

December 2017 – Volume 26

Merry Christmas! Ho Ho Ho!

Page 1:

Merry Christmas!
Fun Holiday Weaving Projects

Page 2:

“[Shelby](#)” Oval Table Basket
“[Sierra](#)” Double Walled / Footed

Page 3: Christmas Weaving Projects

Page 4-7:

Patterns by Lara Lawrence

Page 8:

Patterns Available on my
Website or in my Etsy shop.

Can you believe it? It’s already December and 2017 is in the final month. I hope your Christmas shopping is progressing well and your list is getting shorter. If you’re like me, I like to de-stress from the busy season by weaving. And this month I’ve included some great weaving projects that will keep you in a holiday frame of mind.

I think this was the first holiday weaving project that I saw posted. Appropriately titled “All That’s Left of Frosty”, Tina Plageman wove this terrific stovepipe hat (photo shared with her permission). I saw that someone had made a similar one and had it positioned on their fireplace hearth on a puddled white sheet. I love everything about this weaving project!



2018
Basket Weaving Retreat
Weaving in the Sunshine State
January 23 - 25, 2018
Ft. Myers, Florida
Crown Plaza Hotel at Bell Tower Shops
www.WeavingInTheSunshineState.com

[Basket Weaving Suppliers Map](#)



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.

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www.facebook.com/BrightExpectations



Last year, we saw a lot of woven wreaths. These woven candy canes are a new spin and aren’t they cute? The wire frames are (or were) available at Dollar Tree stores. Hopefully, you were able to snag one up.



The candy canes shown here were woven by Jan Turner (photos shared with her permission). I think she must have been a floral designer – or at the very least certainly has the knack for it. Her accents are adorable!

Remember, Jesus is the reason for the season and have a very Merry Christmas!



Did you know that you can access back issues of “The Reed Reader”? If you’d like to read any of the newsletters you missed or share back issues with a friend, just click here ...

www.BrightExpectationsBaskets.com/Newsletter

"SHELBY" – Oval Table Basket



To purchase this PATTERN,
please click below.

["SHELBY"](#)

I just love the days where you pick up your weaving supplies that you have on hand and just decide to weave with no particular destination in mind. "Shelby" is the result of one of those days.

The space dyed reed gives this oval table basket a fun and bright vibe and the rim technique adds texture and interest.

Shelby is amply sized for a fruit or veggie basket or just a catch-all basket for the items you plan to sort through later (or am I the only one that does this?).

This is a quick and fun basket to weave – it's easily completed in just a couple of hours!



Are you familiar with the term "Paying it Forward"? I have been fortunate to learn a lot of different weaving techniques from videos posted by many great teachers. There have been some amazing free patterns which I've woven over the years. I suppose that those teachers each learned in much the same way. I'm "paying it forward" this month for Christmas.

Email me (beckybechtel@gmail.com) with at least one way that you will agree to pay it forward before Christmas, and I'll email you my pattern for "[Noelle](#)" (pictured at the left). The pattern has detailed instruction with pics for both triple twine arrow weaving and french randing with arrow.

"SIERRA" – Footed Double Wall Floor Basket

I was on a space dyed reed kick this past month and just loving it! So often we forget about this great dyed reed choice and try and match up coordinating colors ourselves. This space dyed reed is without a doubt my favorite. And the variety of weaving patterns in this double walled basket really show off the colors. The footed basket is super sturdy and functional too.



What? You've never woven a double walled basket? You're missing out. The pattern for "Sierra" with all its pictures will walk you through each step and you'll soon be searching out new patterns to use your newly acquired skills.

To purchase this PATTERN,
please click below.

["SIERRA"](#)



I would like to extend a special note of appreciation to Lara Lawrence for allowing me to share some of her special Christmas season weaving projects. She has been so kind to provide instruction and patterns for several of her designs on the [Facebook Basket Weavers](#) page (they can be found by searching in the "Files" tab on that page). Her kindness should remind us all that Christmas is the season for giving and to do so with a joyous heart. Even a small gesture towards someone can make a huge impact on the recipient in ways that you may be unaware of. Remember your neighbors who might not have family near-by, friends that are unable to travel home for the holidays, and also those that are suffering from illness or are experiencing their first Christmas without a certain special loved one. To the world you may be just one person, but to one person ... you may just mean the world to them. Merry Christmas everyone!

Christmas Weaving Projects

The first Christmas weaving project that comes to mind is the snowflake. There's always controversy on who made it first, if there's an "original" pattern, and whether or not it's copyrighted or trademarked. While I don't know the legal answer to that, I do know that there are many, many variations to it and it's been around for decades. So, whether you want to buy the pattern or booklet for the DIY instructions is up to you. But did you know that there are unlimited links on the internet on how to weave the popular snowflake? And in many, many variations! It helps to be a little creative in your search terms. Try PAPER snowflake pattern or DIY paper snowflake and you'll find lots of links pop up with step-by-step instruction. Here's a few to get you started:

www.icreativeideas.com/creative-ideas-diy-3d-paper-snowflake-christmas-ornament

houserevivals.blogspot.com/2010/11/make-woven-star-from-vintage-book-pages

lizajanesews.blogspot.com/search?q=snowflake

Can I make something very clear here? Are you all paying attention because **this is important**. Just because someone graciously shared their pattern does **NOT** give you the automatic permission to duplicate the pattern, create kits from it and sell them, or teach the class. These free patterns have been shared so that you can weave their design. You may sell your finished basket, gift it, or keep it for yourself. But that's pretty much it. If you sell the finished basket or gift it to someone, don't claim the design as your own. Don't state "inspired by Mary Smith's design" and think that cuts it. Give credit where credit is due. If you would like to teach the class, contact the designer and ask permission. Chances are they will give you a discount on purchasing multiple patterns for your class, or even tips for teaching it.

We all like FREE, right? Here are some links to some FREE Christmas inspired baskets. Please let the authors know how much you appreciate their generosity in sharing these great projects. Click on the **PHOTO** to link to pattern.



Christmas Door Basket
By Debbie Hurd
Bases to Weave

Evergreen Treasure by Sharon Klusman
Shared by
www.JustPatterns.com



Candy Cane Basket
GH Productions Inc.
Shared by
Basket Makers Catalog



Rudolph's Rack by Sheri L. Van Duyn
Shared by
www.JustPatterns.com



Snowflake by Ronda Brugh
Shared by
www.JustPatterns.com



Christmas Holly Basket
by Toni Rynicke
Shared by
www.JustPatterns.com



Little Snowman by Susan Reed-Fanfoni
Shared by
www.JustPatterns.com



Little Twill Ornament Basket
by Julie Kleinrath
Shared by www.JustPatterns.com

'HOLIDAY BASKET' by LARA LAWRENCE

weave4fun@yahoo.com



Basket measures 7 ½" across 2 ½" deep 9" tall

DIRECTIONS

3/8 FLAT REED DYED RED CUT THE FOLLOWING:

- 3 horizontal stakes cut @ 28"
- 2 filler stakes cut @ 10"
- 9 vertical stakes cut @ 24"
- 10 weavers cut @ 22"

11/64 FLAT OVAL DYED RED CUT THE FOLLOWING:

- 4 weavers cut @ 22"

3/8 FLAT REED NATURAL CUT THE FOLLOWING:

- 9 weavers cut @ 22"

7mm or ¼ FLAT REED NATURAL CUT THE FOLLOWING:

- 1 ROW @ 22" FOR RIM ROW

½" FLAT OVAL REED NATURAL CUT THE FOLLOWING:

- 2 PIECES @ 24" FOR RIMS

1 LONG PIECE OF 11/64 FLAT OVAL FOR LASHING

1 SMALL BUSHEL HANDLE FOR HANGING

Lay out the base with the 3 horizontal weavers with filler stakes in between. Weave in the 9 vertical stakes and square up base to 7 ½" x 9". Upset stakes and using start and stop method, weave rows in the following order: 1 row 11/64 dyed, 5 rows 3/8 dyed, 1 row 11/64 dyed, 9 rows 3/8 natural, 1 row 11/64 dyed, 5 rows 3/8 dyed, 1 row 11/64 dyed, 1 row 7mm or ¼ for rim row. Pack rows as you go! Cut and tuck your stakes and rim with ½ flat oval placing a small wood handle on the back side before lashing. Lash with 11/64 flat oval. If you want to make 2 of the vertical stakes longer to fold over for a handle, you can do that instead of adding a wood handle or if you plan to sit the basket on a table instead of hanging, no handle required. I used cardinal red dyed reed and had no problem with bleeding BECAUSE, I barely wet my reed and wipe it well before weaving. Never spray water on the part of the basket that is already woven. If you must rewet the stakes, hold the basket upside down and only wet what is not yet woven. Add decorations of your choice. This is also nice when filled with patriotic decorations for Memorial Day, Veterans Day or the 4th of July.



CHRISTMAS CARD BASKET

LARA LAWRENCE

MATERIALS NEEDED

From $\frac{3}{8}$ flat reed (color of choice) cut:

2 Horizontal stakes @ 20"

1 Horizontal stake @ 30" for handle

7 Vertical stakes @ 17"

From $\frac{1}{4}$ flat reed (color of choice) cut: 21 Weavers @ 17"

1 piece of fur for decorative rim

Snowflake buttons or decoration of choice

WEAVING DIRECTIONS

BRIEFLY WET ALL STAKES AND MARK CENTERS

Lay out the 3 Horizontal stakes with the 30" one in the center for handle stake. Keep the ends even on one side with the extra length of the center stake sticking out to one side. You will bring this across the top of basket to form handle later.

Weave in the 7 Vertical stakes being sure to go under the center handle stake with the center vertical.

Even up base to 2" x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and upset stakes

Weave in 21 rows of $\frac{1}{4}$ " flat reed KEEP SIDES COMING UP STRAIGHT

Bring the long Horizontal stake across and tuck into opposite side of basket to form handle

Cut and tuck your stakes

I do not rim this basket but you can use $\frac{3}{8}$ " flat and lash with 11/64 if you wish

Glue fur into rim area and add snowflake buttons or decorations of choice

Nice for holding cards, candy canes, greenery or can be used as a gift basket.

HAPPY WEAVING!! By LARA LAWRENCE - PHILIPPI, WV - November 2017

LARA LAWRENCE - "ANGEL ORNAMENTS"

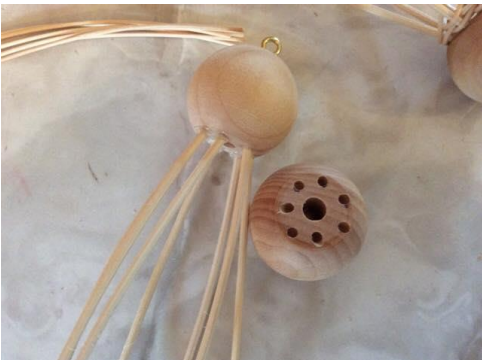


These angels are 3 - 4" when finished. I use 1" wood balls, drill 7 holes in the flat part and glue in #2 round reed (6" in length) for spokes. I weave 'neck' area with 2 rows of #00 round. The body is woven with 11/64 flat oval. I use #00 up to #1 for the twinning at the base (whatever I have handy). The arms and wings are from #1 round reed (or whatever you want to work with).

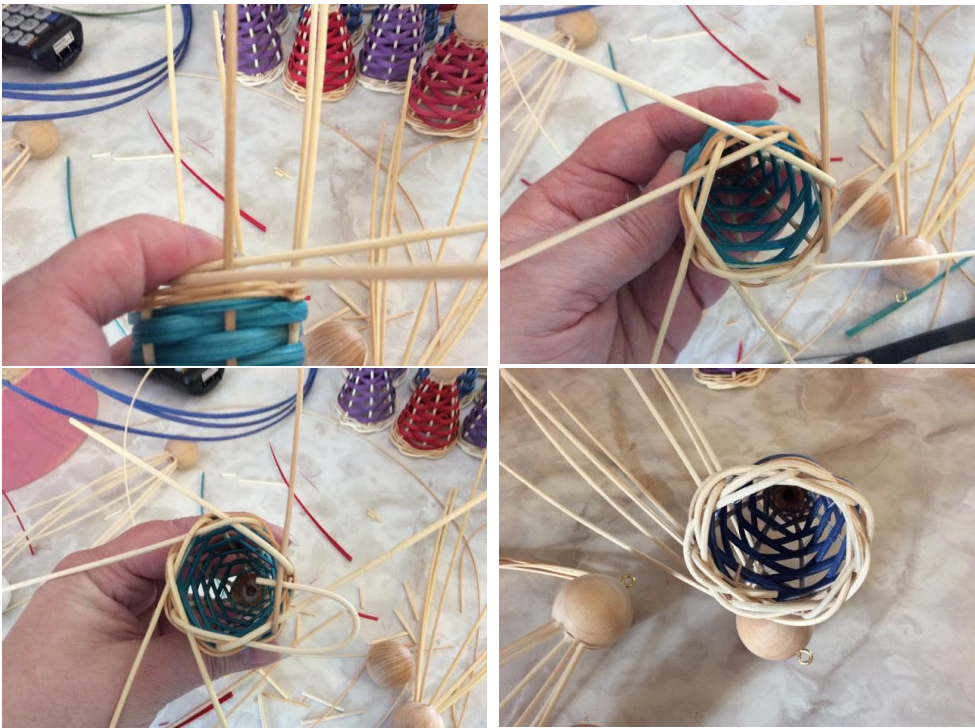
I make them in all different sizes. The bigger the wood ball, the more holes. Holes are the only hard part. I now use a drill press but a small cordless drill works too. Just have to be very careful. I drill the holes at an angle so that the spokes flare out.

I put 9 holes in 1 1/2 inch balls. I look at the ball and decide which side will be the face. I place 2 holes on the face side close together (centered) so that the hands can tuck between these 2 spokes when finished. I then put 1 hole in the very center on the back side of the wood ball. This is the spoke that you will start your twinning and tuck your arms and wings under. Then just evenly space the other holes between these.

I usually mark the hole placement with a marker before drilling. If you use a hand drill, use a small awl to mark your holes before drilling to help keep the drill bit from bouncing off the wood as you begin drilling. This is from experience.



Folding the spokes at the bottom ...



One of Lara's larger angels.



And an entire host of angels sang Hallelujah!



Snowman same pattern, brought in at bottom and painted white.

Pattern by Lara Lawrence, Philippi, WV (weave4fun@yahoo.com). Happy Weaving!!

Sampling of Bright Expectations Basket Patterns

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

