



# The Plume

September 2025

## THE FEATHER PRINCESSES NEWSLETTER

### IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 September Guild Meeting
- 3 Library Update • September Program
- 4 September Fat Quarter Exchange • September Community Service Project
- 5 Sunshine and Shadows • 20th Anniversary Celebration - Thank You!
- 6 September Calendar • Healing Heart Blocks: September - National Sewing Month
- 7 2025 Autumn Splendor Challenge • Our Fabulous 2025 Lake Yale Retreat
- 8 Fall Florida FUN
- 9 Straight A-Students • Combo Club Quilt Group
- 10 We Have Sew Much to Commemorate: Legacy Quilt Group • Upcoming Quilt Challenge and Contests
- 11 Animal Appliqué Quilt Group • Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

### President's Message

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

Beautiful Feather Princesses, we quilters are multi-faceted individuals. We're made up of many aspects for sure, and there are various components of our personalities, skills, and characters, that make us uniquely different in some ways, yet so very similar in others. Each facet offers a distinct, specific insight into our complex nature, such as being gifted quilters on the one hand, yet while maybe not possessing such superior skills or talents on the other hand or in other art forms.

When it comes to appliqué, we are multi-faceted individuals. We are competitors, we are winners, and we are champions!

- A **competitor** is a person, group, or entity that contends with others for the same goal, such as a prize.
- A **winner** is a person, thing, or entity that achieves victory or success in a competition, game, or any other endeavor.
- A **champion** is the winner of a competition or contest (usually 1st Prize or 1st Place).

As the 2025 football season kicks off, the spirit of competition is all around us! Players on every team have the same goal and objective in mind—to compete, to win, and to become champions! If you have heard the player interviews from all over the league, here at the beginning of the season the common theme is—they all are eager to compete, they want to win and win BIG, and they want to go to the Super Bowl! They want to be champions!

As we start a new year of appliqué here in our guild, let's adopt a similar attitude or mindset. Let's approach our quilting with new zest and zeal! Let's start each new appliqué quilt project with a fresh new attitude. From beginning to end, let's create stunning appliqué quilt projects, with these thoughts in mind—competing, winning, and becoming champions. Let's take the effort, energy, and time to SUCCEED:

- Think of and create your own unique appliqué designs and patterns.
- Select quality fabrics and colors appropriate for the designs.
- Incorporate the appropriate appliqué /quilting techniques necessary to execute the design.
- Watch a demo or video, attend a class or workshop, and/or seek the necessary assistance of another quilter(s), if needed. *(continued on page 3)*

## September Guild Meeting

by Dorothy Johnson

If you are a "betting person" who frequently places bets or wagers, then be confident and rest assured that our September Guild Meeting will be a winner! So, go ahead and place your bets now, as non-stop excitement will permeate the room as each leader runs down the field, makes her presentation or report, and then scores a touchdown! Fabulous fellowship will abound as we will cheer all of our Princesses to victory! And rest assured that at the end of game day, we all will be MVPs—Most Valuable Players in Appliqué and Quilting!

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.
- See our *Community Service Project Chair*, Princess **Mary Moody**, to drop off your non-perishable food items for our **Community Service Project**.
- Place the quilting supplies that you no longer want on the FREE table, to share with other Princesses who might need or want them.
- Place the tasty "Game Day Treats" you brought to share on the **Hospitality** counter.
- Mingle, greet our guests 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 Chair*, Princess **Linda Woytisek**, to turn in your "**HALLOWEEN**" fat quarters.
- *Guild Photographer*, Princess **Peggy Wattenbarger**, 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.
- *Librarian*, Princess **Mary Ann Vathy**, to browse, and return and check-out library books.
- *Newsletter Chair*, Princess **Michelle Barry**, to place an ad in our newsletter, *The Plume*.

Also:

- At 9 a.m. during Happy Hour sit, stitch, learn, and have fun with your talented Feather Princesses friends, as you stitch your stunning appliqué quilt projects.

**Wednesday, September 10, 2025**

Springhill Suites Marriott Tampa

Suncoast Parkway

16615 Crosspointe Run

Land O' Lakes, Florida 34638

- Doors Open at 9 a.m.
- Happy Hour begins at 9 a.m.
- Retreat Meeting starts at 10 a.m.
- Guild Meeting starts at 11 a.m.

- At 10 a.m., attend the informative **Retreat Meeting** in the Springhill Suites Hotel lobby, to discuss plans for our upcoming **2025 Lake Yale Retreat**.
- At 11 a.m., our guild meeting will begin with a brief presentation of business, special presentations, and committee reports.

At 12 Noon, during the lunch break, enjoy the lunch you brought from home and the yummy tailgating refreshments shared by our lovely Princesses.

- During the informative program, our *Vice President*, Princess **Ritu Haldar**, will totally inspire you, as she presents the information and class options regarding Kestrel Michaud's visit to our guild.
- 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.
- Then be sure to enjoy the exciting door prize drawings, as your name just might get drawn and you will be the winner.

It will be a SUPER Feather Princesses Game Day! So come, compete, enjoy each and every play, win, and become a CHAMPION! We'll see you this coming Wednesday at the meeting!



(President's Message - continued from page 1)

- Take pride and carefully appliqué your quilt design.
- Determine the appropriate embellishments or decorative features to enhance the appearance of your quilt, and then add them to make your quilt more attractive or interesting.
- Ensure that the quilting complements the overall design of your quilt.

Follow these hints and tips as you make your masterpiece quilts and compete, and then rest assured that you will win, win BIG, and become CHAMPIONS! Our Feather Princesses *Executive Board* and I lovingly encourage you to enter upcoming local and national challenges and quilt contests. Please see page 10 of this newsletter for a listing of the upcoming AQS Quilt Challenges and Contests that are currently open.

Princesses **Ritu, Michelle, Dianna**, and I are threading our needles to appliqué—because we are ready to compete, we want to win, and we want to be CHAMPIONS! We look forward to seeing you this coming Wednesday at our exciting September Guild Meeting.

## Library Update

by Mary Ann Vathy

Our quilt book database is now complete (think of it as a first draft—not perfect, but it's a good start). You'll be able to sort by title of book, author, and type of book.

Also, I can now print the book titles contained in each box, so we can do an mini-inventory. I'll print each box's number and book titles; and if you have that box, you can double check the books in that box. I'll distribute the lists at our September Guild Meeting. I've also made index card labels for each box, so I'll distribute those, too. Thank you so much to those of you who are "book foster mothers" and take care of boxes of books. We greatly appreciate your help.

It's still too hot to garden and work on our Summer tans. So, it's time to read a good book: get suggestions, spark your creativity, find some patterns you want to try, and see what the other Princesses are creating.

This month at our September Guild Meeting, we will have a new assortment of books to look at and check out. Please remember to return the books you checked out in July. As a reminder, you may check out two books, enjoy them for one month, and then return them. And the red dot books require a \$50 check which is refundable when the book is returned.

Please see me, Princess **Mary Vathy**, or email me at [mvathy@verizon.net](mailto:mvathy@verizon.net), if you have questions or suggestions.

## September Program

by Ritu Haldar

Happy September Dear Princesses!

Hooray for this beautiful month of September! This year is particularly special as we celebrate 20 glorious years of being together doing what we love! Our beloved appliqué family has members old and new. As we celebrate each other's talents, we can take a moment to thank each other for all of your creativity, support, and most of all the incredible inspiration!

Speaking of being inspired, our Feather Princesses Executive Board is super duper excited to welcome **Kestrel Michaud**! Award winning quilter, SAQA Board member, and author of some fabulous articles on the topic of art and the challenges of being a quilter in the digital age. She will be with us Wednesday, November 12, 2025, for an informative Lecture/Trunk Show and Thursday, November 13, 2025, for an inspirational workshop. If you get a moment, check out her website <https://KestrelMichaud.com>.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with her work, lectures, and Trunk Show as well as her class offerings. With that information in your back pocket, we can have an informed and robust discussion about choosing a workshop that best suits our needs!

So get excited and gather your information. I look forward to seeing you at our phenomenal September Guild Meeting!

Happy, Happy Appliqué!



## September Fat Quarter Exchange

by Linda Woytisek

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

Halloween is just around the corner. So, how will you celebrate this year? Some folks will attend adult theme parties with friends, wear unique costumes, and watch horror movies, while others will reap total gratification, joy, and satisfaction by sharing candy and other sweet seasonal treats with children all dolled up in their Halloween costumes for trick or treat. And while "dishing out" the candy, some people will also carve pumpkins, bob for apples, play games, and even have costume contests and award prizes for the most popular and unique costumes.

On the other hand, most of us quilters are on a whole other level, off course, as we get our kicks at Halloween by sewing and quilting Halloween items for our families and friends. Costumes, home decor, and quilts all come to mind. And to create these desired sought after items, we quilters need just the right striking Halloween fabrics, in an array of colors, too—especially purple, orange, and black!

The **Fat Quarter Exchange** fabric selection for September is **HALLOWEEN** fabrics. After all, we need these playful fabrics to put the finishing touches on our stunning **Autumn Splendor Challenge** quilts and wallhangings, and to create new seasonal appliqué quilts as well. So, let's take that familiar walk to our over-stuffed fabric closets and drawers, and start pulling those alluring Halloween fat quarters to bring to our September 10 Guild Meeting for the exciting **Fat Quarter Exchange**.

During the exchange, if you win a bundle of the splendid Halloweens fabrics, you will certainly enjoy playing with them, finishing your challenge quilts, and/or creating your next stunning Halloween appliqué quilt!

The *Guidelines for the Fat Quarter Exchange* are located on the Members Only section of our website.

Thanks so much and we'll see you and your gorgeous **Halloween** fat quarters this coming Wednesday at our fat quarter table.

## September Community Service Project

by Mary Moody

At many of the food pantries in our area, the contributions and donations are down, while the number of those in need is up. So, please consider making a donation to our **Community Service Project** this month.

At the beginning of this Autumn season, let's step up and give to the less fortunate and needy people in our local communities. Let's ensure that no one goes hungry as the holidays come. Let's share food from our cupboards and cash from our pockets, to ensure that the less fortunate people have food to eat this month.

We provide a tremendous and very worthwhile service to our communities. The local food banks, churches, and other support organizations are sincerely grateful for receiving our monthly cash and food donations, as they help feed the many hungry families in our areas. So, we thank you for making your generous donations and for supporting our very worthwhile **Community Service Project**.

This month Princess **B.J. Weber** will deliver our donations to:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1214 Broad Street  
Masaryktown, FL 34604

Feather Princesses, we thank you again for expressing your love and helping to ensure that the less fortunate people in our communities have food to eat.

We are so grateful to you for caring and for sharing!

### Information Now Located on: [www.featherprincesses.org](http://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](#)

**NOTE:** The password for the Members Only section is located on the bottom of page 1 in the 2024-25 FP Membership Directory.

## Sunshine and Shadows

by Ritu Haldar



Happy September Princesses!

We're doing the happy dance this month! September brings gorgeous relief from the heat! Puuuurfect weather for enjoying your lanai, your pool and your garden! The earth seems to take a deep breath, parched from the sun and relief from the Summer rain.

It is the same with friends and family. Summer travel is behind us. As we come into the Fall, let's take a moment to love our friends and guild family. Small gestures of a "hello" on the phone, sitting at our guild meeting with a new member, or reaching out to see what a friend is working on is the best gift of all! I hope you know you are treasured and loved! Enjoy September to the fullest! Happy Fall!

- Dee Anderson
- Trudy Flynn
- Nancy Hale
- Shirley Kasprzyk
- Betty Jo Lecaroz
- Mary Moody
- Joanne Rodriguez
- Chris Sudberry
- Pat Yucatonis

Also, it is always a joy and a pleasure to welcome a new baby. So, we ask you to join us as we CONGRATULATE our dear friend, **Cheryl Haynes**, on the birth of her precious new granddaughter! **Cheryl's** baby girl, Laura and her husband, recently became the gloating parents of a gorgeous new baby girl! Little Scarlett Blair Romero, made her grand entrance into this world on Friday, August 29, 2025, at 9:35 a.m. Healthy baby Scarlett tipped the scales at 9 lbs., 6 oz. and she was 21 1/2 inches long.

Scarlett is a very beautiful child, who is already loved by so many, and she is doing quite well. And mom and dad (**Cheryl's** daughter and son-in-law) are beaming from ear-to-ear, too!

We are so very happy for **Cheryl** and her lovely family; and we thank our dear Princess, **Jeanne Casiglia**, for sharing this wonderful update with us!

## 20th Anniversary Celebration - Thank You!

by Dorothy Johnson

When our Feather Princesses Appliqué Guild started back in August 2005, our co-founder, Princess **Laura Brooker**, and I had no idea of what would come. But we had a strong desire to assemble talented needle artists and quilters of all skill levels, to come together to appliqué and quilt. We also had a thirst for knowledge, learning, creating masterpiece quilts, and competing at the national and international levels. Well, I am honored to say that we accomplished our goals and fulfilled our dreams. Twenty years of appliqué was no small feat, BUT we did it! It was (and continues to be) an impressive achievement that requires significant effort, skill, and hard work to accomplish. It requires dedication and commitment from all of us.

As we start yet another exciting year of appliqué, we pause and take this opportunity to thank each and every one who worked so hard to ensure the success of our illustrious quilt guild during our first twenty years. To our leaders past and present (officers, committee chairs, quilt circle leaders, and specialty quilt group leaders), we express our immeasurable gratitude to you for your love and constant unwavering commitment to our guild and for always operating in EXCELLENCE! And to our dedicated members past and present, we thank you for your love as well, steadfast dedication, enthusiasm, patience, and support. YOU ALL MADE IT HAPPEN!

Our 20th Anniversary Celebration was quite an exciting and festive event—one that will go down in the history books! It was a GRAND PARTY indeed! And we sincerely thank each and every one of you lovely Feather Princesses who contributed to it! And I express my sincere gratitude to you for the lovely gifts presented to me. The beautiful quilt and pillow always will be two of my most treasured possessions. Your gifts really made me smile and brought tons of joy to my heart!

And now that the party is over, we challenge each and every one of you to thread your needles and create more masterpiece appliqué quilts. No matter your skill level, start where you are, learn the techniques you need to know, go from there and enjoy the exciting journey! The sky is the limit as to what you can achieve in the years to come!

Thank you fabulous Feather Princesses for twenty years of AWESOME APPLIQUÉ!

## September Calendar

**Wednesday, September 3**  
Scrap Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

**Wednesday, September 10**  
Feather Princesses September Guild Meeting

**Monday, September 15**  
Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

**Tuesday, September 16**  
Sew Happy Sit & Stitch in Pasco Quilt Circle

**Wednesday, September 17**  
Legacy Quilt Group Meeting

**Thursday, September 18**  
Combo Club Quilt Group Meeting

**Wednesday, September 24**  
Animal Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

**Thursday, September 25**  
Plum Creek Quilt Circle

**Friday, September 26**  
Wooly Chicks Quilt Circle

## Healing Heart Blocks: September - National Sewing Month

by Shirley Kasprzyk  
(Excerpts taken from <https://www.google.com/> and <https://www.nationalsewingmonth.org/>)



National Sewing Month is celebrated every year during the month of September. The celebration was established by President Ronald Reagan in 1982 through a proclamation recognizing the importance of home sewing to our nation. National Sewing Month is the recognition of a creative form of self-expression that we celebrate in September, but enjoy all year.

Sewing offers a unique blend of creativity, practicality, and personal satisfaction. Beyond the tangible results, sewing can be deeply relaxing and rewarding, providing a sense of accomplishment as we transform fabric into something beautiful and functional. It also encourages resourcefulness and sustainability by enabling us to repair, repurpose, or upcycle clothing, quilts, or other craft items, rather than discarding them. Whether we're crafting something new or breathing life into an old favorite, sewing is a skill that fosters self-expression, problem-solving, and lifelong learning.

So, let's take out our needles, threads, appliqué heart patterns, and fabrics, and then enjoy sewing and stitching some breathtaking **Healing Heart** blocks this month. Let's honor the precious Princesses on our **Healing Heart** list, as we commemorate the importance of self-expression and home sewing in our lives.

Here in the Feather Princesses, we lift the spirits of our lovely Princesses, as they face challenging and difficult times. We appliqué stunning **Healing Heart** blocks for the lovely recipients on our **Healing Hearts** list; and we give the lovely blocks to express our concern and support, and to honor these lovely ladies in our guild who experienced a life threatening illness or the loss of a spouse or child. We convey our endearing love through our appliqué.

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

- **Barbara Belcher** likes red, white, and blue
- **Bobbi LeMay** likes Christmas fabrics
- **Jeanne Casiglia** likes pastels
- **Mary Moody** likes blue and red
- **Laura O'Connor** likes burgundy

If you recently completed **Healing Heart** blocks that you have not turned in, please bring them to our September 10 Guild Meeting and turn them in to me, Princess **Shirley Kasprzyk**; and I will give them to the recipients.



## 2025 Autumn Splendor Challenge

by Dorothy Johnson

Can you believe we're actually saying the word, "October?" Well, believe it or not, we're saying it AND it's coming—FAST!

- Autumn officially begins on Monday, September 22.
- Nine days later, the month of October makes its grand arrival.
- And seven days after that, the **Autumn Splendor Challenge** will take place at our exciting October 8 Guild Meeting.



Sample of Autumn Vibes Appliqué Pattern  
by Angie Padilla Quilt Designs

As a gentle reminder, there will be three categories for this challenge:

- **Quilt Category** – Each quilt entered must measure 60" x 60" or larger in size.
- **Wallhanging Category** – Each wallhanging entered must measure any size smaller than 60" x 60".
- **Pumpkin Category** – Each piece must contain an appliquéd pumpkin and it can be a quilt or a wallhanging that complies with the dimensions listed above.
- The maker of each quilt will determine the category her piece will be entered in.

Also:

- Each quilt or wallhanging submitted in the challenge must contain a minimum of 60% appliquéd in the design.
- All edges of the fabric pieces on each quilt must be sewn down by machine or hand. No raw edges will be accepted in our challenges, contests, or shows.
- To clarify, fused quilts with edges sewn with a machine stitch of any kind or with a hand blanket stitch are allowed.
- Entries must be complete and must include machine or hand quilting, a binding, and a label.
- Quilts and wallhangings displayed in our previous Feather Princesses Quilt Shows may be entered in this

challenge.

- Quilts previously entered in this challenge may be entered again, except those that received a prize in a previous **Autumn Splendor Challenge**.

The deadline is our October 8, 2025 guild meeting, where the challenge quilts and wallhangings must be displayed during the meeting.

Feather Princesses attending this meeting will vote for their favorite challenge entry in the quilt, wallhanging, and pumpkin categories.

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

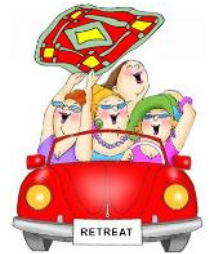
- \$50 to the maker of the quilt that receives the most votes.
- \$25 to the maker of the wallhanging that receives the most votes.
- \$15 to the maker of the piece with an appliquéd pumpkin that receives the most votes.

We extend our very best wishes to each Feather Princesses member who completes an entry for the challenge, including adding the quilt label! We'll see you and your awesome **Autumn Splendor** quilts at our October 8 Guild Meeting!

## Our Fabulous 2025 Lake Yale Retreat

by Winnie Miale, Joanne Rodriguez, and Dianna Shepard

Gorgeous Feather Princesses, the time is getting closer for our fabulous 2025 Retreat, convening at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center, Thursday, October 16 – Monday, October 20. Five weeks remain before the Retreat begins, and we can hardly wait! We are so excited and our hearts are filled with JOY, JOY, and more JOY!



We will have a Retreat Meeting at 10 a.m. in the Springhill Suites Hotel lobby, prior to the start of our September 10 Guild Meeting. If you are registered to attend the Retreat, then please attend this meeting. We will discuss details related to the Retreat.

If you have ideas for fun games or projects, please share them at this meeting with our wonderful *Retreat Committee*. We would love to hear from you.

If you plan to contribute to the goodie bags, please be sure to have enough items for 13 bags. And, if you plan to contribute a door prize, we certainly would appreciate that, too!

If you have any questions prior to our Retreat meeting, please feel free to contact us by email, phone, or text.

## Fall Florida FUN

by Dorothy Johnson

(Excerpts taken from <https://www.google.com/> and *The Florida Register*, September - October, 2025)

If you're looking for exciting Florida Fun this Fall, get ready to immerse yourselves in a wide variety of fun-filled festivals, outdoor activities, and events, from pumpkin patches and corn mazes to art shows, seafood festivals, and craft shows and celebrations. You also can enjoy fall foliage at state parks, attend an air show, or even experience a medieval festival. For local fun, check the event calendars for your city or region, as there are many community and harvest festivals to discover.

And then there are the dynamic quilt shows. To see a plethora of masterpiece award winning quilts, win delightful prizes, shop the jam packed vendor booths, and more, plan to attend each and every one of the following quilt shows listed below. Call a friend, fill up the tank, and hit the road, Feather Princesses! Take a break from your needles, attend the following shows to support other quilt guilds, and promote the art of quilt making—but most of all to have Fall Florida FUN!

### "Color Our World" - 38th Annual Quiltfest

Prime Osborn Center

1000 Water Street

Jacksonville, Florida

Thursday, September 18 - Saturday,

September 20, 2025

- See: <https://Quiltfestjax.com> for more information.
- Facebook [@quiltfestjax.com](https://www.facebook.com/quiltfestjax.com)
- Instagram [@jaxquiltfest](https://www.instagram.com/jaxquiltfest)
- Over 400 Judged Quilts, Prizes, Boutique, Vendors, Free Parking, and More!



### Treasure Trove of Quilts - Quilt Show 2025 Piecemakers Quilt Guild of Brandon

The Regent

6437 Watson Road

Riverview, Florida 33578

Friday, October 10 - Saturday, October 11, 2025

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. both days

[Info@brandonpiecemakers.org](mailto:Info@brandonpiecemakers.org)

Judged Quilts, Boutique, Gift and Basket Drawings, Books and Magazines, Silent Auctions, Vendors and More!

### "Quilting Under the Palms" - 2025 Quilt Show Quilter's Crossing Quilt Guild

Countryside Recreation Center

2640 Sabal Springs Drive

Clearwater, Florida

Friday, October 24, 2025, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, October 25, 2025 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

See [www.quilterscrossingguild.org](http://www.quilterscrossingguild.org) for more information.

Find us on Facebook at [Quilter's Crossing, Inc.](https://www.facebook.com/Quilter's-Crossing-Inc)

Over 200 Quilts, Door Prizes, Group Quilt, Gift Baskets, Feather Weight Sewing Machine, Free Parking, and More!



### "42nd Annual Fantastic" - Quilt Show Lake County Quilters Guild

Venetian Center

1 Dozier Circle

Leesburg, Florida 34748

Friday, November 14 - Saturday, November 15, 2025

See [www.lakequiltguild.com](http://www.lakequiltguild.com) for more information.

Follow us on Facebook at [@Lake County Quilters Guild of Florida](https://www.facebook.com/Lake-County-Quilters-Guild-of-Florida).

Quilts, Vendors, Boutique, Quilt Sales, and More!



## Straight A-Students

by Dorothy Johnson

(Excerpt taken from <https://www.google.com/>)

A report card communicates a student's performance academically. And in most areas, the report card is issued by the school to the student or the student's parents once or up to six times yearly. (Wikipedia) It is a teacher's written assessment of a student's work, progress, and conduct, sent home to a parent or guardian. The purpose of a report card is to inform a child's parents of his or her academic progress during the school year. Many parents consider it the MOST important document that they receive from the school.

Here in the Feather Princesses, we don't issue report cards to our gifted members or their parents; BUT, our accomplished and talented Quilt Circle Leaders (teachers) do give their stamp of approval on every single quilt that our members make. As each quilt is created, our top-notch leaders share their knowledge and expertise with our members making the quilts, they demo and show various quilting techniques, and they follow-up to ensure that the appropriate techniques are used to yield the desired quilt results. And ta-da, the end result is totally awesome, breathtaking quilts created by our brilliant members. The Feather Princesses who attend our phenomenal quilt circles are straight-A students and they all get an "A" in quilting and appliqué.

So, if you want to be a straight-A student and get good grades (stunning appliqué quilts) too, then be sure to start the new school right, by attending our exceptional quilt circles. No Cs, Ds, or Fs here in our guild. All of our amazing members are straight-A students, who excel and strive for excellence! If not, maybe we just might issue report cards after all. We're only kidding. Ha, ha!

## Combo Club Quilt Group

by Melissa Labella

We're having a very productive time making quilt blocks in our **Combo Club Quilt Group**, and we gladly welcome you to come and spend some time with us!

This month, join us on the third Thursday, September 18, as we continue our exciting and fascinating quilt block journey, referencing the book "Alice's Wonderland" by Alice Carline.

### Combo Club Quilt Group Meeting

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library

2902 W. Bearss Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33618

(813) 273-3652 (library)

Thursday, September 18, 2025

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Melissa Labella

We will see you in September at these exceptional quilt circles:

### Sew Happy Sit and Stitch in Pasco Quilt Circle

Regency Park Branch Library

9701 Little Road

New Port Richey, Florida 34654

(727) 861-3049 (library)

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Barbara Belcher,  
Winnie Miale, and Dianna Shepard

### Plum Creek Quilt Circle

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library

2902 W. Bearss Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33618

(813) 273-3652 (library)

Thursday, September 25, 2025

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Becky Gammons  
and Shirley Kasprzyk

### Wooly Chicks Quilt Circle

Land O'Lakes Branch Library

2818 Collier Parkway

Land O' Lakes, Florida 34639

(813) 929-1214 (library)

Friday, September 26, 2025

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Dorothy Johnson

We will focus on blocks 57- 64, plus two appliqué blocks of your choice. This month's blocks will continue with template piecing and then move into English Paper Piecing (EPP). These blocks could eventually be considered appliqué, because the EPP bits get appliquéd down to a solid piece.

So, bring any completed blocks for Show N Tell, and/or whatever project you are working on, and enjoy some Quilty camaraderie. The project you make will be yours to keep, so create a few blocks or all of them, make it monochromatic or from scraps. Do what makes you happy!

Note that in October, the Feather Princesses will have a grand time at the Lake Yale Retreat, so our **Combo Club Quilt Group** will *not* meet.

## We Have Sew Much to Commemorate: Legacy Quilt Group

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

We have sew much to commemorate this month in our **Legacy Quilt Group Meeting**, so come and join us on Wednesday, September 17, as we continue learning about our nation's history and creating striking appliqué patriotic quilts for our upcoming quilt display, celebrating America's 250th birthday in 2026:

- **"Labor Day"** is a federal holiday in the United States celebrated on the first Monday of September to honor and recognize the American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements in the United States. This year we celebrated Labor Day on Monday, September 1.
- **"Patriot Day"** (singular, no apostrophe) is a national day of remembrance for the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. This year we will recognize Patriot Day on Thursday, September 11, as a day of mourning, remembrance, and service. This day is not to be confused with "Patriots' Day," a state holiday in Massachusetts and Maine, which commemorates the start of the American Revolution, and is recognized every year on the third Monday of April.

So, this month be sure to join us at our informative and inspirational meeting:

### Legacy Quilt Group Meeting

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library  
2902 W. Bearss Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33618  
(813) 273-3652 (library)  
Wednesday, September 17, 2025  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Dorothy Johnson

At this meeting, we will continue focusing on various patriotic designs and symbols and also Americana appliqué quilt patterns. So:

- Please bring the pattern for the quilt you plan to make and/or patterns you would like to share with the group.
- And, bring any fabrics you think will work for these quilts, that you would like to use as well.

We will have a remarkable adventure, as we delve into our nation's history, select appropriate fabrics and patterns for appliqué quilts, and then actually begin stitching them!

And if you would like to bring other Legacy quilts—your Baltimore Album, Civil War, and Traditional appliqué quilts—please feel free to bring them to stitch as well!

Thanks so much! We look forward to seeing you and your stunning appliqué quilts at this meeting!

## Upcoming Quilt Challenge and Contests

by Dorothy Johnson  
(Excerpts taken from <https://www.americanquilter.com/>)

Exciting quilt challenges and dynamic shows are coming up in the very near future, providing us quilters the opportunity to get our feet wet, compete against other quilters, and win prizes. So if you would like to stretch, get out of your comfort zone and take a challenge, then be sure to check out the rules and guidelines. You just never know, your quilt entry just might be a WINNER!

Talented Feather Princesses, let's take these tremendous opportunities to showcase our breathtaking quilts!

### AQS Creativity Challenge - "50 States in Stitches"

Celebrate the sights, stories, and spirit of your chosen state in this fun and imaginative wool appliqué challenge! You can pick your current home state, a state you once lived in, or one you've always loved from afar. You get to decide the state you stitch!

Create a one-of-a-kind 8"x10" quilted wool appliqué quilt inspired by any U.S. state using a kit curated by WonderFil Specialty Threads. Go bold, go whimsical, go scenic or symbolic, it's all up to you!

- Submissions open August 20, 2025.
- All entries must be submitted by December 15, 2025.

### American Quilter's Society 2026 Quilt Shows:

QUILT SHOWS	CONTEST DEADLINES	QUILT SHOW DATES
Daytona Beach 2026	Sept. 18, 2025	Feb. 18-21, 2026
New England 2026	Nov. 6, 2025	April 8 - 11, 2026
Paducah 2026	Nov. 20, 2025	April 22 - 25, 2026
Grand Rapids 2026	April 30, 2026	August 19-22, 2026
Lancaster 2026	May 21, 2026	Sept. 16 - 19, 2026

## Animal Appliqué Quilt Group

by Lois Bretzlaff

We are thrilled to welcome you to attend the inaugural meeting of our exciting **Animal Appliqué Quilt Group!** There will be something for every Princess of every skill level—beginner, intermediate, or advanced. So, mark your calendars now and plan to join us on Wednesday, September 24, 2025. Come and express your creativity while learning about animal appliqué designs, colors, appropriate fabrics, and the necessary techniques used to create stunning animal appliqué quilts.

### Animal Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library  
2902 W. Bearss Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33618  
(813) 273-3652

Wednesday, September 24, 2025  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Lois Bretzlaff

Animals are FUN and Animal Appliqué is even more delightful! It can be whimsical, imaginative, or realistic, and several methods, styles, and techniques can be used to create it:

- Needleturn
- Prepared Edge
- Freezer Paper
- Machine Appliqué
- Raw Edge

Also, there is a wide variety of animals styles to choose from:

- Domestic
- Farm
- Ocean
- Wild
- Zoo

So prior to this meeting, please:

- Look through your quilt books and patterns to find appliqué animal designs and patterns that are of interest to you.
- Check your fabric stash to find appropriate fabrics that will play well and work for animal images.

Then attend this meeting, gain the knowledge and skills necessary to create breathtaking animal appliqué, and transform your ideas into striking masterpieces—a block (which can be made into a pillow), wallhanging, or a quilt.

Get ready to learn and have fun on this Animal Appliqué journey! Create a fun quilt for yourself and for your precious grandkids, as children love animals, too!

## Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

by Peggy Wattenbarger, Linda Woytisek, and Krystal Woytisek

Talented Feather Princesses, we welcome you to come and join us at our next inspirational **Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting!** We've started our new group quilt, we're having so much fun, and we promise you will enjoy the meeting, learn new techniques, and have fun, too! So, mark your calendars now and make plans to join us.

### Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library  
2902 W. Bearss Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33618  
(813) 273-3652

Monday, September 15, 2025  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Peggy Wattenbarger,  
Linda Woytisek, and Krystal Woytisek

At this productive meeting, we will continue working on the stunning background for our group quilt. We still need more blue fabrics, specifically medium and light blue fabrics for the background.

So, PLEASE bring:

- Any light-to-medium blue fabrics that you can spare
- Your finished flower block
- The photograph that was assigned to you

And so that you can fully participate in this meeting, please bring these following supplies as well:

- Small and/or medium paint brush to use for the liquid starch
- Small or tiny irons – As the pieces get bigger in the background, we will need to use larger irons.
- Parchment paper
- Fusible web such as Wonder Under
- Small ironing surface for your convenience, if you have one. Larger iron boards will be available as well.
- If you have any iron cleaner, please bring it.

I will bring the liquid starch and small dishes.

This jam-packed meeting will be fantastic and it will be FUN! So get ready delightful Feather Princesses to come, learn, and have a very good time with us, as we create our masterpiece group quilt!