



**Cl. Pl. 1** Tishie Caldwell, Bell County, Kentucky, 1983, holding melon-shaped rib baskets which she made from willow and honeysuckle collected near her home. Caldwell learned basket-making from her mother, who had learned from a German relative. While Caldwell uses honeysuckle and willow for her baskets, her son uses white oak to make an identical form (25 May 1983). Their baskets are marketed through the Red Bird Mission, Beverly, Kentucky.

**Cl. Pl. 2** Oval rib basket with very close ribbing and woven wrapping; origin unknown. This finely woven basket shows the dark coloring of the oak caused by age and use. Dimensions: 8 1/2" x 13 3/4" top, 6 1/2" s.h., 9" o.h. Collection of Larry Hackley.



**Cl. Pl. 3** Cherokee lidded rib basket with black and red dyed splits. This basket is meticulously worked in every detail. The hoops have been joined with wooden pegs and the radiating ribbing worked into the framework. The swinging lids are attached by slipping the ends of the lid frame into two holes bored through the handle hoop. The dyed splits have been woven to create an overall design on both basket and lids. Dimensions: 8 1/2" x 9 3/8" top, 5" s.h., 9" o.h. Courtesy of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, Cherokee, North Carolina.





Cl. Pl. 4 Large oval rib basket bought at the 1923 Shaker auction at Pleasant Hill, Kentucky (Hamilton, 18 Feb. 1985). Although this basket may have been used by the Shaker community, there is no evidence to indicate that it is Shaker made. The yellow-painted basket is constructed with a heavy rim and a spine which extends above the rim to make carrying grips. The woven four-fold-bond wrapping is worked around the rim and the spine. Baskets were often painted to freshen and brighten them. In many cases, paint has helped to preserve baskets, coating and protecting the wood. Dimensions: 13 1/2" x 20" top, 8" s.h., 12" o.h. Collection of Hazel Hamilton.



Cl. Pl. 5 Round rib basket with vertical ribbing. Purchased in Glasgow, Kentucky; origin uncertain. This rounded basket uses a combination of flat ribs on the base and round ribs on the sides. The first five ribs on either side of the spine are woven in with the wrapping. The ends of all the added ribs are either tucked under the top of the wrapping or folded over the rim hoop and secured to the inside of the rim under the weaving. Dimensions: 16" top, 10" s.h., 14" o.h. Collection of Bill and Dot Van Corbach.

Cl. Pl. 8 Martha Jones, Warren County, Tennessee, finishing a "fan" basket. Martha and her husband Dan make two distinctive rib basket shapes which they call "fans" and "dollies." The fans, named for their resemblance to a fan, were invented when Dan had a short piece of timber that was only long enough for short ribs; using them resulted in the curved outline of the sides. Martha remembered helping her mother, Novella Freed, make baskets. Her mother would make the frames, and Martha would weave them in (7 May 1985).







Cl. Pl. 6 Rib basket with ring wrapping. The ring wrapping, the particular method of vertical ribbing, and the shape are notable characteristics of this rib basket, which is attributed to north-western Virginia (Long, 14 Mar. 1985). The basket is woven with green and red dyed splits. Dimensions: 12" top, 8" s.h., 11 1/2" o.h. Collection of Burt Long.



Cl. Pl. 7 "Kentucky egg" basket. The elongated handle hoop and the high placement of the rim create a deep basket. Baskets such as these were made in Knott County, Kentucky, by Bird Owsley for the Hindman Settlement School's "Fireside Industries" (Watts, 26 Nov. 1984). The hoops and ribs are made of hickory, as are those of other rib baskets from the eastern Kentucky region. The weaving splits have been dyed brown. Dimensions: 7" top, 9" s.h., 13" o.h. Courtesy of the Hindman Settlement School, Forks of Troublesome Creek, Hindman, Kentucky.



Cl. Pl. 9 "Dolly" basket made by Dan and Martha Jones, Warren County, Tennessee. Martha named this basket after Dolly Parton, a well-known country music singer. Martha said that she keeps pulling and pulling the ribs out to form the two "knots" (bulges). She weaves the "dolly" with dyed splits, emphasizing the curves and creating the image of a figure with a bikini (7 May 1985). This basket and the "fan" (Cl. Pl. 8), modifications of the traditional rectangular "box" basket, are examples of innovative shapes devised by contemporary traditional makers. Dimensions: 8" x 12 1/2" top, 7 1/4" s.h., 13" o.h. Collection of Larry Hackley.



**Cl. Pl. 10** Round split baskets attributed to Botetourt County, Virginia (Moore, 12 Mar. 1985). The color on the stakes and weavers was applied only to the outside of the materials and only to the sides of the baskets. The baskets are woven by chasing with one natural weaver and one red-stained weaver. The color and weaving technique create vertical blocks on the baskets' sides. These baskets have slightly domed centers and heavy single-notched handles. Dimensions, from left: 6 1/2" base, 11" top, 6 1/4" s.h., 10" o.h.; 8 1/2" base, 14 3/4" top, 7 1/2" s.h., 13 1/2" o.h. Collection of Roddy and Sally Moore.



**Cl. Pl. 11** Cherokee picnic basket with lid. The strong vertical stripes on this split basket are created by alternating dark and light stakes and weavers in row-by-row plain weave. The lid is woven to continue the pattern from the basket sides. The lock handle is made from hickory and forms one of the base and side stakes. Dimensions: Basket: 8 1/2" x 15 1/2" base, 8" s.h., 12 1/2" o.h.; Lid: 8" x 16" x 2". Collection of Robert S. Brunk.



**Cl. Pl. 12** Twill split basket with red dyed splits, possibly from Tennessee (Hackley, 17 Feb. 1985). This basket is woven completely of over-two/under-two twill. The woven handle is made with two rods inserted into the weaving on either side of a wider single-notched handle. Dimensions: 9" x 12" base, 7 1/4" s.h., 12 1/2" o.h. Collection of Larry Hackley.

**Cl. Pl. 13** Rectangular plank-bottomed split basket with blue and white paint, purchased in Hart County, Kentucky; origin uncertain (Van Corbach, 20 Feb. 1985). Plank-bottomed baskets were made in a variety of sizes and shapes; the size and shape of the plank determines the basket's size and shape. Stakes are usually nailed to the base and sometimes to the rims, creating a framework for the sides. This plank base is made of pine, but the handle, stakes, and weavers are of oak. Dimensions: 7" x 14" base, 10" x 16 1/2" top, 7" s.h., 12 1/4" o.h. Collection of Bill and Dot Van Corbach.



**Cl. Pl. 14** Small round split baskets from the Blue Ridge Mountains, Virginia (Helsley and Helsley, 13 Mar. 1985). Rows of dyed weavers make a small chain design at the edge of the base and on the sides of the baskets. Like other baskets from this region, these round baskets have a double-bottom base construction, spiraled plain weave using a split stake, stakes turned down to the outside only, finished top edge with only an outer rim and crossed lashing, and overhead handle with split-end attachment (see Pl. 4.38-a). Dimensions, from left: 7 1/4" base, 9 3/4" top, 4" s.h., 5 1/4" o.h.; 5 1/4" base, 7 1/4" top, 4" s.h., 7" o.h. Private collection.



**Cl. Pl. 15** Unusual lidded red-painted split basket rimmed with a wire edging; origin unknown. This basket is similar in design to flower-sellers' baskets used by street vendors in London (Wright 1983, p. 167). The lid becomes a tray for the display of merchandise. The wire edging is unusual, but it is similar to a border worked in white oak on a basket at the Pennsylvania Farm Museum of Landis Valley (Schiffer 1984, p. 11) and on the rims and sides of Pennsylvania rye straw coilwork (Lasansky 1979, pp. 38-39). The low squared handle has a large single notch under the outside rim. A wire has been attached to the handle and spanned across the top to help support the lid and probably to help the basket retain its shape. Dimensions: Basket: 13" x 25" base, 13" x 23 1/2" top, 9 1/2" s.h., 14" o.h.; Lid: 11 1/2" x 23". Collection of Datha Doolin.







**Cl. Pl. 16** Square split baskets from Pulaski County, Virginia (Moore, 12 Mar. 1985), are woven by chasing. One weaver is dyed red and alternates with the plain weaver to make strong vertical lines of color. Alternate stakes are stained blue on only the outside of the basket. These distinctively shaped square-based baskets with high domed bases are the result of controlled weaving tension. These baskets are not typically Appalachian but are similar in shape to some New England ash splint baskets. While baskets with this "cat-head" shape were commonly made on molds by the Shakers and were named for the peaked corners of the bottom, which form "cat-ears" (Wetherbee and Taylor 1988, p. 108), the irregularities in this basket indicate that it was created freehand. Dimensions, from left: 6 1/2" square base, 11 1/2" top, 6 1/2" s.h., 11" o.h.; 8" square base, 13 1/2" top, 7 3/4" s.h., 13 3/4" o.h. Collection of Roddy and Sally Moore.



**Cl. Pl. 17** Ohio oval rod basket with green stripes. Like many other baskets from southcentral Ohio, this basket is worked in basic techniques with thick rods. The oval bottom is begun with three lengthwise sticks inserted through five crosswise sticks and then paired. The upsett is made with a three-rod wale, and the sides are randed by chasing. The roped handle has a thick foundation rod which is wrapped with smaller rods. Dimensions: 7 1/2" x 15" base, 12" x 19" top, 8" s.h., 12 1/2" o.h. Collection of Cynthia W. and Michael B. Taylor.



**Cl. Pl. 18** Rod sewing basket with wrapped handles. This small basket still has the pin and needle cushions attached and has scraps of fabric, pins, and snaps caught in the weaving. The combination border consists of a top scallop border with the stakes running back down through the weaving to the base, to make the foot border. The basket shape, combination border, and wrapped handles all indicate that this basket is probably of Pennsylvania origin. Dimensions: 7" base, 9" top, 4" s.h., 5 3/8" o.h. Collection of Cynthia W. and Michael B. Taylor.

**Cl. Pl. 19** Large willow basket found in eastern Ohio. The checkered pattern on the basket sides is created by weaving peeled (light) and unpeeled (red) willow in four-rod wale (2/2). Willow for baskets, both cultivated and native, grew throughout the eastern United States. Willowwork's prevalence and its appearance, so similar to oak rod-work, often cause rod baskets to be mistaken for ones made of willow. Dimensions: 13" base, 22 1/2" top, 12 1/2" s.h., 15" o.h. Collection of Cynthia W. and Michael B. Taylor.



**Cl. Pl. 20** Oak rod basket with high scallop border and side floats, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia (Hackley, 17 Feb. 1985). This style, with its high, scalloped, open border, is seen repeatedly in European and American willowwork. Groups of four stakes are worked into a top border and then threaded back through the side weaving to the basket base. At the base, three of the four stakes in each group are clipped short, and the remaining ones are bordered off for the foot. The base is randed, the upset is three-rod waled, and the sides are randed except for two rows of waling in the midsection for attaching the floats. Dimensions: 9" base, 12" top, 8 1/4" s.h., 12 1/2" o.h. Collection of Larry Hackley.



**Cl. Pl. 21** Rod basket with brown stripes, Hardy County, West Virginia (Shobe, 15 Jan. 1986). This basket shows many regional features of rod baskets of the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, and the South Branch of the Potomac River Valley, West Virginia. Such characteristics include the flared shape, three-rod wale on both base and sides, and the roped handle, with its triangular-shaped attachment (see handle detail, Pl. 5.37). Dimensions: 8" base, 11" top, 7" s.h., 11" o.h. Collection of Annie Handley Shobe.





**Cl. Pl. 22** Rod basket with blue and red dyed weavers, attributed to upper Shenandoah Valley, Virginia. This basket shows how fading often occurs on baskets which were once brightly colored. Blocks of blue alternate with red blocks on the basket sides. The base is fitted, beginning with a flat split and then changing to rods. A round of five-rod wale (4/1) is worked both as a foot and as the first upsett row, and then the sides are woven with three-rod wale. The handle is roped to the left over a slightly flattened foundation piece (see handle detail, Pl. 5.36). Dimensions: 7" base, 10 1/4" top, 6 1/4" s.h., 10 1/4" o.h. Collection of H. Wayne and Rachel Nash Law.



**Cl. Pl. 23** Rod baskets made by Jacob Mentzer (worked 1875 to ca. 1930), Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (Lasansky 1984, p. 889). Mentzer is known for his use of rods painted with bright enamels, which were then woven into the three-rod waled sides of his baskets. The top edge is finished with a wide border, with the stakes ending to the inside. A low foot is added by inserting stakes into the weaving and then bordering off. Dimensions, clockwise from left: 7 1/2" base, 9 3/4" top, 4 3/8" s.h., 6" o.h.; 7" base, 9" top, 4 1/4" s.h., 5 3/4" o.h.; 5 1/4" base, 8" top, 4" o.h.; 3 3/4" base, 6 1/4" top, 3" s.h., 4 1/2" o.h. Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Donald M. Herr.



**Cl. Pl. 24** Rodwork basket with black dyed rods, probably from Pennsylvania. The base is fitted using dark and light rods which alternate to form blocks of color. Instead of the more typical three/three bottom-stick base layout, the bottom of this basket has a two/three bottom-stick layout. The sides are three-rod waled with one dark and two natural rods, over the twenty side-stakes, which causes the pattern to spiral. Dimensions: 6 1/2" base, 11 1/2" top, 4 3/4" s.h., 5 3/4" o.h. Collection of Cynthia W. and Michael B. Taylor.