



## BASKETRY GUILD

### *From the President's Pen...*

Greetings Fellow Basketweavers,

It came!! The class assignments for GW08 came in the mail!! It's almost here and I am so ready for that hold-off-the-rest-of-the-world-and-weave weekend!! Laura, Billie and Cindy have made the whole operation look easy as they have met every deadline and challenge. All the committees are in full swing. We have such a great group. The TBG spirit weaves its spell each year to make this event a success.

Thanks so much to those who volunteered at Newport News Fall Festival. The interest in our guild was tremendous!! We appreciate you sharing your time and love of weaving with those who visited our tent.

We have another opportunity to share at the Chesapeake Heritage Arts Festival which is the first weekend in November. Laura is organizing the group to enjoy an easy-going time at Chesapeake City Park.

Remember that our regular meeting for November is on the second Sunday – the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Hope to see you there!!  
Jamie

# TIDINGS

Volume 8, Issue 04

Oct/Nov 2007

## Life Net

Our Life Net Project is still in force. Have you made those kits you checked out? Bring your finished baskets to the next meeting-Nov. 11th. Or to our Life Net Weave In Potluck on Nov 17th. 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.

2 Hours of Volunteer Time  
7 Teenage Boys  
88 Life Net Kits  
1 Frazzled President  
Priceless!!!

**Thank You Thank You Thank You**  
The Great Bridge Crew Club came out to help President Jamie assemble 88 Life Net Kits. It took 7 boys, 2 hours to complete their mission. Great job to Jamie and the Great Bridge Crew Club!

## UFO Contest

UFO's... Unfinished Objects!!  
Carol Vanderzee won the drawing at the Aug Pool Party for her complete UFO. UFO #5 will be due Nov 11th. Get in gear and finish those UFO's, no excuses this time!

**TBG Officers/Board Members 2006-2007**

President, Jamie Van Oekel  
President@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Vice President, Diane Short  
Vicepresident@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Secretary,  
Secretary@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Treasurer, Jerry Bernstein  
Treasurer@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Membership Chair, Sherral Nelson  
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Historian, Mary Jo Baylor  
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Guilders Weave Chairperson, Laura White  
Guildersweave@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Publicity Chairperson,  
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)

**Sad Note:**

October, 2007

The NCBA family extends deepest sympathies to **Florence Davis**, whose husband, Everette Van Davis, has passed away. Florence chaired NCBA Convention, served as Parliamentarian, is a member of Port City Basketmakers and NCBA. Remembrances can be sent to: 7805-1 Blue Heron Drive West  
Wilmington, NC 28411

Tina proudly displays her Nantucket basket taught by Mr. Jim Kent.



## Notes from Diane.....

**Gearing up for Autumn:** After a FUN packed summer with our three different teachers, Mr. Jim and Jimmie Kent and Gail Hutchinson we are ready to **FALL BACK** and gear up for Autumn and Winter and Guilders Weave.

Sorry if you missed the pool party at Billie's where we learned about Nantucket supplies and placement of the spokes from Billie. We also did our volunteer drawing for great basket gifts.

We had a wonderful turn out for our first September meeting where Jamie taught us how to make Indian Corn Baskets. Great for decoration!!

Elections returned Jamie to the office of President and Dawn West the Secretary. Jamie followed this up with teaching a Pumpkin Basket with a face on Sept. 22. Cindy said, "It's so cute!!!" We are now ready for Fall.

By the next meeting **November 11<sup>th</sup>** we will have volunteered for Newport News Fall Festival Oct. 6-7 and hopefully have a new crop of basket weavers to attend OTP Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> on the peninsula. Followed by November 3-4, Chesapeake Heritage Art Festival. Two great venues to volunteer and show others how much we love what we do.

**Speaking of Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>** (Sunday) meeting Chris Irby and Carol Woolard will be teaching us a darling **Snowman Ornament** for \$5.00. We only have thirty kits for this class and so you need to sign up with me [basketmakr@aol.com](mailto:basketmakr@aol.com), as I have only seven more spots.

Then on **Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>** (Sat.) at the church we are doing our first "Life Net Weave In", with a Potluck, and **DOOR PRIZES** for those who attend. It's an opportunity to give back to our community, learn how to make a small basket, make more kits, and mainly enjoy each others company. IF you have a basket that you haven't finish or need help on, bring it, as there will be someone to help you!!

**COME JOIN US!!!**

Recapping and other events:

**November 11<sup>th</sup>**, 2:00pm Snowman Ornament \$5.00 Chris and Carol sign up before  
**November 17<sup>th</sup>**, 9:00 am Weave In for Life Net, Potluck, and **DOOR PRIZES**

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** Holiday Party Bring a gift, somewhat basket related and food item to share

**January 6, 2008** Meeting 2:00 Speaker and last minute things for Guilders Weave.

**January 17-20, 2008** Guilders Weave

## Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting – September 9, 2007

President Jamie VanOekel called the meeting to order at 2:10 and welcomed everyone.

Jamie thanked Diane Short and Liz Pangrac and all who pitched in to make the Kent and Gail Hutchinson classes a success. It was a lot of fun and Liz reported that we received a full refund for our clean up at the Coventry Clubhouse where the Kent classes were held.

Also Jamie thanked Billie Dorris for hosting a wonderful pool party.

Tina Chopin announced that she had pictures of her new (2<sup>nd</sup>) grandchild, Audra. Very proud grandma!

Ballots were passed out to vote on the positions of President and Secretary. Jamie VanOekel ran for President unopposed and Dawn West ran for Secretary unopposed.

Jamie had a goodbye card for everyone to sign for Cathy Gray who is moving to Maine. Cathy has extended an invitation to everyone to come and visit her there. She is going to try and start a guild there. Cathy also gave Jamie several boxes of weaving material to offer to anyone who would like to have it.

Sign Up Sheets – Diane Short announced that there were sign up sheets up front for the following events.

- Pumpkin Basket Class – Sept 22 , 9 am at LUMC. Jamie will teach, limit of 20/\$10.00
- NNFF – Oct 6 and 7 morning and afternoon slots open
- Oct OTP (Peninsula Side) – Oct 20. Tina Chopin and Donna Atkinson will teach/need volunteers to help
- Chesapeake Heritage Arts Festival – City park Nov 3 and 4. Cindy Stanton Coordinator
- November Snowman ornament class – Nov 11 at TBG meeting/\$5.00. Carol Woolard and Chris Irby will make kits, Diane Short will teach.

There is also a sheet and pictures of Cass Schorsch classes to be held in Sept 08. She comes a long way and her classes are more expensive so we need to assess if there is enough interest for her to come. She is a wonderful teacher; and she grows and prepares her own cedar, which results in wonderful material in with which to work.

There will be no Oct. meeting as the Newport News Fall Festival will be held on that 1<sup>st</sup> Sat and Sun.

Jamie introduced Shannon Lovvorn as our new Volunteer Coordinator. She has sign up sheets ready, so please come fill in her blanks. Thank you, Shannon!

Sherral Nelson is taking up dues for the new year. 1<sup>st</sup> year is \$25.00; \$20.00 every year after that.

GW08 Update: Laura has received 111 applications so far. She received 86 on the 1<sup>st</sup> day! The committees are hard at work to make sure everything gets done.

Laura announced to the members that the votes had been counted and Jamie would remain the President and Dawn would become the new Secretary. Congratulations to Jamie and Dawn.

Life Net Project Update: Jamie informed us that 150 baskets have been turned in. Kits will be available to pick up at the Pumpkin basket class. More kits will have to be cut in October and a couple of volunteers are needed. See Jamie.

There will be a Life Net Weave In/Potluck/Open Weave at LUMC on Nov. 17 at 9 am. There will be door prizes and lots of fun. Jamie made mention that the guild has a lot of wonderful cooks and the potlucks are always delicious, so please come if you can.

UFO: Alice Wyvill was unable to come to the meeting so Carol Vanderzee stepped in for her. There were 7 completed projects and Carol Vanderzee won the prize. The next UFO # is 5 which will be due at the Nov. meeting.

Diane talked about the wonderful classes that were held with both Mr. Jim and Miss Jimmie Kent in July and with Gail Hutchinson in Aug.

Sue Legault brought some of the wonderful projects that she made while attending Pine Needle Basketry classes in Thornbay, Alaska! She also brought a few purchases she made and was thrilled. She learned how to harvest bark and thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the classes and her teachers. She would love to go again and encouraged everyone to consider it. Please contact her if you would like more information.

There were 28 members in attendance.

Weaving Indian corn with 24 people enjoying the class ended the meeting. Thank you Jamie for all of the time you put in dyeing and preparing the kits!

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn West



**Open To The Public October 2007**

Seven students, two teachers and two assistants made this Open to the Public class a real joy. This class was held at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Yorktown, what a really nice church and a big Thank You to Kim Voska for reserving the Church. Also Thank You's go out the Tina, Susie, Donna and Donna! Great job to all!!



**Open To The Public**

Donna assisting 4 excited new weavers with the Market Basket. What great fun was had by all!

## TBG Members Spotlight

### Meet GW 08 Chair Laura White

**Hometown:** Damascus, Virginia

**How did I start weaving?** My sister, Mary Hayes, introduced me to basket weaving in 1992 with a "DO I have a new craft for YOU." Over the years we had tried a little of everything from porcelain flowers to tole painting. We had always been fascinated by the skill of the Appalachian basket weavers and had collected baskets from some of the local mountain artists. While recuperating from a serious medical condition, Mary's friend, Brenda McCall, brought her basket materials and helped her weave her first basket. At my next visit with Mary, she helped me weave my first basket - a lop sided melon basket. This might have been the end of my weaving career had Brenda not stepped in with another basket and more instruction.

**How long?** It is hard to believe it has been 15 years but even harder to remember life without baskets and weaving.

**How did you find TBG?** I got the scoop on TBG from Lyn Ryan at a craft show in Chesapeake Park. I received a phone call from the Vice Principal at my son's high school asking me to sign up as a basket vendor for a craft show his wife was coordinating. This show that had no basket vendors actually had Lyn Ryan right across the walkway from my booth. As I remember the event, we sold little or no baskets. Lyn spent the afternoon generously sharing patterns and information. She told me about the guild, about NCBA and convention and about basket suppliers. I left the show with a Ryan basket, supply catalogs and a handful of patterns. I always told everyone that Lyn brought me to the guild and Ella Mae King kept me there. Ella Mae's warm welcome as the Membership Chairman kept me coming back to guild meetings at a time when I was busy traveling and working and unable to fully participate.

**What else do I do?** I am actively involved with family and friends. Having just retired after 27 years as a management analyst for the Navy, I am looking forward to more time with all my children, getting my house in order, finishing all my UFOS and Guilders Weave in January.

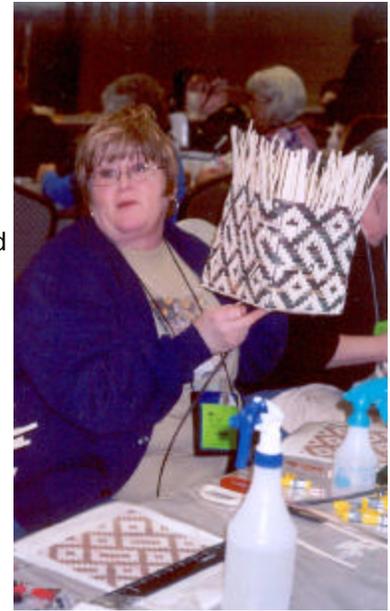
**Member of Guilds:** TBG, Tri-State, NCBA

**Best thing about weaving?** The best things about weaving are weavers. Weavers truly make the best friends.

**Perfect day off?** Weaving a Nantucket with Billie Dorris.

**Something you would like us to know?** TBG is a collection of extraordinary people. Our members are remarkable in their willingness to share and to work for a common goal. Over the years I have participated in many group activities but never with a group that worked as well together or accomplished more.

Laura has been very involved in the guild, she has held many positions from newsletter editor to President to this year taking on the position of Guilders Weave Chairperson. Laura teaches and organizes and we love her for it!



Laura weaving at NCBA 2007

**"Laura, thank you for all you do for TBG."**

## TBG Members Spotlight

### Meet GW 08 Co-Chair Billie Dorris

**Hometown:** Jacksonville Beach, Florida

**How did I start weaving?** I visited a friend in North Carolina (1983) and she taught me to make an egg basket. After that I was basically self taught using what few books were available. I had never taken a class until I moved to Northern Virginia in 1988 and joined High Country.

**How long?** 24+ years

**How did you find TBG?** I was one of the founding members.

**Favorite type of weaving/basket?** Although I mainly weave Nantuckets I enjoy most types of weaving.

**What else do I do?** Take cooking classes.

**Member of Guilds:** TBG, HCBG, NCBA

**Best thing about weaving?** The friendships I have made.

**Perfect day off?** Since I don't have a real job everyday is a day off.

**Something you would like us to know?** That I am really a quiet, mild mannered, soft spoken type of person.

Billie is one of the founding members of our guild. She is modest in her "Spotlight", she is very gracious in her time, talent and her home. She offers us advice, she teaches us the craft of basketry and it's history.

"Billie thank you for being there for TBG, we appreciate all you do! "



**Billie and Linda shopping  
at the North Carolina  
Basket Convention**

## **Guilders Weave Committee 08- Where are we.....**

Registration for GW 2008 is almost complete. I know everyone is eagerly awaiting the January classes. It has been a busy month and time has flown by for the committee members. **Do remember to send in your checks for your classes and your orders for the GW 08 memorabilia.**

We wanted to share some of the GW 2008 Statistics:

- 22 teachers are teaching 59 basket classes.
- 139 students (including 2 teachers) have registered for classes
- 19 people have registered to vend for Market Place.
- 95 registrations were postmarked 1 September 2007.
- Kitty Frick of High Country Guild was the #1 pull for class assignments. Lucky Kitty. She got all her first choices.

Everyone should have received their long awaited assignment letters. Letters were mailed on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October. We hope you read the results with a smile on your face. Don't forget the deadline for sending in your class checks is NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for memorabilia is November 10th. Sure hope two dates doesn't cause too much confusion.

We really would like to give everyone their first choices in class assignments. Since this is impossible, we work hard to make the process fair and give everyone an equal chance. We randomly drew one registration at a time from the 95 registrations postmarked on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. After these registrations were completed, we moved on to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, then the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and so forth. As classes filled we started putting students in their second choice class. At the end of the day, there were 15 students who had no class assignments for one or more days. This generally happened because the student had only listed one or two choices for the day and those filled up before their applications were drawn. Giving us several choices for each day saved time, stress and a phone call. If you have not received your class assignment letter, call or email [guildersweave@tidewaterbasketryguild.org](mailto:guildersweave@tidewaterbasketryguild.org) immediately.

If you have questions regarding Guilders Weave 2008, contact the committee chairperson.

Laura White  
Guilders Weave 2008  
Chairperson

**Go to the members only page of the website to see a list of the GW Committees and their point of contacts.**