



Hello Beautiful and Talented Feather Princesses,

This email is long and it might take a while to read. So before you start, you might want to treat yourself to a nice cold beverage and a tasty snack--ha! ha!

As we all continue immersing ourselves with "stay at home" activities, thoughts of brighter days ahead filled with Feather Princesses appliqué excitement and fun frolic through our minds; and we anxiously anticipate the glorious day we will have, when we're all together again--what a phenomenal time that will be! We sincerely hope you and your families are feeling well today. And even though cities and towns across our land are gradually re-opening, the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are still a major factor in all of our lives; and we realize that staying at home is a challenge. So we thank you for your cooperation and support, as we continue heeding the "shelter in place" mandate. As you know, we unfortunately suspended all of our Feather Princesses guild activities. But we have not lost hope and we will keep holding on to the reigns of our illustrious guild and thinking positively; and we truly appreciate your perseverance as well. One day this ban will lift, our lives will return to some form of normalcy, and we will be able to get together again.

We hope you're enjoying our "Sew At Home Alone Together" project, coordinated by our dynamic *Quilt Show Boutique Committee*; and we're simply delighted to thank our lovely member, Princess **Winnie Miale**, for sharing this marvelous idea with us a few weeks ago. As a result of **Winnie's** recommendation, our *Boutique Committee* worked very fast and diligently to provide the online patterns and other info for you to sew and make items for our Boutique, while you are at home. This is the first time we've ever offered a tremendous opportunity

such as this to our members to stitch Boutique items at home; and we extend our fondest KUDOS and gratitude to Princess **Winnie** and the entire *Boutique Committee* for doing such an OUTSTANDING JOB and making this happen! For info about our "Sew At Home Alone Together" project, click [HERE](#).

While staying at home during this pandemic, some of you have cleaned your closets and found items you either forgot or didn't even know you had. You found treasures that reminded you of special times and/or special people in your lives from days gone by. And because these prized possessions were "out of your sights," for a while, these valuables were also "out of your minds." However, once you stumbled upon them again, you were just as gratified and satisfied with the items, as you were the first day you took ownership of them. One of our lovely Princesses recently shared that she found precious mementos that had belonged to her parents. Another beautiful member confessed that she gained renewed inspiration when she uncovered stunning UFOs (unfinished projects) left over from her previous quilting adventures, that she still wanted to finish.

The point here is that when we discover a treasure in life, when we come across a gem or precious stone that has value and brings us joy, happiness, satisfaction, and maybe even success, we must hold on to it. We must love it, nurture it, and take good care of it. And even though it might have been out of our sights for a while, we must not forget it. The same is true with our prestigious appliqué guild. The Feather Princesses is one of the most eminent, esteemed, and reputable appliqué guilds in the country. And even though we have not seen each other for quite a while, we must not forget the valuable gifts, talents, impressive successes, and cherished friendships we've achieved and attained along the way. We must never stop embracing and supporting appliqué and each other!

With that in mind, despite the current circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, our *Executive Board* is still looking ahead to a very exciting year of appliqué in our guild. And even though we can't meet with you right now and because we have no idea when we will be able to physically meet again, the Board recommends that we still forge ahead with as many of our activities as we can, including our **annual membership renewal**.

Over the past couple of months, many of us forked-out substantial amounts of spending change to purchase essential items; and we absorbed our plentiful fat quarter funds purchasing toilet paper, disinfectants, and hand sanitizers--no fun, right? Yes, we are living in unprecedented times, which

required us to take unprecedented actions and measures. But as a warm and fuzzy way to circumvent that, our Board has come up with a brilliant idea and is taking unprecedented measures, too. Just as America's most popular retailer "rolls back" the prices of its merchandise, we are "rolling back" the price of our Feather Princesses membership dues. And just as other companies offer rewards to its faithful customers, we are offering this unparalleled and exceptional reward to you, as a gesture of our love and as an expression of our appreciation for your previous unwavering commitment, dedication, generosity, and support to our guild; and also to commemorate our upcoming Feather Princesses 15th Anniversary. We've never done this before; BUT, we hope it will make you happy and make you smile!

As we begin our membership renewal process this month:

- You may renew your Feather Princesses membership dues (for 2020-2021) by mail any time now through mid-August.
- The deadline to renew your membership is **Wednesday, August 12, 2020** (the second Wednesday, as usual).
- The Feather Princesses who pay their dues by this date will be included in our **2020-2021 Membership Directory**, which we will distribute during the Fall.

Cost of the dues for the year 2020-2021:

- The membership dues for our current Feather Princesses members will be **\$17.50**.
- The membership dues for our lovely Lifetime members (90 + years young) will still be **FREE**.
- The membership dues for new members who join the Feather Princesses for the first time will be the regular price of \$35.

To pay dues to renew your membership, PLEASE:

- Write a check payable to The Feather Princesses, and write "Dues" on the Memo Line of the check.

If you plan to attend our **2020 Lake Yale Retreat**, PLEASE DO NOT combine your Retreat payment in this check. PLEASE write a separate check to pay to attend the Retreat. You may of course mail both checks in the same envelope.

- If any of your personal information has changed since we met in March, access the [Members Only](#) section of our Feather Princesses website or click the link below, print and complete the [Membership Form](#), and mail it along with your dues check; -OR-
- Just mail your membership dues check to our

lovely *Treasurer*:

Betty Jo Lecaroz
3322 Nakora Drive
Tampa, Florida 33618

Please NOTE:

- If the "shelter in place" and "social distancing" mandates lift prior to August 12 and our guild meetings resume, you may of course pay your membership dues at the guild meeting.
- If the "shelter in place" and "social distancing" mandates are still in place for our new year (August 2020 - July 2021) and we still are unable to meet; then the dues will be applied to the following year, August 2021 - July 2022.

We hope you all will like this modified pricing strategy for our exciting new year of appliqué. Our distinguished officers, Princesses **Janet, B. J.**, and **Betty Jo**, thought of this wonderful idea; be sure to send a note of thanks to them.

Because of the uncertainty of the Coronavirus pandemic, we don't know when our guild will return to its normal operations. But whenever that time comes, to ensure your safety, we will continue complying with any mandates in place at the time. And "oh happy day," whenever we do assemble again, rest assured there will be no bans, no limitations, no mandates, and no restrictions in the Feather Princesses. Unconditional love will continue to abound, the most compelling camaraderie will be in our mist, and the finest fellowship will permeate as we continue embracing the art form we hold so dear to our hearts, learning quilting techniques, and creating the most awesome appliqué quilts ever!

Every day that passes is another day closer to our return. So amid cleaning the closets and purchasing those "must have items," be sure to stock up on your favorite hand creams and lotions as well; and apply these to your hands daily. Don't let your fingers become dry or stiff--keep them nimble and ready to stitch. Because as soon as we get the green light to go-ahead and resume operations, our fingers will be dancing all over the quilter's cotton and our needles will be rocking to the beat of APPLIQUÉ!

Always remember that we love you and care about you. So stay healthy, be safe, and don't lose hope. One day this crisis will end, everything will be just fine, and we all will be together again. Let's believe, have faith, and look forward to that. Thanks so much and Happy Memorial Day.

Love You All,
Dorothy

