



The Plume

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THE FEATHER PRINCESSES NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

by Dorothy Johnson
(Excerpt taken from <https://www.google.com/search?>)

The ways we celebrate and honor traditions at Easter have certainly changed over the years. For instance, several years ago we learned that it was not safe to put hard-boiled eggs into Easter baskets, so thus evolved the colorful plastic eggs that we use and enjoy today. And gone are the days when Easter baskets are filled with just eggs and candies. Nowadays, baskets are more personalized and filled to the brim with any and everything a child (or adult) could ever want, imagine, or think. Cruising down the "Easter" isles at the local stores, you will find "basket fillers" that consist of everything from a variety of stuffed animals, dolls, games, footballs, basketballs, jump ropes, hand-held devices, clothing, action figures, and more—all waiting to be stuffed into baskets.

But there's one Easter item that has not changed over the years. It's still as popular now as it was years ago; and it's still as sought after as ever—the illustrious Golden Egg! Golden eggs are used as a symbol for something valuable, like money. So, it makes perfect sense for a special golden egg to be hidden along with other colorful eggs in a fun Easter egg hunt. Some people practice the tradition of putting treats inside the one Golden egg, while others put money and other valuable goodies inside. And at the Easter egg hunts, children of all ages have one priority in mind—to find that one elaborate and ornate Golden egg, to get that special goody inside!

When we think of Easter and the variety of traditions, events, and activities that it brings, quilting also comes to mind. Just like the plethora of Easter eggs and the many ways to color them, the same is true with quilting. There are so many different ways to create stunning breathtaking quilts—patchwork or appliqué, hand or machine, the list goes on. But of the wide myriad of styles of quilts and techniques used to create them, APPLIQUÉ is the goody! In the quilting world, it is the sought after treasure found in the one Golden egg. Appliqué is so versatile—so adaptable, so flexible, and so much doggone FUN! For just about any idea you imagine, you can easily adapt or transform it into an appliqué quilt design. *(continued page 3)*

April Guild Meeting

by Dorothy Johnson

With opened minds and hearts ready to learn all there is (and more) about Reverse Appliqué, come to our electrifying April guild meeting for a day of inspiration and fun! Meet with us at Springhill Suites, revel in the fabulous Feather Princesses fellowship, and enjoy our gathering of gifted and talented members and quilting friends.

When you arrive, please be sure to:

- See our *Membership Chairs*, Princesses **Betty Jo Lecaroz** and **B. J. Weber**, to sign-in at our Welcome Table.
- Drop off your non-perishable food items for our *Community Service Project*.
- Enjoy a cup of delicious coffee or tea, and other delicious seasonal refreshments so lovingly prepared by our *Hospitality Chair*, Princess **Linda Woytisek**, and other Princesses.
- Mingle, greet our guest teacher, Margaret Willingham, and visiting friends, and then introduce yourself to a Feather Princesses member you do not already know.

As you make your way around the meeting room, be sure to see our:

- *Fat Quarter Exchange Chairs*, Princesses **Linda Woytisek** and **Emilie Monefeldt**, to turn in your "Yellow and Purple" fat quarters.
- *Guild Photographer*, Princess **Beverly Abenante**, to sign-in and photograph the quilts you will present during Show N Tell.
- *Healing Hearts Chair*, Princess **Shirley Kasprzyk**, to turn in your *Healing Heart* blocks and fat quarters.
- *Newsletter Chair*, Princess **Michelle Barry**, to place an ad in our newsletter, *The Plume*.
- *Retreat Chair*, Princess **Karen Benitez**, to register and/or make payments to attend our Feather Princesses 2023 Retreat.
- *Special Block Chair*, Princess **Shirley Williams**, to turn in your *Spring Special Block*.
- *Sunshine/Birthday Chair*, Princess **Ritu Haldar**, to sign-up for the April birthday drawing.



Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Springhill Suites Marriott
Tampa Suncoast Parkway
16615 Crosspointe Run
Land O'Lakes, FL 34638

- Doors Open at 9 a.m.
- Happy Hour begins at 9 a.m.
- Guild Meeting starts at 11 a.m.

- *Vice President*, Princess **Joanne Rodriguez**, to turn in your "Chillin' With My Gnomies" Special Christmas Block.

Also:

- During Happy Hour sit, stitch, learn, and have fun with your talented Feather Princesses friends, as you appliqué your stunning appliqué quilt projects.
- At 11 a.m., our guild meeting will begin with a brief presentation of business.
- Next, be inspired with the informational program, "Reverse Appliqué - Revealing Beauty," presented by our guest teacher, Margaret Willingham. In traditional appliqué, the design to be appliquéd is placed on top of the background fabric and stitched in place. For reverse appliqué, the fabric is layered and the top fabric is cut away and stitched in place to reveal the design. The fabric can be used in many layers to create complex designs. Margaret will further explain and clarify the difference between appliqué and reverse appliqué, discuss the pros of using reverse appliqué, and share with us the steps to stitch reverse appliqué. Also Margaret will present an amazing trunk show of her stunning appliqué quilts.
- During Show N Tell, enjoy the amazing and astonishing Show Offs and be inspired with the very stunning appliqué quilts and wallhangings made by our talented Princesses.

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April Program

by Joanne Rodriguez

(Excerpts taken from <https://www.eobquiltedesign.com>)

Margaret Willingham is an experienced teacher who specializes in teaching her signature, non-traditional method for hand and machine reverse appliqué, that makes it easy and FUN! Her Eye of the Beholder's method is called "Trace, Baste, Snip & Stitch."



Margaret's 10 years of teaching quilting is anchored in 40 years of training dancers of all ages and skill levels. She has taught her hand and machine reverse appliqué methods to quilters nationally at Road to California, Vermont Quilt Festival, American Quilter's Society Quilt Shows, Kansas City Regional Quilt Festival, Appliqué Away on Galveston Bay, Academy of Appliqué, and QuiltFest. Quilting is a journey and Margaret will inspire our applique adventures to be taken creatively and joyfully with grace.

Her patterns and articles have been published in *Fons & Porter's Magazine*, *100 Quilt Blocks*, *American Quilter Magazine*, and *On Point*; and she co-authored "Christmas RAPPING" with Nan Baker. Her patterns have a distinctive style, and she designs patterns for Banyan Batiks, Island Batik, Batik Textiles, Turtle Hand Batik, Cherrywood Fabrics, RJR, and Timeless Treasures.

Margaret is inspired with creating things of beauty and helping others find their creative voice, while gaining the skills to make beautiful things. She grew up with a legacy of family heirlooms. Antiques passed down with love and history were relished and used. Among the furniture, china and silver was the hand work of her ancestors: lovely linens and quilts hand-stitched with decorative threads to grace a table or a bed.

Many of Margaret's designs were inspired by the craftsman's work of the Victorian Era. The Victorians had an eye for beauty, and enhanced their works with graceful scrolls and swirls, adding a touch of elegance to their lives. Margaret loves that touch of elegance and believes that quilting gives us the

chance to decorate the lives of those we love with a touch of elegance, whether in a wall-hanging, a table runner or a bed-sized quilt. She sees design possibilities all around her—on book covers, sidewalk grates, railings and even tire rims.

As Margaret creates pattern designs, she plays with pattern, color and texture, making something beautiful to enliven her world and express love to those around her. And she is most at peace when she is creating.

For our inspirational lecture/trunk show, Margaret will present "Reverse Appliqué: Revealing Beauty – What is reverse appliqué?" She will explain the difference between appliqué and reverse appliqué? And she will tell us "When was it developed and by whom?" Also, she will tell "How to quilt reverse appliqué—and what is hidden will be revealed!" And she will show us some of her stunning appliqué quilts, incorporating this appliqué technique.

So, plan to join us this coming Wednesday at our April 12 guild meeting to see Margaret's quilts and to listen to her informative lecture on "Reverse Appliqué." I guarantee you will be inspired to try this fun technique, for sure!

(President's Message - continued from page 1)

And with appliqué, you don't have to worry about matching all of those seams that you do with patchwork, to ensure that all of the pieces fit perfectly.

Now here we are, two months after our quilt show; and we are somewhat relaxed again and our lives are returning to some form of normalcy. There are so many opportunities to pursue other artforms, hobbies, and interests now that we have some free time. But, let's go on a hunt to find that Golden egg. Let's pick up our needles and threads again and stitch some appliqué. Let's check our closets and drawers, to retrieve UFOs that we still like and want to finish. Or if you don't have any incomplete appliqué quilt projects (yeah, right—ha! ha!), consider starting a new one. Get a pattern and fabric and begin stitching that new appliqué masterpiece today.

Feather Princesses, never stop quilting and always hunt for that Golden egg! Thank you so much. We'll see you this coming Wednesday!

Community Service Project

by Shirley Williams

Every month at our guild meetings, we are truly honored to collect the food and cash donations that you so freely give, to help feed the hungry and less fortunate people in our Tampa Bay communities. But more than that, our hearts are touched and we experience total joy when we deliver these much needed donations to the various charities and food banks, and when we see the appreciation on the recipients' faces and when we hear their thankful comments and expressions. Feather Princesses, we commend you all for your continued support of our *Community Service Project* this year. You have consistently made very generous donations to the various food banks in our Tampa Bay communities; and we are sincerely grateful to you for your unwavering generosity, love, and support.

Princess **B. J. Weber** will deliver our donations to the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, located in Masaryktown, Florida. We sincerely thank **B. J.** for her dedication and service; and we truly appreciate you for making the lives brighter of the less fortunate people in our communities during this season.

Thank you, Feather Princesses! YOU REALLY ARE THE VERY BEST!

(April Guild Meeting - continued from page 2)

- Then be sure to enjoy the exciting April birthday drawing and door prize drawings, as you just might be a winner.

Fabulous Feather Princesses, come for a day of inspiration and learning with national teacher and quilt designer, Margaret Willingham. Let's increase our knowledge and enhance our skills of reverse appliqué!

We'll see you this coming Wednesday at our April guild meeting. Hop on over to Springhill Suites Marriott Tampa Suncoast Parkway and have a great time with us!

Sunshine and Shadows

by Ritu Haldar



April is upon us ushering in spring, renewal, and warmer temperatures. In this spirit of starting afresh, let's take a moment to spread some love and to reach out to our dear friends, amazing appliqué artists, and our fellow members. Your phone call, a kind word, a hug, or a cheerful get-well greeting will mean the world to each and every one. So, let's express our concern and love to our precious Feather Princesses and let them know that we are thinking of them, miss them, and that we can't wait to stitch with them again.

Here's wishing "good health and happiness" to our cherished Princesses who need our TLC and a speedy recovery. And let's remember that there is (and always will be) a place at our Feather Princesses table, waiting just for them!

So, lovely Feather Princesses, feel better soon, so we can appliqué together again! Let's sit, stitch, and create some stunning new appliqué quilt projects!

- Dee Anderson
- Jamie Crowe
- Ritu Haldar
- Betty Jo Lecaroz
- Eileen Leonard
- Terry Montaldo
- Peg Jacques
- Peggy Wattenbarger
- B. J. Weber

Information Now Located on: www.featherprincesses.org

Click on the links below to access the following information:

- [Previous Month's Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Healing Heart Blocks Guidelines](#)
- [Fat Quarter Exchange Guidelines](#)
- [Other Florida Quilt Shows](#)

NOTE: The password for the *Members Only* section is located on the bottom of page 1 in the 2022-23 FP Membership Directory.

Healing Heart Blocks and Fat Quarters, Too

by Shirley Kasprzyk

As with any and everything in life, we all have different ways of celebrating the people and things that are important to us. Each of us takes a different path or approach to life, as we value and express our love and support. The seasons of the year seem to play a major role in this, as most of our activities are driven by the holidays, other seasonal events, and cherished life-long activities and traditions.



During the summer we honor our Dads and celebrate our independence as a nation, fall finds us harvesting pumpkins and expressing our gratitude and thanks, and good-old winter brings us Christmas, New Year's, Valentine's Day, and other holidays which give us the wonderful opportunities to express our love and to enjoy. But when spring arrives, there is an explosion, a myriad of holidays and activities to celebrate and explore! There is a gusher of spring activities to delve into—Good Friday, Easter, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day, to name a few.

So, how and where do you greet spring? Do you spend time in your garden tilling the soil? Do you take out the mop and broom to clean the floors and then head to your closet to organize? Or do you favor a more exciting approach to life by taking a well deserved trip or vacation? These are all great ways to welcome spring. But we Feather Princesses take even another approach to usher in this season. We pull out our colorful fabrics and our appliqué heart patterns, and then we create breathtaking Healing Heart blocks.

Here in the Feather Princesses we appliqué stunning **Healing Heart** blocks for the lovely recipients on our **Healing Hearts** list; and we give these to express our concern and support, and to honor the lovely ladies in our guild who experienced a life threatening illness or the loss of a spouse or child. And, we appliqué heart designs in all colors, we make lovely **Healing Heart** blocks, and we give beautiful fat quarters to lift the spirits of our lovely Princesses, as they face challenging and difficult times.

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

- Maria Nunez likes blue
- Laura O'Connor likes burgundy
- Barbara Roberts likes blue and yellow

Princesses currently receiving the **Fat Quarters**:

- Sandy Davis likes Civil War prints

Feather Princesses you have always been and continue to be so generous in making the **Healing Heart** blocks and giving the fat quarters; and each one is greatly received and appreciated. Your outpouring of love is phenomenal; and we sincerely thank you.

You may mail your completed **Healing Heart** blocks and fat quarters directly to the recipients or bring them to our April 12 guild meeting and give them to me, Princess **Shirley Kasprzyk**; and I will give them to the recipients.

The *Healing Heart Block and Fat Quarter Guidelines* are located on our Feather Princesses website, [Members Only](#) section, **Healing Heart Blocks**. We sincerely express our gratitude to you for lifting the spirits of our very special recipients.

Tool Time

by Roni Hunt

We are so excited and can hardly wait to see you at our upcoming April 12 guild meeting. It's going to be phenomenal and we will have some FUN!



To let you know, we will take a break from our inspirational **Tool Time** presentation this month, to allow more time for our wonderful teacher and program guest, Margaret Willingham, to present her dynamic lecture/trunk show, "Reverse Appliqué - Revealing Beauty." I'm sure we'll grasp some valuable hints and tips from Margaret, as she shares very helpful and useful information about reverse appliqué with us.

So, come and learn from Margaret this month; and then stand by for our May **Tool Time** coming next month to a guild meeting near you!!

Margaret Willingham Workshops and Lecture/Trunk Show

by Joanne Rodriguez

We are ecstatic and beyond excited that national teacher and lecturer, pattern designer, and author, Margaret Brewster Willingham, of Eye of the Beholder Quilt Designs (EOB), will soon be here with us Feather Princesses. And while she is here, she will conduct the following two workshops and lecture/trunk show for us:

- **Workshop #1:** "Added Dimension – Hand: Forget-Me-Not"
 - **Venue:** Springhill Suites Marriott Tampa Suncoast Parkway, 16615 Crosspointe Run, Land O'Lakes, Florida 34638
 - **Date:** Monday, April 10, 2023
 - **Time:** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Workshop #2:** "Reverse Appliqué is FUN – Hand: Summertime Border"
 - **Venue:** Carrollwood Recreation Center, 3515 McFarland Road, Tampa, Florida 33618
 - **Date:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023
 - **Time:** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- **Lecture/Trunk Show:** "Reverse Appliqué – Revealing Beauty"
 - **Venue:** Springhill Suites Marriott Tampa Suncoast Parkway, 16615 Crosspointe Run, Land O'Lakes, Florida 34638

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023
- **Time:**
 - Guild meeting will begin at 11 a.m.
 - Lecture/Trunk Show will begin at 1 p.m.
- **Cost:**
 - Admission is free to all currently paid Feather Princesses members.
 - Guests and non-members may attend this event for a \$10 fee.
 - This fee may also be applied to Feather Princesses membership, if desired.

• Preparation:

- If you are enrolled in one or both of the workshops, please review the instructions specifically required for the workshop(s) you will attend, to ensure you are properly prepared.
- The workshop information is posted to our website at: www.featherprincesses.org, Members Only > Local Classes.
- Prep work is not required to attend the lecture/trunk show.

Thank you Feather Princesses. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at joannerod51@yahoo.com or (813) 264-1841.

Dinner With the Teacher

by Joanne Rodriguez

Quote from nofusskitchen.com - "My favorite thing to make for dinner is reservations."

Our guest teacher, Margaret Brewster Willingham, from Eye of the Beholder Quilt Designs will be here with us from this coming Sunday, April 9 (Easter), to Wednesday, April 12. And during that time, we Feather Princesses will have the colossal opportunity to meet her and to spend valuable time with her—for four marvelous days. So, in addition to seeing Margaret in class and at the lecture/trunk show at our April guild meeting, please consider dining with us, as we welcome Margaret to Tampa and to our appliqué guild.

We will take Margaret out to dinner on Sunday, April 9, Monday, April 10, and Tuesday, April 11; and we welcome you to join us on one or all three evenings. If you would like to go out to dinner with us, please contact me at joannerod51@yahoo.com or (813)264-1841 to confirm the evening(s) you want to join us; so we can include you in the restaurant head count.

Spending this valuable time with Margaret will be extra special, so, let's make it a date! Let's go eat!!!!

Thanks so much!



April Hospitality

by Linda Woytisek

We look forward to serving you with big bright beautiful smiles at our upcoming inspirational Reverse Appliqué Workshops (Monday, April 10 and Tuesday, April 11) and at our exciting April guild meeting (Wednesday, April 12, 2023). Come, relish in the awesome camaraderie and fabulous fellowship, and have a wonderful time with our lovely Feather Princesses and cherished friends, as you enjoy our hospitality.

Monday, April 10, Springhill Suites Marriott Tampa Suncoast Parkway, "Added Dimension – Hand: Forget-Me-Not" Workshop, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- **Brunch** – Princess **Becky Gammons** will graciously prepare the coffee prior to the start of the class for your enjoyment. And we welcome you to bring sweet treats to share, if you like.
- **Lunch** – You may bring your lunch from home or order take out from Chick Fil-A. Before the workshop begins, we will distribute a sign-up sheet and then we will pick up our orders at noon. So, please review the menu on your phones, sign the order sheet and pay (cash only, please), before the workshop begins.

Tuesday, April 11, Carrollwood Recreation Center: "Reverse Appliqué is FUN – Hand: Summertime Border" Workshop, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

- **Brunch** – Princess **Linda Woytisek** will graciously prepare the coffee prior to the start of the class for your enjoyment. And we welcome you to bring sweet treats to share, if you like.
- **Lunch** – You may bring your lunch from home or order take out from McAlister's Deli. Before the workshop begins, we will distribute a sign-up sheet and then we will pick up our orders at noon. So, please review the menu on your phones, sign the order sheet and pay (cash only, please), before the workshop begins.

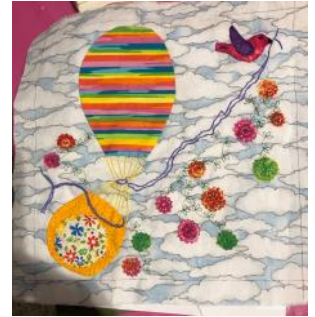
Wednesday, April 12, Springhill Suites Marriott Tampa Suncoast Parkway, April Guild Meeting: "Reverse Appliqué – Revealing Beauty" Lecture/Trunk Show, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- **Brunch** – Princess **Linda Woytisek** and other beautiful Princesses will graciously prepare the

2023 Spring Special Block

by Shirley Williams

If you would like to take a quiet balloon ride to get a bird's eye view of the area on a pleasant spring day, consider stitching a hot air balloon—a colorful fabric hot air balloon, that is!



At our March 8 guild meeting, we presented our adorable *2023 Spring Special Block*. The design consists of a hot air balloon flying through the clouds, with a gondola (basket) suspended beneath, adorned with seasonal flowers, leaves, and vines. And flying close to the balloon is a gorgeous bird, chirping and singing a happy tune coming straight from its heart!

If you purchased a kit, we hope you will have fun as you follow the easy instructions included in the kit, and stitch this stunning block.

To make the block, please use the background fabric provided, plus any additional quality cotton quilter's fabrics (in colors of your choice) from your stash to complete the block.

Remember to turn in your completed block to me, Princess **Shirley Williams**, by our Feather Princesses June 14 guild meeting, when the drawing will be held. The number of winners will be determined by the number of completed blocks turned in.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at swilliams110@verizon.net or (813) 892-2431.

coffee prior to the start of meeting and serve other special delights as well. And we welcome you to bring sweet treats to share, if you like.

- **Lunch** – You may bring your lunch from home. We will not place orders for take out.

To quench your thirsts, we will also have cold water at each of these events.

We anxiously look forward to seeing you this coming Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me, Princess **Linda Woytisek**. Thanks.

Christmas in July Celebration

by Dorothy Johnson

(Excerpt taken from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas_in_July)

Christmas in July (or Christmas in Summer or Early Christmas) is a second Christmas celebration held around the summer season, mainly during July. It is centered around Christmas-themed activities and entertainment, including small gatherings, seasonal music and specials, and shopping, with the goal of getting the public in the "Christmas spirit" during the summer season.

Here in our guild, we Feather Princesses just can't seem to get enough of Christmas. We absolutely love it! And even though this holiday season requires a substantial amount of energy and work to prepare for, it is definitely worth it. Once we get into the true spirit of Christmas (giving, loving, sharing, and spending precious time with the people dear to us) we really do enjoy it. So amid the hustle and bustle, it really is "the most wonderful time of the year!"

To get "a jump" on the 2023 holiday season, we will celebrate Christmas in July this year. So, mark your calendars now and plan to join us at our exciting Christmas celebration this summer, as we enjoy tasty Christmas treats, holiday music, and other seasonal delights.

Christmas in July Celebration
Spring Hill Suites Marriott Tampa
Suncoast Parkway
16615 Crosspointe Run
Land O Lakes, Florida 34638
Wednesday, July 12, 2023
Doors Open at 9 a.m.
Meeting Begins at 11 a.m.

As we prepare for this grand celebration, be sure to:

- Complete your "Chillin' With My Gnomies" Special Christmas Blocks and turn them in to Princess **Joanne Rodriguez**, to be eligible for the drawing. (Also, we will display all of the completed blocks turned in, vote, and award a prize to the maker of the block that receives the most votes for the "Most Unique Appliqué Design.")
- Pull out your Christmas appliqué quilts and bring them to share during our magical Christmas Show N Tell.

- Put the finishing touches on any Christmas appliqué quilts and wallhangings you have in progress, complete them, and then bring them to the celebration for us to see.
- Read our future updates and stay abreast of the additional activities we will have at this fun-filled holiday event. There is more to come!

Thanks so much for making our Christmas in July a really cool event and a whopping success!

April Birthdays

by Ritu Haldar

April brings warmer temperatures, spring showers, Good Friday and Easter celebrations, and of course our amazing and awe-inspiring workshops and lecture/trunk show by national quilt teacher, Margaret Willingham! What a fitting way to usher spring into our lives, with the renewal of friendship and love of appliqué! Princesses with birthdays in April also get a basket of birthday wishes, running over with all of the joy and love their hearts can hold and a fantastic year full of celebration and happy, happy times!

So with our extra good wishes, we shout out "Happy Birthday" to the following lovely Feather Princesses celebrating a birthday this month:



Be sure to enjoy your delicious birthday cake and save a slice for us, too!

Clothes to Kids, Inc.

by Dorothy Johnson

(Excerpt taken from <https://clothestokids.org/>)



Last month at our March 8 guild meeting, we were honored to welcome the Clothes to Kids, Inc. Development and Marketing Coordinator, Ms. Daniella Altamura. Our *Miniature Quilt Chair*, Princess Dee Anderson, presented the proceeds from our 2023 *Quilt Show Miniature Quilt Auction* to Daniella, who graciously accepted the gift for

the organization and she sincerely thanked us for our whole-hearted generosity.

Daniella also shared information about Clothes to Kids and she extended a warm invitation to our guild to come to their Tampa store (located on Hillsborough Avenue) for a tour. She also invited us to attend Clothes to Kids' biggest event of the year, their upcoming 21st birthday celebration.

This exciting birthday party will convene in just a few days and the tickets are available for purchase online at the website: <https://clothestokids.org/>

Clothes to Kids, Inc.
 21st Birthday Celebration
 Thursday, April 20, 2023
 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
 The Coliseum
 535 4th Avenue N.
 St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Go and attend this gala event for an evening of delicious food, an open bar, live music, games, and (FUN)raising, to provide kids with the wonderful experience of shopping!

April Calendar



Wednesday, April 5

Traditional Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

Monday, April 10

**Margaret Willingham Reverse Appliqué Workshop
 "Added Dimension – Hand: Forget-Me-Not"**

Tuesday, April 11

**Margaret Willingham Reverse Appliqué Workshop
 "Reverse Appliqué is FUN - Hand:
 Summertime Border"**

Wednesday, April 12

**Feather Princesses April Guild Meeting
 Margaret Willingham Lecture/Trunk Show
 "Reverse Appliqué - Revealing Beauty"**

Tuesday, April 18

**Crazy Wool Appliqué and Cotton-Pickin Stitches
 Quilt Group Meeting**

Wednesday, April 19

Team Legacy - Civil War Quilt Group Meeting

Thursday, April 20

Plum Creek Quilt Circle

Tuesday, April 25

Tuesday Sit & Stitch Quilt Circle

Friday, April 28

Wooly Chicks Quilt Circle

Our Fabulous Feather Princesses 2023 Retreat

by Karen Benitez

We began the registration for our fabulous 5-day retreat at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center last month at our March guild meeting; and I'm pleased to announce that 15 Princesses signed-up and there is room for many more!!



The retreat specifics are as follows:

►**Date:** Thursday, October 26 – Monday, October 30, 2023

►**Location:** Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center, 39034 County Rd 452, Leesburg, FL 34788

►**Cost** (all inclusive):

- Single Room – \$570
- Double Room – \$470 per person

We have lots of fun activities, games, and new demos already lined up; and we are working on more exciting plans, all of which are optional, just in case you prefer to sew, sew, sew!!

Please keep in mind that:

- You may register for the retreat at our monthly guild meetings.

- I will accept payments in the forms of cash, credit/debit cards, and checks made payable to the Feather Princesses.
- The payments must be made in increments of \$50.
- You will need to complete a *Retreat Registration Form*.
 - The form is located on our Feather Princesses website, [Members Only](#) > Retreat.
 - The password for our website is located at the bottom of page 1 in our Feather Princesses *2022-2023 Membership Directory*.
 - The deadline to register and make payments to attend the retreat is at our August 9, 2023 guild meeting.
 - The deadline to cancel and receive a refund is at our August 9 guild meeting as well.

Alternatively, you may mail your registration form and checks to me at:

Karen Benitez
7741 23rd Street
Zephyrhills, FL 33540

If you have any questions, you may text or call me at (925) 895-8129.

We are excited and looking forward to yet another wonderful Retreat!!

Thank You for attending it and making it special!

"Chillin' With My Gnomies" Christmas Gnome Special Block

by Joanne Rodriguez

The bunnies are hopping as Easter draws near. But we Feather Princesses aren't stitching bunnies this year. We're designing and making our "Chillin' With My Gnomies" blocks for our upcoming Christmas in July Celebration, convening at our July 12 guild meeting; and we thank you for participating by creating one of these adorable blocks.



We distributed a Christmas Gnome Special Block kit, "Chillin' With My Gnomies" to most of you at our 2022 Christmas Luncheon. And we hope you are learning and having fun as you create your special block.

- If you did not receive a kit in December, but you want to make a block, please see me, Princess **Joanne Rodriguez**, and we will try to put together a kit for you.
- If you received a kit and now prefer not to make the block, please return the kit to me, so we can share it with another lovely Princess who wants to make the block.

As you create your block, please follow the easy instructions included in the kit to appliqué it.

Please remember:

- When you finish appliquéing your block, please save your left-over fabric scraps, to share with other Princesses who want to make a block, and/or to share the scraps with the winners of the blocks, to use to finish their quilts, if they desire.

(continued page 11)

Team Legacy – Baltimore Album Quilt Group

by Roni Hunt

Hi to all of our charming Feather Princesses. Our phenomenal **Baltimore Album Quilt Group** will not meet during the month of April. However, I would like to announce our up-and-coming plans.

To begin, we are completing the final blocks from our first "Baltimore Album" quilt project, that we started last year. So, for fun and lots of joy, when the blocks are all complete, we will have an exciting drawing; and one lucky Princess will win the 9 blocks and finish the quilt to her liking. All of our lovely Album Princesses who made a block are eligible to participate; and their names will be entered in the drawing.

Also, we will continue working on making tiny stems. And in May, we will explore inked blocks that our ancestors added to their quilts. We would love for you to join us as we explore these appliqué techniques, even if you're not interested in completing a Baltimore Album Quilt. Appliqué techniques are used across the board with all type of quilts. So don't be shy... Join us for some needle work applications!

Team Legacy – Baltimore Album Quilt Group Meeting

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library
2902 W. Bearss Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 273-3672

Wednesday, May 17, 2023
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Roni Hunt

We look forward to seeing you all at our meeting in May. And as always, bring your lunch and a sweater, and get ready to enjoy some great camaraderie as we explore some of the legacies left behind by our quilting fore-sisters.

We will see you there!

("Chillin' With my Gnomies" Christmas Block - continued from page 10)

- To turn in your completed block and fabric scraps to me at our monthly guild meetings, now through July 2023.
- At our Feather Princesses July 12, 2023 guild meeting:
 - The drawing to win the blocks will be held at our Christmas in July Celebration.
 - We will display all of the completed blocks turned in, vote, and award a prize to the maker of the block that receives the most votes for the "Most Unique Appliqué Design."
- If you have any questions, you may contact me, Princess **Joanne Rodriguez**, at: **joannerod51@yahoo.com** or **(813) 264-1841**.

Be inspired, learn, share, and have fun as you design and appliqué your adorable Christmas Gnome Special Block. Best wishes to you all!

Team Legacy – Civil War Quilt Group

by Dorothy Johnson

We are so eager to get together with our Civil War Princesses, to continue examining the cotton quilt fabrics from that era, uncovering stunning appliqué quilt designs and patterns, and stitching our breathtaking Civil War quilts. So come and join us this month, as we delve further into the history and creation of these historic quilts.

Team Legacy – Civil War Quilt Group Meeting

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library
2902 W. Bearss Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 273-3672

Wednesday, April 19, 2023
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Dorothy Johnson

We look forward to seeing you all on April 19. Bring a very special friend and spend the day with us.

And as always, bring your lunch and a sweater; and be ready to learn and share everything about Civil War quilts! We will see you there!

We All Love a Good Mystery

by Dorothy Johnson

(Excerpts taken from <https://www.biblio.com/blog/2020/01/a-brief-history-of-mystery-books/#>, [https://www.shortlist.com/lists/the-best-mystery-tv-shows-403499#:~:text=A%20good%20mystery%20TV%20show,list%20should%20have%20you%20covered](https://www.shortlist.com/lists/the-best-mystery-tv-shows-403499#:~:text=A%20good%20mystery%20TV%20show,list%20should%20have%20you%20covered,), and <https://thequiltshow.com/quiltipedia/what-is-a-mystery-quilt>)

From time to time, we all love a good mystery, regardless of the genre. There are mystery novels which usually focus on a crime that is committed. The crime is commonly a murder, but thefts or kidnappings are also popular. The action of the story revolves around the solution of that crime—who did it and why, and ideally achieving some form of justice.

Also, there are good mystery TV shows, which keep us guessing with twists, turns, and puzzles to solve. Whether it's a whodunnit with dark comedy or a more strange and sci-fi mystery, we enjoy sitting and watching them, especially when we are stitching. Some TV shows throw a mystery our way and resolve it within each episode; while others have deep dark mysteries lurking throughout the series. These shows bring edge-of-your-seat tension to every episode, often with some of the most exciting (and at times frustrating) cliffhangers.

And then there are mystery quilts. A mystery quilt is a quilt with instructions that are revealed in a series of clues; and the final design is unknown until the final clue is revealed. Clues can be revealed as you finish each clue or on a set date or time, for instance weekly or daily. Fabric requirements are given at the onset and generally include details about colors of the fabrics, as well as the fabric quantity. There are even mystery quilts that not only are a surprise when they are finally assembled, but the quilt makers also resolve a mystery story from clues that are given along the way.

A good mystery is entertaining, for sure. But when it comes to our phenomenal quilt circles, there is no mystery. There is no guessing, twists, turns, or puzzles. When we meet with our dynamic leaders, Princesses **Becky, Shirley, Cheryl, Karen, and Cathleene**, at the very beginning of each circle, we already know the end of the story. We know that astounding camaraderie and fabulous fellowship will abound. We know that inspiration will peak at it highest as we share valuable hints, techniques, and tips with each other. We know that assistance is guaranteed and that "help" will always be readily

available when we need or want it, as there will always be a gifted Feather Princess in the room "who knows the answer" or "who knows how to do it." We know that "success" is a given; and each Feather Princess member will achieve her appliqué dreams and goals, because our incredibly amazing quilt circle leaders and astonishing talented members will be there to help and show us what we need to do to succeed. Our quilt circles do not disappoint.

So, don't miss our outstanding quilt circles in April. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend each and every one. There will not be a mystery, as you will already know the end of the story. You will learn, broaden your knowledge, enhance your skills, perfect your appliqué techniques, accomplish your quilting goals, and experience resounding SUCCESS each and every time you go!

NOTE: *Our Tuesday Sit & Stitch Quilt Circle will convene at Barnes & Noble Carrollwood, Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 10 a.m.*

Plum Creek Quilt Circle

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library
2902 W. Bearss Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 273-3652 (library)
Thursday, April 20, 2023
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Contact: Princesses Becky Gammons
and Shirley Kasprzyk

Tuesday Sit & Stitch Quilt Circle

Barnes & Noble Carrollwood
11802 N. Dale Mabry Highway
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 962-6446 (store)
Tuesday, April 25, 2023
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Contact: Princess Cheryl Haynes

Wooly Chicks Quilt Circle

Sweet Darling Quilts
26240 Wesley Chapel Boulevard
Lutz, Florida 33559
(813) 994-2994 (shop)
Friday, April 28, 2023
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Karen Conter
and Cathleene Tokish

The All Florida Shop Hop

by Dorothy Johnson (excerpt taken from <https://allfloridashophop.com/>)

It does not seem possible, but the month of March is history; and April is already here! That means we have less than a month remaining to enjoy Florida's exciting state-wide shop hop. The All Florida Shop Hop is an amazing quilting event like no other! It brings together sewing and quilting enthusiasts from across Florida and neighboring states; and it provides a little something for everyone. If you like sewing or quilting (and tell me a Feather Princess who doesn't), then you'll thoroughly enjoy yourself at this Shop Hop.

The event will convene now through April 30, 2023; and each participating store is offering the exclusive Shop Hop fabric and fun give-aways. Participants must have their passport stamped at each store they visit to qualify for additional prizes.

To ensure your maximum Shop Hop enjoyment, be sure to:

- Visit any of the participating stores to get the *All Florida Shop Hop Magazine*. It features everything you need to know to enjoy the Shop Hop.
- Go shopping and check out the 2023 custom-designed fabrics, exclusively designed by QT Fabrics, sold only at Shop Hop stores during the event.
- Enjoy the unique personality of each Shop Hop store. Discover the secrets and special items the individual stores have.
- Collect free quilt blocks. Each store has created a unique 4" quilt block capturing the fun and creativeness of sewing and quilting.

The quilt blocks are only available to those who participate in the Shop Hop.

- **Regional Quilt Blocks** – Collect the stamps from all stores in a Region and to get a free 6", on-point quilt block to commemorate your accomplishment. (You must turn in your passport to receive Regional quilt blocks. You'll receive one block for each region completed.)
- **State Quilt Block** – Purchase a commemorative 8" state block at participating stores or online.

Or, collect stamps from all stores in the All Florida Shop Hop and turn in your Passport to receive a FREE "I Finished Florida" state block.

This incredible Shop Hop lasts for two months; and the first month has already come and gone. So, do not put it off, do not delay. Figure out your plan of action and start organizing your road trips, so you can hit each and every shop, in each and every region of our state.

To see the complete list of all 60 participating shops, go to <https://allfloridashophop.com/stores/>.

One Last Upcoming Florida Quilt Event

by Dorothy Johnson

Feather Princesses, the party is almost over, the Florida 2023 Quilt Season that is. One last upcoming quilting event for this 2023 Quilt Show season, the Broward Quilt Expo, will convene in just a few days; and it will not disappoint. It will be the magnificent ending to one of Florida's most marvelous Quilt Show seasons ever.

Since January of this year, shows have convened from the panhandle of Florida to the southern most Keys, and all in-between. And we have been enamored and impressed by a plethora of these phenomenal quilt shows, sponsored by some of Florida's most distinctive quilt guilds. It has been an AWESOME experience to see the gorgeous quilts, meet new quilting friends, and renew acquaintances with old and precious ones.

So, do not let this one last upcoming quilting event of the Florida 2023 Quilt Show season pass you by. Contact your traveling quilt buddies right now and plan a trip to Pembroke Pines, to see the award winning quilts and quilt challenges, shop the exciting vendor booths, and attend the inspirational and informational demos, and more! You'll be glad you did!

Broward Quilt Expo

Charles F. Dodge City Center
601 City Center Way
Pembroke Pines, Florida

Saturday, April 15 – Sunday, April 16, 2023
10 a.m. – 6 p.m. both days

www.BrowardQuiltExpo.com