southern and Rural behind the Tempe Library). This year the boutique is Friday, October 23 from 9 to 4 and Saturday, October 24 from 9 to 3.

All year, the Needleweilders are busily preparing items to sell at this annual event. Their proceeds help them purchase more supplies to continue

their kind community service and giving to agencies like AZB4K.

Please save the date and join us for two days of handcrafted gifts, raffle drawings, refreshments and entertainment, including dancers, jugglers, a balloon artist and more.

October 23 and 24
Pyle Adult Recreation Center
655 E. Southern Ave, Tempe



Desert Club Christmas Idea House



It may seem too early to think about Christmas, but it will be here before we know it. As you prepare for the season, please visit our Desert Club friends at their 52nd Annual Christmas Idea House.

Desert Club is a non-profit, all-volunteer women's organization whose members work throughout the year making and purchasing fabulous holiday decorations, home décor, unique gifts and gourmet goodies. These items are displayed in a beautiful home that has been generously "loaned" to Desert Club by a family in our community. The home is open for tour over a 3-day period of events, where each of the items can be purchased. All of the proceeds from the Christmas Idea

House are given back to the community in the form of educational scholarships and community grants. To date, Desert Club has raised more than \$2 million to benefit those in need.

This year the theme is "Enchanted Elves" and the house is 6,700 square feet that sits on 1.3 acres in Jakes Ranch, Gilbert (above). It's a must-see home and you can see it December 3rd, 4th & 5th. For more information, visit them online at...

www.christmasideahouse.org

Please support Desert Club in their efforts as they continue to support us through generous community grants for AZ Blankets 4 Kids.

Summer 2009 at Camp Emmanuel Pines - Friends, Fun & Food

There were happy campers all around at this year's quilting getaway August 14th-16th. We enjoyed the long weekend the long weekend of fun, food and cooler temperatures surrounded by friends and the beauty and smell of majestic pine trees. This was our 5th year at Camp Emmanuel Pines in Prescott.

The food is incredible! The cabin had sleeping quarters at each end of a brightly lit sewing room. We worked on anything we wanted or nothing at all. There were games, demonstrations and project show and tells. I'll stop typing and let the next 2 pages of photos speak for themselves.



Above: Dee Peck works in the bright light of the sewing room. Dee is Kittie's new business partner at Cutting Edge Quiltworks. Stop in and say hello on your next shopping trip. Above Left: Elliot McMahon shows her adorable aprons made in a variety of colors and sizes throughout the weekend.



Above: Cheryl Givens demos a steering wheel cover to keep hot wheels cool, but no amount of begging would get her to sport it as a hat. She also made gifts for all campers of cooler collars like the one she's wearing in the photo. She's a cool lady even if she won't start a new hat fad.

Above: A smiley Colleen Taft working diligently in front of her Singer.

Right: Pat Dillard displays her newly finished quilt top of called Fall Leaves by Thimbleberries.



Summer 2009 at Camp Emmanuel Pines - Friends, Fun & Food



Left: Mother/Daughter sewers Patsy Hawkin (left) and Toni Stevens. These ladies spent a busy weekend working on a variety of projects. One that captured our attention was an adorable collection of onsies they had dyed and decorated with appliqué pieces. Toni was also working on a gorgeous quilt for her daughter made of batiks in a striking circle pattern.

Below left: Joan Stafford shows us her completed top for the Designer Mystery Block of the Month.

Below: Sue Fleming poses with one of her totes. This one was coveted by many as it was not only pretty but sturdy and big enough to hold several quilting projects in progress. Sue also spent some of her weekend working on a lovely batik quilt.



Below left: Susan Quisenberry shows us a completed overall bib. She made several during the weekend. Baby items abounded at camp this summer. Susan's daughter, Courtney (and former camper) is expecting a little one soon. We all enjoyed looking at Courtney's wedding album as well.

Below: Marilyn Clever shows us how to crochet dish scrubbies. Marilyn is a member of Needlewielders and worked on several projects over the weekend that you can see at the Pyle Center Fall Craft Boutique. You can find more information about the boutique on page 3 of this newsletter. Be sure to stop by and get yourself a scrubbie.



Quilting on the Rim with Las Palmas Grand



Quilting on the Rim is an Arizona retreat. This little slice of heaven is available for small groups to schedule quilting getaways.

Read Karen's Komments on the next page for more details about this cool quilter's retreat near Show Low.

Group photos were taken on the front porch and on the inside stairs. Below left, peeking over her quilt top, is Joan Most.



The recipes below were favorites from the retreat and are kindly provided by Barbara Helniak, owner of Quilting on the Rim.

Happy Quilting and Happy Cooking!

Layered Enchilada Bake

- 1 lb lean ground beef
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 cups Chunky Salsa
- 1 can (15 oz) black beans, drained, rinsed
- ¼ C Kraft Zesty Italian Dressing
- 2 Tbsp Taco Seasoning Mix
- 6 Flour tortillas (8 inch)
- 1 Cup Sour Cream
- 1 pkg (8 oz) Mexican Style Finely Shredded Four Cheese

Heat oven to 400 F

Brown meat with onions in large skillet on medium-high heat: drain. Stir in salsa, beans, dressing and seasoning mix. Arrange 3 tortillas on bottom of 13x9 inch baking dish; cover with layers of half each meat mixture, sour cream and cheese. Repeat layers. Cover with foil. Bake 40 min or until casserole is heated through and cheese is melted, removing foil after 30 min. Let stand 5 min before cutting to serve.

Top with chopped tomatoes and shredded lettuce.

Make Ahead French Toast

- 10 slices white bread, cubed and crust removed
- 2 – 8 oz packages cream cheese, cubed
- 12 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups milk
- 1/3 cup maple syrup

The night before...

Mix together cubed bread & cream cheese in a 9 x 13 baking dish. In a bowl, mix together eggs, milk and maple syrup. Pour over bread and cream cheese. Cover and place in the fridge overnight. I add blueberries, raspberries or even the frozen mixed berries with the cream cheese.

In the morning...

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Bake for about an hour until done. Serve with maple syrup or powdered sugar.



Karen's Komments

Fall is in the air, and so many of our sewers are returning to the valley. Welcome to all of you. We're looking forward to a fun-filled productive fall and winter, with all the Bees we have scheduled.

I want to tell you about a wonderful retreat some of the gals from the Las Palmas Grand AZ Blankets 4 Kids Group went on this summer. Ten of us went to a beautiful home just west of Show Low for a four day weekend. We spent our time visiting, sewing (mostly for AZB4K) eating fabulous meals and enjoying the weather and scenery.

This dream spot is called "Quilting on the Rim" and is operated by Barbara Heleniak. It's a private business run out of her home. She has a large sewing room where all ten of us had our own private table for sewing with very comfortable adjustable chairs. She has cutting tables, irons and a design wall. Upstairs there are three large bedrooms, 4 twin beds in two of the rooms and 2 twin beds in the other one.

Over the four days she served us eight meals: dinner on Thursday; 3 meals on Friday and Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Her recipes were original and wonderful. Reminded me of a Bed and Breakfast type cuisine. We loved every meal.

If you just wanted to sit and relax she has a beautiful deck off both the front and the back of the house (right photo). The air was crisp and the scenery awesome. The price for those marvelous accommodations is just \$170 if you book before Dec. 31, 2009 and \$190 after that (still a great value!)

Get your group together and enjoy this great retreat while sewing for our kids.

Barbara has added AZB4K to her website asking for fabric donations and letting more sewers know about our worthy cause.

Check out Barbara's website for more information at

www.QuiltingontheRim.com

or call her at 928-537-3668. Our group is in some of the photos on the website and there's also a picture of the house.



“ When you are a volunteer, you are not paid in money or recognition, you are paid in love. ”



June 20, 2009
Las Palmas Grand
 Mesa

462 - Total blankets from this event

June 27, 2009
Prickly Piecers Quilt Guild Bee
 Ahwatukee

21 - Total blankets from this event

Blanket Drop-off Locations:

35th Ave. Sew & Vac

4939 W. Ray Rd., #27
Chandler (480) 961-7363

3 Dudes Quilting

5053 E. Elliot Rd.
Phoenix (480) 598-8601

A Quilter's Oasis

9963 E. Baseline Rd., #105
Mesa (480) 354-4077

Bernina SW Sewing Center

7415 E. Southern Ave., #108
Mesa (480) 964-8914

Cutting Edge Quiltworks

1949 W. Ray Rd., #33
Chandler (480) 857-3443

Quilter's Bee

7549 W. Cactus Rd.
Peoria (623) 334-9359

Quilter's Ranch

1721 E. Warner Rd.
Tempe (480) 838-8350

QuiltZ

13825 N. 32nd St.
Phoenix (602) 482-4141

Sun Valley Quilts

9857 W. Bell Rd.
Sun City (623) 972-2091

Zoe's Trunk

2986 N. Alma School Rd., #4
Chandler (480) 857-4833

Help us thank these shops for their support by giving them your patronage. Let's go shopping!

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 17 from 9 to 3

Fall Bee at Chandler PD
250 E. Chicago St., Chandler

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010 from 9 to 3

Holiday Village Bee
701 S. Dobson Rd., Mesa

Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010 from 9 to 3

La Hacienda RV Resort
1797 W. 28th Ave., Apache Junction

3rd Thursday of Month from 9 to 3

Las Palmas Grand - Ballroom
2550 S. Ellsworth Road, Mesa

1st Thursday of Month from 10 to 4

Peace by Piece
35th Ave. Sew & Vac
4939 W. Ray Rd. Chandler

3rd Thursday of Month from 10 to 4

Peace by Piece
Cutting Edge Quiltworks
1949 W. Ray Road, Chandler

AZ Blankets 4 Kids, Inc.

P. O. Box 11206

Tempe, AZ 85284-0021