



BASKETRY GUILD

TIDINGS

Volume 7, Issue 01

January/February 2006

From the President's Pen...

Greetings Fellow Basketweavers,

What a great start to our new year! Guilders Weave 06 was full of fun, new experiences and new faces. Huge THANK YOU's go to Tina and Donna and their cast of organizers. Every detail from the Welcome Bags to the boxed lunches was taken care of. We appreciate the time, thought and energy you put forth for TBG's big weekend. Remember that February 5th is our Show and Tell meeting. Bring your baskets and opinions – especially if you were a “first timer”. Fresh eyes give us a new view that may make GW07 even better!

Towards the end of Guilders Weave, a member of a visiting guild asked me how we had managed to get so many young and energetic people to join our guild. The answer boils down to three reasons. We first have Alice Wyvill to thank for structuring our volunteer program to include as many people as possible in many different capacities. Most folks are willing to help but need to know “the plan”. Alice set up a plan for each meeting and gave guidelines and ideas to make things easy. Everyone who has volunteered has added his/her own personality to the basic plan. Kim Voska has carried on as the Volunteer Coordinator and will be happy to sign you up to help!

The very close second reason we have such a great membership is our constantly updated website. Cindy Stanton told us how great it would be and we believed her. She designed the original and we refuse to let her go! Her reminders nudge us into action when we forget or drag our feet. The website

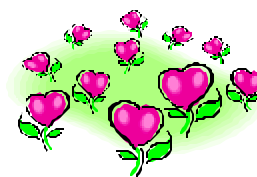
lets visitors “try” us out before they walk in the door. Curiosity can be a great motivator.

The third reason rests with each member of our guild and the smile you give a person who asks about your basket at home or on your desk at work. Your enthusiasm draws friends or co-workers in to try their hand at weaving. Weaving with friends is a powerful thing!!

Thank you all for your participation.
Weave with a smile! Jamie

Thank you to our retiring Membership Chairperson, Jennifer Gramza. She has seen a big change in our numbers since she started four years ago. Unfortunately we will also lose her to an undetermined Georgia guild. She and her family are heading south this summer. She will turn over the upkeep of the roster to Sherral Nelson. Many thanks to both ladies for taking care of that vital aspect of TBG.

2006 Membership Dues...Have you paid your dues? If not please mail them in today!



Happy
Valentines
Day

New Official TBG Address:
Tidewater Basketry Guild
P. O. Box is 55133
Norfolk, Virginia 23505

Notes from Cathy.....

Does anybody have sore fingers? Getting ready for Christmas presents, the GW basket swap and then of course all those terrific basket classes!!

The Christmas party was a delightfully delicious event with decadent dishes and fabulous fellowship! Don't forget to submit those incredible recipes for the TBG Chef's Page! Out of 28 attendees at the party, 28 went home with a great gift swap!and fun was had by all!!!

February is a busy month. BRING THOSE SHOW AND TELLS to the meeting on the 5th ! We are all anxious to get a gander at what we *could not fit* into our GW schedules! There will be sign-ups for Gathering of the Guilds on March 25th - make sure to see Peggy and get your name in to help! On February 25th is our French Randing class and open weave. This is sure to be very informative especially since we are fresh from classes ourselves! Don't you always feel smarter and inspired just after a GW?

In addition to Gathering of the Guilds, March also holds for us sign-ups for the ever-popular and much anticipated Virginia Beach Spring Craft Market (May 12th through 14th)! Make sure to get your name on the list before all the volunteer spots are gone! Free entry and parking! What a deal! See Cathy Gray if you have any questions. At the March 5th meeting, we'll do an Easter-themed basket! Then, the 16th through the 19th, many of our members will be traveling to NCBA. Have a wonderful time! We can't wait to see your masterpieces when you return!

The Cass Schorsch Class, scheduled for May 6th and 7th, still has a few openings. It will be offered to other guilds so get your name and money to Laura White ASAP!

See you on February 5th! Cathy

Calendar Notes...

February 5, 2006 Meeting 2:00 pm, GW Show and Tell

February 25, 2006 Class and Open Weave French Randing and Twill, or finish up your unfinished baskets, Guilders Weave or another basket sitting around the house.

March 5, 2006 Meeting at 2:00 Small Easter theme basket

March 16-19, 2006 North Carolina Basket Association Convention

March 25, 2006 Gathering of the Guilds at the Francis Land House

April 2, 2006 Meeting at 2:00 NCBA Show and Tell

GW06 – A Novice's Perception

I attended my first Guilder's Weave this year. It was a wonderful event and far exceeded my expectations. The event was well organized and everything seemed to flow like clockwork.

I have made several baskets over the last few years but still consider myself a novice. I was a bit concerned when I chose my classes and sent in my registration. I was worried that I was "in over my head" though I was careful to choose mostly "beginner" classes. My fear was that I wouldn't be able to keep up with the class.

I attended Guilder's Weave telling myself not to be upset if I didn't finish my baskets....just to relax and enjoy the event. Well, you can imagine my joy and surprise when on Thursday night I finished my first basket in class. That got my weekend started off on a very positive note and bolstered my confidence. I took four classes and finished three of them there. I was so excited about that and loved every minute of my weekend.

It was great meeting new people and making new friends. The hospitality suite was a wonderful relaxing environment. I loved the raffle, the basket swap and the overall atmosphere of GW. Guilder's Weave was a very positive experience for me and I can't wait to pick and choose classes for next year.

Thanks for all the hard work done behind the scenes by the countless volunteers to make GW possible. It was a wonderful example of teamwork.

See you at GW 07!!! Janet Jackson

Guilders Weave 2006

Donna and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the wonderful job you did on Guilders Weave 06. The GW Committee was awesome! Cindy Stanton was chairman of basket jurying - it is a hard task trying to pick and choose among a room full of gorgeous baskets - and she did the website, all the signs and posters, and was always available to do anything we needed. Kim Voska designed an adorable basket and put together 150 kits. She is probably still vacuuming reed fuzz out of her carpet. Andrea Margrave finally has her dining room back. It was a storeroom for all those wonderful door prizes we got at GW. Carol Moff and Glen Bowie gathered together food, drinks, and made a little home for us to go to when we needed a break. Carol Vanderzee helped her daughter, Kim, and took charge of the basket swap. At least one person wanted to buy some of the baskets on the table. Alice Wyvill was a mentor as well as chairman of Market Place. It was wonderful knowing that good advice was only a phone call away. Peggy Williams spent hours trying to find what we all wanted in the way of memorabilia. She still has things to sell so go see her for some bargains! Jamie VanOekel chaired a very successful raffle, which will help hold down next years costs, and she helped Cindy with the jurying. Her grandmother's basket story was a wonderful inspiration! Sherral Nelson, Judith Saunders, and Ella Mae King made sure we all got nametags, booklets, welcome bags, and helped those of us who couldn't remember what we signed up for, find our classes. Dianne Short coordinated the vendors. Her efforts brought us basket supplies and massages and lots of laughs at the banquet! Cathy Gray and Sherry Matthews presented everyone with a wow welcome bag. We are still finding treasures. Our personal favorite is the pattern holder!

The Committee worked hard and did a wonderful job. But they would not have been nearly as successful if it wasn't for the rest of you. Thank you for serving on committees, cutting reed, bringing door prizes, making baskets for the swap, baking or buying for the hospitality suite, donating to the raffle, donating to the welcome bags, stuffing the welcome bags, writing all the notes of encouragement.

Guilders Weave is a success because of all of you.

Thank you!!! Tina and Donna

GW 2006

**There were so many TBG members
there we couldn't fit them all into
one picture!!**



Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting January 8, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President, Jamie Van Oekel. She wished everyone a Happy New Year. Thanks were extended to Billie Dorris for again hosting the Christmas Party. Thirty members in attendance was a record for this event. Kim Voska and Diane Short were recognized for the wonderful refreshments at today's meeting. Two guests were introduced and welcomed; Tina Chopin's mother, Virginia West, and Shannon Lovvorn's friend, Hope Kazarian.

Tina Chopin reported everything was going good for GW '06. She gave directions to the hotel in Newport News.

Carol and Dick Moff are again chairing the hospitality room. Carol asked for any food donations to be brought to the room at the top of the stairs off the hotel lobby. She asked for a volunteer to be in the room before she and Dick will be able to arrive at around 3:00.

Diane Short has made arrangements for a different massage therapist since Harry was unable to provide the proper licenses to release TBG from any liability.

Andrea Margrave asked that tags be filled out with any donation for a door prize. If the donor doesn't want to give their name, the word "anonymous" can be printed.

Laura White reminded everyone that this is the last meeting to sign up and pay for Cass Schorsch's classes that will be held in May. After today, other guilds will be invited to register. There are also photos and interest sign up sheets for three baskets to be taught by Ann Bowers sometime in July.

Peggy Williams showed cards that are available to send to guild members (signed by those in attendance at a meeting) for sympathy, thank you and thinking of you. Anyone knowing of a need for sending a card should contact a board member.

Jennifer Gramza announced that she would be moving to Georgia in July. Sherral Nelson will be taking over as Membership Chairperson. Membership dues are past due at this time. The charge is \$20/year.

Joyce Smith began her explanation of how to resize basket patterns. She showed examples of the same basket woven with the same number of stakes but using varying widths. By cutting the size of the reed in half, the result is a basket a quarter of the size ...not half. She said there is a simple math calculation to figure how to adjust the finished size basket. She will come to another meeting and talk about this in depth when we aren't so busy getting ready for GW '06.

The meeting was adjourned to begin assembling welcome bags for GW '06.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Williams
Secretary

**GW 06
GW Chairperson
Tina Chopin ex-
presses wonder at
the beautiful
Shaker Box made
by our own Dick
Moff.**



GW 06

TBG Pres. Jamie
Van Oekel shares
a wonderful
weaving story
at the
Saturday night
Banquet.



TBG Members Spotlight

Meet President Jamie VanOekel

Hometown: Baldwin, Mississippi

How did I start weaving? Curiosity...A friend and I kind of invited ourselves to the home of a lady in the neighborhood to try basketweaving. She held a class once a month or so and I went to each one before we moved.

How long? That was 11 years ago.

How did you find TBG? I had heard that there was a guild, but it wasn't until I met Meredith Macdonald at a Gathering of the Guilds that I felt that I should give it a try. The first meeting I came to was attended by Alice, Meredith and Ella Mae and me. They were cutting OTP kits and I was quickly put to work!

Favorite type of weaving/basket? I'm not picky. I do love working with ash and the Shaker style. I like twills and catheads and tend to try to make baskets that are functional.

What else do I do? Reading is a must and I love a good walk, especially if there is a beach involved. I work full time and am a proud soccer and crew mom. I just started guitar lessons - we'll see how that goes... Thankfully, my teacher is very patient.

Guilds: TGB and NCBA.

Best thing about weaving? The people you meet, the relaxation and creativity outlet that it provides.

Perfect day off? Any day that I don't have to wear my watch.

Something you would like us to know? Laughter, chocolate, warm bread with butter, a good wine, dogs and cats are all staples in my life. My house is always comfortably mused! '



Jamie selling raffle tickets at GW 06

"Jamie Thank you for all you do for TBG!!!"

TBG Calendar for 2006

**Volunteers will be added and changes may be made,
we will update you through the newsletter.**

January

8th Meeting at 2:00 Vols: Kim Voska , Diane Short
Resizing Your Basket Pattern
Complete GW 2006 projects – kit cutting, etc
Refreshments
12th – 15th Guilders Weave 2006

February

5th Meeting at 2:00 Vols: Linda Lindner, Cindy Stanton
Guilders Weave Show and Tell
Sign up for Gathering of the Guilds March 25
Refreshments
25th Class and Open Weave
French Randing and Twill, or finish up your unfinished baskets, Guilders Weave or
another basket sitting around the house.

March

5th Meeting at 2:00
Small Easter theme basket using glued on plastic mold
Sign up for Virginia Beach Craft Market
Sign up for Gathering of the Guilds March 25
16th – 19th NCBA
25th Gathering of the Guilds – Peggy Williams

April

2nd Meeting at 2:00
NCBA Show and Tell
Sign up for OTP May 20th (\$25.00)
Sign up for Americana Basket (June 4th meeting)
Sign up for Anne Bowers class in July 21-22
Smithsonian Craft Show
Refreshments

May

7th NO meeting
5th-6th – 7th Cass Schorsch classes
12th-14th Virginia Beach Craft Market at Pavilion (updated)
13th meeting and picnic, cut OTP kits
Sign up for OTP
Sign up for Americana Basket
Sign up for Anne Bowers classes July 15
20th OTP 9:00 to 4:00 \$25.00

June

- 4th Meeting at 2:00
 - Americana Basket (\$10.00)
 - Accepting nominations for Vice President and Treasurer
 - Last signup for Anne Bowers Class Money due for July 21-22
- 24th Open weave/time TBD

July

- 2nd NO meeting
- 21/22 Anne Bowers

August

- 6th NO meeting
- 5th Pool Party/pot luck at Billie Dorris'.
 - Weaving class by Cathy Cupp
 - Open weave
 - Volunteer drawing
 - Sign up for OTP October 14th \$25.00
 - Sign up for Newport News Fall Festival Sept 30 – Oct 1
 - Present slate of candidates for Vice President and Treasurer
- 18th, 19th, 20th TBG teaching classes at Simonsdale Civic Center

September

- 10th Meeting at 2:00
 - Show and Tell from weaving weekend at Simonsdale
 - Election of officers – Vice President and Treasurer
 - Class – Onion basket
 - Sign up for October 14th OTP
 - Sign up for Christmas weaving project Nov ?
- 23rd Undecided class more info to come.

October

- 1st NO meeting
- 1st Williamsburg Occasion for the Arts
- 7th-8th Newport News Fall Festival (updated)**
- 14th OTP
- 22nd LUMC Fall Bazaar

November

- 5th Chesapeake Heritage Arts Festival
- 12th General Meeting 2pm Christmas weaving project

December

- 3rd Holiday Party