



BASKETRY GUILD

From the President's Pen...

Greetings Fellow Basketweavers,

Summer's almost here! School's out! Don't know about you but I love barefoot weather and all that comes with it!!

While TBG takes a break from meeting in July, we look forward to the Kents' visit later in the month. What a great opportunity to weave with these two great teachers!

Not too long after that is our Pool Party is on August 4. Somewhere in there, your wonderful board members will be setting the calendar for next year's projects and classes. So if you have an idea/technique/teacher for us to consider, let one of us know.

Our Lifenet Basket Project is off to a good start. We have an official order from them now so it is very important to complete those kits you have checked out and turn them in at the next guild gathering. New kits should be available to check out at all guild functions as well. The pool party is the next group weaving effort to contribute to the project. I hope you can participate and join in the fun of the always great potluck lunch and the volunteer drawing. The next UFO is due then, too!

Several slots are still open for Gail Hutchinson's classes in August. While the classes are now open to all experienced weavers, you will need to act fast. Registration has to close on June 20. Don't miss this chance to weave with another great teacher!

Enjoy your summer. Travel safe and have fun!
And always weave with a smile!!
Jamie

TIDINGS

Volume 8, Issue 03

May/June 2007

Life Net

Our Life Net Project is moving along. In April we delivered our first 50 baskets. Jamie wanted to take a picture, but the guy on the loading dock was camera shy! May brought us our first payment from Life Net. At our May meeting members cut and assembled Life Net kits, what a great help you all have been! And in June we delivered another 50 baskets. Our goal is to deliver more baskets in August. While talking with a friend I said, "If 30 members took 10 Life Net kits, wove them and brought them back within two months, we would have 300 baskets that quick!" Have you made any Life Net baskets? Have you made your ten? Do you have any kits? Please make it your goal to bring your finished Life Net baskets to the August Pool Party, or call President Jamie and arrange delivery. Members we really need your help to keep this project alive! Life Net is a great organization and we can all be a little part of a big project! Thank you TBG Members for your continued support.

UFO Contest

UFO's... Unfinished Objects!!

UFO #6 was due at the June meeting, Diane Short won the drawing for completing her UFO. UFO #3 on your list will be due at the Aug. 4th Pool Party.

Open To The Public May

We had 11 enthusiastic students for the OTP class!! Laura and Alice taught and the students all loved their baskets. Liz and I assisted. Pictures were taken for the scrapbook. Several students expressed interest in joining the Guild and will likely come to the June meeting. Thank you all for your help!
Donna

TBG Officers/Board Members 2006-2007

President, Jamie Van Oekel
President@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Vice President, Diane Short
Vicepresident@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Secretary,
Secretary@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

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Publicity@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

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

Reminders.....

TBG Mailbox: We have had several pieces of mail returned to sender recently. At review, the mail had individual names as the addressee on each. We feel that any mail sent to our PO Box should be addressed to Tidewater Basketry Guild and then to the attention of the person who needs it.

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

NCBA Members have you paid your dues? They are due this month, send them in today!

Weaving Event– October 2007

Our own Judith Saunders will be teaching, check out the website to see the exciting new weaving event held on Ocracoke Island.

www. Ocracokefestival.org

Basket Quote for the day:

I overheard Mary Jo talking about all the people in the same class making the same baskets and how our baskets all turn out beautiful and different and she said “Our baskets are Siblings not Twins”, Isn’t that the truth!

(I may have to start using this one on the website)



NCBA 2007, Chris and Andrea show off a beautiful creation!

Notes from Diane.....

Rolling into summer...the **April** class for the Cantus Basket taught by Kim Voska and her mother Carol was a good challenge. Many of us saw many various design modification and some different shaped baskets during the day. Food was fit for a Queen. Sorry for those who missed it.

In **May** we must have cut and packaged 200 hundred kits for the Life Net baskets. If you want to try one of these kits Jamie would be your contact person.

June Alice Wyvill and her volunteers had an oval Patriotic Basket to teach us. I can't wait to serve something in it at our Fourth of July picnic.

Up coming events:

July 13, 14, & 15: Jim and Miss Jimmie Kent classes are full and paid for. In some cases I have a waiting list for some of the classes. Information on directions to the Coventry Club House will be coming out closer to the time frame.

August 4: Pool Party at Billie's-this day always brings tons of food, fun and laughter! Don't miss it!

August 17, 18, & 19: Gail Hutchinson classes are ready for sign up. If you missed out on the other classes consider these as another opportunity to take from a great teacher. I have openings and would love to hear from you as soon as possibly. Look on the web site and then call or e-mail right away or we might have to let her go.

September 9: Will be our starting up for the fall. We have an Indian Corn class on the books, elections, and volunteer sign ups. Hope to see you before then.....



Sherral Nelson taught a beautiful large basket to guild members.

Above Sherral (left) shows Liz some of her "tricks of the trade".

Thank you Sherral for teaching such a usable basket!

Jan is just about complete with her "Sherral" basket, just gotta rim it!



Kellie packs her basket before "cutin' and tuckin'"

Guilders Weave Committee 08 - Where Are We

Ins and Outs of Basket Selection - Several of our members have asked HOW we select the baskets for Guilders Weave.

The GW Coordinators spend a lot of time and effort each year to bring to Guilders Weave the very best mix of baskets and teachers available. Every year the committee tries to improve on the class selection made the year before. Throughout the year and especially at the April Show and Tell meeting, our members submit the names of teachers they would like to be contacted regarding Guilders Weave. This also provides an opportunity for members to comment on types of baskets and materials they would like to see offered at GW.

Who selects the baskets for classes?

The Jurying Committee selecting the baskets for GW consists of:

TBG Guild President
 Guilders Weave Chairman
 Guilders Weave Co-chairman
 Previous Guilders Weave Chairman and Co-Chair
 Jurying Committee Chairman – selected by the GW Chairman
 Jurying Committee Co-Chairman – selected by the Jurying Committee Chairman

There are many elements at play in the selection of baskets for GW. Over the years we have determined that we can accommodate a group of no more than 150 weavers at the Point Plaza Conference Center. These 135-150 weavers need 19-23 teachers. The hotel can comfortably seat 16 classes concurrently with a class in the banquet hall and one in the vestibule. Knowing the number of classes that we can run concurrently allows us to determine how many classes each day should be beginner level, how many intermediate and how many advanced. It is important that we spread the classes through all weaving levels. The 55 classes offered at GW 2007 fell into the following weaving levels:

#	2	8	13	20	9	3
Level	All Levels	Beginner	Begin/Inter	Inter	Inter/Adv	Advanced
%	4%	15%	24%	36%	16%	5%

After experiencing several problems with students being in the wrong class levels, we asked teachers not to use the ALL level category but to assign the most appropriate designator to their classes using the level description that Alice Wyvil composed in 2005. Alice's level descriptions clarified just what experience was expected for each class level. The two GW07 classes that were designated for ALL students were truly appropriate for all skill levels - Venie Hinson's colorful marbling class and Judy Wilson's beautiful necklace.

Everyone has a favorite type of basket and materials. We would all be disappointed if the only class offerings were ribbed or Nantucket baskets. The committee reviews the baskets with the intention of getting a mixture of styles and materials. GW07 offered ash, cane, bark, round reed, gourds, flat reed, pine needles and other assorted materials in natural and dyed varieties. Classes teaching everything from stools to necklaces and Nantucket's to quatrefoils were available. The intent truly is to offer something for everyone. We love ribbed baskets and Nantucket's but still want the opportunity to experience working with flat reed and waxed linen.

While balancing style and weaving level, the committee still needs to ensure that the class submission is a good buy for the teaching fee. Each basket is reviewed to ensure that cost is in line with the materials and instructional time required. The type of material can impact the cost of the basket as the preparation cost for some materials is substantially more costly than others--especially bark and ash.

	Really Cheap	Inexpensive	Moderate	Costly	More Costly
\$\$\$ per Basket	\$25 Under	\$26-50	\$51-75	\$76-100	Over \$100
55 Baskets	3	21	18	8	5
Percentage	5%	38%	33%	15%	9%

At this point in the process, the committee usually has selected enough baskets to fill a five or six day convention. The next step is the actual scheduling of classes and reviewing the number of teaching hours that each teacher has been allocated. The teacher determines the instructional cost for their classes after considering all of their teaching costs. They do not receive any hourly stipend or travel allowance from the GW. They cannot afford to commit their time and resources for one day of classes at GW. We try to schedule 2-3 days of classes for each teacher.

GW-continued...

At this point the committee is usually ON the floor with a handful of index cards. The process begins to look like a big puzzle as we actually schedule classes for each day. This is done very carefully to ensure that each teacher is only teaching ONE class at a time and that we have a mixture of every skill level. Next we review each day to ensure that we have a mixture of 4 hour and 8 hour classes. All carryover classes -12 hour, two day classes are scheduled for Thursday/Friday or Saturday/Sunday, and that each day has a variety of classes available. This particular exercise is done over and over and over until all the pieces fit.

This is usually a very noisy and often painful process as everyone has an opinion. As we get close to the final schedule our questions become more difficult:

Is the cost of the basket going to be prohibitive for most attendees?
Is the basket too much like another basket?
Did we teach the same or a similar basket last year?
Did the teachers classes all fill the previous year?
If we don't select this basket will the teacher still want to teach at GW?

These are the type of questions that help us to select the very best mix of classes. Our goal is to schedule enough classes to give everyone something for each day. If we schedule too many classes, many of the classes will not have enough students. Classes with less than the teacher's stated minimum require the teacher's approval. Small classes stand a good chance of being cancelled and may cause a teacher to refuse to teach. When we lose a teacher, we have to go back and move all of the students into other classes. This rescheduling takes a lot of time and effort and generally irritates both students and teachers.

One last review is made to see if we have overbooked our tables. As we schedule the classes, we need to keep in mind the size of the baskets and the table space required for layout. Size will determine the type of tables and room reserved for the class.

Do we always GET it right? No, not really but we do try.

Laura and Committee

Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting May 6, 2007

President Jamie VanOekel called the meeting to order and welcomed all.
Thank you for the great refreshments.

The first UFO contest comes to an end today.
Prizes were drawn for three categories:
UFO finished for today was won by Jamie VanOekel
Participated in the UFO Contest was won by Linda Lindner
Finished All Six UFO's winner was Diane Short
The new UFO Contest list was given to Alice Wyvill and UFO #6 will be due at the June 3rd meeting.

We had a few Show and Tells.

The rest of the time was spent cutting and assembling Life Net kits. Members put together approximately 200 kits.
Kits were signed out by members to complete and return basket to Jamie.

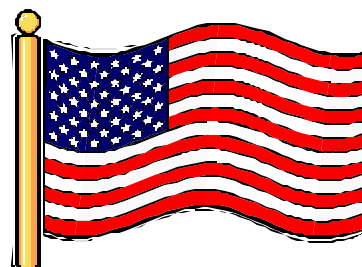
24 members were present.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Stanton
Interim Secretary

Happy 4th
of July



TBG Members Spotlight

Meet Sherral Nelson

Hometown: Laurel, MS

How did I start weaving? While visiting Joyce Smith's home, she pointed to a market basket and stated " Sherral, you can make that basket", and I asked would I leave the class with the basket made?

How long: 7 years

How did you find TBG? Joyce Smith invited me to an Open to Public Class June 2000. I made a market basket and signed up for the next Open to Public class and made the round basket. I was then hooked!



Sherral Show's and Tell's about her NCBA experience.

What else do I do? Gardening, Interior Decorating, Crafts and of course, "weaving".

Guilds: TBG and NCBA

Best thing about weaving? You have a beautiful piece of art. You always have a nice gift to give away, and it's good therapy for me!

Perfect day off? Spending time at home with my husband watching movies or working in our yard. I don't seem to get enough time at home.

Sherral is our current Membership Chairperson.

"Sherral thank you for all you do for TBG"

TBG Members Spotlight

Meet Dawn West

Hometown: Tribune, Kansas

How did I start weaving? A friend in the neighborhood started to give lessons so that she wouldn't have to weave alone. I only took her up on it the last month before she moved so I only got 4 lessons. But I continued to try and figure out what I was doing with a couple of other friends whom she had taught; one of whom was our own Diane Short. (She still helps me out, on occasion, trying to figure out what I'm doing!)

How long: I started in May of 1996, wove off and on for a while and then took a 5 year break!! I started back again shortly before I joined TBG in 2004.

How did you find TBG? Through Kim, she brought me to the meeting where Linda was teaching the little round Easter Basket (first time I'd ever woven with spaced dyed reed and it threw me but I hung in there!!) I was hooked and am so glad I stayed because I have met soooo many wonderful people here.

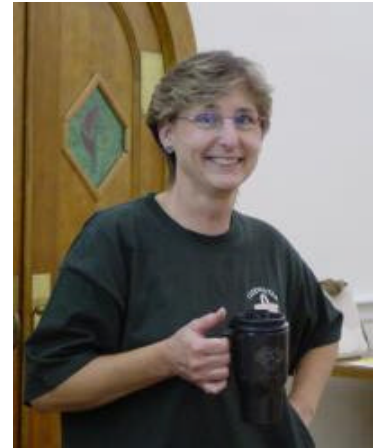
Favorite type of weaving/basket? I don't know yet, I haven't tried them all!! What else do I do? I like to work in the yard, read, relax in my backyard listening to the waterfall and watching the birds. I also enjoy camping with my family and of course spending time with my friends. Playing BUNKO with the girls is also a great time once a month.

Guilds: TBG & NCBA

Best thing about weaving? Meeting and making friends with so many wonderful people that also love this art. Making something with my hands that starts off so chaotic and turns out to be so useful and hopefully beautiful.

Perfect day off? That's a hard one...I'd say having perfect weather, taking a ride through the mountains or countryside, stopping for an ice cream then spending the rest of the day relaxing on the porch swing or somewhere else outside with family and friends.

Something you would like us to know? I came from a very small Kansas town but from a large family. I've got 4 brothers and 1 sister and we're all very close (I'm the baby). My husband Danny and I have 2 great sons, Justin (18) and Johnathan (17). I also have a stepson, Jeff (37) who is married and has a little boy, Jason. (I know, I know, I sure don't look like a Grandma!!) I'm very blessed to have such a wonderful family and such a great group of friends! I would love to be able to visit all 50 states while I'm still able to enjoy them!



Dawn enjoys a little "java" before weaving with the Simpson's.

"Thank you Dawn for being a member of TBG!"

Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting June 3, 2007

President Jamie VanOekel called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Visitor today is Jean Wetzal, Cathy Gray's mother.

Life Net Baskets update-Jamie reported that we received our first check for baskets delivered in April. Another delivery will be in June, contact Jamie to arrange for delivery of your Life Net baskets to her.

Open To the Public Class- Donna Atkinson reported that the class went great. 11 students, 2 teachers and 2 assistants. Thank you to all that helped.

Kent Classes- Diane Short updated- there are a few openings in Miss Jimmies classes. Contact Diane if you are interested. Directions will be available soon.

Gail Hutchinson Classes- Dianne Short updated- we need sign ups or we may not make Gail's requirements. Money will be due June 15th. Contact Diane if you are interested.

Our member Virginia West was featured in the Hampton Newspaper for her workouts at the local gym. Way to go Virginia!

Pool Party will be August 4, 2007 at the home of Billie Dorris.

Next meeting will be September 9th.

Nominating Committee- Cindy Stanton reported, we are still in need of a Secretary and we are looking for a Volunteer Coordinator. Please let Cindy know if you are interested.

Jamie presented Kim Voska with a gift for all her support and efforts being the Volunteer Coordinator. Thank you Kim for all your hard work!

Mary Jo Baylor brought in basket supplies from a friend for sale.

Guilders Weave –Cindy reported that the Jury Committee will be selecting baskets on June 8th. The GW volunteer list is out on the front table, please sign up!

UFO Contest –Alice Wyvill- UFO #6 is due today-Diane Short won the drawing today. UFO #3 is due at the August Pool Party at Billie's.

Jamie announced we have an email from a former TBG member selling basket supplies. If you are interested please see Jamie for the contact information.

Lynnhaven House is in need of a speaker, contact Jamie if you are interested.

Now on the weaving of the day – the Patriotic Basket with Alice Wyvill.

28 members were present.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Stanton
Interim Secretary

NCBA 2007
Acorn Basket Class with
Judy Wobbleton
How many TBG members
can you find under the
Acorn tree??



Budget and Actual Expenses for July 2007 - June 2008

See the Members Only Page of the Website for your copy of new budget.