

# WEAVING CONNECTIONS



The Newsletter of the *Tennessee Basketry Association*

**Summer (August) 2020**



## *A Note from the President:*

I hope this newsletter finds all of you healthy and having a good summer. These times are hard for most of us but also gives us time to focus on home and family. I will have to say that I have enjoyed having less out of home things to do, but I miss my friends and family that I can't see.

Weaving is a hobby and gift for us that keeps us sane at times like this. Imagine what we would feel like with no hobby and having to stay home for months. I missed the conventions and time with weaving buddies but I had my supplies and patterns and kits I had bought at other conventions if I needed something to do. I took a break from weaving for a couple of these months and then weaved for a couple of weeks continually. It was what I needed. Keep that weaving going.

We missed the 2020 convention but are already working on the 2021 and 2022 conventions. This too shall pass and we will get back together soon. Your TBA board is continuing our work for this organization. We have Zoom meetings and conduct business that way and through email. Let your board know of your concerns and ideas. Email or text me anytime at (931) 510-3963 or [gwenesmith@twlakes.net](mailto:gwenesmith@twlakes.net)

I want to welcome our new officers and tell you that I am excited about a new year and I thank you for your service to this organization. Also, many thanks to the board members going off the board. Your work is much appreciated by me and members of this great organization.

Gwen

I hope this summer finds you all healthy, keeping busy, and socially distancing, of course. This year has been very strange and I, for one, am happy that I have had weaving to keep me busy during the long days of summer. For me, weaving has been the one constant in my life as everything else seems to have been turned upside down. I missed seeing my friends and meeting new people at our conference, but I remain optimistic that we will meet next July and be able to catch up. Our local weaving guild was just starting up, it continues to be my hope that we will be able to meet and keep moving forward finding new members and enjoying our craft.

As our recent elections are complete, I will now turn over the office of president to Gwen Morris. I believe Gwen will be an outstanding president and continue to successfully lead TBA. I would like to thank our members for giving me the opportunity to lead this organization and I am ever grateful for the support and assistance of our board members. I would especially like to thank Barbara Holt for her never-ending caring and guidance as well as Pam Parman for her support and fiscal management skills. I am excited to continue to be a part of the board as I move to the past president position. I hope you all remain healthy and well as we navigate the unknown.

*April Harper*

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## **News from the Tennessee Guilds:**

### **Odds and Ends**

In June, 2020, Sandra Miller and Bruce Robertson delivered eleven “Angel Baskets” to the East Tennessee Children’s Hospital. The baskets were made by members of Odds and Ends guild in Maryville, Tn. They also delivered pillows and blankets made by the knitting club at the Broadway United Methodist Church in Maryville. Because of the pandemic, a volunteer coordinator met us at our vehicle to accept the donation.



In all, the Maryville guild has contributed about 30 baskets to the ETCH.

In addition, Odds and Ends is deeply saddened by the death of Virgil Davis in April. He was a renowned basket maker in the Knoxville area and a long-time member of TBA and the Odds and Ends Basket Group. You could always count on some laughs and sage advice when Virgil was present. We will miss him.

Be Kind,  
Sandy

### **Gourmet Weavers- Middle TN**

The Gourmet Weavers have taken a couple months off from weaving as we waited on the virus to go away. Finally, Barbara Vaughn started meeting with her group outside under a church pavilion for those who felt comfortable doing that. I also began meeting in June with the other group in Byrdstown. All of us wore masks as a precaution. It was so nice to be back weaving with friends. We also have had 3 classes for beginners at Cordell Hull State Historical Park. Our goal is to pass the skills and the love of weaving along to others.

Weave on,

Gwen

# **TBA Reports**

Tennessee Basketry Association Board  
Board Meeting Minutes  
May 5, 2020 (in lieu of scheduled June 1 meeting)

## Call to Order

President April Harper called the TBA Board meeting to order at 7:05 pm EDT via ZOOM. Also present: Barbara Holt

Pam Parman

Ann Fairhurst

Sheri Burns

Gwen Morris

Linda Hinkelmann

Denise Robertson

## Reading of the Minutes

The April 20, 2020, general meeting minutes were previously emailed to the Board. They were read by Barbara at the meeting. Denise motioned to approve. Ann seconded. Approval on vote.

## Reports

No treasurer's report was requested.

2020 Convention: Ann reported responses from teachers after asking their opinions about proceeding or cancelling the convention. After discussion, Linda motioned to cancel. Barbara seconded. Approval on vote. The Board was reminded of the decision made at the April 20 meeting:

If the 2020 convention is cancelled, the Board should proceed with contract negotiations with the Alcoa Hilton for the 2021 convention, and with Pickwick Landing State Park for 2022. The Board will proceed.

## New Business

A discussion concerning the election of 2020-2021TBA officers was held. The slate will be presented to the Board from the Nominations Committee members with April, chair, and members Linda, Gwen, and Barbara. Positions to be elected are President-Elect, Treasurer and Member-At-Large. The Nominations Committee will present a slate by June 1. Gwen motioned that the slate approved by the Board will be voted on via email in July. Pam seconded. Approval on vote. Pam stated that she as Treasurer will issue a full refund to convention vendors and registrants by USPS mailings. Class checks will be shredded. She will report 2020 convention expenses along with cancellation expenses such as postage, envelopes and check purchase, at the next meeting.

## Adjournment

With no further business Pam motioned adjournment. Ann seconded. Approval on vote.

Respectfully submitted by  
Barbara Holt, Secretary

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