



BASKETRY GUILD

TIDINGS

Volume 4, Issue 06

Nov/Dec 2003

From the President's Pen...

Dear Guild Members,

It is time to gear up for the Christmas season and get your suitcases packed for Guilders Weave. Seriously, we only have five weeks until Christmas and eight weeks until Guilders Weave. There is so much to do in such a short period of time.

Mark your calendar for the Holiday Party at Billie's on the 7th of December. This is one of our most entertaining events throughout the year. Bring a dish and a "basket related" gift for the gift exchange. Directions to Billie's house can be located on the member's only page on the website.

November OTP was a great success due to the skillful coordination by Ella Mae King and Barbara Jessome and the very professional teaching skills of Lynn Ryan. Our thanks go to them for donating their time and skills.

For those of you who missed the ornament workshop at the November meeting, many heirloom ornaments were created. Actually, our members impressed everyone with the creativity displayed in the bells, snowmen and angels. We may have to do this again next year. I can envision a competition with awards for the most creative snowman, bell and angel.

If you have not told Cindy what volunteer work you would like to perform for Guilders Weave, give her a call and get on the volunteer list. Alice will be

calling soon to solicit volunteers for our monthly meetings and scheduled classes throughout the year. My thanks to the following members for volunteering to chair major guild events for 2004.

Gathering of the Guild	20-Mar	Barbara Jessome
Spring Show Pavilion	30 Apr -2 May	Jerry Bernstein
Dye Workshop	15-May	Laura White
Smithfield Olden Days	29-May	Sue Legault
Open to the Public Spring	26-Jun	Peggy Williams
Pool Party	7-Aug	Billie/Laura/Board
Occasion for the Arts	2-Oct	Alice Wyvill
Open to the Public Fall	16-Oct	Carol Ann Blair Christy Newman
Newport News Fall Festival	23-Oct	Lisa Yeaw
Christmas Party	5-Dec	Billie/Laura/Board

Take a look at the new 2004 Calendar on the web site. We have a lot of activities scheduled and are planning to add a couple more classes taught by visiting teachers. You will see more on this later.

Anne Coleman, a well know basket teacher from Kentucky has offered to teach weekend classes for us in October. We are in the process of setting the date and putting the class information together. Keep an eagle eye on the website.

Hope to see you all at the Holiday Party. If I don't see you there, have a safe, happy weaving holiday.
..Laura

Membership...

Thanks to everyone who sent there dues in to me. We currently have 65 members. And a big welcome to all our new members. The Christmas party is a great way to get to know our new members. If you are a new member please don't let being a "new kid on the block" deter you from attending. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Billie's and enjoying a little friendly competition as we exchange gifts.

Happy Weaving :)
Jennifer Gramza

TBG Officers/Board Members 2002

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Vice President, Linda Lindner
 Vicepresident@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

Secretary, Jamie Van Oekel
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Treasurer, Barbara Jessome
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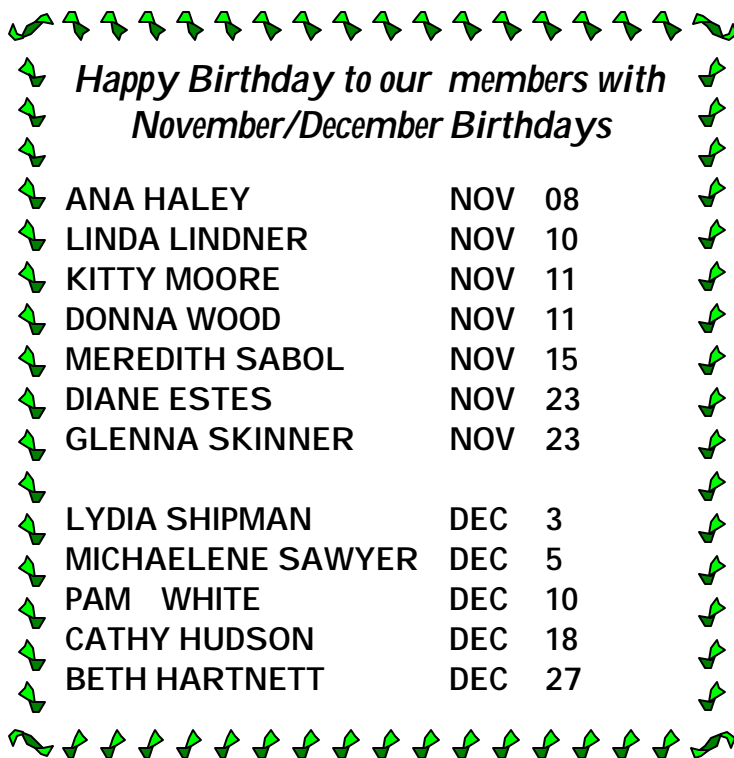
Note from the Editor...

The website should be updated very soon with all new members. If your name hasn't been added, please feel free to contact me.
 Webmaster@tidewaterbasketryguild.org

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

**Guilders Weave 2004— January 16-18, 2004****Updates..**

We are so excited about GW 2004, the days are just creeping up on us. I need tons of volunteers, don't forget to give me a call/email and we will put you to work. Hope you all have a wonderful holiday and then it's off to races for Guilders Weave!!

Class Fees... Teacher/class fees were due November 1st, thank you to everyone that sent them in!

Memorabilia... Orders were due November 15th, you can pick up your orders at GW 2004!

Volunteers... Volunteer's will be contacted. If you haven't notified me that you want to help, please do.

Hotel... Have you made your hotel reservations? If not, do so today and remember to tell them you are with Guilders Weave 2004.

Welcome Bags and Door Prizes... Do you have a door prize or a welcome bag item, please let Sherral Nelson or Judith Saunders know. They are collecting items now for the GW 2004. Is there a store/company we should contact? Does your office contribute small items? Let us know, we can contact anyone you would like, give us the name and let us do the calling!

Until next time,
 Cindy Stanton

Notes from Linda...

December 7th-Annual Holiday Party 2:00pm, at Billie Dorris's home. Bring a dish for the Potluck lunch and a small gift for the gift exchange. This is always a fun day, come out and enjoy each others company. Lost of food, fun, and fellowship will be had by all! There will be no meeting that day. Directions to Billie's home can be found on the Members Only page of the website. If you are a non-email person they will be included in this newsletter.

January 11, 2004- Meeting at 2:00pm. Joyce Smith – Downsizing basket patterns.
Sign up for Judith Saunders Bias Weave Workshop.

January 15-18, 2004- Arrive at Guilders Weave 2004, Thursday night, Classes start Friday and run through Sunday.

February 1, 2004- Meeting 2:00pm., Guilders Weave Show and Tell – Bring your baskets
Sign Up for Jelly Bean Easter Basket 7 March Meeting
Sign Up for Gathering of the Guilds 20 March 2004

February 2004, Date to be determined, Judith Saunders Bias Weave Workshop and Open Weave.

Please remember to check the website for a complete list of upcoming events and our 2004 Calendar.
<http://www.tidewaterbasketryguild.org>

Anne Coleman Class..please check out the website for class proposals. Deadline is Dec. 15th to have your info to Linda. Those without email, your copy is in this newsletter.

T-shirt order.. If you have placed an order, the shirts will be in very soon. If you still need to order please contact Linda Lindner today. Vicepresident@tidewaterbasketryguild.org



Crew shirt short sleeve with collar. Available in Green and Sandstone.
Sm, Med, Lg, XL \$23.00
XXL \$26.00, XXXL \$29.00



Short sleeve t-shirt. Available in Green and Sandstone.
Sm, Med, Lg, XL \$18.00
XXL \$20.00, XXXL \$22.00



Long sleeve t-shirt. Available in Green and Sandstone.
Sm, Med, Lg, XL \$20.00
XXL \$23.00, XXXL \$26.00

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Volunteers Needed!!
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The 2004 Calendar is just about ready and we are in need of volunteers for meetings and classes. What do you have to do? For most meetings you will be setting up chairs, cutting kits, or just providing refreshments and making sure everything runs smoothly. Please do not worry if you have never cut a kit before, we can help you out with kits or whatever else is needed. Can you help us out? Please give Alice Wyvill a call 874-7399 or email
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FYI: About Guilders WeaveHistory and more.....

About the Classroom Rules: Why no food or drink in classes? Well, think about it. Surely you can figure that one out! Would you want to put your newly woven basket bottom down on the table into a pile of fudge or crumbs from your neighbor's brownie? How about that neighbor dumping coffee, or nice sticky cola or juice onto that just-lashed rim? Don't think you'd be too happy about that. And don't think it can't happen. That's why there's "water only" in the classrooms. If you feel the need, take a short break and grab a bite from the hospitality room.

The no cell phone rule is also obvious. It's purpose is not to inconvenience you, but to ensure a quality instruction experience for all students. The less interruption, the better for all. Don't you love it when the ringing of someone's cell phone interrupts the concert or the action just at the crucial moment? If you must have them with you, TURN 'EM OFF in class.

About the Hospitality Room: With all that yummy food in there, why can't we take something with us from hospitality room? Indeed, the hotel is kind enough to allow us to put our own refreshments in the hospitality room; i.e., we don't have to purchase *their* foodservice for the room. This makes it affordable for us to have the room open for the event. We ask you not to take food from the room so that we don't flaunt their kindness by parading that food through the hotel. They are gracious enough to allow us to do the refreshments ourselves, so we don't want to rub their nose in it.

Now, the location of the hospitality room itself is something we have no control over! Well, actually we'll move it the next time we build a hotel...

About Meals: We include in the registration fee the cost for serving lunches to our group. We do that to ensure that each of us is fed and watered and ready to get back to class on time. It is convenient for us all to get served at the same time and know there is room for us to sit and eat. We aren't left in traffic from having to run out to grab a bite; we aren't left without lunch because there wasn't time to get served, etc.

Someone had commented that the food in the restaurant buffet was "better and cheaper" than that for our banquet, lunches, etc. Hmmmm. "Better" food? Well, maybe – depends. The food is the same *only* if the menu is the same.

So why does it cost "more" for the banquet? Actually, it doesn't cost more – they just add on the sales and food tax and a 17% tip *up front*. The price you pay for the banquet is the cost of the meal -\$16.95, for example- plus tax (city, state, & fed food and service taxes) and tip (17%), making it \$21.98. You may get by cheaper in the restaurant because you order something different and/or because you don't leave a 17% tip!!!

So, sure, you can get a soup and sandwich meal for less in the restaurant than it can be set up and served buffet style to our group. But that's not the point is it? We can't all be together or get served at any one time in the restaurant. The point is that we want to be together, and if we want to be together, we have to pay for that convenience. Simple.

About Vendors: Many of you attend other weaving conventions where there are a million and one vendors with wares to choose from out the ying-yang. It's all very nice and convenient to have every basketry whim available at your fingertips for the buying. However, it is a NIGHTMARE for those managing the vendors and vendor setup. Tough for the vendors, too – lots of time input before the event, during (setup and man the booth), and afterward.

Then, at the end of the day, will the vendors have sold enough to pay them back for their efforts??? Very often, it is much more expensive to vend at such an event than can possibly be recouped from sales at the event. That's why vendors are sometimes reluctant to participate. They need to have some kind of idea that they can sell enough wares to enough folks to make it worth their while. Some may have to actually close shop to attend your event. That is costly.

Some conventions charge quite a bit for vendor space rental, etc., others only a stipend, while others impose no charges at all. It all depends on what the focus of the event is – making as much money as can be from the vendors, or giving everyone a first class experience damn -the-torpedoes-full-speed- ahead. For some, vendor space is the place they make their big bucks. For most, however, it lies somewhere between.

At Guilders Weave we have so far had only the one vendor. Why not a whole bunch of vendors?

Well, one, Suzanne Moore's North Carolina Basketworks is a full line vendor, meaning they've got it all (or can get it) and covers the spectrum from beginner to advanced, from basic tools to embellishments – something for everyone. Two, the size of our group dictates that there can't be many vendors – 125 or so folks can't buy enough from several vendors to make it worth their while to attend. If more vendors came it would water down the sales for Suzanne, and maybe she would not be interested in coming back at all. And, throw into the mix the fact that she is a fellow guild member. (Yes, it's business; and, an investment in future business from our guilds. But that isn't a dirty word you know – business. *We need* her in business, now, don't we?)

If you know of something you want the vendor to bring, by all means call and request it. But do not call, place an order, and expect the vendor to be happy to bring it along to be picked up at the event. Bringing already-sold items takes up the space needed for transporting the wares to be vended at the event.

Will we ever add more vendors? Possibly – but then there's the problems of available space, and the impact on NC Basketworks; and, can our group support another vendor? Decisions for the future.

... *Sam Winters, GW Chair 2002, 2003*