

# New guild is a natural

## *Basket-weavers being sought by fibers guild*

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*News Editor*

Lynn Hoyt and Pamela Zimmerman weave a little nature into almost every basket they make.

To help spread their love of weaving baskets using natural fibers, Hoyt and Zimmerman, both Beaufort County artisans, have formed the Natural Fibers Group.

This new guild's first meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. May 10 at the Beaufort County Arts Council in Washington.

"I think there may be very few (such guilds) in the country," Hoyt said, "and now we're one of the very few."

In return for annual dues of \$10, members will receive a newsletter and get the opportunity to gather materials for baskets.

Inexperienced basket-weavers need not feel anxious about joining the guild.

Zimmerman said that even kindergartners can handle the basics of weaving, and that, in ancient cultures, aspects of basket-weaving were assigned to children as part of their group-oriented tasks.

Hoyt and Zimmerman made it clear that first-time weavers were welcome, and that instruction would be offered to beginners.

"When you find a new fiber or something that you want to work with, it's not a simple, brief, short thing where you just pick it up and start doing it," Zimmerman said. "There's a whole series of processes that you have to go through to find exactly how to process it and make it so you can work with it. And then there are so many different techniques that you can use, you have to figure out what

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Pamela Zimmerman (left) and Lynn Hoyt of the newly formed Natural Fibers Group pose Thursday with some -of the baskets they wove using natural materials. (WDN Photo/Jonathan Clayborne)