



OVER AND UNDER ACROSS OKLAHOMA

Volume 19 Issue 1

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

February 2019

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

A new year is well underway. This newsletter covers a lot of last year's fun. The retreat was a success once again. Thanks to all who helped to pull it off. Committees and plans are already forming for the 2019 Weavers Weekend. Be sure to watch the website for updates. Remember that we will have a new location and a new date this year. Details are in the following pages.

Texas had a wonderful retreat in January in Dallas. There is a page of pictures in the newsletter showing the Oklahoma people who went. There is also information on the Christmas party we had. So much fun. Hope to have more of you come this year.

Mary Lee and her Norman weavers have agreed to handle the obligations of Vice-President. They have been hard at work planning the calendar of activities for this year. Be sure to order your kit from Mary Lee by Feb. 12th for the February project.

If you have people over to weave, take pictures and send me or write an article and send it in. If you have something you would like me to research about weaving let me know. At the Texas conference I received a number of weaving books to add to my library and I love researching about weaving.

Remember to start planning baskets to enter into the fair. Anyone can enter. Registration will be on the State Fair website in August. If you live out of town or out of state and want to send us a Positive Tomorrows basket you can do that at any time before September. Include at least \$10 and one of us will go to Dollar Tree and buy stuff to fill the basket. We try to have about 40 filled baskets each year to give to Positive Tomorrows.

See you at the guild meeting and happy weaving. 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 meeting 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.

Guild Project for February 16, 2019

While at Weavers' Weekend Pauline Asbury, one of the instructors, gave our guild permission to use her pattern "4 Styles of Pencil Holders" using a Fibonacci Twill (Don't be scared off by the sound of this, it is easy.) You will use a mesh pencil holder as a mold to weave your own pencil holder on. The pictures show guild members Susan Steele and Nancy Rimassa's pencil holders made with Pauline at Weavers' Weekend. The pattern is easy and the basket can be finished during the meeting—easy peasy! The cost is \$5. Please e-mail or call Mary Lee by Feb. 12 if you are interested in weaving this basket so we can have plenty of material for everyone. Leefam77@cox.net or 405-329-6253 (leave a message)



Join us on Feb. 16 at 10:00 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum to weave this project!!!!

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

October 20, 2018

At 12:15pm October 20th the meeting was called to order. Jo Ann Miller made the motion to approve the minutes from the August 2018 meeting and Mary Lee seconded the motion.

BWGOK Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2018

Balance as of July 31, 2018	\$11242.75
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Expenses

Go Daddy email subscription	\$404.58
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Positive Tomorrows basket materials	\$159.87
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J. Newman reimbursement postage	\$7.90
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D. Nishihara WW refund	\$20.00
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Dyed reed for NCWHM class	\$71.15
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P. Anderson WW refund	\$20.00
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Plato cutters (gifts for WW)	\$211.97
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Total Expenses	\$895.47
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Deposits

WW Registration fees and dues	\$760.00
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Balance as of September 30, 2018	\$11107.28
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Old Business:

- **Weavers' Weekend**— 2018 Retreat update has about 95 registrations, 10 instructors and 3 vendors. Donations are being accepted for welcome bags are being made. The quilt for the silent auction is finished.
- **Membership**— 114 paid members
 - * **Projects**— Mary Lee and her group from Norman will be developing projects for 2019.
 - * February 16: Pencil Holder
 - * March: Beginner Class
 - * April:
 - * June:
 - * August: Positive Tomorrows Basket
 - * September: State Fair Demo:
 - * October:
 - * December: Christmas Party

New Business:

- Weavers Weekend 2019 will move to the Edmond Convention Center with the Hilton Gardens Inn attached to the convention center. Rena Vickery motioned to move the retreat from Shawnee to Edmond. Mary Lee seconded it. There was a unanimous vote to make the change. The date for the 2019 retreat will be November 1-3, 2019.
- Election of officers will be conducted at the October retreat. The offices up for election will be Vice President and Secretary.

Meeting Adjourned

SEEN AROUND THE OKLAHOMA WEAVERS WEEKEND



We had a special silent auction for a beautiful quilt made from donated t-shirts by Debbie Shorter and Vickie Gildon. The quilt was won by Marleeta Chaney. Congratulations Marleeta. We are green with envy.



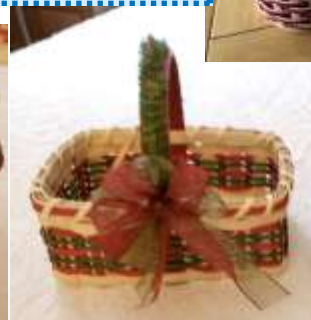
Diane Wilson is the co-chair of the retreat along with Marcia Balleweg. Diane handles all of your registrations. Thank you Diane. Thank you Marcia and all the individuals who helped make the retreat a success.



We have had 20 wonderful years of guild activity and celebrated with a cake.

Scholarship Winners

Del Garnett scholarship went to Anne Aubushon
Mary Garnett scholarship went to Joyce Adams
Becky Walker scholarship went to Linda Satter



Some of the baskets made at the retreat.

Students and Instructors alike have a wonderful time weaving and learning new techniques.



It is go great to be able to take close-up pictures of techniques we are trying to learn.



WEAVERS WEEKEND UPDATE

NEW LOCATION & NEW DATE

Save the dates, Nov. 1, 2 and 3, 2019 for this year's Weaver's Weekend. This is a week later than our normal weekend.

2019 marks our 20th Annual Weavers Weekend. We are celebrating with a change of location. We are moving to the new Edmond Conference Center in Edmond, OK. There is a Hilton Garden Inn attached to the conference center. We will be putting information about that on the website soon.

Instructor proposal forms and vendor application forms have been published and are on our website at <http://www.okbasketweaversguild.com/WeaversWeekend.html>. Please share this information with any instructor you would like to see teach at our Weavers Weekend. There is also a link on our Facebook page. Instructor/vendor application deadline is March 16th.

We are looking forward to this exciting change and to seeing all of you in November!

Committees are forming. If you would like to be on a committee and help with the retreat please contact Marcia Balleweg or Janet Newman.

20 years...WOW! Time flies when you are weaving!

Beginner's Class March 16, 2019

This year our Beginner Class will be on March 16 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Invitations will go out in February. If you know anyone who would like to attend, please contact Marcia at mballeweg@yahoo.com to add their name to the list. The new weavers will be making the napkin basket. We would like as many members as possible to come help that day. In past years we have had as many as 20-30 new weavers attending. It is so nice to have many guild members there so we can give each new weaver special attention. Please let Marcia know if you are able to help. Members provide a potluck lunch for the new weavers so be thinking of your favorite dish to bring.

Over-Under-Over-Under is new to these people!



BasketWeavers Having Birthdays

December, January, February

*Happy
Birthday
to all of you!!*

Joan	Hatfield	12/8
Gaylene	Long	12/10
Judy	Stone	12/11
Joy	Jones	12/14
Jo Ann	Miller	12/17
Chris	Aubushon	12/18
Becky	Schwartz	12/22
Joyce	Adams	1/3
Mike	Tickle	1/24
Cathy	Peck	1/24
Carol	Gauntt	1/28
Mary	McKinzie	2/6
Nancy	Mercer	2/6
Carol	Jacob	2/10
Annetta	Kraayeveld	2/26
Janet	Newman	2/27

Lee Rose in the News

Long time basket weaver and instructor from Oklahoma is in the news for her second book signing. Her current book is, *The Path to Freedom*. These books are part of a series about thanksgiving and remembering the Lord's blessings. The book signing will be February 14 at the Heartisan's Marketplace in Longview, Texas. Lee's first book was, *Time Alone With God*. Lee we are so proud of you and miss you tremendously in Oklahoma.



Mary Lee in the News



Our very own Mary Lee and her Norman weavers were in the news recently. A friend of Mary Lee included Mary and her Norman friends on a recent weaving day in her blog about "Creators in Cleveland County." Many of these ladies are in the Oklahoma BasketWeavers guild so Mary thought it would make a good article for the newsletter. Thank you Mary.

A special thank you goes to Judith Coker for allowing us to use this article from her blog site, "Cleveland County Creators".

I (Judith) met Mary at her in-session class at the East Norman Library to learn about her art form. It was a lively scene with materials piled on the floor and tables, wicker bursting out in every direction, and lots of conversation and laughter among the women in the class. When I asked them why they liked basketry, they immediately replied, "Social connections. . . sharing. . . making something new. . . relieving frustration." Several of her students have donated baskets to non-profits for silent auctions or other fundraising events.

Because she was involved in mentoring her students, I asked Mary Lee to answer some questions at a later date about her involvement in art in general and basketry in particular.

I: What do you think has influenced you the most in your choices regarding basketry?

M: I grew up in Eastern Oklahoma where we always had Oklahoma Native American art in our home and Native artists were admired; consequently, my baskets often replicate an aspect of Native American styled baskets. I am a member of the Cherokee Nation, learned to weave my first basket at the Cherokee Heritage Center, and that heritage nurtures me.

I: How have you learned these skills?

M: I attend events, classes, and conferences in basketry to advance my skills and keep me motivated. I have also spent many hours sitting at my kitchen table, trying to understand how to create a weaving pattern or technique until it looks the way I want it to look. I have been self-taught to a great extent, although I did take some art classes in college. I am encouraged by the companionship of my weaving friends, who, like my grandmother's quilting circle, provide a system of support as we spend hours together weaving and sharing our lives.

I: So, basketry is an integral part of your life?

M: Yes. About 15 years ago, I began weaving and also teaching weaving to middle school students. I especially enjoy teaching basket weaving as a volunteer at Transition House to folks who have a mental illness and are in the process of transitioning back to an independent life. Our baskets are given to donors who supplement Transition House state funding.

I: Why do you pick a particular design?

M: I weave baskets originating from both patterns that I have designed and patterns from others. I enjoy working with color and design to create pleasing baskets and molding baskets into unique shapes. It is also a "happy accident" when I'm teaching students the same basket design, each student's finished basket always differs in some way—shape, color, or design.

I: Which brings me to my final question. Mary, what do you think creativity is? Why do you create?

M: I think each of us has that magical "creative spark" that speaks to us and motivates us to try new things. Creativity is a spark that lights up and can't be put out as long as we do something with it. For many years I taught "gifted" kids and I would tell their teachers that these kids were not gifted until they did something with that gift. That is the teacher's job—to make that happen, to see that the creative spark stays lit. Creativity is invention; it is seeing the new, the different, sometimes the "soul" of a thing and then making something happen with that new insight. It calls your name, and, in my case, won't let go until it is embraced.



Oklahoma Christmas Party



It takes concentration to weave a basket.



Made by Rena Vickery as a basket exchange item. Beautiful!



Everyone went away with a door prize.



This was the project we made. It was also a basket that was made at the Oklahoma retreat. Debbie Hurd allowed us to make the basket at our party.

Guild Christmas Party

The Christmas party in December was a lot of fun. We made a beautiful little basket that was all red and green with a lovely bow and handle accent. There were drawings throughout the meeting for door prizes. Everyone went home with a prize. We had a very nice lunch of soup, sandwiches and salads. Some very nice desserts were also enjoyed. A few people participated in a basket exchange. The pine needle sun catcher was made by Rena Vickery and was one of the basket exchange items. Perhaps we could talk Rena into teaching it as a guild project. It is a very unique item.



There was a lot of good food to be had.

2019 Guild Calendar

February 16: Pencil Holder

March 16: Beginner Class

April 20: Bird House basket

June 15:

August 17: Positive Tomorrows Basket

September: Demo at the State Fair,

Enter baskets in the state fair

October 19:

November 1-3: Oklahoma WeaversWeekend, Edmond

December 21: Christmas Party

RECENTLY SEEN AT THE TEXAS RETREAT IN DALLAS



Oklahoma was well represented.



There were over 100 raffle prizes.



If you have not been to a Texas weaving conference you have truly missed out. Just ask any of the Oklahoma people who went. There were about 55 classes with 14 instructors from all over the country. The opportunity drawing was a huge success with over 100 items to drop your tickets into. There had to have been at least 30 silent auction items. These people get serious about items to win. This was the first year to have a scholarship where a registration payment was given back. The person winning that was yours truly, Janet Newman. I got to go shopping. Texans also know how to eat. The lunches were superb. The retreat next year will be January 23-26, 2020 in Huston, TX. It will be well worth the trip.



Some of the Stars of Weaving baskets.



An unusual corner treatment was seen.

