

WEAVING CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the *Tennessee Basketry Association*



Winter (February) 2020



A Note from the President:

Happy New Year! I met many of you last summer (seems so far away now) at the TBA conference in Kingsport and I appreciated your support and confidence in selecting me as your president for the year. For those that I did not get to meet, my name is April Harper. I live in Franklin (a little south of Nashville) with my husband. I learned to weave in Fort Knox, Kentucky, where my husband was stationed while serving in the Army. I took a class with some other nice ladies and after that first basket I left all other projects and interests behind to learn the many techniques of making a basket. I quickly volunteered to help hand out reed, clean up after classes, and cut kits in order to absorb the many nuances of weaving. My basement quickly became a jungle of handles and reed, and happily it still is today. Some years later, when the teacher transferred to Korea she gifted me with patterns and her little black book of student names, and I took up where she left off. While I enjoy the solitary time of weaving alone, it is so much more fun when we all get together for a few days each summer to practice our craft and learn. I hope you all will join us this summer, July 15-18 at the newly remodeled Hilton Knoxville Airport Inn in Alcoa. We will have more teachers than ever and will offer classes in reed, oak, cane, sweet grass, fiber, ash, paper and more. We will offer lots of classes with all levels. I remember attending my first convention alone and was a little anxious about not knowing anyone; that lasted about 10 seconds after I walked in the door. We are a welcoming group and my goal as your president is to make our conference the best yet. I hope you will join me!

April Harper

sahkch@aol.com

2020 Convention Update

We're excited about the upcoming convention and we hope you are too! The booklets will be mailed out the last part of February to those who have paid their dues. So, if you know someone who hasn't paid their dues yet, tell them to hurry up and get them in the mail to Denise Robertson at 2024 Little Best Rd., Maryville TN 37803. Dues are \$20 and our membership year is from August 1st to July 31st the next year. Or, if you want to help out even more, contact Fran Sorrell at fwsorrell@ael.com and ask her to send you a copy of TBA's new pamphlet that you can duplicate and hand out to make it even easier for people to join us. We have a large number of beautiful baskets and excellent teachers for this year's convention. There is something for everyone!

While we loved the theme we chose last fall, we decided to change it so that it was more in keeping with our intent to encourage new and current members to reach out to others to take up basketmaking as a wonderful way to share memories, fun, and bond with many others who love this craft. To that end we changed our theme to: See it, Make it, Teach it. We modified the basket Laura Lee Zanger designed for the June International basket event to teach kids, and will offer it as our convention kit, as well as, the basket for our kid's class at the convention. It's time to consider reaching out to one of your grandkids or friends and teach them this fun basket that can be adorned with favorite memories or designs, or have them join us this year and choose one of the many baskets being taught.

So, start making your plans, and when you receive your convention booklet, send in your registration form, and invite several friends to join you. We'll look forward to seeing you in July.

Reed all about it!

Find out about events and classes going on near you! Get involved in your local guild chapter! Spread the basket love!

Tune in for news from the Tennessee Guilds:

Middle Tennessee Guild

I am happy to announce that a weaving guild is forming (we've met a few times already) in middle Tennessee. We are meeting in Murfreesboro the second Saturday of the month from 9-3. We meet at Grace Lutheran Church 811 E. Clark Blvd. Murfreesboro. My hat's off to our board member at large, Linda Hinkleman for getting this started for us. Please email Linda (basket_beginnings@yahoo.com) or me (sahkch@aol.com) for more information. If you live in the surrounding area and are looking for friendly faces to weave with, please consider joining us.

April Harper

sahkch@aol.com

West TN Basket Guild

Greetings from the West TN Basket Guild!

It hardly feels like winter and by the seed catalogs in my mailbox, we are moving closer to Spring. I have bulb shoots coming up through the mulch and leaves. I have worn winter gloves but only when I travelled north for the Christmas holidays! We always have a Plan B for basket classes if there is snow and the roads are bad. So far, the Basket Fever has kept the temperatures warm!

Basket weaving here in Camden TN has been popping. Our demonstrations at the Eva Beach Music Fest, the TN State Fair and the Benton County Fair drew many viewers and interested crafts people. Many memories were shared by folks as they watched us weave and listened to our stories. From their recall, we heard their stories of childhood antics, family bonds and youthful accomplishments. Some leave our booth with a gentle smile recalling days gone by while others sign up for a class and leave with a big grin, sometimes being teased. Our Mission accomplished!

Our calendar is filled with classes, gatherings and project days. Many of us pack our tool bags in March for the WTWKY Retreat and NCBC. In April, plane tickets land the tool bags at Stateline. June is our time to shine with our 15th Annual Weave in, "Crystal Clear Weaving" with Mary and Jimmie Earl McKinzie coming to Camden. July drops the tool bags in Alcoa for TBA. We are offering a Chair Reseating Class in a local Senior Center--probably our most requested project. It seems that many people have saved their favorite chair or stool from their past. And each month, we offer a day to learn something new or an opportunity to decrease the stash tub.

Find us on Facebook, Basket Weaving in Benton County, for our chronicle of the fun and fellowship of WTBG.

Weave on,
Fran Pierson

Tri-State Basketry Guild

Joe Bruneau returns to the Tri-State Basketry Guild in Bluff City TN on May 9 to teach two different basket designs. One is the vine potato basket and the other is a traditional melon basket with wooden handle and rim. Both designs are offered in vibrant colors.

Joe has an art degree from Warren Wilson College. His baskets are sold at several venues in Western North Carolina, including the Grove Park Inn in Asheville. He lives in Brevard and is the manager of Number 7 Art Gallery in Brevard. Joe is teaching at Tri-State for the fourth consecutive year.

Tri-State welcomes visitors to attend the class. Guild starts at 9:30 am at Elizabeth Chapel UMC, and the class fee is \$65 for a vine basket with an upcharge for a melon basket. For more details, contact Barbara Holt, Tri-State President, bholt33@hotmail.com, 423-361-3233.



Other Announcements

Keys to a Successful Basketry Guild Experience

Barbara Holt, TBA Secretary

1. Make a point to sit with folks who are new or someone you don't know well. Make everyone feel welcome.
2. Encourage your guild to offer quality classes. A guild is more than business meetings.
3. To help offer quality classes that "make", register and pay on time.
4. Consider serving as an officer.
5. Consider teaching a class. Guilds always need good classes.
6. Participate in guild community outreach programs and events that promote basketry.
7. Participate in "Show 'n Tell". Others are really interested in your work, your collection, and just about anything related to basketry.
8. Be in your seat with tools and water at class time. Clean up the space around you. Offer to tidy up the facility after most everyone has left.
9. Do not violate copyright laws, and do not ask anyone else to violate them.
10. Support your state basketry association by encouraging members to join and attend yearly conventions.

Basket Swap 2020

The holidays are over, life is getting back to a quieter normal and I hope you are thinking about Basket Convention 2020. Let's get busy designing and weaving your baskets for the basket swap. It's such a fun time and sharing yourself with other weavers make the convention more meaningful. Hope to see you there!!

~Shirley Sexton



The Handweavers Guild of America will be having an international fiber conference, Convergence®, in Knoxville July 24-30, 2020.

Convergence® is biennial meeting of fiber artists from all over the world. The week-long conference offers seminars and workshops of various lengths for participants who have beginning to advanced skills.

The *Dogwood to Kudzu* exhibit is a juried exhibit featuring functional or nonfunctional, traditional or nontraditional forms in basketry techniques. Baskets can be woven from a wide variety of manmade and naturally occurring materials. Inspiration is derived from the stability of the Appalachian region that features ranges and valleys, barriers and passageways, and a large diversity of vibrant flora that intertwines throughout.

The deadline for entry is March 5, 2020. The juror for this event will be Judy Zugish

Judy Zugish began experimenting with garden fibers in 1978. This soon led to an obsession for basketmaking and many years of pursuing technique with notable traditional weavers. Today, her contemporary works using gathered natural materials are exhibited widely. She teaches her signature style both at home and abroad.

There are several basketry sessions being offered at this event and Judy Zugish will be teaching two classes. We would like to invite TBA members to attend the basketry classes and enter the basketry exhibit.

Links for the classes and the exhibit are listed below. The deadline for entries will be March 5, 2020.

<https://weavespindye.org/convergence/>

<https://weavespindye.org/exhibits-and-awards/>

~Help to snowball the love and skill of the basketmaking tradition~



Teach the next generation about the craft you enjoy. Participate in the Kids National Basket Weaving Day, June 27, 2020. For more information about this event, check out this link:

<https://weaversaroundtheworld.com/2019/06/05/kids-national-basket-weaving-day-why-and-what-its-all-about-ga-by-mathilde-bach-stougaard/> .

Want to be heard?

Having an event?

Share your news with the newsletter!

Submit your articles, photos, class info, patterns, or basket making tips to Katherine Burns at burnsdoesbaskets@gmail.com

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

www.tennesseebasketryassociation.org



TBA Reports

****APPROVED****

Tennessee Basketry Association Board

Board Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2019

Call to Order

President April Harper called the TBA Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm EST via Skype. Present were

Bruce Robertson

Sheri Burns

Katherine Burns

Barbara Holt

Denise Robertson

April Harper

Reading of the Minutes

The July 26 2019 general meeting minutes and July 27 2019 board meeting minutes were previously disbursed via email and were read at the meeting. Clarity corrections were noted. Sheri motioned to approve. Denise seconded. Approval on vote.

Treasurer's Report

April read Pam's report and reported a balance of \$23,632.57. Barbara motioned to approve. Sheri seconded. Approval on vote.

Reports

Membership: Denise reported there are now 80 members. About 75 renewed during convention.

Unfinished Business

The Board decided to table decisions about storing the TBA items included in the inventory submitted via email by Pam Parman. Discussion will be held at the January meeting.

New Business

April and Sheri conducted a financial review on September 14 in Cookeville. They reported all records are in very good order.

The Board decided the next Board meeting will be at 1 pm on January 18, 2020, at the Blount County Library in Maryville. With no further business, Sheri moved that the meeting be adjourned, Denise seconded, and all approved.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara Holt

Secretary

2020 Convention Budget Approved 1/18/2020

The following is a bare bones budget for the upcoming convention. Please note that the Board is still responsible for the cost of printing and mailing the booklet as well as the teacher honorariums.

Convention Income:

Registration

- Full (85 x \$65= \$5525)
- Kid's (10 x \$15=\$150)
 - One day for the student class. The class fee will be \$10.
- Total Registration \$5675

Vendor fees (\$420)

Visitors (5 x \$5=\$25)

Raffle seed money from 2019 = \$2409

Total Income \$8529

Convention Expenses:

Convention site facility, 1 sack lunch, & services \$7035.24

Insurance \$150

Name Badges \$50

Goody Bags \$500

Hospitality \$50

Committee IDs/gifts \$100

Bandages & antiseptic \$20

Teacher & Vendor mailings \$50

Misc. Supplies \$100 (tape& tickets)

Teacher & Vendor gifts \$150

Printing of on-site convention information \$100

Kid's class supplies \$100

Total Expenses \$8405.24

*Full registration includes access to all the convention offers including official name tag holder, sack lunch on Business meeting day, goody bag, etc. Visitors will only be allowed to visit vendors and see classes. No participation in other activities.

TBA Draft Budget Approved 1/18/2020

Income

Convention Income

Registration

- Full (85 x \$65=\$5525)
- Kid's (10 x \$15=\$150)

Total Registration \$5675

Vendor Fees \$420

Visitors \$25

Raffle seed money from 2019 \$2409

Total Income \$8529

Membership (150 x \$20) \$3000

Gayle Green restitution \$600

Angel Basket Income \$50

Donations \$50

Total Income \$12,229

Expenses:

Convention Expenses \$8405.24

Teacher honorariums \$1050

Printing and mailing convention booklets \$1500

Gifts for the convention chairs and President \$200

Annual Corporate filing \$20

CPA fee \$250

Web Page (Go Daddy fee & renewal of domain) \$400

Newsletter \$400

Printing of Membership Directory \$150

Angel basket expenses \$300

Marketing for Convention & Membership \$500

Total Expenses \$12,775.24

Corrected Treasurer's Report October, 2019

Balance on hand as of July 21, 2019		24,790.25
Receipts		
Gayle Green's restitution	245.98	
2019 Convention	2899.00	
Raffle 2409		
Registration Desk 490		
Membership	1700	
Angel Baskets	140	
Donations	120	
Total Receipts		5,104.98
Expenses		
TBA Board	155.46	
Barbara Holt	5.46	
MJE2Waeve (Conv. Chair gift)	75	
K-n-K (Pres.'s gift)	75	
2019 Convention	6107.20	
Candy Alexander	36.14	
Fran Sorrell	1,131.38	
Meadowview Conv. Center	4,939.68	
Total Expenses		6,262.66
Balance on Hand		23,632.57

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