Vendor Map Up and Live!

My to-do list ("have to's") and my want-to-do list ("want to's") are continually growing. My want-to-do list is where the fun stuff and future projects end up. It’s always nice to check something off — of either list. I have wanted to create a shareable map of basket weaving and related materials suppliers for months. When you are traveling through unfamiliar areas of the country, it’s always nice to know if there’s a supplier that you could make a pit stop at to visit along the journey. The map is now available for anyone to view. Check out this link and bookmark it on your browser for easy reference later. And if you are a supplier or know of another one not listed, please let me know and I’ll add to the map. This will be a continual work in progress. Hope you enjoy it!

Basket Weaving Suppliers

I hope to add another layer to the map (on the want-to-do list) of guilds and maybe another one for conventions and retreats. I’ll add a link to the map in all future issues of the newsletter in the left-hand margin.

Inspiring the young to continue the tradition of basket weaving is not always an easy task — but they sure can make it fun. Jennie McGrath recently taught "Amelia" to a group of 4-H kids (a few escaped prior to the pic).

I recently read that Colonial Williamsburg has closed its basket weaving shop which deeply saddens me. The art of basketmaking will be a dying art unless we teach the youth to carry on. 4H, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, VBS, and summer camps are all ways to reach out and pass on the skills.

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
"YVONNE" – Beaded Rim Table Basket

Are you like me in the way that you have had many hobbies – or maybe you still do. I have crocheted, Stampin’ Up cards, lamp worked glass beads, and created stained glass art just to name a FEW of my hobbies. My husband will attest that I’ve got supplies to make about anything. Beading and jewelry making was another and all that bead inventory inspired me to combine the two together in glitzing up “Yvonne”.

Of course, she’s a beauty without it with her reversing twill weave creating an arrow effect. But ooh-la-lah, the rim technique is the crème-de-la-crème.

The emerald green reed on “Yvonne” – where did you ever find that pretty color you ask? Well, I dyed it myself (patting self on back 😊).

There are enough pictures and descriptive instruction in the pattern to teach even a beginner how to create the crowning touch on the rim. Every girl likes to put on a crown and be treated like a princess from time to time.

"ZELLA" – Checkerboard Biscuit Basket

Please pass the biscuits! And maybe they are saying that just so they can admire this cute checkerboard style basket closer up (just in case your biscuits aren’t quite as awesome as you’d hoped 😊).

“Zella’s” inspiration came from her cousin “Zelda” which is a nifty wall basket to keep your recycled plastic bags in.

You can see that “Zella” can also do double duty holding soaps, lotions, and beauty products on the bathroom counter.

While the basket looks great in smoke and natural, I’m thinking an ebony black and natural would be beautiful too!

I am a BASKET WEAVER. I make LOTS of BASKETS. I’ll keep making BASKETS until my fingers fall off. Then I’ll grab my INSTA-CURE, reattach those suckers 🙌 and WEAVE MORE BASKETS!
I don’t get the opportunity to attend as many conventions and retreats as I would like. It’s not just about taking the classes and learning the techniques – it’s also about meeting with old friends and making new ones. I was fortunate enough to attend the Bluegrass Area Basketmakers Seminar in Jabez, Kentucky this month. What a wonderful experience! I had the privilege of being in classes with awesome teachers – Anne Bowers and Laura Lee Zanger. Enjoy these candid photos of the event and hope to see you there next year!
Sampling of Bright Expectations Basket Patterns

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