

Great Basin Basketmakers

Continuing 10,000 Years of Basket Arts



Newsletter

March 2026
Volume 40 Number 3

Edited by
Sue Ann Monteleone
www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org

Last Issue
Unless you renew!

March 5, 2026
11 am—3:30 pm
Sparks Masonic Center

ZOOM

Sew a rope basket after the meeting on March 5th

It is important to have a way to keep the basket flat while sewing the entire base of the basket. If you do not have a sewing extension table it is easy to use found material in your house to build an area equal to the height of your sewing machine. Try a ream of paper and note book or maybe a paper box that is the same height as your sewing machine.

Supplies needed: Sewing machine with a zig zag setting, extension table or your makeshift extension, two bobbins, Denim/Jean Needles, extension power cord, straight pins and scissors. An off brand, all-purpose, polyester thread will be provided. Bring two spools of white or off-white thread if your sewing machine only works well with a specific brand of thread.

Please R.S.V.P by February 28th to Veda at 775-401-0418 or Veda.Keefe@gmail.com
Material cost is \$10.00



April Newsletter Editor:
Karen Olson
kvmikesell@hotmail.com
Please submit articles for
the April newsletter
by March 12

WELCOME NEW MEMBER
Nancy Weyhe, Reno, NV

From my Desk... I want to update our schedule for the month of June, we will be adding a Pine Needle class to the calendar. The June 4th meeting program will be making a Pine Needle start with Nettie Fox, then the June 18th class will be continuing coiling a Pine Needle tray or bowl with Bonnie Kennedy. Also Bonnie will be hosting a Thunder Gourd Class at her home on July 18th. More details later.

Since Betty Hulse has resigned her position on the board, we are in need of some new volunteers to help with the planning of events, programs, and classes. There are several vacant positions, so please consider helping out. Some of us have served on the board for quite a few years, so it may be time for some new ideas and new members. We need a recording secretary, a vice president, a newsletter editor, and an exhibit coordinator.

Recently, I was contacted by Billie Walker's son-in-law asking if we would like about twenty of her baskets. My answer was "Yes", some of her favorites were antler wall baskets, random weaves, and kelp baskets. We also were gifted her hat that the guild made for her 80th birthday--large straw hat with many little individual baskets attached to the hat. We will be displaying her baskets at the South Valley's Library prior to some being added to the Silent Auction at the retreat.

Cheers,

Karen Olson

February 5, 2026 GBB General Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Karen Olson

Great Basin Basketmakers minutes, February 5, 2026 Attendance:

Karen Olson called the meeting to order at 11:10 am

The minutes from the January meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's report: by Karen. Some renewals are coming in, either in person or by mail for annual dues. Thank you!

Programs: by Karen. Today the program is Willow Hearts with Sue Ann. Next month, Veda will lead a program making baskets with your sewing machine.

3rd Thursday classes: by Karen. The monthly workshop for February 19 will use painted paper strips to form a basket. March's class will be March 19, a Shaker Hex Basket with an option of adding three extra colored strips for a more advanced basket.

Special Workshops: Sue Ann reported on the fall workshop at St Mary's Art Center, October 13-15, 2026. Margaret Mathewson will be teaching an asymmetrical willow basket with a natural drift-wood handle.

Shows and Exhibits: The next exhibit will be at the South Valleys Library. Details on the theme of that one will be announced soon.

Retreat: Nettie reported on the May 12-15th Retreat at Lake Tahoe, there is still space available at this years event. Please submit your Silent Auction item at the April GBB meeting. Karen Huntoon presented her project which she is teaching at the retreat.

Library Report: Lorrie gave us a reminder to return the books checked out. She talked about books relating to weaving with plant materials.

New Business: There was some discussion about going on a road trip this summer to Lone Pine and the Eastern California Museum as well as the Mono Lake Visitor Center.

Show and tell: Several members had items to show.

Adjourned at 12:30

**March 19, 2026
HEX CHEESE BASKET
With Karen Olson**

**Sparks Masonic Center
9:30 am-3:30 pm**

Class Fee: \$35 mem/\$45 non-mem

Materials Fee: \$15

Tools: Scissors, ruler, packing tools, spoke weight, spray bottle or sponge, towel, apron.

This basket is based on a Shaker basket used to make cheese. The basket size and shape will be determined by the length and number of 1/4" flat oval reed spokes used. The hexagonal weave is the basic structure of this basket.

For those of you that want an extra challenge, you can lace three different dyed weavers through each axis. There are two options for the rim: either a standard rim or a rim lashed with cane in a Japanese-style knotted wrap.

If you have any questions, need more info or to sign-up contact Karen Olson at kvmikesell@hotmail.com.



**Rescheduled Painted Paper Class
Thursday March 12**

Due to WEATHER the February 19 was cancelled and is re-scheduled for Thursday March 12.

For those who have paid but cannot come March 12, Karen will refund their fees.

South Valley's Library Exhibit -- March-April 2026

Set up is planned for March 3 if you would care to join us for the installation.

2026 GBB Retreat at Lake Tahoe

Please come join us at **May 12 – 15, 2026** at beautiful **Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center**, located on the east shore of Lake Tahoe for three days of weaving. This year’s retreat fees for a shared room are **\$420**, this is only \$140 per night which includes all meals. What a bargain!! And what a location! A deposit of **\$100 by February 5th** will hold your space at the retreat. If you prefer a single room the fee is **\$655**. Confirmation email will be sent when payment is received. All final registration fees are due by the general meeting on **April 2, 2026**. The class fees are listed below.

Please make checks payable to: GBB, PMB 293, 8175 S. Virginia St. #850, Reno, NV, 89511.
Please complete one form per student. For more information call or text Nettie at 530-906-0038.

Cancellation/Refund Policy: A full refund of fees paid minus a processing fee of \$15 for one class and \$25 for 2 classes if cancelled before the 4/2/2026 deadline. No refunds after 4/2/2026 unless GBB cancels the retreat. Any cancellation must be in writing and mailed to: GBB, PMB 293, 8175 S. Virginia St. #850, Reno, NV 89511, or emailed to Nettie Fox at keepitwild@gmail.com.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Membership of \$25 required if not a current member: _____
 Diet Restrictions: _____
 Roommate: _____, Handicap Accessible room required: _____

Class request/Sign-ups, classes are limited to 12 students per class. No phone-in registrations accepted. Classes are based on a first come first serve basis, fees include materials. Please choose one class per day each class lasts all day.

Wednesday’s Classes

Palm Basket with embellishments with Jelena Clay	\$90.00 _____
Huichol Indian Yarn Painting with Karen Huntoon	(size 6 X 6) \$60.00 _____

Thursday’s Classes

Gourd Fish with Knotless netting with Jelena Clay	\$95.00 _____
Coiled Copper Wire Pendant with April Barber	\$60.00 _____

Please enter your amounts below:

Retreat fee \$ _____, + Class fees total \$ _____, = Amount Due \$ _____

Payment \$ _____ Check # _____ Balance Due \$ _____

I understand that a refund, minus the administrative fee, may be obtained until April 2, 2026. After this date, no refunds will be issued.

Participant Signature (required): _____ Date: _____

GBB 2026 Retreat

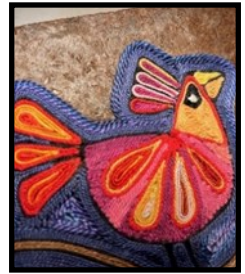


Wednesday, May 13 – 9 am to 5 pm
Palm Basket with embellishments with Jelena Clay
Class + Material Fees: \$90 Tools needed: Towel, scissors

Learn to make an unusual beautiful Palm basket with Jelena Clay. Jelena calls Hilo, Hawaii home, originally raised in Saratoga, California she has had a fascination with fiber work and gourds, along with the complicated techniques that Hawaiians use. This technique is different and fun.

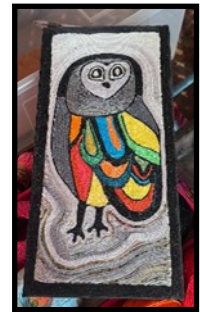
Wednesday, May 13 – 9 am to 5 pm
Huichol Indian Style Yarn Painting with Karen Huntoon
Class + Material Fees: \$60 No tools needed and no experience necessary

Yarn painting is a very relaxing and fun way to create. Students will start with their own (or provided) design and learn how to transfer the design to a wooden blank. Then apply wax/resin to the wood surface and learn the techniques for yarn painting. Students are encouraged to bring any yarns or novelty fibers they may have on hand, fine to medium weight.



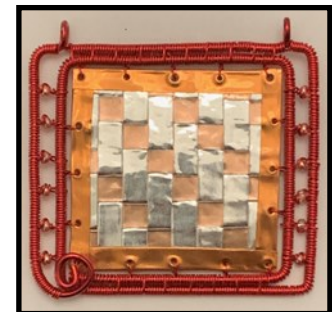
Thursday, May 14, 9 am to 5 pm
Lauhala Fish with Jelena Clay
Class + Material Fees: \$95 Tools needed: Scissors

Learn or refine your skill of knotless netting over a gourd to make whimsical fish with waxed linen. Each gourd has its own personality. Feel inspired and let your creative juices flow in this fun class.



Thursday May 14, 9 am to 5 pm
Coiled Copper Wire Pendant with April Barber
Class + Material Fees: \$60 Tools needed: Smooth jaw flat nose pliers, wire cutter, small craft mat for your work surface, special charms you may want to include. Optional tools to bring if you have them: fine file, small sharp pointed punch, small leather or rubber mallet, folding tool (bone or plastic)

Copper is a very exciting material to use in basketmaking. In this class, you will create a small twill-woven center surrounded by colorful coiled copper wire. Beads and charms may be added to make your pendant unique.





Weaving Fundamentals with Mo Hohmann
 Cost: \$710 (\$460 base price + \$250 materials fee)



Willow Fest Northwest

Thursday, July 23 - Sunday, July 26, 2026
 Reed College (3203 SE Woodstock Blvd), Portland, OR

Four-day workshops with world-class instructors, in an engaging and comprehensive class format. Participation in this immersive willow weaving experience is an opportunity to build skills, share knowledge, and connect with fellow weavers.



Northwest Basket Weavers
 Vi Phillips Guild



Textures and Waves with Margaret Mathewson
 Cost: \$680 (\$460 base price + \$220 materials fee)

This event is sponsored by the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild and the Northwest Basket Weavers, Vi Phillips Basketry Guild for their members.

All registration will be done online at: www.basketryguild.org/calendar

You will scroll down to see July Event.



Square Work with Maria Bullock
 Cost: \$660 (\$460 base price + \$200 materials fee)



The Art of the Curve with Carol Horvath
 (image at top middle, and above)
 Cost: \$690 (\$460 base price + \$230 materials fee)



Willow Immersion with Katherine Lewis
 Cost: \$685 (\$460 base price + \$225 materials fee)

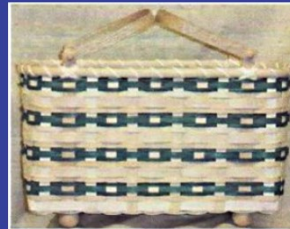
The Missouri Basketweavers Guild, Inc. Website has FREE patterns. Hundreds of them!



Pea Ridge by Debbie Hurd, Bases to Weave



Pickle Jar Basket - by Marsha Foster



Poolside Tote from St. Louis Basketry Supply



Poplar Heights Farm Jelly Jar Basket by Marilyn Margrave

2026 Officers and Committee Members

President: Karen Olson
Vice President : Vacant
Guild Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: April Barber

Board Chair: Trisha Work
Board At Large: Nettie Fox
Board At Large: Jennifer Jay
Board At Large: Sue Ann Monteleone
Board At Large: Lorrie Moore

Committees: Library/Raffle: Lorrie Moore; Retreat: Nettie Fox; Grants: Betty Hulse, April Barber; Special Workshops: Sue Ann Monteleone; Newsletter Editors: Sue Ann Monteleone, Karen Olson, Website: Jennifer Jay.

If you are able to volunteer your service to help out GBB in any way, please contact Karen Olson at 775-843-1361 or email to kvmikesell@hotmail.com

Consolidated Thread Mills Located Fall River, MA www.consolidatedthreadmills.com 508-672-0032
Good source artificial sinew, waxed linen and craft cords. Call for pricing.

Royalwood Ltd Located Mansfield, OH www.royalwoodltd.com 800-526-1630
Books, patterns, weaving materials, reed, waxed linen, caning supplies, shaker tape, Spend \$100.00 or more and qualify for wholesale prices.

The Caning Shop 926 Gilman St, Berkeley, CA 94710 www.caning.com 800-544-3373
Your source for caning, basketry and gourd crafting supplies, tools, and books.

V. I. Reed and Cane, Inc Located in Omaha NE www.basketweaving.com 800-852-0025
Reed, tools, caning, books and kits. Good quality of reed.

Great Basin Basketmakers Membership Application/Renewal

Annual Membership Dues:

Electronic newsletter recipients: Individual: \$25/year (\$10 additional/year for family membership)

Hard Copy newsletter recipients: Individual: \$35/year (\$10 additional/year for family membership)

Date _____ Amount: \$ _____ New ____ Renewal ____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Email _____

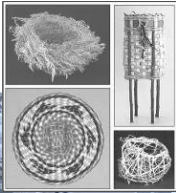
Send this completed form and check payable to Great Basin Basketmakers and mail to:

Great Basin Basketmakers

PMB 293

8175 S. Virginia St. #850

Reno, Nevada 89511



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Great Basin Basketmakers Established January 1987

Meetings the first Thursday of each month at Sparks Masonic Center located at 2425 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV. Our new hours for meetings are 11 AM for our business meeting, followed by show & tell and bring your own lunch. A program/mini workshop begins at 12:30. All are welcome and we will be providing ZOOM access for those members who can't attend the meeting.

Membership dues for Great Basin Basketmakers are \$25 per yr, \$10 extra per yr. for family membership (living at the same address), \$10 extra for a mailed newsletter. Membership includes monthly newsletter, access to large library and reduced workshop rates. Dues are to be paid annually in January.

Please direct address, email changes, membership dues, and requests for membership to:

GBB
PMB 293
8175 S. Virginia St. #850
Reno NV 89511

Questions regarding workshops, events, etc. may be directed to our email at gbbreno@gmail.com or check our website at: www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org. If you would like to submit to GBBs Facebook page please send to GBBFBpage@gmail.com

Our Mission Statement

The main focus of the Great Basin Basketmakers is to make baskets, to learn everything possible about the tradition and techniques of basketry and to pass this knowledge along to others.

