



RARE Science RARE Bear Army Newsletter

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As we approach the Holiday season with Thanksgiving at our door - I want to thank all of you for making the RARE Bear Program a reality! It is amazing the groundswell of support to help kids with disease and to unite families through the RARE Bear Program. Together and united, we can make a life changing impact on children's lives and you are at the heart of it.

The creativity we are seeing is fabulous. **Linda Wilson** made a blanket to match her bear! A special thank you to **Teresa Renger** and **Linda James** for their generous donations of fabric! Our volunteer cutters in San Diego are already working their way through it.



Every day I come home, open my mail box and I hear from all of you - with bears coming from all over the world to help our kids. I am so warmed with gratitude by the amazing people that support this program. Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving to you, your family and friends. Together, united we can change



A special shout out to **Roberta Wackler** for the *first* completed bear we received in the mail! **Judi Leventhal**, **Maxine Coburn** and sisters, **Rhonda Deming**, **Haazra Mays**, **RoseMary Leddy**, **Yuko Corn**, **Paula DiMattei**, **MJ Olinger** and **Shirley Sherro** - we thank you for your ongoing support in making multiple bears (sometimes dozens!).

Simplicity has re-introduced the RARE Bear pattern #5461 and it will soon be available to purchase online at <http://www.simplicity.com/p-12667-rare-bear-sewing-pattern.aspx> for \$5.96. A portion of the proceeds go to support RARE's programs. We are so thankful and grateful for each and every one of our supporters.



Join the Rare Bear Army!

- Support life-changing research,
- Make a special friend,
- Bring a Smile to a Rare Child.



A RARE Spotlight on the North County Quilters' Association of Escondido Celebrating their 30th Anniversary!

This month we are highlighting The North County Quilters' Association (NCQA), a group of quilters whose ages span teens to 80 plus. NCQA was the first quilting group to join the RARE Bear Army when the program began earlier this year. Their experience and skills range from beginner to expert. They welcome everyone into their guild - whether one machine quilts, hand quilts or doesn't quilt at all.

The main purpose of the NCQA guild, besides providing fellowship with other quilters, is to raise money for local charities. This year NCQA will be sponsoring Interfaith, the Wounded Warriors Program through Camp Pendleton Marine Base (just north of San Diego in Oceanside California), the Humane Society and Palomar Forensic Unit. Every year each member commits to making at least one crib size quilt from materials supplied by the guild in a kit form. The finished quilts, called Good Cheer Quilts, are then donated to the Interfaith, the Neo-Natal unit of Palomar Hospital, Operation Homefront and others.

Carrie Harrison, President, reports that Guild members even charter busses to attend some of the big quilt shows as a group - The upcoming "Road to California" show in Ontario, CA is a favorite. RARE Science is delighted to have the NCQA as part of the RARE Bear Army!

If you are a member of a guild, we would like to know. Please send your guild name to dleewalker13@gmail.com

Have a unique story of your guild and its community service to share? Send it to dleewalker13@gmail.com and perhaps you will see it highlighted in a future issue.

Quilt Show Update

RARE Science attended The International Quilt Show in Houston last month and were very excited to join Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims, hosts of The Quilt Show, as RARE Bears were presented to a group of Houston area RARE kids. Look at those faces! The RARE bears were a huge hit!



We are also working with The American Quilter's Society on upcoming quilt shows planned for 2016. Please check the list below and let us know if you plan on attending any scheduled show. We would love to meet you and perhaps have you join us in introducing RARE to the attendees:

Feb. 11 - 14: Phoenix, AZ
Feb. 24 - 27: Daytona Beach, FL
Mar. 16 - 19: Lancaster, PA
April 20 - 23: Paducah, KY
July 27 - 30: Syracuse, NY
Aug. 10 - 13: Grand Rapids, MI
Sept. 14 - 17: Chattanooga, TN
Oct. 5 - 8: Des Moines, IA

Many of you have asked about using various types of fabric. Medical advisors have cautioned us not to use any fabric that is linty, such as fleece or minky, due to the potential risks to the kids. It's very important the bears are made from good quality cotton.

Support us when you shop this holiday season - Amazon donates when you shop at Smile.Amazon.com. The holidays are quickly approaching and online is easiest way to shop. When you shop through at Amazon.com through our link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-1744221> a portion of your holiday spending will go to RARE Science and will help fund more immediate therapeutic solutions for children with rare diseases.