



**BASKETRY GUILD**

# TIDINGS

Volume 3, Issue 8

December 2001/January 2002

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

Greetings and Happy Holidays,

This has certainly been an active fall. We had a fantastic turnout for the open to the public class and the Newport News Fall Festival in October. November started with our display and demos at Heritage Days in Smithfield. The hospitality there convinced me that it would make a great retirement place. Alice and I picked out the perfect location for our basket shop, right on main street close to the Inn and the bakery. Cathy Cupp's Christmas basket class was a delightful start to the holiday season and we all went home with a basket just awaiting holiday goodies. It was great to see so many members participating in these events.

Everyone enjoyed the Christmas Party at Billie's house. The new members had an opportunity to see their fellow members at their most aggressive as they swapped miniature baskets back and forth during the gift exchange. Actually the new members pitched right in and participated. The food was great and plentiful with some 22 members in attendance.

Do take time to read the proposal for a GUILD WEBSITE. The board has discussed the advantages/costs of this for quite a while. Imagine being able to log in and see the Guilders' Weave class selections OR being able to send your application in electronically. Bring your questions, comments, concerns, etc to our January meeting or give me a call or email. We will be taking a vote on this at the January meeting and want to make sure that everyone has a voice in this important decision and that all our questions are answered.

Our wishes to Glen Bowie for a speedy recovery. Glen has contracted an unusual form of pneumonia and has been extremely ill. We certainly want her on her feet and ready to weave for Guilders' Weave.

Wishing you all a very merry holiday season – see you at the January 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

**...Laura**

## **Guilders Weave 2002**

Those who are registered get ready - it's just about time for the big event! January 11 will be here before you know it. Please plan on wearing your TBG shirts if you got 'em - we want all the other guilds to see the thundering herd of attendees from our own guild. (Volunteers are reminded to wear their green TBG shirts.) For our members who couldn't make it, or those of you who joined our guild too late to attend this event, we'll miss you; but, hang in there and think January 2003! It's only gonna get better...

**...Sam**



***A HUGE, GREAT BIG,  
HUMONGUS THANK YOU***

Sometimes life can hand you the sweetest surprises. Receiving miniature baskets as retiring President and Secretary certainly qualified as one of those times. And what little treasures they are - we are still grinning! Many, many thanks to all. We have only one question - does this mean we have to be nice from now on?

***SAM and ALICE***

## ***NEWPORT NEWS FALL FESTIVAL***

The guild participated in the Heritage Section of the Annual Newport News Fall Festival with a display and demonstration on October 6th and 7th. We received an \$200 honorarium for doing so and believe me, we earned it. Saturday morning when we set up our display, the weather was overcast and cool but no rain. Before mid morning, it was raining, the wind was blowing, the display next to us was blown over at least twice, everything we had sitting outside the canopy had to be relocated under it, and we had to devise a shelter at the back of our display to try and keep us dry. We kept debating whether to call it quits and come back on Sunday or not. Thank goodness we stuck it out, because we would have missed the judging and not have won the ribbon for the best display accompanied by a check for \$200! Sunday was a beautiful day and more than made

up for the mess on Saturday. Besides greeting folks and talking about our baskets and guild, we were demonstrating by weaving on a space dyed tote basket with swing handles and curls. A drawing was held at the December meeting from the names of those who volunteered at the park and the basket was won by Carol La Ruffa.

Congratulations and thanks to Carol, Jerry Bernstein, Joan Funk, Barbara Jessome, Rhonda Jones, Ella Mae King, Sue Legault, Meredith Macdonald, Arlene Wallace, Sam Winters, Lisa Yeaw, and Sara Youngblood.

Once again - a job well done.

Alice



**Open to the  
Public Class  
Participants  
Carol Vanderzee  
and Kim Voska**

**Carol and Kim are  
two of our  
newest members.**

**We welcome you  
and all the new  
members to our  
Guild.**

### **Open To The Public Class**

Twenty-five students attended the Open to the Public class held on October 28. The smiles on the students' face and their comments upon leaving with their beautiful baskets attested to the wonderful job our teachers did that day. A special thanks to our teachers Lynn Ryan, Alice Wyvill, Rhonda Jones, and Sam Winters for

sharing their knowledge on the art of basket weaving and for volunteering their time on Saturday. Another special thanks goes to Meredith Macdonald, who did an outstanding job in preparing the kits, and to Ella Mae King for the name tags and her help in assisting the teachers. It's this kind of support that makes our Guild such an exciting and vibrant group. Barbara Jessome, OTP Coordinator

## CHILDREN'S HERITAGE DAY

On November 3rd, the Isle of Wight County Museum sponsored a Children's Heritage Day to celebrate its 25th anniversary at which the guild was invited to participate. The activities began with a tour of the museum where a miniature plantation house was displayed complete with a separate kitchen house, flower garden and herb garden. The program handout asked the children to see how many listed items they could find in the house such as baskets, quill pen, cooking pot, spinning wheel, etc. Then they were asked to locate the displays that demonstrated the activity represented in the house. That's where we came in. Laura White, Meredith Macdonald, Barbara Jessome, and I set up our display in a area with a chair caner and quiller. We began weaving on a project we brought from home and invited the children to either make a Christmas tree ornament or take one

that we had made. As the children visited each location they rubber stamped their program to show that they had done so. Everyone seemed to be impressed with our baskets, etc. But talk about being impressed, the four of us will never forget the hospitality extended to us by the organizers of the event. We had hardly finished setting up our display when a cooler with bottles of juice and water was delivered to our area and that was followed by a tray of pastries from the bakery down the street! And if that wasn't enough, they gave us each a ticket for a free lunch of Brunswick stew and corn bread that was being cooked in the Smithfield Inn garden. We were also serenaded with three songs by a strolling Barber Shop Quartet. We thanked the organizers profusely and had only one question - when can we come back?

...Alice



Our President Laura White, Past President Alice Wyvill and our Treasurer Barbara Jessome enjoy their day in Smithfield weaving, talking with the children and being pampered!!!!

Taking the picture is our Vice President Meredith MacDonald.

### SALE! PATTERN 1/2 PRICE SALE!

The guild's library and librarian position is being abolished. Carol Moff has been lugging books of patterns to and from our meetings with no one showing any interest in borrowing any of them; therefore, at the January meeting we are going to have a Half Price Sale. The cost will be 1/2 the price the guild paid for them. Those not sold at the meeting will be divided up in groups of 5 or more (depending on how many are left) and donated for door prizes at Guilders Weave.

### Note from the "new" Newsletter Editor

I am very happy to be the "new" newsletter editor. Please give me a month or two to get things right. If you have anything you want printed in the newsletter or any comments please feel free to send them to me at [cindys@akasystems.com](mailto:cindys@akasystems.com) or call me at (757) 523-8630. Thanks for all your patience while I am learning.

Cindy Stanton

## Calendar Notes from Meredith

**January 6** General Meeting 2 p.m. Billie Dorris will show and tell about some of her more interesting baskets. What a great chance to ask her lots of questions!!

After Billie's talk, time allowing, we will work on our **Technique/ Sampler Basket**. Those ready to learn **Three-Rod Waling** should bring their baskets for this lesson and those who have not yet started should bring their kits to put in the bottom. If you have paid for a kit, but don't yet have one or have not paid \$5 and would like one, please, let me know before the first of the year so I can have enough on hand (meredithm1@erols.com or 424-9059). We will work with what time we have remaining after our speaker.

Sign-ups at the meeting for:

**Trivet** - \$10 – Feb. 3 at General Meeting. This includes a pattern from Patricia Yunkes with instructions for jewelry and 1lb. of #8 round reed (enough for 2 trivets). Your VP will try and remember to bring her trivet for you to see. This is an easy and fun weaving. **DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP IS JAN. 18**

**Round Bowl with Caned Center** - \$40 – Feb. 23, Sat. This will be taught by Susanna Miller. Those who have signed up need to bring their checks made out to TBG, but dated Feb.23. There is room in the class for two more students.

**Napkin Basket** - \$5 – March 3 at General Meeting. This will be taught by Alice Wyvill and the pattern will include other sizes.

**January 11 – 13 Guilders Weave**

**February 3 – Trivet and Techniques/Sampler Basket**

**February 23 – Round Bowl with Caned Center** with Susanna Miller

**March 3 – Napkin Basket** with Alice Wyvill and **Techniques/Sampler Basket**

**March 16 – TBA**

**March 21-24** – North Carolina Basketmakers Assoc. Convention, Triangle Park, NC

**March 23** – Gathering of the Guilds, Francis Land House, VA Beach. Volunteers needed.

**April 7** – Show and Tell and **Techniques/Sampler Basket**

**April 12-14** – VA Beach Craft Show, VA Beach Pavilion. Volunteers needed.

**April 26-28** – Smithsonian Craft Show

**May 4 (Sat. 10 a.m.)** – Potluck and reed dying workshop at Laura White's.

**May 18 – OTP** Volunteers needed.

### Proposed Updates to the Guild Bylaws (to be discussed at the January meeting)

The board proposed the following changes to the Tidewater Basketry Bylaws

Disestablish the library and remove the Tidewater Lending Library Guidelines from the Bylaws. Remove the Librarian (Member at Large) position description from the Board Member Position Descriptions. Change Article IV. Board and Officers to read three Members at Large vice four Members at Large.

Add to Non-Board Positions the positions of Special Events Coordinator and Guilders Weave Coordinator. The Special Event Coordinator, appointed by the Vice President will serve as the Coordinator for the Open to the Public classes and will assist the Vice President with coordination of other events as assigned. The Guilders Weave Coordinator shall be appointed by the President and shall coordinate all Guilders Weave committee activities.

### TBG Officers/Board Members

President Laura White (757) 547-1805 Lrwhite@home.com	Vice President Meredith MacDonald (757) 424-9059 Meredithm1@erols.com
Secretary Glen Bowie Gbb608@webtv.net	Treasurer Barbara Jessome (757) 624-3635 Bjessome@erols.com
Historian Mary Jo Baylor (757) 440-2989 Baylor@pinn.net	Membership Chairman Ella Mae King (757)599-6338 1making@erols.com
Librarian Carol Moff (757) 565-2826 Cmoff5673@aol.com	Newsletter Editor Cindy Stanton (757) 523-8630 cindys@akasystems.com

**National Basket Organization**

Checkout the NBO website online at [www.nationalbasketry.org](http://www.nationalbasketry.org). The site provides organizational information and an events calendar. The 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Convention is set for August 20-25, 2002 at Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, New Mexico. What a trip that would be. The Convention will include classes conducted by 20 leading basketry artists, discussion groups, exhibitions, vendors, and more. Contact Helene Meyer at 715-360-8519 or email at [nbobaskets@centurytel.net](mailto:nbobaskets@centurytel.net)

**NEST - Donations from Guild members**

The back of my car was chock-full of donations for NEST (Norfolk Emergency Shelter for the Homeless) which the Larchmont Methodist Church will host for one week in mid January. Items included: boxes of oatmeal cereal, pop tarts, spaghetti, and tylenol; cans of coffee, green beans, potatoes; bags of cough drops; plates, bowls, plastic knives, spoons and forks; bathroom tissue, etc. Several members donated money, and the \$25 collected was used to purchase additional items included on the list in our last newsletter. Donations were delivered to the church on December 3rd.

Thanks to one and all for your generosity. May you have a wonderful Holiday Season!  
Barbara Jessome

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- Happy Birthday to our members with December / January Birthdays*
- ★ Lydia Shipman            Dec 3
  - ★ Pam White                Dec 10
  - ★ Cathy Hudson            Dec 18
  - ★ Pam Hyatt                Dec 19
  - ★ Pat Briggs                Dec 20
  - ★ Dick Baylor              Jan 1
  - ★ Joanie Dougherty        Jan 1
  - ★ Tina Chopin              Jan 15
  - ★ Nora Jean Edwards      Jan 17
  - ★ Judy Saunders          Jan 17
  - ★ Carol Vanderzee        Jan 20
  - ★ Susan Holland            Jan 20
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**Newport News Fall Festival**

**Pictured:**  
Sam Winters,  
Carol La Ruffa, Jerry  
Bernstein, Meredith  
MacDonald

**Other volunteers not pictured:** Joan Funk, Barbara Jessome, Rhonda Jones, Ella Mae King, Sue Le-gault, Arlene Wallace, Lisa Yeaw, and Sara Youngblood.