

**MINNESOTA BASKET  
WEAVERS GUILD**

***Spokes and Weavers***



**Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild Newsletter**

**President's Message by Christine Dellwo**

**Oct. 2015- Year 19 Issue 4**

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**Hello!** A big welcome back to our MBWG basketweavers returning from summer break and the glorious summer that graced us. We kicked off our return to the textile center with our **September Special Event** with guest instructor **Annetta Kraayeveld**. We had a good turnout for this event. Check out the photos later in this issue.

Fall is falling into place and with that comes our **Annual Basket Bingo Fundraiser**. The majority of the proceeds raised are used to pay for the Textile Center facilities and related expenses all to benefit MBWG. Please mark **October 24th** on your calendar and bring a friend or three! As always, upcoming classes and events are on our website [MBWG.org](http://MBWG.org)

Lastly, on behalf of the MBWG I would like to extend a huge "Gracias!" to our friend and energizer bunny **Louanne Hipp**. She has spent the summer reweaving her life by moving to South America! She has been a vital part of MBWG as a board member, instructor, bingo organizer and overall cheerleader. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors and her we will miss her dearly. Good luck Louanne! And we welcome **Suzette Leizinger** as our new Bingo chair. We appreciate her stepping up to this position even though she has never been to Basket Bingo, but we know you will all step up to help her.

**And Good news! We have a President Elect! Thanks to Nancy Fulton for stepping up and into that position next year. Join me in a round of applause welcoming Nancy.**

*We are looking forward to seeing you at upcoming guild events as much as your schedule allows. See you soon!*

## **MBWG Board 2015**

### **President**

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Nancy Fulton  
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## **In this edition of 'Spokes and Weavers'**

- President's message
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**The guild has been offered the Pat O'Connor Library Display at The Textile Center in 2017. This is a change from the original days in 2016. Stay tuned for how you can participate in this show. As we work out the details we will pass along the information.**

## Guild classes/events 2015

Class/event	Date(s)	Contact
<p><b>Basket Bingo!</b>                      The 16th annual Basket Bingo Fundraiser. Play bingo and win baskets! Come and enjoy fun door prizes, food and a raffle. Bring your friends and family, this event is always a lot of fun! Don't miss it!</p>	<p><b>Oct 24, 2015</b></p>	<p><b>MBWG website or</b>                      Suzette Leizinger  <a href="mailto:aslzinger@gmail.com">aslzinger@gmail.com</a>                      952-212-4408</p>
<p><b>Christmas Card Sleigh Basket –Nancy Miller</b></p>  <p><b>Or Snowman-Jill Scarpari</b></p> 	<p><b>Nov 21, 2015`</b></p>	<p><b>MBWG website or</b>                      Julie Pleski  <a href="mailto:jpleski@yahoo.com">jpleski@yahoo.com</a></p>
<p><b>Annual Christmas Party/ and service project day.</b>                      Weave a gift basket for the Alexander House (weaving supplies will be available), enjoy a pot luck, participate in the MBWG Annual Meeting, AND enjoy a basket exchange! Bring a food item for the potluck and a basket for the exchange. This is a fun seasonal weaving / eating / chatting / gift exchange event you will not want to miss!</p>	<p><b>Dec 12, 2015</b></p>	<p><b>MBWG website</b></p>

**See the MBWG website for more details.**

 **The open weave table is a great place to finish a project, get help or just chat if you are not signed up for a class and is always available!!**

- ✚ All classes start at 9 and end at 3 (or whenever you are finished if earlier than 3) Find more information on our MBWG website-[www.mbwg.org](http://www.mbwg.org)
- ✚ Class registration forms are available there as well as lots of other good information on the classes we offer.

## BASKET BINGO NEWS!

BINGO 2015 is full swing! I'm happy to be serving as the new Chair for the Big Event, and appreciate the help I've gotten from everyone. Success with Basket Bingo assures we can keep dues low, and still pay our rent next year!

Basket weavers! We need approximately 25 large baskets and 25-30 small baskets for the games, 6 Themed Raffle baskets, 5 Bucket Raffle baskets and 1 NEW Ticket Raffle basket. Please let me know by e-mail [aslzinger@gmail.com](mailto:aslzinger@gmail.com) what baskets you plan to donate. **WE STILL NEED BASKETS.** Bring them on the 24th, but letting me know how many you plan to bring helps us estimate our needs.

Volunteer Sign-up sheets were sent out; if you didn't get an email inviting you to volunteer, just let me or Bonnie Buzza [banddbuzza@gmail.com](mailto:banddbuzza@gmail.com) know! We'll find a job or two for you!

Jill Scarpari, Susan Burkhalter, Linda Wilcox and Jeanie Wilcox have the table decorations all set. Alice Ford is the Door Prize Coordinator, and can always use more small gifts, so please save whatever might come your way and bring your door prizes on Bingo Day!

We'll start **setting up about 9 AM on October 24th.** Elsewhere in the newsletter is a flyer you can share with friends. In addition to making baskets, playing bingo and bringing folks to do so are two ways everyone can help

**See you on October 24th! Sue Leizinger**

**Remember Bingo helps to fund our room rental at the Textile Center and plus many other activities.**

Don't forget about using our Random Acts of Kindness Program for a deserving basket weaver you know. Ask a board member how to nominate a deserving person or see the April 2015 newsletter for more details.

Here are the dates for our future meetings-thanks to Nancy Fulton for arranging them with the textile center.

**2016**

Jan 23 2/3 auditorium  
Feb 27 2/3 auditorium  
Mar 19 2/3 auditorium (Easter = March 27)  
Apr 23 2/3 auditorium  
May 21 2/3 auditorium (3rd Saturday - Memorial Day = May 30)  
Sep 17 2/3 auditorium (changed from 9/24 – MN Contemporary Quilters)  
Oct 22 3/3 auditorium (Basket Bingo)  
Nov 19 2/3 auditorium (3rd Saturday - Thanksgiving = Nov 24)  
Dec 10 1/3 auditorium (2nd Saturday - Holiday party)

**2017**

Jan 28 2/3 auditorium  
Feb 25 2/3 auditorium  
Mar 25 2/3 auditorium  
Apr 22 2/3 auditorium (Easter = April 16)  
May 20 2/3 auditorium (3rd Saturday - Memorial Day = May 29)  
Sep 23 2/3 auditorium  
Oct 28 3/3 auditorium (Basket Bingo)  
Nov 18 2/3 auditorium (3rd Saturday - Thanksgiving = Nov 23)  
Dec 9 1/3 auditorium (2nd Saturday - Holiday party)

**NBO WORKSHOP PICTURES-photos and article furnished by  
Jeanie Wilcox-Thanks!**



**Jeanie Wilcox and Nancy Fulton**



**Jeanie, Nancy and Flo Hoppe**



**Left photo-Jeanie, Mary, Eve Sumsky, Cathryn Peters and Monie Martin**



**Right photo-Three Quarter Time, an installation piece woven on Macalester campus as a collaboration between weaver Karen Gubitz and Macalester art students in a mentor/mentee program.**



**Left photo-** Cynthia Taylor and Jo Campbell-Amsler discussing rib construction and fine tuning in willow vs white oak.

**Right photo-** Willow Building Blocks lidded picnic basket is the class I took from Jo Campbell-Amsler (unfortunately - this is Jo's sample not my class basket!)



**Left photo-** Lifetime Achievement Award Winners - from Left Aaron Yakim, Flo Hoppe, Cynthia Taylor and Dorothy Gill Barnes. Flo received this honor in 2013 - rest received this honor at this conference.

**Right photo-** The campus installation at an in progress stage.

## NBO in Minnesota –Jeanie Wilcox

As I explored my 2015 basket weaving opportunities, one that caught my eye-the National Basket Organization (NBO) biennial conference being held in Minnesota during July. In 1999 I had attended a Handweavers Guild Conference held at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN. It was here that some of the groundwork was laid for forming NBO. At that conference I took a combo class – 2 days in class with Flo Hoppe and a day with Dorothy Gill-Barnes. Based on that experience I decided it was time to look more closely at attending the NBO conference.

After much deliberation (and reviewing my bank balance) I decided to take the Willow Class “Building Basic Ribbed Willow Basket Construction” with Jo Campbell-Amsler. This was one of 13 classes being offered. My decision was based on the fact that I could drive to the conference and stay with a friend in the Cities. Another little twist to taking a class was a chance at being awarded a scholarship to attend. I filled out the application with little hope of getting a scholarship – especially when I saw the question that asked would I be able to attend the conference if I did not receive the scholarship and I answered YES. I waited until the last day of the application timeline to submit my application – took it to the post office and told the postal worker at the window that it needed to be postmarked that day. He hand cancelled the application envelope as I watched. And, yes, I did receive a scholarship to cover the cost of my class.

Finally, July 14<sup>th</sup> arrived and I could go to Macalester for conference registration. The conference was jam packed with activities from Tuesday through Saturday. I was able to connect with other Minnesota weavers attending the conference, spend time at exhibits (there were three) being totally impressed by what weavers were doing with materials available to them, learn a few new weaving tips, listen to talks and lectures about basketry, make some new friends, explore the Twin Cities on a guided tour (hey after all, this was my vacation!) and be totally occupied for that entire time span. Oh, and I forgot to mention that there were also vendors ready to help us with our weaving needs and add packages to our supplies to take home with us!

Above and beyond these activities was my class time with Jo and willow. After the three days of weaving with willow I have a real appreciation for those working and creating with willow, but I doubt if I am a convert to making this my focus – sorry, Jo! Our class was held in a large conference room where we were one of about 6 classes being held. This allowed us some time to stretch our muscles and our legs, to see what was happening in the other classes, but these breaks were short as we had so much to learn from Jo.

The first evening of the conference had a banquet meal followed by the awarding of Lifetime Achievement Awards to 2015 recipients: Dorothy Gill Barnes, Cynthia Taylor and Aaron Yakim. Google these individuals to review their creations. Part of their time at the conference was spent observing classes and sharing information with instructors and students. I know Cynthia and Jo shared time talking about rib construction and placement during our class.

One requirement for receiving a scholarship was to submit a basket for the silent auction that was held to help raise funds for future scholarships and educational programs. I submitted a round reed basket I had woven based on Flo Hoppe’s Neolithic Braid pattern. The basket takes on its own personality as you weave them. It’s fun for me to explore shape and variation as I weave. An entertaining live auction was also held to raise funds. These two fundraisers had a final total exceeding \$22,000 raised.

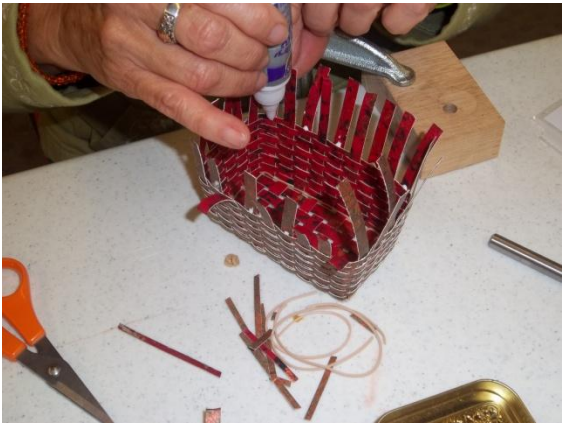
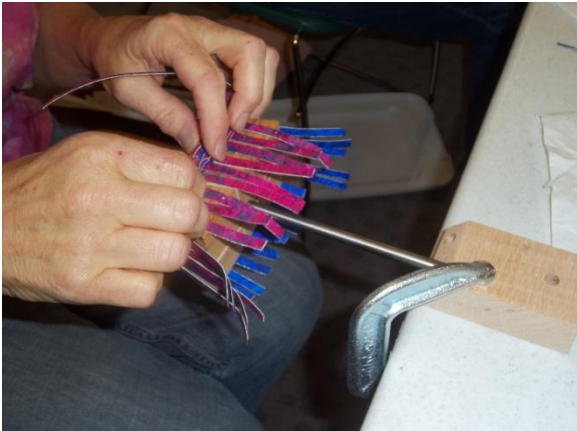
Planning for the 2017 conference had begun before the 2015 conference was ended. The location is not known at this time, but it appears there is a goal to move the conference to different areas of the country



and provide the opportunity to highlight the area's types of basket weaving and weavers while giving local weavers a chance to attend.

### Special Event with Annetta Kraayeveld-Sept 25, 26 and 27

#### Friday night class



Saturday classes



## **What are your weaving plans for 2016?** **Local Weaving Opportunities by Jean Ellingson**

Ever sit around wondering, where could my next basket weaving adventure take me? Well, other than the fabulous classes at our MBWG meetings, there are three conference/workshop type opportunities I want to tell you about.

In the dead of the MN winter you can motor down to Owatonna for **Cabin Fever Weekend** at the home of the Steele County Fair. Yep, only 90 minutes from the Twin Cities (depending on which part of the twin towns you live in) is an opportunity to spend a beautiful January Saturday and Sunday weaving with teachers selected (in part) for their bravery. It takes a dedicated and brave soul to commit to a January event in MN. The weekend generally offers classes with two teachers and a very relaxed and friendly atmosphere. I highly recommend a visit to this event and the weather has mostly cooperated very nicely. This event is generally the weekend prior to Martin Luther King weekend. Contact Deb Mather at [debmatherbskt@gmail.com](mailto:debmatherbskt@gmail.com)

The next opportunity (another favorite of mine) is the **Headwaters Basketmakers Workshop** in mid-April. This workshop is provided through the efforts of the Headwaters Basket Guild and offers classes with four or five teachers, including opportunities for first time weavers. The majority of the classes provide opportunities for beginner, intermediate and advanced weavers. This event is held "up north" at a Concordia Language Camp near Bemidji. Classes and accommodations are all on site along with family style meals. This is a very good opportunity for more of a weekend getaway. There are many commonalities between this workshop and Cabin Fever. Good basket weaving, great teachers, amazing people to be with and always a chance of snow. The 2016 workshop dates are April 15, 16 and 17, 2015. Contact Nancy Baer at [baerbaskets@hotmail.com](mailto:baerbaskets@hotmail.com)

In late June (I don't recall there ever being snow for this event) there is **Weavin' In Winona**. The event takes place in the beautiful little river city of, yep you guessed it, Winona. The event is three days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. In 2015 the dates were June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. In 2016 the dates are June 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. The event is at the Tau Conference Center on the Winona State University campus. The teachers generally have kits and what-not for your future weaving pleasure. Stock up for retirement activity! Like the Bemidji event there are four or five teachers invited to provide instruction on a variety of weaving techniques. There is something for everyone. Some baskets will provide a challenge and other baskets allow for a more leisurely basket weaving experience. This is my category! Contact Deb Mather at [weavinwinona@gmail.com](mailto:weavinwinona@gmail.com)

Regardless of your desire for challenge or leisure, each of the events above provide a wonderful opportunity for learning, fun and friendship. I encourage you to attend one or all to experience the fun that is out there, just waiting to be had while weaving a beautiful useful basket.

Read about this interesting use of a basket!

## Homer Burning Basket 2015



After a week of construction by willing participants, with lead artist Mavis Muller, a large sculpture of an intricately woven basket becomes a gift to the public. All are invited to interact with the art by way of decorating the outside, and by tucking personal sentiments inside the basket. At sundown the basket sculpture meets its conclusion through fire. This year's basket is titled, Reach - Basket of Remembrance & Unburdening. The upcoming basket burning enactment will be the 12th annual interactive, impermanent art experience to take place in Homer, Alaska. A no alcohol, no dogs event.

Whatever is an **egg in a basket**? It is possible to learn all kinds of things associated with baskets when you use google in just the right way. Well I know it as toad in a hole, aka gashouse eggs, egg in a nest, etc. Turns out there are many names for this breakfast treat.

How to cook an **Egg in a Basket**:

- 1) Lightly toast a slice of bread
- 2) Cover both sides with butter
- 3) Cut a hole in the center with a 2-3 inch in diameter cup, glass or cookie cutter.
- 4) Heat a pan and add a pat of butter to the empty hole.
- 5) Crack an egg into the empty hole, and sprinkle with salt and pepper.
- 6) Cook until the bottom is done enough to flip-about 1 ½ minutes.
- 7) Flip and cook on the other side 1 minute.
- 8) Enjoy your **egg in a basket** with the hole you cut out.

## Attending Basket Guild Classes/Meetings-Social or Serious?

Which is it for you? Do you come to catch up with friends, old and new? Are you here to improve the art/craft of basket weaving? Or is it a combination of both? Do you discuss what color to use with your neighbor in class as you also talk about your kids or job? What motivates you to attend a class or weave at the open weave table instead of sitting at home weaving at your kitchen table? All are good questions with many good answers. What's yours? Let me know at [jill.scarpari@gmail.com](mailto:jill.scarpari@gmail.com) Watch for the answers in a future newsletter.

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 2014 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone B \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

# Minnesota Basket Weaver's Guild 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser

Saturday, October 24, 2015

Doors Open: 11:00 am

Bingo Starts: 12:00 pm

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



## Parking Options:

Behind Textile Center and adjacent buildings-free  
Surface Lot (\$3.00)-entrance from 29th Ave. or 4th Ave.  
Please obey posted neighborhood parking signs.

Light Rail-easy access

**We suggest you carpool or use Light Rail to avoid problems  
with congestion.**

**Tickets: \$15.00/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!**

### Notes from the Treasurer

At present our treasury is sound...and we move into the “busy time” for readying it for next year..... Basket Bingo and Member Renewals....

Elsewhere there is information about Bingo—please come and help out, and come and bring your friends to play. Those are key things you can do to keep us solvent for another year! **Mark October 24th on your calendars!!!!**

Additionally, in November we will begin our reminders about membership renewals. This year the Textile Center is promoting a joint membership with Guilds and a discounted Textile Center membership. We'll be getting additional information on that opportunity, and will share it with you before you start writing your renewal checks for Basket Guild. The Textile center offers a number of opportunities to link closer to the textile community, in various ways...stay tuned!

Bonnie Buzza, Treasurer, MBWG

Editor’s disclaimer: Once again forgive any unintentional errors I am sure I have made in this newsletter. Watch for a special email with classes for next year or check MBWG in November/December.

Last note: Send any **additions, corrections, or articles** you want addressed in the next newsletter to [jill.scarpari@gmail.com](mailto:jill.scarpari@gmail.com) Respectfully written/edited by Jill A Scarpari