

# THE REED READER

June 2016 - Volume 10

Ready Made or Custom Created Baskets Basket Weaving Patterns & Kits

Page 2:

New Patterns This Month: Babette Vanessa

Page 2:

Patterns on Sale:

Cassie – Patriotic Bucket Betsy – Double Walled

Page 3-4:

Interesting to Read: Cathead Baskets

Page 5:

**Upcoming Weaving Events** 

Page 6:

Patterns Available on Website or in my Etsy shop.

Please remember that when viewing the newsletter from your computer, that clicking on anything shown in blue will link you directly to the correct website referenced.

### **Bright Expectations LLC**

is weaving in either Mt. Vernon, IL or Naples, FL

**Becky Bechtel** 

Phone: 618.316.1838 E-mail: <u>beckybechtel@gmail.com</u>

www.brightexpectationsbaskets.com www.brightexpectations.etsy.com www.facebook.com/BrightExpectations In last month's issue of The Reed Reader, I unveiled my newly revamped website, <u>brightexpectationsbaskets.com</u>. If you haven't had a chance to check it out, please do. Lots of patterns, with more added often, that are available by instant digital download after purchase. No waiting on the postman!

In keeping with the new look of the website, I'm transitioning The Reed Reader to reflect some changes too. I hope you find the new look refreshing.

Spring has sprung here in the Midwest and Summer is fast approaching. We have had crazy weather it seems and one day you need a jacket and the next the air conditioner is running non-stop. But most days lately, a rain jacket is required.

I have to pop one picture in here. We visited our military kids up in Alaska and if you ever get the chance to visit our most northern state, you must. It's breath taking.



How many are participating in springtime craft and art shows? We had a booth at the Effingham (Illinois) Artisan Fair in early May and about froze our patooties off with gusting winds like crazy.

The last weekend of the month I will be vending at the Spring into Summer event in Sesser, IL and as of this writing a few days before the festival, the forecast is for thunderstorms. I plan to be speaking with the Big Guy upstairs about this and will be kindly asking for Him to turn the faucet off between 9 and 3 on Saturday. Enough already!

I hope your flowers are blooming, your trees have fully leafed, and the BBQ grill has been fired up. It's a great time to take your weaving outdoors and listen to the birds happily chirping away.

## "Vanessa" – Large Gathering Basket



Neutral earth tones are used in this large gathering basket on a 10x15 wood base. This is by far my most popular size of basket.

Many have bought to use as a small laundry basket. It's also the perfect size for rolled up bath towels, for afghans hearthside, or a toy basket. Leather strap handles make it an easy basket to carry and use every day. Love this one!

To purchase this PATTERN, please click below.
"<u>Vanessa</u>"

### "Babette" – Farm Basket

"Babette" was designed as a farm table centerpiece. I can see her many uses to include your craft or sewing project sitting beside your easy chair or in the pantry holding 20# of potatoes. Position her next to your soaking tub to hold a thick and luxurious towel and spa products. Or fill her with wine, cheese, fresh baked bread and a blanket to sit at the ocean and watch a setting sun. Ooh-la-lah!

To purchase this PATTERN, please click below.

"Babette"



### IT'S TIME FOR FIREWORKS AND BBQ's

Memorial Day and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July are holidays celebrating the glorious Red, White, and Blue of these United States of America. Sunshiny days are spent at the ballpark watching your kids or grandkids play. Maybe it's time for the annual family picnic with burgers and dogs on the grill and taking turns cranking the ice cream freezer (is it just me or does ice cream really taste better in the old fashioned crank freezers?). Whatever your plans are I hope you have some free time to weave a patriotic basket. To inspire you and get you motivated, there's two basket patterns I'm offering *this month only for \$2 each*. And you know that's less than a cup of coffee these days. Head over to my website and score yourself a copy of "Cassie" the patriotic bucket basket or "Betsy" a fun and easy double walled table basket.



Just click on the picture of either "Cassie" or "Betsy" and you will be linked to the \$2.00 pattern.



### It's the Cat's Meow

The Basket – Not the Kitty Cat

I had the opportunity in April to weave my first ever cathead base basket. I've woven close to 600 baskets now but have always been more than a little intimidated by the daunting design of a cathead base.

I assumed that there were these fancy tricks (like a ribbed basket ... grrr) that only the super experienced "master" weavers could ever achieve. Well I was wrong. And you might be too.





I'm not one to start off small. I jump in with both feet and more than once have I found myself waist deep in muck. I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to take a class with Patty Feather at her home in Punta Gorda, Florida. I most certainly recommend her for a teacher if you ever have the opportunity. She also removed the illusion I had that the cathead was beyond the realm of success for an intermediate weaver.



This was the basket that I made with Patty. It's called Beaded Autumn and it is gorgeous! The pictures do not do it justice. I love the beadwork detail at the rim.

You can buy this kit from Patty too. Visit her website and tell her I said hello! <u>Click here</u>. She has a LOT of really neat basket patterns and also check her teaching schedule.

Still feeling intimidated? OK, we'll start simpler. Look at the basket to the right. When you simplify the basket, it's not quite so scary.

You know me, I'm not one for re-inventing the wheel. I found this awesome tutorial for the cathead basket at the right and it's spot on for how Patty taught me. So trust me ... this works.

This was posted to a blog titled "A Hand-Woven Life" by Juliana Deen and all credit for this goes to her. She did a great job!



Just click the picture and you will be magically cyber transported to the tutorial that has several great pictures. You can do this!

As best I can tell, Juliana is no longer blogging and many of the posts you can find are cached. I wonder if she is still weaving? I'd love to find out some more info about her if anyone knows.

Ready for another one? Paula Harrison generously shared one of her cathead basket patterns with the Missouri Basketweavers Guild. <u>Click here</u> to see the pattern in PDF format.

I'm going to guess that no matter how your basket ends up – whether it has teeny tiny catlike ears or is of the *extreme* cathead design, that it's **purr-fect** in every way!

Are you ready for some more inspiration? Check out all the cathead baskets on the next page.



Above. Jenny Antoline www.gypsybaskets.com



Basket to the left and also above by Lynn Shallis. lynnshallis.com



Basket to the left, right, and below by Nuni Yavnai. Weaving Art on Etsy





Basket to the left by Billie Ruth Sudduth on Etsy



Basket above by Wendy Jensen Basket above by Freda's Baskets



Basket to the left by Susan Taylor



Basket to the right by Sapphire Mountain Baskets

#### UPCOMING WEAVING EVENTS

#### **JUNE, 2016**

6th-10th: Stowe Basketry Festival in Vermont. roundhearth.com

10th-12th: "Weave In" with Upper South Carolina Basket Makers Guild. <a href="mailto:orgsites.com">orgsites.com</a> 20th: Land of Lincoln Basket Weavers Assoc. at Starved Rock, IL. <a href="https://www.llbwa.com">www.llbwa.com</a>

24th-26th: "Weavin' In Winona" in Winona, Minnesota. <a href="mailto:mbwq.org/events">mbwq.org/events</a>

#### **JULY, 2016**

7th-9th: Kentucky Basket Associations 20th Annual Convention. kentuckybasketassociation.org

10th-16th: Traditional Cherokee Basketry w/Larry Croslin in Taos, NM. taosartschool.org

15th-16th: Black Ash Basketry with Alice Ogden in Scottsville, KY. basketmakerscatalog.com

20th-23rd: Tennessee Basketry Convention in Alcoa, TN. Contact Fran Sorrell at 901-409-8649 or

fwsorrell@ael.com. tennesseebasketryassociation.org

#### **AUGUST, 2016**

4th-7th: Missouri Basketweavers Guild 25th Annual Convention. basketweavers.org

25th-27th: Heritage Basketry Guild Fall Weave Retreat in Dayton, OH heritagebasketryguild.com

27th: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild in West Linn, Oregon. basketryguild.org

#### SEPTEMBER, 2016

9th-11th: Camp Tuck-A-Basket in Normal, Illinois. <a href="mailto:llbwa.com/events">llbwa.com/events</a>

15th-18th: Weaving Odyssey in Central Pennsylvania. basketry.homestead.com

16th-17th: NCBA "Hooked on Baskets" in Swansboro, NC. ncbasketmakers.com

23rd-25th: Wolf River Basketry Guild Fall Workshop in Shawano, Wisconsin. wolfriverbasketryguild.com

#### **OCTOBER, 2016**

19th-23rd: Michigan Basketweavers Annual Convention "Weavers Wonderland".

#### michiganbasketmakers.com

21st-23rd: Oklahoma's Basketweavers Guild 17th Annual Weavers Weekend in Shawnee, OK.

#### okbasketweaversguild.com

#### NOVEMBER, 2016

4th-6th: WVBA 2016 Convention in Clarksburg, WV. wvbasketweaversassoc.com

#### **JANUARY**, 2017

19th-22nd: Texas Basket Weavers Assoc. To be held in Houston. texasbasketweavers.com

TBA: Northwest Basket Weavers Retreat Workshop "Weave in Winter". <a href="https://nwbasketweavers.org">nwbasketweavers.org</a>

#### FEBRUARY, 2017

TBA: Georgia Basketry Assoc. Annual Convention "Baskets Forever and Ever". georgiabasketry.com

TBA: Wildwood Basketry Guild's "Winter Weave" in Mentor, Ohio. winterweave.com

#### **MARCH. 2017**

2nd-3rd: LLBWA Spring Fling at Palos Park, Illinois. www.llbwa.com

16th -19th: NCBA Convention "Weaving Mania" in Durham, North Carolina. www.ncbasketmakers.com.

#### **APRIL**, 2017

6th-8th: Stateline Friends Weaving Retreat in Richmond, Indiana. www.statelinefriends.com.

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.



Pattern Library
Clicking on any PICTURE will connect you to the pattern listing.





























































