

Great Basin Basketmakers

Continuing 10,000 Years of Basket Arts



Newsletter

April 2025
Volume 39 Number 4

Edited by
Karen Olson

www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org

Weaving on Rocks **11:00 am**

Victoria James will show how to weave on small rocks. This is a great project to use up small bits of interesting materials. Bring rocks, slightly smaller than palm sized, flatish ones work best, medium cane, reed, waxed linen, cordage, anything else that you want to try. Materials 1mm to 3mm in diameter are about the right size. Bring your basketry tools, scissors, small awl, and a lacing tool if you have one. Kits will be available for \$5. Any questions, contact Victoria at victoriajamesart@gmail.com

April 3, 2025 10 am—3 pm
Sparks Masonic Center



Zephyr Point Retreat Reminders

The GBB Annual Retreat is full... there are a few spots available for those who are still undecided about taking a second class. There is still space available in Margaret Mathewson's class-Tension trays and/or Bread boat tray and Debbie's class-Mad Weave.

Please bring your items for the silent auction to the GBB general meeting on April 3rd, also your final payment is due.

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 April 3, 2025 deadline. No refunds after April 3, 2025 unless GBB cancels the retreat. Any cancellation must be in writing and mailed to GBB, PMB 293, 8175 S. Virginia Street #850, Reno, NV 89511 or emailed to Nettie Fox at keepitwild@gmail.com. We are all looking forward to another wonderful retreat. Please contact Nettie at her email or cell# 530-906-0038 with any questions or concerns you may have.

Recently, we lost two of our lifelong basket weaving friends, and we will miss them and their creative spirits

Cheryl Bennett's celebration of life will be held April 19, 2025 at the Artist Cooperative on Mill St from 4-7 pm.



I believe that creating art is a journey. What you learn along the path is what feeds the soul.

So many things excite and captivate me that my thoughts travel in many directions. I can't seem to pursue one avenue of art and work at perfecting it. It stifles my creativity. I want to learn everything! This is what makes my heart pound with excitement!

I love the process of getting there. Each step is the place to learn. What I'm doing in my art is my teacher. I don't worry about the finished product. I just hope it turns out to my satisfaction when I'm done. If not — that's okay, too! The important aspect is not being afraid to try and enjoying the path of learning—its what feeds my soul! *Cheryl*

Molly Gardner's celebration of life will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at the clubhouse of Sun Villa Estates (located at the end of Sutro) from 2-4 pm.



Best friends

As a basket artist, I truly enjoy the experience of creating original and diverse pieces. I feel that baskets are much more than "just baskets." They are special vessels meant to hold blessings, medicine, treasures and memories.

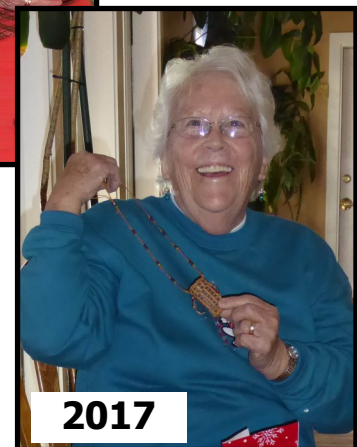
Baskets are timeless vessels that have survived through the ages and are part of history.

Some of the basket I design are utilitarian, but I also create unique and purely decorative works.

Each basket is an original and different from the next.

When I make a basket, I always hope that it will speak to just the right person and will fill a place in their heart.

Molly



There will be a sale of Molly's baskets and art on April 19, 2025 from 9 am to 2 pm at the clubhouse. Please only cash.

Let your creative juices flow, this will be a fun day constructing a woven birdhouse. You can use any materials available—reed, willow, tule, seagrass, fabric strips, hemp, bark, yarns (no plastic or acrylic), etc. If birds don't nest in the houses they might use the house materials to line their nests elsewhere.

Bring your usual tools: Scissors, awls, packing tools, spray bottles and any items to add to your creations. We will have plenty of materials available.

Class Fee: Mem \$35/non-mem \$40
Materials Fee: \$10

WOVEN BIRDHOUSE WORKSHOP

April 17, 2025

9:30-3:00

Sparks Masonic Center
with Bonnie & Karen

The birdhouse on the left has been in Bonnie's yard for many years.

The house below looks to be woven out of tule, spokes???



These two colorful houses were woven by Carol Thomas



The GBB Facebook page

is a platform for members and interested folks to share their love of basketry by sharing photos of their projects. It is also to share upcoming events including workshops, classes, meetings, and exhibits that would be of interest to GBB members and the public.

It is meant to be an encouraging, supportive, positive and safe place for all to use and enjoy. Please submit photos, news, events, etc. to GBBFbpage@gmail.com

Peggy Camp has agreed to manage the Facebook page.

Events Coming To Our Region

**Coming
April 26th
at
Nevada
Museum of
Art
from
10 am-4 pm**



Threads of Tradition: Celebrating 25 Years of the Great Basin Native Basketweavers - Community Day -

The general public is invited to a day of demonstrations, talks and performances related to the traditions of basket weaving. Shop at vendor booths featuring unique Indigenous art, baskets, jewelry and specialty items.

This FREE community event celebrates Indigenous heritage and basket weaving traditions of the Great Basin.

Library Shows & Exhibits - 2025

Our Spanish Springs Library exhibit dates have been moved to November-December. The change is due to an opportunity for the library to display a collection of Sarah Winnemucca's artifacts in conjunction with their 20th Anniversary of opening and an unveiling of a new plaque commemorating the Sarah Winnemucca statue.

Sparks Library is still scheduled for July-August

We've been contacted by the Northwest Library (Robb Dr) to schedule an exhibit for September-October with the possibility of a planned event.

Donate to the Meeting Raffles— The fun raffles at our meetings help pay for the room rental. Please contribute basketry related items so we can continue the fun.
Baskets, materials, books, tools, etc.



CEDAR BARK CLASS



HAIDA STYLE



March 6, 2025, GBB General Meeting Minutes

submitted by April Barber

- ♦ Silent Auction items should be brought to the next meeting in April—forms on the website to fill out. If you live out of the area, just bring to the retreat. There are 27 signed up for the retreat.
- ♦ April 3rd meeting program with Victoria James—Weaving around a stone. There's a \$5 material fee, bring a flat stone about the size of your palm & precious bits of something to glue on if you like. If you have any handmade cordage (~18") or cedar bark bits.
- ♦ April 17th Workshop will be a Woven Birdhouse with Bonnie K and Karen O, the start will be reed or willow with seagrass, yarn, tule, reed, etc as weavers to shape the sides, then gathered at the top.
- ♦ Today's program—Bonnie will be demonstrating how to prepare cedar bark for the upcoming class on March 20. The small basket will be woven from cedar bark around a small jar or medicine container in the Haida style from the bottom down (woven over a container upside down.)
- ♦ Jen is working on the Artown brochure notice for the July 3rd Open Studio Demo and a Plaited Grocery bag basket for outside participants.
- ♦ Norma Darrough reported on the Museum of Art celebration of the new wing and collection to be exhibited with the big day for the public to be April 26th.
- ♦ Three library shows are scheduled: Spanish Springs library has been rescheduled to Nov & Dec 2025. They have 3 small cases for items. Sparks library has one large case will be July & August 2025. Northwest library on Robb Dr will be Sept & Oct 2025. We will be looking for volunteers to do programs at the libraries for children and adults during those times.
- ♦ Bonnie gave out chunks of cedar for everyone to experience splitting the bark, which will then be used for weaving.



**Gloria & Bonnie
splitting
cedar bark.**

**Bonnie's
sample
basket.**



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

2025 Officers and Committee Members

President: Karen Olson
 Vice President : Betty Hulse
 Guild Secretary: Vacant
 Treasurer: April Barber
 Membership: Betty Hulse

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: Lorrie Moore; Special Workshops: Sue Ann Monteleone; Exhibits & Shows: Mary Goo, Veda Keefe; Grants: Betty Hulse, Karen Olson; Raffle: Lorrie Moore; Website: Jennifer Jay; Newsletter Editors: Sue Ann Monteleone, Karen Olson.

If you are able to volunteer your service to help out GBB in any way, please contact Betty Hulse at 775-747-5794 or email to betty.hulse5@yahoo.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 _____

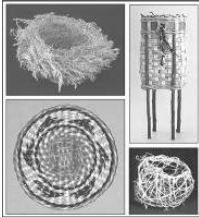
Address _____

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**



Great Basin Basketmakers
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Reno, NV 89511



Jen's photo of clouds over Reno on March 20, 2025

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 10 AM for our business meeting, followed by show and tell, then a mini workshop. 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 gbreno@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.

