

PS4FS Monthly Newsletter - November 2012:

Dear PS4FS friends,

It never ceases to amaze me when we connect thank you stories in our newsletters with what we've heard in national news. This newsletter is another example of that: Afghan soldiers turning on our troops, do you remember hearing about the gunman at Kabul Airport a few years ago? This past month, world news announced the 2,000 barrier was broken for lives lost in Iraq and Afghanistan. When can we end this and bring our brave young men and women home? We see the faces and know the reality of this in our ministry. Once again I thank you for staying the course – we have been together for five years. I seriously thought it would be a few years, never believed five and still going. But as you will see in the thank you notes, our grieving families are very grateful for our work – so THANK YOU all for being here and getting our job done! Kudos to you all! Many kudos!

A reminder to let me know each time you send prayer shawls to Dover, and also, whenever you deliver directly to a family. We need to keep accurate statistics; you are the barometer for that accurate measure!

Note: Please notify me if your email address changes or if you prefer to be removed from this list.

<http://webpages.charter.net/ps4fs/Shawls/>

Fondly, Cozette

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I.) CURRENT STATISTICS:

# Prayer Shawls made since October 2007:	6,381	<i>Includes Dover prayer shawls (yellow numbers below)</i>
# sent to Dover since inception of program (Sept. 2009):	3,219	
# sent to Dover this past month:	39	<i>This number is included in above totals</i>
# Prayer Shawl Groups/Individuals:	278	

*A Warm Welcome to New Groups/Individuals who Joined PS4FS in September 2012

Contact Name	Town	State	Date Joined	Group Name
Gerry Canar	Rochester	MI	10/1/12	

ARMY'S CASUALTY LIST:

There are a number of you who prefer direct contact with our families, so this list will once again be displayed in our newsletters. **Please remember to keep me up-to-date of how many prayer shawls you send to these families so that we may keep accurate statistics.** If you take a name/town, I will **not** mark a prayer shawl sent unless you follow-up and tell me you have done so.

The list of towns below includes "Next-of-Kin" of Army casualties who we have **not** delivered prayer shawls through our direct contact/mail program. It is likely a few members of these families have visited Dover Air Base and chosen a prayer shawl before witnessing the Dignified Transfer Ceremony. Often they return home wishing they had taken more, wanting to comfort a grief-stricken sister, grandparent, special aunt, uncle, or for the soldier's children. If you would like to contact these families to offer a prayer shawl, send me a list of the towns. (Note: Repeat towns have been eliminated - multiple next-of-kin may be associated with a town.)

Anchorage	AK	Boaz	AL	Phoenix City	AL	Kingman	AZ
Beebe	AK	Cullman	AL	Russellville	AL	Laveen	AZ
Fayetteville	AK	Enterprise	AL	Trussville	AL	Litchfield Park	AZ
Hamburg	AK	Grady	AL	Cullman	AL	Phoenix	AZ
Little Rock	AK	Homewood	AL	Jacksonville	AL	Sierra Vista	AZ
Monticello	AK	Hoover	AL	Oneonta	AL	Surprise	AZ
North Pole	AK	Huntsville	AL	Pine Bluff	AR	Tucson	AZ
Van Buren	AK	Millbrook	AL	Star City	AR	American Canyon	CA
Warren	AK	Montgomery	AL	Pago Pago	AS	Arcadia	CA
Birmingham	AL	Oneonta	AL	Chandler	AZ	California City	CA
Blountsville	AL	Peterman	AL	Glendale	AZ	Capistrano Beach	CA

Cathedral City	CA	Niantic	CT	Peachtree City	GA	Overland Park	KS
Crescent City	CA	Suffield	CT	Richmond Hill	GA	Shawnee	KS
Cupertino	CA	Uncasville	CT	Riverdale	GA	Wichita	KS
Dana Point	CA	Waterford	CT	Saint Marys	GA	Alexandria	LA
Empire	CA	Willimantic	CT	Suwanee	GA	Arabi	LA
Garden Grove	CA	Winsted	CT	Tybee Island	GA	Covington	LA
Glendale	CA	Washington	DC	Valdosta	GA	Gueydan	LA
Hayward	CA	Hockessin	DE	Winder	GA	Haughton	LA
Hemet	CA	Auburndale	FL	Ewa Beach	HI	Jonesboro	LA
Hesperia	CA	Bradenton	FL	Honolulu	HI	Lake Charles	LA
Huntington Beach	CA	Brooksville	FL	Mililani	HI	Pearl River	LA
Indio	CA	Chuluota	FL	Wahiawa	HI	Port Barre	LA
Julian	CA	Clearwater	FL	Waianae	HI	West Monroe	LA
Kelseyville	CA	Debary	FL	Bettendorf	IA	Assonet	MA
La Grange	CA	Deland	FL	Blue Grass	IA	New Bedford	MA
Lake Elsinore	CA	Grand Ridge	FL	Cascade	IA	North Adams	MA
Lancaster	CA	Homestead	FL	Davenport	IA	Springfield	MA
Lawndale	CA	Immokalle	FL	Eldridge	IA	Tewksbury	MA
Los Angeles	CA	Jacksonville	FL	Glenwood	IA	Arlington	MA
Lucerne	CA	Kissimmee	FL	Grimes	IA	Attleboro	MA
Lynwood	CA	Lakeland	FL	Johnston	IA	Fall River	MA
Marina	CA	Land O Lakes	FL	Le Claire	IA	Pocasset	MA
Menifee	CA	Largo	FL	Red Oak	IA	Taunton	MA
Murrieta	CA	Lehigh Acres	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Worcester	MA
New Cuyama	CA	Lithia	FL	Crown Point	ID	Baltimore	MD
Newman	CA	Lynn Haven	FL	East Chicago	ID	Brockton	MD
Northridge	CA	Maitland	FL	Idaho Falls	ID	Cabin John	MD
Ontario	CA	Matlacha	FL	Jerome	ID	Edgewood	MD
Redding	CA	Minneola	FL	Kuna	ID	Glen Burnie	MD
Reseda	CA	Naples	FL	Lewiston	ID	Hagerstown	MD
Riverside	CA	Opa Locka	FL	Nampa	ID	Hughesville	MD
San Bernardino	CA	Oviedo	FL	Preston	ID	Kensington	MD
San Diego	CA	P.S.L.	FL	Twin Falls	ID	Port Tobacco	MD
San Jose	CA	Palatka	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Prince Frederick	MD
South Lake Tahoe	CA	Palm Bay	FL	Jerome	ID	Saint Leonard	MD
Ventura	CA	Plant City	FL	Rupert	ID	Silver Spring	MD
Victorville	CA	Port Charlotte	FL	Aledo	IL	St. Leonard	MD
Vista	CA	Riverview	FL	Cottage Hills	IL	Upper Marlboro	MD
Walnut	CA	Safety Harbor	FL	Decatur	IL	Urbana	MD
Westwood	CA	Tampa	FL	Effingham	IL	Ann Arbor	MI
Williams	CA	The Villages	FL	Fox Lake	IL	Auburn Hills	MI
Yucaipa	CA	Valrico	FL	Gurnee	IL	Battle Creek	MI
Alameda	CA	Wesley Chapel	FL	Lawrenceville	IL	Boyne City	MI
Bakersfield	CA	Zephyrhills	FL	Moline	IL	Brighton	MI
Bell	CA	Bartow	FL	Mount Carmel	IL	Chesterfield	MI
Blythe	CA	Homestead	FL	Nelson	IL	Corunna	MI
Brawley	CA	Jacksonville	FL	New Windsor	IL	Ferndale	MI
Carson	CA	Lehigh Acres	FL	North Aurora	IL	Flint	MI
Citrus Heights	CA	Lynn Haven	FL	Oak Park	IL	Fraser	MI
Fullerton	CA	Tallahassee	FL	Opdyke	IL	Gaylord	MI
Lucerne Valley	CA	Acworth	GA	Round Lake Beach	IL	Grand Rapids	MI
Moreno Valley	CA	Atlanta	GA	Sheffield	IL	Grandville	MI
Ontario	CA	Bonaire	GA	Springfield	IL	Granger	MI
Riverside	CA	Canton	GA	Taylorville	IL	Harrison Township	MI
Salinas	CA	Dearing	GA	Waukegan	IL	Hazel Park	MI
San Jose	CA	Fort Stewart	GA	Winchester	IL	Jackson	MI
Tustin	CA	Gainesville	GA	Xenia	IL	Kalamazoo	MI
Yuba City	CA	Griffin	GA	La Grange	IL	Kentwood	MI
Castle Rock	CO	Grovetown	GA	Peoria	IL	Lansing	MI
Colora]	CO	Hampton	GA	Wheaton	IL	Midland	MI
Colorado Springs	CO	Helena	GA	Columbus	IN	Muskegon	MI
Fort Carson	CO	Hinesville	GA	Lafayette	IN	Owosso	MI
Fountain	CO	Hogansville	GA	Monticello	IN	Rochester Hills	MI
Fruita	CO	Jacksonville	GA	Knightville	IN	Romulus	MI
Parker	CO	Kennesaw	GA	Lafayette	IN	Saginaw	MI
Salida	CO	Kingsland	GA	Fort Riley	KS	Saline	MI
Thornton	CO	Leesburg	GA	Holton	KS	Sanford	MI
Westcliffe	CO	Ludowici	GA	Junction City	KS	Shelby Township	MI
Colorado Springs	CO	Macon	GA	Kansas City	KS	Southgate	MI
Denver	CO	Marietta	GA	Leavenworth	KS	Sturgis	MI
Larkspur	CO	McDonough	GA	Manhattan	KS	Whitmore Lake	MI
Baltic	CT	McRae	GA	Milford	KS	Williamston	MI
Hartford	CT	Midway	GA	Olathe	KS	Ypsilanti	MI

Saginaw	MI	Fredonia	NY	Bluffton	SC	Sunset	TX
Apple Valley	MN	Geneva	NY	Columbia	SC	Temple	TX
Carver	MN	Getzville	NY	Easley	SC	Texarkana	TX
Delano	MN	Hewlett	NY	Goose Creek	SC	The Colony	TX
Duluth	MN	Loweville	NY	Hopkins	SC	Three Rivers	TX
Hines	MN	Monroe	NY	Jackson	SC	Tolar	TX
Inver Grove Heights	MN	Newburgh	NY	Lexington	SC	Uvalde	TX
Lengby	MN	Oswego	NY	Lyman	SC	Waco	TX
Rochester	MN	Patterson	NY	North Charleston	SC	Watauga	TX
Rosemount	MN	Pittsford	NY	Simpsonville	SC	Weslaco	TX
Shevlin	MN	Ravena	NY	Swansea	SC	Yantis	TX
Blue Springs	MO	Rochester	NY	Warrenville	SC	Santaquin	UT
Blue Springs	MO	Selkirk	NY	Lead	SD	Alexandria	VA
Columbia	MO	Syracuse	NY	Piedmont	SD	Bedford	VA
Union	MO	Troy	NY	Yankton	SD	Chester	VA
Catawissa	MO	Tyrone	NY	Chattanooga	TN	Ford	VA
Highlandville	MO	Wallkill	NY	Clarksville	TN	Galax	VA
Rolla	MO	Waterford	NY	Crossville	TN	Greenbackville	VA
Union	MO	Weedsport	NY	Elizabethton	TN	Hampton	VA
Baldwyn	MS	Dublin	OH	Franklin	TN	Lexington	VA
Bay Saint Louis	MS	Genoa	OH	Goodspring	TN	Marion	VA
Foxworth	MS	Hamilton	OH	LaVergne	TN	Norfolk	VA
Hattiesburg	MS	Lebanon	OH	Murfreesboro	TN	Prince George	VA
Kiln	MS	Lewis Center	OH	Nashville	TN	South Chesterfield	VA
Mooreville	MS	Lorain	OH	Amarillo	TX	Stafford	VA
Moss Point	MS	Mogadore	OH	Arlington	TX	Virginia Beach	VA
Pass Christian	MS	Morrow	OH	Austin	TX	Williamsburg	VA
Philadelphia	MS	Oberlin	OH	Bastrop	TX	Woodlawn	VA
Union	MS	South Lebanon	OH	Beaumont	TX	Yorktown	VA
Vicksburg	MS	Stow	OH	Brownsville	TX	Arlington	WA
Black Eagle	MT	Troy	OH	Cameron	TX	Centralia	WA
Great Falls	MT	Upper Arlington	OH	Copperas Cove	TX	Cheney	WA
Fayetteville	NC	Checotah	OK	Corsicana	TX	College Place	WA
Greenville	NC	El Reno	OK	Dallas	TX	Edmonds	WA
Naples	NC	Lawton	OK	Denton	TX	Joint Base Lewis-	
Pembroke	NC	Noble	OK	Edcouch	TX	McChord	WA
Pisgah Forest	NC	Norman	OK	Edinburgh	TX	Lacey	WA
Raeford	NC	Owasso	OK	El Paso	TX	Lakewood	WA
Sanford	NC	Porter	OK	Fort Hood	TX	McChord Air Force Base	WA
Spring Lake	NC	Purcell	OK	Fort Worth	TX	Olympia	WA
Bismarck	ND	Sapulpa	OK	Fort Worth	TX	Puyallup	WA
Milford	NH	Stillwater	OK	Frost	TX	Seattle	WA
Nashua	NH	Tulsa	OK	Gatesville	TX	Spokane	WA
Plaistow	NH	Claremore	OK	Georgetown	TX	Tacoma	WA
Blairstown	NJ	Lawton	OK	Greenville	TX	Walla Walla	WA
Browns Mills	NJ	Miami	OK	Harker Heights	TX	Tacoma	WA
Cape May	NJ	Newcastle	OK	Houston	TX	Appleton	WI
Hamilton	NJ	Baker City	OR	Hurst	TX	Darlington	WI
Jersey City	NJ	Creswell	OR	Irving	TX	Elkhorn	WI
Patterson	NJ	Hillsboro	OR	Kellar	TX	Green Bay	WI
Albuquerque	NM	Tigard	OR	Kennedale	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Bayard	NM	Baker City	OR	Kileen	TX	Horicon	WI
Clovis	NM	Alburtis	PA	Kyle	TX	Hudson	WI
Espanola	NM	Beaver Falls	PA	Lawn	TX	Jackson	WI
Las Cruces	NM	Bethel Park	PA	Lometa	TX	Marshfield	WI
Roswell	NM	Chambersburg	PA	Lumberton	TX	Neenah	WI
Santa Cruz	NM	Connellsville	PA	Mansfield	TX	Shullsburg	WI
Santa Teresa	NM	Evan City	PA	Mc Gregor	TX	Waukesha	WI
White Sands	NM	Hanover	PA	McAllen	TX	Wilmot	WI
Fallon	NV	New Freeport	PA	Mesquite	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Henderson	NV	Philadelphia	PA	Mission	TX	Orfordville	WI
Las Vegas	NV	Pittsburgh	PA	Moody	TX	Orfordville	WI
Reno	NV	Seward	PA	New Caney	TX	Grant Town	WV
Ballston Spa	NY	Spring Grove	PA	Nolanville	TX	Cheyenne	WY
Bronx	NY	York	PA	Pflugerville	TX	Rawlins	WY
Brooklyn	NY	Attleboro	RI	Pharr	TX	Rivertown	WY
Clarence Center	NY	Central Falls	RI	Rowlett	TX	Shelly	WY
Cohoes	NY	Cranston	RI	Salado	TX	Sheridan	WY
East Atlantic Beach	NY	North Providence	RI	San Antonio	TX	Shell	WY
East Meadow	NY	Pawtucket	RI	Seguin	TX		
Fort Drum	NY	Providence	RI	Sugarland	TX		

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM YOU:

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Lynne Neibert, who heads the very active Trindle Spring Lutheran Church's prayer shawl group from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, shares two of their artful pieces with us! Both are so pretty and patriotic! Note the nice cards they've attached to each prayer shawl. Thank you Lynne and ladies of this wonderful group! We are so happy to have you here! (1 photo right)



PS4FS knitter/crocheter Diane Caggiano, who heads St. John's Episcopal Church's prayer shawl group in Bristol, Connecticut, joined our ministry only one month ago. Diane promises to send us a photo of the group! We look forward to seeing and meeting you all! Diane eagerly writes:

The prayer shawl ministry is taking on a life of its own. I can't believe the response I am getting to this ministry. If you have any special prayers for the making of these shawls I would love to have some. I am gathering some prayers to put together to give to our knitters. Thank you for all your help. Blessings, Diane

We welcome Gerry Ganar this month, as a new member! She joined us on October 1st, lives in Rochester, Michigan. That makes TEN members/groups from Michigan! I asked Gerry for a picture, which I hope she'll send soon! In the meantime, meet Gerry by her own words:

I have mailed my shawl to Dover AFB and am happy to be part of this organization. I have an interest in the vets as I have 3 brothers who were pilots in the WW11 2 Marines in the So Pacific and 1 in the Army Air Force in Europe. They are in their 90s going strong! I learned to knit from my French Canadian Grandma who was so patient. Will start on another shawl soon.
Gerry Ganar

II. DOVER PROGRAM:

Ellie Dill, Friends of the Fallen's Secretary, shares an update of our group's progress at Dover Air Base:

The shawls are arriving without problems. The amount we are receiving is just fine. As far as news really nothing new but please thank your group again. I am in awe of what they do - giving their time and talent to others. I hope they realize how much the families appreciate what they do. Wish they could see the families' reactions. Words cannot describe! Ellie

V. THANK YOU NOTES AND MESSAGES:

Gold Star Mother, Cheryl Softich, from Eveleth, Minnesota, included another photo of her son, SPC Noah Pierce, DOD 7/26/07 (from last month's newsletter).



PS4FS knitter/crocheter Lynne Neibert, who heads the Trindle Spring Lutheran Church's prayer shawl group from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, sends two thank you notes they received this past month, as a result of their "direct contact" campaign, where they seek names on the internet. If you'd like to learn how to do this, directions are on our website on the "Directions" page. The first thank you is from Patricia Manaukian, proud mother of CPT Matthew Manaukian, DOD 8/10/12. Patricia lives in Los Altos Hills, California and writes:



Dear Lynne and The Shawl Ministry, Thank you so very much for the beautiful lap robes you made for me and for Missy in memory of my beloved son, Matthew Manoukian. We are devastated by the loss of our dear son, Matthew. He was an amazing son and a dedicated Marine. He brought hope to so many in Iraq and Afghanistan by helping them establish local police forces and judicial systems. He brought all his Marines back from three tours and we expected him to return again. Our grief is overwhelming and your kindness, support and the beautiful lap robes and your prayers mean so much. Thank you! With Gratitude, Patricia Manoukian (mother) (2 photos left)
Lynne tells us she herself made Patricia's lap robes.



A second message to Lynne's group comes from Sharon Toner, proud mother of LTJG Francis L. Toner, DOD 3/27/09. Sharon lives in Rhode Island (city is unknown but it may be Newport). Sharon writes: (1 photo left, 2 right)

Dear Lynne and The Shawl Ministry, Frankie's death has connected us to the most generous and caring individuals that have richly blessed our lives. The prayer shawl is just gorgeous and brings me much comfort. May your church's ministry be richly rewarded! Thank You! With much appreciation, Sharon Toner, mother.



Lynne tells us Sharon's prayer shawl was made by Margaret Lang. On doing an internet search, it was found that the "Naval Station Newport's new replacement bridge was dedicated as the LtJG. Francis L. Tonner IV, CEC, USN Memorial Bridge connecting Coasters Harbor Island and Coddington Point" on March 2011. The article, from America's Navy, says: "Toner was killed March 27, 2009, by an Afghan National Army soldier at Camp Shaheen in Afghanistan." Here again is another devastating story about one of our military being taken down by the very Afghan troops they are training.

Another article (Military Times) tells us: "The irony is that he loved those people," Sharon Toner, the officer's stepmother, said of Toner in an interview. "His heart just went out to the children over there because they weren't in school and they didn't have shoes. The poverty over there really hit him hard." Toner's family had expected him home for leave the following week, his stepmother said.

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Robin Lambert, from Vinemont, Alabama, quickly answered a direct request for four prayer shawls from Faye Ausborn, loving mother of Major Jeffrey Onial Ausborn, DOD 4/27/11. Faye lives in Gadsden, Alabama and writes: (3 photos right)

Hello, I was just looking thru the comp and I had never heard of the prayer shawl! My son, Major Jeffrey Onial Ausborn, was murdered in Afghanistan on April 27, 2011. He was my only child. And he also leaves behind 3 children here in Alabama. If possible I would like to receive 4 prayer shawls. Thank you! Faye Ausborn, Gadsden, Alabama





PS4FS knitter/crocheter Louise Rossiter, who heads the Buxton United Methodist Women's prayer shawl group in Buxton, North Carolina, received an exceptional thank you note from Reba MacFarlane, proud mother of CPT Bruce Andrew MacFarlane, DOD 7/6/12. Reba and husband, John, live in Deland, Florida. It is notes like Reba's that tell us how valuable our work is, that make us want to continue doing it despite the long time we have been in this ministry! It would be easy to lose interest were it not for people like Reba, despite her enormous grief, she finds the time to humbly thank us, so warmly, that we **must** continue on until this dreadful war is over! We NEVER expect thank you letters; we understand that the grieving process does not allow room for thank you notes. But when they do, it does help us to peer into that window - and want to do more for our families. Below is Reba's letter to Louise and the Buxton United Methodist Women. (2 photos left and below)



My son, Capt. Bruce A. MacFarlane, died in Kandahar, Afghanistan, on July 6, 2012. Immediately, the Army activated orders for my daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, husband, four daughters, and I to proceed to Dover, Delaware, to witness the Dignified Transfer of Bruce upon his arrival from Ramstein, Germany, to the Dover Military Morgue. We so appreciated the hospitality of the Fisher House for three days while "getting our bearings" to learn "what's next"?

While at the Fisher House, we spent time in the Meditation Room where we discovered shelves holding a wide assortment of prayer shawls made available to us for our selection and enjoyment. Perhaps you can imagine the giddiness of six grieving females sorting through the lovely, soft shawls,

each trying to make a selection which was then lovingly packed in a suitcase and taken home to be later worn at some of the bereavement services.

I thought your compassionate group might like to hear how you are making a difference to sorrowing families. Thank you for your big hearts and nimble fingers! Sincerely, Reba MacFarlane, Gold Star Mom

Click below to see a video of Bruce's funeral:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8u0Te2njY>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yImWGvUL8ss>