



# OVER AND UNDER ACROSS OKLAHOMA

Volume 12 Issue 6

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

December 2012

## President's Column

Greetings, BWGOK Members,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. As it gets colder outside, it gets to be more and more fun to stay in and weave some baskets.

The Winter Quilt Show is coming to Oklahoma City, and will be held at the fairgrounds this year. It will last for several days, and one of those days is the same as our January BWGOK meeting. Some of our members will be working at our table at the Quilt Show, and can't come to our meeting. But everyone else, please come to the meeting. After the meeting and lunch, instead of having a program, we will go as a group to the Quilt Show. I will have \$1 off coupons for each person to use on the single-day admission fee. We did this last year, and it was great fun. I am really looking forward to it.

See you at the meeting! Onita

### Calendar of Guild Projects

**January Project:** We will be going to the Winter Quilt Show at the State Fair Grounds.

**March Project:** Beginners Class

**May Project:** Map Basket taught by Marcia Balleweg.

**July:** Make Positive Tomorrow's Basket at the meeting.

**Sept:** Bring Positive Tomorrow Basket back filled.

**Nov:** Christmas Project taught by Janet Newman

**Note from the Editor:** WOW! What a fabulous time at the 2012 Weavers Weekend. It was so much fun. All the teachers, classes, vendors, friends and people who worked were the best there is. I never laughed so hard as I did with my roommates. Look for pictures throughout the newsletter. Now let's support the Texas Weavers Association and attend their retreat January 17-20, 2013 in Mesquite, TX.

I have so much fun surfing the internet looking for tidbits of information to share with you. I finally remembered to get one of the old newsletter books while at Oklahoma Basket Supply. I had made the trip once then got so enthralled in watching Marcia dye reed I totally forgot to get the book. Oh well, that is old age creeping in. Hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

If you are not getting your newsletter and want it by email, please contact me at [dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net). Janet Newman

### BWGOK Officers

President	Onita Lynch
Vice President	Rena Vickery
Treasurer	Pat Horsey
Co-Secretary	Jo Ann Miller

### Volunteer Positions

Librarian	Marcia Balleweg
Historian	Karen Scott
Membership	Linda Tickle
Newsletter	Janet Newman
<a href="mailto:dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net">dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net</a>	

### January Guild Project

After a very short business meeting at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum there will be a field trip to the Oklahoma Quilt Show. The show will be in the Cox Provillion Building at the State Fair Grounds, 10th and

BWGOK meetings are held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum located near I-44 and NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street in Oklahoma City. The meetings are held the second Saturday of every odd month at 10:00AM. Meetings generally start with the business meeting followed by a basket raffle, then lunch. Everyone brings a covered dish. After lunch we work on the scheduled project or whatever you bring to weave on. We are usually done by 2-3 p.m.

### Just a Note:

It was decided at our last guild meeting that glue is a tool. Not a four letter word.

BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma  
November 10, 2012 Minutes

The Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma met in the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum on November 10, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 10:12 by Onita Lynch, President. Members & guests were welcomed. No guests attended but the newest members Marty Gwin and Joann Gant were there.

Minutes of the September 9, 2012 were approved as printed in the October 2012 newsletter.

Treasurer's report was presented by Pat Horsey as follows:

**PRIMARY ACCOUNT:** Balance as of 31 October 2012      \$113.70

**Retreat Account:** Balance as of 31 October 2012      \$10779.48

**Deposits**

9 Sept Raffle	23.00
24 Sept – WW Registration	1355.00
30 Oct – WW Registration	1869.09
31 Oct – Pay Pal	476.20

**Payments**

16 Sept Refund on Retreat	20.00
24 Sept Refund on Retreat	20.00
6 Oct Quick Print	26.22
17 Oct Red Badge Holders	179.00
17 Oct Retreat Insurance	393.00
23 Oct Candy for Retreat	39.73
26 Oct Staples	42.30
27 Oct Gifts by Brenda	307.15
27 Oct Dale Garnett Scholarship	45.00
28 Oct Catering	1898.75
29 Oct Ok State Fair	25.00
30 Oct Shawnee Expo	1511.00
30 Oct Shawnee Expo Deposit For 2013	302.50

**Balance as of 31 October 2012**      **9558.37**

**Balance of both accounts**      **9672.07**



**Committee Reports: Weavers' Weekend** by Marcia Balleweg

Discussion about the retreat included:

- Everyone's participation in the raffle, teachers' market place is much appreciated!
- All volunteers are much appreciated – it couldn't happen without such great help!
- We kept the mission --low registration rates.
- Expo building has been reserved for October 25-27, 2013.
- Members enjoyed the space, acoustics, extra tables for weaving, vendor spaces, class selection was great.
- Improvements in areas of snacks, meeting class time schedules (will probably add extra time between classes, weaving levels – experienced instructors sometimes forget that the newbie takes longer than expected.
- The organizational process for next year will be started much earlier so that vendors and instructors can prepare in a timely manner. Registration will be due earlier.
- Marcia Balleweg will be chairperson for 2013. Becky Walker will head the selection committee which will include Jewell Cowan and Fran Cates and others.
- Instructor & vendor letters will be sent out in December. Check the website frequently if you are interested.

Programs: Rena Vickery

November 10<sup>th</sup> – Janet Newman taught the woven snowman – Thank you very much!

January 12, 2013: Meeting at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum for a short meeting – then on to the Quilt Show at the fairgrounds! Enter Gate 5 – May Avenue.

March 9, 2013: Beginner's Class – Everyone is needed Class list usually comes from the fair and quilt show demonstrations.

May 11, 2013:

July 13, 2013: Positive Tomorrow baskets

September 14, 2013: Bring filled Positive Tomorrow baskets

November 8, 2013:

Newsletter: Janet Newman – Deadline for December newsletter – December 10<sup>th</sup>. Send all newsletter information to Janet Newman, [dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net).

Membership Committee: Linda Tickle - 125 members.

Pattern Library: Marcia Balleweg.

Historian: Karen Scott.

Old Business – Thank you note from Positive Tomorrows was read.

New Business – Quilt Show January 10-12, 2013 Contact Pat Horsey, [phorsey@cox.net](mailto:phorsey@cox.net), for work schedule, etc.

Basket Raffle – Marcia Balleweg won the unique basket woven by Rena Vickery.

Program – Janet Newman – Woven Snowman – great class.



### **Dyeing Reed That Doesn't Run**

By Judith Olney

Reprinted from Over and Under Across Oklahoma Issue #16 April, 2001.

I've been asked several times how I dye reed so that the color doesn't run, so it seems appropriate to put "my" method in writing. I have worked out this process using information from Claude Medford, Dianne Stanton, Sosse Baker, Flo Hoppe and probably a few other people.

I use a pot large enough to hold the reed I need to dye. I fill the pot with water and I add a palm's worth of salt and several "globs of white vinegar. If I am using a canning pot, my palm is really full and I pour in five or six "globs" of vinegar (about a cup)\*. When this mixture comes to a boil, I add about 1/4 of a packet of dye. I stir well, then dip a piece of reed scrap to check the color. I think the scrap should show light to medium color for a quick dip. If I want to dye a pastel tint, I want to see the merest hint of color from a quick dip. When I am satisfied with the amount of dye in the pot, I add the reed and stir frequently until it reaches the intensity I desire. The correct pastel can develop in a minute or so, but it can sometimes take up to an hour of simmering to obtain a really good dark color. I will often turn off the heat on a red or black dye bath and leave the reed in overnight to make certain I've gotten the most intense color possible.

Once I am satisfied with the color, I let the reed dry if I have enough time. Reed that has been dried seems to rinse faster and hold its color better. Usually I live in the real world in which time is at a premium, so I rinse the reed immediately after dyeing by letting it soak in multiple changes of HOT water in the sink until very little, if any, color blends into the water. This rinsing process is essential, and quite lengthy with very dark colors. Initially, I might change the water after five minutes. As the excess dye leaves the reed, I might let the reed soak as much as half an hour. Finally, I soak the reed for at least half an hour in new hot water that has a lot of vinegar added (up to a quart in a full sink).

The procedure usually produces reed that may smudge, but will not bleed. Since it is a lot of work, and hot water is not free, I only follow the full procedure when very dark or bright colors are going to be used in conjunction with undyed reed. Otherwise, I shortcut the rinsing process. Unless time is really short, I always include the final soak with vinegar.

\*When I use a smaller or larger pot, I guess how much salt and vinegar to add using the canning pot as a standard. It doesn't seem to matter exactly how much salt and vinegar are in the dye pot as long as they are used.

### **More Dying Tips**

By Cheri Brnaca

Reprinted from Over and Under Across Oklahoma Issue #16 April, 2001.

I always read that people who dye reed use a whole box of dye and do lots of reed at once. Since I like to use lots of different colors and only need a little at a time, I only make up about 1/2 of one color and store each color in a small pint-sized bottle (a Snapple bottle is perfect). I boil my dyes in a Pyrex measuring cup that I use only for dyes, since Rit and such others are poisonous. Then I use a Hefty Ziploc bag to mix my reed and dye together—the bag isn't affected by the boiling water. It really helps eliminate messes since you can really seal the bag (Glad Lock style bags doesn't work well at all). Excess can be poured right back into the measuring cup or bottle. Then I fill the bag with cold water, seal again, and rinse right in the bag. I let the reed dry before I use it, since this seems to set the color. I then lightly dampen it when I use it so it won't bleed. I also like to mix my dye color together to get new colors—mixing only small amounts makes this much easier. Liquid Rit seems to give better color and mixtures than dry.

Both articles reprinted from "Twining Times", vol.9, issue 1,  
Newsletter for the Missouri Basket Guild.

## What is Positive Tomorrows?

The guild has supported Positive Tomorrows from the beginning but do any of us know what this organization is about? We make our baskets and fill them with kitchen items. The baskets are wrapped in pretty paper and off they go. But to where?

Positive Tomorrows began in 1989 with the philosophy that education is the key to ending the cycle of homelessness and poverty. It is now a private tuition-free elementary school whose purpose is to meet the educational and social needs of homeless children and their families. Positive Tomorrows breaks the cycle of homelessness in three ways:

- Removing Barriers—Worrying about their next meal or where they will sleep gets in the way of education. Students are picked up, given breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. They are also given clothing, school supplies, personal care items and medical attention.
- Supporting Families—helping families become stable is one of the main goals. They help with food, clothing, transportation and shelter. Families are also helped with income and life skills.
- Education—Homeless children are often 1 to 2 years behind other children their age. They are tested to see where they are and specialized lessons are created to meet each child's needs.

The guild received a very nice letter from Joshua Beasley, Director of Development at Positive Tomorrows. He thanked the guild for the baskets filled with kitchen supplies. Mr. Beasley told the story of Joey. When Joey started Kindergarten at Positive Tomorrows, his family was living out of their car. His clothes were dirty and he obviously hadn't had a bath in a while. They went to work right away to help. They gave him food, clothing and other basics he needed to be successful in the classroom. They helped his family get into a local shelter where they got the help they needed to get back on their feet.

The baskets we make go to the Positive Tomorrow families when they leave the facility to go to their new homes. It was decided at the November meeting that the guild would provide the materials for each member to weave a basket as that month's project. The baskets would then be taken home and brought back to the September meeting filled with kitchen items. This is one of the ways that we give back to the community and keep the art of basket weaving alive. Mark your calendars and be sure to be at the July guild meeting to take part in helping a homeless family.

For more information, to make a donation or to volunteer at Positive Tomorrows go to [www.positivetomorrow.org](http://www.positivetomorrow.org).



## Creed for Beginning Basketweavers

By Mary Hooper

Reprinted from Over and Under Across Oklahoma, Issue #13, October, 2000.

1. Thou shalt never weave with dry reed, lest thy reed break; or soggy reed, lest it turn hairy.
2. Thou shalt not overlap weavers on corners; too much corner thickness a clumsy basket makes.
3. Thou shalt identify the smooth and rough sides of each piece of reed and place the rough surface inside the basket.
4. Thou shalt inspect thy kit and be sure thy weavers and thy stakes are correctly identified.
5. Thou shalt remember that the position of the spokes determines the shape of the basket. Spokes are like infants, they take constant care and attention.
6. Thou shalt read thy pattern completely before beginning.
7. Thou shalt obtain and use sharp pointed tools for cutting. Sewing scissors are for cutting fabric.
8. Thou shalt not become easily discouraged; keep practicing.
9. Thou shalt pack down before turning down.
10. Thou shalt cut thy longest lengths of reed first, lest thou come up short.
11. Thou shalt cut one entire length of reed before starting another. This preventeth waste.
12. Thou shalt always buy patterns with colored pictures, or if without color photos, then from their creator or a shop that guarantee the authenticity of the pattern, lest thou purchase bootleg patterns, which are stolen property.
13. Thou shalt not store neither thy reed nor thy baskets in plastic bags, except for brief periods, lest such become mildewed. Likewise, leave them not outdoors at night, lest the dew fall on them and mildew bloom.
14. Whenever possible, thou shalt mark thy tools with thine own name, lest they become lost.
15. Thou shalt always remember an experienced weaver is just a phone call or e-mail message away. Ask for help.

### Available Basket Weaving Classes Around the State

**Bethany:** Janet Newman (e-mail: [dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net); phone: 405-789-4540) Janet teaches at *Francis-Tuttle Career Tech*, OK Basket Supply, and the Marketplace at the Galleria Furniture store. .

**Choctaw:** Julie Gates (e-mail: [gatesjulie@mccloudteleco.com](mailto:gatesjulie@mccloudteleco.com); phone: 405-305-1313 or 405-391-5498) Julie teaches at the Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center.

**Duncan:** Karen Scott (e-mail: [klsweave@gmail.com](mailto:klsweave@gmail.com); phone: 580-252-4711) Her classes are held at the *First United Methodist Church* in Duncan.

**Edmond:** Rena Vickery (e-mail: [rscmv1958@cox.net](mailto:rscmv1958@cox.net); phone: 405-285-6643) Rena teaches at the Edmond "Mac" Center.

**Hinton:** Paulene Asbury (e-mail: [habasketry@cox.net](mailto:habasketry@cox.net); phone: 405-722-1186)

Pauline teaches at the Buffalo Ranch in Hinton the 2nd Monday of each month. She also teaches at Christ Church in Yukon, the Nazarene Church in Mustang, Southern Hills Baptist Church in OKC and the Pioneer Center in Weatherford. You can check on her classes at [facebook.com/habasketry](https://www.facebook.com/habasketry).

**Wellston:** Marcia Balleweg (e-mail: [marcia@oklahomabasketsupply.com](mailto:marcia@oklahomabasketsupply.com))

Marcia teaches at *Oklahoma Basket Supply* in Wellston and at the Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee. Her website, [www.oklahomabasketsupply.com](http://www.oklahomabasketsupply.com) lists all her classes.



Jeff Rudell from the website [www.craftstylish.com](http://www.craftstylish.com) created this basket out of the Sunday New York Times. The website shows you how to make it.



You can buy a 3" basket cookie cutter on the internet at [www.cybrtrayd.com](http://www.cybrtrayd.com)

## Do You Know Your Instructors—Debbie Hurd of Bases to Weave

This is the first of what is hoped to be many articles about the instructors who so tirelessly strive to fill us with their knowledge and inspiration. Thank you Debbie for sharing of yourself in this article and in your classes.

I asked Debbie to share about herself and how she got into basketweaving. This is what she wrote.

In 1984 there was a community program in my town that offered a variety of classes each semester. They ranged from health/fitness, to dog obedience classes to art lessons and auto repair. Then one day I saw a basket weaving class was offered and I talked a friend into signing up with me. My first basket was an 8" egg basket. Needless to say, it wasn't very good but I fell in love with it.

There was one more class offered and then I started searching for other basket weavers in my area. I found my mentor about 30 minutes from my house. Her name is Martha Lue Featherston and she had a small shop next to her home out in the country. I was in heaven! She taught classes, had supplies and was so patient with me. She was also one of the founding members of the Arkansas Basket Weavers Guild.

I taught some of my first classes at her shop and met my business partner, Candace Katz there. I was also introduced to my husband by another basket weaver that I met at her shop. So she had a big influence in my life in more ways than one.

I design and weave mostly with reed, wood bases and love color! I have a small notebook that I jot down designs, ideas, drawings, etc. that interest me. Sometimes I see a basket in a magazine, on the internet or in an antique store that has a design element that gets me thinking.

When I get ready to design a new basket, I look through my notebook, try and match up ideas that would go well together and then start. I usually start out with a general idea of what I want to do but it always takes on a life of its own and changes as I weave. Sometimes it's a winner and sometimes it's a bust. Most of the time, I end up weaving at least 3 or 4 different versions of a new basket before I'm happy with a final draft.

I am lucky enough to have a small studio at my house to work in. When we built our house about 8 years ago, my husband added the space for a studio. At the time I thought it was huge...now I wish it was twice the size! It's amazing how much space reed and handles can take up. I also have a bonus room over the garage for storage of bases, handles and all those other little accessories that we need.

I do love tools! When I see a new one or one I don't have...well, I have to have it. But you don't need all of them all of the time. One of the best tips I can give a weaver is, pick your best, most versatile tools and have them within reach whenever you are weaving. I always have a sharp pair of cutters, an awl, shaver, a dozen good clothespins, bent tip packer, a small flat tip screwdriver and a sponge within easy reach. The rest of my tools (and I do have a lot of them) are in my bag on the shelf. If I need something else, I can get it. Some tools you only need once in a while...don't clutter your work area with stuff you may not even use on that basket.

My friend, Candace Katz and I started our business, Bases To Weave about 12 years ago. We travel together most of the time which helps with those long distant trips. Next year I am teaching at several new locations and will be taking my husband with me. He is a great supporter of me and my weaving adventures.

You can visit our business website at:  
[www.basestoweave.com](http://www.basestoweave.com) or "like" us on Facebook to see where we will be and what we are doing.





## WINTER QUILT SHOW

The Winter Quilt show is fast approaching. The dates are January 10-12, 2013 at a new location. This years event will be at the Oklahoma State Fair Park in the Cox Pavilion on General Pershing Blvd. It is suggested you enter from May Ave. at gate #5 for free parking. Admission is \$10 per day or \$20 for all three days. Times are from 10 am to 5 pm.

This is the 12th year of the event and the first at the fairgrounds. There will be hundreds of quilts on display. Vendors will be there from local business and many other states. There are contests and workshops you can sign up for. You can even have your heirloom quilt appraised. For more information go to the following website: [www.qsccexpos.com/oklahoma.html](http://www.qsccexpos.com/oklahoma.html)

The BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma will be demonstrating basket weaving at booth 104. As you enter the exhibit hall turn right and go to the first row. The hours of the show are 10am to 5pm. Those who are manning the booth may bring baskets to sell, if they want to.

Set up will be Wednesday January 9th. Jo Ann Miller, Jewel Cowan, Pauline Asbury and Pat Horsey will meet at the Cox Pavilion at 1PM to set up the guild's booth. Workers who volunteered to man the booth are:

<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Janet Newman	Mike Tickle	Jo Ann Miller
Pauline Asbury	Linda Tickle	Pat Horsey
Shirley Hill	Rena Vickery	Jewel Cowan
Marty Gwin	Sybil Tibbetts	Pauline Asbury

Workers are asked to be in place at 10 am and stay until 5 pm.

People working Thursday should call Pauline on her cell phone 405-833-8243 when you arrive and she will bring your badge to you so you do not have to pay. For the ones working Friday, your badges will be at the Information Desk.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pat Horsey at 405-620-1212.



From the desk of Brenda McKinnon:

The Texas Basket Weavers Association 2013 Conference, "Weaving the Lone Star Way" held January 17-20, 2013 is fast approaching. You still have time to register and there are many good basket class selections available. Check the classes tab at [www.texasbasketweavers.com](http://www.texasbasketweavers.com). There's still rooms available at Hampton Inns and Suites at Rodeo Center in Mesquite, TX. It is easily accessed on the east side of Dallas right off of Interstate 635. The conference attendees have a special rate of \$89 per night plus tax for single or double rooms. Book by either selecting reservations on the TBWA website [www.texasbasketweavers.com](http://www.texasbasketweavers.com) or calling direct (972)329-3100 and mention Texas Basket Weavers Association. Overnight accommodations include complimentary hot breakfast from 6 to 10 am. Members may participate in the first ever "Stars of Weaving" Basket Exhibit. Hope you will participate and share a basket or two for the display.

Hope to see you in Mesquite, Tx January 17-20, 2013.



### WEAVERS WEEKEND FOLLOWUP

I want to say a big THANK YOU to all who helped to make our 2012 Weavers Weekend a success! Committee members Julie Gates, Carol Gauntt, Vickie Gildon, Pat Horsey, Judy Keller, Karen Lowe, Onita Lynch, Jo Ann Miller, Janet Newman, Sandy Rish, Karen Scott, Margaret Smith and Susan Ybright...you did an awesome job and it wouldn't have gotten done without you. Thank you to all who volunteered or got "roped in" to helping out at our Weavers Weekend. We very much appreciate all our donors who gave generously to our welcome bags and our silent auction/raffle. And most of all, thanks to all who came and made our weekend memorable.

I hope you liked our new location. For me, it was a pleasure to have some "elbow room", to have wonderful lighting and a clean environment to weave in. We have already reserved the date for next year. So save the date! We'll plan on seeing you all October 25, 26 and 27, 2012.

If anyone has pictures they took and can email them, we would like to put a photo album on the guild's website. Please send them to me at [info@okbasketweaversguild.com](mailto:info@okbasketweaversguild.com).

Marcia Balleweg

### Donations for the 2012 Weavers Weekend Raffle & Silent Auction

We try to keep a list of all donors & donations, just in case you would like to say "thanks" for your winnings! If someone is missing or an item is missing, please send the information to Jo Ann Miller [jam19482@aol.com](mailto:jam19482@aol.com)

#### **Silent Auction Contributions:**

Pat Horsey, Jewell Cowan, Donalene Wright, Marty Bartlett, Janet Newman, Onita Lynch, Nathan Taylor, Brenda McKinnon

#### **Raffle Items – Contributions were mixed and matched with other donations to make complete a package.**

Laura Lee Zanger, Sybil Tibbetts, Feix Family Baskets, Brenda McKinnon, Mary Brown, Sandy Rish, Guild—Weavers Weekend Pattern Book compiled by Pat Horsey, NorEsta Cane & Reed, Sandy Atkinson, Shereen LaPlantz, V.I. Cane & Reed, Nancy Boevers, Marcia Balleweg, Julie Gates, Becky Walker, Vivian Havenstrite, Pat Vogler, Vicki Gildon, Debra Hurd, Candace Katz, Jo Ann Miller, Royal Wood, Onita Lynch, Suzanne Moore, Mary Sorrells, Kerri McClain, Rena Vickery, Pauline Asbury, Becky Walker, Oklahoma Basket Supply, Shawnee Visitors and Convention Bureau.

**Thank you everyone for your donations!**  
**They make the Weavers Weekend so much fun!**







Pictures of the 2012 Weavers Weekend  
taken by Margaret Smith.



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