

Rug Braiders International

September 6, 2025 General Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – President Rissa Moore called the meeting to order at 1:00pmEST.
2. **Approve/Add to the Agenda** –The agenda was approved.
3. **Amend/Approve Minutes of Last Meeting** – The minutes were approved.
4. **Treasurers Report** – Sherry Chilcutt presented the Treasurer’s report which is attached to the agenda.
5. **Presentation of the proposed budget for 2025-2026** – There were no questions regarding the budget which is attached to the agenda. The budget was approved unanimously.
6. **Progress on Name Change** – Sherry reported that we have a new bank account with our new name. Christine Manges asked for volunteers to help go through the website looking for the old name.
7. **Committees**
 - a. **Conference** – Sherry presented the location and date of the conference which will be held April 30-May 3, 2026 at the Seabeck Conference Center in Seabeck, Washington.
 - b. **Education** – Christine presented the new classes for the fall and discussed a new program for teachers and braid demonstrators.
 - c. **Exhibit** – Pam Rowan reported that 8 braiders used Exhibit funds to help toward shipping costs for getting their rugs to Sauder Village. Christine presented a slide show of the braided rugs at Sauder.
 - d. **Finance** – Rissa reported that we have passed our audit and thanked auditors Janice Lyle and Lucinda Harrison-Cox. She asked anyone interested in serving on the Finance Committee to reply to the agenda. We are looking for some people with financial expertise and also people to help with general research.
 - e. **Fundraising/Scholarship** – Kris McDermet reported that the committee will be offering ten \$40 scholarships for beginners and some scholarships next spring for advanced classes. Contact Kris if you are interested in joining the committee.
 - f. **Media** – Christine reported that she is assisted with the website updates by Lisa Kilgo and Janet O’Connell. She is looking for someone with WIX experience to help. Judy Fahnestock is our Instagram coordinator.
 - g. **Membership** – Marlene Breitenbach reported that we are up to 172 members including 16 from Canada, one from Norway, one from Germany, and one from Australia. Mary Ragno will send an email this fall to past members who have not renewed as a reminder and also to get feedback.
 - h. **Nominating** – Mary Hibbard reported that we will need to elect a new Secretary for 2026-2027 since Karen Levendusky will have reached the term limits for the position.
 - i. **Programs**- Christine Manges presented the current list of demos and Special Events which is in the agenda. Rissa will give a demo on magnets and other gadgets at the October meeting. Contact Christine if you have an idea for a demo or Special Events.
8. **Demo** - Christine Manges presented a demo on Chevron Braiding.
9. **Adjournment** – President Rissa Moore adjourned the meeting at 2:20pmEST followed by show and tell.

Submitted by Karen Levendusky 9/25/2025