

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM BWGOK



The official newsletter of the Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma
Website: okbasketweaversguild.com Facebook: Basketweavers Guild of Oklahoma

NEXT MEETING: Feb. 21st, 10AM, Bring a DISH!

HAPPY NEW YEAR GUILD MEMBERS - MAY THIS BE THE BEST YEAR YET

IN THIS EDITION:

EDITOR - LORRAINE WITZKE

Feb Weave UFO

Officers Update

Baskets Class - FEB

FREE Beginners Class

President's Corner

CALENDAR - Check
the dates for
meetings

Information Pages for
Contacts, Guild
Meetings, Special
Events, Tips & Tricks

Guild Report

FEBRUARY MEETING SPECIAL WEAVE (UFO)

**FEB. 21ST - 10 AM - IN OUR REGULAR
CLASSROOMS**

WE ARE ASKING OUR FOLKS TO
BRING ANY UNFINISHED BASKET/S
THAT THEY WANT TO FINISH WEAVING
AND OUR MEMBERS WILL BE HELPING
FOLKS WITH ANY PROBLEMS THEY
ENCOUNTER.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN UNFINISHED BASKET
TO COMPLETE AT THE FEB. GUILD MEETING,
THERE WILL BE 2 STYLES OF BASKETS
AVAILABLE AS KITS FOR YOU TO WEAVE.

THE BASKET KIT OPTIONS WILL BE A 9"
SQUARE BANDANA BASKET KIT OR A SPIRAL,
TWILL BASKET KIT (8"X8"X7") WOVEN ON A 4"
SLOTTED BASE WITH A WIRE HANDLE WITH A
WOODEN GRIP. EACH KIT WILL COST \$20.

PLEASE CALL MARY LEE AT 405-820-0354
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WEAVING
ONE OF THESE BASKETS.

OFFICERS UPDATE

THE LAST WORD

Exciting New Basket Lineup for 2026

We are thrilled to announce a new selection of baskets that will be crafted during the guild meetings in 2026.

The newsletter will be distributed the month when the guild meetings take place. Please keep an eye out for email bulletins containing important details about class sign-ups and payment information.

Important Reminders

- **Check the calendar for the dates and times of upcoming guild meetings.**
- **All new classes and basket projects must be paid in full by the specified deadlines.**
- **Since it takes considerable effort to color and cut the reed for these projects, our volunteers and teachers require the necessary time and funds to manage costs in advance.**
- **We kindly request that you limit your request to one kit per offering to weave during the meeting.**

Change is good!

We have some changes going on at the museum this year. New exhibits, new dates for guild meetings, new BEGINNER CLASS in March.



No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. Aesop

**The APRIL basket is a
Candice Katz pattern, “Ahura”.
Instructors: Mary Lee & Susan Steele**

Cost of Kit: \$20

Sign up at - FEB 21st MEETING

**THE APRIL BASKET IS A CANDACE KATZ PATTERN,
“AHURA”. IT IS WOVEN ON A 6" SLOTTED BASE AND
IS 9" (AT ITS WIDEST DIAMETER) BY 10" TALL.**

**THE KIT IS \$20 AND YOU MAY SIGN UP AND PAY
FOR IT AT THE FEB. 21ST MEETING**

OR SEND A CHECK TO:

MARY LEE

4106 STRATFORD LN

NORMAN, OK 73072

405-329-6253

LEEFAM77@COX.NET



**If you cannot
attend
the guild
meeting then
you will
have to contact
the teacher
and mail
payment
to order
your kit. The
deadline for
this kit is
APRIL 2nd.
APRI**



**Deadline
April 2
for a kit**

Helpful Reminders from the Guild

Guidelines for Guild Project Participation

Since the volunteers at the guild are not in the basket business, supplies must be purchased out of state and shipped. For this reason, teachers of basket projects need a good amount of time to order supplies and cut kits which means that folks need to order their kits ASAP and after the newsletter announces the project is not always enough time.

These guidelines will help our teachers plan and prep for your baskets.

1. Lorraine, our newsletter lady will provide a flyer by the end of Feb. that describes all the projects for the year.

You may use the flyer to see the dates of each project and thus, sign-up in advance and pay.

2. Payment is requested in advance due to the large number of members and the cost our teachers incur. *You should sign up and pay for kits at the meeting prior to the designated project.*

3. If you miss a meeting,
then it is your responsibility to sign-up and pay by mail in advance
of the newsletter for that project's month.

(Mary Lee)



**Weavers - We need YOU on March 14th!
10AM - in our regular classrooms**

This is a great opportunity to invite family, friends, neighbors, widows, teens 16+, guys, old school chums, church ladies, new moms, people that are good with their hands or anyone else you can think of that may want to learn to weave!

We offer this class every year for FREE at the fair and attendance was down this year so we have opened up this class to our members so you can invite anyone you think would be interested in seeing what you do with baskets and how to make one for themselves. It will be FUN!

We need a head count to cut kits so please contact Marcia/Mary ASAP.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

AS THE CONTINUING PRESIDENT OF THE GUILD, I WOULD LIKE TO START BACK WITH HAVING INFORMATION IN EACH NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT. MY MANY ORTHOPEDIC SURGERIES AND HEALTH ISSUES HAVE REALLY SLOWED ME DOWN. I HAVE SOLD MY BASKET INVENTORY TO A FELLOW WEAVER SO WILL NO LONGER HAVE REED AND OTHER ITEMS TO SELL. THAT SAID, I WILL STILL BE OFFERING THE LAST SATURDAY WEAVIN ON THE LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH IN WHEATLAND, OK.

WE HAD ELEVEN PEOPLE COME TO THE LAST SATURDAY WEAVIN THIS PAST SATURDAY. IT SURE WAS A COLD DAY TO GET OUT. THERE WERE FOUR BRAND NEW WEAVERS WHO KEPT ME HOPPING. THEY ALL WOVE THE BEGINNER NAPKIN BASKET AND ALL WENT HOME WITH A FINISHED BASKET. I THINK 2 OF THEM WILL COME TO THE FEBRUARY GUILD MEETING. WE ALSO HAD 2 MEN AT THE MEETING. IT IS ALWAYS GREAT TO SEE MEN COME TO ANY WEAVING EVENT.

THE TEXAS RETREAT WAS THIS PAST WEEK. IT WAS VERY INTERESTING WITH THE ELEMENT OF THE WEATHER. DO WE STAY EXTRA DAYS OR DO WE BRAVE IT AND HEAD HOME WAS THE TOPIC THE LAST FEW DAYS. IT WAS A GREAT TIME WITH OLD AND NEW FRIENDS AND ALL THE CLASSES WERE FANTASTIC.

THE SILENT AUCTION AND OPPORTUNITY DRAWING (RAFFLE) WERE GREAT FUN. THERE WAS A NANTUCKET KIT IN THE SILENT AUCTION THAT I REALLY WANTED AND KEPT UPPING MY BID. I'M GLAD TO SAY THAT I GOT THAT KIT. IT IS A SMALL PICNIC BASKET BY NATHAN TAYLOR. NOW I JUST HAVE TO FIND THE MOLD.

YOUR GUILD'S BOARD MET IN JANUARY AND WE ACCOMPLISHED A LOT AND WILL IMPLEMENT SOME NEW THINGS THAT WILL HELP MAKE THE GUILD MEETINGS RUN SMOOTHER. THE FIRST THING YOU WILL NOTICE IS KITS WILL BE HANDED OUT AS USUAL. ONLY THING DIFFERENT HERE WILL BE THE PATTERN WILL NOT BE HANDED OUT UNTIL THE TEACHER HAS HAD A CHANCE TO TALK AND DEMONSTRATE HOW TO START AND WEAVE THE BASKET. THIS WILL SLOW THINGS DOWN A LITTLE BUT WILL GREATLY HELP PEOPLE UNDERSTAND HOW TO GET THEIR BASKET STARTED AND FINISHED. IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE ABLE TO GET YOUR BASKET FINISHED AT THE GUILD MEETINGS BECAUSE MOST OF THE BASKET PROJECTS FOR THIS YEAR WILL HAVE DIFFERENT RIMS THAN THE STANDARD FLAT OVAL INSIDE AND OUT AND LASHED WITH SEAGRASS.

ANOTHER THING YOU WILL NOTICE IS THE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE ROAMING AROUND WATCHING FOR PEOPLE STRUGGLING WITH THE WEAVING TECHNIQUES. PLEASE LISTEN TO THESE PEOPLE WHO MAY HAVE AN EASIER WAY FOR YOU TO WEAVE INSTEAD OF WHAT YOU ARE USED TO. I WILL ALSO SAY THAT THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO DO SOME OF THE WEAVING TECHNIQUES. SO DON'T GET UPSET IF SOMEONE SHOWS YOU SOMETHING DIFFERENT. JUST TUCK IT AWAY AND KNOW THAT FOR SOME BASKETS IT EASIER ONE WAY AND BETTER ANOTHER WAY IN THE NEXT BASKET. WE ARE STILL TRYING TO CATCH UP ON TEACHING BASKET TECHNIQUES TO ALL THE NEW PEOPLE WHO STARTED WEAVING SINCE COVID. IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS HOW TO HELP THIS, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

SPEAKING OF IDEAS AND TEACHING, WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW PEOPLE TO BECOME TEACHERS. AS YOU CAN SEE, OUR GUILD IS AGING OUT. OUR TEACHERS ARE LESS AND LESS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN TO TEACH A BASKET CLASS, PLEASE TALK TO ONE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS OR OFFICERS. WE WILL HELP YOU PICK OUT A BASKET, OBTAIN THE MATERIALS, CUT THE KITS, AND TEACH IT. YOU WOULD HAVE SUPPORT ALL ALONG THE WAY AND GAIN A NEW SKILL. YOU MIGHT EVEN MAKE SOME MONEY FOR YOURSELF. IT IS A WONDERFUL FEELING TO SEE PEOPLE FINISH SOMETHING YOU STARTED. BEING TOO BUSY IS NOT A GOOD EXCUSE TO NOT TEACH. WE ARE ALL BUSY BUT WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

BE SURE TO NOTE THE DATES FOR THIS YEAR'S GUILD MEETINGS. SOME OF THE DATES ARE THE SECOND SATURDAY AND SOME ARE THE THIRD. OUR DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY HAS BEEN MOVED TO NOVEMBER 21 FOR THIS YEAR. TALK ABOUT EARLY. THAT IS BEFORE THANKSGIVING. OH WELL, IT IS WHAT IT IS.

SEE YOU AT THE GUILD MEETING ON THE 21ST. JANET

BASKET FUN AT TEXAS RETREAT



BWGOK CALENDAR

**2026 BASKETS
TO WEAVE
WILL BE FEATURED
ON THIS PAGE
COMING SOON!**



SPECIAL EVENTS AND NOTICES

Please check the calendar for events, special dates and any changes in the guild meetings for this year. Since we use the museum for our meetings, sometimes we come up with conflicts and have to change a date so be sure to check the calendar.

GUILD MEETINGS 2026

**MARCH 14TH
BEGINNERS
CLASS**

**APRIL
18TH**

**JUNE
20TH**

**AUGUST
15TH
POSITIVE
TOMORROWS**

**OCTOBER
10TH**

**NOVEMBER
21ST**

BWGOK **CALENDAR**

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2026

**BEGINNERS
CLASS
MARCH 14TH**

**STATE FAIR
TBA**

**CHUCK
WAGON
FESTIVAL
MAY 24/25**

**BWGOK
WEAVERS
WEEKEND
OCT 23/24/25**

Website:
www.okbasketweaversguild.com



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of Oklahoma



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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
We teach a Beginners Class every year in March. If you would like to volunteer to help teach new weavers please contact Marcia and let her know you are available on March 14th.

Chuck Wagon Festival
May 23/24 - need volunteers