



BASKETRY GUILD

TIDINGS

Volume 8, Issue 02

March/April 2007

Life Net

From the President's Pen...

Greetings Fellow Basketweavers,

TBG's Life Net Basket Project is in full swing!! As we gather baskets to dye for our first delivery, we are also ordering and preparing for the next phase. Our May 6 meeting will include a kit-cutting class geared around the Life Net Basket pattern. Come learn the kit preparation basics and join in a fast-paced group effort to complete the kits. Afterward there should be time to weave a Life Net Basket before you leave. After that you will know all the tricks to it and be able to take some kits home to weave and return at the next guild event.

A million thank you's go to Billie Dorris, Laura White and Judith Saunders for the research, testing and kit preparation already done. Their time and efforts have set TBG on a successful course for this project. While it is a big commitment for our group, I believe that our members have the right outlook and level of participation to support it.

NCBA was once again a great time! So many ideas and chances to learn (and buy)!!

TBG was well represented not only in the classes but also in the Exhibit Room and as prize winners! Congratulations to Judith Saunders and Sue Legault, and Mary Jo Baylor. They have beautiful ribbons for the baskets they submitted.

Linda Lindner has agreed to join the TBG board again to serve as our interim guild Secretary through September when our election for the new Secretary will be held. Thank you Linda! Linda formerly served as Vice President and has taught some classes for us. And where in the world is Peggy Williams? you might ask.....Well she and her husband packed up and moved to Arizona! While we will miss our former Secretary, we know that she is happily settled and having a great time being so close to her grandchildren! She might even be weaving by now....

Weave with a smile!
Jamie

Our resident Chaplin Diana Veasey works for the organ donation organization Life Net. Last year she was talking with Jimmie Kent and realized that over the years Jim and Jimmie Kent have been making small Life Net baskets. These baskets have a small racetrack oval base and are woven up in about 45 minutes. The basket is given to the family of the deceased and is placed at the funeral/memorial service. The basket holds the "Give Life" pin for each attendee to take and wear on their lapel. After the service is complete, the family takes the basket as a memorial that their family member is now "Giving Life" in their death.

TBG has taken on this project. We will be making between 300-400 baskets a year for Life Net. TBG is being compensated at \$5.00 per basket, for our materials. TBG will be ready to deliver our first shipment of baskets to Life Net next week

This is where you, our TBG Members come in, we need EVERYONE's help in this great Charity Project. We will need everyone to commit to weaving Life Net baskets around the year. So far we have woven about 60 baskets, and this was just with the materials we had on hand. Materials have been ordered, kits will be put together at the May meeting and then the weaving will take place. President Jamie Van Oekel has taken on the task of getting the project started. We will need a coordinator to get the baskets out to members (at meetings and other TBG events), to collect the baskets and to get the baskets to the Life Net office in Virginia Beach. Now this is not the job of one person, we need a coordinator to organize their committee and then everyone will be helping. Kits will be available at all meetings and some meetings will be focused on this great project. The question now is how can you not help? Life Net is an organization that deals with life thru death, how can you say no to that?

Check your calendar and make sure you are at the May 6th meeting for the first (of many) big "Life Net" Day.

If you have any questions, please contact President Jamie Van Oekel.

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Note from the Editor...

Any news items for the newsletter need to be to me by the 15th of each month. If you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me at newsletter@tidewaterbasketryguild.org or call me at 523-8630

For those of you who do not have a computer, any members you need to contact, please look up phones numbers in your Members Roster in your Tidewater Basketry Guild Notebook, we will not publish them in the newsletter in the future.

Thanks, Cindy Stanton

Do you have any new ideas for the newsletter? Please email/call Cindy at webmaster@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Reminders.....

TBG Mailbox: We have had several pieces of mail returned to sender recently. At review, the mail had individual names as the addressee on each. We feel that any mail sent to our PO Box should be addressed to Tidewater Basketry Guild and then to the attention of the person who needs it.

Tidewater Basketry Guild
P.O. Box 55133
Norfolk, VA 23505
ATTN: (name of member or Chairperson)

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**Open to the Public..** Our new Chairpersons are Tina Chopin and Donna Atkinson. The next OTP is May 19th. Please call Tina and Donna if you can help.  
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UFO Contest

UFO's... Unfinished Objects!!
UFO #1 on your list is due at the May 6th meeting....and that will complete the first UFO contest.

At the May 6th meeting prizes will be drawn for those that have finished UFO #1, those that have participated in the UFO Contest and those that have finished all 6 UFO's.

Would you like to take part in the Un-Finished Objects Part 2 Contest? We are starting it up again. Bring your new list of 6 Unfinished Objects you are now ready to finish. Have a copy of your list ready for Alice. The rules will be the same as last time. Each month a number will be drawn, finish that numbered project on your list, bring it to the next meeting and you will be entered into the drawing of the day prize. We will continue this until all 6 UFO's are complete.

Look around the house, under the bed, in the closet and we are sure you will find those UFO's just waiting to be finished.

Notes from Diane.....

Spring is rolling in... We had a wonderful turn out for Carol Woolard and Chris Irby teaching of the Easter basket on March 4th. They were trying to make extra kits that day for those who had not signed up.

Remember if the teacher knows you are coming it makes it a lot easier or if you decided not to come it's important to let the teacher know.

April 1st: was our Show and Tell from NCBA conference. It was amazing the tricks and ideas that those attendees brought forth and the beautiful baskets! If you have never been to NCBA make a plan to do so in 2008.

April 21 Sat: Kim Voska will be teaching the **Cactus Basket**. This cute basket, that Peggy Williams did some re-design modification and because of Peggy leaving us, Kim has stepped in. Checks made out to TBG/\$20.00 money is due that day so if you want to attend please, please call Kim. Also if you signed up and can't come remember Kim has made this kit up for you. It will start at 9:00 am at the church hall.

May 6: meeting has changed a little. We have taken on a new project called Life Net. That day we will be cutting reed and making kits and actually make a small basket for this organization. So come be part of the party. Also the last UFO #1 is due.

June 3: meeting Alice Wyvill has gotten together a great red, white, and blue basket for the up coming holiday. Sign ups were started this last meeting. The base is very unique. Sign up for the **Patriotic Basket** with Alice

Updates: **July 13, 14, & 15:** Jim and Miss Jimmie Kent classes are full and paid for. In some cases I have a waiting list for some of the classes. Information on directions to the Coventry Club House will be coming out closer to the time frame.

August 17, 18, & 19: Gail Hutchinson classes are almost ready for sign up. Keep looking for it on the web site (mailed out to those without email) by the end of April. If you missed out on the other classes consider these as another opportunity to take from a great teacher. We will probably do this differently and just do regular sign ups.

March 2 to May 28th Native Hands, Native American Baskets display in Portsmouth. (the show has been extended until May 28th)
April 21 (Sat.) church, Cactus Basket Kim
May 6 meeting at 2:00 pm Life Net Basket
May 19 OTP south side at the church
June 3 Patriotic basket class with Alice

Janet and Marsha at the 2007 Gathering of the Guilds at the Francis Land House. What a great day they had and they talked to a lot of interested people. Thank you Janet and Marsha!



Guilders Weave Committee 08 - Where Are We

Our letters to the teachers requesting the submission of their baskets for GW 2008 are almost ready to put in the mail. We are revising the application form and trying to decide whether to use the US Postal Service or UPS for shipping the teachers' baskets back. This is a small item but essential information for estimating the shipping costs for the baskets. The GW 08 letters should be in the mail to the teachers no later than 27 April 2007. We are still taking recommendations regarding specific teachers and types of baskets. Send us an email.

We received an email last week from a member asking if it was too soon to reserve her room for Guilders Weave 2008. NO folks it is not too early to be making your reservations. The Point Plaza Suites and Conference Hotel has blocked our GW 08 rooms for January 17- 20, 2008 and has already booked several rooms. The rate for the standard room has remained the same- \$69.00. The rate for the suite has been reduced from \$119.00 to \$99.00. This is a bargain for those weavers who have no problem with a short outside walk and the "outside" doors. The suites open to the outside on both ends and have kitchenettes and a small living area with sofa and chairs. For all you early birds who want to make your reservations now, the phone number is 757-599-4460. Be sure to tell them you are reserving for Guilders Weave so you get the discounted rate. We will be keeping a list of people looking for roommates so let us know if you are in need of one.

Laura and Committee



TBG made a great showing at the NCBA Convention this year. We had lots of winners from the Exhibit Room. Congrats to all winners and those that submitted.

Sue won 2nd place for her Scottie Dog Stool.

Sue (left) won 3rd place for her coiled basket. Mary Jo won 1st place for her coiled project.



Sue took 3rd place for her necklace creation.



Judith won two 2nd place ribbons for her biased weave creations...in the Advanced category.



TBG Members Spotlight

Meet Mary Jo Baylor

Hometown? Salem, Virginia

How did I start weaving? I looked in the yellow pages for a craft shop that taught basketweaving classes, and I found the Decorative Arts Learning Center. I made my first baskets in classes I took there.

How long? I made my first basket on February 10, 1996. (It says so on the bottom!)

How did I find TBG? I was window shopping one day early in 1996 and saw a flyer for the Gathering of the Guilds. I was so excited to find out there was a basketry guild! I went to the Gathering, met a bunch of our wonderful members, and joined the Guild. (It wasn't TBG yet, though - it was still the Tidewater Chapter of High Country Basketry Guild.)



Here's Mary Jo at our Annual Pool Party, weaving very intently!!

Favorite type of weaving/basket? I particularly like to make small baskets or necklaces that incorporate threads or textiles. I was a needle worker long before I was a weaver, and I love the color and texture that threads and textiles bring to my weaving. Beads are fun, too!

What else do I do? Sing in the church choir. (I've been singing in either a school choir or church choir almost the whole time since I was 12 years old.) I'm a board member for Presbyterian Pilgrimage. I like to do things with my husband Robert. I like to read and take photographs, and I'm interested in genealogy. And I work as a computer programmer for Northrop Grumman at the Coast Guard Finance Center.

Guilds: TBG, NCBA

Best thing about weaving? The great friends I've made!

Perfect day off? Walking on a path by a mountain stream, through trees covered with beautiful fall foliage.

Something you would like us to know? It's been so exciting to watch the Guild grow and mature, and I feel privileged to serve on the Board!

"Mary Jo thank you for being our Historian and for all you do for TBG"

TBG Members Spotlight

Meet Donna Atkinson

Hometown, Columbia, South Carolina

How did I start weaving and How long: I started at Fort Monroe about 15 years ago and made a swing handle cat's head basket. I made 5 just alike for family, but due to availability of supplies and books that was it. When Tina moved next door we started weaving together, she taught me tons of stuff and we have been weaving every Thursday for about 3 years.

How did you find TBG: Tina brought me to TBG and I was hooked!!

Favorite type of weaving/basket? It's really hard to pick a favorite but it must be Nantucket's.

Guilds: I belong to TBG and NCBA.

What else do I do? I also enjoy jewelry making, scrap booking, sewing, gardening and reading. I volunteer for Meals on Wheels once a week and my husband and I were asked to join the Beautification Committee for Hampton Yards are Distinctive Places which I know I will love.

Best thing about weaving? learning, being creative and weaving with friends.

Perfect day off: Sitting in the sun weaving and planting flowers.

Something you would like us to know? I have a wonderful husband Carl, my children Charlie and Beth and my daughter in law Angie.

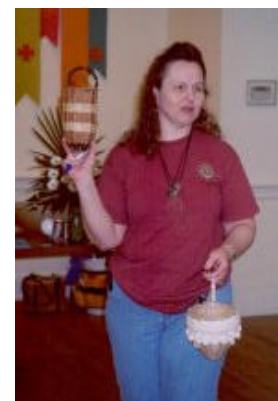
"Thank you Donna for all your help with GW and being a member of TBG"



Donna at Guilders Weave.

NCBA 2007 Show and Tell

Sherral, Tina and Linda tell us about all the fun they had and the beautiful baskets they made in North Carolina.



Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting April 1, 2007

President Jamie VanOekel called the meeting to order.

Marsha Broms and Janet Jackson gave a report on the Gathering of the Guilds at the Francis Land House on Saturday, March 31. They said it was a successful day and probably had around 50-60 people come through the area. They were happy to report they have 12-14 sign ups for OTP or were interested in receiving information. Also they welcomed visitors Carol, Alice, and Virginia.

Jamie also thanked Marsha and Janet for our refreshments today.

We also welcomed Alice Wyvill's co-worker Vernell as a visitor today.

Jamie gave information on an upcoming demo event to be held at St. Pius Church on May 10 from 6-8pm. It will be doing demo to children. Contact Joanna, which Jamie has info.

Jamie gave another thank you to Carol Woolard and Chris Irby for teaching the adorable Easter basket at our last meeting. Also they would be available today to help anyone who still needed to finish their basket or for any questions.

We had another report that Billie Dorris, Carol Ann Blair, and Jamie had done the demo at the Courthouse Galleries. Cindy Stanton said she had been to see the exhibit and it was great. She purchased a basket in the gift shop from a local artisan and passed it around for everyone to see.

Today was the last chance to sign up for the Cactus basket being taught April 21 by Kim Voska. Money for the class due by that date.

We were happy to see Carol and Dick Moff today. Check with Carol about a name tag if you ordered one or wish to do so.

Spring Craft Market still is in need of some volunteers. The dates are April 13-14-15. Sign up today.

Thank you again to Tina Chopin and Donna Atkinson in advance for the OTP program. The next OTP will be here May 19.

Alice Wyvill will be teaching the Patriotic Basket at the June meeting. There is a sign up sheet today.

Alice Wyvill called out the names for those participating in our monthly UFO. Today Carol Vanderzee was our winner. Number 1 will be due at our May meeting. Everyone enjoyed this so much we decided to start our UFO's over and we all agreed to bring a new list to the May meeting.

The May meeting will be a kit cutting class for Lifenet and weaving. Jamie gave a brief overview of Lifenet. Billie reported we have acquired a new tool for cutting a whole bundle of reed and it will come in handy for cutting kits.

Jamie gave information on the International Children's Festival to be held in Hampton April 28 from 10-5. It would be a great opportunity to weave and demo. Let her know if interested.

Diane Short gave an updated report on the Kent classes. All classes are filled. Money is due and she will be requesting it from you if you owe. Diane also reported Gail Hutchinson classes are being finalized and be posted on our web site soon. We are still finalizing the location.

Cindy Stanton and Billie Dorris gave a report that they had been to Atlantic Shores Christian School and gave a history on baskets to the students. The students had done some coiling recently and Cindy and Billie said the students had done a good job.

Now it was time for show and tell from NCBA!!!

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Courthouse Gallery Event
Jamie, Carol Ann, Judith, Alice and Ella Mae came out to support the guild. Other members we there, just not present in the photo.



Two Views as NCBA First Timers

My sister (from Pennsylvania) and I attended NCBA for the first time this year and what an awesome event that was! Awesome in both size, and in spending a long weekend doing nothing but weaving.

On our first day there we were greeted by my dear friend Mary Jo, who brought us flowers from her garden and a basket of welcome gifts. That sure made us feel special! Then we headed out to weave, weave, weave, and spend money.

Although I had been forewarned, I still wasn't prepared for how much was going on all of the time and how many people would be walking around with name tags and green tote bags. We must have taken over the entire hotel!

Our classes were great and it was fun seeing what other classes were making. As we left on Sunday we were already making mental notes of what types of classes we want to take next year. Chris Bruce

As a "first timer" to the NCBA convention I will declare as others who have gone before me have declared, it is "overwhelming" in every respect. The theme of this years convention was weaving friendships. How apropos since you spend several hours in class together and have the opportunity to make new friends while weaving. It truly is a celebration of weaving. Be it sweet grass, reed, cane, ferns or willow, if it's there it will be woven into something wonderful by someone.

What impressed me most was the incredible camaraderie amongst the several hundred men and women from all over the United States gathered with one focus and from all walks of life united by the sheer love of weaving. The talent and creativity was absolutely awe inspiring.

The number of vendors and their supplies were astounding. A "first timer" really needs a "tour guide" through the vendor maze or you can wander bewildered for some time. The teachers I had class with were fabulous. They were helpful, knowledgeable and patient!

Whether you have the opportunity to attend next year's NCBA convention for several days or just a few, it is worthwhile. Think of it as a mini vacation with lots of friends to weave with, renewing old bonds or establishing new ones. Thus, weaving friendships. Doreen Smith

NCBA 2007

This is only part of the TBG members that attended this years Weaving Friendships NCBA Convention.

We had many winners from the Exhibit Room and many raffle winners.

TBG was well represented with approximately 32 members present! Wow what a fun time we all had.

