

# Spokes and Weavers



Minnesota Basket Weavers' Guild Newsletter  
May 2021 – Issue 3

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## new year's resolutions

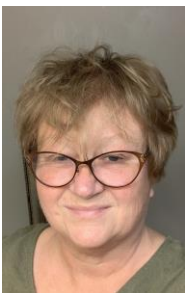


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### Letter from the Editor -



Greetings all! I have been smacked in the face with post-covid life, going back to work and my non-virtual commitments. It feels like one of life's crossroads, where you evaluate the good of the bad (Covid), and the bad of the good (normal life). It is an adjustment! I have been working on the Kid's Basket Weaving Day to be held June 26<sup>th</sup> at North Mississippi Regional Park, Pavillion A, from 11am to 2:30pm, with a half an hour lunch. Masks and appropriate

social distancing included! Sarah Peterson and I are teaching the class to the kids. Please consider volunteering to be a helper June 26<sup>th</sup> - especially if you have had a vaccine! Also, make sure to read the President's Message below - lots of info! Thanks and have a good summer!



## Presidents Message by Deb Johnson –

Warm greeting to all our Guild members! We hope this newsletter finds you all well. Like so many of us, I too find it an odd feeling to venture out a little more. It seems unusually strange to actually see people's faces again. Perhaps this is what it feels like to come out of hibernation! Thank you to all who were able to hang in with us and participate in our zoom basketry classes and lectures. If there are two things we learned, it is zoom is better than no contact; and

learning/teaching a basket weaving class via zoom can have its challenges! With having our zoom classes, we were able to have members who live farther away participate in guild activities and we even have a friend from TN take a class with us!

Even if you are not a 'member' of the National Basketry Organization, their website has a wealth of information about basket weaving, resources, guilds, teachers, and a calendar of events in the USA and abroad. This is a valuable resource for everyone: <https://nationalbasketry.org/>.

Annual Member's Meeting and Election of Officers, via zoom, May 22, 2021. Thank you to all who were able to attend. Here are the highlights from the meeting:

- At this time, no in-person guild gatherings are being permitted at Textile Center, through December 31, 2021. With many restrictions lifting, this may change, however, it is expected that any openings will be in small increments.
- Due to continued restrictions, your Board has decided there will be no Basket Bingo 2021. We hope to have a celebratory event once we can meet again in person.
- Our membership is at 32, which is down from 38 members the previous year. A deeper dive into those membership numbers, showed 15 members from our 2020 Fiscal Year did not renew. During our 2021 Fiscal Year we gained 9 enthusiastic new members. Welcome!
- Our guild will be holding a very small version of the International Kids Weaving Day on Saturday, June 26 at Minneapolis North Regional Park. The class will be limited to 4 children accompanied by adults. We are working with Textile Center and their youth program, inviting the participants to further strengthen opportunities. The basket to be made is a redesign version of the International Kids Weaving project that we have named 'Jeanie's Wish'.
- Our Guild continues to sponsor the basket weaving categories at the MN State Fair. Registrations open June 7 and close August 10. Check out the website: <https://www.mnstatefair.org/competitions/creative-activities/>.
- Textile Center's members show 'Common Thread' is normally exhibited at the beginning of the year. For 2021, the show is being exhibited July through October. The deadline for entry is Monday May 31 at 5:00 PM. Details, requirements, and registration are at: <https://textilecentermn.org/product/2021-a-common-thread-call-for-entry/>.
- Current vacancies on the Board include: Vice President/President Elect, Basket Bingo Chair, Guild Historian. Our Treasurer, Bonnie Buzza is willing to stay on for the upcoming fiscal year, but no longer. She would like to be available to work with anyone interested. If you are interested in helping us out should contact Debbie or Bonnie. Please note that MN State Statutes require us to have a President and a Treasurer to continue as an organization.
- The Treasurer's Report was presented via screenshare, and is available to any member requesting a copy.
- Election of Officers: There were no nominations for Board positions. All current Board members are willing to remain in office for the upcoming 2022 FY (01/09/2021-08/31/2022). Please see the end of the newsletter for the full list.
- The Board has been meeting via zoom, typically the 2nd Monday of each month 7:00 – 8:30 P.M. This has been an efficient way to conduct our Board meetings and we plan to continue with this format. Any Guild member is welcome to attend. If you are interested, please email Debbie at [debjohnson58@gmail.com](mailto:debjohnson58@gmail.com)

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer!

## 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.



If you are a member of the Textile Center, consider submitting an entry for A Common Thread, the annual member's show of work! Entries need to be submitted SOON – by May 31, 2021 – here is the link - <https://textilecentermn.org/product/2021-a-common-thread-call-for-entry/>. There is a \$25 entry fee and items need to be delivered between June 22 and 24. The show will be from July 6<sup>th</sup> to October 19. See the link to register and for more details. Let's represent basketry!

## 2020/2021 - MBWG Classes:

Our programs this past year were:

- September – Zoom, open weave.
- October – Zoom, Willow Presentation by Jo Campbell Amsler, followed by willow gathering at Lake Hiawatha.



- November – Zoom, open weave.



- December – Zoom, Weaving holiday ornaments, led by Debbie Johnson.
- January – Zoom, Presentation on Cattails, Reba Luiken, MN Landscape Arboretum

- February – Zoom, Flo Hoppe’s four Sea Wave Flower Basket, led by Debbie Johnson.



- March – Zoom, Diagonal Plaiting with Black Ash, April Dahl Stone.
- April – Zoom, Practice weaving ‘Jeanie’s Wish’ for Kid’s event – lead by Pam Whitcomb & Sarah Peterson.



- May – Zoom – Whisk Brooms, Marybeth Garmoe.
- June 26 – Kid’s Weaving (Jeanie’s Wish), Minneapolis North Regional Park.

Do you have a particular class you would be interested in? An instructor you have always to take a class from? Are you interested in teaching a class for your guild? Please email Debbie Johnson at: [debjohnson58@gmail.com](mailto:debjohnson58@gmail.com). We will start lining up 2022 FY classes over the summer!

## **2021 Midwest and Virtual Events -**

Minneapolis Institute of Art -



[Unexpected Turns: Women Artists and the Making of American Basket-Weaving Traditions](#)

[March 11, 2021 - October 24, 2021](#)

[Robert and Marlyss White Gallery \(Gallery 281\)](#)

Circle Back to Weavin' - August 5-8, 2021, Independence, MO, In person Conference,

<http://www.basketweavers.org>

Zoom into Weaving - September 13-19, 2021 – Online Conference sponsored by the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, <https://www.basketryguild.org/calendar/2021/5/15/register-for-zoom-into-weaving>

Wisconsin Weave Away - October 1-3, 2021, Chetek, WI, In person Conference, only 7 openings left!

<https://wisconsinweaveaway.webstarts.com>

Weaving Magic, Association of Michigan Basket Weavers - October 20-24, Grand Rapids, MI, In person Conference, <http://www.michiganbasketmakers.com/events.html>

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](http://schoolofbasketryart.com), and she also has a Facebook Group, School of Basketry Art.



**Here is a great link for basket weaving materials and how to protect them** – it lists different materials, different types of basket techniques, and preservation methods -

<https://www.canada.ca/en/conservation-institute/services/preventive-conservation/guidelines-collections/basketry-plant-materials.html>

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

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

#### **Additionally -**

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

Ever wonder why we have limited board member contact information posted? Multiple Board members have experienced scam imposters contact in recent years. As a result, we have two options for you - a Gmail account that you can send emails, or directly to Debbie Johnson.