



The Plume

NOVEMBER 2025

THE FEATHER PRINCESSES NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

by Dorothy Johnson

In this "fast paced" world that we live in, where there are so many details and so much info to keep track of, sometimes it's rather difficult to acknowledge and then remember what's important to us and what is not. At times, it's just down right challenging to find the time to express our sincere gratitude and to say "thanks" for the acts of kindness (both big and small) bestowed upon us by others.

Speaking of small acts of kindness, the phrase "it's the little things that count" means that seemingly small acts, moments, or details are often more meaningful and important than big, obvious ones. And because those little things are the things we often end up cherishing the most, it is vitally important that we practice gratitude for those everyday moments that are so easy to take for granted or forget. So lovely Feather Princesses, we take this marvelous opportunity here and now to thank you for the little things and for being such wonderful quilt guild members. Because of your commitment, dedication, and loyalty to appliqué and to our guild, we have had one of the most fun-filled and successful years in our guild's history; and we sincerely thank you for that!

And while we're expressing our gratitude, we give a BIG "shout out of appreciation and thanks" to our 2025 *Lake Yale Retreat Committee* as well! Princesses **Winnie Miale**, **Joanne Rodriguez**, and **Dianna Shepard** did an outstanding job chairing our **Lake Yale Retreat** this year; and our experienced long standing retreat attendees all agreed that this fun-filled retreat was one of the best that we ever had! **Winnie**, **Joanne**, and **Dianna** attended to every single detail and they did not disappoint.

From the time we arrived at Lake Yale that Thursday morning, to the time we departed the following Monday afternoon, every thing was in tip-top shape and we had a fantastic time! Our dorm rooms were refurbished and refreshed, the cafeteria food was unusually delicious and tasty this year, and as always our sewing room was spacious and convenient for all! And the activities that our Chairs planned for us were BEYOND FUN! The Special Autumn quilt block drawing, demos, door prizes, games, gift exchanges, hand-made Christmas ornament exchange, puzzles, and more filled our days! And let's not forget the scrumptious "ice cream social," as it has now become our FP Retreat "tradition." This FP 2025 Lake Yale Retreat was a "Feather Princesses Paradise,"—so much to the point that we have already decided to "do it again!" Even though we had

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November Guild Meeting

by Dorothy Johnson

We all have heard the familiar adage about "wishing upon a star," in hopes that a dream will come true. Well, at this exciting meeting, instead of wishing upon a star, we will get the outstanding opportunity to see a "rising star," world renowned quilter, **Kestrel Michaud**, hailing from West Melbourne, Florida. So, arrive early at Springhill Suites, get a good seat, embrace the camaraderie and warmth of the Feather Princesses, and then (as they say) sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

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 and to pick up your new Feather Princesses 2025 – 2026 Membership Card.
- 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 delicious "Fall Holiday 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:

- *Guild Photographer*, Princess **Peggy Wattenbarger**, to sign in and photograph the quilts you will present during Show N Tell.
- *Newsletter Chair*, Princess **Michelle Barry**, to place an ad in our newsletter, *The Plume*.
- *Program Chair/Vice President*, Princess **Ritu Halder**, to sign up to attend **Kestrel Michaud's Workshop**, "Improv Flowers" (convening on Thursday, November 13, 2025).

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.
- At 11 a.m., our guild meeting will begin with a brief welcome to our members and visiting friends, and the introduction of **Kestrel Michaud**.



Wednesday, November 12, 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.
- Guild Meeting starts at 11 a.m.

- Shortly after that, **Kestrel Michaud** will present her inspirational Lecture/Trunk Show, "Kestrel's Creations."
- During the lunch break:
 - Enjoy the tasty lunch you brought from home and the yummy "Fall Holiday Treats" and refreshments shared by our lovely Princesses.
 - Purchase a **Christmas Special Block** kit from Princess **Maria Nunez**.
 - Pay (card, cash, and check only, please) and fill out the form to participate in our upcoming "Holiday Elegance" Christmas Luncheon.
- After lunch, we will have a short presentation of business, including a few committee reports.
- 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 November Birthday and door prize drawings, as your name just might get drawn and you will be the winner.

This November Guild Meeting will be exciting, inspirational, and invigorating, too, filling us with the confidence, desire, and urge to create stunning appliqué quilts and something new!

So come, join us, and have a fun-filled and enriching day! Princesses **Ritu**, **Michelle**, **Dianna**, and I certainly look forward to seeing you and to play!

November Program

by Ritu Haldar

Happy November! And Happy Thanksgiving, too!

Dear Princesses, this beautiful month of November ushers in a boat load of excitement! I am thrilled to say that it is time for us to extend our heartiest welcome to our guest, world renowned quilter, **Kestrel Michaud**. She will present a wonderful and exciting Lecture/Trunk Show entitled "Kestrel's Creations."

And please remember that:

- Admission to Kestrel's amazing presentation is free to all current Feather Princesses members.
- We invite you to bring your friends to enjoy what will be a fabulous experience.
- The admission fee is \$20 for non-members, which may be applied toward their Feather Princesses membership, if they desire to join our guild.

Kestrel's fun and playful style has a special secret sauce, which I hope we all will see and experience. Please come prepared to be in awe of her work, and be sure to bring a friend. In addition to Kestrel's informative Lecture/Trunk Show, she will teach a phenomenal workshop as well. It will be an inspirational two days with Kestrel!

- Wednesday, November 12, we will feast our eyes on Kestrel's stunning quilted creations.
- Thursday, November 13, we will actually get the magnificent opportunity to learn from Kestrel.

How fortunate and lucky we are to have Kestrel present her creations to our guild! So, come early, settle in, and bring a friend!

And if you have not yet signed up to attend her inspirational workshop, please do so! Come and be inspired, as I'm sure we all will be amazed at her method, tips and tricks, and nuggets of quilting wisdom!

We're so looking forward to seeing you at our exciting November 12 Guild Meeting!

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](#)

NOTE: The password for the Members Only section is located on the bottom of page 1 in the 2025-26 FP Membership Directory.

November Community Service Project

by Mary Moody

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

The Holiday season is the most opportune time to feed and support the hungry people in our local communities; and as individuals, there are several ways we can do that. You could help feed hungry people at Thanksgiving by donating food or money to local food banks, volunteering your time at soup kitchens or food drives, or donating to organizations like Feeding America. Many organizations offer specific opportunities for Thanksgiving, such as cooking meals, packing food boxes, or delivering meals to homebound individuals.

Here in the Feather Princesses, we can continue helping to feed hungry people in our communities (especially at Thanksgiving) by making more cash and food donations. We can share food from our cupboards and cash from our pockets, to ensure that the less fortunate people will have food to eat this month. So, as the Holidays come, let's step up and contribute to the less fortunate and needy people, to ensure that they do not go hungry.

This month, Princess **Sandi Snow**, will deliver our donations to:

Metropolitan Ministries
2002 N. Florida Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33602

So, let's help keep the shelves stocked at the local food banks this season. We thank you for expressing your love and support, and for bringing your donations to our November 12 Guild Meeting.

We are so grateful to you for caring and for sharing! We'll see you this coming Wednesday.

December 2025/January 2026 - Combined Issue of *The Plume*

by Michelle Barry and Dorothy Johnson

This is a friendly reminder that next month's issue of *The Plume* will be a combined issue and it will include our guild news for the months of December 2025 and January 2026. So, if you have news to announce and share with our Feather Princesses members for either (or both) of these months, please be sure to submit your newsletter article(s) by the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 28.

We anxiously look forward to celebrating each of our guild's Christmas events with you, and we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year. And we extend special wishes to you for a New Year overflowing with APPLIQUE!

We will be waiting to receive your informative and inspirational newsletter articles. Thank You!

Interesting Veterans Day Info: Legacy Quilt Group

by Dorothy Johnson

(Excerpt taken from <https://www.google.com/search?> and <https://www.almanac.com/veterans-day>)

As we continue our review of American history, this month we will focus on Veterans Day and create striking appliqué patriotic quilts for our upcoming quilt display, celebrating America's 250th birthday in 2026.

Interesting Veteran's Day info:

- Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Wikipedia
- Veterans Day was originally called Armistice Day in the United States, commemorating the signing of the agreement that ended World War I at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918.
- President Woodrow Wilson celebrated the first Armistice Day in 1919.
- In 1938, November 11 became a legal holiday by an act of Congress.
- In 1954, this federal holiday was changed from "Armistice" to "Veterans" Day.
- Although this holiday initially honored those who perished in service to their country, when the holiday's name was changed to Veterans Day, it became a day to honor all the men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

So, be sure to join us at this 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, November 19, 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. ===>

A Simple Thank You

by Linda Woytisek, Shirley Kasprzyk, and Mary Vathy

Happy Thanksgiving, Feather Princesses! As we approach this day of thanks, we wholeheartedly express our sincere appreciation to you for your unwavering commitment, dedication, and loyalty to our committee activities this past year. Because of your steadfast participation, our monthly **Fat Quarter Exchange**, **Healing Heart Blocks**, and **Guild Library** were a complete and total success. And these activities were down right fun, too! So, we express "a simple thank you," for your participation and support of these activities.

For the month of November, we will take a break though. This means that at our upcoming November 12 Guild Meeting, we will not have our regularly scheduled **Fat Quarter Exchange**, **Healing Heart Blocks**, and **Guild Library**.

- The **Fat Quarter Exchange** will resume at our December 10 Guild Meeting, and the fabric selection will be Christmas fat quarters.
- The **Healing Heart Blocks** will resume at our December 10 Guild Meeting as well, and we will distribute a new appliqué heart design for your stitching enjoyment and pleasure.
- Our **Guild Library** will resume its normal operations at our January 14 Guild Meeting. So, please hold on to the library books you currently have checked out and return them in January.

We're really excited and anxiously looking forward to Quilter Extraordinaire, **Kestrel Michaud**, coming to our guild in just a few days. And we can hardly wait to celebrate the warmth and glory of the upcoming Holiday season with you as well. So stayed tuned to all of our upcoming guild activities, so you can continue playing, stitching, and having a fantastic time with us!

We'll see you this coming Wednesday!

We will have a remarkable adventure, as we continue delving into our nation's history, select appropriate fabrics and patterns for appliqué patriotic 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!

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

Let's Welcome Kestrel Michaud! Lecture/Trunk Show and Improv Flower Workshop

by Ritu Haldar

Fellow Feather Princesses and Dear Friends, welcome to our November 2025 Guild Meeting! We are so excited to host award winning quilter and Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) Board Member, **Kestrel Michaud!**

Here are a few hints to help you attend her Lecture/Trunk Show and prepare for the class. Please take a moment to read the guidelines which will ensure that we honor Kestrel's skill and artistry.

> Lecture/Trunk Show:

Springhill Suites by Marriott Tampa Suncoast Parkway
16615 Crosspointe Run
Land O'Lakes, Florida 34638
Wednesday, November 12, 2025
11 a.m.

Please come early, socialize, settle in and bring a notebook to write down any tips and ideas you might need to inspire you on your quilting adventures.

Please Note:

- No photographs or duplication of the quilts or slideshow
- No video recording or duplication of the Trunk Show
- No sharing photos or videos on social media without permission from the artist

To book a room at Springhill Suites, click [here](#).

> Improv Flower Workshop:

Carrollwood Recreation Center
3515 McFarland Road
Tampa, Florida 33618
Thursday, November 13, 2025
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For a map and directions to Carrollwood Recreation Center, click [here](#).

- Please bring the following supplies:
 - \$45 for the kit - cash or check only, please
 - Sewing machine
 - Extra needles, bobbins, and threads
 - Fabrics
 - Paper and fabric scissors
 - Iron, wool mat, stabilizer, and silicone mat for fusible appliqué
 - Lamp/light source (if needed)
 - Extension cord

Also bring your snacks and lunch, sweater, water/beverage, and any other supplies you might need for your sewing pleasure.

Most of all, bring your creativity and turn up the excitement! We will be learning from the BEST!

We'll see you on Wednesday and Thursday! A few spots are available in the workshop, so bring a friend along and double the fun!

"Holiday Elegance" Christmas Special Block

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



Our splendid 2025 Christmas Special Block, "Holiday Elegance," is oozing and sparkling with elegance and delight! Glittering baubles and ornaments hanging from a tree add sparkle and festive colors

to any Holiday decor, just perfect for getting us into a magical mood and the Christmas Spirit! Not only when hung on the tree, but these shimmering trinkets and what-nots can also enhance other areas such as mantels, wreaths, and centerpieces, too.

If you already purchased a kit, we hope you are learning and having fun as you stitch this stunning block. Please be sure to follow the easy instructions included in the kit and please use the green background fabric, gold and silver bias tape and rick rack for the hangers, the fabrics provided in the kit, and the fabrics you selected for the ornaments—plus quality quilter's cotton fabrics from your stashes, to complete the block.

At our exciting November 12 Guild Meeting, you may:

- Turn in your completed "Holiday Elegance" Christmas Special Block to me, Princess Maria Nunez, if you have already finished creating it.
- Purchase a kit at the bargain price of \$2, if you want a kit.

Above all, remember to turn in your completed block to me (Maria) by our Feather Princesses December 10, 2025 Guild Meeting/Christmas Luncheon, 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 mnunez7@tampabay.rr.com or 813-468-3810. Thanks so much and Merry Christmas to you one and all!

November Birthdays

by Vici Miller

The month of November brings us the time for Thanksgiving—a time for being grateful for many Blessings, our family and friends. I am especially thankful for all of the marvelous friends I've made in our phenomenal Feather Princesses Appliqué Guild. Our gifted and lovely Princesses are always so willing to share their valuable time and talents.

This month we extend our very best birthday wishes to these beautiful and special Feather Princesses. May you eat cake, have fun, and be HAPPY!

Carmen Crum - 11/5

Sandi Snow - 11/12

Melissa Labella - 11/15

**Maritza Chinchilla -
11/17**

**Beverly Abenante -
11/26**



Calendar

Wednesday, November 12
Feather Princesses November Guild Meeting

Thursday, November 13
Kestrel Michaud Workshop

Monday, November 17
Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

Tuesday, November 18
Sew Happy Sit & Stitch in Pasco Quilt Circle

Wednesday, November 19
Legacy Quilt Group Meeting

Thursday, November 20
Combo Club Group Meeting/Plum Creek
Quilt Circle

Christmas Quilt Circle Adventure

by Winnie Miale and Dianna Shepard

We are already busy making plans for our exciting Christmas Quilt Circle Adventure! Filled with wondrous excitement and merriment every second of the day, this adventure will convene on Tuesday, December 16, and we welcome every beautiful Feather Princesses member to come and participate, especially our regular quilt circle attendees!

As with all of our Feather Princesses road trips, this Christmas Adventure will be extra special! So get ready for a fun-filled road trip and a delicious lunch to celebrate Christmas!

Hook up with your Princess Pals, confirm your travel arrangements, and prepare to have a quilt shopping experience like no other at these awesome quilt shops.

Here's the itinerary:

- 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Quilter's Anonymous
9225 Pine Island Road
Clermont, Florida 34711
352-241-6768

Then 32 miles, about 52 minutes to drive to:

- 11 a.m. - 12 Noon
Piece by Piece Quilt Shop
6917 Round Lake Road
Mt. Dora, Florida 32757
321-398-2814

Then 8.8 miles, about 20 minute drive to Lunch:

- 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Lunch at Sonny's BBQ
15800 U.S. Highway 441
Eustis, Florida 32726
352-589-6888

Then 1.6 miles, 10 minute drive to:

- 2 p.m. - ? Shop closes at 4 p.m.
Sew Mini Things
3820 County Road 19-A
Mt. Dora, Florida 32757
352-483-0082

Additional parking behind the shop. Enter left side of the building

December 10 Guild Meeting/ "Holiday Elegance" Christmas Luncheon

by Ritu Haldar

Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season, Dear Princesses! Can you believe it? The Holidays are almost upon us! And it is that wonderful time of year to invite you to our Christmas Luncheon!

"Holiday Elegance" Christmas Luncheon

Springhill Suites by Marriott
Tampa Suncoast Parkway
16615 Crosspointe Run
Land O'Lakes, Florida 34638
Wednesday, December 10, 2025
11 a.m.

Sparkling with excitement and seasonal grandeur, join us as we celebrate "Holiday Elegance" at our festive December 10 Guild Meeting. Our splendid celebration will convene in house at our regular meeting place, Springhill Suites. So, let's come in a party mood, let's be merry, and let's have some FUN!

The scrumptious Holiday cuisine will be filled with tasty delights, prepared by Carrabba's Italian Grill. Bring your Holiday spirit to the meeting! Let's sit together, relax and savor the "Holiday Elegance!" Perhaps some of you will burst into your special rendition of "Jingle Bells" or another favorite Christmas carol. We can't wait to celebrate this joyous season together!

Carrabba's Italian Restaurant Boxed Lunch

Cost: \$21 per person
Menu Options

Entrees:

- Tuscan-Grilled Chicken
- Penne Alfredo with Chicken
- Lasagna
- Italian or Cesar Salad with Chicken

Sides Choices:

- Penne Pomodoro
- Sautéed Broccoli
- Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Side Salad Choices:

- Italian
- Cesar
- House Creamy Parmesan

Dessert: Mini Cannoli or Fresh Baked Cookie

- Mini Cannoli
- Fresh Baked Cookie

At our upcoming November 12 Guild Meeting, we will distribute an order form to each attendee, and you may

make your meal selections (select one item from each category) and pay (card, cash, or check) for your order in advance, to ensure an elegant, festive, and stress-free experience at our celebration on Wednesday, December 10. If you cannot attend our November 12 Guild Meeting, you may:

- Access the order form on our Feather Princesses website
- Print the form and fill it out, confirming your meal selections
- Mail your form and payment (check only, please) to our *Special Events Chair*:

Maritza Chinchilla

27711 Pleasure Ride Loop
Wesley Chapel, Florida 33544

The deadline to pay to participate in the "Holiday Elegance" Christmas Luncheon is Monday, December 1, 2025. If you mail your payment, please mail it so it will be received by the deadline.

Sunshine and Shadows

by Vici Miller



Lately, I've been thinking a lot of our Feather Princesses Appliqué Guild, especially how everyone has made me feel so very welcome. Thanksgiving is a time for remembering and being grateful for all of our beautiful Princesses—especially those who could use some extra love and support at this time. So, this month we send hugs, warm thoughts, and get well wishes to the following Feather Princesses:

- Beverly Abenante
- Dee Anderson
- Ritu Haldar
- Nancy Hale
- Cathy Kessler
- Betty Jo Lecaroz
- Joanne Rodriguez
- Pat Yucatonis

Upcoming National Quilt Challenges and Competitions

by Dorothy Johnson

Talented Feather Princesses, if you want to experience the excitement and thrill of competing against other gifted quilters, then now is the time to "get your feet wet" and encounter this golden opportunity.

The American Quilter's Society and the 2026 Cherrywood Challenge are currently underway. And the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival "Quilt" and "Wearable Art Competitions" and the Homage to Baltimore Quilting Competition have already started and are actively moving forward!

So, let's put on our thinking caps (uh, tiaras), think of some creative ideas and designs, select some gorgeous fabrics, and let the stitching begin! Enter the following national quilt challenges and competitions today!

AQS Creativity Challenge - "50 States in Stitches"

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

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!

The submission period is now open and all entries must be submitted by December 15, 2025.

If selected, your quilt will be displayed in a special exhibit at the 2026 AQS QuiltWeek shows.

2026 Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival

(Excerpts taken from <https://www.quiltfest.com/register/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival-2026/maqf-quilt-competition/>)

- **MAQF Quilt Competition**
IMPORTANT: Before starting your competition entry, please log in to access your QuiltFest account or create a QuiltFest account.
- **Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival 2026 Quilt Competitions**
 - Innovative & Traditional Full-Size Quilts
 - Mid-Century Mod Modern Quilts
 - Wall Quilts

Quilts may be entered in the full-size Innovative/Traditional Quilt Competition, the Mid-Century Mod Modern Quilt Competition, or the Wall Quilt Competition.

Postmark Deadline for Quilt Entries is January 20, 2026.

- **MAQF Wearable Art Competition**
IMPORTANT: Before starting your competition entry, please log in to your QuiltFest account or create a QuiltFest account.

- **2026 Wearable Art Competition**
A Juried & Judged Prize Money Competition!

Entries for the Wearable Art Competition may be entered into one of two categories, Full Ensemble or Vest/Jacket/Coat. See the *Wearable Art Competition entry form* for more details.

Postmark deadline for Wearable Art Entries is January 20, 2026.

2026 Cherrywood Challenge

(Excerpts taken from https://cherrywoodfabrics.com/pages/the-cherrywood-challenge?srltid=AfmBOorWefZlIPvXNBYgLade8HHTYc8YAqwoj_VQ-izq9uLF81s5m_Lz and <https://thequiltshow.com/blog/contests/announcing-the-2026-cherrywood-challenge>)

Every year, Cherrywood chooses a theme and color palette and presents a challenge to quilters from all over the world. The challenge is to see what they can create using a very limited number of colors, and show off the beautiful suede look of their hand-dyed fabric.

The Cherrywood Challenge 2026 theme is "Storytime," and it inspires you to stitch your story—stories you read as a child woven into the fabric. Capture the vintage palette of some of your favorite books to help you stitch your own story."

This Annual Cherrywood Challenge started July 1, 2025 and the quilts are due February 15, 2026.

Homage to Baltimore Quilting Competition

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

Quilters and fiber artists of all backgrounds are invited to submit original quilt works inspired by the spirit of Baltimore—past, present, and/or future. This is an opportunity to reflect on the city of Baltimore through fabric, whether your piece is abstract or literal, historical or cultural.

The deadline to submit Baltimore Quilt entries is April 1, 2026.



2025 Florida Fall Quilt FUN!

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

With the Autumn season moving along at a record pace and Thanksgiving coming just a few week from now, our November schedules are filling up—FAST! There is a plethora of exciting activities to fill our time—sporting activities, craft shows, religious services, and more! And then, there is one remaining quilt show here in Florida this Fall season.

The "42nd Annual Fantastic" Quilt Show, sponsored by the Lake County Quilters Guild, will convene in just a few days and it will be "FANTASTIC, FABULOUS, and FUN!" And because of it's long standing position in the Florida quilting community, this annual quilt show is a time honored tradition and it is highly respected and valued by all. Featuring breathtaking quilts, exciting vendors, an amazing Boutique, quilt sales, and more, this show is one that you will not want to miss!

"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 for more information.
Follow us on Facebook at: [@Lake County Quilters
Guild of Florida](https://www.facebook.com/LakeCountyQuiltersGuildofFlorida)

So, travel to Leesburg this coming weekend to enjoy this dynamic quilt show and savor the last little bit of the 2025 Florida Fall Quilt FUN! This phenomenal quilt show will be "FANTASTIC, FABULOUS, and FUN!"



Rolling Into the New Year Shop Hop

submitted by Dorothy Johnson
(Excerpts taken from <https://nanaquilts.com/contact/> and <https://www.beyondthestitches.com/>)

Lovely Feather Princesses, Santa already knows that you have been nice! So make your list, check it twice, and then participate in the next fun-filled Central Florida Shop Hop!

"Rolling Into the New Year Shop Hop"

Friday, November 21 – Saturday, December 6, 2025

The participating quilt shops are:

- A Quilting Palette – Lady Lake
- Nana's Quilt Shop – Brooksville
- Piece by Piece – Mt. Dora
- Sewing Studio – Lady Lake
- Sewing Studio Superstore – Maitland
- Sew Mini Things – Mt. Dora

The guidelines are:

- Passports are available at the participating shops now through November 20 for \$8. After the shop hop starts, they will cost \$10.
- You will receive a stamp on your Passport and six 2½" strips of various fabrics from each shop, for you to create a special project of your own.
- Each shop will have a different project on display with inspirational ideas for you to use your strips.
- Get a stamp from each participating shop, and then submit your completed Passport to any participating shop to be entered into a drawing.
- Prizes are six \$50 and \$75 shopping sprees.

So, get a jump on Thanksgiving and do your Christmas quilt shopping first, at the "Rolling Into the New Year Shop Hop!" And then roll into 2026 with "a bang," using the fabric strips and other quilting goodies you purchased at the shop hop! And above all, be safe and have FUN!



**VETERANS
DAY**

"The Last Hoorah" - Christmas Quilt Circle/Group Meeting Luncheon

by Melissa Labella and Dorothy Johnson

We've had quite a spectacular year in our inspirational and fun-filled quilt circles and specialty appliqué quilt group meetings. From informative demos, to fun scrap fabric swaps, to exciting road trips, to group quilt drawings and more, we've learned and enhanced our skills more than ever before. And now that 2025 is coming to end, we all will get together to celebrate.

So mark your calendars now and plan to join us at our last quilt circle/specialty group meeting of this year:

"The Last Hoorah"

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library

2902 W. Bearss Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33618

(813) 273-3652 (library)

Thursday, December 18, 2025

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Melissa Labella
and Dorothy Johnson

We welcome ALL Feather Princesses to attend this gala affair. We will feature a special "covered dish" luncheon, so please come and bring your favorite Holiday treat to share.

Also bring an appliqué quilt project to stitch, as you sit and embrace the warmth of the Holiday season with the Feather Princesses!

We look forward to celebrating the end of our phenomenal year of appliqué with you!

(President's Message - continued from page 1)

previously looked at other possible venues for our FP 2026 Retreat, it was the consensus of our 2025 Retreat attendees and the recommendation of our FP Executive Board that we return to Lake Yale for our FP 2026 Retreat! It was unanimous!

So, the good news is that the date for our FP 2026 Lake Yale Retreat has already been set—Thursday, October 22 – Monday, October 26, 2026. And it get's even better—Princesses **Winnie**, **Joanne**, and **Dianna** have already agreed to chair the retreat again in 2026, and they have already started planning inspirational and exciting activities! YIPPEE! And at our January 14 Guild Meeting we will announce the cost per person to attend the retreat; and at our February 11 Guild Meeting, we will begin collecting your payments. So, lovely Feather Princesses, mark your calendars now and plan to sign up in February, as we are sure the spaces will fill fast! ==>

Combo Club Quilt Group Meeting/ Plum Creek Quilt Circle

by Melissa Labella

The Holiday Season is officially here! So, take a break before the madness of Thanksgiving begins and spend some time with us on the third Thursday, November 20.

We are happy to join forces with Princesses **Becky Gammons** and **Shirley Kasprzyk**, the gifted leaders of our **Plum Creek Quilt Circle**. They will meet with us because their quilt circle meeting day falls on the fourth Thursday, Thanksgiving Day.

Combo Club Quilt Group Meeting/ Plum Creek Quilt Circle

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library

2902 W. Bearss Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33618

(813) 273-3652 (library)

Thursday, November 20, 2025

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Melissa Labella,
Becky Gammons, and Shirley Kasprzyk

- As we near the end of our journey in the book "Alice's Wonderland," by Alice Caroline, we will look at the remaining blocks (65–80). This month's blocks continue with English Paper Piecing (EPP).
 - These blocks could eventually be considered applique, because the EPP bits get appliquéd down to a solid piece.
 - These are the final blocks in the book, so we can discuss setting options for your project to make your Combo Quilt.
- Also, bring your completed patchwork and applique blocks for Show N Tell, and/or whatever quilt projects you are working on, and enjoy some Quilty inspiration. Do what makes you happy!
- If you're appliquéing your personal quilt projects, **Healing Heart Blocks, Christmas Special Blocks**, etc., then please bring along these as well.
- And remember to bring your lunch and a sweater.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, November 20.

As we close, beautiful Feather Princesses, we wish you and yours a very Blessed, Happy, and Safe Thanksgiving! Princesses **Ritu**, **Michelle**, **Dianna**, and I are so very grateful and thankful for YOU!

The Main Idea

by Dorothy Johnson

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

The month of November is known for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The main idea of Thanksgiving is gratitude and togetherness, celebrating family, friends, and community through a shared meal and reflection on Blessings. And the meal usually features scrumptious turkey and stuffing, along side yummy dishes such as mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, and various vegetables, and then concluding with tasty desserts such as pies—pumpkin, apple, or pecan to name a few. Thanksgiving is a festive celebration of gratitude, indeed!

Also coming in November are our phenomenal quilt circles and their main purpose is to provide an inspirational and positive environment for us Feather Princesses to come together in fabulous fellowship and friendship, learn quilt techniques unfamiliar to us, review known methods and procedures, and create stunning award-winning appliqué quilts. Our quilt circles provide us the awesome opportunities to broaden our extensive quilt knowledge, enhance our appliqué and quilting skills, and assist and support each other!

So, as we enjoy this season of gratitude, let's make it a priority to celebrate with our families, friends, and communities as we reflect on the many Blessings bestowed upon us. And let's save some time during this busy season to attend our inspirational and fun-filled

quilt circles, enjoy the cherished camaraderie of the Feather Princesses, learn more about appliqué and quilting, and then create some of the most breathtaking appliqué quilts ever!

NOTE: Our exciting **Wooly Chicks Quilt Circle** is cancelled for the month of November and will not meet.

We will see you in November at these inspirational 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, November 18, 2025
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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

Plum Creek Quilt Circle

(Will meet with the Combo Club Appliqué Quilt Group)
Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library
2902 W. Bearss Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33618
(813) 273-3652 (library)
Thursday, November 20, 2025
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contacts: Princesses Becky Gammons, Shirley Kasprzyk, and Melissa Labella

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!** Our new group quilt is well under way, we're having so much fun creating it, and we promise you will enjoy this meeting, learn new techniques, and have fun, too! So, mark your calendars now and make plans to join us.

Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting

Peggy Wattenbarger's Home
Monday, November 17, 2025
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Contact: Princess Peggy Wattenbarger

We could not secure a library meeting room for Monday November 17, so our exciting **Creative Appliqué Quilt Group** will meet at Princess Peggy Wattenbarger's home. This will be the last **Creative Appliqué Quilt Group Meeting** this year, so we look forward to seeing all of you there.

Peggy's address is listed in the online *Feather Princesses 2025-2026 Membership Directory*; and we will distribute written driving directions to Peggy's home at our Feather Princesses November 12 Guild Meeting.

Our group quilt background is starting to look awesome. However, we still need more medium and light blue fabrics to complete the background. Also, the flower blocks that we have seen so far are looking great as well. If you are creating a flower block that is not quite finished, please bring it to this meeting. And if you need additional help, please let us know.

So, please bring the following items to the meeting:

- Your flower block
- Tiny/mini irons
- Parchment paper

We will provide Fusible Wonder Under, paint brushes, and liquid starch. And remember to bring your lunch as usual. We will provide refreshing cold water and iced tea.

We (**Peggy, Linda and Krystal**) are looking forward to seeing you all! Come and have some FUN with us!