



TIDINGS

Volume 12, Issue 02

April, 2011

From the President's Pen



On the Right Track. In a conversation with some fellow weavers, one of our members indicated she liked that the guild was teaching techniques at our Sunday meetings. The comment was a notable remark as that is exactly what the board is trying to do this year. I have even seen that the teachers, who have taken on this challenge of creating a basket with her specific task to teach, also stepped up and tried to add other procedures that will help our members. It has been a win/win situation.

Thanks to **Jamie VanOekel** for showing the uniqueness of French randing and the idea of cutting the randing weavers flush with the spokes so they can be caught with the twining on the next row. At the May 1 meeting, **Tina Chopin** will be teaching a basket which weaves from a square base to a round rim and adds curls for embellishment. **Alice Wyvill** plans to show the benefit of adding overlays to a basket at the June 5 meeting.

In that same conversation with fellow weavers, we continued to talk about what future techniques the group would like to

see offered. If you have a suggestion as to what technique/procedure you would like to see demonstrated/practiced, give **Cindy Stanton** or me a call and let us know.

From Challenge to Unveiling. Twenty-three members signed up to take on the basket weaving challenge that **Dawn West** introduced in February. Everyone started with the same oval base and secured to the base as many spokes as they wanted. The partially-created baskets were then brought to the March meeting inside a closed brown bag and distributed to new weavers on the list whose new assignment is to weave the sides of the basket. These almost-completed baskets will be returned in the same brown bag at the April meeting. With the help of **Vicki Cartos**, the baskets will be distributed once again to the final weaver whose goal will be to finish the basket by adding the rim and any embellishments. Come join us at the May 1 meeting when the beautiful new creations will be unveiled and returned to the original owners.

~Diane

Cindy's Corner

There is so much we have done during the last few months and so much that is planned for the upcoming warm weather.

January. January was a very exciting month starting with the first meeting of the new year with our very own **Tina Chopin** and **Billie Dorris** explaining various ways to stain baskets. Thank you, Tina and Billie, for sharing your expert advice with us. January 13 was the start of another great Guilders Weave,



including this year's newest features—an ice cream party and pajama weaving party. Thanks to **Shirley Murphy** (shown at right receiving her chairman's gift from Billie

Dorris) and her committee chairs and assistants for an outstanding weaving event. See page 5 for a final GW 2011 report.

February. **Tina Chopin** taught students how to design an original basket. She brought lots of materials, ideas, and fun to show us how to put them all together to create a work of art. Thank you, Tina, for the great ideas and the artwork you



inspired. Also that day TBG members began weaving 30 children's Easter baskets for the Larchmont United Methodist Church Outreach Program. Once completed, the church will fill the baskets and distribute



them. A special thank you goes to **Donna Coleman** for weaving a ton of bases for us to finish.

March. **Jamie VanOekel** and crew taught the Randing Round Up basket at our March meeting. This cute little wooden based basket with French randing in the middle was woven by 33 members at our monthly meeting. The members appreciate Jamie's efforts: designing the basket, cutting the materials, preparing kits, and teaching. **Tamme Durant** (right) says, "Yep, that French randing looks good!"



Also in March, two popular events that are well supported by TBG members were held simultaneously during the third weekend—the North Carolina Basketmakers Association Convention (see page 3 for a detailed report) and the Virginia Beach Spring Craft Market organized by **Shannon Lovvorn**.

Upcoming Events:

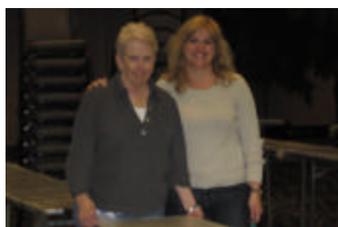
- ➔ April 3; general meeting, NCBA Show and Tell
- ➔ April 9; Gathering of the Guilds; Mary Jo Baylor, chairperson
- ➔ April 16; waxed linen hats taught by Sue Legault
- ➔ May 1; general meeting, spring basket with curls taught by Tina Chopin
- ➔ May 14; Open to the Public; Trudi MacMillan, chairperson
- ➔ June 5; general meeting, Americana basket with overlays taught by Alice Wyvill
- ➔ June 25; Carolina Beach Tote taught by Cindy Stanton
- ➔ July 22-24; visiting teacher, Pam Wilson

Happy  Weaving to All, Cindy

NCBA 2011

by Diane Short

The trees, bushes, and daffodils were blooming in North Carolina as some 50+ members of the TBG descended on the NCBA conference with much anticipation. We were there to weave, party, meet old friends, take classes from new and former teachers, shop, eat, drink, and be merry as the old saying goes. On Wednesday night we gathered in the Ballroom of the Sheraton; and under the guidance of our faithful mother, **Billie Dorris** (left, with **Cindy Stanton**) we wrapped all of the weaving tables and the six additional rooms so fast that we have been asked once again to fulfill this duty next year.



Our members also captured several prizes and awards. Ten of our members won some great gifts from among the 100 or so raffle prizes. The best part was the honor bestowed upon the following seven members who won ribbons and well-deserved admiration for their hard work that was displayed through their baskets featured in the exhibition room.

Daughter/Mother Winners



2nd Place
Kim Voska (left)
Wire and Textile
General Membership

1st Place
Carol Vanderzee (right)
Mixed Media/General
Membership

1st Place
Judith Saunders
Wire and Textile
Professional/Teacher



2nd Place
Christy Newman
Miniature
General Membership



2nd Place
Carol Ann Blair
Mold Woven
General Membership

3rd Place
Judith Saunders
Miniature
Professional/Teacher



3rd Place
Mary Jo Baylor
Wire and Textile
General Membership

3rd Place
Jamie VanOekel
Mold Woven
General Membership



Kudos to these creative people who represented TBG well from among the 600 basket makers who registered for NCBA. I hope that more members will choose to display their baskets next year.

If you have not yet attended a NCBA convention, I encourage you to try it at least once. It's a great experience worthy of any basket weaver's bucket list.

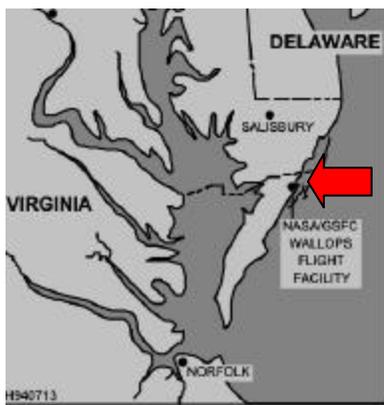
TBG Member Teaching Unique Basket on Eastern Shore

Did you happen to notice this artwork on the Basket Swap table at Guilders Weave, 2011?



It is an oval marsh grass (spartina) basket with an oyster shell center and glycerin pine needle accents. It was made by **Jean Koon**, a two-year member of TBG who lives in Morattico, Virginia, located on the Northern Neck peninsula. The beauty of the marshes of this area of Virginia is what inspires the creative designs of her baskets. Jean's artwork is inspired not only by the beauty of the marshes but also by its purposes of protecting our land from storms and of providing a habitat for billions of creatures.

Jean is teaching this basket at a three-day workshop at the Marine Science Consortium, Wallops Island, Virginia, on June 24-26 and again on November 4-6. Interestingly, TBG is responsible for her participation at this special learning center. The Marine Science Consortium (MSC) wanted to connect with the Tidewater area by approaching TBG looking for ideas



for classes to support their "hands-on, feet-wet education" philosophy. After communicating with the MSC, the appropriate information was distributed to our members, and Jean responded by presenting a proposal to create a basket for all skill levels from the natural elements of the marshes and beaches. In

Jean's proposal, not only does the participant weave the basket, but also has the opportunity to comb the beaches of Wallops Island with a MSC marine biologist observing nature at its best (such as grasses, shells, driftwood, and wildlife) and to explore how natural materials can be harvested for creating baskets.

If you would like to learn more about Jean Koon, visit her website at www.moratticomarshgrass.com.

If you would like more details about Jean's basketry workshop (registration, cost, daily schedule), refer to the website of the Marine Science Consortium at www.msconsortium.org.



During the Guilders Weave Basket Swap, Cindy Stanton was the lucky recipient of Jean's oval marsh grass basket.

Maybe Jean will be willing to teach her unique basket at a future Guilders Weave. Let's ask her!



GUILDERS WEAVE, 2011 Final Report From Shirley Murphy

I want to thank all of you for making Guilders Weave 2011 a success. Your enthusiasm, positive attitudes, and energy helped to make the event a sensation. Our ice cream party was well attended, and everyone loved the treat! While the pajama weaving party did not have as many



in attendance, everyone who did come had a great time. A wide variety of pajamas was modeled in addition to all of the weaving. **Andrea Margrave**, left, is ready for bed once she leaves the pajama weaving party for the evening.

Teacher evaluations were compiled, and remarks were given to the teachers. Most evaluations were filled with praise such as "please bring this teacher back!" It will be exciting to anticipate what is in store for us in 2012.

Even though the comments regarding the event were overwhelmingly positive, I would like to clarify a few reported issues:

More Weaving Space Needed. We would love to give everyone more weaving space. However, providing more space would result in fewer classes and fewer students. Had we allowed more space at this year's Guilders Weave, registration would have ended with forms mailed on September 1; and even a couple of those registrants would not have been accepted. Our philosophy is to get up close and friendly.

Not Enough Beginner Classes. Every effort is made to offer a variety of classes at all skill levels. While we offer beginner classes, we cannot just fill it with beginners. Please understand that beginner classes are also filled with more advanced weavers. Often an advanced weaver will choose to take a beginner class for several reasons such as: likes that basket, likes that teacher, trying a new teacher, or weaving with a new medium.

Student's Weaving Ability Not Matching Basket's Level of Difficulty. Because we do not personally know everyone who registers, we have to trust that everyone reads the requirements and the weaving level information posted on the website before they request a class.

Basket Draw. Each participant should list three to five classes on the registration form for each day to guarantee a class. When only one class is listed daily, remaining classes may also become filled by the time the Draw committee can get back in touch with you. At least 12 people listed only one basket daily this year and did not get their first choice. If they had only listed two choices, they would have definitely received their second choice. Please note that the first choice is always given first priority. We only move to second choices when first ones are filled. In summary, it is to your advantage to list additional choices.

I do hope this information helps to answer a few questions for you. Finally, thank you so much for your support during Guilders Weave 2011. Best of luck to **Jamie VanOekel** and **Susie Waters** as they prepare to make Guilders Weave 2012 even better!

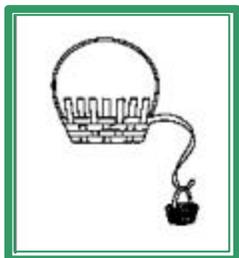


Janet Jackson shows her basket with pride.

Kim Voska shares her excitement with teacher, **Anne Bowers**, over the completion of her double-walled table basket.



GUILDERS WEAVE, 2012
January 12-15
From Jamie VanOekel



Planning for Guilders Weave 2012 is already underway! You can make hotel reservations now if you like. The room rates are the same as GW11's rates, and breakfast will still be served.

Point Plaza Suites and Conference Hotel

950 J. Clyde Morris Blvd
 Newport News, VA 23601
 Phone: 757-599-4460
 Phone reservations (no e-mail reservations)
 toll free: 1-800-841-1112 (Identify yourself as a Guilders Weave attendee)

Letters to potential teachers have been mailed. If you have a suggestion for a teacher to invite, please send it to GW12.jamiev@msn.com.

Several committees are in place, and there will be more opportunities to help with the event along the way. Stay tuned!

IN MEMORIAM

RICHARD (DICK) B. MOFF

It is with sadness that I inform you that we lost one of our flock, **Dick Moff**, on February 19, 2011, at the age of 77. Dick joined TBG a few years after his wife, Carol, who has been a member for 16 years. They spent the summers in Warner, New Hampshire, which was near Canterbury Shaker Village where both of them volunteered. Dick worked in the broom department and made a number of brooms for the village to sell in their gift shop. While he was there he took classes in Shaker Oval Boxes. He was taught in the true Shaker manner and took much pride in only making them as true to the original as possible. He enjoyed telling people about the history of the Shakers—their trades and lifestyle. For about 10 years the Moffs thoroughly enjoyed selling his boxes and Carol's baskets.



I only knew him for his Shaker boxes. He had made a set for the Guilders Weave raffle in January, 2004, which was the year I began attending Guilders Weave. Many of you in the guild have told me of the hours of sanding you had to do when you took his classes. We will truly miss our Shaker man.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Palliative Care Fund, c/o VCU Massey Cancer Center, P.O. Box 980037, Richmond, VA 23298-0037; or to King of Glory Lutheran Church, 4897 Longhill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23188. ~Diane

Tidings is published quarterly.

<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 items, comments, suggestions, ideas, or photos should be sent to me by the designated deadline dates.

~Vicki Cartos
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