

# Great Basin Basketmakers

Continuing 10,000 Years of Basket Arts



## Newsletter

**October 2023**

**Volume 37 Number 9**

**Edited by  
Sue Ann Monteleone**

[www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org](http://www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org)



**October 5, 2023  
10 am—3 pm  
Sparks Masonic Center**

**Join us for our meeting and program  
and try your hand at making cordage from natural materials.**

This is the perfect season to collect iris, day lily, hot poker and other leaves as you clean up your garden. If you've grown milkweed for the monarchs the stems have great fiber. Collect some cattail leaves if you have a ditch or pond nearby. Gather what you can and bring it along. Some materials will be provided.

We also plan to test out our Rigby cutter on materials like cattail and iris leaves.

Remember your lunch and show & tell items, arrive at 10:00 am and enjoy the day.



**Next Month's Newsletter Editor:**  
**Karen Olson**  
**[kvmikesell@hotmail.com](mailto:kvmikesell@hotmail.com)**  
**Please submit articles for the**  
**November newsletter by**  
**October 15**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**  
**Elvira Bowers, Morgan Hill, CA**  
**Jan Sanborn, Placerville, CA**  
**Suellen Turman, Reno, NV**  
**Jennifer Wool, San Jose, CA**

# Message Center

## ***Plants for cordage:***



Cattail leaves are perfect, fresh or dried.



Iris leaves are excellent fresh or dried.

Cat is optional!!



Dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*) looks a lot like small willows at this time of year. Found along ranch ditches. You can gather last years stalks.



### **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](mailto:GBBFBpage@gmail.com)

Peggy Camp has agreed to manage the Facebook page.

## NEVADA PLANTS USED FOR CORDAGE

Nadine Tuttle

FIBERS	PARTS USED	WHERE FOUND	WHEN TO COLLECT
<b>Bast fiber</b>			
milkweed, showy	old, dry stalks	country roads, fields, ditches, along rivers	winter or early spring
stinging nettle	old, dry stalks	country roads, fields, ditches	winter or early spring
Indian hemp, dogbane	old, dry stalks	along rivers and ditches	after first frost when stalk is brittle and plant has died back
<b>Bark</b>			
cottonwood	inner bark layer from fallen dead trees	country roads, fields, yards, rivers, ditches	year round
sagebrush	inner bark layer	undeveloped fields, country roads, yards, construction sites	anytime. Take only a small amount from living bushes.
bitterbrush	inner bark layer	undeveloped fields, country roads, yards, construction sites	anytime. Take only small amount from living bushes
willow	bark	along rivers, ditches, pastures	spring, when leaves are growing
<b>Leaf fiber – retted</b>			
yucca	leaves	gardens and parks	anytime, green or brown leaves
<b>Leaf fiber – not retted</b>			
cattail	leaves	ponds, streams, ditches	cut below water line when still green
iris	leaves	ponds, streams, parks, gardens	when leaves have died down and turned brown
gladiolus	leaves	gardens	when leaves have died down and turned brown
day lily	leaves	gardens, parks	mature leaves after plant has bloomed
tule	stalk	ponds, lakes, ditches	while still green and standing tall
cornhusk	inner husk	garden, grocery store	when available

# Classes

## **Janice's Market Basket** **October 19, 2023** **9:30 to 3:30—Sparks Masonic Center** **Instructor: Nettie Fox**

This basket pattern came from The Basket Maker's Catalog. This basket is made with 2 wood 12 inch oak swing handles, it is easy to make and recommended for beginners, also it would make a great gift.

This basket is a great size for a market basket or tool tote. Originally designed for a dear friend by the name of Janice Walden - a gardener, basket maker and champion quilter - it has a filled bottom and is woven in plain weave with smoked or dyed and natural reed. Finished size is 12" X 18" X 8".

Tools: Pencil, tape measure, spoke weight, packing tool, awl, scissors, lashing tool, apron, spray bottle or sponges, scarfing plane or knife.

Class Fee: \$30 member; \$40 non-member  
Material Fees: \$20

For more information or to sign-up contact  
Nettie at [keepitwild@gmail.com](mailto:keepitwild@gmail.com)  
Please make your checks for fees to Nettie Fox.

Don't forget your lunch and drinks!!!

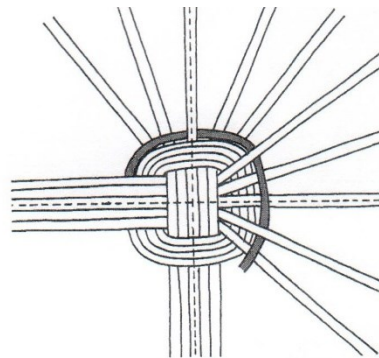
## **Double-Triple Basket** **November 16, 2023** **9:30 am-3:30 pm** **Sparks Masonic Center** **Instructor: Karen Olson**

This is a medium size round reed basket with an overlaid base. Double three-rod wale worked with two colors creates an interesting look, as does the Japanese rolled border worked around a No. 8 core to make a sturdy braid.

This Flo Hoppe basket includes a variety of techniques: three-rod wale, Japanese weave, 2/2 four rod wale, hidden joins. It's an excellent project to learn new techniques or just practice some known ones.

Class Fee: \$30 member, \$40 non-member  
Material Fees: \$15

Contact Karen at [kvmikesell@hotmail.com](mailto:kvmikesell@hotmail.com) or 775-843-1361 to sign-up.



**OVERLAID  
BASE  
WITH  
JAPANESE  
WEAVE**

Nettie Fox just returned from the CBBG Retreat at Camp Magruder at Rockaway Beach, Oregon. She enjoyed classes from Judy Zugish, Sheila Wray & Elaine Twogood, and Cael Chappell. The little waxed linen basket was started in Cael's class, which she reported was a very successful learning experience.

Maybe we should invite Cael to come teach us a few things about color and technique?



# Baskets



Wine Baskets made in Kaylee Mayne's September class. Estelle is working on a single bottle basket and shared her double basket made during a previous class. She finished her double basket with a Golden Oak stain and sealed it, her colors have stayed true since 2019; whereas the basket made in the upper left photo has faded over time.



Left to right: Dori Goldman, Estelle Sandler, Bonnie Kennedy.



## **Sept 7, 2023, GBB General Meeting Minutes**

submitted by Sandy Zoerner

- \* Back for our regular meetings at Sparks Masonic Center. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am by Betty Hulse. There were approximately 16 members attending plus 3 via ZOOM.
- \* Karen Olson reported there is a total of \$12,358.40 cash on hand in the treasury.
- \* Lorrie Moore reported the library is all in order and there are some new books, pamphlets, & DVD's to check out.
- \* Upcoming workshops include a "Double Wine Basket" taught by KayLee Mayne on Sept 21 here at the Masonic Center. Reed and some natural materials will be used to make the basket. Class Fee: \$30 plus \$15 for materials. Nettie Fox will be teaching "Janice's Market Basket" on Oct. 19. The basket has wooden swing handles. Class Fee: \$30 plus \$20 materials.
- \* On September 26-28 the special workshop at St. Mary's in Virginia City will be held. Information regarding this workshop will be emailed to those who have signed up ahead of time.
- \* Nettie reported there is one confirmed instructor (Ann Taylor) for next year's retreat at Zephyr Point set for May 14-17, 2024. She has been in touch with a couple other possibilities and will update us when more is confirmed.
- \* Betty announced there are several donated items that are ready to pass on to new homes. These include books and materials for sale and free items such as duplicate old newsletters. Please take these. Several of them have great tips and ideas for future projects.
- \* Items for discussion was about our Rigby Cutters. One is in good condition and one was in bad condition. It has bad blades from not being used correctly or on the appropriate material. They are not made any longer and need to be taken care of. If you check one of these out, please read and follow the instructions for them carefully. Karen was going to check on the possibility of having the blades resharpened or replaced. Another suggestion was to charge a deposit when checking them out. Since some of us are not familiar with the cutter or it's use, a demonstration on how to use them properly was suggested. This may happen at next month's program meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Proceeds from the material sale/exchange totaled \$262.00. Thank you to all who participated. The Rigby Cloth Stripper's cutterheads have been sent out to be sharpened. The cost of sharpening two cutterheads was \$75. There was a discussion at the last meeting about charging for the use of the stripper. One suggestion was to collect a rental fee which could be used for maintenance of the stripper. The original manufacturer of the Rigby stripper has closed his shop and retired, the man currently sharpening the cutterheads is an associate of the manufacturer, but almost the same age (both men are in their 80s.) I'm not sure if there is another avenue for sharpening in the future, so we need to be diligent in our use and care of this piece of equipment.

Karen Olson

## 2023 Officers and Committee Members

President: Betty Hulse  
 Vice President : Vacant  
 Guild Secretary: Sandy Zoerner  
 Treasurer: Karen Olson  
 Membership: Vacant

Board Chair: Trisha Work  
 Board At Large: Nettie Fox  
 Board At Large: Sandy Zoerner  
 Board At Large: Sue Ann Monteleone  
 Board At Large: Lorrie Moore

Committees: Classes: Vacant; Library: Lorrie Moore; Special Workshops: Sue Ann Monteleone; Exhibits & Shows:; Grants: Betty Hulse, Karen Olson; Raffle: Lorrie Moore; Website: Karen Olson, 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](mailto:betty.hulse5@yahoo.com)

**Arnies Arts N Crafts** Located Houghton Lake, MI [www.basketpatterns.com](http://www.basketpatterns.com) 800-563-2356 Reed, cane, tools, patterns, gourd patterns & tools, books and many wooden bases.

**Consolidated Thread Mills** Located Fall River, MA [www.consolidatedthreadmills.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_

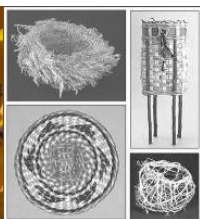
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Great Basin Basketmakers**  
**8175 S. Virginia St. #850**  
**PMB 293**  
**Reno, Nevada 89511**



**Great Basin Basketmakers**  
8175 S. Virginia St. #850  
PMB 293  
Reno, NV 89511



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

Questions regarding workshops, events, etc. may be directed to Karen Olson at [kvmikesell@hotmail.com](mailto:kvmikesell@hotmail.com) or check our website at: [www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org](http://www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org).

Information to be exchanged among GBB members may be directed to: [gbbreno@gmail.com](mailto:gbbreno@gmail.com).

If you would like to submit to GBBs Facebook page please send to [GBBFBpage@gmail.com](mailto: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.

