



OVER AND UNDER ACROSS OKLAHOMA

Volume 20 Issue 2

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

April 2020

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

WOW! How life can change in a matter of days, weeks and now months. I can't help but think about Pearl Harbor. Life in America changed overnight. It didn't get back to normal for years. We should be back to life as normal or a new normal in a few months at the most.

I encourage you to stay close to family and friends. Learn some technology. I did. I have 2 great grandsons who are growing by leaps and bounds. One is 8 months and one is 2 months. I found you can do a video chat with Messenger. Pictures are great. Video is even better. I can't hold the little guys but live chat is something to behold. Eight months and playing ball with a dog bigger than the baby is so cute to watch.

I have a challenge for you. Weave a basket every week. Take a picture and post it to our guild's Facebook page. Our Facebook page is not used much so let's start using it. Finish all those UFOs and clean out those boxes and tubs with kits you have been collecting. If you are like me, I have 15 years worth of kits so I have many tubs with kits. I can go shopping without leaving my house. What fun!

Later in the newsletter I will tell you about reorganizing my pattern books. I have 9 notebooks. Look for the article on that. It was a long needed accomplishment. You will find several basket activities in the newsletter to spark your interest and keep you busy. There are changes in the calendar and there will be more to come. There is no guild meeting in April and we will have to wait and see about June. If you like the basket challenge, let me know and I will send another one out.

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.

No Guild Meeting For April

Instead of a guild meeting I challenge you to weave baskets to enter into the state fair of Oklahoma. More on that later in the newsletter.

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

February 15, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 12:00.

Minutes from October 2019 meeting were approved with Lorraine making the motion and Marcia seconding the motion.

BWGOK Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2020

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance as of December 31, 2019 | \$5583.76 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|

Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Secure Care Storage—January | 61.20 |
|-----------------------------|-------|

Deposits

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| PayPal transfer Weavers Weekend funds | \$2201.97 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|

| | |
|------|---------------|
| Dues | <u>156.00</u> |
|------|---------------|

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Total Deposits | \$2366.97 |
|----------------|-----------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance as of January 31, 2020 | \$7889.53 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|

Old Business:

Janet reported that membership is at 122. This is up 17 members over the last report.

The project for the April 18 meeting will be the Tree of Life Gourd, Part I, taught by Janet Newman. Janet must have a firm count early for this project. If you do not plan to do the gourd, bring an unfinished project to work on. Mary Lee will help people with unfinished projects.

Kid's National Basket Day is June 27, 2020. We will use the napkin basket with rainbow colors. Volunteers will be needed.

Weavers Weekend will be November 6-8, 2020 in Shawnee, OK. The catalog will be out in early May.

No dates yet for workshops or demos at the Museum.

Special instructor for this year was discussed. Several suggested that we invite Laura Lee Zanger again.

New Business:

Janet encouraged as many as possible to make baskets for the State Fair. If we do not have enough entries, it could be dropped. Sign up starts in June

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

OKRA SALAD

Joyce Adams brought a wonderful fried okra salad to the last guild meeting. She was kind enough to send the recipe to us. It is very easy and very good.

Joyce grows her own okra from her garden so she was not sure what size bag you would need to purchase. You will need 8 to 10 cups fried okra though.

Okra Salad

Breaded Okra (about 10 cups fried)
1 red onion, chopped
1 sweet pepper, chopped
6 slices bacon, chopped

Dressing

1/4 c sugar
1/4 c. oil
1/8 c. apple cider vinegar

Fry Okra and drain. Fry bacon and drain and chop. Add together okra, bacon, pepper, onion. Set aside. Mix together oil, sugar and vinegar. Add to salad about 4 hours before serving.

Basket Weavers Having Birthdays

March, April, May

*Happy Birthday
to all of you!!*

| | | |
|---------------|----------|------|
| Yingling | Sue | 3/3 |
| Lee | Mary | 3/4 |
| Vann | Wendy | 3/7 |
| Bess | Rachel | 3/12 |
| Schwerdtfeger | Diann | 3/18 |
| Ausneus | Sue | 4/1 |
| Combs | Peggiann | 4/7 |
| Balleweg | Marcia | 4/9 |
| Rose | Cricket | 4/15 |
| McKinzie | Jimmie | 4/22 |
| Vickery | Rena | 4/23 |
| Scott | Sue | 5/3 |
| Katz | Candace | 5/22 |
| Lamb | Linda | 5/25 |

The Ultimate Gift Basket

Pattern Compliments Of:

Suzanne Moore's NC Basket Works

130 Main St. • Post Office Box 744

Vass, NC 28394-0744

910-245-3049 • 800-338-4972

Fax: 910-245-3243

Email: suzanne@ncbasketworks.com

Website: www.ncbasketworks.com

Top Basket Dimensions: 10 3/4"L x 8"W x 4 1/4"H

A complete Kit is also available

Materials:

5" x 8" Rectangle Base

1/2" Flat Flat - spokes

#2 Round - twining

7mm Flat Flat - Weavers

1/2" Flat Oval - rims

Seagrass - rim filler

3mm Flat Oval - lashing

Holly/Bells/Ribbon Embellishment Pkg. (available from NC Basketworks.)



Cut 28 spokes from 1/2" FF each 7" long. Put a pencil mark at the center of the base (4"). You will attach the bells, leaves and bow on this center spoke when your basket is complete. If the groove in your base is too narrow to insert the spokes, run sandpaper around the groove several times, and/or sand down the ends of each spoke (you want a tight fit). Insert a spoke at the center mark (both front and back) 3 on each side of the center spoke, 1 spoke in each corner and 5 on each short end (a total of 28 spokes). Twine with #2 R two times around the base.

Dampen the spokes and gently upset them. Weave 13 rows start and stop with 7mm FF. Allow the ends of the basket to flare out slightly.

Pack well, and cut and tuck spokes in the usual manner. Rim with 1/2" FO inside and out. Measure the circumference **over** your outside 1/2" FO rim. Cut a piece of 1/4" red ribbon adding 1" to your circumference measurement. Example, my outside rim measured 31", so I cut 32" of ribbon. Set the remaining ribbon aside for attaching the bells and making the bow.

Position the ribbon over the outside 1/2" FO rim, seagrass between and lash with 3mm FO.

ATTACHING THE BELLS & HOLLY LEAVES:

Decide on the position of your leaves and put a drop of glue on the back of the leaf, down near the bottom stem. If you are using insta or maxi cure glue, DO NOT PRESS DOWN WITH YOUR FINGERS AS SOME GLUE MAY COME THROUGH THE LEAF, STICKING YOUR FINGER TO THE LEAF. USE A KNIFE OR SOME OTHER METAL OBJECT TO HOLD THE LEAF IN PLACE UNTIL SECURED. Cut an 8" piece of the ribbon (save the remainder for the bow). Thread the ribbon through the hole on top of the 2 bells and tie them to the inside of the basket. If the leaves are in the way, make a hole with your pointed awl. Lastly, make the bow with the remaining ribbon. Fill with "goodies" for the Ultimate Gift Basket.

All materials to make this basket are available at NC Basket Works.

NOTE: for your gift basket you can leave off the Christmas decorations.

Billy Owens in Walters Oklahoma
August 29-30, 2020

You will have the chance to weave square baskets on Saturday and round baskets on Sunday. You will pick 2 choices for each day and then the top two for each day will be chosen. If you are interested contact Vickie Gildon at cntrygrl@pdi.net for the class choices. Save the dates.

This is always a great time of weaving and fellowship and I guarantee the food will be fantastic.

*STAYING BUSY
DOING GOOD*

Use the pattern on the preceding to make gift baskets to give family and friends. Fill the baskets with cookies, candy, an extra jar of jelly, or bar of soap and leave it on someone's porch. Ring their doorbell and step back or text them and let them know you have left them something. Use this time being shut in at home to hone your basket skills and do a good deed at the same time.

Another idea you might try is to fill the basket with some old crayons or colored pencils and print off some coloring pictures off the internet for a neighbor with small children.

Use your basket skills to lift someone's day.

Many thanks to Suzanne Moore of NC Basket Works for the pattern.

Please visit her website at www.ncbasketworks.com

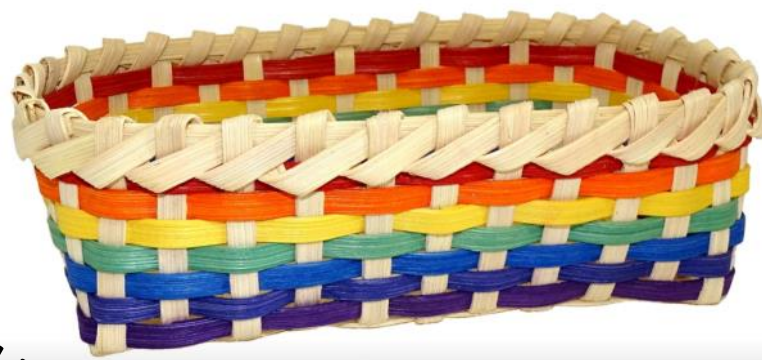
Your Choice Basket Challenge

This is a challenge to keep you busy while being stuck safely inside your house. It may also keep you sane. I will give you an interesting basket bottom to weave. You will decide how to weave the sides. It's totally up to you how you weave the sides. You can do the sides in all natural reed or use all dyed reed. You can do all one size of reed, say 1/2" flat reed. You can alternate 1/2" flat and 1/4" flat/oval reed. You can weave natural and dyed reed. Or you can weave flat and round reed. You can weave 3 or 4 rows or you can weave a dozen rows. You can put a handle on or not. You can do a regular rim with inside and outside pieces and lash with 11/64th flat/oval reed or cane or waxed linen. Use what you have. You could also make it a scrap basket and use all kinds of different materials. As you can see these baskets are going to all come out different.

When you get your basket finished please post a picture on Facebook. If you don't do Facebook send me the picture and I will post it for you. You might tell us something about the challenge. Maybe how you were inspired or if you got stuck. Did you like this challenge? Do have an idea for another challenge? If this works out we can do a challenge a week while we are shut in. You can send pictures to dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net or 405-812-4454.

Now for this first challenge. Look at the pattern on the next page and gather your materials.

The challenge is on.



Kids
International
Basket Day

Saturday June 27th the guild will International Basket Day at the Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. This will allow one adult and one child to weave a basket together. The guild will need volunteers to help with this activity. Information on registration will be sent out first week of June.

be hosting the Kid's
National
activity
the

UPDATE: RESCHEDULED TO June 26, 2021

Your Choice Basket Bottom Pattern

Base is 10" x 10"

Weave a pattern with natural and dyed reed or use all natural reed to weave the bottom. I'm not telling you anything about the original basket that I got this bottom from but want to thank Shirley Hill for the use of basket bottom idea.

Materials for Natural and Dyed Basket:

1/2" flat, natural and dyed

Horizontal Spokes:

From 1/2" flat cut 6 @ 25"

From 1/2" flat dyed cut 3 @ 25"

Filler Spokes:

From 1/2" flat cut 6 @ 15"

From 1/2" flat dyed cut 2 @ 15"

Vertical Spokes"

From 1/2" flat cut 6 @ 25"

From 1/2" flat dyed cut 3 @ 25"

Materials for all Natural Basket:

Horizontal Spokes:

From 1/2" flat cut 9 @ 25"

Vertical Spokes:

From 1/2" flat cut 9 @ 25"

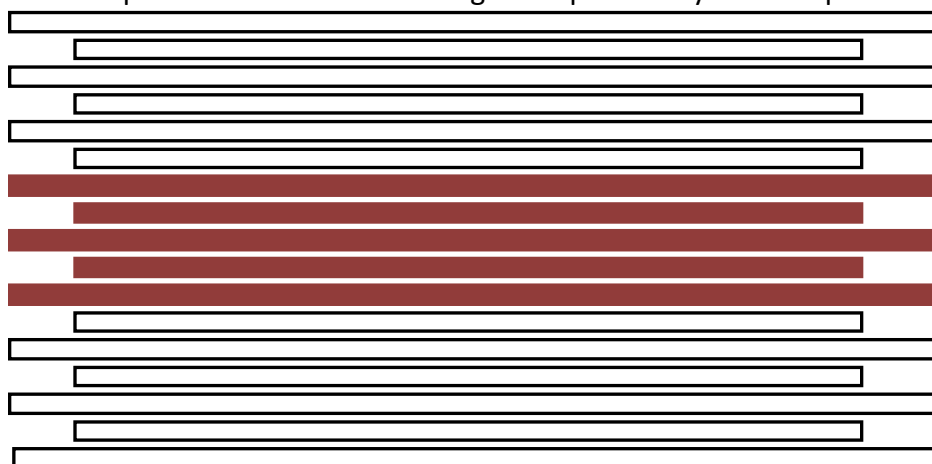
Filler Spokes:

From 1/2" flat cut 9 @ 15"

Soak spokes and mark centers on the wrong side.

Horizontally lay 3 natural, 3 dyed, 3 natural spokes down with the wrong side up. Put a dyed filler spoke in-between the dyed spokes and the natural filler spokes in-between the natural spokes.

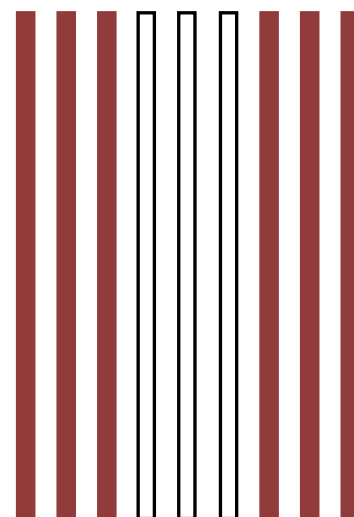
Horizontal spoke placement



Vertical Spokes:

Weave the vertical spokes under the horizontal spokes and over the filler spokes. Weave a natural center spoke first then weave another natural on either side of the center spoke. Now weave 3 dyed on either side of the 3 natural vertical spokes.

Vertical spoke placement



Pack snug. Base should measure about 9"x9". Wet the filler spokes and fold them to the underside. Tuck them under a spoke. Twine one one time around with #2 round reed. Upset the spokes.

Now be creative and weave the sides. Add a handle if you want and rim the basket how you want.

Remember to post to Facebook at Basketweavers Guild of Oklahoma. Also remember to enter your basket I the state fair of Oklahoma.

2020 Guild Calendar

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| June 20 | Tree of Life Gourd continued. Pine needle coiling around top of gourd is part 1. |
| June 27 | Kid's National Basket Weaving Day, Rescheduled for June 26, 2021 |
| July 25 | National Day of the Cowboy, Need volunteers to demo weaving |
| August ? | Register to enter baskets into the State Fair of Oklahoma |
| August 15 | Positive Tomorrow's Basket, make basket at guild meeting, take home to fill |
| September 5-6 | Chuck Wagon Festival, Volunteers needed to work one or both days. |
| September 17-27 | State Fair of Oklahoma, Entry for baskets will be around Sept. 10th |
| September ? | Help teach class at the museum. Volunteers needed. |
| October 17 | Tobacco Basket project, Bring Positive Tomorrows baskets back filled with kitchen items. |
| November 6-8 | Retreat |
| November ? | Help teach Fall class at the museum. Volunteers needed. (Date not set.) |
| December 19 | Christmas Party, Project Christmas Catchall |

The Great State Fair of Oklahoma

I encourage you to enter your basket creations from this year in the Oklahoma State Fair. The dates for the fair this year are September 17-27. Each newsletter this year I'm going to print something about entering the fair. That is because no one has been entering any more. This past year there were 2 baskets entered. Marcia and I were told that if we don't get a number of entries in 2020 the basket competition will be eliminated forever. So ladies and gentlemen you will be making baskets all year. While you are doing that keep in mind that each and every basket is worthy of entering into the fair. We need to have at least 40 baskets entered. If you live out of the Oklahoma City area you can bring your baskets to the August guild meeting and Janet Newman will take them to the fair grounds on the specified weekend before the fair starts in September. You will have had to registered online to enter. After the fair, Janet will pick up the baskets and bring them to the October meeting for you to take home.

State Fair of Oklahoma Basket Categories

A basket is commonly woven of reed or cane. Reed is the inner core of rattan that has been cut into flat, round and flat oval shapes. Cane is the bark of the vine. This vine grows in Indonesia and is cut and processed in China. Traditional baskets are used to carry or hold something and often have an over one/under one weave.

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.

Wave Handle Wrap

By Janet Newman

dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net

I can't look at a wide handle anymore without thinking it needs an embellishment. I was asked to make Easter baskets for my great-grandsons with tall handles. As I looked at those handles, they were just too plain making the whole basket look plain. I was too lazy to look for a handle pattern so I started playing around and a wave is what I came up with. In the process I discovered a variation because I kept making mistakes. Now I know the pattern without making the mistakes and will share it with you.



First off, I used 11/64th flat/oval reed for the color and for the natural wrap. Use as many pieces of colored reed as you want to fill your handle's width. Clip the pieces to the handle in several places and lightly spray the pieces. This will help tame them. Mine wanted to go in every direction. Line the pieces up on one end of the handle. For these pictures I chose a handle that was not yet woven into a basket. I know glue is a four-letter word to many weavers but to me, it's my friend. I applied just a tad to the ends of the reed to hold them in place. Don't put the ends as low as they can go. Come up just a little so they don't show under the wrap.

Cut the pieces of colored reed longer than needed so they don't end up short after wrapping the handle. You will not leave the clips on when you start weaving. The ends have to be free.



Now take a long natural 11/64th flat/oval piece of well soaked reed. Again, I used glue to anchor the piece. You want to hide the ends of the colored reed and the natural reed. If you have your basket already made with a handle in the basket, then anchor this piece behind the handle in the weaving. Start off by wrapping 4 or 5 times around. Note: if your piece of reed wants to split or gets very hairy as you wrap go ahead and find a new one. It's not worth fighting a bad piece of reed or a hairy one. You want your finished handle to look nice not shabby.



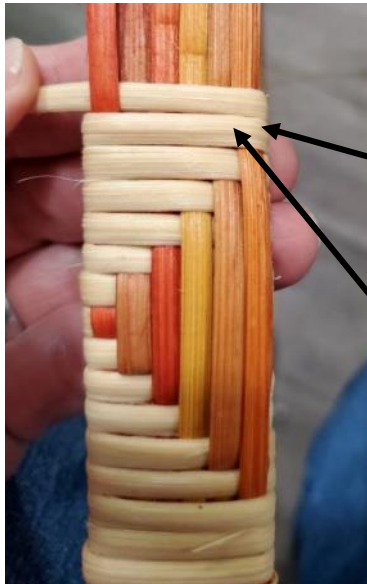
Now start wrapping the design by lifting one colored reed on the right side and going under it. (It doesn't matter if you wrap to the left or to the right.) Wrap over the top of the rest of the row. Wrap around to the back and come around to the second row. Lift two colored weavers up and go under them and over the rest of the row. Wrap around and come to the third row. Lift 3 colored weavers and go under them and over the rest of the row.



Continue in this manner till you have gone under all the colored pieces. Your weaver will be coming out the left side. You have finished $\frac{1}{2}$ of the pattern.



Now finish the other half by stepping down the colored pieces one wrap at a time going under the colored pieces for the pattern and then over all the colored pieces one time.



Start of new pattern

When you get to the bottom of the pattern make one more wrap around the handle going over all the colored pieces. This finishes one pattern set. To make the wave, go under the first piece on the opposite side. With each wrap step up one colored piece of reed just like the first pattern. To get the wave always start the new pattern on the opposite side of the handle. You start the pattern by going under one colored piece of reed. Be sure to leave one full wrap between each set of the pattern.



Wave pattern



The variation is where the pattern has all the peaks in the same direction. They can point in either direction.

After doing the one plain wrap, go under the first colored piece on the same side.

Alternate pattern.

What changes the pattern is which side you start the first step of the new pattern on.



Patterns, Patterns and More Patterns

I had a number of pattern books and a big stack of patterns that was just getting bigger and bigger. I go to a retreat and get new patterns that never make it into a book or I weave a kit and the pattern never gets filed. So one day recently I decided to reorganize the books and get all the patterns in a book. The old way of organizing was alphabetically. I didn't like this because I had to go through all the books to find a certain kind of basket pattern. If I wanted a tote basket, it wasn't easy to find one.

So I decided to organize most of the patterns by type instead of by author. The categories I chose are:

- ♦ Special Groups:
 - Non-tucket—I don't do Nantucket's but I do make small ash baskets
 - Coiled—these are woven with cane and raffia or grasses, or waxed linen
 - Storage—large baskets
 - Wall—things that hang on the wall
 - Twill—twills of all kinds in alphabetical order by author
 - Ribs
 - Stools
 - Vases
- ♦ Bases to Weave—Yes I have one small notebook dedicated to Debbie Hurd and Candace Katz. I won a retreat notebook and have added to it over the years.
- ♦ Holidays and Tips & Tricks
- ♦ Totes—Market Baskets and other kinds of totes for carrying items
- ♦ Small Stuff
 - Small & Mini Baskets—6" & under, 3" & under
 - Small Ribbed
 - Jewelry
 - Other Materials
 - Waxed Linen

There are also 4 notebooks with patterns in alphabetical order by the author. I may go back and sort these out more. I have to think of more categories though. Maybe round, square, rectangle and double walled.

If you can think of more categories that would work then send them to me or go on the guild Facebook page and post them.