



BASKETRY GUILD

TIDINGS

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May/June 2006

From the President's Pen...

Greetings Fellow Basketweavers,

“THANK YOU” is the theme this month!!! So many of our TBG weavers have given of their time and talents to make May a really successful month for our guild. Our volunteers make all our events not just work, but work well!

The first “thank you” goes to Billie Dorris for opening her home (and the beautiful new kitchen!) to us all while Cass Schorsch was in town. Those who were able to take a “Cass class” really had a treat! Thank you to everyone who brought food for the lunches. TBG potlucks are always great!

Many thanks to our Pavilion weekend volunteers. The Pavilion Craft show was held on an awkward weekend this year, plus we had to learn the new rules of unloading and signing in at the new facility. Jerry, Sherral and I only experienced about 30 minutes of acute frustration and only one confrontation with the front door guard during the process. But, we had the cutest Kellam High School helper complete with a great flat bed cart and a smile who wheeled us right in. We learned from the experience and, by golly, we have a better plan for next year! Our wonderful weekend weavers had lots of interest in our booth and the weaving demonstration. Thank you also to those members who loaned their baskets for the display. We had many different techniques represented.

Then there's Sherry Matthews and our May OTP. Thank you to Sherry and her band of merry teachers - Peggy, Kim and Cathy - for sharing our craft with beginners. Those who actually come to an OTP are really interested in trying their hand at weaving. They may or may not know anyone

already a member of TBG so our contact with them during the class is so important.

After our June meeting, we will slow down a bit until the August Weave. June 24 is Open Weave. Open Weave is a perfect opportunity to set aside some time and finish a basket or two. (I have three that are just waiting for a rim.) Or, pick a kit from your collection (I know you have a collection...It's on a special shelf in a closet.... Yep, that's the one...). We will have our Larchmont room from 9-1 so let the weeds grow and the dust settle and come by for a while and weave.

Anne Bowers visits in July and then we look forward to our August Pool Party at Billie's. Remember to get those August Weave class selection forms in to me by June 10!!!

Weave with a smile!

Jamie

Farewell ...

We are sorry to say that our resident Shaker expert and mental math extraordinaire will be moving away at the end of June. Joyce Smith is a founding member of TBG and has shared her talent and love of weaving with panache. Thank you, Joyce, for your willingness to share not only the techniques, but also the background and history of the people who left such a legacy. We wish you all the best as you settle into your new home and hope that we continue to have many opportunities to visit with you.



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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

Visiting teacher Cass Schorsch came and taught in May. What a wonderful time we all had. Thank you



Cass and Sherry work on the Cedar Swirl Basket.



Cass helps everyone...

Website update....

The Members Only page is back up and running. If you do not have the updated user name and password, email the webmaster.

Thank you for your patience while the website was updated.

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

Notes from Cathy.....

Happy Almost Summer Everyone!

May's OTP was a success with 10 students! Thank you so much, Sherry for organizing a great event! TBG grew by one new member and two visitors from the class and we are excited to have them with us!

On June 24th there will be an open weave from 9 am to 1 pm at Larchmont. Let's get some unfinished baskets done! We all have a few laying around, right? It's a great opportunity to relax and let the grass grow, as a very wise President once said!!

Anne Bowers is coming July 7th and 8th!! Please contact Cathy Gray, thegraymatter@cox.net, with any questions about the classes. Anne is a wonderful teacher and we are pleased to have her with us!

There will be no meeting in August because we will all be at Billie's for the POOL PARTY on the 5th! Bring something yummy to share and don't forget your tools to weave a basket with Cathy Cupp! Details will follow on the website about which basket she will delight us with! It's an exciting day, swimming, food, weaving, prizes, and fellowship! Can't wait to see you there!

See you soon!
Cathy Gray

Happy 4th of July

Calendar Notes...

June 24, 2006 Open Weave 9-1 at the Church-Come out and finish your UFO's!

July 2006 No Meeting

July 7-8, 2006 Anne Bowers Class at the Church class starts at 9:00am

August 5, 2006 Annual Pool Party at Billie's House, Cathy Cupp is our visiting teacher that day, more information on signing up for her class to come.

August 18-20, 2006 First Annual "August Weave" at the Simonsdale Civic Center in Portsmouth



Guilders Weave 2007

It's Jury Time!!! We are getting ready to jury baskets for GW 07, how exciting it will be to see all those wonderful baskets. How will we ever choose???? Thank you to our Jury Committee for all their hard work and keen eye for the perfect baskets.

Remember we are still looking for tons of volunteers for this event. We cannot pull this off without your help. So remember if you are interested in being a part of making GW07 "happen" let us know!

Tina, Laura, and Donna



Dawn's 1st NCBA Convention, she shows off just one of the many baskets she made that weekend. (left)



Sherry shows off a beautiful creation from her 16th NCBA Convention! Yes, 16th. Wow that's a lot of baskets Sherry! (right)



2006 May OTP Class, Peggy helps Marsha with her beautiful round basket.



Peggy watches Terry, Kay and Tamara weave their first Market Basket.

Tidewater Basketry Guild General Meeting June 3, 2006 @ 2:00pm

Over the sounds of sanding basket handles, President Jamie VanOekel called the meeting to order. She introduced our two newest members Jan White and Kay Alexander and welcomed our visitors Alice Guthrie and Linda Atkinson.

Sherry Matthews thanked those who helped at the June OTP. There were six students who made the market basket and four who completed the round basket. Two kits were sold.

Jerry Bernstein won the drawing for the basket woven at the Pavilion Craft Show. Volunteering at events is a great way to make new friends, help TBG and possibly be rewarded with a beautiful basket.

Cathy Gray announced that today is the last day to sign up for Anne Bowers Classes to be held July 7 and 8. There is room in the rib basket class (on the 7th) and the antler basket (on the 8th) is almost full.

On June 24 there will be an open weave at the church from 9:00 to 1:00. Bring all your unfinished basket projects, begin new ones or come for help. It will be a nice time for weaving and fellowship.

We need nominations for Vice President and Treasurer. Contact Jamie VanOekel or Cathy Gray if you are willing to run for one of these offices. This is a great opportunity to find out what goes on behind the scenes to keep our guild running smoothly. Please get involved to take the burden off those members who so willingly serve when asked to do so.

So far fourteen envelopes have been received for our first annual August Weave being held August 18, 19 and 20. Class selections are due by June 15th. Check our web site for information and photos of the basket classes being offered.

Cathy Cupp has accepted our invitation to teach at our yearly pool party being held at Billie Dorris's home on August 5th. More information about this will be posted later on our web site.

Joyce Smith, a founding member of TBG, was presented with a photo album/scrap book as a farewell gift. After years of serving and participating in the guild, she is moving to Tennessee.

The meeting was adjourned to begin weaving.

Alice Wyvill (with help from Ella Mae King) dyed and prepared kits for the Liberty Basket. Her teacher helpers were Cathy Gray, Jamie VanOekel and Ella Mae King.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peggy Williams
Secretary

TBG Members Spotlight

Meet Tina Chopin

Hometown: I was born in Los Angeles, California; grew up in Smyrna, Georgia; and now live in Hampton, Virginia

How did I start weaving? I wanted to weave for years and years but always had a shortage of time, money, and/or instruction. Finally while we were stationed at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona, I had a friend who had a houseful of beautiful baskets that she had woven. Several of us "bugged" her until she gave us lessons.

How long ago? About 12 or 13 years ago

How did you find TBG? Right after we moved back to Virginia Ted and I went to the Newport News Fall Festival. As we were walking down the road I spotted a tent filled with baskets and immediately went over. There I met Ella Mae King. How could anyone not join after talking to Ella Mae?

Favorite type of weaving/basket? Do I have to have a favorite? I like to try them all so I guess I would have to say it is whatever I am into at the time.

What else do I do? I paint, sew, and my daughter has started me on scrapbooking. I used to make quilts but my quilt time is now entirely devoted to baskets.

Guilds: Tidewater and North Carolina

Best thing about weaving? The wonderful people in our guild!!!! Conventions!!!!

Perfect day off? Ted and I take our boat to a secluded cove and drop anchor. I open my comfortable lounge chair next to my table, get out all my weaving supplies, and pour myself a glass of wine. For the next several hours I sit and weave and listen to the birds while the boat rocks gently on the water.

Something you would like us to know? I am a retired Army Spouse. Ted and I and our three girls spent 30 years traveling all over the US and Europe. It was a wonderful 30 years!



Tina (left) with Lyn Syler, at Guilders Weave 05

"Tina, Thank you for all you do for TBG!!!"