

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BASKET WEAVERS GUILD

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the privilege of being the President of the Central Pennsylvania Basket Weavers Guild for the last year. The establishment of the guild and the quality of the interaction at our meetings is certainly a dream come true for me. I am looking forward to being a part of our forward progress under Jeff's leadership in 98/99. Please visit my web page frequently to check on updates of the Guild newsletter and other guild information since I plan to devote some time to that project in the near future. The address is -

<http://members.aol.com/Linda Clift/>

Weave on ----

Linda Clifton

Business

1. At the June meeting, officer elections were held. The new officers whose terms begin on July 1st are as follows:

President - Jeff Shields

Vice President/Treasurer - Colleen Skelton

Secretary - Lyn Levan

2. In addition to the elected officers, the guild board also consists of the following positions:

Program Chairman - Val Poirer

Newsletter Editor - Paula Evelhoch

Member -At-Large - ANY

VOLUNTEERS??

3. Also at the June 21st meeting, the draft By-laws were ratified. Several grammatical errors and inconsistencies have been eliminated. The substantive change is as follows:

In Article VII - Nominations and Elections, Paragraph E. was changed

From:

A majority vote shall elect.

To:

A Majority vote of the responding members shall elect.

Copies of the By-laws will be available at upcoming meetings.

From the President

All of us in the guild owe our founder and first president, Linda Clifton, a large debt of gratitude and a big hug. Simply put, without Linda there would be no Central PA Basket Weavers Guild. Over the past year and a half she has been selfless and untiring in her dedication to nurturing the guild from just a dream into a thriving and growing organization of 25 people. Linda, you have enriched each and every one of our lives. We love ya.

I was struck the other day while looking at our membership list. As near as I can tell, our members come from 14 different counties. I am amazed at the distances some of our members happily travel each month to spend a few hours with some of their fellow "basket cases". That speaks volumes to me about how deeply and passionately we feel toward our craft.

As with any craft, basketry is not really about who can make the best, or most, or how much profit there is to be made. When I weave a basket there are two results. The first of course is the basket. Second, and more importantly, I am a different person than the one who began the basket. Each weaving experience affects those of us who are in the throes of "basket fever" in a very meaningful and profound way. Certainly, basketry is a recreational activity. But taking another look at the word "recreational" I also realize that with each basket I weave I also "re-create" myself. (Thanks to June Blake for planting that seed).

Take time to weave,

Jeff Shields

Our thanks to the outgoing officers, Linda Clifton, President, June Blake, Secretary and Jeff Shields, Program Chairman for getting the guild started and for setting the tone of what we want to be.

Mark your calendars now for October 24, 1998

The Central PA Basket Weavers Guild is sponsoring a class with Deb Roberson of York County on that date. We will be making a basket that uses a German weaving technique in the base with twill woven sides. The cost will be \$35.00 which covers the class and all supplies. Reserve your space in the 9 - 4 event which will occur in the Camp Hill Shopping Mall Community Room and plan for a great day of weaving and learning. Checks should be sent to our treasurer, Colleen Skelton.

*Usual Supplies -water bucket or basin, spray bottle, towel, scissors, clothes pins or other holding device, sharpknife, measuring tape, yard stick, spoke weight, awl or tool for opening spaces, small pair of pliers
This is a basic basket weaver's tool kit. Of course none of us have stopped there, have we??*

Terminology - anyone new to reed description should know:

RR - round reed (sold by numbers 00[small] to 17 [large])

FF - flat on both sides **FO** - flat on one side and oval on the other
(flat reeds are sold by the inch or millimeter measurements)

Upcoming Events

(note program change for July)

July 19 - Open Weave

Bring in a project you are working on and enjoy a few relaxed hours of community weaving and conversation.

August 16 - Mold Weaving

Deborah Hammond has created some very nice baskets using a variety of "molds" such as a Snapple bottle or mayonnaise jar.

Bring : Snapple bottle (for a narrow mouth vase)

Quart Mayonnaise jar (for a wide mouth vase)

wash and remove labels from your jars

2 RR

3/16" or 1/4" FF

1/2" FF

seagrass

usual supplies

You may never look at a Snapple bottle the same way again!

September 20 - Beginner Outreach Class

Here is a "no strings attached" opportunity for anyone who has never woven a basket before to learn the basics and go home with a beautiful basket made with their own 2 hands! We will be doing a basic market basket with guild members serving as teachers. Recruit your friends, relatives, and co-workers for the golden opportunity to come learn at the feet of the masters! A \$10. materials fee applies. All materials will be supplied, but students are encouraged to bring a bucket, shears, sewing tape measure, clothes pins, and old towel.

Checks should be sent to Colleen Skelton, 226 Walnut Street, Stowe, PA 19464 by September 1 to reserve a kit.

October 18 - Gretchen Border

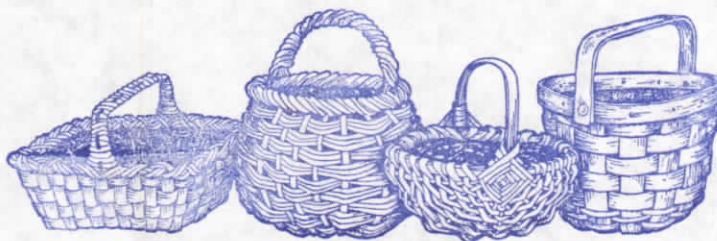
June Blake will take us through the steps to create this interesting rolled border.

Bring : a round fairly flat basket with NO rim

(the paper plate basket we did in June would be good)

3 RR in two colors

usual supplies



All meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at 1:30 P.M. in the Community Room at the Camp Hill Shopping Mall, Route 11/15