

Great Basin Basketmakers

Continuing 10,000 Years of Basket Arts



Newsletter

January 2012

Volume 26 Number 1

Edited by

Sandy Zoerner

www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org



Thursday, Jan 5

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:

History of Beads

Once upon a time, in our dim dark past, a man found a rock with a hole in it



My name is Larry Wahrenbrock. I have been studying, collecting and using beads for over 35 years. My studies have taken me all over the United States and to Europe, Asia, Latin America, and the South Pacific. I structured my travels around visiting museums, markets, archeological sites, manufacturing facilities, and private collections. Scholarly publications about beads are limited and often contradictory in their content. There is a great deal of mythology and lore regarding beads; their origin, their manufacture, their value, their historical significance and/or their cultural context. My intention is to give you information about beads based on my experience and study. Do not assume anything as gospel. New information is constantly being discovered and what we think we know changes often.

Beads have been part of the human experience for as long as people have inhabited the earth. As a matter of fact, archeologists use evidence of self-adornment as a determining factor when deciding the extent of human influence in ancient sites. Beads can provide tangible evidence of trade routes and cultural contact between geographically distant human populations. They can be used to distinguish technological advances. They give us insight into cultural values. They give us information about the economic systems. They illuminate our vision of art. With samples from my private collection and your questions; we will spend an hour or two delving into the world of beads.

If your mailing label has 2012 printed on it - It is time to re-new your membership. Please complete the form on page 7 and pay your dues now. Thank-you.

January at a Glance

- Jan. 5 Program Meeting
- Jan. 19 Minature Burden Basket
- Jan. 21 Cedar Pouch Necklace

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Let's preview a few basics:

Workshop Policies and Procedures

As one of the co-chairs for this year classes I would like to remind our members of the class sign up procedures.

1. Cash or check, payable to the instructor, is due at the time of sign-up. If a workshop has been paid for, but a member or non-member can't make it because of an emergency, money may be refunded if a replacement is found.
2. The material fee (if any) is owed to the instructor even if you cannot attend the class.
3. Please be on time. An instructor will not be able to catch you up if you are more than 15 minutes late, unless prior arrangements are made.
4. Check with instructor before a class to see if drop-ins are allowed. Please turn off cell phones. Please leave the room if you need to make or receive a call.

We are so fortunate to have great instructors that teach all of our classes. I feel we owe them the good manners and respect so they will know how many students they can expect for a class, and what materials to bring and purchase if necessary.

Let's make 2012 a great year for classes and our instructors! Thanks, Carol Thomas

January Workshops

Minature Burden Basket - Karen Rosselli, Instructor

Third Thursday Workshop, January 19, 2012; 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Class fee is \$15.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members plus \$10.00 materials fee

Sky Peaks Community Room, 1520 Sky Valley Rd, Reno



Please join Karen Rosselli for a fun day of creating a miniature Burden Basket. This is fun basket for any level of basketmaker. Bring your regular basketmaking supplies: scissors, soaking tub, towel, spray bottle and your favorite weaving tools and bag lunch. If you have any special yarns or raffia, you can bring that as well.

Sign up at the Jan. 5 meeting or by contacting Karen at 972-6997 or email strongbear@aol.com.



Cedar Pouch Necklace - Betty Hulse, Instructor

Third Saturday Workshop, January 21, 2012; 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Class fee is \$15.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members plus \$8.00 materials fee
Sky Peaks Community Room, 1520 Sky Valley Rd, Reno

We'll make a cedar pouch with a contrasting material and a cross-stitch design. You will learn how to split cedar. You can choose from a variety of possibilities to complete your necklace. Betty will provide all materials including waxed linen and beads for necklace. Be sure to bring your sack lunch.

Sign-up at the Jan. 5th GBB meeting or by contacting Betty via email:
betty.hulse5@yahoo.com, or phone 747-5794.

Special Workshop Coming In July



I am pleased to let you know that we have a wonderful teacher coming our way July 27, 28 & 29, 2011. Her name is Donna Sakamoto Crispin. She will be teaching a 2 day Human Figure and a 1 day Japanese Style Flower Basket. We had sign-up sheets at the Christmas Potluck and the Human Figure class filled immediately with a waiting list. There are still openings for the flower vase class.

Cheryl Bennett has graciously agreed to host Donna and have the classes at her home. Thank you so much Cheryl.

By the January meeting I should have the cost of each class available. Until we have a final sign-up completed we won't have an exact amount for each class. At the January meeting I will need a \$35.00 deposit for each class to secure your

spot.

I am still working on a Special Class teacher for 2013. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all from Pat Wescott.



**2012 Great Basin Basketmakers
Program & Class Schedule**

	<i>1st Thursday Program</i>	<i>3rd Thursday Workshop</i>	<i>Saturday Workshop</i>
	<i>First Congregational Church of Reno 627 Sunnyside Dr, Reno</i>	<i>Sky Peaks Com Room 1520 Sky Valley Drive, Reno, NV</i>	<i>Sky Peaks Com Room 1520 Sky Valley Drive, Reno, NV</i>
JANUARY	Jan 5 History of Beads Larry Wahrenbrock	Jan 19 Miniature Burden Basket Karen Rosselli	Jan 21 Cedar pouch necklace Betty Hulse
FEBRUARY	Feb 2 St Bridget's Cross Sue Ann Monteleone	Feb 16 Flat reed & Seagrass Market Basket Karen Olson	Feb 18 TBA
MARCH	March 1 Split Twig Figures Sue Ann Monteleone	March 15 Spiral weave on Branch Judy Magiera	March 17 Weave on a Bottle Cat Wahrenbrock
APRIL	April 5 Recycle Project April Barber	April 19 Needle Felting Animals Nancy MacGillivray	April 21 Recycle Earth Day April Barber
MAY	May 3 Material Sale/ Retreat Raffle Judging	May 17 No classes Retreat	May 19 No classes Retreat
JUNE	June 7 Josephine Knot Kaylee Mayne	June 21 Melon Basket Kaylee Mayne	June 16 Waxed Linen Lauren Lampe
JULY	July 5 Silk Scarf Dyeing Susan Lester	July 19 Wool Gizzard Basket Linda Pietz	July 21 TBA Gayle Still
AUGUST	Aug 2 Round Reed Basket Base Carol Thomas	Aug 16 Gourd Mask Cheryln Bennett	Aug18 Garlic Basket Carol Thomas
SEPTEMBER	Sept 6 Sewn Card Box Nancy MacGillivray	Sept 20 &? Special 2 day Backpack Cat Wahrenbrock Time & Place TBA	Sept 15 Knotless Netting Pat Wescott
OCTOBER	Oct 4 Cordage Betty Hulse & Pat Wescott	Oct 18 Natural Material Wall Basket Margaret Marshall	Oct 20 Tule Basket with overlay Sue Ann Monteleone
NOVEMBER	Nov 1 2013 Planning Meeting	Nov 15 Neolithic Braid Basket Betty Hulse & Linda Havens Time & Place TBA	Nov 17 Shaker Basket Karen Olson
DECEMBER	Dec 6 Holiday Potluck	No Classes Merry Christmas	No Classes Merry Christmas
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2012 LIBRARY EXHIBITS

To date only two GBB exhibitions are scheduled for 2012; March and April at the Northwest Library and September at the Sparks Library. Our library exhibits are an excellent opportunity for each of us to showcase traditional, contemporary and recycled basketry.

The Northwest Library has a number of secure display cabinets. These cabinets are roughly 24" square.

Sparks Library has two large secure display cases, located where patrons will see your art as they come and leave the library.

There will be more regarding these events in future newsletters. To date, we have no shows scheduled...but we are working on it. If anyone has a suggestion for a gallery show location, please let me know.

Contact Margaret at gmlmarshall@aol.com



Betty's November Birdnest Workshop



Are you interested in trying to grow your own willow for baskets? I found these instructions on Susi Nuss website which you can access through our own website. If you choose to try it out, please send an article to one of the editors regarding your success. Sandy

How to Plant Basket Willow (Salix)

By Susi Nuss

You can grow your own willow rods or withes to use in weaving baskets, natural trellises, towers, environmental sculpture and fences. Follow these how to steps.

Difficulty Level: Average **Time Required:** Several days

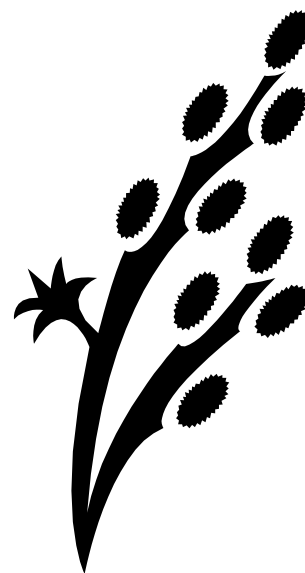
Here's How:

1. Cut stakes 10-12" from long, upright rods taken off the parent plant. Choose rods that are dormant and at least one year old.
2. Make a straight cut at top of the stake. At the thicker end cut the branch at an angle, so that it makes a point. This way you will know which end is up and it will also be easier to drive the stakes into the ground.
3. Cut the stake long enough so that two or three buds will remain above ground.
4. Do not allow the cuttings to dry out before planting. Wrap them and keep them cool.
5. Remove the leaves and small branches from the stakes as soon as possible after cutting them, to keep the stakes from drying out.
6. Choose a site with full sun and good drainage.
7. Prepare the planting bed by thoroughly cultivating the area where you will plant.
8. Mulch the bed with black plastic sheeting.
9. Do not pre-root the cuttings. No hormone powder is necessary.
10. Push the stakes into the ground by hand or use a rubber mallet leaving two or three buds exposed.
11. Plant cuttings six inches apart in rows 2 to 3 feet apart.
12. Put straw mulch over plastic to reduce heat build up or a thick layer of organic mulch if plastic is not used.
13. Keep weed free. Irrigate in dry climates. Watch carefully for disease.
14. At the end of the first year after the leaves fall cut the rods as close to parent cutting as possible. Use the cuttings to make new stakes for the first few years.

Tips:

1. Each year cut the one year rods back to the original cutting. Cut the withes when the plants are dormant.
2. Be certain to be diligent about weeds until your bed becomes established.

If you don't have a place to cut your own, willow cuttings can be purchased commercially.



CHRISTMAS PARTY 2011 AT MOLLY'S CLUBHOUSE



2012 GBB Officers and Board Members:

President.....Karen Olson, 852-5401
 Vice-President.....Kaylee Mayne
 Secretary.....Cat Mena
 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

From the GBB Archives:

Baskets in our Lives by Mary Lee Fulkerson

Have you ever asked yourself why you make baskets? Many of our supportive and friendly GBB members have said there's something about making a basket that draws you in ... centers you touches you with other people in a deep and abiding way. We have focused a lot in recent times on marketing, exhibiting, and competing, and those are important features in sending our baskets out into the world to make their mark. But as we do all that, I sincerely hope we don't forget the other side of basketmaking--the side that touches nature in a loving way, shares a gift, and brings people together in the sharing of sorrows, longings, and loves. Baskets have many functions, from winnowing nuts, to participating in ceremony, to holding dreams, to giving love and support. A basket made by loving hands, given to a dear friend or stranger, is imbued with a heart and soul that a K-Mart basket will never have.

I welcome your comments.

Treasurer's Report as of Nov. 30, 2011
 by Karen Rosselli

Savings Balance - \$7345.53
 Checking Balance - \$4476.13

Next Month's Newsletter Editor is: Susan Lester

Fordtraveler@gmail.com or 376-1338



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 _____

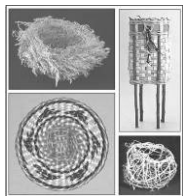
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

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

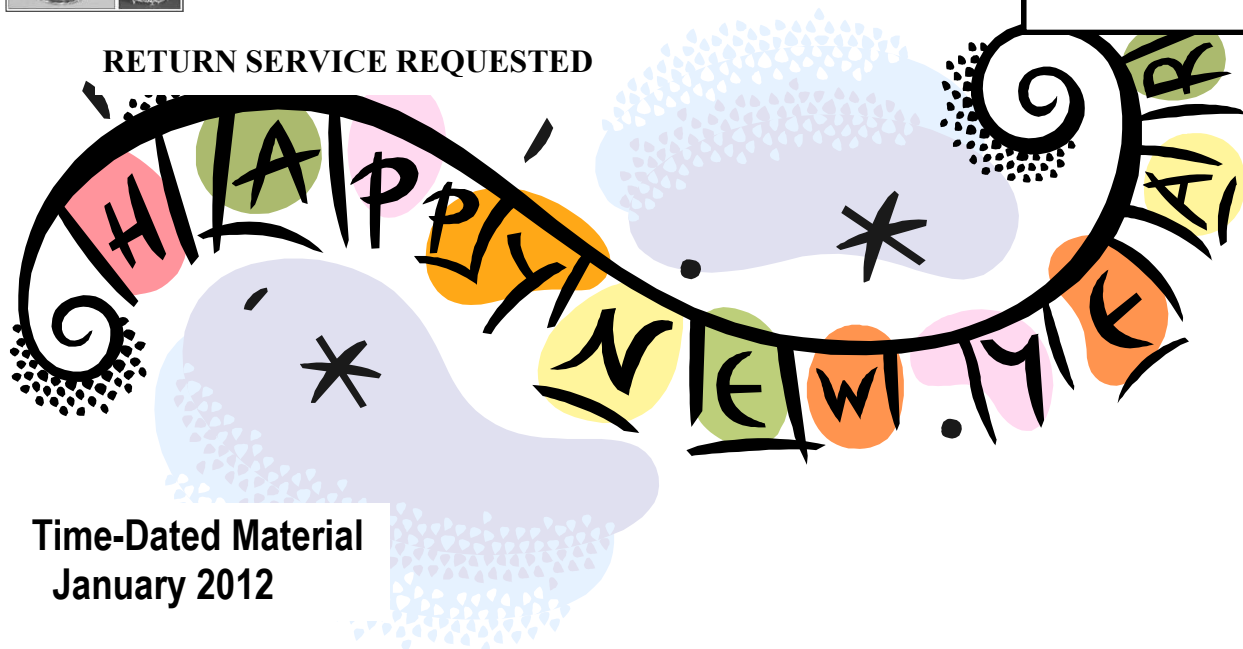
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January 2012

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 pr 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 or check our website at:

www.greatbasinbasketmakers.org

E-Bulletin board: Contact Margaret Marshall at 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.

