

Spokes and Weavers

MINNESOTA BASKET WEAVERS GUILD



Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild Newsletter
January 2021 – Issue 1



In This Issue:

- Letter from the Editor
- President's Message
- Textile Center Updates
- 2021 MBWG classes
- 2021 Minnesota and Wisconsin Events
- Registration Form



Letter from the Editor -

Greetings all! What wild times we are living in! Crafting has been my solace these past couple months. It is easy to get lost in it for a few hours and take a mini vacation. And of course, decorating and preparing for Christmas always occupies most of December! Here are a couple of my projects - I knitted a Frida Kahlo pillow, and made a snow-woman out of pine boughs, birch bark, pine cones, and grape vines. Also, I participated in a great basket weaving ornaments Zoom class taught by Debbie Johnson! May we all be vaccinated soon!



Frida Kahlo pillow

Pine boughs and pine cones snow woman

Presidents Message by Deb Johnson -



Happy New Year 2021! I'm rather glad to say farewell to 2020 and remain optimistic for 2021. I also hope our newsletter finds you well and safe.

I am very grateful for a supportive Board of Directors, who have helped tremendously behind the scenes, as we navigate our way through this pandemic and all the challenges we have faced to date. A special shout out must be had for Nancy Fulton. Through her continued generosity and support, the Board has been meeting monthly via her zoom account. The Guild has also been able to use her zoom account for our Guild meetings. Thank you, Nancy!

We also have a wonderful core group of members who continue to support this Guild with membership dues and participation in our monthly zoom meetings! Thank you! We appreciate everyone hanging in

there with us as we continue to get better at this zooming stuff! Technology can be a wonderful tool in the times we are experiencing. No, it is not the same as meeting in person, but at least we can conduct our business, have some classes, see our friends faces and share some laughs! If you haven't taken a basket weaving class via zoom, come join the fun! It works surprisingly well!

There is more updating still needed with our website. That seems to be something in constant change. Our upcoming classes should be posted very soon. Some of the forms will be updated in the next few days to reflect our remote classes.

As I write this message, we do not have a date when the Textile Center Board will authorize Guilds to resume meeting in the building. If I had a crystal ball, my best guess would be this coming Fall. In the meantime, we hope to see you at one of our zoom meetings! And...have you heard? We have an Instagram account! We'd love for you to share your photos! More on that from our membership Chair, Sarah Peterson! In the meantime, if you have any questions, thoughts or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email at debjohnson58@gmail.com.

Textile Center -

The Textile Center Gallery and Shop are open by appointment only, on the hour, Tuesday-Friday, 11:00am – 3:00 pm. The gift shop is also online with curbside pickup or shipping options. The library is available with online withdrawal requests with curbside pickup only.

2021 - MBWG Classes:

January 23, 2020, 10:00 AM – Noon

Exploring Cattails, a live zoom presentation by Reba Luiken, Ph.D.



It seems like cattails are everywhere in marshes and wetlands, but are they invasive, can you eat them, and how can you use them in weaving? In this lecture, you'll learn about the ecology of cattails, understand their past and present use by indigenous people, and explore cattail-based cordage and weaving projects. Plus, you'll be introduced to other plants at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum that can be used for basket making.

Reba Luiken is the Coordinator of Informal Interpretation at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. She leads free programs for all ages at the Arboretum, including the Plant Maker Studio, where visitors can create hands-on projects using plants. She has a Ph.D. in the History of Science from the University of Minnesota and her fiber-craft of choice is quilting.

Registration required to receive zoom invitation. Guild members – free; non-members \$15.00.

*due to the short time frame between now and the January meeting, please simply email Debbie Johnson at debjohnson58@gmail.com. Non-member registrations will be accepted with assurance payment is on the way.

February 27, 2021 10:00A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Four Sea Wave Flower Basket: All Weaving Levels; ***Instructor: Debbie Johnson, via Zoom*** Overall dimensions approximately 4”H x 6” diameter.



This delightful basket was taught by Flo Hoppe at the 2015 NBO conference. During class, she explained that this is a basket that 1st grade students in Japan would learn. It makes a perfect little bread basket for two. I can also attest that it also nicely holds assorted chocolates for easy access on the kitchen counter. The base is woven and I describe the sides as a variation of braiding – and there is no rim to lash!

Materials and pattern will be shipped a week prior to class. Registration deadline is Wednesday February 17. Cost: Members - \$25, non-members \$40.00.

March 27, 2021 10:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Diagonal Plaiting with Hand-hewn Black Ash Splint

Instructor: April Stone Dahl via Zoom



Mark your calendars! We are delighted to have April instruct this

class! April is an instructor of Native American Arts and Culture at Northland College in Ashland, WI. April has also taught a number of classes at the North House Folk School in Grand Marais. She harvests and processes her own materials.

Complete bio and more details about this class will follow! Stay tuned!

April 24, 2021 – TBD

May 22, 2021

***Handmade Wisk Brooms* Instructor: Marybeth Garmoe, Grand Marais, MN**



Our Guild had planned on Marybeth coming to Minneapolis to teach for us...and then there was the pandemic. At long last we will now be able to coordinate via zoom! All the particulars for this class and full bio for Marybeth will be available shortly. In the meantime, mark your calendars! This is another class you won't want to miss!!

2021 Minnesota, Wisconsin and Virtual Events -

[North House Folk School](#) – Boreal Basketry – All about Birch Webinar with Emily Duerke, Wednesday, January 27, 2021, 6:30-8pm, \$25.00, northhouse.org

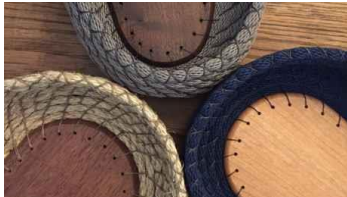


Vesterheim Folk Art School – Collection Connections: Birchbark Weaving with Beth Homa Kraus, Virtual talk about birch objects from their collection, as well as birch bark basket making and harvesting. February 10, 12-1pm, \$20. vesterheim.org

Driftless Folk School – La Farge, WI In person class – Birch Bark Boxes with Nicholas WazeeGale. March 20, limit 10 participants. Class and materials - \$105. [Driftlessfolkschool.org](https://driftlessfolkschool.org)



American Swedish Institute – Rope Coiled Basket, virtual class with Teresa Audet, April 17 1-4pm. \$70, includes materials to be picked up April 7-11. asimn.org



School of Basketry Art - Catriona Pollard, coming all the way from Australia, offers online twining classes for various levels of weavers that you can sign up for at any time. Find more information about the classes at schoolofbasketryart.com, and she also has a Facebook Group, School of Basketry Art.



MBWG Board 2021 (September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021)

- Past President, Nancy Fulton
- President, Debbie Johnson – debjohnson58@gmail.com
- Vice President/President Elect - **Open**
- Treasurer, Bonnie Buzza
- Secretary, Layce Peterson
- Textile Center/Guild Liaison, Nancy Fulton
- Program Director, Debbie Johnson
- Membership Director, Sarah Peterson – mnbasketweaversguild@gmail.com

Other Positions -

- Newsletter Editor, Pam Whitcomb
- Basket Bingo Co Chairs, **Open** and Suzette Leizinger
- Kid's International Basket Weaving Day, Pam Whitcomb
- Librarian/Historian - **Open**

Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild – Class Registration Form

Registrations are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Please observe the registration deadline as noted on the class schedule. Registration deadlines are set by our instructors and can vary depending on the class.

A separate registration form and separate check is required for *each* class. Please, ***do not send one check*** for multiple classes, or include membership dues. Checks are not cashed until after

the class has been held. Confirmation that your registration has been received will be sent via email. You will also be notified by email if the class is full and you can choose to have your check returned via mail or destroyed.

If you are unable to participate in the class/event and the registration deadline has passed, registration fees will not be refunded. When possible, a kit for the class will be provided. Please contact Debbie Johnson regarding cancellation options. Kits not claimed by September 1 of the following year will be forfeited.

If a class or event is cancelled for any reason, you will be notified by email.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Debbie Johnson (debjohnson58@gmail.com).

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Class

name: _____ Instructor Name: _____

Class Date: _____ Member Fee: \$ _____

- or - Non-Member Fee: \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Mail completed class registration form, together with payment to:

Debbie Johnson

12210 Urbank St. NE, Unit H

Blaine, MN 55449

*Any programs that might be complimentary for Guild members, registrations can be emailed to Debbie. Registration deadlines are still applicable.