



Spokes & Weavers

August 2007
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Message from the President

Hi all!

Well it's "**Back To**" Season.

The ads in the papers and on TV are filled with **back to** school items for the young people in our lives. Most of the trips up north have been taken. We're shaking the sand out of our shoes, and heading **back to** work.

But the good thing is that some of our favorite things of the year are still ahead. Including going **back to** basket classes at the Guild. I tried to be creative this summer and made a couple of really unusual baskets. I made my first antler basket! I did a colorful twill bowl! And I included seagrass, walnut shells, birch bark, wool, twigs, and pine needles all into my "Camp Basket." It also includes the DNA of several flies and spiders – but that's another story.

So as you come **back to** the Guild this fall, bring along your summer creations and we'll have a show and tell. Or maybe even donate one of your summer baskets to Basket Bingo, another **back to** event. Let's have a great "**Back To**" Season!

Back to School! Back to Work! Back to Baskets !

Juliana Fick
President

Highway 35W Bridge Collapse

Please keep in mind the detours due to the recent collapse of the bridge over the Mississippi River. Many of you take Highway 280 to the Textile Center, and as of this writing, that should pose no problems. However, as they are trying to upgrade this highway to make it more usable for rush hour traffic, please pay attention to any news stories about it's closure on the weekends to come (September 22, October 28, etc.).

Also, there are other roads still closed near the University of Minnesota, so if you go that way, pay attention to those closures.

Thank you for your cooperation as the city deals with this major tragedy.

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Top 5 reasons to come to Bingo in October...

5. A chance to support your local guild!
4. A sure fun day—playing Bingo, laughing and talking with friends.
3. You might get to shout BINGO at the top of your lungs..
2. You can eat hot dogs—without guilt.
1. You might win a swell basket, made by one of your fellow guild members.

Hope to see you there!

Jo Guttormson
Jill Scarpari
Paul Scarpari

Bingo Coordinators

MBWG Board

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Special Events Diane Ericson Susan Burkhalter	
Web Master Sandi Quint 763-222-3207	smquint@gmail.com
State Fair Committee Nancy Fulton	651-552-1453 n-fult@umn.edu

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Rhubarb Cake

Preheat oven to 350

Prepare 1 Yellow Cake mix per the directions on the box—but do not bake, yet!

Pour mixture into greased 9 x 13 cake pan

Sprinkle 3 cups chopped rhubarb on top of cake mixture

Sprinkle 1 cup sugar evenly on top of rhubarb

Pour 1 pint cream on top of all!

Bake at 350 for 1 hour

When you serve, turn pieces over, as this is an upside down cake, with nummy custard!

Submitted by Jill Scarpari



Do we have your current email address?

Does the Guild have your correct email address? If not, can we have it? The better you keep us informed of any changes to your address, the easier it is for us to communicate any special events, and upcoming activities. Thanks!!!

Upcoming Events

August 28	Minnesota State Fair	An opportunity to volunteer to help spread the news about how much fun you have weaving baskets, and attending the guild! Come to the Creative Activities Building, bring something to work on, and just talk to the folks coming by. It's great fun!!!
September 27, 28, 29	Northwest Hoosier Basket Guild	Contact Barb Thomas. 219-464-0968 http://www.nwhoosierbasketguild.com ronandbarb@verizon.net

Minnesota State Fair 2007!!!

MBWG will be displaying baskets and basket making at the Fair on August 28, from 1:00 PM until 9:00 pm. We will have a booth in the Creative Activities building—right next to the main entrance on Snelling.

And we need volunteers!!!! This is a great opportunity to meet people who might have an interest in basketry, and might even come to a guild meeting someday. We will have brochures to pass out, but you will need to bring stuff to work on—some kit or project you haven't had time to finish. You don't need to be there the whole time—we would like to be able to have people in shifts of 2 -3 hours through the afternoon and evening. Contact Sandi Quint If you're able to come for some (or all??) of the time.

The Textile Center will again have a display at the Minnesota State Fair. The theme this year is **Textiles in Bloom** with an emphasis on native Minnesota flowers. Colors are any color found in nature again with an emphasis on native Minnesota flowers. The idea is to avoid colors that aren't found in native Minnesota plants, think dayglow . . . Since the theme this year is pretty open, consider making a basket for holding flowers, that has flower accents, that is flower shaped or anything floral related. We'll only need a couple of medium to small size baskets for the run of the fair (August 23 through September 7) and all baskets are returned to their owners. Think of the fun of seeing your basket displayed with textile items from other Textile Center guilds.

Last, but not least—consider entering a basket in the Minnesota State Fair. We've donated \$125 in prize money, \$25 each to the first place winner in categories 564 - 569. See page 24 of the State Fair Creative Activities Rules and Premiums for details. This is available as an online PDF at http://www.mnstatefair.org/2007_pdf/CA07-pbWeb.pdf. For a copy by mail, contact the Competition Office at (651) 288-4417.

Fun at the Textile Center (support your local landlord!)

Center Corridor – 2007 Exhibit Schedule

- Jun 22 – Aug 11 Merry Mac
- Aug 13 – Aug 18 Choi, In-Ryu (South Korean Artist – thru Textile Center)
- Aug 19 – Sep 1 Craft Mafia sponsored by the Community Forum (14 days)
- Sep 2 - Oct 13 Weavers Guild of Minnesota

Classes for September 22, 2007



Joli—Susan Coyle

Size: 3 1/2" x 3"
Skill Level: Beginner
No. of Hours: 4-5 hours
Cost: \$55

Description: Learn shaping in this pretty, easy to weave basket using the NEW reed that weaves like cane! Top it off with natural and dyed black ash with porcupine curls made the easy way, and learn bead embellishment



Rock Necklace—Kathy Dowell

Size: Varies
Skill Level: All Levels
No. of Hours: 4-5
Cost: \$27

Description: Come make a unique necklace from a "Royal Rock", collected from the King's River in the Northwest Arkansas Ozarks. You will be learning a new technique - knotless netting - and embellishing with beads. You will receive enough materials to make a second basket at home.



Kaleidoscope—Jo Guttormson

Size: 10" x 10" in diameter
Skill Level: All Levels
No. of Hours: 5-6 Hours
Cost: \$36

Description: A beautiful basket for fruit or rolls or pine cones or Christmas ornaments for the holidays. Kaleidoscope starts with a wooden base, uses several fun techniques and ends with a wire bail handle. A satisfying enjoyable weaving experience. Color choices will be available. Handle will be wooden or ceramic.

Classes for November 17, 2007



Small Agate Pine Needle —Connie Ryks

Size: 4" x 6 1/2" x 1 1/2" high, depending on shape of agate you choose
Skill Level: Beginner
No. of Hours: 7-8 hours (may have to finish at home)
Cost: \$40

Description: Learn how to coil a low basket / tray around a polished, sliced agate. We will be using artificial sinew, colored waxed linen thread and long-leaf pine needles. All participants will receive instructions and plenty of materials to complete their project at home if it has not been completed during class time.



Birch Bark Berry Basket—Phyllis Knutson

Size: 5" x 5"
Skill Level: All levels
No. of Hours: 4 hours
Cost: \$25

Description: This basket will give you the feel of working with birch bark, which is awesome! You can put a handle on, if you like.



Round Reed Sampler Basket—Sandi Quint

Size: 4" base x 6-8" tall
Skill Level: Advanced Beginner
No. of Hours: 6-8 hours
Cost: \$35

Description: This is your chance to learn all kinds of new round reed techniques. Perfect for those of you who have not done much with round reed. All baskets will be different.

MBWG Dates for 2007 and 2008

2007 Dates	2008 Dates (planned)
January 27—a Great Time!	January 26
February 24—almost a snow day!	February 23
March 31	March 29
April 28	April 26
May 19	May 31
July 20, 21, 22—Eric Taylor	
September 22	September 27
October 27—Bingo!	October 25—Bingo!
November 17	November 15
December 8—Christmas Party	December 13—Christmas Party

**PLEASE
NOTE !!!**

The September meeting date is the **22nd**.

Some have had questions—and thought it was the 29th.

Please come on the **22nd!**

www.BasketBees.biz

Slotted Bases That Fit Your Reed Perfectly!



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Telephone: (262) 392-2575
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Basketbees.biz manufactures and sells round, square, rectangle, oval, hexagon, octagon, and egg shaped slotted pine basket bases for basket weavers. Our bases are finely crafted with a single or double slot, which will fit your reed perfectly.

Class Change!!!!!!

Unfortunately, Karen Mitchell can no longer teach her class in September. We were looking forward to her teaching her Cedar Necklace.

Fortunately, Kathy Dowell, has agreed to teach another necklace—this time a Knotless Netting, around a rock.

See Page 4 of this newsletter for details.

Also, MBWG.org has been updated to reflect this change.

LIBRARY NEWS

by Layce Parkinson

Just a reminder not to forget about the library at the Textile Center. The guild pays \$1 a year to maintain a library card for each member. Books can be checked out for 35 days (there is \$1 per day fine for each item overdue). You may check out up to 10 items at a time and renew them once by calling the library.

There is also a book drop in the Textile Center. When checking out items you will receive a handout that explains the policies for use of the library.

Library hours are listed on the Textile Center's web page www.textilecentermn.org/library.asp

The Basket Guild Board voted and decided that members should suggest books, videos or magazines that the guild buy to enhance the basket books we donated to the library when it was established. The books we have in the library are basic basket books. Check out the section the next time we have a guild meeting. Please send any suggestions to Layce Parkinson, layce@core.com, and she will forward these suggestions to the guild at a board meeting.

There is also an opportunity for guild members to volunteer time at the library. You may check out books, shelve returned books and pamphlets, or help with shelf reading. There is a training period with the librarian, Nancy Mambi.

Basket Bingo

Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild 7th Annual Fundraiser

Saturday, October 27, 2007

Doors Open: 11:00 am

Bingo Starts: 12:00 pm

Location: Textile Center of Minnesota
3000 University Avenue SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Parking Options:

1. \$2 lot, one block west at 28th (SE St. Mary's Ave) and University
2. Oswald lot, take alley on south side of car wash across the street (Arthur Ave SE) from the Textile Center. Alley dead ends in Oswald lot and the Textile Center can use the lot on weekend and evenings.

Tickets: \$10.00/set – 2 chances per Card
(Additional sets of cards are available at an extra cost)



Refreshments will be available.
Raffle Tickets for baskets!
Basket Door prizes and more!

Contact Jo Guttormson at 612-802-8450
for more information.

Calling all Bingo Door Prizes!!!

Basket Bingo is coming fast and I am collecting items for door prizes. Not everyone wins a bingo prize, and the door prizes are another way to spread the gifts around. Our families and friends come and pay to play bingo, have a fun day, and help us raise money for our guild. So let's help everyone to come home with a great prize!

If you have any items you'd like to donate, I will be at the September guild meeting.

thank you!

Diane Ericson
Prize Coordinator

Eric Taylor Summer Special Event

For me, the event of my summer was the guild's "Special Event" at the textile center! Now I may be just a tad prejudiced since I am one half of the special event committee (Diane Ericson is my partner in crime) But I think everyone that wove a basket that weekend will attest to their beauty.

With three days and four baskets it was hard to choose which Eric Taylor basket to weave. Some of us made it easy by weaving them all! No matter if you wove one, two or more, you know you made a basket of a lifetime, a true heirloom.



Eric gave direction and then stepped back unless we needed him. Any questions I asked or help I needed was given expertly and with plenty of patience. I thought the video that Eric brought was so interesting, especially the part about the ash pounding machine that was made in the early 1900's and also Eric's weaving tales. The materials were just excellent, the ash as smooth as silk and the cherry handles rims and bases were superior design and craftsmanship. I think it was a success for Eric Taylor and the guild.

For myself and Diane we feel very pleased to have gotten Eric Taylor to Minnesota. We both enjoyed the process and we learned a little more of what it takes to make a successful event. In 2008 we will have the Kohlers "back by special request". Fred and Kay will bring to Minnesota some new Nantuckets and some old favorites. Don't let this event pass you by.

Susan Burkhalter
Special Events Co-Coordinator

Basket Bingo is Fast Approaching!!

Plans for MBWG's annual BASKET BINGO fundraiser have been underway since last year's event. As Saturday, October 27 draws nearer, it's time to get our ducks in a row. Jill Scarpari and Jo Guttormson have agreed to co-chair the event. Many others have pledged their help with preparations, licenses, tickets, fliers, decorations, set-up, food prep and sales and clean-up. We thank all of those who have already volunteered for jobs. Now we are asking for the help of a few more guild members. We still need people to do the following jobs: ticket sales at the door on the day of the event (10:30 until bingo begins at noon), very simple food prep (10:00 - 11:30), very simple food serving (10:45 thru bingo) - you will be able to play bingo and often the prep and serving jobs have been the same 2 - 4 people. We need more pans of delicious bars. And, we still need more baskets, large and small, donated to use as prizes. As I write this, we have about half of the number of baskets that we will need to cover the prizes that our guests come to win.

Page 6 of this newsletter has a copy of a Bingo flyer to hand out to your friends and family. At our September meeting, we will be handing out raffle tickets (and flyers) for members to sell to friends, family, co-workers, etc. We would also like to have all of our bingo work positions filled and all prize baskets collected. If you are donating a basket or two, or three, please bring them to that meeting or contact Jo or Jill and we will figure out a way to get your basket in advance. We also have several beautiful baskets already donated for the raffle. Eric Taylor has donated a raffle basket, as have Diane Ericson and Jill Scarpari. Many of you have told us you will be weaving baskets for bingo, we will relax (and quit nagging) when we receive them and the day has passed.

Bingo is the main fundraiser for your guild. It's profits help pay our rent at the Textile Center, print the newsletter, sponsor national teachers, and advertise our craft and our wonderful membership. It is OUR guild. Please find a way that works for you to become an active part of the Bingo Experience - it's a lot of fun. You will meet new members and help our guild thrive.

Jo & Jill

Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild

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