

Central Pennsylvania Basket Weavers Guild

October 1998

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

The Weavin' Season

Autumn is my favorite season. After the hurried activities of Spring and Summer, the cool crisp days of Autumn seem to offer a respite for both body and soul before the holiday season frenzy descends upon us. At no time of the year does basket weaving seem to be a more natural thing. I feel stronger than ever the union with nature that basket weaving affords me. It just feels "right". What better way to spend a beautiful Fall afternoon than weaving under a canopy of blue sky and brightly hued leaves. And in a very real sense you are capturing and preserving those moments in the basket.

Our September beginner's class was a great success! Thanks to all who helped make it so. Your dedication is what makes this guild so great. A special nod to Suzette Humer for securing the supplies and making up the kits; no small job. I hope we can do another class again next year. For any non-members reading this, let me extend a personal invitation to please come join us. Our guild is not a professional association. Many

levels of experience and ability are represented. The common bond that brings us together is a love of weaving. So whether you are working on basket #2 or basket #1000 we will welcome you!

Happy Weavin'
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Upcoming Events

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 (made of flat stakes with or without handles), instead of the rim row do three rows of twining with # 2 round reed. Cut and tuck stakes in the weaving below twining. Bring # 2 round reed in two colors and your usual supplies. Since this probably won't fill the time, bring something else to work on.

*November 15 - Paper Rush
Onion Basket*

This workshop will be led by our own Valerie Poirier. This basket is relatively fast to weave and involves twining. No tools are needed except scissors, and no water is used. Valerie will bring the materials which should not run more than \$3.00.

*December 20- Christmas Party
/Basket Exchange*

Plan to join your fellow weavers in a seasonal celebration. Bring one of your favorite holiday snacks to share and a basket you have made for our gift exchange. Please wrap the basket so it will not be visible. You may add tuck-ins if you like (a small tool, a pattern, etc.) Be sure to put this time on your calendar, you don't want to miss it!!!

January 17 - Snowy Bird Man

Linda Clifton will lead us in weaving Susan Reed-Fanfoni's "Snowy the Bird Man", a folk art winter accent. Pattern fee will be \$1.25 for this project. Materials needed are: one 2 1/2" wooden ball knob (for head, drill 16 holes in bottom for # 3 RR), #2 RR, #3 RR, and 3/16" flat reed. Accessories : two twigs 7" - 8" long, black top hat to fit ball head, fabric for scarf, 3 buttons, tiny birds, bird

house or things of that sort that your "Snowy" will want.

December Display

During the month of December we will be displaying our baskets in the New Cumberland Library. Bring the baskets you wish to show to the November meeting. Baskets will be returned to the owners at our January meeting.

Helpful hints -

If you don't like working with a knife try using a vegetable peeler to taper the ends of flat oval reed for rims.

After upsetting the spokes on a basket you can file down any cracks that appear with an emery board. This will not weaken the basket.

Rinse your reed in warm water before dyeing. This will give you truer color and helps the reed take the dye more easily.

Keep cane in a plastic bag or it will become brittle.