



BASKETRY GUILD

From the President's Pen...

Greetings Fellow Weavers,

It has been an exciting and busy May for both me and the Guild. The food and the fellowship of the Dye Workshop were wonderful but, I surely wish the Weather Fairy would be a little more considerate of our social efforts. After three attempts at good weather, we will probably shift the Dye Workshop/Luncheon to June on our 2004 Calendar. My thanks to Meredith Macdonald for her Technique Sampler wrapup sessions and to Cindy and Rhonda for the three hours they devoted to preparation of OTP kits. A note of appreciation goes to our hard working OTP team. Classes were taught by Rhonda Jones, Cindy Stanton and Linda Lindner with assistance from Carol Vanderzee, Kim Voska and Ella Mae King.

Our Volunteer program continues to be a complete success as demonstrated by the efforts of Ana Haley at the June Meeting. The jelly jar baskets taught by Alice Wyvill with Ana's assistance were a big hit with the fifteen students in the classes.

Remember we have Mary Norman's broom class scheduled for the 21st of June. There are still a couple of seats available. If you are interested, contact Ella Mae King at (757) 599-6338. We currently have sign-up for Brenda McCall's Decorative Plate Class for 13 September (call Susan Holland) and for the Handle Wrap Seminar on 7 September (Tina Chopin).

There is no meeting scheduled for July. The August meeting will be the Pool Party at Billie Dorris' house on the 9th of August from 10:00 to 4:00.

My vacation trip to New England was fantastic

TIDINGS

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even with a constant shower of rain. Inspired by the presentations of Joyce Smith and Dick Moff, we spent part of two days touring the Canterbury Shaker Village in New Hampshire. Bob and I took several tours and visited with the shaker box maker and the broom maker as they created their shaker treasures. I escaped with only buying two shaker items and one colonial box from Frye's Measure Mill. According to the brochures, the shakers passed the art of the shaker boxes down to the owner of this mill in order to keep the art alive. The mill was an interesting stop with shaker and colonial boxes for every possible purpose. We stopped in Bar Harbor and visited the Abbe Museum. This museum is devoted to preserving the Maine native culture and houses a 400+ collection of native Maine baskets that actually rivals the collection of Billie Dorris. The variety of decorative curls on baskets originated with native Maine basketmakers. All three stops were truly worthwhile and are highly recommended if you find yourself in that absolutely beautiful part of the country.

See you at the Pool Party....**Laura**

*A Warm Welcome to our
New Members*

Bonnie Bisby
Jean Merriel Blount
Diane Estes
Bonnie Kuhr
Joan Owen
Mary Richards
Glenna Skinner
Dianne Slifer
Peggy Williams
Linda Woodard



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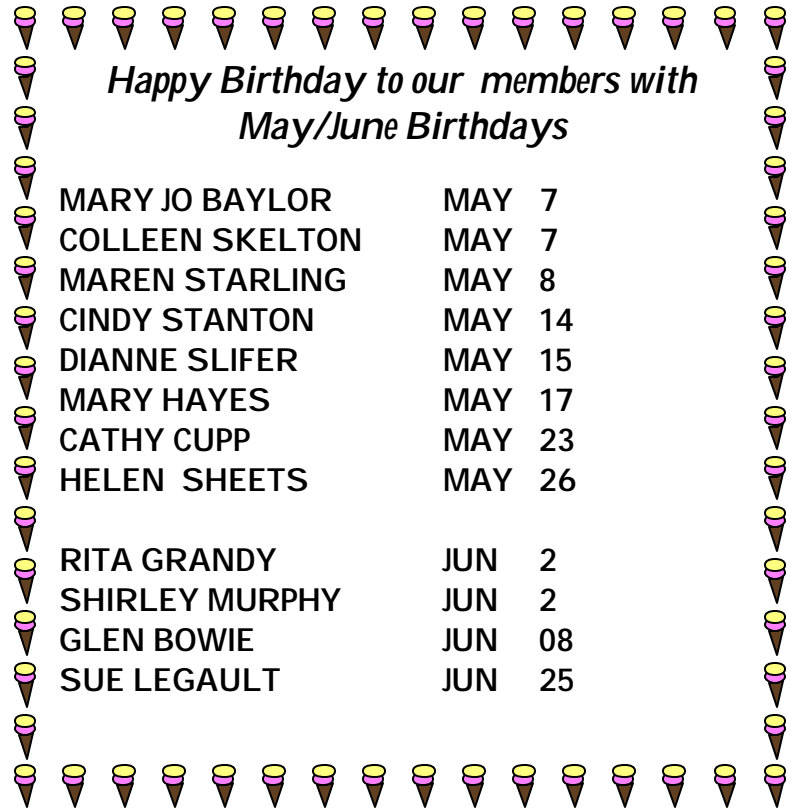
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*Happy Birthday to our members with
May/June Birthdays*

MARY JO BAYLOR	MAY 7
COLLEEN SKELTON	MAY 7
MAREN STARLING	MAY 8
CINDY STANTON	MAY 14
DIANNE SLIFER	MAY 15
MARY HAYES	MAY 17
CATHY CUPP	MAY 23
HELEN SHEETS	MAY 26
RITA GRANDY	JUN 2
SHIRLEY MURPHY	JUN 2
GLEN BOWIE	JUN 08
SUE LEGAULT	JUN 25

TBG Marketplace

Trivet/tiles with the TBG logo \$10

GW water bottles \$12

Scissor Sheaths \$3

We will be putting together a t-shirt order soon, be on the look out for the information.

If you are interested in purchasing anything, contact Janis Wetzel.

* NCBA...

* **Have you renewed your NCBA**

* **Membership? If not, you need to this**

* **month, don't wait. You can go to**

* **their website, print off the application**

* **and renew your membership. Any**

* **new members, think about becoming**

* **a member of NCBA, we had a great**

* **time at the convention this year, so**

* **think about it!**

* <http://www.ncbasketmakers.com>

News 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 w ho do not have a computer, any members you need to contact, please look up phones numbers in your Members Roster in your Tidew ater Basketry Guild Notebook, we will not publish them in the newsletter in the future.

Thanks, Cindy Stanton

Notes from Linda...

June 21– 9:00 am Mary Normand’s Broom Class and Open Weave, just come out and weave with us!

July– No meeting

August 9th –Pool Party at Billie Dorris’ home. 10-4

September 7th- Meeting at 2:00pm/ Handle Wrap class

September 13th– Brenda McCall’s Decorative Plate Class and Open Weave, Sign up today!

October 4th-5th-Newport News Fall Festival

October 5th-No meeting.

October 18th-Open To The Public Class

Is there something you would like taught during next year? A teacher, a basket, a technique, please let me know, we will be making up the 2004 calendar very soon, so put in your order now!

Vicepresident@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Please remember to check the website for a complete list of upcoming events.

<http://www.tidewaterbasketryguild.org>

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▪ **Mary Normand’s Broom Class, June 21**

▪ If you want to have fun and make a broom that's ornamental as well as useful,

▪ there are three openings in Mary's class.

▪ Saturday, June 21st

▪ 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (or 'til broom is finished)

▪ Larchmont Methodist Church, Norfolk

▪ Make **check** for **\$30** to **"TBG"**

▪ Mail to **Ella Mae King**

▪ **131 Edmond Drive**

▪ **Newport News, VA 23606.**

▪ Call 599-6338 if you have any questions.

▪ Tools: kitchen knife

▪ scissors (not your cloth scissors) or grass shears

▪ If these are not readily available at home, not to worry; Mary will have extras.

▪ Do bring an old towel or pillow case.

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Nominations for the Offices of President and Secretary

We are currently taking nominations for the offices of President and Secretary. Laura White has agreed to run again for the office of President and Jamie Van Oekel has agreed to run again for the office of Secretary. Anyone interested in running for either position should contact Ana Haley to have your name on the ballot.

The slate of nominations will be presented at the August Pool Party and the elections will be held at the September 7th meeting. Please plan to be at the both the Pool Party and the Sept. meeting.

August 9th, Pool Party at Billie's

As most of you know, our own Billie Dorris will again host our annual Pool Party, this year on August 9th from 10 am until 4 pm.. Bring your UFO (see below), a great potluck to share, your bathing suit, lawn chair and come on out to have some fun. This event always proves to be tons of fun. Eating, weaving, chatting and more eating, what more could you want??? And if you are lucky you will get a sniff from Sally and Charlie!! (Billie's dogs) Directions to Billie's is on the website under the members only page. If you do not have access to the website the directions will be included in this newsletter.

UFO Challenge for the August 9th Pool Party....

Seen any **UFO's** around your house lately? No, I don't mean the vehicles that provide transportation for extraterrestrials. I'm talking about **UnFinished Objects**. You know, those projects you started and never finished? Or the kits you bought and haven't gotten around to yet? Fueled by enthusiasm rekindled by attending the NCBA convention, I finally finished a coiled waxed linen basket I started at a Guild meeting June 7, 1998! And it felt great!

Last year, we had a "variations on a theme" challenge in the summertime, with a showing at the August picnic. This summer, let's have a **UFO challenge** and show off our **FF! (Finally Finished!)** projects at the picnic! MaryJo

Note from Special Events Coordinator...

It has been a busy time for special events. The pavilion spring show, OTP and Smithfield all within a month of each other. Big thanks to Jerry and Billie for chairing the pavilion show and to all the volunteers who came out and wove and talked to the visitors to our booth (and patiently explaining that the baskets weren't for sale) . I heard several comments on how our booth was the best one at the show!

The spring OTP had a couple of small problems but was, as always, a great success. Thanks to Linda and Cindy for teaching the market and for Kim, Carol and Ella Mae for helping. Cindy didn't know she was teaching until 9:30 the night before when Mary contacted me to let me know she had just gotten out of the hospital (hope you're feeling better Mary). Six or so of the students filled out membership applications that day and have now joined the guild.

Linda, Cindy, Alice and I spent a rather damp day at the Smithfield Olden Days demonstrating our craft and once again explaining that we weren't selling baskets. The guild's new tent was very helpful in keeping us dry and free of bird droppings. The biggest disappointment of the day was that no one was selling corn on the cob! Thanks for all your help!! Rhonda

Guilders Weave 2004— January 16-18, 2004

The time is starting to get closer and closer, I keep looking at my calendar and we are just ticking the days off 'til we are weaving again at Guilders Weave!!

Updates..

Hotel..The Point Plaza Suites and Conference Center is the hotel for the event again this year. They have been so great to us in the past, so here we go again. Make your reservations today and remember to tell them you want the Guilders Weave rate.

Teacher letters... went out in April. The deadline for submission is June 26th.

Brochure..we are in the process of updating the brochure and after the baskets are juried, we will have the brochure on the website. If you need to order a brochure, please send a \$5.00 check payable to TBG to me and I will get one in the mail to you.

Volunteers..Many volunteers are needed for this event, if you are interested please contact me or Laura White and we will find the perfect spot for you.

I think that brings you up to date, remember to keep checking the website as we will post information as it is available. Feel free to call myself or Laura White if you have any questions or comments.

Until next time,
Cindy Stanton
GW Chair 2004

FYI: About Guilders Weave ...History and more.....

About the Event: In its early days, Tidewater Basketry Guild was a branch of High Country Basketry Guild. Members from here and from Northern Virginia decided to get together for weaving and instruction. Members of the guild would teach classes. Everyone would bring a dish to share, etc. MLK weekend was chosen because that left a day to travel and recuperate from having all the fun we could stand. Our little “come-on-down-to-weave-with-us-and-bring-some-snacks” was first called Winter Weave. That event was held for about 6 years while slowly growing into more members wanting more classes for more days, and even more guilds participating... So, TBG decided to try to offer Winter Weave for the first time in a hotel where food and many classrooms were readily available and conveniently located all in one facility. Deep into the planning stages for Winter Weave 2002 Wildwood Basketry Guild in Ohio informed us that we couldn't use the name Winter Weave – they had it copyrighted! Thus, GUILDERS WEAVE was born. New event, new name, all guilders – perfect fit.

About Selecting Classes for GW: Once the call for teachers has been issued, those interested in teaching at our event send us their baskets and class proposal information. You may have wondered how we select the teachers and come up with the class offerings.

First, selection criteria must be set. Criteria may include quality of construction, quality of materials, type of construction, price, hours required, “curb appeal” etc., ad infinitum. (What the heck is “curb appeal”, I hear you wondering. Just ask yourself if you like the basket. Or, will others like it? If nobody likes it, nobody will sign up for it, no matter what skills it teaches...)

Look at each of the baskets that have been sent as class proposals with the selection criteria in mind. Work with as many or as few criteria as needed to make selections commensurate with producing the level of event desired.

Once you have finished selecting those that meet your criteria, all these proposals must be juggled with other considerations. For example, you have to go back and ensure that each teacher has enough offerings to make it lucrative for her to come teach, you have to make sure that there are enough classes for each skill level - beginners, intermediate, and advanced weavers – to have several choices each, you have to make sure that there are enough different constructions being offered for choices, and ditto with differing materials. You have to make sure costs are appropriate to the basket being offered, you must make sure that time frames on all classes mesh (4 hrs, 6 hrs, 8 etc.), you must make sure that the quality of basket and quality of instructor is what you want to offer, etc.

Once you've got your class offerings set, these offerings must then be arranged in a daily schedule, making sure to fill the day and that all classes mesh appropriately. You must also see that each skill level has appropriate choices and an appealing variety of choices available for that day. This is done for each day of the event.

Maybe it's all not as simple as you thought?

More thoughts next time... Sam Winters, GW Chair 2002, 2003