

**JoAnn Kelly Catsos** from Ashley Falls, Massachusetts, will be teaching five baskets at the 2019 AMB convention in October at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI. These baskets include: Miniature Country Bread Basket, Wheat Heart, Miniature Shaker Wash Basket, Miniature Shaker Carrier, and Miniature Diamond Twill Bureau Basket.

JoAnn has been weaving and teaching since 1985. She is the recipient of the Certificate of Excellence in Basketmaking-Level I from the Handweavers Guild of America, as well as receiving Viewer Choice Awards at many basketry conventions. JoAnn's baskets are in the National Basketry Organization's Permanent Collection, Michigan State University's Heritage Basket Collection, and the Smithsonian's American Art Museum.

She began her career in basket making by making a rattan reed melon basket at a local community center in Ashley Falls. She needed a break from her toddler children. JoAnn has studied local basketry in Thailand, Laos, and Alaska with master basket weavers. JoAnn has harvested indigenous materials and woven traditional basket across the United States using cedar bark, spruce root, willow, redbud, pine needles, and black ash.

In August of 2016, JoAnn was invited to the Dutch Caribbean island of Saba to teach the locals to weave a melon basket that has been historically woven on the island. This basket was made using the indigenous "hoo bush" or hoop vine. In 2018, she returned to Saba to teach more basketry to children.

Two of JoAnn's baskets are currently in the exhibition touring the United States for two years titled *Basketry in America: Rooted, Revived, Reinvented*. She also was on the television show *Handcrafted America* with her husband, Steve. She demonstrated wheat weaving on the Hallmark Channel's *Home and Family*.

Working with black ash splint, JoAnn has taught workshops nationally at State conventions, at the Handweavers Guild of America conventions, and the National Basketry Organization conventions. She also teaches at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, John C. Campbell Folk School, and Peters Valley School of Craft. She conducts classes for her local elementary school and senior citizen centers and works with Boy Scouts on the basketry merit badge.

Her website is <https://www.joannkellycatsos.com>



**Charlene Ciammaichella**, from Aurora, Ohio, will be teaching four classes at the 2019 Association of Michigan Basketmakers convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI in October. These classes include the following: Chainmaille Silver Earrings, Snacky Bowl, D's Tote, and Lacey Chainmaille Bracelet.

Char has been weaving about 30 years by becoming addicted after weaving just one basket! She started out "just trying to find something creative to learn." She began selling her baskets at fine arts festivals with the help and encouragement from family and friends. After years of selling, she began making her own designs and teaching at guild meetings. This led to teaching at state conventions, conferences, and many other guild meetings.

Char states, "I teach many basket classes as well as weaving with silver at many venues both locally and around the US. I have started cutting rocks and making cabochons that I use in pine needle coiled baskets. My pine needle baskets and jewelry can be found at Artisans' Corner Gallery in Newbury, Ohio."

She loves playing with color placement to get many different and interesting patterns. She loves teaching and passing down the weaving techniques to all. She has opened a website and is constantly trying new techniques and ideas. Char has been the coordinator for Winter Weave Conference in Ohio for the past 18 years.

Her website is [www.charsweavings.com](http://www.charsweavings.com)



Weaving baskets since 1987, **Dianne Gleixner** has designed over 100 basket patterns. She owns a basket weaving studio in Brookfield, Wisconsin, where she teaches classes for all levels of weavers.

Dianne will be teaching five baskets at the Association of Michigan Basketmakers annual convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These baskets include the following: Flying Geese Basket, Oval Carrier with Braided Handle Wrap, Twilly Willy, Pizzazz, and Night Moves.

She says, "I bought a kit for a melon basket and was hooked. I was self-taught for about 10 years then I took my first class. I was always crafty, and basket weaving was something new to me at the time."

Dianne has won many Viewers' Choice award at national conventions, including the 2018 Viewers' Choice at the AMB Annual Convention. She started teaching workshops in 2004 and continues to do this at conventions and guild events. She also mentors some 4H teens to help them with entries for the county fair.

Her website is [www.diannegleixnerbaskets.com](http://www.diannegleixnerbaskets.com)

Two of Dianne's baskets:



**Don Howard**, who lives in Grand Ledge, Michigan, will be teaching three beading classes at the annual 2019 AMB convention held at the Shanty Creek Resort, in Bellaire, MI, in October. These classes include the Diamond Lust Bracelet, Crystal Zen, and the Sonoran Sunset Bracelet.

He began bead weaving at a very early age in the 1980s. Since his family business was and is bead and jewelry supplies, he has always been around and is very familiar with the tools and techniques needed for jewelry making.

Dan has been involved in many different activities in his beading career. He has demonstrated his original designs for the Swarovski Crystal Company in both Tucson, AZ, and Milwaukee, WI. In addition, Dan has taught classes for national organizations such as The Red Hat Society, Motor Maids, and more. He is the primary in-house instructor at his family business T & T Trading, Inc. located in Grand Ledge, MI.

His website is [www.tttbeads.com](http://www.tttbeads.com)



**Gina Kieft** started taking basket classes in 1995 through her local community education. Now she is teaching those classes. Gina has been designing her own patterns for the past 15 years with one hundred of these patterns currently for sale. Her baskets have been sold and displayed locally as well as nationally.

Living in rural Rothbury, Michigan, nature plays a large part in Gina's basket designs. Nuts, seeds, pods, tree bark, and grasses embellish her baskets. She enjoys the challenge that natural materials present to make unique baskets. Gina also quilts and uses many quilt designs in her basket weaving.

She teaches at a local Senior Center two times a year as well as at local libraries. Gina teaches basketry to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Gina has been published in two magazines. She also has received many awards at the following conventions: Association of MI Basketmakers, North Carolina Basket Association, and Texas Basket Weavers Association.

Gina recently purchased the NorEsta.com and DyedReed.com and she is "dyeing" to weave for you!" She dyes weaving material for people throughout the US and parts of Canada and Germany.

Gina will be giving four basket workshops at the 2019 AMB convention held at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These classes are Starling, Estelle, Coverlet, and Cascades.

Her website is [www.ginasbaskets.com](http://www.ginasbaskets.com)



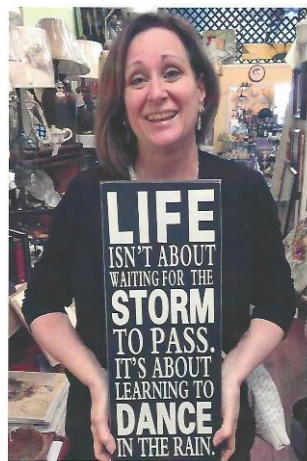
**Sharon Klusmann**, from Tallmadge, Ohio, will be teaching four basket workshops at the 2019 AMB convention held at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These will be Basket Full of Wipes, Burlap Flower, Lattice Market Basket, and Tree of Life Basket.

Sharon has been weaving, designing, and teaching basketry for 33 years. Her website [www.sharonklusmann.com](http://www.sharonklusmann.com) has seven pages of her original designs. She not only teaches basketry from her home studio in Tallmadge, but at national conventions and guilds throughout the country.

She has had three of her designs featured in *Create and Decorate* magazine and is the author of "Business in a Basket" to help others who love basket weaving turn their passion into a successful teaching business.

Sharon is involved in Cornerstone Baskets, a unique business, offering many basket patterns and kits with fun accessories. She has developed more than 80 basket patterns that are available for purchase and is constantly writing more patterns.

New to Sharon is the establishment of her husband Tom's White Ash Base Business. His work is featured on her website with a complete price list.



**Annetta Kraayeveld's** home and studio in Beloit, WI, has been overflowing with baskets and basket supplies since she bought a copy of The Basket Book in 1994 and begged a stranger for a weaving lesson. Since then, Annetta is still obsessed with baskets and finds great satisfaction working with her hands, merging an age-old art form with the contemporary world. Creating functional art pieces is her passion.

When not weaving, Annetta is teaching basketry which she enjoys as much as weaving. She has been teaching at basketry events and guilds across North America since 2000. She has earned several awards, including Best of Nantucket Baskets and the Viewers' Choice Awards at the 2013 AMB Convention and Best of Mold Woven at the 2015 North Carolina Basket Association Convention.

In 2015, Annetta started a weekly blog called the Basket Teacher. You can read it at [www.prairiewoodbasketry.com](http://www.prairiewoodbasketry.com) As well as weaving baskets and writing about baskets, she loves the people she has met and the places she has visited through basketry.

Annetta will be teaching five basket classes at the 2019 AMB Convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These baskets are Oui!, Peripheral, Nine Patch Paper tray, Balance, and T.A.P.

Annetta was born and raised on the prairies in Alberta, Canada. Today she lives with her husband in the woods in Wisconsin.





**Sharon McElroy** has been weaving baskets, teaching classes, creating patterns, and selling baskets since 1982. A good friend, Polly Matheson, helped her get started. Sharon from DeWitt, MI, will be teaching two basket classes at the 2019 annual AMB convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These classes are the Worker's Companion and the Plaid Tote Basket with Double Swing Handles.

She has attended AMB conventions since the first one and has taught workshops at many of them. Sharon has also taught at the North Carolina and Indiana basket conventions.

As well as teaching, Sharon has been an active member of the AMB Board, serving as President, Past President, Member at Large, and Guild Chairperson. She has been on several AMB convention committees including being a Convention Co-coordinator.

As a child, Sharon enjoyed 4H activities. She says, "It has been my privilege to give back to the Clinton County 4-H program that I enjoyed myself as a kid by teaching baskets to the 4-H youth." Many of her students compete for awards at the yearly Clinton County Fair.

Sharon is a member of the Crossroad Weavers Guild and has served as President for many years.

**Billy Owens** is the second generation of white oak Basket makers. He was taught by his father, Dale Owens, the "Owens' traditional way of making baskets." Billy personally harvests, cuts, and splits, all by hand, the white oak that is used in all of his baskets.

Weaving baskets since 1995, Billy quit his "real job" in 1999 and started to sell finished baskets out of his shop. He started to teach in 2001 and eventually closed his shop in 2007. He has pursued only teaching since then by being on the road approximately 150 days yearly. He says, "Why? This is what I was meant for...this is what I love."

Owens Oak Baskets is located in the Ozark Hills of Southwest Missouri near Branson, MO. It is family owned and operated solely by the Owens family for generations. Billy's family includes his wife Theresa, daughters Stacie, Jamie, Bo, Frankie, Dena, and son Kase, their sons-in-laws, and twelve grandchildren.

Billy will be teaching three baskets at the 2019 AMB convention held at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These baskets are the Bicycle Basket, French Bread Basket, and T's Tote Basket.

His website is [www.owensoakbaskets.com](http://www.owensoakbaskets.com)



**Marilyn Parr** from Stanton, Michigan, took a basket class with friends through Community Education at a local school in 1979 and has been weaving since then. She "loves working with my hands and making homemade items."

She has been teaching basketry since 1990 and recently has started to design her own baskets and write patterns for baskets. Marilyn has taught at the Crossroad's Guild retreats.

Marilyn also loves to sew, quilt, and hunt. She is the Treasurer for her Township. She has been a member of Heartland Weavers, an AMB sponsored guild, since 2016. She is Vice President of the Guild currently.

She will be teaching four classes at the 2019 annual Association of Michigan Basketmakers convention to be held at the Shanty Creek Resort, in Bellaire, MI, in October. These classes are *Coffee Central*, *Hanging Around*, *Tech Tote*, and *Crossing Paths*.

**Cindy Pauchey** is a retired art teacher. She was the owner of a small quilt shop in Walters, Oklahoma. Then basketry entered her life 34 years ago, when she ordered a book on basket weaving. When Cindy moved to the country, she needed something besides weaving. So, she started growing gourds. She says, "I had been growing gourds several years before having an 'ah ha' moment. I decided to incorporate my basket weaving onto gourds. It made perfect sense. I could now add a sculptural quality to my gourds and baskets intertwined."

Since then, she had done many art shows selling gourds and baskets. Recently she has started to teach classes at different conventions including Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma. Cindy also teaches at her home.

Cindy will be teaching at the 2019 AMB convention held at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. Her classes include Mini Melon Basket, Gourd with Netting, Oval Melon Basket with Lip, and Horizontal Melon Basket.



**Bonnie Rahn** from Ann Arbor, MI, will be teaching one basket class at the 2019 AMB Convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. This basket is the Snowflake Snack Basket.

Bonnie began her career in basketry when a friend asked her to take a class at a small farm in Saline Mills. She says, "It was a quiet and peaceful place...nothing like my day job!" Charlene Jacobsen started her on a twined base for a round basket. She thought the materials were interesting to work with. She finished her basket the next week thinking it was a work of art. Bonnie states, "It was not a work of art, but my beginner boo, boos were not so noticeable because my completed basket was beautiful to me." Since then, Bonnie has continued to make many more baskets as well as making many basketry friends.

She has taken classes from Theresa Ohno and Grace Kabel. She won a first place at the Washtenaw County Fair for an egg basket. She has been a judge at a local 4H fair. She enjoys giving encouragement and listening to the children talk about their projects.

Bonnie has written several patterns and likes to figure out the size and concept for the basket. She has been teaching basketry more than 20 years. Bonnie thinks it is very gratifying to teach basketry to students who have never made a basket before. According to Bonnie, "They go home at the end of the day with a lovely finished basket that they made with their own hands. They are so proud of their basket. This makes me happy."



**Bonnie Rideout**, from Decatur, IL, started weaving in 1994 when she asked a basket maker to teach at her Fellowship Club. She was "hooked." She has tried many different crafts and arts, but she always comes back to basketry. It is a passion for Bonnie.

Bonnie will be teaching five basket classes at the 2019 AMB Convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These baskets are Mantel Basket, Wine Basket, Blessed, Savannah Tote Basket, and Starved Rock Tote Basket.

As well as taking many classes at state conventions, Bonnie lived in England for several years. While there, she joined the English National Basketry Organization and took classes from a Scottish weaver. She also has currently taken a Matt Tommey weekend course in North Carolina.

In 2006, she started teaching basketry from her home and started to write her own patterns. She would rather design her own baskets than use other teachers' basket patterns. Five years ago, Bonnie built a studio/shop on her property in Decatur. She holds meetings as well as teaches from her shop.

She has been very active in the Land of Lincoln Basketweavers Guild and the Basket Art Guild. In 2014 and 2018, she was the featured instructor for the Starved Rock Weaving Event for the Land of Lincoln Basketweavers. During this event, the instructor designs the basket and leads the weave. Her 2018 basket will be taught at the AMB convention this year.

For more information about Bonnie, check out her Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/Bonniesbaskets](https://www.facebook.com/Bonniesbaskets)





**Linda Scherz**, from Rome, New York, will be teaching four basket classes at the 2019 Association of Michigan Basketmakers convention at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI, in October. These classes include *Celebration*, *Adirondack Packs: Munchkin Purse* and *Sweetie Pie*, *Turquoise Wishes*, and *Exploration*.

Linda's journey in basketry began in the late 1980's shortly after moving to the edge of the Adirondack Park in Northern NY. Her first basket was a 6" melon basket. Within a few short years she was making many different styles and types of baskets. By the early 1990's she had opened a successful shop in her home, was teaching locally and had joined an artists' cooperative in Old Forge to sell her wares. From there she has progressed to teaching and exhibiting around the country for basketry guilds and conferences. In 2004 she launched her website: [www.AdirondackBasketry.com](http://www.AdirondackBasketry.com)

Linda enjoys working with a variety of materials, allowing her imagination to roam freely as she creates her baskets. Initially working with only reed, her interest quickly expanded to bark, then waxed linen. When able she enjoys being out in nature and harvesting white pine or red pine bark from downed trees. She likes to incorporate woody elements into some of her baskets as it reflects her love of the outdoors and the Adirondacks. She also loves to recreate the vibrancy of nature in her baskets through a technique called dye-painting. The journey of exploration continued once introduced to waxed linen creating her miniatures. Her love for designing, color and pattern is expressed with each new piece.

In 2013 and 2015, two of Linda's baskets, *Sagandaga* and *Radiance* were in the NBO Biennial Juried Exhibition. Her *Hiker Adirondack Pack Basket* was in the December 2017 issue of the *Martha Stewart Living Magazine*.

Linda enjoys sharing her basketry knowledge and experience with her students as it is rewarding for her to see their progress and excitement with what they have learned.



**Eric Taylor** who lives in McMinnville, Tennessee, will be teaching three baskets at the annual 2019 AMB convention held at the Shanty Creek Resort, in Bellaire, MI, in October. These baskets are the Cottage #3 Round Swing, Cottage #5 Round Swing, and the Cottage Kitchen Caddy.

Eric is an award-winning professional black ash basket maker, woodworker and teacher. He designs and creates all of his baskets, including processing his own materials, drawing original patterns, dyeing wood and making the molds. He is currently known for his unique and functional 'Cottage' design baskets.

Weaving full time since 1983, Eric's national teaching experience began almost 20 years ago for the North Carolina Basketmakers Association and the Association of Michigan Basketmakers. Since then he has taught every year, all over the country at conventions such as Northeast Basketmakers, Weavin' in Winona (Minnesota), Columbia-Basin (Oregon), MBA and NCBA; and various guilds and workshops throughout New England, and in Ohio, D.C., Virginia, Minnesota, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Missouri, California and more.

Eric has won many awards including the Viewers' Choice award at the 2009 AMB convention.

Eric's website is [www.ericaylorbasketry.com](http://www.ericaylorbasketry.com)

