



OVER AND UNDER ACROSS OKLAHOMA

Volume 19 Issue 3

Dedicated to the preservation, promotion and education of the art of basketry.

July 2019

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Retirement is like Saturday every day. We all know how busy Saturdays are. Yes, retirement is fun but I'm way more busy than I ever thought about when I worked. What I like best is that I can get up and just sit.

This newsletter is full of service projects. The Chuck Wagon Festival was in May at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Thank you to all who worked this project.

The first museum class was this past Saturday with 15 students. Thank you to those who volunteered. The next class will be November 16th. Plan to attend and get a free kit.

Marcia is looking for volunteers to demo basket weaving at the State Fair on September 14th. Contact her to get a free ticket and parking pass.

Planning for the retreat is in full swing. The first deadline for the retreat is coming up on August 5th. This is an important date as it decides which classes make and which don't so be sure to get your registration in. Early registration also assures that you get the classes you want.

Read about entering the State Fair Creative Arts Competition. There are a number of classes that you can choose from.

Hope to see you at the guild meeting. If you can't come still make a Positive Tomorrow's basket.

Janet

BWGOK meetings are held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum located near I-44 and NE 63rd Street in Oklahoma City. The meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the even months. Meetings generally start at 10am with weaving a project then the business meeting coincides with lunch at 12 noon. Everyone brings a covered dish to share at lunch. If you did not order a project kit come anyway and bring whatever you want to weave on. Bring finished projects to show and tell. We are usually done between 2-3.

August 17th Guild Project

The project for August is making baskets for Positive Tomorrows. This year we will have a choice between the muffin basket and a round (Easter type) basket. We will make one basket at the guild meeting. You can take kits home to make more baskets if you want to. You will bring the baskets back to the October guild meeting filled with kitchen items. Then they will be wrapped in cellophane and a ribbon tied on. Mary Lee and the Norman ladies will be cutting kits so please let her know how many kits you want. You can do both the muffin basket and the round if you want. The round basket will have a self-made handle. If you can't come to the August or October guild meetings you can bring filled baskets to the retreat the first weekend in November.

Contact Mary by August 10th at 405-820-0354 and let her know how many kits you want.

We will have a number of extra baskets this year that are made but not filled. This endeavor is explained later in the newsletter. If you would like to bring kitchen items to the retreat for these baskets it would be greatly appreciated. Or you donate money to fill the baskets. \$10-\$15 worth of items from Dollar Tree is a great way to fill the baskets.

BWGOK Officers - Elected and Volunteer Positions

President: Janet Newman

Vice President: Mary Lee & the Norman Weavers

Secretary: Fran Cates

Treasurer: Marcia Balleweg

Membership: Janet Newman

Librarian: Marcia Balleweg

Newsletter: Janet Newman, Newsletter submissions can be sent to: dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net

BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma Minutes

National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Since we did not meet in June we have no minutes to report.

BasketWeavers Having Birthdays

May, June, July August

*Happy
Birthday
to all of you!!*

Marsha	Powers	5/3
Candace	Katz	5/22
Becky	Stubblefield	5/23
Linda	Lamb	5/25
Sue	Yingling	6/12
Karen	Lowe	6/17
Nancy	Trait-Lira	6/22
Betty	Craig	6/26
Karen	Aldrich	7/3
Judy	Keller	7/21
Claudia	Vandiver	8/2
Cecilia	Shilling	8/14
Deb	Nishihara	8/14
Charlotte	Gregg	8/17
Karen	Hobbs	8/22



The April guild project was a bird house. It was a very different design but Mary Lee guided us and we got it made. We had some guests who had been at the beginner class and came back.

WEAVERS WEEKEND UPDATE

Friends, we have a really great lineup of teachers and classes this year, however, registrations are very slow right now. Our first registration deadline is August 15. This date is set so that we can notify the teachers if their classes have enough interest to make. All teachers have a minimum number for their classes. If we don't meet those minimums by the 15th, those classes will be cancelled. We will continue to take registrations after that, but the list of classes could be greatly reduced.

If you haven't signed up yet, please go to www.okbasketweaversguild.com to register. On our webpage, you will be able to view the catalog, print a registration form if you prefer to mail in your form and check, or click on the online registration, make your choices and pay by credit or debit card.

We are offering classes for all skill levels, from beginner to advanced. Let all your friends know! Invite them to register! We always have a great time. Also registering early ensures you get the classes you want.

Dates are November 1, 2 and 3. Place: Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center.

Hope to see you there!!

Marcia Balleweg, Co-Chair

CALL FOR FIBER ARTISTS

[Fiberworks 2019](#)

[Fiber Artists of Oklahoma](#)

Dates of show: October 4, 2019 - November 24, 2019.

Juror: Betty Busby For more information on Betty go to: <http://bbusbyarts.com/>

Fiberworks is a juried show that basket weavers can enter.

For more information on Fiberworks go to: <http://fiberartistsok.org/fiberworks-2019/>



Retreat Donations

I'm organizing donations for the retreat welcome bags. If you work for a company that has logo items or you have something to donate please bring it to a guild meeting or mail it to me. I could also arrange to meet you somewhere and pick them up. Also if you know of places that might donate I would be willing to make calls if you let me know the places.



The Chuck Wagon Festival at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum is one of our service projects at the museum to pay for our meeting room. It was a fun time weaving with the kids. Instead of a table sized mat like we did last year, this year we made smaller one. The kids enjoy picking out the reed they want to weave with. If you have leftover unused reed this project will come up again next year and we will need reed to donate to this project.

2019 Guild Calendar

- August 15: Deadline to enter baskets in the state fair
- August 17: make Positive Tomorrows Baskets
- September 14: Demo at the State Fair, date to be determined
- October 19: Bring Positive Tomorrows back filled with kitchen items.
Project to be determined.
- November 1-3: Oklahoma Weavers Weekend, Edmond
- November 16: Volunteers needed to help with Museum class, 9-5
- December 21: Christmas Party, project will be an angel





Hearth Basket Workshop

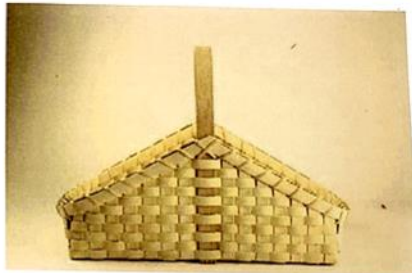
November 16; 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Every home needs a hearth basket to hold kindling, magazines or whatever you choose! Suitable for beginner to advanced.

Led by Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma, participants will create their own hearth basket, measuring approximately 20 inches long, 10 inches wide, and 14 inches high (with handle).

\$35, \$30 for Museum members. All supplies provided. Lunch is on your own.

Register online by November 12 at nationalcowboymuseum.org/event/hearth-basket-workshop.



Weaving With Museum Patrons

We had a great time with the people who signed up through the museum to make the Farm Basket. The pattern was from Suzanne Moore from North Carolina Basket Works.

We had 15 people sign up for the class and 5 guild members volunteered to teach the class. We all learned some things about making a filled bottom with chicken feet. What a concept for new weavers. They all accomplished the task with flying colors.

I want to think Marcia Balleweg for cutting the kits for the students and volunteers. I also want to thank Jo Ann Miller, Sybil Tibits, Marcia and me, Janet Newman for volunteering to teach this class. All the volunteers got a free kit for volunteering.

The picture to the left shows the basket and information for the next service project we do with the museum in November. Come join us and receive the kit.

Registration is open online if you know someone who would like to take this class.

This will be our next service project with the museum. It is scheduled for November 16th. We will need volunteers. Each volunteer receives a free kit for helping out.

It's Almost Fair Time!

Once again the guild will be demonstrating basket making at the State Fair of Oklahoma on September 14th from 1 to 5 pm. Marcia Balleweg is looking for volunteers for this event. You receive free admission to the fair and a close parking space inside a protected gate. All you do is bring something to weave on and a few baskets you have made to show off. Marcia needs to know early if you plan to volunteer so she can get a ticket and parking pass to you. This is always a fun time as people are so interested to watch us weave. It is one of the events we gather names for our beginner class. You need to contact Marcia by August 3rd if you want a free ticket to get into the fair and demo with us.



Speaking of the fair, its not too early to register baskets you have made in the Creative Arts Competition. You can find information on the State Fair web site by going to <https://okstatefair.com/competitions/creative-arts> . Entering is open to any Oklahoma residents. The deadline for free registration is August 15th. Late registration is August 16th through September 2nd. Late enrollment cost \$10 per person not per event. Baskets can be taken to the fair September 7th and 8th. And picked up September 23rd and 24th.

Basket Weaving competition guidelines are on page 13 of the Creative Arts program that you can find by going to the link in the paragraph above. Only one entry in each category class. There are 3 categories: Traditional, Non-Traditional and Holiday. The categories are further divided into classes. Below are the categories and classes.

TRADITIONAL:

Ribbed – Ribbed baskets have spokes of round or oval material that extend from one side to the other and are tucked into a God's Eye, or other appropriate design, on either side of the basket. They can be woven on hoops or rings that are held in place by this design. They were used for gathering eggs, melons and potatoes. Some are called key baskets or oriole baskets depending on their particular shape.

Twill Variations – Twill weave is sometimes called herringbone weave. The spokes are flush against each other rather than spread apart as in traditional weaving. The basic weave is over and under a repeating number of spokes, forming a pattern or design. There are many variations that make designs such as a diamond, arrow or "X".

Double Walled – A double walled basket is woven with an inside and outside wall.

Coiled – A coiled basket is sewn together with such things as waxed linen, sinew, raffia or fabric. Typically, coiled baskets are made of fabric, pine needles or native grasses that are wound, tied or sewn in rows around the basket.

NON-TRADITIONAL

Gathered Materials – These baskets are made of things gathered from nature such as grapevine, honeysuckle, kudzu, grasses, bark and willow. They can be different shapes and can be woven many ways.

Non-Traditional Contemporary – These baskets have unusual designs or are made of materials not usually associated with traditional basketry. Some examples of these materials are paper, ribbon, plastic strips, wire and yarn.

Non-Wood – Non-wood baskets can be woven from anything other than wood, such as gourds, pine needles, feathers, beads, agate, bones, antlers, waxed linen, string and wire.



We Need Your Help!!

Su Ybright and I, Janet Newman, have a new service project that we have started at Kate Barnard Prison. We are going to the prison on Thursdays to weave baskets with the inmates. Kate Barnard is a minimum security prison so we are able to bring a few of the weaving tools in for the inmates to use. Su started this about 6 weeks

ago as a pilot program with her pastor who is the Chaplain at the prison. Su called me with questions and I was dumbfounded. It has been a longtime dream of mine to go into the prison and teach crafts. I was just waiting for retirement. I have done prison ministry before and have a real heart for teaching ladies that they can find a lot of satisfaction in doing things with their hands. When you work with someone who has never completed something or they are so scared by life that they have lost hope, teaching them to use their hands can give them something to hold onto.



Right now we are holding one class of 10 students on Thursdays from 3 to 5 pm. It is our hope in the near future to have 2 classes of 10 each going at the same time. You might ask how can you do anything in 2 hours? It won't be easy. It will take 2 or 3 weeks to finish a simple 4 hour basket. We can't leave anything at the prison so everything, including the baskets, has to be taken home and brought back each week.

Here's where you, our fellow basket weavers come in. We have 2 needs. The first is reed. Su and I both have a stash of reed but I can see it being used up quickly with two classes going. We need your extra reed. Anything of usable lengths would work as well as colored reed. We can always make scrap baskets. Or when you order reed for yourself, order an extra one and bring it to one of us at the retreat or to a guild meeting.

The second thing we need is items for Positive Tomorrows baskets. One of the first baskets the ladies make is the muffin basket that we use for Positive Tomorrows. The ladies know about Positive Tomorrows and are real happy to be able to give back by making baskets. Right now Su has 10 finished baskets that don't have kitchen items in them. All the baskets we have will be brought to the retreat in November. We are asking some of you, especially those out-of-town people who can't come to guild meetings, to stop by Dollar Tree and pick up items for one or two baskets. We will have cellophane at the retreat to wrap the baskets like we had last year.

Su and I hope that this new endeavor works out and we can keep it going. If it does I would like to see the guild take supplying reed as an ongoing project. We will bring all the finished baskets that we have to the retreat. The ladies are not allowed to keep their baskets. We are trying to think of a way to sell them or raffle them to raise money to buy reed. Any ideas you have for a fundraiser with the baskets is welcomed. We know what will happen with the Positive Tomorrows baskets but there will be other baskets also.

I have to tell you that the ladies at the prison are so excited to come in and learn something new and have someone that cares about them. Please support us in this endeavor. Your help, ideas and support are greatly appreciated. We can touch lives in a big way with this project. While not all of us can go into the prison all of us can support this project. I will keep you posted on how this project goes and what our needs are.

