



BASKETRY GUILD

TIDINGS

Volume 10, Issue 03

May/Jun/Jul/Aug 2009

From the President's Pen...

Happy Fall, everyone!

First the good news! I have a great new weaving space!!! Lots of counter space and elbow room. My wonderful husband and I have worked a whole weekend getting it set up. I even lost a pound or two going up and down the stairs a million zillion times! It looks good and I can't wait to actually weave there!

The bad news is that I said a terrible thing..... I admitted to above mentioned wonderful hubby – in a moment of great tired weakness – that I have “too much stuff”. I know, I know, terrible move. He now truly smirks at my extra trips up and down the stairs as I pick just the right spot for the stuff that is still coming out of the closet.

Well, maybe there's another pound to come off with these extra trips.

I cannot believe the summer went by as fast as it did! I hope that most of you enjoyed some lazy days. TBG enjoyed some great visiting teachers this summer and our new calendar is shaping up nicely. Fall will be a whirlwind of activity. Get ready!

As this will be my last Pres Pen, I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to all the TBG Guardian Angels who have kept me going and out of trouble for the last 4 years. TBG has great board members who give so much time and energy to keep TBG fun and interesting. Thank you also to all who volunteer in all the many different ways for our guild. It makes all the difference. Weave with a smile! Jamie

Life Net

Don't forget to bring your final Life Net baskets to the meeting. Hand them over the President Jamie and she will bet them stained and delivered to the Life Net organization.



Do you have basket laying around that haven't found a home? How about donating them to the Church for their homebound members. Larchmont United Methodist Church is very grateful for the baskets they have received and can still use more. Bring your donation baskets to each meeting.

The above baskets were woven at the Pool Party this year. Thank you to all !!

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Reminders.....

TBG Mailbox:

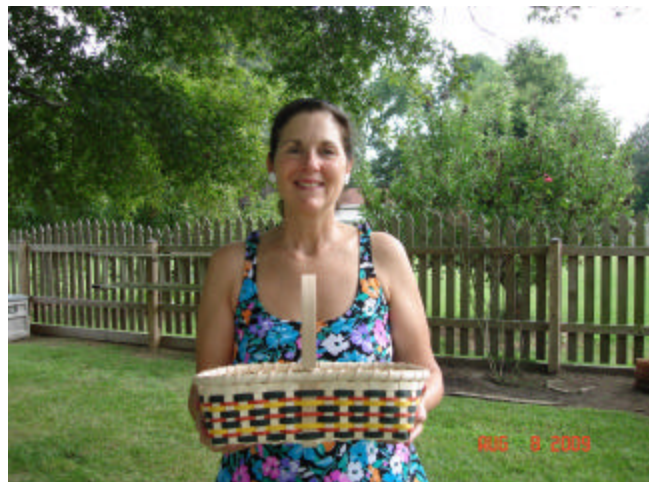
Tidewater Basketry Guild
P.O. Box 55133
Norfolk, VA 23505
ATTN: (name of member or Chairperson)

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## Pool Party 2009



Top-Alyce and Rose show off their baskets in process and below Vicki shows her completed creation.



### Note from the Editor...

Any news items for the newsletter need to be to me by the 15th of each month. If you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me at newsletter@tidewaterbasketryguild.org or call me at 523-8630  
For those of you who do not have a computer, any members you need to contact, please look up phones numbers in your Members Roster in your Tidewater Basketry Guild Notebook, we will not publish them in the newsletter in the future.  
Thanks, Cindy Stanton

Do you have any new ideas for the newsletter? Please email/call Cindy at webmaster@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

## Notes from Diane...

**Whoaaa...** I'm just trying to catch my breath as we try to make our way thru the summer.

First I must thank those two people that stepped forward to chair the big events in **April, Kim Voska and Ella Mae King**. Without all the volunteers who go before the public to show them our love of basketry we would be just a mere club and not the strong guild that we are today. That is one of the best ways to bring in new members. Because of this we have had great turn outs at our OTP classes. **Thank you all.**

I can hardly believe that **Tina Chopin** and her side kick, **Donna Atkinson**, who do the OTP, also taught three classes this year, of the Double Wall Tina designed in order to show others how to make this unique basket.

**May** was the Twill pattern, with **Laura White** and **Billie Dorris** and several other people volunteering to help show this Tika Tucker pattern to a crowd of interested guild members.

**June** was the end of a very busy eleven months of baskets classes just within our own group. The Just a Bit of Rust was taught by **Sherral Nelson** and after pulling together all the tin she could find we ended on a high note and were ready for the Fourth of July.

**June 26, 27, & 28**, those of us that were able to experience the talent of **Pati English**, had a great time. The weekend at Coventry Club House, was full of laughter, great instruction, beautiful baskets, songs, more laughter and of course food. The kits Pati made were filled to the brim with plenty of materials, dyed reed that didn't bleed, and well informative patterns. Several came back on Sunday to finish up their baskets which is special to have more time with the teacher. It was a wonderful time had by all!!

**August 1:** Ten people gathered at Marsha Broms lovely estate to dye reed for the baskets that were created at the Pool Party for the church's outreach program. At the same time we cut and put together 50 kits for which guild members will weave one basket, using the dyed reed, for the church and the other one take home to try out. This is a basket that Alice Wyvill made especially for the church. Several of us then dyed some of our own reed, and got to use some of the dye that Holly and Don brought to share with the participants. Many of us do not realize how much goes into the making of a kit and the dying of the reed. We shared a lunch together and enjoyed a fun day.

**August 8:** We gathered for the **Pool Party** at Billie's. The **Volunteer drawings** for the year were made, for prizes. Also we made the baskets for the church's outreach program and then we could take the same type of basket kit home. There was a great group of people and a great time was had by all.

**August 21, 22, & 23:** Are the days for **Fred and Kay Kohler** visited the Coventry Club House for the second visiting teacher this summer. They taught Nantucket's and about 23 were involved. It was amazing how great these two teachers were.

As you can see at the end **July** the Guilders Weave list of teachers and classes were listed on the web site. Thank you **Cindy Stanton** for all the hard work you do to get things up on web site so we can see what is going on....

**September 1**– First day of Guilders Weave 2010 registration

**September 5, Dyeing gathering again.** Marsha Broms has agreed to open her house again for dying the reed for the Porcupine Basket. If you want to be included e-mail Diane and tell me you want to come. Bring one lb. of your own reed you can dye. Gather at 9:00 am and bring a food item to share when we break for lunch. Will cut the reed, if time, for the kits. Address is 5408 Blackwater Loop, VA.Beach. Directions will be sent once you let me know if you are coming.

**September 13**, meeting, 2:00 pm Elections, possible basket class

**September 19-20** Heritage Days- Chesapeake City Park contact **Laura White**

**September 26**, Special Sat. class, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. **Carol Moff**, teaching the Porcupine Basket, at the Larchmont church. E-mail Diane if you want to be on the list. Limited number. Price around \$15 to 20 dollars. Will be due the Sept. 13 meeting.

**October 3 & 4** Newport News Fall Festival-We need your help, contact Susie Waters to volunteer.

### Porcupine Basket Class

Sept. 26, Sat. Carol Moff will be teaching the Porcupine Baskets with its multiple colors of needles. When this basket is displayed the crowd often ask about how do you make something like this. The class will be at Larchmont United Methodist Church our normal meeting place from 9:00 am to afternoon. We have no price on this but will run around 15.00 to 20 dollars. If you are interested you need to e-mail Diane Short basket-makr@aol.com to let her know that you would like to take the basket. We have a limited amount of spaces and there is a possibility that it might be taught again so a waiting list will be taken. The money will be due at the Sept 13th meeting and we hope to have an amount before then.



We received this via email and am passing on to our members....

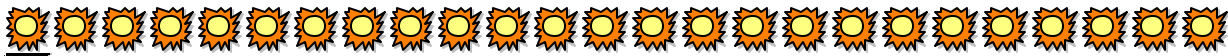
Greetings,

My husband and I run Harvest Faire, a small Renaissance Faire in Newport News, about to be held for the 15th year running. We've been expanding the faire and trying to involve a greater range of merchants and we really want a basketry merchant at the event, October 9-11, 2009. This is an outdoor event, held in Williams Field section of the section of Mariners' Museum Park that is accessed across from Warwick High School on Warwick Blvd. People typically set up 10x10 or 10x20 tents and sell their goods. Demonstrations are encouraged and although the site is rustic, many people do camp over for the event. Setup is on the 8th or the morning of the 9th.

If anyone in your organization is interested, please let us know. Fees are \$70 for a 10x10 setup, \$110 for a 10x20 and that includes admission for two adults.

Thank you for your time,

Amy B. Reineri abreineri@casaarchitecture.com



Jamie and Anna collect material.



### Pool Party 2009

Right-Cease is weaving a basket for the Outreach Program.

A huge Thank You to all that wove for the Church Outreach Program.



## Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting June 7, 2009

President Jamie VanOekel opened the meeting at 2:05 by welcoming everyone, especially new members and visitors. New members recognized were Cynthia Pine, Jane Roman and Jessica Morgan was visiting.

Jamie thanked our hostesses Susie Waters, Arlene Wallace, Donna Coleman, and Tamme Durant for the delicious treats they brought for us to enjoy.

Jamie shared that approximately 10 people took Tina Chopin's 3<sup>rd</sup> class of her double wall basket and enjoyed it very much.

Class Sign ups – Diane Short –

Patti English classes will be held on June 26 – 28 at the Coventry Club House. The money is due today and if you would like a color change you need to tell Diane today. There are still a few openings if you'd like to take a class. Please bring a dish to share for lunch.

Kohler classes will be held Aug 21 – 23 also at the Coventry Club House. The money for these classes is due August 1<sup>st</sup>. We would also like to share lunch again for these classes.

The pool party will be held August 8<sup>th</sup> at Billie Dorris's house at 9:00 a.m. We will have a potluck lunch, our volunteer drawing, and we will also weave a "make one take one" basket. We'll weave one for the church and have a kit to take home. Alice Wyvill was kind enough to make up the pattern for this market basket.

GW10 Update – Cindy Stanton – The baskets for the classes have been picked, pictures have been taken, and they should be up on the web by mid July. We have chosen 61 baskets and will have 21 teachers.

Nominating Committee – Jamie – Donna Atkinson, Shannon Lovvorn, and Alice Wyvill are your committee members. If you are interested in running for an office, please contact one of them. Nominations should be in by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

UFO – Alice Wyvill – There was 6 finished out of a possible 18 and Rose Glen won the prize. Number 2 is the next UFO due and that will be at the August pool party on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Jamie informed the members that she had been contacted by the "Master the Art of Craft" to demonstrate for the show which she accepted. It will be held Sunday, July 12, from 1:00 to 4:00 at the Chesapeake Center Library located on Cedar Road if you would like to come by.

There will be no July meeting.

Members in attendance:

Sherral Nelson assisted by Eda Moreno will now teach the Rusty Star Class for those who are participating.

Meeting adjourned at 2:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn West



### Pool Party 2009

Left-Judith,  
Cindy and watch  
Jan weave!

Right-Shannon  
and Jerry work  
on their baskets.



## Guilders Weave 2010

The postmark date for Guilders Weave classes is fast approaching. Hopefully decisions have been made and everything is ready to mail. I would love to give everyone their first choice but ..... it truly is the "luck of the draw".

After Labor Day I will "dump" all the envelopes with a postmark of 1 September in a big green bag, shake the bag and pull one at a time. Names, along with class selections, are entered in the computer in the order they are drawn. For GW 2009 we had over 120 first day registrations. When there are 10 students in a class it is closed and we move to the second choice.

However, your chances are better than you think. Last year almost half the names had been entered before the first class was full. We offer so many good classes that there is something for everyone. Even when you don't get your first couple of choices you still have an opportunity to take an interesting class with a great teacher.

I will get the class assignments out as soon as possible but it does take time to enter all the info into the computer and run several "double checks" so no one has two classes in the same time slot.

Susie has decided on the memorabilia and order forms will be posted on the web site.

The welcome bags have arrived and are waiting to be filled with "goodies".

At the September meeting there will be a sign up sheet for volunteers. Help is needed in many areas so please add your name to the list.

So now we wait!!!

Billie

## Less is not always more!!!

I have actually been weaving the last couple of weeks. I have made 4 baskets and not one of them a Nantucket. They were my UFOs. Kits I had bought at various times that never left the storage closet. Don't ask me what brought about this madness since I don't have a clue. Even Spanky now has a puppy biscuit shaped toy basket.

I did make a discovery and one that I don't much like. Patterns are not what they used to be. In the "old days", when the designer actually had to pay 10 cents a page at Kinkos, patterns consisted of several pages. Now that they can be printed on your own computer they are sparse. I think the conciseness might come from the fact that many of the patterns are meant to be taught in class. Therefore the teacher can answer any questions that may arise. However, that isn't much help for those not in class.

Simple instructions are being omitted. "Insert Handle at center spoke". Insert how?? does it slide underneath the fancy pattern or does it cover it up? Is it only inserted under a couple of rows towards the bottom of the basket? Or under all the weaving? "Insert extra spoke" Insert how? where? Give an indication of how far apart spokes should be in a design with a filled base. It is far easier to have the correct spacing to begin with than it is to adjust later. These are things the weaver shouldn't have to guess. The instructions don't have to be complicated but they do need to offer enough information that the weaver is confident in what they are doing. If you are using a new technique offer a close-up picture or drawing. Allow part of the inside of the basket to show in the picture. This would have solved my problem of where to insert the handle. I could easily have seen how it was done.

If after 25 years of weaving I had this many questions I shudder to think how a new weaver is managing.

Less is not always more. Less is only more when no more is required.

Billie

**Basket Survey****Name if you like** \_\_\_\_\_

This survey is being created and handed out to see what you would like to see for our group in the next couple years. In the past we have asked you to put forth your thoughts and idea and yet we are not hearing from everyone SO we created this form to see if we might get some feedback.

What type of baskets would you like to learn to make? Realize that we have had just had in the past year someone to teach baskets using natural plants, reed baskets and different ways to cover handles, and Nantucket Baskets.

\_\_\_ Wax linen                      \_\_\_ Ash                      \_\_\_ willow                      \_\_\_ ribs  
 \_\_\_ Nantucket                      \_\_\_ Antlers                      \_\_\_ natural                      \_\_\_ reed

Other suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

What techniques would you like to have more practice on?

\_\_\_ twilling                      \_\_\_ French randing                      \_\_\_ 3 rod wale or Triple twining  
 \_\_\_ Japanese weave                      \_\_\_ chase weave

Other suggestions? \_\_\_\_\_

How many visiting teachers are you willing to support through the year? This is not including GW \_\_\_\_\_

Who would you like to see come our way? \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to see done different? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a basket/pattern that you think would help to show our beginners or others, some different technique? Would you share it with us? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you help with teaching this technique? Or with some other project \_\_\_\_\_

How important is it to recognize the volunteers in our group on a scale of 1 to 10? 1 being SO-SO and 10 being most important. \_\_\_\_\_

**Fill out and e-mail it back to Diane or give to one of the officers, so that we can use it to plan the next year's activities. basketmakr@aol.com**