



Central Pennsylvania Basket Weavers' Guild

Newsletter Issue #45 - March 2009
Web Site: basketry.homestead.com

2009 GUILD BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:

- Jan Montgomery 717-761-2166
jmontgomery@pa.net

VICE PRESIDENT / SECRETARY:

- Susan Snively 717-762-9829

TREASURER:

- Donna Kumpf 717-938-8223
kumpf4@comcast.net

PROGRAM CHAIR:

- Susan Snively 717-762-9829

LIBRARIAN:

- Jean Foutz 717-838-6563
jlfoutz@att.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

- Jeff Shields 717-774-3508
jeff.shields@verizon.net

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

- Anne Kelly 814-466-6851
basketsbyanne@yahoo.com
- Lynne Laughman ... 717-632-5232
sdllgl@comcast.net
- Linda Moore 717-632-2314
mygrandy@hotmail.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- March 7 Monthly Meeting
- April 24-26... 4th Annual Spring Retreat
- May 17..... Monthly Meeting
- June 14..... Annual Picnic & Dye Party

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held periodically throughout the year. Guild members are encouraged to attend any Board meeting.



MEMBER STORIES

June Blake has been a member of the Guild since its beginnings in 1997. But one of her fondest basket memories goes back to 1949. At that time, June was studying to become an occupational therapist. As part of her training she spent time at an Indianapolis hospital. There she met an elderly patient who had a long list of problems; not the least of which was that she had only one arm. While working with her, the patient told June that one of her fondest wishes was to be able to make a basket. As fortune would have it, June had actually learned to make baskets in the course of her training to become an occupational therapist. So with June's able help, the patient learned to make baskets using some round bases and round reed.

The patient became so enamored of making the baskets that she was soon making a basket every 2 or 3 days and was embellishing them with beads and other ornamentation.

In the succeeding years, of course, June became an accomplished basket maker. Anyone visiting her home will be treated to a breathtaking array of baskets of all kinds that June has woven. Her favorite weaving material is black ash but she has done baskets of all types, shapes and sizes. June has taken classes with many of the big names in basketry including Martha Weatherbee, John McGuire, and Dianne Stanton. She's attended state conventions in North Carolina and Michigan.

Ever happy to help out a fellow weaver over a rough spot, those of us lucky enough to know June quickly become aware that she is much more than a consummate weaver. June is truly a genuinely kind and decent person who just happens to also be an expert basket maker.



SOME JUNE BLAKE MASTERPIECES



SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2009

What: "Little Moses" Basket –
Session #2 - Billie Stanford
Where: Gravel Hill United Methodist
Church, Palmyra, PA
Time: 1:30 to 4:30

This will be a continuation of the project
started at the February meeting.

FRIDAY – SUNDAY, APRIL 24–26, 2009

What: Annual "Spring Fever" Retreat
Where: Gitt Mansion
Hanover, PA
Time: 4:00 Friday to 3:00 Sunday

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009



What: Boutique Tissue Box
Leader – Donna Kumpf
Where: Joseph T. Simpson Library
16 N. Walnut St.
Mechanicsburg, PA
Time: 1:30 to 4:30

(Basket by Patti Quinn Hill as shown in A
Basketmaker's Odyssey by Lyn Siler)

IMPORTANT

Contact Donna at 717-938-8223 or
kumpf4@comcast.net by May 10 to sign up
or if you have questions.

We will be preparing the materials to make
this woven basket out of water color paper +
acrylic paints. We will not have time to cut the
paper or weave the basket at this meeting. We
will have a follow up "weaving" session at
another time.

Donna Kumpf will supply the watercolor
paper needed for a nominal fee (estimated less
than \$5 per person).

You will need to bring acrylic paints in your
choice of colors. The colors used on the
pictured project are turquoise, bronze, copper
and gold metallic. The small inexpensive Folk
Art or similar brand paints work fine (from
Michael's or A.C. Moore)—don't buy the more
expensive artist paints! Feel free to select your
own four colors to layer! You'll want a few
metallic's and then a contrasting color (she
uses turquoise). Depending on how much you
layer the paints, one bottle of each should
be enough but you may want to bring an extra
bottle of each just in case.

Also bring an ordinary sponge, some scissors,
and a small water bucket to rinse out the
sponge if needed. If you have a hair dryer,
bring it (to dry one side of the paper so we can
flip it and paint the other side on the same
day). We'll have a few there to use if you
don't have one.

At the follow up meeting, or on your own, the
paper will be cut into strips to weave on a
boutique tissue box. Further information will
be discussed at the May meeting.

SUNDAY JUNE 14, 2009

What: Annual Picnic & Dye Party
Where: Jean Foutz's Home
Time: 1:00

IMPORTANT

Contact Jean at 717-838-6563 or jlfoutz@att.net by June 7 if you are planning to attend so we may plan for the food and supplies.

Jean Foutz's beautifully landscaped back yard will once again serve as the site for the annual Guild picnic and dye party. The Guild will provide lunch and a selection of dyes. Plan your projects and bring lots of reed to dye!

Jean Foutz: 1252 South Queen Street
Palmyra, PA
Phone Number (717) 838-6563

DIRECTIONS TO JEAN'S HOUSE

From Interstate 81: Exit 80 (Grantville), take 743 South to Route 22 (about 1 mile). Turn left (east) onto Route 22, proceed for approximately 1 mile to Gravel Hill Road (green sign that reads: Palmyra 6 miles), turn right (south) onto Gravel Hill Road. Follow for about 4 ½ miles, past Gravel Hill United Methodist Church. Continue past the church to the bottom of the hill and where the cemetery ends, turn left onto Ridge Road and continue to the stop sign. Turn right onto North Forge Road and continue across the railroad tracks to the red light. You'll see a Friendly's, Klick-Lewis Car Dealership and Rite Aid, continue through the red light and travel 9/10 of a mile (on South Forge Road) and turn left onto Londonderry Boulevard. (Lebanon Valley Brethren Home sign on left). Make an immediate right onto South Queen

Street. Jean's house is the fifth house on the left.

From Harrisburg/Hershey: Route 422 from Hershey, turn right (Route 117 or South Forge Road) at Klick-Lewis car dealership and continue 9/10 of a mile on South Forge Road, turn left onto Londonderry Boulevard., immediate right onto South Queen Street, fifth house on the left.

From Lebanon: If you're coming Route 422 from Lebanon, turn left (Route 117 or S. Forge Road) at Klick-Lewis car dealership and continue 9/10 of a mile on South Forge Road, turn left onto Londonderry Boulevard., immediate right onto South Queen St., fifth house on the left.

YOUR GUILD LIBRARY

Don't forget your Guild has a number of basketry related books and basket patterns available on loan to members. A partial list of what is available can be found on our website at <http://basketry.homestead.com/Library.html>.

Please contact Jean Foutz at jlfoutz@att.net if you wish to check any of these items out.

**Directions To
Joseph T. Simpson Public Library
16 North Walnut Street, Mechanicsburg**

From Route 15, Dillsburg/Gettysburg and South:

Take Route 15 north to Mechanicsburg / Bowmansdale exit. Turn left at end of exit ramp and head toward Mechanicsburg. Follow Route 114 (Market Street) approximately 3 miles into downtown Mechanicsburg. Turn right onto Main Street. PNC Bank is on the corner. At next light, turn left onto Walnut Street. Joseph James Jewelers is located on the left corner. Cross the railroad tracks. Library is on the right. Turn right onto Allen Street and then turn right into library's parking lot.

From Pennsylvania Turnpike:

Take the Mechanicsburg exit, go south on Route 15 to the Mechanicsburg/Bowmansdale exit turn right at the end of exit ramp and head toward Mechanicsburg. Continue the directions as above.

From Interstate 83:

Follow Route 581 West (Exit 41A). Take the Mechanicsburg exit. Turn right at bottom of ramp and turn right at stop sign. Follow Route 641 West into Mechanicsburg, approximately three miles. Turn right at traffic light onto Walnut Street. Cross railroad tracks. Library is on the right. Turn right onto Allen Street and then turn right again into library's parking lot.

From Interstate 81:

Take Exit 57, Mechanicsburg. Follow Route 114 East 1.8 miles to traffic light. Turn left onto Route 11 North. Proceed one mile to traffic light at Silver Spring Road on the right. (You will pass Lawrence Chevrolet on the right.) Turn right onto Silver Spring Road and travel 2.2 miles into Mechanicsburg. Silver Spring Road turns into Walnut Street. After you pass Northside Elementary School, look for the library's sign on the left, near the Exxon Station. Turn left onto Allen Street and then turn right into the library's parking lot. If you cross the railroad tracks, you have gone too far.

**Directions To
Gravel Hill United Methodist Church
131 Gravel Hill Road, Palmyra**

From Interstate 81:

Exit 80 (Grantville), take 743 South to Route 22 (about 1 mile). Turn left (east) onto Route 22, proceed for approximately 1 mile to Gravel Hill Road (green sign that reads: Palmyra 6 miles), turn right (south) onto Gravel Hill Road. Follow for 4.5 miles to white church on right.

From Route 422:

Go to the "square" in Palmyra, turn north onto North Railroad Street, continue approximately 1.5 miles to white church on left.



*Even the simplest wicker
basket can become
priceless when it is loved
and cared for through
the generations of a
family.*

Sister Parish





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CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- June 14..... Annual Picnic & Dye Party
- July 19..... Woven Paper Boutique Tissue
Box – Part 2
- August..... Twill Mats
- September 17-20 2009 Weaving Odyssey



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Board meetings are held periodically throughout the year. Guild members are encouraged to attend any Board meeting.



PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

The newsletter is published quarterly on the 1st of March, June, September, and December. Submissions are invited and are due by the 15th of the previous month for inclusion in the pending issue.



+++ A FANTASTIC WEEKEND OF WEAVING! +++

The Guild's 4th annual "Spring Fever" Retreat took place April 24th to the 26th at the Gitt Mansion near Hanover, PA. Over the course of a beautiful Summer-like weekend JoAnn Kelly Catsos worked her black (ash) magic for an appreciative group of Guild members.

Nineteen members attended the retreat – the most ever! JoAnn taught 3 beautiful black ash baskets to full classes. Everyone came away pleased with their new baskets and ready to do more.

The weather was sunny and unseasonably mild allowing people to spend plenty of time soaking up the rays and taking in the expansive view from the house's front porch. Saturday evening's festivities concluded with an impromptu "wine-tasting" courtesy of Anne Kelly and her own home made vintages. Thanks Anne!

Everyone was also in agreement that good food was in plentiful supply over the weekend. A big hit was Joan Shields' white chicken chili. See the recipe below.

A very special "thank you" goes out to Joan Shields for catering the wonderful Saturday meals. And thanks to Lynne Laughman, Linda Moore, and Nan Weismantel who did the meal planning and preparation on Sunday. Also thank you to Lynne and Nan again for so generously giving of their time for meals setup and cleanup throughout the weekend.

Plans are underway for a return next April to the Gitt Mansion for the 5th annual Retreat. Mark your calendar!



What: Annual Picnic & Dye Party
Where: Jean Foutz's Home
Time: 1:00

IMPORTANT

Contact Jean Foutz at 717-838-6563 or jlfoutz@att.net by June 7 if you are planning to attend so we may plan for the food and supplies.

Jean Foutz's beautifully landscaped back yard will once again serve as the site for the annual Guild picnic and dye party. The Guild will provide lunch and a selection of dyes. Plan your projects and bring lots of reed to dye!

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What: Woven Paper Boutique Tissue Box – Part 2
Leader – Donna Kumpf
Where: Diana Merkel's Home -
722 Westfield Court
Mechanicsburg, PA
(See directions below)

(717) 732-4667

Time: 1:30 to 4:30

Thank you to new member Diana Merkel who offered her enclosed sunroom as our meeting space for July!

Please bring:

Your painted (and dry) watercolor paper--either precut into strips or cut it there on my pasta cutter (to make the 1/4" strips).

Also: scissors, mini-clips or clothespins, ruler, boutique tissue box (filled) to use as a mold, T pins if you have them, pencil, waxed linen thread or thicker cotton thread to contrast/match your painted paper (we'll have some neutral as extra), a needle.

Donna will have acrylic spray sealer to spray on when the baskets are completed.

DIRECTIONS TO DIANA'S HOUSE

These directions are from Route 11/Market Street/Carlisle Pike in Mechanicsburg. Turn left (if heading east) or turn right (if heading west) on to Orr's Bridge Road. Go 2.2 miles to Golfview Drive. Turn right. Go 3/10 mile to Beech Run Lane. Turn right. Go 1/2 mile to Kent Drive. Turn right. Go 1/10 mile to Alberta Avenue. Turn left. Go 2/10 mile to Westfield Court. Turn right.

For further or more detailed directions, consult an online maps program (e.g. maps.google.com), use your GPS, or call Diana!



What: Twill Mats
Leader – June Blake
When: To Be Determined
Where: To Be Determined
Time: 1:30 to 4:30

Twills are fun to do and offer so many possibilities. June will provide several simple patterns. You need to bring about 36 natural and 36 colored 3/8" flat pieces of reed cut 8" long. Alternately, you can use 11/64" FF with a little difference in finished size. 4-ply natural waxed linen is twined around the edges to hold it all together. We must weave the reed damp in order to pack it well so try to use reed that won't bleed. There is no cost for the class.



Have A Great Summer!



Craft In America, Inc. is a non-profit organization. According to its website (www.craftinamerica.org) the stated mission is to "document and advance original handcrafted work through programs in all media, accessible to all. We are dedicated to the exploration, preservation and celebration of craft, the work of the hand, and their impact on our nation's cultural heritage".

To that end, Craft In America has produced an award winning 3-part documentary for PBS television. The website includes video interviews from the documentary with four basket makers - all of whom have samples of their work on display in museums. Pat Courtney Gold is a Wasco Indian who explains some of the imagery on her baskets. Mary Jackson is a sweet grass basket maker whose baskets are breathtaking. Donna Look makes beautiful birch bark baskets. And Billie Ruth Sudduth (whose baskets sell for thousands of dollars) explains the mathematics behind her stunning baskets.



"In craft we see the essence of the American Experience in all its amazing, wide-screen variety: from Eastern shipwrights to Navajo weavers; from those who work with needles to those who work with sledgehammers, from saddlemakers and banjo-builders to the potter who's always praying over the kiln." – Gilbert Grosvenor, chairman, National Geographic Society

WHITE CHICKEN CHILI



- 4 each 15 oz. cans Northern White Beans
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 stick butter
- ¼ cup all purpose flour
- ¾ cup chicken broth (can add more at end if too thick)
- 2 cups half-and-half (can add more at end if too thick)
- 1 tsp Tabasco (or to taste)
- 1 ½ tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp white pepper
- 2 each 4 oz cans green chilies, chopped
- 4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves, cooked, cut into ½" pieces
- 1 ½ cups grated Monterey Jack cheese

Sauté onion in 2 tbsp butter. In kettle, melt remaining butter over low heat; whisk in flour. Cook roux, whisking constantly for 3 minutes. Stir in onion; gradually add broth and half-and-half, whisking constantly. Bring to a boil; simmer stirring occasionally for 5 minutes until thickened. Stir in Tabasco, chili powder, cumin, salt, and pepper. Add beans, chilies, chicken, and cheese; cook over medium heat for 20 minutes.

Serves 4-6





Central Pennsylvania Basket Weavers' Guild

Newsletter Issue #47 - September 2009
Web Site: basketry.homestead.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- Sept 17-20..... 2009 Weaving Odyssey
Quality Inn & Suites
Chambersburg, PA
- Oct 10..... Monthly Meeting
Black Ash Shaker Tub
Gravel Hill UMC, Palmyra, PA
- Nov 9..... Monthly Meeting
Christmas Balls
Simpson Library, Mechanicsburg
- December..... No monthly meeting

BOARD MEETINGS

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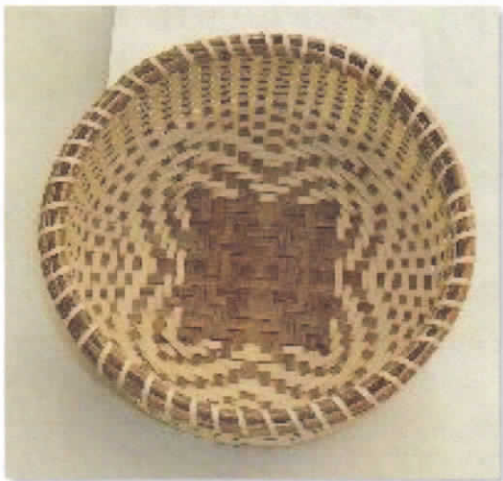
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

What: Black Ash Shaker Tub
Leader - Pam Wilson
Where: Gravel Hill United Methodist
Church, Palmyra, PA
Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM



Deadline for registration was August 30.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009

What: Christmas Balls
Leader – Elaine Longenecker
Where: Simpson Library
Mechanicsburg, PA
Time: 1:30 to 4:30



This is a fun project and it only requires #1 and #2 round colored reed. The shapes and colors may vary. The ball is made entirely of three

rod wale weave. They look especially nice when decorated with a little holly and/or a ribbon. They look really attractive on the Christmas tree. Bring reed if you have it. Elaine will also bring some extra.

SPRING FEVER RETREAT 2010

Mark your calendars - the annual Spring Retreat has been scheduled for April 16-18 next year. It will again take place at the Gitt Mansion in Hanover, PA.

Please let Linda Moore or Jeff Shields know as soon as possible if you have a favorite teacher you would like to have come to the retreat.

MOLD LENDING PROGRAM

The Guild is establishing a mold-lending program. Members who have basket molds (Nantucket, Shaker, etc.) are invited to include their molds in the program which will be coordinated by Bob Broome.

Once the list of available molds has been compiled it will be made available to the membership and you may then borrow any of the molds for your weaving projects. Details are still being worked out and you are invited to share your thoughts and ideas on how to best make this a benefit for all members.

ANNUAL PICNIC & DYE PARTY

The Annual Picnic & Dye Party took place under sunny skies on June 14th at Jean Foutz's home in Palmyra. Thanks, Jean! As always, a highlight of the afternoon was simply enjoying the beautiful landscaped back yard complete with waterfall and fish pond. If you haven't attended this annual event, you are missing out on a good time with good friends and good food. It's a great informal way to meet other folks in the Guild. And, of course, you can dye reed all the colors of the rainbow to your heart's content (for free!).



Jean Foutz in her beautiful backyard



Linda Moore does some recruiting for the Guild!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Everyone in the Guild who knows Jean Fisher recognizes what a special lady she is. Jean is a long time Guild member who has made many trips to Guild meetings from her home in Hazleton, PA. Jean is one those "behind the scenes" members who has long given selflessly of her time and efforts on behalf of the Guild.

Since the earliest years of the weekend Odyssey gatherings, Jean has been a volunteer helper, assisting in whatever way needed to keep the weekend running smoothly. And she drives back and forth from Hazleton each day! Jean has also donated a number of her baskets to the Odyssey raffles including her beautiful doll cradles.

At the latest Picnic and Dye party Jean again showed her heart of gold. She brought baskets she had woven with Carol MacNeil's materials (see picture below) for donation to the local chapter of the National Arthritis Foundation. This has been an ongoing project of the Guild in memory of Carol.

Jean, the membership thanks you for these and all the many other things you do for the good of the Guild.



IN OTHER NEWS

Our own Lyn Levan was the featured member in the August 3rd issue of "Weaver's Words". The article has pictures of some of Lyn's beautiful handiwork and a lengthy interview with her. Lyn has recently retired and we all wish her well in her new life. If you would like a copy of this issue of "Weaver's Words", email Jeff Shields at jeff.shields@verizon.net.

The Guild is looking for contributions of basket patterns to add to the library. Any and all donations from your collections are welcome. A partial list of what is currently available can be found on our website at <http://basketry.homestead.com/Library.html>.

Guilder's Weave is scheduled for January 14-17 in Newport News, Virginia. Members of the Central Pennsylvania Basket Weavers' Guild are eligible to attend. Find all the information at http://www.tidewaterbasketryguild.org/guilders_weave.html.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Susan Snively, our Program Chair, has been quite busy planning future monthly programs beyond the current quarter. Here are some of the activities (subject to change) planned for next year's meetings:

January TBD & Basket Swap
Gravel Hill UMC, Palmyra

February "Sturdy Country Tray"
Teacher – Susan Matson
Chambersburg

March Community Outreach Teaching
Basic Market Basket

April Spring Retreat

May "Majestic Mountain" Basket
Teacher – Elaine Longenecker

June Picnic & Dye Party

July Joint meeting with Bedford Guild

Full meeting information will be provided in upcoming issues of the newsletter.



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