



Azie's Blanket Coverage

Summer 2004 Edition

Phoenix, AZ

Blanket Delivery

Update

Thank you, volunteers! Your generous donations have made it possible for AZ Blankets 4 Kids to distribute **4,387** blankets to various agencies that assist seriously ill and traumatized children during the months of October, 2003 through June, 2004!

Total deliveries from inception to date :

17,006!

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Spring Blanket Bee at Chandler Police Department

The 2004 AZ Blankets 4 Kids Spring Bee was held on Saturday, February 21, at the Chandler Police Department Community Room. Just as soon as the doors opened, volunteers began arriving with sewing machines in hand! There were over 50 in attendance, with at least 14 sewing machines buzzing away. Each group kept busy cutting, layering, sewing, tying or counting blankets. Blanket distribution reported 201 blankets and an additional 49 preemie blankets counted by the end of the day. Many blankets were brought already complete, by wonderful groups and individuals who so graciously give of their time and talents.

The Sunbird Sunny Quilters were represented by a number of their members. It was a bitter-sweet gathering for them, as one of their long-time members, Joan Hartzell, is moving up to snow country. She will be missed, but we know Joan will log on to AZB4K's website to keep up to date on happenings.

Thanks to Food City, for their donation of snacks and soft drinks and once again to the

Chandler Police Department for the use of their Community Room. And of course, a big thank you to each of you, some new friends and many returning volunteers, who helped make this year's Spring Bee a success!

**2004 Autumn Blanket Bee
October 16, 2004, 9a.m.—3p.m
Chandler Police Dept. Community Room**



Sunbird Sunny Quilters brought over fifty blankets to the Spring Bee.

EMMANUEL PINES CAMP

PRESCOTT, AZ

Hurry, there's still time! We are looking forward to our **Quilters' Gathering** the weekend of **August 20-22, 2004** at Camp Emmanuel Pines, Prescott, AZ. The camp fee of \$100 includes two nights lodging, five awesome meals and lots of fun! Work on your own project, bring your sewing machine, or not . . . Quilting, sewing, embroidery, redwork, knitting, crochet, it's your choice. AZB4K quilt kits will be provided as well. We'll share some quilting & sewing tips and tricks, along with some great activities, treats & door prizes. Hope to see you there! For registration and details about our Camp Information Night, 6/24 at 6:00 p.m., please call Elliot at (480) 452-3959 or send email to elliottmcmahon@msn.com. Good times!



Join Us! Preemie Bee At Quilter's Koop

Join us for a Preemie Bee on July 17, 2004, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our thanks to Quilter's Koop for hosting this bee at their shop, 5053 E. Elliot Rd., Phoenix, 85044. Please be sure to bring your sewing machine in addition to your basic sewing kit. The pre-cut preemie quilt kits that will be provided require minimal hand sewing. **AZ Blankets 4 Kids supplies over 175 preemie blankets to area hospitals each month. Please let us know if you or your sewing group might wish to participate in this effort on a regular basis.** It would be a great help to us to have an ongoing, scheduled supply of preemie blanket donations to assist us in providing for this need. Call the Blanket Line at (480)283-8746 for more information.

Sun Valley Park Hosts Quilt Show and Quilt Presentation

The 4th annual Quilt Show, hosted by the Piecemakers Quilt Guild of the Sun Valley Park in Apache Junction, AZ, was held on Sunday, March 7, 2004. Both experienced and novice quilters proudly displayed their creations made during the past year. One interesting category was the Mystery Quilt display. Using the same pattern, members created a quilt, each being very different from any other. One resident displayed a quilt made by members of his family over 140 years ago. The quilt was made in Titusville, PA, with names and dates of the block makers embroidered on the quilt's top. But the highlight of the day was the presentation of over 100 quilts made by the Piecemakers Quilt Guild to AZ Blankets 4 Kids. A big thank you to all of the members—lots of children will be wrapped in your love and thoughtfulness!

*Contact us: Visit our website at
www.azblankets4kids.com
or call the Blanket Line at (480) 283-8743*

Blanket Guidelines

We have developed the following blanket guidelines based on feedback from our recipient agencies.

Materials

100% cotton fabrics in child friendly patterns and colors. For knitted or crocheted blankets, please use washable, acrylic yarns. We have had an increasing number of requests for flannel receiving blankets and fleece blankets.

Construction

All blankets should be machine or hand quilted, or tied every four to six inches with a square knot (except Premies). These blankets are well-used and need to be durable and washable. If tied, agencies request that we use pearl cotton or embroidery thread as opposed to yarn.
**Visit our website at
www.azblankets4kids.com for pattern ideas
or use your own.**

If you are using a kit provided by AZ Blankets 4 Kids, please follow the directions provided to en-

Sunrise Village Holds Benefit Auction

On Sunday afternoon, February 29, the quilters at Sunrise Village held a "White Elephant" auction to support their work for AZ Blankets 4 Kids. The admission was a white elephant item, valued at \$5 or more. Among the variety of items donated were quilts, golf clubs, lamps, a ceramic frog collection, a Bernina sewing chair, and much more! Most of those attending were residents of Sunrise Village. The room was filled to capacity and everyone had a great time. The auctioneer kept the live auction going at a lively pace, finishing at just about 4:00 p.m. The event was a great success, and the group raised enough money to provide for their own blanket making supplies and a generous cash donation to AZ Blankets 4 Kids as well. Our thanks to everyone at Sunrise Village and especially to the wonderful quilting group that coordinated this event and who continue to provide AZB4K with blankets for children!



Knitted or crocheted blankets should be closely knit to protect tiny fingers and toes and **no smaller than 36" X 36" in size (not suitable for premies).**

Sizes

Premies 16" x 16" to 18"x 18" Blankets must have flannel backing, no batting and minimal quilting. Either stitch from corner to corner in an X or stitch 2" from edges on all four sides. Do not tie. Infant-themed colors and prints are preferred.

Infant 36" x 36" or larger

Toddler 36" x 44" (one yard of fabric)

Child 36" x 44" or larger

Teens 40" x 60" or larger

We often receive requests for more blankets suitable for boys or in gender neutral colors and patterns, especially in the Teen size. Thank you for keeping our teenaged recipients in mind

Night Owl Quilt Guild

Tuesday evening, June 8, 2004, the Night Owl Quilt Guild presented AZ Blankets 4 Kids with 67 beautiful quilts completed by their members over the past few months. Vicky Varga and Carole Willsey attended the meeting on behalf of AZB4K and were greeted with cheer and warmth by the members. Mary Carole Allen, the Charity Quilt Chairperson, introduced Vicky and Carole and presented the blankets. The Night Owl Quilt Guild has members from all over the northwest valley. They meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The fourth Tuesday is a work night with lots of fun, socializing and exchanging ideas. Many thanks to this organization and their generous members.

Blanket Bee at Palmas del Sol East

Thanks, once again, to our volunteers at Palmas del Sol East, Apache Junction, for hosting another wonderful bee on January 17, 2004, and to Elaine Haire, Volunteer Coordinator for the Williams Community School, who joined us to share information about the school and the families they serve. With the help of 25+ volunteers in attendance, pictured above, 120 quilts and receiving blankets were ready for delivery by the end of the day. A special thank you to Liz Gossett and Jeanine Denton for coordinating this event and for their generous support!



Notes from the Board

The Board of Directors of AZ Blankets 4 Kids applauds our volunteers for their commitment and labors of love in providing for deliveries of 4,347 blankets this year to date (October through June). We are growing! Last year at this time, we had delivered 2,832 blankets through our recipient agencies in the same period of time.

At this time of year, we meet to nominate officers and appoint committee members for the year ahead. ***We would like to invite our volunteers to consider joining our Board of Directors as an officer or committee member.*** It's a great opportunity to get more involved in our organization and to be a part of planning for our future. Call the Blanket Line at (480) 283-8746 for more information.

Las Palmas Grand Hosts Bee

On April 17, 2004, the quilters at Las Palmas Grand, Mesa, hosted a AZ Blankets 4 Kids blanket bee at their clubhouse. Volunteers enjoyed their warm welcome, beautiful spacious facility, and a fun, productive day. Our distribution committee reported that a total of 130 blankets were either donated or completed at the bee. As a special treat, a lovely soup and salad bar lunch was served, followed by ice cream sundaes! Looking for a sewing group?

The quilters at Las Palmas Grand meet on the third Thursday each month, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A big thank you to Las Palmas Grand's quilters and all who attended!

New ! East Valley Sewing Group Peace by Piece

A new sewing group is meeting in the East Valley. Organized by Wanda Dix, Peace by Piece Quilters meet on the fourth Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Craftmart, 1980 N. Alma School, Chandler (SW corner of Alma School & Warner). The group meets to sew for AZ Blankets 4 Kids and quilt kits are provided. Peace by Piece Quilters invites you to join them at their next monthly blanket bee, the fourth Thursday in August (after a vacation break in July). For more information or to receive their email newsletter, please contact Wanda Dix at (480) 755-0757 or email at wdix@getnet.net.

Keeping in Touch

Thank you to all of you who have supported AZ Blankets 4 Kids with your generous donations of finished quilts, fabric, batting and other supplies and to the quilt shops who participate as drop off points for us. We would welcome the opportunity to acknowledge your donations and keep in touch with you through our newsletters and email updates. When you drop off your donations, please include your name, address, telephone, email address, and quilting group if applicable. Please note that we do not share this information with anyone outside of AZ Blankets 4 Kids. Also let us know if you need a receipt for tax purposes and whether or not you wish to be included on our mailing list.

AZIE thanks our local shops!

Next time you are out shopping for blanket making and quilting supplies, please thank these shops for providing drop off points for AZ Blankets 4 Kids. We appreciate their support!

Bernina Southwest
7143 E. Southern Ave.
Mesa (480) 964-8914

Cottonfields Quilt & Knit
12409 W. Indian School Rd
Avondale (623) 535-0767

Cutting Edge Quiltworks
1949 W. Ray Road #38
Chandler (480) 857-3443

Quilter's Delight
8230 E. Raintree Dr. #106
Scottsdale (480) 368-9598

Quilter's Ranch
1030 E. Baseline Rd. #178,
Tempe (480) 838-8350

Jo-Ann Fabrics and Crafts
12228 N. Cave Creek Rd.
Phoenix

Sun Valley Quilts
9857 W. Bell Road
Sun City (623) 972-2091

Zoe's Trunk
2986 N. Alma School Rd
Mesa (480) 857-4833

**Quilter's Companion
Longarm**
14196 W. Indianola Ave.
Goodyear (623) 536-5882

Quilter's Koop
5053 E. Elliot Road
Phoenix (480) 785-0710

Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 17

Preemie Bee 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
Quilter's Koop, 5053 E. Elliot Rd.
West of I-10 in Ahwatukee

Saturday, October 16

Autumn Blanket Bee
Chandler Police Department
250 E. Chicago, Chandler
9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Saturday, November 6

Blanket Bee at Mountain View Stake
3345 E. McKellips, Mesa
9 a.m.—2 p.m.

First Wednesday of the month

Sunrise Village Clubhouse
5402 E. McKellips (NE corner at
Higley) 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Third Thursday each month

Las Palmas Grand
2250 S. Ellsworth Rd. (1 mi. south
of Baseline) 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Fourth Thursday each month

New! Peace by Piece Quilters
Craftmart at Warner & Alma School,
Chandler, 10 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.
Wanda Dix (480)755-0757

AZ Blankets 4 Kids, Inc.
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED