



Happy 15th Anniversary Greetings Distinguished Feather Princesses,

We are head over heels in love with you! And we hope you still know just how much you mean to us. We miss you so much till it hurts; and we yearn for the day when we all can be together again. For now, we hope you and your families are doing well and embracing life with all of the zest and zeal you can get.



Amid all of the changes in our world today, this really is a great time to be alive! And as our anniversary approaches, we take great pride and pleasure in celebrating 15 magnificent years of glorious appliqué and in honoring YOU, our beloved Feather Princesses! You are the vibrant catalyst that made our influential and prestigious appliqué guild happen; and you are the passionate component that kept it alive and strong all through the years. It is because of your unwavering commitment, dedication, and support to quilting and appliqué that we far surpassed our guild's initial agenda and mission. And it is because of your amazing gifts and talents that we are highly known, respected, and esteemed in the quilting world. Because of your unshakable determination, perseverance, and tenacity many of you accomplished your personal quilting dreams and goals as well; and for all of these superlative achievements, we are very, very proud.

Looking ahead, we see nothing but good things in our future; and we all must play a part in it. First of all, we must be mindful of our bodies and those near and dear to us. We must do everything we can to stay healthy and safe; so we will have the energy and fortitude to continue creating the breathtaking appliqué quilts. Let's be sure to make the time to eat properly and exercise regularly, as often as we can. Let's not allow any bulk or excess

weight to linger at our waistlines or come under our belts. And let's always spend quality time with the people we love. Secondly, let's keep quilting alive, let's continue learning and mastering appliqué and quilting techniques, with every amazing opportunity presented to us. Let's amass and stockpile as much appliqué knowledge, experience, and expertise as we can; and let's keep these under our belts and grapple at every chance and not ever bypass an opportunity to create another gorgeous appliqué quilt.

As our lives change and we flow with the circumstances and uncertainty around us, one thing remains for sure--our love for appliqué and for our guild. And even though we really want to get together more than ever, **we regretfully are suspending all Feather Princesses guild activities for the month of August.** So we very lovingly ask you to hang in here with us just a while longer, remain focused and committed to this art form we so dearly love and to the Feather Princesses, and continue embracing it with the same vigor and vitality as we did back in August 2005, when our guild formed. We are very disappointed and it is very unfortunate that **we will not have our anniversary celebration, quilt circles, specialty appliqué group meetings, and committee meetings this month;** but let's pause and make some time anyway, to reflect on the fond memories we've shared, to reminisce about the priceless friendships we've made, and to recall the good times we've had.

So put aside some special time this month to be a ROYAL Princess. Put on your party dress, prop that glittering tiara just right on your head, set the table, prepare (OK, order out!) the most delectable regal fare; and then raise your glass to appliqué and to the Feather Princesses. Take great delight and pleasure in the gifted and talented quilter that you are, in all of your stellar achievements, and in your amazing accomplishments yet to come. And to round out the day, take out your needle, thread, and fabrics; make a few stitches, and salute appliqué and the Feather Princesses! Princesses **Laura, Janet, B. J., Betty Jo,** and I extend our sincere love and we wish you a very **Happy 15th Anniversary!**

August Birthdays

As we celebrate our Feather Princesses 15th Anniversary, we also wish a very "Happy Birthday" to our beautiful Princesses who have a birthday this month! We hope your special day will bring you all that your heart desires; that it will be full of pleasant surprises; and that it will be as marvelous as you are. We send our big smiles, warm hugs, and heartfelt wishes in hopes that you

will have a fabulous time filled with happiness and a spectacular year chock full of joy! And we hope that all of your dreams will come true!

Shirley Kasprzyk - 8/01
Betty Jo Weber - 8/01
Betty Jo Lecaroz - 8/05
Penny Black - 8/08
Peggy Wattenbarger - 8/15
Patricia Yucatonis - 8/17
Jamie Crowe - 8/18
Terry Sylvanus - 8/19
Sharon Kalinowski - 8/20
Gwinn Downton - 8/22
Donna Anderson - 8/26
Gail Thomas - 8/29
Susan Natrass - 8/30



Sunshine

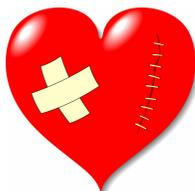
Before we blow out the candles and cut our Feather Princesses birthday cake, we take this awesome opportunity to send our genuine love and heart-felt wishes to our members who have not felt well this past month--you are very special to us! So as we celebrate our guild's birthday, we wish each of you an abundance of good health, happiness, and fun times ahead. In the coming days and weeks, we hope you will feel better, get stronger, thread your needles, and start stitching again, as you celebrate appliqué and create your stunning appliqué quilts.



We extend our very best get-well wishes for a speedy recovery to our beautiful members, Princesses **Terry Montaldo**, **Peggy Wattenbarger**, and **Meredith Wilmath**.

Healing Heart Blocks

NOTE: *We have added our dear member, Princess Maria Nunez, to the list of our lovely Healing Heart block recipients.*



As we continue "sheltering in place" and stitching at home alone, let's come together and make some beautiful **Healing Heart** blocks for our lovely **Healing Heart** block recipients. Let's express our heartfelt love and support by stitching some pretty **Healing Heart** blocks for our precious members who experienced

a life-threatening illness or the lost of a spouse or a child.

Princesses currently receiving the **Healing Heart** blocks are:

- **Judy Denherder likes landscape prints**
- **Mary Hastings likes bright colors**
- **Cheryl Haynes likes blue and green**
- **Maria Nunez likes blue**
- **Barbara Roberts likes blue and yellow**
- **Vicki Shulstad likes pink, rose, and lavender**
- **Anne Szabo likes blue, pink, and red**

As we continue to quarantine, you may mail your completed **Healing Heart** blocks directly to the recipients. The *Healing Heart Block Guidelines* are located on our Feather Princesses website, [Members Only section](#) > [Healing Heart Blocks](#). We sincerely express our gratitude to you for taking the time to make these beautiful blocks and to lift the spirits of our very special **Healing Heart** block recipients.

Membership Renewal

Now that August is here, with COVID-19 the re-opening of school is a top priority of students, parents, and teachers. Many years ago when most of us Princesses attended school, especially elementary school, life was simple and learning was front and center. The alphabets were the focal point, right along with the 3 Rs--reading, writing, and arithmetic. During that era, any school aged child could recite the alphabet and then give an example of what each letter stood for. All of the kids knew that "A was for Apple, B was for Boy, and C was for Cat." It was a no-brainer.



Fast forward to the present time and ask the Princesses what "A" stands for; and any one of us will unequivocally tell you that "A stands for Appliqué." Forget the apples, boys, and cats; and focus on the needles, threads, and fabrics. For us Princesses, without a doubt, "A is for Appliqué." It's who we are and it's what we do. We are an elite appliqué quilt guild, whose specific purpose is to learn and master appliqué and quilting techniques, to encourage and achieve excellence in our needlework, and to make masterpiece quilts and compete at the national/international level. Furthermore, we promote the love of all types of appliqué and we welcome quilters of all skill level who share our passion of applique. (See page 1 of our **2019-20 Membership Directory**.) That was our purpose back in 2005 when our guild was founded; and it is still our mission today. And we are more

committed and dedicated than ever before to continue embracing appliqué and fostering and promoting it to its highest level, with all of the fervor and gusto we can muster.

So if you would like to participate and be involved in another phenomenal year of applique mastery and excellence at the Feather Princesses (no knitting, crochet, cross stitch, or needlepoint on our watch - ha! ha!), then be sure to renew your membership. To see the membership renewal info, go to the FP website, [Members Only section](#) > [Membership](#), and then scroll down to **Membership Renewal 2020-21**.

And as a very gentle and loving reminder, **Wednesday, August 12, is the deadline to renew**. To continue receiving our email updates, newsletters, and the annual membership directory, please pay by this date. We thank you so much for renewing your Feather Princesses membership and embracing appliqué with us for another year!

Autumn Splendor Challenge 2020

We are happy to hear that some of you have already completed your **Autumn Splendor Challenge** entries! How impressive is that? Unfortunately, we will not have our challenge this year, because we have not been able to resume meetings yet. But, please save your quilt and wallhanging entries because we hope to be back together before October 2021. We promise, it will be bigger, better, and even more fun!



Our Exciting 2020 Retreat

We've turned the page on the calendar, another month is here, and the time for our exciting **2020 Retreat** is getting closer and closer. It's just a few months away, convening on Saturday, October 24 - Tuesday, October 27; and we could not be more excited!

Even though we have not been able to physically get together to plan our activities, we are still extremely committed, dedicated, and enthusiastic about planning the most fun activities and making this Retreat our BEST one yet! We distributed a *Retreat Questionnaire* to the 17 amazing and eager Princesses who already signed-up and paid to attend; and we're starting to make awesome plans. We are sure that excitement, fun, and good times will abound; and we can hardly wait!

We are also very excited and happy to report that more spaces are available. So if you would like to attend the Retreat and be a part of this fabulous gathering of Princesses, we welcome you to sign-up by the **deadline on August 12**. Also, because we are interested and we genuinely care about what our Retreat attendees want to do at the Retreat, when you pay, we will gladly forward our *Retreat Questionnaire* to you, to give you the opportunity to provide your input as well.

We are optimistic that our Retreat will still convene as scheduled; but in the unlikely event that Lake Yale has to cancel at the last minute because of the pandemic, then we will comply with the guidelines listed in the Cancellation Policy.

As a reminder, you may go to our Feather Princesses website, Members Only section > Retreat, to get the following information:

- 2020 Retreat Guidelines
- How to Pay to Attend the Retreat
- Cancellation Policy

NOTE: *Please remember if you pay to attend the Retreat and then decide not to go, the **deadline to cancel (contact Princess Betty Jo Lecaroz) and get a refund is Wednesday, August 12**. After that date, we will not be able to refund Retreat payments.*

We are very optimistic and we seriously hope you'll come and join us at our exciting 2020 Retreat, for awesome care-free days of uninterrupted fun, sewing, and quilting (or whatever you want to do), with no cooking and no cleaning at all. It will be exciting and it will be a BLAST!

Our Quilt Show

Many of you have inquired about the status of our quilt show; so we sincerely thank you for your interests and concerns; and we want to let you know that we are working on it. We have been in touch with the St. Lawrence Catholic Church Higgins Hall management since early April, trying to iron out the details and requirements for using the facility (implementing the current and what will be future CDC, local, and state bans, guidelines, and mandates), so we could report back to you. Unfortunately because of the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, our efforts have been hindered and we have not been



able to report to you in a timely manner as we had hoped, because communications between our Executive Board and the church management have been extremely slow.

Since the pandemic began, the church offices have been closed, the Higgins Hall management has worked from home, and this summer the management, employees, and church officials have taken vacation and have not readily been available to communicate and follow-up with us. But, with the communications we have had with them, the Higgins Hall management has been challenged to implement guidelines for our event, because of the uncertainty and not knowing what the COVID-19 circumstances will be in February 2021.

But we want to assure you that we are still working with the Higgins Hall management; and we will soon get answers to all of our questions and confirmations regarding the criteria and guidelines our show. And as soon as we get the confirmations from them, we will immediately make an announcement and gladly share the information with you. We truly regret it is taking so long; but we thank you for your understanding and patience in this matter.

Princesses, remember that we love you. Stay beautiful and be happy. There is light at the end of the tunnel. Thanks so much!

Love you all,
Dorothy