



OVER AND UNDER ACROSS OKLAHOMA

Volume 21 Issue 3

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

June 2021

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Happy days are here again. The guild is in full swing with lots of activities coming up. The Chuck Wagon Festival is this weekend at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum from 10 to 4. We have some great volunteers lined up to help. Bring your family out for some great outdoor fun and food.

As you can see to the right, our guild project will be colorful. Thank you Marcia for developing this basket for us. Guild meeting is June 19. Please don't confuse guild meeting with the Summer Weave-In on June 26th. We have an extra day of weaving planned at the Cowboy museum. Look inside for the 2 baskets offered that day and order early. Space is limited. Yippie!, an extra day to get together and weave lovely baskets.

The Weavers Weekend Catalog is almost ready to go online so be looking for it. We have a super lineup of instructors and almost 40 classes for you to choose from. Tell all your friends we WILL have our retreat and it will be extra fun since we missed last year.

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.

June 19 Guild Project Miska



Miska starts out with natural spokes and round reed. It then adds dyed spokes and switches to 3/16" and 1/4" flat oval weavers. The most used technique is start/stop weaving. Cost of the basket is \$18. Color Choices are Coral, Stonewashed Blue and Hunter Green. When you order your kit, be sure to state your color choice. This is a basket for all level weavers.



Kit must be ordered by June 14th.

Contact Janet Newman to order your kit. Text your name and color choice to

405-812-4454 or email: dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net. Kits will not be made by Janet so no extra kits can be ordered and no kits will be mailed.

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

BWGOK Treasurer's Report As of March 31, 2021

Balance as of January 31, 2021	\$6558.72
Expenses	
SecureCare Self Storage—February	\$61.20
SecureCare Self Storage—March	\$61.20
Seaside Basket Helper Kits—Janet Newman	\$129.00
GoDaddy.com Web Hosting	<u>\$575.52</u>
Total Expenses	\$817.92
Deposits	
Dues (4 deposits Feb/March)	\$480.00
Total Deposits	\$480.00
Balance as of March 31, 2021	\$6220.80

Volunteers Needed for State Fair Demo

We will be doing a demo on September 23rd from 1 to 5.

It's a fun time to sit and weave and visit with
people as they walk by.

We get a free ticket to enter the fair and a pass to park close
to the gate off May Ave. You can go to the fair early and
walk around, eat lunch and then go back to your car and get
your basket supplies and bring them in to weave.

Fun Fun Fun

Song of Basket-weaving

by *Constance Lindsay Skinner*

This poem was
found on Pinterest.

O Cedar-tree, Cedar, my Mother,
I sit at thy knee
Weaving my basket of grasses,
Weaving for my harvest of berries when the Ripe
Days come.
Thy fingers gently touch my hair with fragrance,
Thy mouth drips a song, for the wind has kissed it.
(Love sings in thy mouth!)
The soil listens and answers;
I feel a stirring beneath me and hear buds opening,
The river chants thy song, and the clouds dance to it.
Tonight the stars will float upon thy singing breath,
Gleaming like slanting flocks above the sea.
All the Earth sings: and its voices are one song!

I alone am silent: I alone, a maid waiting him, the
Fate,
The Stirring One, the Planter of the Harvest,
The Basket-Filler.
Cedar, Cedar-tree, Mother!
See how beautiful, how liberal, is my basket,
How tightly woven for the waters of love,
How soft for the treading of children's feet,
How strong to bear them up!
Cedar, Cedar-tree, Mother, remember me —
Ere the Sunset and the Drooping Leaf!

Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma Minutes— April 17, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 12:14. Minutes from February 2021 were not available. There were no guests present.

Old Business—

Janet also reported that 90 members are currently paid, and 40 members have been dropped.

Weavers Weekend—Marcia Balleweg reported that teachers from last year are back.

There are 13 teachers for Weavers Weekend with a total of 39 classes. Discussion on welcome bags. Marcia showed us a small bag from IKEA and members agreed this would be our welcome bag.

Texas Retreat will be February 10-13 in Round Rock, Texas

Calendar and Projects—Janet Newman

April 17—Flying Geese—Janet Newman

June 19—

June 26—Annie Oakley Center—Possible Beginners Class or extra weaving event

August 21—Positive Tomorrows Basket

Sign up to enter baskets in the OK State Fair. Janet will deliver entries if you live out of town. Bring them to August meeting. She will also pick them up after the fair and bring to the next guild meeting

October 26—Bring back filled Positive Tomorrows baskets; need project.

November 5-7—OK Weavers Weekend, Shawnee, OK

December 18—Christmas party—need project.

Workshops/Demos at museum—Marcia Balleweg

May 29-30—Chuck Wagon Festival—Volunteers needed. We will be weaving in courtyard from 10:00 – 4:00. Volunteers must have background check. Contact Janet to volunteer and get info on background check.

July 24: National Day of the Cowboy Demo—2-3 people are needed to weave. This will be a way to get weavers for Beginner class.

Fall class will be corn, cornucopia, and apple on September 18. Volunteers needed.

Janet Newman will continue as President and Mary Lee and Norman ladies will continue as Vice President.

Sharon Klusmann Retreat in Ohio still has openings.

New Business

Marcia Balleweg reported that it is time to pay the P.O. Box rent if we wish to keep the box. Members agreed to keep box and the Guild will pay for the rental. It is \$56 a year.

New Kit rules—Janet Newman—Kits for Guild Projects are provided at cost. In the future, there will be no mailing of kits, no holding kits, and additional kits will cost more if offered.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

Flying Geese Wastebasket
by, Julie Kleinrath, Grand Junction, CO



Materials:

Oval Wood Base

3/8" flat, natural and dyed

1 1/64" flat/oval

1/4" flat/oval

1/2" flat/oval

Medium Seagrass

2-2 1/2" notched handles

Binding Cane

Cuts:

From 3/8" flat, cut-40-14" long

Base: Lay the base flat on a table and insert the spokes with the wrong side up. The easiest way to make the spokes even is to put one at each end, one where the "flat" part of the base begins. Six spokes go on each curved edge and 5 spokes go into the "flat" part of the base. Weave 3 rows of 1 1/64" flat/oval to lock the base in. These rows should be woven while the base is still flat on the tabletop.

Weaving:

Gently curving the spokes up, Weave : 5 rows 1/4" flat/oval

Your spokes should now be going up 5 rows of 3/8" flat/natural

Page #2–Flying Geese Wastebasket

Now you will begin the “twill or flying geese” design

Weave the next row with your dyed 3/8" flat **Over two, Behind two**

Row 2 of the pattern has you moving one spoke to the right **O2, B2**

Repeat the above until you have woven 6 rows. Your pattern should look like you are weaving everything to the right.

Row 7 of the pattern will have you go to the left **O2, B2** (or you are doing the same as row 5. Repeat this design until you have a total of 11 rows woven.

Weave 5 rows 3/8" natural

6 rows 1/4" flat/oval, cut and tuck.

Insert your 2 1/2" handles on either end of the basket with the ends of the handles on the outside. Tuck the handle ends into the 3rd and 5th row down of the 3/8" natural making sure the notches are over the top row of weaving.

Rim: Rim your basket with 1/2" flat/oval inside and out with seagrass between. Lash with an X around the basket with binding cane.

Pattern, wood base and handles by, Julie Kleinrath, Woven Designs
3360 Star Court, Grand Junction, CO 81506
(970)254-8232 Fax (970)254-8243
www.wovendesigns.com



Thank You Julie for the use of your pattern. We had a lot of fun at guild meeting making it. Here is the pattern for everyone who didn't come to guild.

Julie is with Woven Designs and will be at our Weavers Weekend in November where she will have great kits and embellishments.

Summer Weave-In
June 26th, 9-5
National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum
Annie Oakley Room

We have a special day of weaving planned for June 26th. This is kind of last minute planning and comes about because of the cancellation of the International Day of Kids Weaving. We had the room reserved so we decided to do something for the guild and at the same time offer a class for beginner weavers.

There are two classes offered.

Gathering Basket is a beginner class. Cost is \$28.

Cherokee Style Storage Basket is an intermediate basket. Cost is \$36.

If you wish to be a part of this special day then order your kit by June 14th so we have time to get the materials cut. Janet Newman is handling the orders. Sorry no extra kits will be made or mailed. If you want a kit, come to this special day of weaving.

Order by contacting Janet at 405-812-4454 or email at dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net.

Please don't confuse this day of weaving with the guild meeting which is the week before, June 19th. There are 3 baskets offered over 2 Saturdays.

You may order kits for both days in one email or text.

Kits for the Summer Weave-In have to be paid for in advanced. Make checks payable to each basket instructor and send to:

Janet Newman
3401 N Eagle Lane
Bethany, Ok73008

Text or email Janet before mailing your check. Class space is limited and is first come to reserve a space. Check today to see if space is available.

Gathering Basket

Taught by Marcia Balleweg

This beautiful beginner basket is 17" long by 10" wide and 5" high without the handle. It is big enough to gather a lot from the garden or use it to hold a casserole dish or cupcakes. Made on a "D" handle with over/under weaving the basket is set off with color along the top. The wrapped handle really takes the basket to a new level.

Cost of this class is \$28.

Make check payable to Marcia Balleweg and mail to Janet Newman. Be sure to contact Janet first to reserve your spot. Then mail your check in.



Cherokee Style Storage Basket

Taught by Mary Lee

Our Cherokee Style Storage Basket resembles some of the baskets of the Cherokee nation of the past and present. Cherokee baskets were made from all natural materials, readily available in the hardwood forests of the ancestral homeland. Cane, white oak, hickory, bark, and honeysuckle were the main materials. Natural dyes came from roots, barks, leaves, nuts, flowers, fruits, stems, and seeds. Our basket's colors would have been derived from bloodroot for the golden color and black walnuts for the dark brown color we will be using as our dyed reed. This basket will be a good size storage basket with a depth of 13 1/2" and a circumference of 35" at the top.

Cost of the class is \$36.

Make check payable to Mary Lee and mail to Janet Newman. Be sure to contact Janet first to reserve your spot. Then mail your check in.



BASKETWEAVING

Division 3521

Open to all basket weavers including amateurs and professionals. Exhibitors may enter up to 2 items per class.

Judging Criteria:

Craftsmanship	40%
Degree of Difficulty	20%
Design	20%
Presentation	20%

- 01. Traditional
- 02. Non-traditional
- 03. Holiday

AWARDS

Ribbons will be awarded through 10th place in each class.

BEST OF SHOW Rosette & \$25

Awards provided by: Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma

CLASS DEFINITIONS

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.



Oklahoma State Fair

@okstatefair · Fairground

Calling For Lots and Lots and Lots of Baskets for the Oklahoma State Fair

How do you put baskets in the fair. Its so easy and so much fun to take family and friends to the fair and show them what you did. Then you find your basket has a ribbon and everyone oohs and awhs. You beam inside and out. It could be a first place ribbon or a 5th place. Doesn't matter, it's your basket with a ribbon.

So what's the process? You can look at the categories in the Class Definitions chart on the preceding page or just make baskets and figure which category they fit in. Then about July 1 you go online and register to enter. Registration should be open July 1 through August 15th. Registration is free. The registration will be under Competitions on the webpage's menu. Then go to Creative Arts and then to Fine Arts, Crafts and Hobbies. At this time these dates are only guesses. I will give you the dates when I know it.

The registration will tell you how to tag your baskets. You will need something with your name on them. If I remember right the registration process may have a tag you print out for each basket you enter. Baskets will be taken to the fairgrounds the weekend before the fair starts. My guess is this year that will be the 11th and 12th of September. For the people who live out of town and don't want to make so many trips to OKC, you can bring your baskets to the August guild meeting and Janet Newman will take them to the fairgrounds for you. Then after the fair, Janet will bring them to the October guild meeting. If you go this route you will still have to go online and register, tag your baskets and give Janet a list of all the baskets with a description so she knows what is yours. Printed pictures with the description would be even better.

Think outside the box when planning what categories to put your baskets in. For example, there is an Easter Basket section in the Holiday Division. So put all the baskets you can in the basket division and put one in this Easter basket section. If you do anything with gourds, look for woodburning or beading on a gourd. You might think about beading on a basket and fit it into beading category. Or make basket or gourd jewelry and find where you can enter them. Have fun with this because it really is fun. You never know when you might get Best of Show. Several of our guild members have won it.



1. STRAW IS COLLECTED AND SPLIT

First, the artisans will gather the grass that is eventually woven into the baskets. Each basket takes a large amount of grass to complete, but it's made using 100% natural and local materials. From there, they split each strand in half, making a more flexible material to work with. Straw is split using teeth or hands.



2. THEN IT'S ROLLED FOR TEXTURE

From there, strands are rolled together by hand to give them a wavy texture that's easier to work with when weaving.



3. STRAW IS DYED TO GIVE VIBRANT COLOR

When the straws are separated and rolled, they're dyed vibrant colors to give each basket a unique colorway and design.



These baskets can be purchased on [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com) or at [globein.com](https://www.globein.com).

4. THEN THE WEAVING BEGINS

Once the straws are completely ready, the artisans can begin weaving. This is the most labor-intensive and tedious aspect of the basket making that requires both patience and skill.



5. THE WEAVING CONTINUES UNTIL THE FINISHING TOUCHES ARE ADDED

Each bag will have different patterns, sizes, shapes, and functions. At the end of the process, sometimes handles, straps, or other embellishments are added. From start to finish, the process of making a single Bolga Basket can take an entire week.

These pieces are truly a labor of skill made by artisans working after their normal full-time jobs for extra income. Buying these pieces helps support their families and their livelihoods



Taken from the web page Globein
<https://globein.com/blog/made-bolga-baskets/>