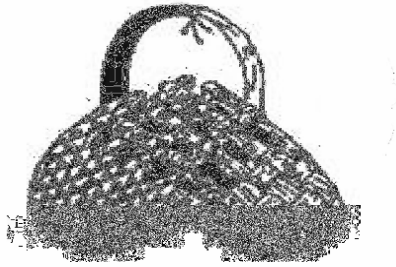


Great Basin Basketmakers

Continuing 10,000 Years of Basket Arts

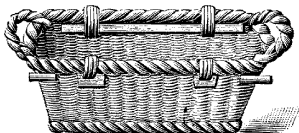


Newsletter

June 2007
Volume 21 Number 6
Edited by Sallie Moore

Tish's Trusty Tip

When weaving a round rim border have you ever had trouble trying to decide where those last two or three spokes are supposed to go? Many patterns suggest that you use a horseshoe bent piece of reed placed behind the first two spokes to mark the correct placement. My luck is that it has fallen out by the time I get around the rim or it falls out after you have put the first spoke in place and you are stuck trying to figure out where the second one is supposed to go!! Solution: Use a nylon zip tie placed behind the beginning two spokes, zip it up to the first click and cut off the tail. That loop isn't going anywhere until you snip it! You no longer have to worry about ending spoke placement.



7 June Meeting



JAPANESE BAMBOO BASKETS

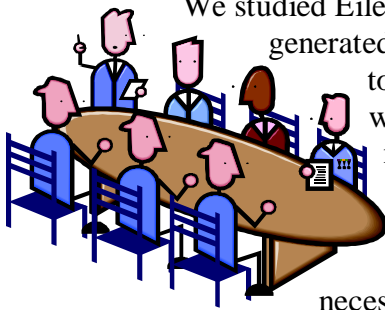
11:00 - 11:30 GBB general meeting

11:30 - 12:30 potluck lunch with Nancy Bess. Bring your favorite recipe and a beverage. Please note there is no refrigeration or cooking facility at the library.

12:30 - 1:45 Slide Show with Q&A.

Nancy Moore Bess has spent a great deal of time traveling and studying in Japan over the past 20 years. Her baskets are a reflection of the spirit of that culture. The show emphasizes the preparation and use of bamboo in basketry and concludes with pictures of Nancy's and other artists' work. All GBB members and their guests are invited to attend this free event at the Reno Northwest Library, 2325 Robb Drive. (Take I-80 W Robb Drive exit up to the roundabout at the library's entrance.) The library has offered a lovely room to us at no charge. They have asked us only to leave the room clean and in the condition in which we found it. Let's make sure that we do!

Board of Directors Meeting



We studied Eileen's composite of our April Forum and decided that the ideas we generated would be taken to members for implementation. Carol T. offered to investigate conventions/retreats in the west. We will ask for a working group to check out possible meeting places and invite those not attending meetings to help! Tish is gathering final figures and we'll approve the budget at the June board meeting. We moved, seconded and passed a workshop policy regarding tardiness (see policy elsewhere in the newsletter). A Board Retreat has become necessary in order to address the many issues developed by the Nitty

Gritty committee. Next month we'll set the date. Next board meeting: Thursday, June 7, 9:45 at Northwest Library. The complete set of minutes is available from Mary Lee F. to any GBB member

Suggestion	Points
Organize group to go to convention/retreat	25
More special classes/workshops	24
Larger meeting facility	23
Another basket convention	20
Basket Retreat	18
More beginners' workshops	11
Better advertising for group	6
Community Outreach/ArTown/Teaching	5
Show & Tell//Sharing	4



Where Do We Want To Go?

Those that attended the April meeting were encouraged to share their vision of the direction we would like to see GBB take. There was a myriad of ideas and we were asked to rank them in order of importance to us utilizing a dot system. 1st choice (Red dot) = 3 pts.; 2nd choice (Green dot) = 2 pts.; 3rd choice (Blue dot) = 1 pt.



Welcome New Members!

Jean Summefield, Carson City

Peter Hunt, Reno

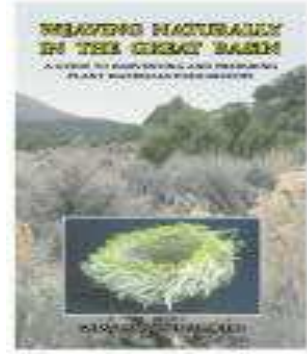
Dorothy Nysten, Dayton

Rosemary DeSoto, Yerington

Natural Weaving Tip of the Month

Susan Stewart

Hurry, hurry with the warm drought-like conditions forecast for this summer you will need to gather your Rabbitbrush quickly this spring if you want to include it in your baskets. There are two native species of rabbitbrush found in the Sierra Nevada; the one most familiar to Northern Nevadans is *Chrysothamnus nauseosus* Rubber Rabbitbrush. This native has those distinctive yellow flowers that bloom in the fall, which were used by Paiute and Washoe people to foretell when to harvest the pine nuts. Current Northern Nevadans use them to foretell when the last outdoor allergen is blooming!



These hardy natives are found in arid areas usually below 8,000ft and though they require little water become more noticeable in fall along the sides of roads, where they get runoff from any seasonal showers. They can grow up to 6ft tall and 3ft wide, but generally are 3-4ft in height. The branches are white with hairy leaves of gray-green, which usually drop to make the flowers even more noticeable in fall. The branches have a rubbery sap, which many native people used as a chewing gum while the leaves were used as a tea. During World War II the U.S. government tested using this latex for a rubber replacement, but the processing cost was too great.



Recipe for success

Dyeing Reed or Seagrass

Eileen Mirsberger, 1-888-424-9866, www.easttroybasketry.com

In response to questions about dyeing reed. We dye reed almost every day and have tried lots of methods. We take custom dye orders and the following is our current procedure. Our customers tell us that our reed has less bleeding than any other that they've tried. Feel free to contact us for any questions (and/or custom orders!)

- Bring approximately 1 1/2-2 gallons of water to a boil.
- Add 1 box of Rit or 1/2 tsp. Jacquard dye.
- Add 2 tsp. Synthrapol.
- Add 1 lb. reed.
- Leave solution on the stove at a simmer or remove from heat if desired.
- Stir reed frequently to assure even dyeing. Flat reed tends to stick together and needs to be separated.
- When reed is desired color, remove from dye bath. Remember, color will lighten as reed dries.
- Rinse well with hot water to remove excess dye.
- Add 2 tsp. Retayne to tub of cold water, enough to cover reed. Add a little extra Retayne for red, wine, and navy.
- Allow to soak 20-30 minutes. Hang to dry. Allow reed to dry completely before using. The more in advance you dye reed, the more colorfast it is.



Synthrapol helps reed absorb dye for a deeper, richer color and more even dyeing. Retayne helps to keep a deep, rich color and stop the bleed. For reed that you have already dyed by other methods or reed that bleeds: add 2 tsp. Retayne to cold water and soak reed for 20 minutes before using.

16 June—3rd Saturday workshop 10 AM-4 PM

Beaded Elegance With Bert Borow

530-823-2433 or bert29@sbcglobal.net



This basket starts with a 6" wood base and uses flat and flat oval reed. Waxed cotton cord will be used to lash the rim and the beaded fringe on the false rim. A variety of beads will be provided for the class project but if you have a preference for a particular color or style of beaded fringe, you can pick up your own at JoAnn's, Michael's or Hancock's. They are sold in 1-yd. packets. We will be using undyed reed. If you don't like this look, we will have a dye pot to over dye your completed basket to give it an older antique look. All skill levels are welcome. Supplies needed: basket scissors, packing tools, awl, knife for scarfing, soaking bucket and an old towel. **Class Fee = \$15 Kits are available** for \$10 without beads and \$15 with beads. If you would like to purchase a kit with beads, please let me know by June 1st so I have time to obtain a selection.

May 3, 2007

General Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Joan O'Brien

Sandy suggested a new order for the meeting and it went really well. We started with introductions and show and tell. After input from various members we went on to lunch and conducted the business meeting simultaneously. Following that, Tish conducted the program by demonstrating the God's Eye and then provided materials for each of us to try making one. The overall meeting seemed to move along much more efficiently and we finished up the day earlier than usual. Kudos to you, Sandy!

As for the business meeting:

HGTV will be filming Tia and Claudia for an upcoming HGTV program.

Margaret showed us the Shoshone basket Jim Santini donated for the raffle at the museum and provided tickets for us to purchase.

Tia gave the treasurer's report and Connie gave the library report

Pat said we have 3 new members and 27 unpaid members out of 226.

Mary Lee gave the Board report and the results of the GBB "talk back" forum. She also formed a committee to further investigate locating a new meeting place. Workshop policy was also discussed and the need to enforce class pre-payment and for us all to be on time so an instructor can teach the class in an orderly fashion.

The June meeting will be at the Northwest Library. Bring a potluck dish to share. Nancy Moore Bess will be giving a lecture

NEW GBB POLICIES

1. Students are encouraged to arrive before the set class time so they can set up and be ready when the class begins. A person arriving LATE will NOT BE GIVEN INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION TIME by the teacher. If it is not possible for the latecomer to catch up on her/his own the workshop fee will be forfeited. If a kit has been ordered (and paid for) it will be given to the person.
2. An existing policy states that workshops **should be paid for in advance of the class**. The Board has added to this policy. If a member chooses to pay for a workshop/class on the day of the event instead of paying in advance, an additional \$5 will be added to the class fee.

Jim Santini's Basket

As his “favorite Northern Nevada non-profit” organization, Jim has sent us a basket from his private collection. Valued estimate of \$1900-\$2100, the basket will be raffled through GBB, with tickets also on sale at the Nevada State Museums. The basket (approx 8”H/8 ¾”D) was made by Dollie Boland, Panamint-Shoshone, Death Valley, CA around 1970. The coiled basket depicts big horn sheep using Olney Bulrush (*Scirpus Olney* plant) with weft and warp of willow. Jim will provide original documents to substantiate the provenance and mail them to the lucky lottery winner.

Tickets are ONE ticket for \$1.00, SIX tickets for \$5.00. You do not have to be present to win. Tickets may be purchased at our guild meetings, the Nevada State Museum, or send a SASE, with

contact information and a check payable to GBB to: GBB, PO Box 11844, Reno, NV 89501-1844. Due to a change of scheduling, the drawing date and location has not been confirmed but will occur, most likely, in early December



Interwoven 2007

Nevada State Museums, Carson City to Las Vegas

Due to museum scheduling, our exhibition at the Nevada State Museum did not open until May 18, 2007. Our exhibit will be at the NSM, Carson City, through August 5, and at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, from September 6 through November 18, 2007.

21 June—3rd Thursday Workshop

FLOWER POWER

with Cheryl Bennett (775-852-5090 cabennett@att.net)

Gourd class—Pyroengraving negative spaces, painting flowers/leaves (dyes and inks)

Class location: “The Gourd Shack” in Cheryl’s back yard by the pond, 12550 Broili Drive, Reno, NV 89511

Time of class: 9:30 am—4:00 pm

Cost of class: \$15 (\$12 materials/kit fee)

Maximum class size: 15

Supplies needed: Apron, lunch, *enthusiasm*, sunscreen, hat—some shade provided by trees and canopies



Upcoming Events

Master Washo Basket Weaver (and GBB member) **Sue Coleman** will be demonstrating her art at the Nevada State Museum **June 30th** from 1-4 PM.



Feather River Art Camp near Quincy, CA, offers June and July classes in gourds, handmade paper & paper sculpture, basketry.

www.featherriverartcamp.com/id14.html

July 16-22, "Contemporary Basket/Ancient Ways, with Donna Sakamoto Crispin and Aimee Yogi at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico. Learn 6-8 variations of twining, make color changes and exciting shapes. Use all kinds of natural materials, make cordage, see slide show. Fee: \$285 includes lab fee, housing and meals. FMI: www.ghostranch.org

UK and Ireland Fiber Arts, Textile, and Craft Tours. **Aug 2007**: Textile Artist tour to England and Wales. Oct. 2007: Fiber and Food Lovers Circle Tour of Ireland. Handrafted Holidays. (253) 476-3040; www.handcraftedholidays.com.

Mexico. Small Group travel into the weaver's world of deep Mexico. Trips like you've never taken. www.traditionsmexico.com and traditionsmexico@yahoo.com

Interesting web sites: www.16.ocn.ne.jp/~takekago/ website of Katsohiko Inoue, traditional Japanese basketweaving. www.arrowmont.org offers several fascinating basket classes this summer. www.gourd.TV, a new weekly "show" on gourd crafting on your computer, at 1 p.m. Saturdays.

Free download: The Weaver's Friendly Handbook for Pricing and Selling Handmade Baskets by Grace and Forrest Davis: www.gratiotlakebasketry.com/specials.html

Oct. 3-7, National Basketry Organization Convention at Arrowmont, Gatlingurg, TN. www.nationalbasketry.org

Are you showing anyplace in or out of the area? Tell us please!

Thanks to newsletters in our exchange, HGA, and NBO for the above information.

Fernley Farmers™ Market and Art-in-the-Park meets every Wednesday, **June 6th thru August 29th** from 4-8pm. Non-profit groups, artists, musicians or dance groups to do workshops and/or present their programs or wares.



CHECK IT OUT

If you want to weave a God's Eye on a rib basket the book **NEW LASHINGS** by Billy Malone is a must. The "fresh and innovative designs to give your baskets a flair" is stated perfectly. There are seven versions of the God's Eye from which to choose including the Traditional God's Eye, Winking Eye, Diamond Eye, and the Braided God's Eye. The very large black and white step by step instructions (19 picture steps for the Traditional alone!!!) are beyond compare. You **CANNOT** go wrong following them.

Even though the God's Eye is traditionally for holding the ribs in ribbed construction basket, this techniques can be used for decorative embellishment as well as for the start of lids and bases. Be sure to go to the library and **CHECK IT OUT !!!!**

Next Month's Newsletter Editor is: *Sandy Zoerner*

She can be reached at zoerware@sbcglobal.net or at 786-2165. Although there are a number of ways contributors may submit information for inclusion in the next newsletter, (e-mail, typed and sent via snail mail for scanning or by phone), **e-mail is the preferred method.** When submitting articles for the newsletter, send them as a plain, unformatted text attachment, if possible. PLEASE don't bold, center, italicize, underline, bullet or number. If you have a "yen" to do so, consider becoming one of the newsletter edi-



Great Basin Basketmakers Membership Application/Renewal
 Membership Dues: \$20/yr, \$35/2 yrs, \$50/3 yrs. (Renewals due in January)

Date _____ Amount: \$ _____ New _____ Renewal _____

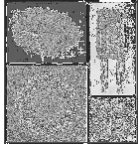
Name _____

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*



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June 2007
Time Dated Material

Great Basin Basketmakers

Established January 1987

- * Meeting held the first Thursday of each month at Sky Peaks' Retirement Community Room. **Please park on the south side of the building.**
- * Open business meeting at 11 AM. *Everyone is welcome.*
- * Bring a sack lunch or potluck dish to share.
- * Show and 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. Dues are to be paid annually in January. Membership includes monthly newsletter, access to large library and reduced workshop rates.

Please direct address changes, membership dues, and requests for membership to Pat Morfoot
4747 Pradera St., Sparks, NV 89436-1649
775-626-8108

Our Mission Statement

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