



Rug Braiders International General Meeting

**Agenda for Zoom Meeting:
Saturday, May 3, 2025, 1 pm EST**

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** -- Rissa Moore, President
2. **Approve/Add to: Agenda**
3. **Amend/Approve Minutes of Last Meeting** – attached. Karen Levendusky, Secretary
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Sherry Chilcutt, Treasurer
5. **Progress on Name Change** – probably not complete until September...
6. **Committees:**
 - a. **Conference Committee** : Co-Chairs: Donna Witmer, Sherry Chilcutt
Review of recent conference at Stella Niagara Center of Renewal in Lewiston, NY
Upcoming conference/retreat planning for next year

Many thank-yous: Sherry Chilcutt and Donna Witmer, Conference Chairs

Gail Stephens: Online Registration Form, Feedback Discussion

Tea Cup Auction: Kris McDermet, Cathy Winship, Karen Levendusky, Yvonne Iten-Scott, and all of the makers/donators for the auction!

The Teachers and Assistants: Peggyann Watts, Dianne Tobias, Cathy Winship, Bobbi Mahler, Mary Hibbard, Rose Robertson-Smith, Karen Levendusky, Christine Manges, Kris McDermet

Photography: Yvonne Iten-Scott

Transportation Coordinator: Janet O'Connell

Gift of Embroidered Shirts to Attendees: Marjorie Corrow

Vendors: Rose Robertson-Smith, Dianne Tobias, Pam Rowan/Cathy Winship, Christine Manges, Cheryl Hanline, Peggyann Watts

Group Photo Improvement: Phil Squyers

- b. **Education Committee** Chair: Christine Manges
 1. Online classes currently open: Linking Circles with Tetracuspid & Triangle, Oval Continuous Hit or Miss 5-Strand, and 6-Braid Spiral
 2. The Education Committee needs to meet to do some long-term planning. A Chair-Pad-A-Month course has been proposed, and several teachers have volunteered. There has been a request for longterm schedules to be posted so that at least two years of classes are planned and posted on the website. We will work on this soon.
- c. **Exhibit Committee** Chair: Pam Rowan
Review of recent committee meeting.
 - a. **Rug Challenge:** recent Braided Water Challenge shown at conference.
 - 2026: Mixed Media Braided Garden
 - 2027: Fine Art Inspiration
 - 2028: Mythical Beasts / Magical Creatures

b. **State and County Fairs:** Check out your State and County websites for opportunities.

c. **Sauder Village Rug Hooking Week**, Aug 12-16, 2025. Registration is now OPEN. Visit <https://saudervillage.org/classes-events/special-events/rug-hooking-week/rug-registration-2025> to register your rug!!

d. **Finance Committee**

Chair: Donna Witmer

e. **Fundraising/Scholarship Committee**

Chair: Kris McDermet

A major source of funding for scholarships is the Tea Cup Auction, held every two years at our conferences. This year, the Tea Cup auction raised \$1515.00 for scholarships!!

f. **Media Committee** (website, social media)

Christine Manges; Lisa Kilgo

Our Facebook Address: www.facebook.com/groups/308491603694553 Name changing soon to Rug Braiders International

Our Instagram Address: #rugbraidingvf. We're working on getting a new Instagram account with our new name on it. Stay tuned!

The Media Committee will need A LOT of help after Lisa Kilgo and Christine Manges change the website's name and colors. We will need volunteers to check each page and make sure the links work and that it looks okay on the phone as well as computer screens. If you're willing to help with a page or two, let Christine know! ccmanges@gmail.com

g. **Membership Committee**

Co-Chairs: Marlene Breitenbach & Mary Ragno

Current members: 235

New membership list up on website; current as of March

h. **Nominating Committee**

Chair: Mary Hibbard

Nomination for Vice President

i. **Program Committee**

Chair: Christine Manges

Zoom Coord: Judy Fahnestock

Special Events: (Speakers get \$200 for their presentations)

5/31	Janet Fitzgerald on Barbara Fisher
6/28	Reducing Textile Waste with Cookie Washington

Demos at Guild Meetings: (Demonstrators get \$25 as a thank you).

5/3	LO vs RO Braiding: Pam Rowan & Christine Manges
6/7	

Outside Events of Interest:

• **Sauder Village Rug Hooking Week**, Aug 12-16, 2025, with an exhibit of braided rugs! Archbold, OH

• **October 10-12, 2025, New England Braids**, Methuen, Massachusetts, www.rugbraiding.wordpress.com or contact Carol Broadbent at carolbraids@gmail.com

7. **Demo:** Pam Rowan & Christine Manges: **RO vs LO Braiding and Lacing: What's the Difference?**

8. **Adjournment**, followed by **Show & Tell!**

Attachments:

• Minutes of Last Meeting

Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild

April 5, 2025 General Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – President Rissa Moore called the meeting to order at 1:02pmEST. There were 23 attendees.
2. **Approve/Add to the Agenda** – No additions to the agenda. Motion to approve by Lucinda Harrison-Cox. Seconded by Christine Manges. The agenda was approved.
3. **Amend/Approve Minutes of Last Meeting** – No amendments to the minutes. Motion to approve by Christine Manges. Seconded by Mary Hibbard. The minutes were approved.
4. **Vote** – Vice President Gail Stephens reported that we had 107 early votes for our name change and bylaw changes, 105 yes votes and 2 no votes. President Rissa Moore asked for a vote of the meeting attendees that had not already voted. This vote yielded an additional 8 yes votes for a total of 113 yes, and no additional no votes. Online voting will be kept open until Monday night.
5. **Committees**
 - a. **Conference** – Sherry Chilcutt reported that we still have space at the conference. Janet O’Connell will be coordinating transportation if anyone needs a ride from the airport.
 - b. **Education** – Christine Manges reported that a beginner class with Mary Hibbard is in progress. Lots more classes will be listed soon. She is working on a long-term class schedule. Christine and Marlene Breitenbach will be sending out a survey to right openers to see if they lace on the top or on the back.
 - c. **Exhibit Committee** – Pam Rowan reported that we have received a donation to the Exhibit Committee and will be meeting soon to determine how to allocate funds.
 - d. **Finance** – Sherry Chilcutt reported that Pennsylvania has approved our new name and now she is working on changing it with the IRS and then the bank account.
 - e. **Fundraising/Scholarship** – Cathy Winship reported that the Teacup Auction has received many items.
 - f. **Media** – Christine Manges reported that Judy Fahnestock will help set up Instagram after the name change. Sherry requested an updated brochure for events with the new name. Christine will need a team of people to check the website after the changes are made to be sure all links work and name and color changes are complete.
 - g. **Membership** – Marlene Breitenbach reported that we are up to 232 members. Sherry confirmed that Marlene is able to update member addresses.
 - h. **Nominating** – Mary Hibbard formally introduced our Vice President nominee, Judy Fahnestock.
 - i. **Programs** – Christine Manges reported that we will not have a special event in April. A list of upcoming special events and demos is in the agenda.
7. **Demo** - Christine Manges presented a demo on Left-Handed Braiders.
8. **Adjournment** – President Rissa Moore called for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Christine Manges and seconded by Pam Rowan. The meeting was adjourned at 2:09pmEST followed by show and tell.

Submitted by Karen Levendusky 4/17/2025