Spokes and Weavers

MINNESOTA BASKET

WEAVERS GUILD



Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild Newsletter

President's Message by Nancy Fulton

July 2017- Year 21 Issue 3



Greetings from Manchester England. I've just finished up my 4 Nation (England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland) Needlework tour. This is the third study tour I've done with Phillipa Turnball and the Crewelwork Company. We learn about needlework techniques, visit historical sites and see their needlework collections. Needless to say, there is a lot of needlework to see and I have fun learning different techniques, It really is amazing to see needlework done in the 1500's that has survived usually because they are family pieces. I really don't think some of these families throw anything away possibly because they have the space and the interest in maintaining their family's history.

I'm going to be attending the National Basketry Organization biannual conference in Tacoma Washington July 19-23, 2017 and I'm really looking forward to my Western Red Cedar classes with Kathey Ervin. I attended the conference in 2015 when it was at Macalester College and really enjoyed my classes, the interaction with my fellow students and the chance to see beautiful baskets. I recommend adding a National Basket Organization conference to your bucket list.

The Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild doesn't have classes until fall but I hope everyone has a chance to make some baskets during our fantastic Minnesota summer. We'll return in the fall with great classes on Saturday, September 23 and don't forget Basket Bingo on Saturday, October 28. Please consider donating baskets as this is our biggest fundraiser and helps us schedule and teach our basket classes at the Textile Center.

Have a great summer and see you in the fall. Nancy Fulton

MBWG Board 2017

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Hospitality-Everybody!

FB Liaison TBD

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Rhubarb Dream Bars

From Jeanie Wilcox

This recipe came from her Mom, who wa a fabulous cook. She always grew a lot of rhubarb and loved to bake with it. This recipe is delicious, not too sweet or too sour. Serve it warm with whipped cream or ice cream.

2 c flour ¾ c powdered sugar 1 c butter 4 eggs 2 c sugar ½ c flour 1 ½ tsp salt 4 c rhubarb, finely chopped

Combine 2 c flour, powdered sugar and butter. Mix well and press into a greased 9 x 13" pan. Bake at 350 until golden brown, 10-15 minutes. Beat eggs, sugar, ½ c flour and salt until well blended. Add rhubarb; mix. Spoon mixture onto baked crust. Bake at 350 for 45 min more. Cool and cut and eat!

BINGO!

Here's the plan: * Set up same as last year

* If you do not plan on doing the same job as last year, let us know

* Start time the same as last year

* Need baskets - same as last year

* Questions contact Suzette at <u>aslzinger@gmail.com</u> or Jean at <u>jellngsn@gmail.com</u>

* Your help is greatly appreciated - same as last year

Over the summer, please let us know what you will be donating? Raffle basket, large or small baskets. <u>As you know I will come and pick the baskets up at your home</u> over the summer or you can bring them to the September meeting (the 23rd) or the day of Bingo. Remember, the date is the fourth Saturday in October, the 28th.

Thanks everyone!

EXCITING NEWS!!!!

Jeannie Wilcox and Debbie Johnson

The MBWG will have an exhibit on display this fall at the Textile Center. In case you haven't been to the Textile Center lately, there is a new display space called the Guild Wall. We will be sharing information about our Guild and will have not only that space but also some display space in the library from early September until the end of October. We will be sharing activities available at the Guild and highlight the fact that our 20th anniversary is drawing to a close and we will be beginning our 21st year. The display will be up during our main fundraising activity – **BASKET BINGO**, scheduled for Saturday, October 28th. The exhibit is another good reason to invite family and friends to attend Basket Bingo this year! Debbie Johnson and Jeanie Wilcox took on the challenge of getting the exhibit pulled together over the summer. A call for entries was rapidly sent out in May with a deadline of June 15th to submit up to 3 baskets per member. From that call for entries, submissions were received from Martha Bird, Katherine Buenger, Bonnie Buzza, Ann Danko, Alice Ford, Debbie Johnson, Della Pleski, Julie Pleski, Jill Scarpari, Paul Scarpari, Jeanie Wilcox, and Linda Wilcox. We are happy to announce that all of these submissions are being accepted for the exhibit because we have also been given the display space in the library – both on the walls and in the glass display cases! Thank you so much to those who were able to get submissions to us by June 15th! The next deadline, and possibly a little more challenging, will be for us to get these baskets collected by August 5th. We will be in touch via email with details and collection information.

The Guild wall will include the history of our Guild plus highlight various activities we, as a guild, do to promote basketry such as awards at the Minnesota State Fair, basketry demonstrations in the community, our 'Christmas Party with a Purpose' where baskets are woven to be filled with goodies to

brighten the holiday season for residents of the Alexandra House, a shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic and sexual violence. Within our guild meetings we also provide class opportunities for Guild members to both take classes and to teach classes. We have had a variety of regionally and nationally known teachers share their skills and talents with us. We will also include photos of past successful Basket Bingos.

Stay tuned for more updates as the exhibit progresses and is installed!!

IMPORTANT INFO FOR ALL GUILD MEMBERS-WEBSITE RX

If you have tried to log into the website recently, you will find we are having some problems..... The website management group (in Canada) was notified and they informed us that our domain name (i.e. <u>mbwg.org</u>) had lapsed.....they directed us to the domain management group in Australia! Well, nothing is easy, of course....in order for the Treasurer, Bonnie Buzza, to access the site and pay the bill to renew the domain name, the original person who made arrangements needs to be notified and give permission for a new account to be opened in Bonnie's name as the "keeper." So we've been on a scavenger hunt to locate that person, no longer a guild member, and for her to get in touch with the Australia group...thank goodness for e-mail.

We are making progress, but we anticipate several more weeks before the new account is opened, and then the website fixed. We will share the access information with several key members as well as writing it down in permanent Guild records, so that when the next renewal is due we don't have to go through all this again!

So sorry for all the hassle..... we are an informal group of volunteers who help wth things....and sometimes that causes a glitch. We will try to do better in the future.

Bonnie Buzza, Treasurer

Our MBWG classes:

September 23: Pine Needle Basket with 2 Slices with Jill Scarpari



October 28: Basket Bingo

November 18: Shirley Mount-A Charm



December 9 - Annual Holiday Party

To see more information about these classes and events, please go to our website, <u>www.mbwg.org/classes.html</u> Also, if you wish to take a class, please register for a class in advance to guarantee your spot in the class. This is becoming important since all instructors have minimum students required to keep the classes. The form can be found on the website.

April Teachers 2017





Ellie Lida

Emily Derke's picture should be here. Sorry, I blew it. So here is her beautiful basket

Potential new members and visitors in April 2017



Phyllis Knutson came to sell supplies. Roberta, a visitor, has woven before.



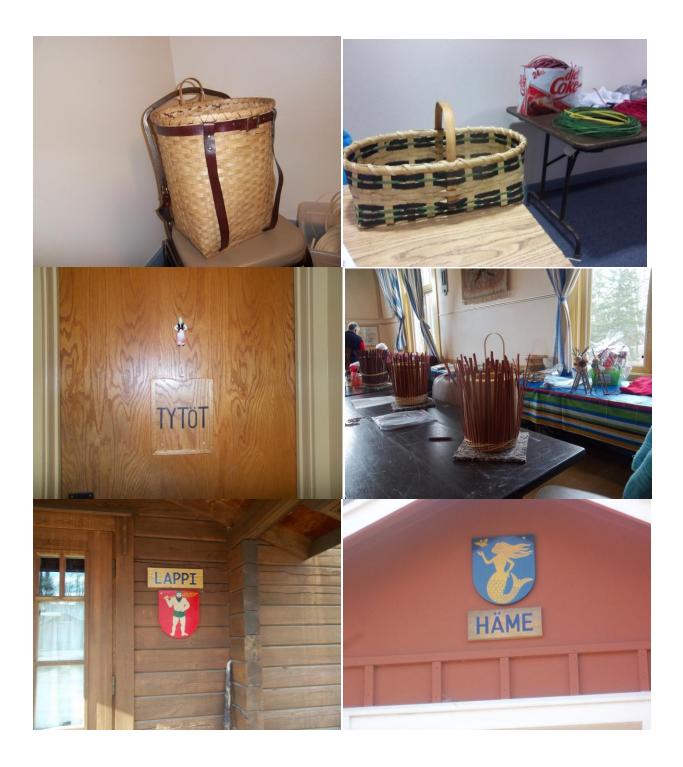


Sherrie weaving her first basket!!!

Peggy and her mom, Linda Wilcox.

Scenes from Weavin' Up North Workshop 2017







Nancy Baer is leaving her postion as chairwoman of Headwaters Guild April workshop. She is moving to a warmer climate, where she and her husband can indulge in their love of sailing for a longer portion of the year. The Bemidji based guild and all her friends will miss her, but she assures us, she is only a Facebook post away. Happily for workshop attendees, Linda Hansen and Marcie Blikrie have agreed to step up and coordinate things next year.

May Teacher 2017



Jo Guttormson Potential new Members in May 2017



Roberta and Sherrie are back, maybe for good as new members! Potluck in May-lots of great food!



Need a different kind of workshop to attend? This may be the one for you!-Federation-Katherine Buenger Join some fellow weavers for a weekend of fiber fun. October 13-15 2017. Federation is a group of weavers, spinners, dyers, and knitters from across Minnesota. We meet once a year for a fall retreat. This year we are meeting again at Mt. Carmel on lake Carlos outside of Alexandria. Catherine Friend will be the keynote speaker. The weekend includes 2 half day classes, meals, housing, vendors, in a beautiful setting. Registration will open July 10th. For more information go to <u>weaveminnesota.com</u>. Dear Basket Instructor,

We are excited to be planning the monthly basket classes for the Minnesota Basket Weavers' Guild for 2018 – and we want you to be a part of them!

The Guild generally meets the 4th Saturday of each month (unless otherwise noted.) Classes run from 9:00 until done (usually no later than 3:00 pm). All classes are held at the Textile Center of Minnesota, located at 3000 University Avenue SE.

• We will be meeting for classes on the following Saturdays early in 2018: January 27, 2018, February 24, 2018, March 24, 2018

The following months do not have confirmed specific Saturdays yet: April, May, September, and November. We generally meet the fourth Saturday except for months with late holidays, thus it is likely May and November meetings will move forward. We will notify teachers who have sent in proposals when we have confirmed dates for the balance of 2018. The confirmed dates will also go up on the website.

We offer two classes most months, and we have special events in October 2018 (Basket Bingo) and December 2018 (holiday party). We will attempt to offer a range of beginning, intermediate and advanced classes throughout the year when considering the proposals. There are some months that only one class will be offered.

Teachers are free to bring patterns, materials and extra kits to offer for sale. Please remember the copyright issue when using patterns, and give credit to the author when applicable.

We look forward to receiving your proposal(s) by mail or e-mail by September 30, 2017, or contact Julie (information below) to make arrangements. In general, decisions will be made by November 30, 2017. Also, if you wish to have a place to stay, we have a member who is willing to offer her guest room with advance notice.

Additionally, we are changing how payments will be made for classes. Members will receive a class discount (which does <u>not</u> affect the class price you set.) To facilitate this, registration checks will be made to MBWG and then our Treasurer will issue asingle check made payable to the teacher on the day of the class.

Please fill out the attached form and mail to Julie Pleski at the address below or email to jpleski@yahoo.com. You can also find the form at the website, www.mbwg.org.

Please contact me with questions. We look forward to reviewing your proposal(s).

Julie Pleski 1492 Pascal Street North, St. Paul, MN 55108

CLASS PROPOSAL for MBWG 2018

DUE: September 30, 2017 (or contact Julie at jpleski@yahoo.com to make arrangements) BY STUDENT REQUEST: Teachers must have for their students their name (and /or basket creator name) & picture of basket with pattern in a plastic sleeve. Name				
	Address			
	PhoneE-Mail			
	1. Name of Basket:			
 Photograph enclosed (This is required for website class listing-Digital photos are preferred - see mail information below.) Pattern owner credit Dimensions of the Basket: Skill Level Suggested to successfully complete the basket: Beginner Advanced.Beginner Intermediate Number of hours required to complete the basket Number of students you are comfortable teaching: Maximum Minimum A class assistant can be made available upon request. Payment in the form of a kit of the basket being taught is suggested Months that you can teach: 				
	Jan Feb March Ap	ril May Sept		
	Nov			
•	Cost of class for individual enrollee, including	all materials and travel expenses		
•	Special tools needed:			
Ple	Please snail mail proposal with photograph(s) to	: Julie Pleski		
		1492 Pascal St. North		
		St. Paul, MN 55108		
OF	OR please e-mail proposal with photograph(s) to: j	pleski@yahoo.com		

Treasurer's Report: New forms for classes and membership

The Guild currently has about \$10,000 in the bank—which is generally the case at this time of year—but we do have several anticipated bills:

we need to reimburse the contact people who reimbursed the attendees at Bemidji and Winona, and we will have printing costs for a new brochure this summer. We also have orderer a 20th Birthday gift for Guild members...so be sure to attend the September meeting where you will get yours right away :-).

Besides the budget, we have other financial news... The Board some time ago voted to initiate a \$5.00 price difference for members and non-members to take classes, effectively giving an enrollment discount to Guild members. In order to implement this, there are a couple of changes:

First...there are new registration forms. A copy is in this newsletter, along with the new class policies, and these documents will go up on the website sometime this summer, in preparation for fall classes. Additionally, you will no longer make your check out to the teacher, you will make it out to MBWG, and as usual include it with your registration. The treasurer and program director will confirm the memberships for the discount, and a single check will be made to the teacher from the Guild for her registration charges. The income from non-member registrations will go to the Guild...possibly for special projects.

You will see other new forms, as well—in the newsletter and over the summer on the website. We have a new form for Guild membership which reflects the co-membership option with the Textile Center, and a related membership information document reflecting our new policies.

Check the newsletter for copies of these forms and documents. Bonnnie B.

Effective Fall 2017 Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild Membership Information

- The Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild was formed in April of 1997.
- Membership is open to all.
- Cost of membership is \$25.00 per year (beginning in 2007).
- Members receive a discount of \$5.00 on class prices.
- Guest weavers are welcome. There is always an open weave table so you can bring your own projects to work on.
- Guild membership runs January to December and may be paid after October 1st.
- Newsletters are published quarterly in January, April, July and October.

<u>Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held the fourth Saturday of the month at:</u> **The Textile Center of Minnesota (TCM) 3000 University Avenue SE Minneapolis, MN 55414**

<u>Unless otherwise noted, meeting times are:</u> 8am – 9am: Set up, greetings 9am – 3pm (approx.) 12 noon Class time and open weave 12 noon: Informal business meeting

NOTES: Lunch time is on your own - bag lunches are suggested 1pm - 3 pm: Clean up and table break down

Space is always provided for weavers who choose to bring materials to weave on their own (the "open weave" table).

Please join us for a visit! Registration and payment for classes must be done in advance, so that the instructors can plan for the class, but visitors are welcome to come to the "open weave" table, or to just come and watch or visit.

There is usually more than one class offered per month; for over-enrolled classes, the date of receipt of registration and payment is used to select class members.

For class information, you can click on the "Class Schedule" link on our website or you can contact: Julie Pleski 1492 Pascal Street North St. Paul, MN 55108 jpleski@yahoo.com

MINNESOTA BASKET WEAVERS GUILD 2017-18 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please complete this form and send with your check for \$25.00 annual dues to:

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

Name	Date
Address	
	Zip
Telephone A	1
E-Mail	
Address	
MBWG Membershi	p \$25.00

____ Dual membership MBWG \$20, TC \$35, for a total of \$55.

For the dual Textile Center/MBWG membership, enclose \$20.00 for the MBWG membership (special offer again this year for those doing both!) and \$35 for the TC membership—for a total check of \$55.

MBWG membership includes: Discounts on class registrations, borrowing privileges at Textile Center library, quarterly newsletters, the opportunity to meet and share a common interest with friends!

The Bamboo (co-Guild) membership in the Textile Center includes these Textile Center benefits:

- 10% Textile Center Shop discount + special offers
- Borrowing privileges in the Textile Center Pat O'Connor Library of over 28,000 books, periodicals, media materials, and textile tools
- Discounts on more than 150 classes, seminars, and workshops a year
- Inclusion of your artwork in our annual member exhibition, A Common Thread
- 50%+ discount on facility rental, including meeting rooms, Dye Lab, and 300 seat auditorium
- Discounts on special events such as the pre-sale for the annual "World's Largest Textile Garage Sale"
- Higher commission rate as an artist in the Textile Center Shop
- Discounts at participating retailers, who sell a variety of fiber and equipment
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- Discounts at participating retailers, who sell a variety of fiber and equipment

Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild Class Registration Form

Please fill out the class registration form and mail it, with your payment to: Julie Pleski

1492 Pascal Street North St. Paul, MN 55108

NOTE: Each registration must be accompanied by a registration form along with a check made out to the <u>Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild (or MBWG)</u> to cover the class fee. **Please note that on the website that members receive reduced class prices.** Checks will not be cashed until after the class has been held.

Name:	Member: Yes No		
Address:			
City:	_ State: ZIP:		
Email:			
Class Date:			
Member Fee \$ OR Non	-Member Fee \$		
Class Name:			
Instructor:			
Class Date:			
Member Fee \$ OR Non	-Member Fee \$		
Class Name:			
Instructor:			

NOTE: If registering for more than one class, please make sure to include all information for both classes and your check made out to the Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild (or MBWG) at the appropriate fee level.

Class Policies:

*Classes are held on the 4th Saturday of most months. Please check the schedule on the website for specific dates. and information.<u>MBWG members receive a reduced price forclasses</u>.

- Each registration must be accompanied by a registration form along with a check made out to the Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild (or MBWG)to cover the class fee. Please note that on the website that members receive reduced class prices. Checks will not be cashed until after the class has been held.
- Registration for more than one class may be put on one form.
- Please register early...teachers need time to prepare class materials. Some teachers may have registration deadlines 2 weeks or more before class date.
- If the number of registrations exceeds the class size limit on that date, names will be chosen by the date the checks were received. Checks will be returned by mail and you will be notified by email if the class is full. Please contact **Julie Pleski** via email for confirmation: <u>jpleski@vahoo.com</u>
- If you cannot attend the class, or if you are a no-show after you have registered, the class fee will not be refunded. A kit will be substituted. The instructors prepare the materials for you and we must respect their time and investment. You must contact Julie Pleski via email to arrange to pick up your kit at a subsequent class date: jpleski@yahoo.com
- If you have questions about a class, please contact Julie Pleski (jpleski@yahoo.com) rather than the instructor. Instructors have requested this to help them avoid multiplee-mails for similar questions. Julie will query and respond to you by e-mail.
- Bring your own lunch, if desired. Coffee is provided and we often have members bringing a morning snack.

General Information

Where we meet: Textile Center of Minnesota 3000 University Avenue SE Minneapolis, MN 55414

Class times and schedule:

8:30 am – 9 am: Set up and greetings

- 9 am 3 pm (approximately): Class time and open weave table (Times vary by a class.)
- 12 pm: Possible informal business meeting
- 1 pm 3 pm (approximately) Clean up

From Becky Bechtel (via Jeannie Wilcox)-I received the "Save the Date" cards for the 2018 weaving retreat. If anyone (teachers or otherwise) would like some for their guilds, upcoming weaving events, or convention goodie bags please let me know. Let's spread the word ... good times and good weaving on the horizon. Registration will start before we know it (late summer)



Join us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/Groups/FloridaBasketWeavers

The teachers and their classes have been selected. This was not an easy task - we wished we could have chosen every single one proposed. The teachers for the 2018 Weaving in the Sunshine State basket weaving retreat will be:

Patty Feather Pam Hermann Talsky Char Ciammaichella Debbie Mroczenski Debbie Elston Hurd Julie Kleinrath Tonya Cubeta Denise Bendelewski Alice Ogden Candace Katz and yours truly, Becky Bechtel

The Class Catalog will be available mid summer and registration will begin during August. I can't wait to show you the incredible selection of classes. Narrowing down your choices won't be easy. So little time and so many awesome choices!



Pine Needle Surprise-Debbie Johnson

It was December 2015 in Naples, FL. I had been looking and searching for a basket guild or group of some sort in the vicinity, with no luck. Long-leaf pine needles were everywhere! Certainly there must be weavers around! One day – there it was – in the Community Education catalog – a pine needle basket class! I looked up the instructor and found she had a website. From there I found another website for the 'Brookdale Basketeers'! I immediately contacted the community ed instructor about the group – 'we're full and not accepting new members' – she said. How could that be? ...but we are having a Holiday Sale if you would like to come to that...

Sale day came and there we were! What beautiful work!! After looking around, I went back to find my husband, who was engaged with a lady from the twin cities (small world!). "Tell her!" he said. I wasn't sure what he was talking about. "My wife is a basket weaver from Duluth, MN". The next thing I knew, I was being introduced to all the ladies! When I asked if it might be possible to come sometime, just to watch them...well, off they were to find Georgia, whoever Georgia was! There she came. She was a tiny elderly lady. It was very apparent that Georgia's consent was required, and, lucky for me, was granted!

The next week I showed up. This group of 'basketeers' get together every Wednesday morning at the senior residence where Georgia lives. Over time I was warmly accepted into the group and started learning how to make pine needle baskets. This, however, became secondary. Very quickly I found myself drawn to Georgia. She was incredibly kind, gracious, loving and humble. I knew I needed to learn more about this lady. That March, she was kind enough to make time for us to visit. I felt as though I was having a visit with my Grandma!

Georgia was born December 28, 1918 in southern Illinois. Her parents moved from the farm to Cincinnati, Ohio, where her father started a car dealership business. I saw a stunning photo of Georgia standing beside a shiny brand new car – it was 1941 and she had just graduated from college to be a teacher. The car, a Chevy Fleetline (one of the last off the assembly line), was a gift from her parents. I found this all quite amazing! A gal going to college back then was not so common place, and she owned and drove a car!

WWII had already begun. The U.S. entered the war in December 1941 after the bombing at Pearl Harbor. During the war years, Georgia's mother had taken ill. There was little opportunity for her to pursue any career. She would stay home to help care for her mother and do the bookkeeping for her father's business.Dale, a young man Georgia had met in college was

drafted. He had contacted her wanting her to write him while he was gone. She agreed. For 39 months, with no furlough, they faithfully wrote each other. In one of those letters, Dale proposed. Upon his safe return, they were married on January 2, 1946, in Cincinnati.

Georgia and Dale had 2 boys. Dale was teaching. Georgia's brother had moved to Bonita Springs, FL. It was a sleepy little town at the time. Her father had retired from his car dealership business and also moved to Bonita Springs. Soon after, Georgia and Dale were persuaded to follow. Bonita Springs was in need of a Principal and it was a perfect fit for Dale. The boys were just toddlers at the time.

Dale loved to fish and he regularly took the boys with him. Georgia had also got back into teaching and found herself needing to do something for herself. It was 1957. A neighbor taught pine needle basket weaving at a local woman's club and invited her to come. She was hooked!

Dale died in 2001. Not long after, Georgia moved to into Brookdale, a senior housing complex in Bonita Springs. Both her boys had tragically died years ago and there were no grandchildren. Once again, a sense of belonging was needed. The activities person at Brookdale had become acquainted with Georgia and together they got the word out to others, seeking interested folks to start a basket group with her. Wouldn't you know it – they started coming! The Brookdale Basketeers was a reality!

They meet every Wednesday morning from 9:00 - 11:00. Whoever can be there just shows up and everyone visits and works on their projects. Show & tell is a must at every gathering! With great curiosity, Georgia moves from table to table visiting and keenly interested to see up close what everyone is creating! The size of the group varies, depending on the arrival of snowbirds. While I was attending, it was common for there to be 20 ladies. The room is an adequate size for the group, but often there were no chairs to spare – which is why I had been told they were 'full'! Now I understood!

The very first pine needle basket I made, Georgia taught me! Keep in mind she was 96 and legally blind. I returned to visit on December 28, 2016. It was Georgia's 98th birthday! She was still weaving! I had made a basket from reed to store her pine needles. She had been using a cardboard-type tube with pretty paper on the outside. I felt like a child bringing a homemade gift to grandma and hoped she would like it. I waited with anticipation as she took it out of the bag. Her face just lit up! Yes – I thought! Without my having mentioning the intended use of the basket, she instantly took her pine needles and placed them inside. I was thrilled to have done something kind – the gift of a handmade basket – a simple way to say thank you. Georgia had shared with me that "by the grace of God, the 'basketeers' were a gift to her and gave her a reason to live."

It reminded me that don't always realize the value of the fellowship we share when we get together each month. As a transplant from the North Shore Basket Guild in Duluth, thank you for your kindness and friendship – for the love of basket weaving, ha!

To see a video interview with Georgia Hortin and watch her, go to: <u>https://youtu.be/JpLvYu -8vA</u>

Nantucket Molds and Bases for your use!





Nantucket molds and bases that are owned by MBWG. We have quite a few. So if you are interested see Layce or Nancy about unlocking our cabinet and checking them out. They are available for any guild member to use. Some even have bases!

President-Elect, Facebook Liasion ?????

We are still looking to fill these positions, so if you love the guild and want to see it stay in business, consider volunteering for one of these 2 positions. **SOON!** I know someone out there **looooves Facebook** and can help us out! Also ask Nancy **how much work she actually does** as President....hmmmm. It is not taxing, as Bonnie explains-she has also been President.

Editor's disclaimer: Well that is a full issue! No need for me to add any basket related item I find on the internet, maybe next time. Send any additions, articles or corrections-*corrections meaning factual errors not grammatical/semantical errors because I can live with those*-you want addressed in the next newsletter to <u>jill.scarpari@gmail.com</u>.

Respectfully written/edited by Jill A Scarpari