

The Reed Reader by Bright Expectations

Basket Weaving Patterns * Ready Made Baskets * Custom Created Baskets

How do You Store Your Reed?

September 2015
Volume 3

It doesn't matter if you weave in a studio or on your kitchen counter. You may have an awesome dedicated workshop with an abundance of space. But we all share a common problem. Storing reed, or your weaving material of choice, is an issue. And if you're like me, whatever method I'm currently using, I seem to think there's a better method available. And once you open that hank or roll of reed and pull the first piece ... well, it's never, ever, ever going to go back into that confined shape again. It will wrap around your neck, arms, and legs when you pull your next piece. It will tangle itself into endless knots. It will cause you to put Bailey's Irish Cream™ in your morning coffee.

In next month's issue of The Reed Reader, I want to do a feature on the best methods for storing basket reed and other weaving materials. Take a picture and send me your method. Don't worry about how messy your work space is ... that havoc is the sign of a creative mind churning. Your tips might take the "tipsy" out of my morning coffee I mentioned above. So please share. Email me by [clicking here](#).

"Organization isn't about perfection; it's about efficiency, reducing stress and clutter, saving time and money and improving your overall quality of life."

- Christina Scalise

You can find me at:

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What's New this Month >>

"Makayla" Triple X Lashed Basket

"Beatrice" Sewing Basket

Articles and Tidbits >>

How to Store Reed

Weaving Outside Your Comfort Zone

Featuring >>

Abundance of Fall Weaving Events

Featured Basketry Suppliers

Countryside Basketry Supplies - Barbara Johnson

"One Stop Basket Shop" AND ~ Flat rate shipping of \$5 on orders over \$25!

www.countrysidebasketrysupplies.com

Free pattern on her site for a dapper snowman "Mr. Snow"! [Click here](#).

Sheri's Basket Accessories

She specializes in custom-made liners for that "other basket company", but can make one for your handmade basket too. 80 fabrics available!

www.basketliners.net

Judy K. Wilson's Celebration of Baskets - Kits, Patterns, and Supplies

Waxed Cotton & Cord ~ Coiled Baskets & Necklaces ~ Gourd Baskets

Free Shipping and Insurance for Orders over \$100.

<http://judykwilson.com>

Are you a supplier or vendor of basketry related items? I would love to feature your store or webpage here. If you can provide a discount to "The Reed Reader's" followers that would be great! Even a small discount for a limited time can encourage a new shopper.

"[Makayla](#)" Table Basket



I've heard this called rim technique called "triple X lashing" and also a "herringbone rim". Whichever you choose, it's the "icing on the cake" for this round table basket using smoked and natural reeds.

The pattern for "Makayla" includes detailed instruction plus several pictures to aid you in creating this uniquely lashed rim.

Plus, I love how the inside and outside of the basket have entirely contrasting designs. The interior gives the appearance of solid stripes while the outside presents more of a cross pattern - and without the added labor and materials of a double walled basket.

To purchase this basket pattern,
please click below.
["Makayla"](#)

Visit my Etsy shop, *Bright Expectations*, for more patterns.

[Click Here](#)

"[Beatrice](#)" Sewing Basket

"Beatrice" was inspired by my Grandma. She had this awesome little wicker sewing basket. It was more traditional in nature. It was a rectangle wicker box and lid with a little plastic tray inside. I loved playing with it and all the goodies inside and pretending that I was a grown up seamstress. I truly wish I had that sewing basket now.

Create your own family heirloom with this handy sewing basket. The rectangle market style basket has a smaller round one permanently affixed to the basket's side to hold scissors and such. The removable dowel rods from the modified D handle will hold several spools of thread for easy access.

The pattern includes several pictures with weaving instruction and also for attaching the smaller basket inside.

To purchase this basket pattern,
please click below.
["Beatrice"](#)



"Creative people are CURIOUS, flexible,
PERSISTENT, and **INDEPENDENT** with a
TREMENDOUS SPIRIT of *adventure* ...

and a *love* of play."

... Henri Matisse

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Weaving Out of Your Comfort Zone

Try a New Material ... or Just Go Au Natural

Nick Dillingham, of Cassopolis, Michigan, recently challenged fellow weavers to find a local resource which was new to them, to learn about it, and then to weave a basket. He asked us to describe the avenues we took to learn about the new resource and how to prepare it for weaving. We were then asked to post a picture to the Facebook page celebrating our accomplishment.

I have been really pondering this challenge and would love to accept it, but seem to lack the creativity it takes. While I'm down in south Florida and I look at all of these palm fronds and various vines, I have to think there are possibilities. But something holds me back. Is it fear of failure? Or do I just feel the need to be taught by either a person or a written pattern? I admire the abstract so it can't be that weaving with natural materials can often lack the uniformity of traditional weaving with reed. I think I need to take a class with Nick as the teacher.

I encourage you to consider accepting Nick's challenge. And if the au natural freaks you out, at least branch out and try a new material. Maybe these pictures will give you some inspiration. And thank you, Nick.



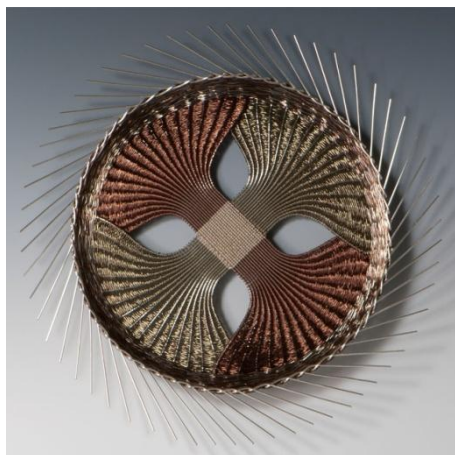
Matt Tommey is a sculptural basket weaver in Asheville, NC who weaves with natural materials such as kudzu and barks. He says "Every basket begins with a walk in the woods". Awesome weaving, Matt. And he even offers classes.
 ◀ matttommey.com



©Dorith Gardner

▲ Weaving with willow is the specialty of Katherine Lewis up in Washington state where she even grows her own. She is a board member of the NBO and has baskets in the Smithsonian Art Museum. Visit her webpage to see more or schedule a class. willowbasketmaker.com

I have always admired ▶ Sharon Stafford's metal weaving of vessels and jewelry. I would love to see her gallery. But until I make it there, browse her work on the web at sharonstaffordmetals.com.



◀ Yes, that's a power cord. Nicolette Benjamin Black also weaves with computer cables. See more of her 3D sculpture baskets at nicolettebenjaminblack.com/3d-sculpture/baskets/#9



▲ Sweetgrass basket making is said to be brought to the South Carolina Lowcountry by slaves who came from West Africa. Take a class to learn this beautiful weaving at Hopsewee Plantation in Georgetown, SC. And did I mention that have a marvelous tea room for lunch? hopswee.com



Chitimacha rivercane baskets have an amazing heritage. Read how they are woven on this site. chitimachabasket.com ▶



Fall Weaving Workshops

There are several weaving events in the next couple of months and rather than focus on only one in this month's issue of The Reed Reader, I decided to highlight several. Hopefully you will find a retreat or workshop near you and have the opportunity to take a class with one of the wonderful teachers. Many of these workshops have already closed their registration time periods and some classes may be full, but I'm sure you would still have a chance to view the display galleries and shop the vendors - and maybe pick up a class basket kit. So, get your calendars out and mark the dates for these great events!

September 11-13: ILLINOIS CAMP TUCK-A-BASKET in Normal, Illinois - Sponsored by the Land of Lincoln Basket Weavers Association. Annetta Kraayeveld, Kathy Tessler, Polly Adams Sutton, Trista Rothgerber, and Dianne Gleixner will be teaching. I just might show up at this retreat - it's in my home state. Come join me! www.llbwa.com/events/tuck15/tuckMain.htm or [click here](#).

September 16-20: COLUMBIA BASIN BASKETRY RETREAT at Camp Magruder in Rockaway, Oregon - The annual event is called 2015 Tidal Twinings Annual Retreat - Bark and Baskets by the Beach. Matt Tommey (whose sculptural weaving was mentioned on previous page) from Asheville, NC is the featured teacher. I really wish I was closer and I would NOT miss this retreat and opportunity to take one of his classes. There are many other great teachers also with classes in sweetgrass, bark, kudzu, copper, paper, beads, and of course, reed weaving. basketryguild.org/retreat_2015 or [click here](#).

September 17-20: CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BASKET WEAVERS' GUILD 15TH ANNUAL WEAVING ODYSSEY at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania - Keep Calm and Weave On ... and learn some new techniques or pattern designs with an awesome line up of instructors. Pat Carothers, Char Ciammaichella, Bonnie Gale, Pam King, Sharon Klusmann, Deb Roberson, Judith Saunders, Kathy Tessler, Angie Wagner, and Laura Lee Zanger on the schedule to teach. I KNOW you recognize those names and have some of their patterns. basketry.homestead.com/Odyssey2015.html or [click here](#).

September 18-20: BASKETS AT DOGWOOD in Sherrills Ford, North Carolina - Billy Owens (white oak basket maker), Anne Bowers (ribbed basket specialty), Alice Ogden, Petty Adelman, Sandy Bulgrin, Denise Anthony, Martha Cline, Peggy McCarson, and Joni-Dee Ross will be sharing their many years of teaching in an awesome schedule of classes. To see the PDF brochure [click here](#) or it is available at www.orgsites.com/sc/uppersouthcarolinabasketmakersguild/BasketsatDogwoodBrochure.pdf.

October 14-18: ASSOC. OF MICHIGAN BASKETMAKERS ANNUAL CONVENTION, AUTUMN WEAVINGS in Lansing, Michigan - 20 incredible instructors will be here (including Flo Hoppe, a personal favorite weaver). They will offer a vendor marketplace and an exhibit room to stimulate your creativity and ideas. The class pictures alone are enough to entice you to make a trip to Michigan - the fall colors on your journey are an added bonus. www.michiganbasketmakers.com/convention2015_book.pdf or [click here](#).

October 16-18: BASKET WEAVERS GUILD OF OKLAHOMA'S 16TH ANNUAL WEAVERS WEEKEND in Shawnee, Oklahoma - Candace Katz, Debbie Hurd, Carol Underwood, Karen Hobbs, Jackie Thomas, Julie Kleinrath, Karen Kotecki, Rena Vickery, and Mary & Jimmie McKinzie are teaching during the three day event. Brooms, woven corn, baskets, brooms, and ornaments are among the class options. www.okbasketweaversguild.com/WeaversWeekend.html or [click here](#).

October 23-25: WEAVING YOUR CARES BEHIND RETREAT in Bedford, Pennsylvania. It's a beautiful time to be in Pennsylvania and weaving with these teachers is sure to be a treat. There's even a byzantine chainmaille bracelet class (LOVE these!). www.bedfordbasketguild.com/contact.html or [click here](#).

November 6-8: 2015 WVBA CONVENTION - ALOHA WEAVERS in Clarksburg, West Virginia. From the photos I saw on the website, there are some baskets that I haven't seen offered in classes before with a remarkable itinerary of teachers scheduled. wvbasketweaversassoc.com/conventionnew/Brochure2015.pdf or [click here](#).

Registration for many 2016 conventions has begun!

If you are not
willing to learn,
no one can help you.
If you are
determined
to learn,
no one can
stop you.

2016 WEAVING EVENTS

Registration has begun for some events and classes fill up fast.

JANUARY, 2016

21st - 24th: Texas Basket Weavers Assoc. "Kickin' It Up in Dallas". Registration is open 8/15/15 through 9/30/15. texasbasketweavers.com or [click here](#).

27th - 31st: Northwest Basket Weavers Retreat Workshop "Weave in Winter". Registration opens 9/22/15. www.nwbasketweavers.org or [click here](#).

FEBRUARY, 2016

5th - 7th: Georgia Basketry Association's Annual Convention "Baskets with Friends". www.georgiabasketry.com or [click here](#).

14th - 20th: Basket Weaving Cruise leaving Port Everglades in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida aboard the Celebrity Silhouette ship and stopping in Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, and St. Maarten. Please, please take me! www.basketweavingcruise.com or [click here](#).

26th - 28th: Wildwood Basketry Guild's "Winter Weave" in Mentor, Ohio. www.winterweave.com or [click here](#).

MARCH, 2016

TBA: LLBWA Spring Fling at Palos Park, Illinois. www.llbwa.com/events.htm or [click here](#).

17th - 20th: NCBA Convention "Dream Weavers" in Durham, North Carolina. www.ncbasketmakers.com or [click here](#).

18th - 20th: LABG Retreat in Julian, California. Registration has begun. www.labasketryguild.org or [click here](#).

APRIL, 2016

14th - 16th: Stateline Friends Weaving Retreat in Richmond, Indiana. Registration begins early October. www.statelinefriends.com or [click here](#).

15th - 17th: "Weavin' Up North 2016" at the Finnish Language Village Salolampi in Bemidji, Minnesota. <http://nationalbasketry.org/events/weavin-up-north-2016> or [click here](#).

JUNE, 2016

TBA: LLBWA Starved Rock Weaving Day in Utica, IL. www.llbwa.com/events.htm or [click here](#).

JULY, 2016

TBA: Kentucky Basket Associations 20th Convention. www.kentuckybasketassociation.org or [click here](#).

TBA: Missouri Basketweavers Guild 25th Annual Convention. www.basketweavers.org/convention.html or [click here](#).

There are many guilds, weaving groups, and clubs across the country. There might be one near you.

To see a listing of guilds by state with contact and convention information, please refer to this listing provided by The Country Seat. [Click here](#).

If you would like to see your guild or club featured in a future newsletter, please contact me.



Pattern Library - Available in my [Etsy Shop](#)

Clicking on any basket name will connect you to the pattern listing.



["Beatrice"](#)



["Makayla"](#)



["Wyoming"](#)



["Yasmine"](#)



["Cassie"](#)



["Sue"](#)



["Harbor"](#)



["Gabbie"](#)



["Kelsey"](#)



["Jaclyn"](#)



["Zoey"](#)



["Fiona"](#)



["Darcy"](#)



["Adele"](#)



["Betsy"](#)



["Emma"](#)



["Gloria"](#)



["Patsy"](#)



["Olivia"](#)



["Valerie"](#)



["Randa"](#)



["Jenna"](#)



["Lucy"](#)



["Reba"](#)



["Isabella"](#)