

**MINNESOTA BASKET
WEAVERS GUILD**

Spokes and Weavers



Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild Newsletter

President's Message by Nancy Fulton

Jan. 2016- Year 20 Issue 1



Hello all,

This is my first newsletter as the **2016 President**. I still remember my first Minnesota Basket Weavers meeting in a church in West Saint Paul, which was convenient since I live in West Saint Paul. I came at the invitation of Sandi Quint who I worked with at the University of Minnesota. Since then I have retired from the University, it was last April, and now fill my time with lots of activities including basket classes.

We have a great **Board of Directors that meets the Wednesday** before our Saturday classes. I've been attending as our liaison to the Textile Center for many years. We meet at the Highland Cafe and Bakery for dinner at 6 and new faces are always welcome. Just let me know, n-fult@umn.edu and I'll make sure to send an invitation with specifics.

Elsewhere in the newsletter is information on our **2016 classes**, Julie Pleski has done a great job both getting the class proposals and setting up the classes. There are two great offerings for January 23 plus open weave.

I'm looking forward to a great 2016. The Board welcomes all comments and suggestions; we're here to make the guild work for our members.

MBWG Board 2016

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We need a **Special Event**

Chair. Alice Ford has done a great job for us the past few years and we are looking for a willing replacement to serve in this capacity. It involves organizing a basket weaving event for the summer/fall. Alice can tell you all about the duties if you are interested. Let our new president-Nancy Fulton-know if you are interested.

Guild classes/events 2016

Hello, I hope your holidays went well. It is hard to believe that it is January.

I want to share some news about upcoming classes in 2016. I am very excited about the classes. There are various levels and different styles to explore from a felted bowl with finn wool to beaded tote. If none of the classes interest you, please feel free to come to the open weave table which is open to all. There will be people to help you with your projects in progress or just to lend an ear.

There are wonderful classes offered on the following dates:

January 23, 2016

-Little Onion Harvest Basket which will be taught by Roxanne Miller and Jill Scarpari.

-Ribbed Wall Basket which will be taught by Della Pleski.

-Open Weave Table (for chatting or various projects in progress).

February 27, 2016

-Felted Vessels with Finn Wool which will be taught by Leslie Granbeck.

-Deerskin Wine Basket which will be taught by Jill Scarpari. (Please note that this is one of two sessions, second one will be in March.)

-Open Weave Table (for chatting or various projects in progress).

March 19, 2016

-Beaded Tote which will be taught by Jo Guttormson.

-Deerskin Wine Basket which will be taught by Jill Scarpari. (This is the second session, continuing from February class.)

-Open Weave Table (for chatting or various projects in progress).

To see the photos of the baskets, please go to our website, www.mbwg.org/classes.html, (and see the next page). If you wish to take a class, please register for a class in advance to guarantee your spot in the class. The form can be found on the website. If you have any questions, please let me know and I will do my best to answer the questions. I am looking forward to seeing you and starting off the year with a new basket!

Thank you and have a wonderful week,

Julie Pleski

Program Director/Class Registration

Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild



January classes-Roxanne's on left and Della's on the right



February classes-Leslie's on the left and Jill's on the right



March classes-Jo's on the left and Jill's above right

*****Sign up early and often!!!*****

Other basket events...

Cabin Fever Weavin'

For information about this year's weaving event in Owatonna MN, **January 9th and 10th, 2016**, go to www.weavinwinona.com. We have several of Dianne Gleixner's baskets to choose from. Choose your basket and which day you would like to weave. Please pass this on to anyone who might be interested. Once again find the information on www.weavinwinona.com and scroll down toward the bottom of the home page. Hope to see you then!!

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks! Deb Mather.

Wisconsin Weave Away 2016

Wisconsin Weave Away 2016 is fast approaching! **March 10th - 12th**, New Auburn, Wisconsin. We have a great line up of teachers and a great variety of classes and we're anticipating the best year yet! Please **register by January 15th!**

Go to www.thebasketpatch.com and hover on the Wisconsin Weave Away and click on the registration and class signup page. You can pay and register for classes all on line or use the print button and mail it in. Hope to see you there!



Weavin' Up North

Save the date!! April 15, 16, 17 2016

Times have changed!!—We will be starting classes at 1PM on Friday the 15th. This will give weavers more time for classes and “free time” if needed. You will enjoy a full day of classes on Saturday and teachers will be staying at the Village on Sunday night so classes don't have to end so early on Sunday. Weavers will also have the choice to stay Sunday night.

Steve and Sandy Atkinson will be teaching and vending again this year. They will come with truckloads of supplies from Atkinson Country House for us to buy! And they will both be offering classes.

Cathryn Peters will be having a workshop within in the workshop on Friday and Saturday. Students will learn “hands on” all of the techniques used to prepare, drill and assemble antler baskets.

Jill and Paul Scarpari will be teaching and sharing their expertise in weaving. Jill is going to teach a two day class!

Back by popular demand Eileen Spilman teaching Basic Skills classes – It’s a great opportunity to bring a “new” weaver to enjoy the workshop experience.

The brochure will be sent out via email by the middle of January.



Weavin’ Up North Workshop in 2016!—Plan ahead and attend this great weaving experience. Headwaters Basketmakers are looking forward to welcoming all of you to the Northwoods to weave!

From Suzette Leizinger

Someone left a container of some very good cookies at the Dec. meeting-chocolate/mint chip. Bob and I are enjoying them! I will bring the container to the next mtg.

So if it is yours connect with Suzette!

Basket Bingo

Well, I have experienced **Basket Bingo 2015!** What a great and fun event! The Baskets were beautiful, the food was great, and the gathering of helpers was all quite impressive! I am still putting names and faces together but want to thank **EVERYONE** that contributed their time, craft, and support. We all know who you are! I would like to give a special thanks to the Scarpari Family Bingo Callers’. Basket making is not their only talent. Quite entertaining! Also Bonnie B., without her guidance I would have been in very deep trouble! The good news for 2016..... **Jean Ellingson** will be co-chairing... thank you Jean... all is good!

It’s not too early to be thinking Basket Bingo 2016

Happy New Year,
Sue Leizinger

Basket Bingo 2015 in pictures.....



A new caller this year with Paul, his daughter Neta.



Linda Wilcox is working the entrance table.



Roxanne is selling raffle tickets.



Layce and Della are managing the food.



Big baskets....



Small baskets....



Bucket raffle baskets.....



big raffle baskets...



Lucky winner!



Everyone having a good time.



Tasty Treats!



The tools of the trade.

Holiday Party Pictures 2015



Jo, Paul and Jeanie-Alice, Bonnie and Christine working on baskets for our service project.



As are Julie, Della and Suzette.



Some of the potluck goodies!



Some of the baskets made and filled.
We finished with 19 baskets! Great job!



More stuff for more baskets.



Christmas Party with a Purpose

Once again members of our guild met in December to have our annual Christmas potluck and basket exchange and to make and fill baskets for the residents of Alexandra House. Alexandra house is a shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic and sexual violence. Our Christmas party was expanded several years ago to include sharing our good fortune with others who are presently having a rough time. The 19 beautiful baskets that members produced were filled with personal hygiene items, sewing kits, candy, children's toys and books. Jo Guttormson again headed the project and delivered the 19 lovely baskets to the shelter after the guild meeting. Their response is always so heart-warming and appreciative.

Here's a bit of information about the Alexandra House. Last year they provided 11,330 nights of safe harbor and served 577 women and children in their emergency shelter. Their food shelf put more that 10,000 pounds of food on dinner tables around the community. They also collected and distributed hundreds of gifts making the holidays a little brighter for those in need.

Our Guild Christmas get-together is always fun and having a "giving" purpose makes it even more enjoyable. If you didn't attend this year, consider joining us next December. Happy New Year to you all!!!!

One basket's journey, now how did that basket arrive in Ca.?

This was sent to our past president, Christine Dellwo.

Hello Ms. Dellwo:

I was trying to send this to Monie Martin... and the old email address got kicked back. If possible, please forward this on to her if you know her and don't mind taking time to do so.

Many thanks,

Carol Verbeeck

Hello Ms. Martin:

I recently found a lovely pack basket at a Goodwill store in our town (Morgan Hill, CA), and noticed right off it was not the typical imported basket. First thought was, "That looks hand crafted. " I found "Monie Martin 2008" handwritten on the bottom. My husband and I are involved with living history programs, and I'm always on the look out for special things to add to our period gear.

I did a search on your name and found this email address -- and thought you might enjoy seeing your work in use here in California. How it wound up in a Goodwill store, who knows -- but it's found a home with a very appreciative audience. I was showing it around at a recent event (see attached photo), where it was part of my "still life" in the carreta (ox cart) that my husband and I researched and built for the Sanchez Adobe in Pacifica, CA. They had an event last month, and we added some gear to dress up the vehicle as if someone was traveling in it.

It will find it's way to our wagon camp at times, might haul needlework supplies or a picnic lunch.. and will accompany me to many a demonstration and event in the coming years.

Lovely work!

With great regards,

Carol Verbeeck



TREASURER'S REPORT

While I won't have the year-end bank statement until January, based on past statements and the bank balance, I can estimate our situation pretty closely.

We both started and will end the year with about \$11,000 in the bank...but we have pre-paid our 2016 Textile Center room rent so that we can take advantage of the 2015 prices, a change from past years. **Good news: we are ahead of the game.** We'll still owe for our storage, mailbox, organizational membership, etc., but the big charge has been paid.

We met our membership goal of 45 members last year (actually, had 47!), but have fewer renewed members as of the end of this year than we did last year. **Please look for your renewal form in the newsletter, and mail in your renewal if you haven't done so.** We have a one-time offer of a \$20 renewal (rather than \$25) if you couple it with a \$30 membership in the Textile Center (or \$50 for both). So far about 10 members have taken advantage of this offer. If you are interested—this brings you all the benefits of a Textile Center membership including discounts on classes and in the shop—send Bonnie your check for \$50 and she'll forward your information and the money due to the Textile Center...we are making it as easy as possible for you! Or, if you prefer, the \$25 renewal for the Guild membership still holds—one of the best bargains in town!!

Your membership not only supports the Guild and gets you access to great teachers and activities, as well as access to the Textile Center library, but we partly underwrite the summer (or fall..call it "special") event annually—thus bringing your costs down, and we give you a mileage stipend if you attend the Bemidji or Winona special events. And, you get to participate in that great Basket Bingo!!!!

We made about the same amount from Bingo as we did last year—within \$50 or \$100. Last reminder to get your reimbursement receipts in :-). This covers our rent and gives us a bit for the "cookie jar." We will bring forward to 2016 about \$675 for the cookie jar, which is about \$675 more than estimated, and about \$475 less than brought forward last year. This year we had a little less Bingo income, and a slightly higher special event cost due to mileage reimbursement for the teacher (she came from farther away).

Anyone who has questions or wants a spreadsheet, or to be put on the spreadsheet mailing list with the Board, let me know. Happy 2016!!!

Bonnie Buzza, Treasurer

Hello, Basket Makers! This is a reminder that our membership year runs January through December. The \$25.00 due is one of the best bargains in town!!!

Attached is a membership renewal form for your convenience--it is helpful if you complete it so I can double check your contact info. Also--**if you change your e-mail address, please let me know**....otherwise we won't know how to reach you for messages, announcements, or newsletters.

See you soon! BB

**MINNESOTA BASKET WEAVERS GUILD
2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Please complete this form and send with your check for \$25.00 (or \$50 if including Textile Center membership) annual dues to:

Treasurer, MBWG
Mailbox #7
Textile Center of Minnesota
3000 University Avenue SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Name_____

Date_____

Address_____

_____ Zip_____

Telephone A_____ Telephone B_____

E-Mail

Address_____

Editor's disclaimer: All is right with my world now that enough snow has fallen for all my favorite winter sports. That may be why this has newsletter has been a bit delayed, I've been too busy playing outside. Hopefully I will have the same problem for the next issue due in April. Send any **additions, corrections, or articles** you want addressed in the next newsletter to jill.scarpari@gmail.com

Respectfully written/edited by Jill A Scarpari