

# WEAVING CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the *Tennessee Basketry Association*

## **TBA President's Message**

***Fall (October) 2018***

Let's get acquainted!

I love making things that are both lovely and useful. Things like knitting and crochet, as well as making books, and of course, baskets. Being a home school mom of 4 is how I initially learned to make baskets. The kids and I were doing a unit study on Appalachian history. As a part of our home school, we always include lots of hands-on projects. Fun for Mom and the kids! We made apple butter and lye soap, went on a lot of field trips and even made our own little Appalachian cookbook with the recipes that we had tried. I saw an ad for a basket class teaching a ribbed hen basket. So, I signed up thinking it would be a nice addition to our home school studies. Well, I was hooked! Loved making baskets, and soon had a house full of them. They are generously gifted to all my relatives and friends--to make room at my house for more basket supplies! My husband encouraged me to apply to the Appalachian Art Center in Norris, TN, as he had seen an announcement in the newspaper about it. I brought my best baskets to the Art Center and met some very nice folks who gave me a lot of encouragement and some help on improving my baskets. I was juried in and have been hanging out there ever since.

Even though it's been about 15 years since that first class, I continue to take classes and enjoy learning new techniques and using new materials. I've had the good fortune to be introduced to some of the best teachers there are through the TBA. TBA offers so many benefits to its members. You have the opportunity to gather with like-minded people and enjoy being creative. You can contribute to a charitable cause through the Angel Basket project, share your finished projects in the basket exchange at convention, or just share your baskets with the rest of us through the website and guild news in the newsletter. I encourage you to find a spot where you can contribute your talent to TBA. We all improve when we learn and share with each other. Every class taken has taught me something unexpected--something that I hadn't counted on learning. I'm sure you've all had that experience. We come away richer from the experience of learning with each other.

I hope that this coming year is one in which we grow and learn together. Looking forward to reading about you in the newsletter as you share your guild news with the rest of us. Hopefully, we'll meet in some classes along the way. And I'll definitely see you next July in Kingsport!

*Sheri Burns*

## **Treasurer's Report as of July 16, 2018**

***Pam Parman***

**Balance brought forward from July 17, 2017**

11,204.49

### **Receipts**

2017 Convention 4163.50  
Raffle 2635  
Anonymous gift 100  
Convention registration desk 336  
Convention registrations 587.50  
Odds & Ends Memorial Raffle 505  
Membership 2860  
Angel Baskets 240  
2018 Convention 4662  
GKKC reimbursement 3000  
Total Receipts  
14,925.50

### **Expenses**

2017 Convention 3335.94  
Fran Sorrell convention expenses 420.05  
Conv. Chair gifts 100  
Belinda Bronson teacher hospitality gifts 59.63  
Fall Creek Falls State Park 2526.18  
Debra Martin convention expenses 230.08  
Newsletter-Teresa Lindauer 181.13  
Secretary of State 2017 annual report 20  
April McCartney web domain renewal 60.51  
Secretary of State document request 60  
Total Expenses  
3,657.58

***Balance on Hand July 16, 2018***

***22,472.41***

## **Weaving Goes West 2018 Convention Update**

***Fran Sorrell***

WOW! What a great time we had at Pickwick Landing State Park this year for the 2018 TBA Convention- Weaving Goes West. Fourteen teachers provided forty some classes to over eighty members and beautiful basket projects were everywhere. Big thanks to all the volunteers, committee chairs and members and all who participated to make this convention run so smoothly.

The Basket Exchange, Make and Take, Market Place, and the Chuck Wagon dinner all were very successful and allowed great opportunities to learn and to network.

This year TBA hosted a pilot project for young weavers. The class was well attended with six new weavers (and potential future TBA Members). Special thanks to Sheri Burns for leading this class and sharing her skills with these young weavers. All left with a finished basket and some are seeking out future classes!

***So as successful and fun as Weaving Goes West was....the Committees are already hard at work getting ready for next year. TBA goes back to lovely Kingsport, TN July 23-27, 2019. If you would like to participate in committees or want to become involved in the convention please reach out to the TBA Convention Chair, Debra Martin. Look forward to seeing you in 2019!***



## **TIME TO VOTE!! 2019 Basket Selections**

***Fran Sorrell***

Fall brings voting time for the Basket Selection Committee. The 2019 Convention preparation is already underway and the committee depends on members to vote on their favorite baskets for 2019. It is very important to the Convention that members vote for the baskets that they want to see at convention. Look over the wonderful selection and return your vote for your favorite 10 NLT October 15!

### **Member-At-Large**

***April McCartney***

Wow, did convention fly by for you as it did for me? Hard to believe that it is already October. We are all thinking about fall and anticipating any news about next year's convention. I know I am always looking for any new information to post on the Facebook page or our website.

Thank you to all of the people that donated door prizes for this last convention. I know this was the first year that not everyone got a door prize and that is because donations were down. I hope that we can rally together and make Convention 2019 a door prize year to remember. Be sure to vote for your favorite top 10 baskets from the Selection Committee 2019 choices. Get those votes in by October 15<sup>th</sup>!

***Once again thank you for donating door prizes and voting me, April McCartney, as your Member-At-Large for another term. Hope to see you next year at TBA in Kingsport, TN or maybe before. You never know, it really is a small world.***

**[www.tennesseebasketryassociation.org](http://www.tennesseebasketryassociation.org)**



**<https://www.facebook.com/tennesseebasketryassociation.org>**

***Our new President, Sheri Burns, graciously donated the pattern included in this issue of the newsletter. Hope you enjoy making it.***

### Amish Pie Basket

Materials: 10" circle base with a slit

5/8" flat for spokes

#2 round reed for twining

1/2" flat for weavers and rims

1/4" flat natural for rim row

1/4" flat dyed reed for accent rows

3/16 flat oval for lashing

seagrass for rim filler

A pair of 10" leather handles



Prepare the base: Cut 28 spokes from the 5/8" flat, each 7 inches long. Trace the base on a piece of paper and cut it out. Fold it into fourths, then lay it on top of the wooden base. With a pencil, lightly mark the base at the fold lines. This will divide the base into 4 quadrants, and make it easier to evenly space your spokes. Place one spoke at each of the 4 pencil marks. Evenly space 6 spokes in each of the 4 quadrants. You may glue these into place if you wish.

Weaving the sides: Soak a length of #2 round reed and some 1/2 flat in water for a few minutes until they are pliable. Twine twice around the base with the #2 reed. Upset the spokes sharply, but try not to crease them. Using the 1/2" flat reed, weave 3 rows stop/start weaving and use a 4 spoke overlap at the ends of the rows. On your first row, use several clothespins to hold the weaver in place and make sure that it follows the contours of the base. Then weave 3 rows with 1/4" flat dyed reed in the color of your choice. Follow the dyed reed rows with 2 more rows of 1/2" flat reed. Weave a final rim row with 1/4" flat natural. Take a moment to pack the rows down tightly.

Finishing the rims: The spokes that are on the outside of the basket need to be folded to the inside and tucked into the rows of weaving. It may be helpful to trim the spokes so that they only reach into the first or second row of weaving. The spokes that are on the inside of the basket need to be trimmed off flush with the top of the basket. Use the 1/2" flat reed to make a rim for the inside and outside of the basket. Pin a length of 1/2" flat to the inside of the basket and overlap it about 1 1/2". Trim off the excess. Do the same to make a rim for the outside of the basket.

For the handles: Find the pencil marks on opposite sides of the basket and place a clothespin to mark the spot. Thread the loops of the leather handles on the outside rim of the basket and slide it around to where the clothespin marks the handle's desired position. Place the handle's loops on the spokes to each side of the clothespinned spoke. When the handles are in position, replace the outer rim on the basket and pin it into place. Place a piece of seagrass between the rims to fill the space and hide the rough cut edges of the spokes. Take a piece of 1/4" flat dyed reed and lay it on top of the outer rim as an accent. (Do not soak this piece of reed to prevent bleeding on the rim.) You may run it through the handle loops along with the rim. It may be helpful to end the dyed overlay where it will fall in a handle loop to hide the end of the reed. Using a length of 3/16" flat oval, lash the rims to the basket. You may want to make cross-stitches across the handle loops to help hold them in place.

Once the lashing is finished, take another piece of the 1/4" flat dyed reed and run it along the first row of weaving to match the accent on the rim. This overlay can be done with the reed dry, to help prevent bleeding of the dyed reed on the natural weaver.

Enjoy your finished basket!

## **News from the Tennessee Guilds**

### **Gourmet Weavers**

***Gwen Morris***

The Gourmet Weavers have been busy with weaving in our weekly meetings and have added new members to the obsession of basket weaving this summer. We have at least 3 that say they want to do convention next year, hopefully adding to the numbers of TBA.

We restarted our mold group monthly meeting. That group died out the last couple years but new interest encourages us to restart. We had one meeting to learn the basics and had to cancel September's meeting because we didn't get bases and rims in time to work. Hopefully this group will take off again since we have some enthusiasm building among 6 ladies.

I taught 3 classes at Cordell Hull State Park with 8-10 participants each time. These classes are finding some people that are showing an interest in continuing. Looking forward to more classes with the arts grant they obtained. Got to spread that "love of weaving." Barbara is planning our biannual class for Cookeville High School Art Class. That is always fun with about 20-30 students weaving. Several members of the guild help with the classes. What a great way to encourage a new generation of weavers!

## **Greetings from West TN Basket Guild**

***Fran Pierson***

WTBG continues to make its impact in perpetuating the art of basketry. Monthly classes attract new weavers. Attending heritage fests and speaking with groups about the history of basket weaving always bring looks of surprise and awe.

We are so fortunate to have a Middle School Art Room at our disposal for classes and activities. We also have traveled to other communities to teach beginner classes, always wanting to inspire new weavers.

Our guild works hard to offer opportunities and attend events to learn new techniques. We hosted Nancy Matthews to share her knowledge and talent of Ribbed Baskets. Several members purchased extra kits—tells me that Nancy's inspiration gave confidence to be independent weavers. Our newby class, "Basket Buddy" filled up again. The class is set up so that members bring new weavers to learn basic terminology and techniques to complete their first basket. Our hope is that the new weaver returns for another class or the annual Weave in.

Our "Basket Escape" was a scene of creative energy. Baskets of all descriptions were in various stages of completion. Thanks to Mary and Jimmie Earl McKenzie, new treasures were taken home to find a place of honor. Several of our members attended the TBA Convention and brought back wonderful baskets with wow factors to be recreated.

Our busy-ness continues through the winter. We are putting the finishing touches on our 3<sup>rd</sup> Fall Weave Fest and hosting Gail Hutchinson. There are classes scheduled each month through January. Many Saturdays are filled with Heritage Days where we fit right in with rug makers, quilters, and fabric weavers. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Weave In for June 2019 is already in its organizational stage.

WTBG has come a long way since its inception in 2003. We would like to think that we have played a vital part in furthering the love of basket weaving.

***Weave On!***

## **Odds and Ends Group of Maryville, TN**

***Sandy Miller***

Odds and Ends met recently to set our schedule for the coming months. We've scheduled some great teachers! (Jan Beyma, Eric Taylor, Peggy Adelman, Pam Milat)

We also are expanding the Angel Basket Program! Joyce Bolton Smith and I met with representatives from East Tennessee Children's Hospital in Knoxville. They were very excited to hear of the program. They shared information about their needs with us. Twenty baskets per year have been requested. We hope to get them their first in the next few months. We are excited to take on this project. Thanks to Joyce for her guidance.

## **GreenEville Basket Guild**

**Sharon Seneker**



Marilyn Wald will be at Asbury United Methodist Church, 201 S. Main St. in Greeneville, TN sponsored by the GreenEville Basket Guild. The schedule is Friday, October 19th 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm and Saturday, October 20th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. There is no cost or preregistration for this Workshop. Come join Marilyn Wald & the

GreenEville Basket Guild for Fall basket weaving fun! “



### **TENNESSEE BASKETRY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 6, 2018**

#### **Call to Order**

President Bruce Robertson called the TBA Board meeting to order at 5:05 pm EDT via conference call. Present were:

Bruce Robertson  
Sheri Burns  
Fran Sorrell  
Barbara Holt  
Pam Parman  
Denise Robertson

#### **Reading of the Minutes**

Bruce will distribute the notes from the March 5 meeting via email.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Pam reported that TBA had \$14,822.92 on March 5, dues totaling \$420.00 have been deposited, and April McCartney was reimbursed \$60.51 for web page expense. The balance is \$15,182.41. Note: In addition, Fran reported that she has sent to Pam via USPS approximately \$1100.00 in convention registration checks.

#### **Reports**

**Convention:** Fran reported that approximately 40 people have registered for the 2018 convention with 4 receiving Linda Roberts scholarship registrations. Four more members have received the Linda Roberts scholarship. Nine convention registrants are new members. There have been mailing issues with 4 members, resolved by repeat mailings and electronic mailing of the booklet.

**Membership:** Denise reported that there are 128 members with several new members living close to the convention site and several new members from out of state.

## **Unfinished Business**

**Sentencing:** Pam and Barbara reported on the sentencing hearing for former TBA Treasurer Gayle Green. Six people attended, five current members (Barbara, Pam, Joyce Smith, Candy Alexander, Julie Kleinlein) and former member Linda Lantz. Pam read the Victim Impact Statement approved by the Board and also spoke about the loss of trust resulting from the theft committed by the Treasurer. Barbara spoke about the organization and the theft of Angel Basket funds. Pam reported that Gayle received a sentence of 16 months in a federal penitentiary, 6 years supervised release, a fine of \$200, and an order of full restitution of \$50,195 to TBA. Bruce will draft a letter explaining the sentencing. The letter will be sent to the Board for review, then sent to the general membership via email.

**Restitution:** Pam received a letter from Amy Russell, US Victim Impact Advocate, along with a form concerning restitution, with options to donate restitution to a federal impact victim fund or to TBA treasury. Fran moved that all restitution collected be deposited in the TBA Treasury. Denise seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor.

**Tax-Exempt Non-Profit 501c3 Status:** CPA Carol Hickman with Hickman and Associates has advised Pam that TBA should seek said status as soon as possible. Bruce has amended and submitted a new budget via email, reflecting expenses of approximately \$1275 expense to apply for the status:

\$600 CPA fee

\$300 Approximate state filing fee

\$375 Approximate 990 form filing fee

Fran moved that the Board accept the amended budget; Pam seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

The 990 form must be submitted each year with each current Board voting member's name, position, address, telephone number(s), and SS#. For security, send SS# through USPS, not email. All voting members are asked to send this information to Pam.

## **New Business**

It is with regret that the Board accepted Deborah Palk's resignation as Secretary of TBA. Deborah resigned on March 25, 2018, due to caring for her mother. Bruce recommended his appointment of Barbara Holt as Secretary of TBA for the completion of Deborah's term which ends in 2019. Pam moved that the Board approve the appointment of Barbara. Fran seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

## **Other**

A discussion of the 2018 election of officers was held with a reminder that a President-Elect, Treasurer, and Member-At-Large will be elected at convention. With no further business, Pam moved that the meeting be adjourned, Fran seconded, and all approved.

Respectfully submitted by  
Barbara Holt  
Secretary

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