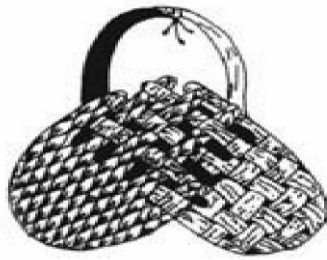


# Great Basin Basketmakers

Continuing 10,000 Years of Basket Arts



## Newsletter

February, 2012

Volume 26 Number 2

Edited by  
Susan Lester

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

Thursday, Feb. 2

Join us at our new meeting place at the First Congregational Church of Reno, United Church of Christ located at **627 Sunnyside Dr, Reno**. Open business meeting begins at 11:00 AM, followed by show & tell & sack lunch from 12-1PM. **All are welcome**. Program begins at 1:00 PM. Our program this month:

### St. Brigid's Cross Program

With Sue Ann Monteleone

St. Brigid's Cross is a Celtic symbol associated both with the pre-Christian Irish goddess Brigid and with the later Catholic St. Brigid (about 400 AD). They are made of rushes on St. Brigid's Eve, January 21, and on her feast day, February 1, are placed in homes and byres to bring good fortune for the year and keep harm away.

The crosses can be folded of rushes or straw. We are going to use local tule (bulrush) and make a simple 4 sided style like one made by Nadine Tuttle. It turns out there are quite a variety of styles, some with 3 sides and some with very elaborate folding like corn dollies. I'll bring along internet articles and some photos Eileen Brilliant has shared from her trip to St. Brigid's Well.

Tule will be provided but if you want to bring your own tule or try a different material, feel free. Just remember that the material has to be able to fold tightly in half without cracking.

Artificial sinew and waxed linen are the easiest tying materials.

Bring : Scissors, other materials will be provided. Questions: Sue Ann - 775-721-1817, [samonte@charter.net](mailto:samonte@charter.net)

**We'll only be a day late for St. Brigid's Feast, maybe she'll still bring us a good year!**



**Reminder: If your mailing label has 2012 printed on it - It is time to renew your membership. Please complete the form on page 7 and pay your dues now. Thank-You**

### February Calendar

Feb. 2 Program Meeting

Feb. 16 Flat Reed & Seagrass Market Basket

Feb.18 Twill Weave  
Painted Paper Basket

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## Double Wall Market Basket

*Instructor: Karen Olson*

*February 16, 2012*

*Sky Peaks Community Room*

*9:30 AM — 3:30 PM*

This sturdy market basket has a 2/2 twill base of natural and dyed flat reed, the outer wall is woven with baby seagrass. The approximate size of the basket is 13" x 10" x 6" with an oak round notched handle. This basket design was inspired by Dianne Stanton and Patti Hawkins.

The class will be limited to 12. Tools needed: tape measure, large soaking bucket, towel, clothespins, scissors or diagonal cutting pliers, awl, sharp jack-knife or utility knife, and spoke weights would be handy. Don't forget your lunch!

The class fee is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members, with a \$15 material fee. For more info please contact Karen Olson at 852-5401 or email

## FEBRUARY WORKSHOPS



### Twill Weave Painted Paper Basket

*Instructor: Karen Olson*

*February 18, 2012*

*Sky Peaks Community Room*

*9:30 AM — 3:00 PM*

**Let's try this workshop again!!!!** We are going to weave a twill patterned basket out of acrylic painted watercolor paper. This size of the basket (5 1/4" x 5 1/4" x 2") will hold the cocktail napkins; however, you will learn how to adjust the size of your basket to hold other items. These little baskets are quick and easy to make and they are great gift boxes. The paper will be pre-painted and cut, so we can spend out time weaving and decorating the rim with waxed linen, buttons, and/or beads. If you have any special color preferences, please let me know so I can have them on hand. You will need to bring scissors, large tapestry needle, and small copper clips for holding the rim on while sewing.

The class fee is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members, with a \$10 material fee. For more info please contact Karen Olson at 852-5401 or email [kvolson@charter.net](mailto:kvolson@charter.net) Don't forget your lunch!

*Sorry, we had to cancel the November class due to the Caughlin Ranch Fire—we will try again.*



### Planting Cultivated Willow

Betty Hulse

Willow can be planted in the Fall or Spring when the soil is not frozen. Cut 10 to 12 inches off the butt end. Cutting should be larger than a pencil. Put the butt end into the soil, leaving about 2-3 buds above the ground. The buds should be pointing upward. Cutting should be planned 18- 36 inches apart. Willow will grow more upright if it is planted closer together. Keep the cuttings damp after planting. If the ground is frozen, cuttings may be stored in a cool place, the refrigerator is ok. Wrap a damp cloth or paper towel around the cuttings and store in a plastic bag. DO NOT seal the plastic bag. Check periodically to see that the cuttings remain damp.

Betty has cultivated willow cuttings. If you want some, please contact her. The willow she has is *S purpurea Lambertiana*, which is green at butt with maroon tip and *S alba Vitelina*, which is green/yellow at butt with red/orange tip.

## July Special Workshops



The Special Classes being taught by ***Donna Crispin*** are both full. Each class has a waiting list. Thank you all who signed up and for making your deposit so promptly.

Here are the final details for each class. I will put this future newsletters, but some of us like to plan way ahead.

#### Japanese Style Flower Vase

**July 27, 2012, Friday 9:00 – 3:30 (5.5 hr.)**

**Total cost: \$51.40 (this includes material and shipping fees)**

**Bring: spray bottle, basketry scissors, old towel, clothes pins, lunch, drinks.**

#### Fancy Figure Doll

**July 28-29, 2012, Saturday and Sunday 9:00-3:00 (12 hrs.)**

**Total Cost: \$72.05 (this includes material and shipping fees)**

**Bring: scissors**

**Both classes will be held at Cheryln Bennett's house. Thank you again Cheryln and Ralph for hosting our teacher and classes. If you have any questions please contact Pat Wescott at 775-465-2769 or [graybadgers@gmail.com](mailto:graybadgers@gmail.com).**



## GBB Meeting Minutes January 5, 2012

### First Congregational Church of Reno

Submitted by Cat Wahrenbrock.

Meeting was called to order @ 11:03 pm by Karen Olson.  
There were lots of members present for the new year

**New Business Report** by Carol Thomas: Don't forget – It's time to collect willow, iris leaves, etc. the weather is glorious for our gathering. The pros & cons of an electronic newsletter was discussed; members present displayed an overwhelming interest in the possibilities.

**Membership report** by Sandy Zoerner – Membership stands @ 187. Glance at your newsletter label to see when your dues are due - if it says 2012 your dues were due in January.

**Treasurer's Report** by Bonnie Kennedy– Balance approximately \$4,260.88.

**Special Workshops Report** by Pat Westcott - Coming July 27, 28, & 29 2012 Donna Sakamoto Crispin's workshops are full with a waiting list. Our Retreat Committee will be meeting soon.

**Meeting Program Report** by Susan Lester – For our February and March meeting programs Sue Ann Monteleone presents St. Bridget's Cross(February) and Split Twig Figures(March).

**Publicity Report** by Connie Douglas –Getting busy for 2012.

**Library Report** by Connie Douglas - If you desire a book, just let Connie know. We are still working on ideas and logistics for the library at our new location.

**Monthly Workshop Report** by Carol Thomas– *January 19* Karen Roselli teaches a Miniature Burden Basket – *January 21* Betty Hulse teaches a Cedar Pouch Necklace. *February 16* Karen Olson teaches Flat Reed and Sea-grass Market Basket. Remember – Payment is due when you sign up for all workshops –be ready with your check or cash, as our teachers need your commitment to prepare for their classes.

**Exhibits/Shows Report** by Margaret Marshall– The Northwest Library will host our display in March and April, bring your baskets to the March Meeting with identification and information on materials and techniques. Contact Margaret for more information.

Announcements - Linda Havens explained our new Grant policies (scholarships) Applications are on our website.



### *Change is in the Air*



At the January 5th General Meeting it was discussed and voted on that we change the way you will be receiving future newsletters. February and March you will receive both an emailed electronic version and a paper copy of the newsletter. However, because our bulk mail contract will be ending in March and printing costs are rising, we have decided to go to electronic only. The cost of the monthly newsletter could be reduced from \$157 a month to approximately \$20-30 a month depending on how many elect to continue receiving it by mail. Beginning with the April newsletter you will only receive it electronically. Those members who wish to continue receiving a paper copy of the newsletter by mail may do so.



## NORTHWEST LIBRARY EXHIBITION

GBB's basket exhibition at the Northwest Reno Library, 2325 Robb Drive, is scheduled for set up at 10 a.m., Friday, March 2nd, with take down 10 a.m., Friday, April 27th.

The library has seven covered, secured display cases, none of which are big enough for overly large or tall baskets. If baskets are kept to a medium size, every effort will be made to display everyone's basket.

All baskets must be noted on an inventory and hang-tags on each piece. It's not necessary to use GBB forms or tags. A simple signed list for basket inventory and a small card for the hang tag is OK. Because each piece will have a TENT CARD, hang tags will be cut off so as not to detract from the display.

Library exhibitions are a great location to "educate" the public about basketry materials and weaving techniques. Along with your inventory, please provide a TENT 3 X 5 CARD for each basket. (Fold one 3 x 5 card in half, then glue it to the long side of a second 3 x 5 card which creates a stand for the informational display card.)

You can either print or use a computer to note the following information: name of basket (if you name your basket), materials used, a brief description of weaving technique(s), and YOUR NAME. If using a computer, please make the type size large enough for ease of reading. Weaving techniques can be lengthy, so use your discretion and space available to note "how to" information. If information is done on a separate piece of paper, cut and attach it to the front of your TENT CARD.

For member's convenience, baskets may be brought to the March 1st meeting or delivered to the library the next day, Friday, March 2. Baskets may be picked up on April 27 or they will be returned at the May 3rd meeting.

Questions??? Please call (825-4397) or e-mail ([gmlmarshall@aol.com](mailto:gmlmarshall@aol.com))

Thanks for participating in our first exhibition of 2012, **Margaret**

## July Exhibit at Sierra View Library

Margaret Marshall

Please mark your calendars for our third library exhibition for 2012.

At this time, we only have the month secured. I will be meeting with the library scheduler soon and will give a report at the February meeting.



### EMAIL NEWS

*Great Basin Basketmakers has its very own email account.*

***gbbreno@gmail.com***

*You will be receiving your monthly newsletter from this address.*

## How-to Care for Your Baskets

**HANDLE BASKETS CAREFULLY** It's best to handle your baskets with clean hands; free of lotion, oil or grease of any kind. Body oils can damage the baskets as can high humidity, by causing stains, mold and mildew. Also pick up baskets by supporting the bottom, especially if it has any contents inside and wear latex or cotton gloves when you handle them.

**CLEANING YOUR BASKET** A feather duster or a clean, dry natural bristle paintbrush is the best way to remove dust from a basket. Or use the upholstery attachment of your vacuum cleaner with a nylon stocking placed over the end. For deep cleaning, dampen a white 100% cotton cloth (cotton baby diapers work well), very slightly with clean cold water and blot gently; then let basket air dry completely. Soaking a basket in water or giving it a thorough "shower" can result in swelling of the fibers, and can contribute to color fading and loss of patina (a valuable asset for antique collectors).

**ROTATE YOUR COLLECTION-KEEP IT CIRCULATING** Move your collection of baskets around your room and house so that each basket gets a change in humidity and heat, different exposure to sunlight or artificial light, and changing exposure to objects they might come in contact with, which might be deteriorating factors.

**MAINTAIN A CONSTANT HUMIDITY AND TEMPERATURE LEVEL** We all know how temperatures and humidity can fluctuate in our homes, but it can be very detrimental to your basketry collection. The use of air-conditioners and dehumidifiers for hot, humid conditions discourages mold and mildew growth and insect activity. Mold and mildew are very difficult to remove properly and can severely damage your basket's condition, quality and value.

**KEEP BASKETS OUT OF HARMS WAY** Fragile baskets should be kept up high, away from pets and young children where they could easily get bumped or broken. Antler baskets and ones made with sharp projections can hurt children too, so keep them on a level surface, away from curious children and pets. Displaying your baskets in glass or acrylic cases or domes is a good protective measure, and also keeps dust away.

**LONG TERM STORAGE** For best results, follow the directions above and don't allow heavy objects to rest on top of the storage boxes. Damage most often occurs when baskets are stored for extended periods of time in attics, basements, or garages, where heavy objects might be placed on the boxes and the temperature fluctuates dramatically. The boxed baskets should be kept in a humidity and temperature controlled area. If you are no longer using and enjoying your basket collection you might consider sharing it with others. You could sell the collection, exhibit it through a museum or gallery or donate your baskets individually to deserving friends, family or even a basket guild, perhaps.

Read more: [How-to Care for Wicker Baskets http://www.wickerwoman.com/articles/basket-care#ixzz1jOS9WTww](http://www.wickerwoman.com/articles/basket-care#ixzz1jOS9WTww)

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### Treasurer's Report 1/9/2012

The expenses include the yearly room rental,  
Secretary of State filing and guest speaker.

Total Cash includes checking & saving 12,207.32  
Income from dues 475.00  
Miscellaneous Income 100.50  
Expenses to Date (825.00)  
  
New Balance 11,957.82

#### 2012 GBB Officers and Board Members:

President.....Karen Olson, 852-5401  
Vice-President.....Kaylee Mayne  
Secretary.....Cat Wahrenbrock  
Treasurer.....Bonnie Kennedy  
  
Board.....Meg Price  
Board.....Donna Newlin  
Board.....KayLee Mayne  
Board.....Paula Pennington  
Board.....Betty Hulse  
Board.....Judy Scribner  
Membership.....Sandy Zoerner 786-2165  
  
Scholarship Committee.....Linda Havens 329-5223  
Billie Walker 626-6767

### Board Meeting Minutes

Board meeting was held at the home of Betty Hulse on January 5, 2012. 6 board members, guild president, outgoing board president and treasurer along with new treasurer were in attendance. 1 guest was in attendance. Betty Hulse was elected 2012 board president. Donna Newlin elected as secretary.

Goals were set for 2012:

1. Web site up to date.
2. Job descriptions finished and posted.
3. Review our by laws and clean them up. Committee created with Meg Price, Karen Rosselli and Karen Olson.
4. More exposure of our name via the web site.
5. Record management. Compile and keep in one location.
6. Library. Organize at new location in a locked cabinet that would hold our records also.

Presented and approved 2 requests for checks - \$25.00 to the State of Nevada to file for being a non-profit and \$700.00 for the years rent for meetings at 1st Congregational Church of Reno. Betty Hulse handed out proposed income and expense budgets for 2012.

Board thanked K. Rosselli for her year as guild treasurer and welcomed Bonnie Kennedy to the position.

Submitted by Donna Newlin

### Next Month's Newsletter Editor :

**Cornelia Kallerud**

**cktahoe@hotmail.com or 530-581-4672**

## Great Basin Basketmakers Membership Application/Renewal

Annual Membership Dues: \$20/yr, \$35/2 yrs, \$50/3 yrs. (Renewals due in January)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

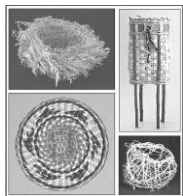
Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Great Basin Basketmakers \* P. O. Box 11844 \* Reno, NV 89510-1844**



Great Basin Basketmakers  
Post Office Box 11844  
Reno, Nevada 89510-1844

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**Time-Dated Material**  
**February 2012**

## Great Basin Basketmakers

Established January 1987

- \* Meet the **first Thursday of each month** at the **First Congregational Church of Reno, United Church of Christ** located at **627 Sunnyside Dr, Reno.**
- \* Open business meeting at 11:00 AM. ***All are welcome.***
- \* Bring a sack lunch.
- \* Show & Tell/Lunch 12-1 PM. Program starts at 1:00 PM
- \* Membership dues for Great Basin Basketmakers are \$20/yr, \$35/2 yrs, \$50/3 yrs. \$5 extra per household member per yr. Dues are to be paid annually in January. Membership includes monthly newsletter, access to large library and reduced workshop rates.
- \* Please direct address, email changes, membership dues, and requests for membership to PO Box 11844, Reno, NV 89510-1844
- \* Questions regarding workshops, events, etc. may be directed to GBB president, Karen Olson at 775-852-5401 or **[kvolson@charter.net](mailto:kvolson@charter.net)** or check our website at:

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

E-Bulletin board: Contact Margaret Marshall at **[gmlmarshall@aol.com](mailto:gmlmarshall@aol.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.

