



TIDINGS

Volume 13, Issue 04

October, 2012

The **SHORT** Report

by President Diane Short



Guilders Weave.

Everyone is excited about Guilders Weave! Hopefully you will receive your letter soon (if you haven't already) informing you as to what classes you will have. Remember that you

need to mail your checks by the date stated in Susie Waters' letter to reserve your place in your classes. It's also a good time to begin working on a swap basket to share at Guilders Weave. Don't worry about being a beginning weaver. It's an opportunity to work on one of those baskets you have always wanted to try.

Elections. At our September meeting members voted for two offices. I'm pleased to announce that

Cindy Stanton

(right) is continuing her position as vice president, and **Susie Waters** (left) is our new

treasurer. Both will start their terms on October 1. Our outgoing treasurer, **Tina Chopin**, served two terms and will continue to help us



whenever we need her. Thanks, Tina, for your support.

BASKETpalooza. The September meeting's BASKETpalooza, an activity whereby members brought basket items to sell, trade, or give away, was well received. It was a chance to socialize, have a few refreshments, and just chill. It was great to see all 38 of you at the meeting.

Calendar. It's always an exciting time when the board gathers to create a new calendar of activities for a new year. The October, 2012, through September, 2013, calendar does not disappoint. Saturday classes will be taught by members who will teach baskets that they have designed or have received permission to teach such as a basic stair-step basket, fret work wall hanging, and wall pouch using leftover reed. **Debbie Hurd** has agreed to visit for three days of classes, August 23-25. The completed calendar will be posted to the website very soon.

Volunteering. Remember we always need members to step forward and commit to chairing various events. We currently need

{President's Message continued}

a chairperson for the Virginia Beach Craft Fair, March 15-17, and for the Gathering of the Guilds, which is one Saturday in April. We also need members to teach classes for Sunday meetings. I'm sure **Susie Waters** is looking for additional assistants for Guilders Weave. If you are interested in helping with any of these activities, please call or email us. Volunteering is the best way to have a great experience and give back to the guild.

7-7-7 UFOs. The guild is reintroducing the activity of completing unfinished baskets with a new procedure. See **Jamie VanOekel's** article on page 4 for complete information.

Last—But Certainly Not Least.

Dues are due!

Membership renewal dues are due. The schedule is as follows:

<p>October 1</p> 	<p>membership renewal dues of \$20 to be paid, which covers calendar year October 1 through September 30</p>
<p>Oct. 2 – 31</p>	<p>30-day grace period with no penalty added to renewal membership dues (\$20)</p>
<p>Nov. 1 – 30</p>	<p>\$5-late fee applied to renewal membership dues (\$25)</p>
<p>December 1</p>	<p>member dropped and must reapply for membership at the new-member rate of \$25</p>

**GUILDERS WEAVE 2013
January 17-20
From Susie Waters**

Look at my mailbox!



One hundred twenty-one (121) registration forms were processed on the first day. Openings are still available for wonderful classes, so please mail your choices soon.

We look forward to seeing everyone in January.



**TBG Officers/Board Members
2012-2013**

- President.....Diane Short
- Vice President.....Cindy Stanton
- Secretary Vicki Cartos
- Treasurer Susie Waters
- Membership..... Sherral Nelson
- Historian.....Alyce Bargamin
- Newsletter..... Vicki Cartos
- Guilders Weave 2013 Susie Waters

CINDY'S CORNER

For this issue of *Tidings* I would like to talk about organization; specifically, organizing your basket room.

A few months back I decided that my basket room was starting to look like an episode from "Hoarders." So I asked a girlfriend to come over, and we did a major clean sweep of my room. I took everything out and only put back those items I was going to use. I went through every kit, every handle, every pattern, and every embellishment. Having another person to assist me was a huge help.

My friend, Jody, was not "attached" to anything in that room, so she could easily talk me out of something. It was so exciting to see. I was able to throw away a bunch of trash and give away a few things. I even found a few things I had lost. As a result of our cleaning spree, the shelves house see-thru bins with organized contents, the closet accommodates bags of reed on hangers, and the weaving table is clean and free of clutter.

If you have any great organizing ideas, I would love to know them.

On my weaving table there is a neat little pile of kits that need to be woven before Christmas. Before Christmas—did your brain register that? Christmas is fewer than 100 days away. Oh my, let's get weaving!

Happy  Weaving

~Cindy Stanton, VP



Susie Waters has done it again!

Susie created another woven bra, "Baskets of Hope II," for this year's Bra-ha-ha. The event is an artistic, whimsical contest sponsored by Chesapeake Regional Medical Center as a way to confront breast cancer awareness and raise money for research.

Her "Baskets of Hope I" woven bra was a winner last year, and all TBG members are hoping that this year's version will be another winner.



You can see Susie's bra on display, along with the other entries, in Chesapeake at Greenbrier Mall's Center Court, October 1-13, free of charge.

(www.brahaha.org)



UFOs

7 projects – 7 months – 7 dollars

by Jamie VanOekel

The newest TBG UFO strategy is the 7-7-7 project. Eighteen of our members turned in their lists of 7 baskets and their \$7. Over the course of the year as a number is drawn at each meeting, participants will each weave the corresponding basket on their list and bring it to the appropriate meeting. Not only do the names of the weavers who have completed that month's basket go into the drawing for that month, but also the names go into the big cash pot for the drawing at the end of the project. Lots of incentive and lots of fun! We look forward to seeing each person's project. Coincidentally, the first basket due at the November 4 meeting is basket #7 on each participant's list.



New Members . . .



Patricia Fatovic
Fredericksburg, VA

Paula Schramel
Ocracoke, NC

Karen Shepherd
Glen Allen, VA

Kevin Wilder
Newport News, VA

DONATING BASKETS TO LARCHMONT UMC

Thanks to all TBG members who have donated baskets to Larchmont UMC and



who continue to do so. The church uses the baskets for its outreach program and has expressed its gratitude to President Diane

Short for all donations. If you have any baskets that could benefit from a new home and a new purpose, you might want to consider donating them to Larchmont UMC. The photo shows the clever way our donated baskets are displayed and stored in the associate pastor's office.

“Summertime, and the livin’ is easy . . .”

The lyrics of George Gershwin’s famous song, *Summertime*, read as follows: “Summertime, and the livin’ is easy . . .” No offense to Mr. Gershwin, but he obviously never attended a TBG calendar meeting during a major Hampton Roads rain storm in August like some of us did. Oh well, automobile flood damage and kidding aside, TBG members were livin’ easily this summer and having fun making impressive baskets.



June. Thanks to **Jamie VanOekel** for teaching a cute ribbed watermelon basket called Slice of Life. **Holly Finch** is almost finished with her basket.

July. **Gail Hutchinson**, visiting teacher, spent two days teaching a variety of baskets.

Kim Voska shows off her Rub-A-Dub-Tub that she wove in half the time it took everyone else to complete. As a result **Jamie VanOekel** just couldn’t resist referring to Kim as a “ninja” weaver.



August. The annual Volunteer Appreciation Pool Party was once again held at the home of



Billie Dorris, our consummate hostess. The weather was almost perfect, the food was perfect, and the pool was perfect. To make the event even more perfect, **Diane Short** taught the most perfect little autumnal basket. I bet **Arlene Wallace** and **Susie Waters** (above) would also tell you that the event was just—PERFECT!

September. The easy, summer livin’ is over; and it’s time for everyone to reset. TBG members reset at the September meeting to prepare for the new 2012-2013 calendar year. The membership elected **Cindy Stanton** and **Susie Waters** as its vice president and treasurer respectively. Also, the 7-7-7 UFO project commenced. In addition, **Carol Van Derzee** (left) honored **Mary Jo Baylor** (right) for her 14.5 years of dedicated service to TBG as its historian. After the meeting a BASKETpalooza was held giving members an opportunity to begin their fall cleaning by selling, swapping, or giving away surplus basket items.



Live Life to the *Fal*lest

with these upcoming TBG activities

- ➔ Oct. 6-7, Newport News Fall Festival; Susie Waters and Alice Wyvill, co-chairs.
- ➔ Oct. 13-14, Waterways Heritage Festival in Chesapeake; Laura White, chairperson.
- ➔ Oct. 27, Open to the Public at Larchmont UMC; Trudi MacMillan, chairperson.
- ➔ Nov. 4, general meeting at Larchmont UMC; round reed holiday ornament taught by Jamie VanOekel; the #7 project on your UFO list is due; members are asked to bring any round reed baskets from home to display at the meeting.
- ➔ Nov. 17, Saturday class; Larchmont UMC, 9:00 a.m.; basket TBA.
- ➔ Dec. 2, Holiday Party.

A BASKET CASE—REALLY?

by Vicki Cartos

You have probably heard someone refer to another person as a “basket case.” But what exactly is a basket case, and what does a basket case have to do with baskets? Is it someone who talks incessantly about basket weaving? Is it someone who has a basket weaving addiction? Is it someone who is experiencing legal litigation involving a basket? After chatting with Billie Dorris about some research she provided for me, I decided to investigate the topic a little more and share some interesting information with you.

The dictionary defines “basket case” as a slang expression for “a person who is helpless or incapable of functioning normally, especially due to overwhelming stress, anxiety, or the like.” An example would be: *After sitting in traffic at the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel for four hours, I was a basket case by the time I got home.* The term also refers to “anything that is impaired or incapable of functioning”: *The company was an economic basket case after the hostile takeover.* You are probably familiar with these types of examples of “basket cases” because they represent the current, figurative use of the term.

Why has basket weaving—a beautiful, harmless craft or work of art—become the go-to expression for all things abnormal and meaningless? An Internet article, *Therapy Blunder: Basket Weaving*, suggests the following possible reasons. Unfortunately, the basket has a lowly history; they were made by women, the mentally ill, and the disabled. Baskets were used by the poor or serving class carrying such things as dirty laundry, trash, and the occasional severed head. Beggars used baskets to hold the items they scavenged. Also, basket weaving was the type of recreational crafting that became a key selling

point in the insane asylums. Lastly, basket weaving became a joking figure of speech which referred to a worthless college or university course.

But, the earliest meaning of the expression, “basket case,” is unfamiliar and offensive. It originally was defined as “a person, especially a soldier, who has had all four limbs amputated.” At the close of World War I in 1919, rumors spread of quadriplegic soldiers being transported in baskets. Hence, these soldiers were referred to as “basket cases.” The Surgeon General of the US Army denied these reports, however. It was theorized that the term, basket cases, evolved because of the use of the wicker wheelchairs of that time. Fortunately, this meaning is no longer used.

In my adult life I have referred to someone as a “basket case” usually in a playful context but sometimes sarcastically. However, I have decided to eliminate that disparaging expression from my vocabulary. From now on I’m going to use the word “basket” to refer only to the beautiful, joyous work of art that it truly is.

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<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Publication Dates</u>
December 15	January 01
March 15	April 01
June 15	July 01
September 15	October 01

Any news, corrections, comments, suggestions, ideas, or photos should be sent by the designated deadline dates.

~Vicki Cartos
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