



October 2018 – Volume 33

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Registration Continues for the Weaving in the Sunshine State Basket weaving retreat!



Basket Weaving
Suppliers Map



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

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"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time." copied

I don't know how some of the teachers do it. If you glance at their schedules, they are full of event after event. These amazing instructors need our gratitude for doing what they do. Because, I'm here to tell you ... it's not easy. Fun, gratifying, and enjoyable ... mostly, yes. (I must admit that I'm not a gal that gets excited about making 100 kits.) We take their classes, utter a "thank you" at the finish, and head home. These hard-working teachers are already planning in their minds for the next one down the road, checking inventories, and ordering materials.

After sorting through potential events, I only propose to a very limited number. It's not because I don't want to meet you all, it's simply a matter of I have too many irons in the fire. And sometimes, you just need to step back, rest, and recoup for the next thing. September was that month for me. And I was seriously missing actually CREATING baskets. I allowed myself the joy of just that lately and have enjoyed it immensely.

I saw this just this morning and it struck a chord:

"One of the strangest things is the act of creation.

You are faced with a blank slate – a page, a canvas, a block of stone or wood, a silent musical instrument.

You then look inside yourself. You pull and tug and squeeze and fish around for slippery raw shapeless things that swim like fish made of cloud vapor and fill you with living clamor. You latch on to something. And you bring it forth out of your head like Zeus giving birth to Athena.

And as it comes out, it takes shape and tangible form.

It drips on canvas, and slides through your pen, it springs forth and resonates into the musical strings, and slips along the sculptor's tool onto the surface of the wood or marble.

You have given it cohesion. You have brought forth something ordered and beautiful out of nothing.

You have glimpsed the divine."

Copied from The Perpetual Calendar of Inspiration, Vera Nazarian

I find this beautiful and encouraging to not let the "creative" get lost in the chaos. There is an artist that lives in each one of us just waiting to be given the opportunity to express.

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/TheReedReader

"LIBERTY" - Braided Market Basket

LIBERTY was not only "born" on the 4th of July, but she was also woven out of an effort to reduce my inventory of previously wrapped handles. (I had considered doing a class on handle wrapping and acquired a bit of inventory shall we say (3).

The braided handle design has been carried down to also adorn the basket's sides. Cane was used but you could easily substitute a narrow natural or dyed reed. The basket has a woven and filled base.







To purchase click below "LIBERTY".

"SUNNIVA" - Gathering Basket



This is a great size for chairside for your work-in-progress craft project or to use in your car or SUV either behind the seat or the cargo area for organizing travel essentials.

SUNNIVA has a woven base and utilizes two D handles placed on the ends to keep the contents easily accessible. She's big enough for a load – approximately 9"D x 18"W x 12"H!



To purchase click below "SUNNIVA".

Get Creative with Specialty Wood Bases (and Handles too!)

I was fortunate to be offered a large lot purchase of basket weaving supplies from a very special lady who is retiring from the craft. Her husband was an extremely talented woodworker. I am liquidating a portion of that inventory and there are several lots of specialty wood bases and handles and they're available in my Etsy shop. The wood bases are all **excellent** quality, have been pre-finished, and are ready to weave on. You will love these bases! I will also be helping to liquidate her Nantucket basket weaving supplies and molds this winter, so stay tuned!



African Padauk, Babinga, Ambrosia Maple, Cherry, Oak, Walnut, Mahogany This is just a sampling of what is available. CLICK HERE to see them all.



Embellishments, Nantucket supplies, weaving tools, & more coming soon.

D Handles, Swing, Bushel, Square Top, Round Top



New Designs - Patterns Coming Soon!



I've been in a beading mood lately with lots of wood and glass beads showing up in several new designs.





Some finished baskets like this Mahogany tray are on specialty wood bases. I've still got several lots available in my Etsy shop.



29 WAYS TO STAY





6 TAKE 7 SING THE SHOWER 8 DRINK COFFEE

































29 FINISH SOMETHING



Beach inspired with metal tieons and beads from Bases to Weave. Love these!





Basket Weaving Kits - Now in my Etsy Shop

I'm winding down teaching for 2018 and have various kits that I'm either closing out or reducing inventory on. If you'd like to snag one of the deals on these kits, just click on the photo or the title to access the listing link.











#1 YVONNE – Woven on an Oak base and with her halo of true glass crystals and wood beads, this table basket is not only an eye-catcher, but she's a light-catcher too. Emerald is sold out, but there are still Coral (my favorite) available. Dimensions: 11" Diameter at Rim x 8" Height to Rim

#2 <u>EMILY GRACE</u> — It's all about that cane braiding on this round market or table basket. Woven on an Oak base, the natural weaving goes quick and easy. An advanced beginner would love this design.

Dimensions: 9 ½" Diameter at Rim x 5" Height to Rim

#3 <u>GABBIE</u> – This is a BIG girl! A solid oak base and high quality custom-made pottery handles accentuate the large gathering basket. GABBIE has been super popular in classes, kits, and in finished basket sales.

Dimensions: 15" x 18" x 13"

#4 PATCHOULI – Hippie chic! Smoke and natural reeds in a subtle pattern give highlight to the fun and funky retro wood beads on the rim. I call it a Biscuit Basket but it's a multi-use size that you'll be utilizing – and admiring.

Dimension: 8" Diameter x 6"

#5 JAGODA – Lots of techniques in a single design. Over/under, start/stop twill weaving, triple twining, and French randing. Finish Jagoda with a sawtooth rim. There're color options to choose from. Fun and quick to weave! Dimensions: 10" Diameter x 9" Height to Rim

#6 MARY – The geometric overlays on all four sides of Mary create a design with a bit of Southwestern flair. The double swing handles and woven / filled base make this a gardener's favorite. Do you have one on your Christmas list?

Dimensions: 9 ½" x 17" x 7 ½" Height to Rim

#7 ZELDA – Organize your plastic bags to recycle and reuse with this wall basket. The spoke and weaver placements create the pattern. Smoke and natural reeds are used to compliment any décor.

Dimensions: 11" x 6 1/2" x 11 1/2"

#8 POPPY – There have been over FIFTY kits sold for Poppy. The authentic antique thread bobbin or spool handle (with its original thread) make this a real conversation piece. It's also pretty handy for a sewing basket using the handle for a pin and needle cushion. Great Christmas gift idea!

Dimensions: 6 1/2" x 10 1/2" x 5

#9 <u>ELLA</u> – Last one available! Weave round reed in a stained glass window effect around a frosted IKEA jar on an oak wood base. Great for candies or snacks – but beautiful with a flameless candle inside with your holiday décor.

Dimensions: 6" Diameter x 8 1/4"

#10 KEYSHA – Four pegs on the stained and sealed quick weave D handle are perfect for your keys. The pouch will keep your incoming or outgoing mail handy. New class design for 2019 but you can get yours now.

Dimensions: Basket & Handle 8 1/2" x 2" x 12"











Looking for an Upcoming Retreat or Convention?

Here's just a sampling of upcoming events. Be sure to visit the referenced websites for more information and all the details. If you've never had the opportunity to be a part of a weaving retreat or convention, you're missing out!

October 24-28, 2018: Association of Michigan Basketmakers, "Whimsical Weavings" in Bellaiere, MI. www.michiganbasketmakers.com

October 25-27, 2018: Kentucky Basketmaker's Annual Convention, "HalloWeave" in Somerset, KY. www.kentuckybaskets.org

October 26-28, 2018: Basketmakers Guild of Bedford County, "Weaving Your Cares Behind" in Bedford, PA. www.bedfordbasketguild.com

October 26-28, 2018: Basketweavers Guild of Oklahoma, "19th Annual Weavers Weekend" at the Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center in Shawnee, OK. <u>www.okbasketweaversguild.com/2018Catalog</u>

November 2-4, 2018: West Virginia Basketmakers Association, "Weavers in Wonderland" at the Harrison County 4-H and Recreation Facility in Clarksburg, WV. wvbasketweaversassoc.com

January 24-27, 2019: Texas Basket Weavers Association, "8th Annual Conference" at the Double Tree in Dallas, TX. texasbasketweavers.com

January 24-27, 2019: Georgia Basketry Association, "Peach State Weaving" at the Hilton Hotel & Conference Center in Marietta, GA. georgiabasketry.com

February 5-7, 2019: 3rd Annual "Weaving in the Sunshine State" at the Crowne Plaza at the Bell Tower Shoppes in Ft. Myers, FL. www.WeavingInTheSunshineState.com

March 14-17, 2019: North Carolina Basketmaker's Association Convention "Woven Together 2019" in Raleigh, NC. www.ncbasketmakers.com/convention

March 29-30, 2019: Land of Lincoln Basket Weavers Association "Spring Fling" in Palos Park, IL. www.llbwa.com

April 11-13, 2019: "Stateline Friends" Weaving Retreat at the Kuhlman Center in Richmond, IN. statelinefriends.com

April 26-28, 2019: Headwater's Basketmakers Guild "Weavin' Up North" in Bemidgi, MN. Visit them on Facebook.

April 26-28, 2019: Northeast Basketmakers Guild Spring Gathering in Enfield, CT. www.northeastbasketmakers.org

June 10, 2019: Land of Lincoln Basket Weavers Association "Starved Rock Weaving Day" in Utica, IL. www.llbwa.com

June 11-15, 2019: Bluegrass Area Basketmaker's Seminar in Jabez, KY. www.babasketmakers.org

Things I Wish Someone Had Told Me About Being an Artist

- 1. Don't compare your work to others. Compare your new work to your old.
- 2. You don't have to attend classes, but doing so can get you further, faster.
- 3. Someone, somewhere, will love what you do (and pay for it). Find them.
- 4. Really good work takes a really long time to make. Be patient with yourself.
- 5. Greate every single day. Even if it's all garbage.
- You can't improve it if your canvas is blank.

Sampling of Bright Expectations Basket Patterns Clicking on any PICTURE will connect you to the pattern listing.















































