

## Hello, You Fabulous Feather Princesses,

Warm and Happy July greetings to each and every one of you! We sincerely hope you and your families are well; and we wish you a safe and sparkling Independence Day!

The past few weeks have been a challenging time for us all. And even though several local restaurants have been busy



with customers since they reopened, a recent report stated that "more people are actually cooking at home (rather than going out to eat)," as they "shelter in place." The report also went on to say that "people are being creative and very successful in the way they cook and the meals they prepare—especially during this summer season of the year,

with the impending 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities." Some are relying on "old faithful, tried and true" recipes passed down from one generation to another, while others are researching cook books and the internet, coming up new instructions for cooking and a variety of ingredients for preparing their daily fare.

Our amazing *Executive Board* has been combing through cook books looking for recipes too; and we found several good ones out there, especially for our awesome quilt guild fellowship.

Here in the Feather Princesses, our recipe for true friendship and unparallel creativity and success is a very simple one indeed. With each meal we prepare, we start with an abundance of unconditional love, followed by heaping amounts of generosity, helpfulness, kindness, sharing, and support. We also throw in motivation, inspiration, patience and understanding; we add bunches of exceptional gifts, remarkable talents, and excellence; and we garnish each dish with cheerfulness, happiness, laughter, and big bright smiles.

Of course one of the most important ingredients is missing here—"togetherness." And right now, unfortunately we just don't have this item to mix in with the rest. Because of the surge of Coronavirus cases here in Florida, and with the current "social distancing" mandate still in effect, we have to wait a little while longer to complete our special dish. We have to wait until we can all be together again, to put this meal on the table.

So, **we have suspended all Feather Princesses guild activities for the month of July.** We will *not* have our monthly guild meeting, quilt circles, specialty appliqué group meetings, and committee meetings. But we earnestly hope that circumstances surrounding the virus will allow us to meet sometime soon in the future. After all, **Janet, B.J., Betty Jo,** and I miss you all and we love you very much; and we want to add this one missing ingredient to complete our meal.

We need (and so desperately want) that main ingredient of "togetherness;" and we can hardly wait to all be physically

together again—so we can sit down at the table together, stitch, and have fun with each other like we used to do. So please hold on and don't give up. We really do know our way around the kitchen (ha! ha!); and we know that the main ingredient of "togetherness" is coming, hopefully one day really soon.

## July Birthdays

Happy, Happy Birthday to our marvelous Feather Princesses who have a July birthday. No matter your age, you're still as beautiful and as gorgeous as always! We wish you lots of fun, good health, happiness, and the best of everything; and we hope you will have many more wonderful years ahead of you. May your birthday bring you sweet memories and all the beautiful things that you deserve and enjoy; and may all of your wishes and dreams come true!

- **Mary Rich - 7/01**
- **Terry Montaldo - 7/06**
- **Janet Prueitt - 7/07**
- **Jacqueline Tarr - 7/08**
- **Veronica Hunt - 7/09**
- **Chris Sudberry - 7/18**
- **Janet Kiene - 7/25**
- **Cheryl Ameling - 7/28**



## Healing Heart Blocks

As we continue complying with the "shelter in place" mandate 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 put away the elastic and other mask-making supplies for a while; and let's stitch some pretty *Healing Heart* blocks to express our love and support to 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
- **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 gorgeous blocks and to lift the spirits of our very special *Healing Heart* block recipients.

## Membership Renewal

It's always more fun looking ahead, rather than looking backward. So with that thought, we want to reiterate just how encouraged and excited we are about our Feather Princesses new



year. Yes, the current circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have impacted us all; and no one knows for sure when it will end. But, our *Executive Board* is still looking ahead to a very exciting year of appliqué in our guild; and we're thinking hard to come up with new ideas to inspire and motivate you. We are forging ahead and planning activities for appliqué fun and excitement; and we hope you will be a part of it.

So if you would like to participate and be involved in another phenomenal year at the Feather Princesses, 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*.

We thank you so much for renewing your Feather Princesses membership and embracing appliqué with us for another year!

## Retreat Reminder

Here in the Feather Princesses, we always enjoy spending our summer days planning our upcoming Autumn activities and events, especially our exciting Retreat. Yes, our marvelous 2020 Retreat is just around the corner, a few months away; and we could not be more excited.

The retreat will convene **Saturday, October 24 - Tuesday, October 27**; and even with the recent surge in COVID-19 cases here in our state, we are hopeful that by October, we will still be able to go to Lake Yale and safely attend our Retreat.

Planning our 2020 Retreat is a work in progress; and despite the fact that 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 are thinking positively 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 we stated in the "2020 Retreat Update" email dated 5/22/2020, under the current social distancing mandate

(ensuring the safety and well being of our members), only 40 people will be allowed in the sewing room. And if the social distancing mandate lifts prior to the time our retreat convenes, then more people will be allowed in the sewing room at one time. But for now, we are eagerly planning for 40 lovely Princesses to attend our Retreat.

And I'm thrilled to inform you that at the time of this update, 20 Princesses have already signed-up and paid to attend. So that means half of the spaces have already been filled. We are absolutely delighted and inspired with such a positive response. And even though some of you are still waiting to sign-up, (if you really want to go to the Retreat and be a part of this fabulous gathering of Princesses) we urge you to sign-up and pay right now, so you won't get left out.

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. If you already paid to attend the Retreat, we will forward the *Retreat Questionnaire* to you shortly.

As a reminder, please see the "2020 Retreat Update" email dated 5/22/2020, or 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

After being cooped up at home for months, we seriously hope you'll come and join us at our exciting 2020 Retreat, for awesome days of uninterrupted fun, sewing, and quilting (or whatever you want to do), with no cooking and no cleaning at all. Now tell me, what could be more fun than that?

## We Don't Know Why

As we stay at home during this "down time," communication is the key to keeping everyone in our guild informed. So it is very important to us that all of our Feather Princesses receive the emails that we distribute.

Recently, a few of our members who have the ISP Roadrunner (tampabay.rr.com), informed us that they did not receive certain emails until several days after we distributed them; or that they did not receive the emails at all. For whatever reason, Roadrunner is delivering emails late or not at all; and we don't know why. We are aware of the problem, sincerely apologize for it, and hope it will be resolved in the future.

We thank you so much for your patience and understanding in this matter.



## Please Send Guild Business Info Via Email, Not Text



During these extended times of absence, extenuating circumstances of uncertainty, and just plain old "not knowing," we absolutely adore hearing from you, our beloved Feather Princesses. A sweet and thoughtful email, telephone call, or text really makes our day! It's wonderful that we're all checking on each other and staying in touch. And it's great that technology is available and allows us to connect with each other and conduct some of our guild's general business as we all stay at home, deal with the circumstances surrounding the pandemic, and comply with the mandates in place.

So please keep those emails, calls, and texts coming. We love you, and replying to you and addressing your concerns regarding our guild's operations is our priority. But to ensure that we respond appropriately to you, we need your help. So going forward, we kindly ask you to do the following:

- **Please convey all of your concerns and communications (regarding our guild's business) via email, not via text.** This is needed for documentation purposes and also to allow us the opportunity to easily reply to you and to share your info with others, if/when needed.
- If you do send a text for any reason, please **be sure to include your name.** Unfortunately, we do not have each Princess's cell phone number recorded in our cell phones. So for us to get back to you, we need to know who each text is from, so we will know who to reply to—and how to respond appropriately.

Implementing these easy steps will help us serve you better, especially while we are apart dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. We truly appreciate you helping us with this.

We will close for now. Always remember that we love you and we're so very grateful for you. You are so very special to us; and we're forever thankful that you are a Feather Princess. So please, hang in there with us a little longer; because one day this pandemic will end; and we'll all be back together again.

Have a fun, happy, and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

Love You All – So Much,  
Dorothy