



Rug Braiders International General Meeting

**Agenda for Zoom Meeting:
Saturday, March 7, 2026, 1 pm EST**

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** -- Rissa Moore, President
2. **Approve/Add to: Agenda**
3. **Amend/Approve Minutes of January Meeting** – attached. Karen Levendusky, Secretary
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Sherry Chilcutt, Treasurer
5. **New Business/Old Business**

Are you a Right Opening Braider? Have you wanted to learn to draw using a computerized drawing program? A special plea for a Right Opening Braider interested in learning to draw lacing-on-the-back diagrams for Rt. Opening Braiders. Free tutoring from Christine Manges with any standard drawing program (most familiar with Adobe Illustrator, but they all have similar tools). Contact Christine Manges for details: ccmanges@gmail.com

6. Committees:

- a. **Conference Committee:** Chair: Sherry Chilcutt
Seabeck, Washington: Conference Apr 30-May 3, 2026. Registration is open!!
- b. **Education Committee** Chair: Christine Manges
The monthly Teacher's Forum has been active and appreciated. This month: Drawing Braids and Inserting them into Handouts: Sunday, March 8 at 4pm ET.
- c. **Exhibit Committee** Chair: Pam Rowan
 1. Update on financial support for shipping rugs to exhibits
 2. Rug Challenges:
 - 2026: Mixed Media Braided Garden!**
 - 2027: Fine Art Inspiration
 - 2028: Mythical Beasts / Magical Creatures
 3. Sauder Village Exhibit: Aug 12-15, 2026
- d. **Finance Committee** Chair: Rhonda Beaupre
- e. **Fundraising/Scholarship Committee** Chair: Kris McDermet
All 6 coupons for \$40 off Intermediate classes used!
1 coupon left for \$40 off Beginner classes!
Scholarships for Conference...
- f. **Media Committee** (website, social media) Christine Manges;
Assistants Lisa Kilgo; Janet O'Connell
Media Committee Meeting March 19 at 9:30 am EST over Zoom; link posted in Newsletter. Working on Committee pages.
Our Facebook Address: www.facebook.com/groups/308491603694553
or search for "Rug Braiders International"
Our Instagram Address: #rugbraidersinternational.
Judy Fahnestock is managing the account. Send her rug photos!
Judebug31@gmail.com

g. **Membership Committee**
• Current members: 215

Co-Chairs: Marlene Breitenbach &
Mary Ragno

h. **Nominating Committee**

Chair: Mary Hibbard

i. **Program Committee**

Chair: Christine Manges
Zoom Coord: Judy Fahnestock

Program Committee Meeting to start planning next year's programs:

Monday, March 9, 7p EST over Zoom

Upcoming March special event on 3/21: Report from the leadership conference at Oneida, and a follow-up

6. **Demo: Pam Rowan** will show us how to make braided Easter Eggs!

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

Attachments:

• Minutes of Previous Meeting

Rug Braiders International February 7, 2026 General Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – President Rissa Moore called the meeting to order at 1:03pmEST. There were 34 attendees.
2. **Approve/Add to the Agenda** –Mary Ragno requested adding information about the leadership retreat to the agenda. Rissa Moore added it under New Business/Old Business. Christine Manges made a motion to approve. Mary Hibbard seconded. The agenda was approved.
3. **Amend/Approve Minutes for November Meeting** – Patsy Simon asked for clarification regarding future classes. Gail Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes. Mary Ragno seconded. The minutes were approved.
4. **Treasurers Report** – Sherry Chilcutt presented the treasurer's report which is attached to the agenda. She reported that we are in conference season so we have a high balance in our account right now. She also reported that she has finished 1099's for 2025.
5. **New Business/Old Business** – Karen Levendusky discussed the Leadership Conference to be held at Oneida Community Mansion House March 12-15. All board members, committee chairs, and committee members were invited to help plan the future of the guild. Any members who have ideas or topics they would like us to consider can email Karen at klevendusky@gmail.com.
6. **Committees**
 - a. **Conference** – Sherry Chilcutt discussed the upcoming conference at the Seabeck Conference Center in Seabeck, Washington on April 30-May 3, 2026. Registration has been going well thanks to our conference registrar, Gail Stephens. There are still four double rooms available. Gail encouraged braiders who would like to attend to register soon to while classes still have availability.
 - b. **Education** – Christine Manges discussed classes to be held at the conference and upcoming Zoom classes which are on the website.

c. Exhibit – Rissa Moore reported for Pam Rowan that the exhibit Committee has funds available for shipping rugs and chair pads to exhibits and to Seabeck for the braiding challenge.

d. Finance – Rissa Moore reported for Rhonda Beaupre that all is going well.

e. Fundraising/Scholarship – Kris McDermet reported that the committee is working on a rug and chair pads to raffle at the conference. Donna Dunn commented that we need to register in each state where we solicit donations.

f. Media – Christine Manges presented the initial website pages for each committee on the website.

g. Membership – Marlene Breitenbach and Mary Ragno reported that we are up to 208 members. Mary has posted on social media that half price memberships are available after February 1 which has boosted membership.

h. Nominating – Mary Hibbard reported that we have a candidate for secretary for next year. Anyone who would like to be considered for the position can contact Mary at mhibbard@frontiernet.net. The slate of officers will be presented in April to be voted on in May.

i. Programs– Christine Manges presented the upcoming Special Event on the Lincoln Rug which she will be presenting on February 21.

7. Demo – Yvonne Iten-Scott and Christine Manges presented a demo on Photographing Braids and Altering Images.

8. Adjournment – Show and Tell was postponed until next month. A motion to adjourn was made by Gail Stephens. Patsy Simon seconded. President Rissa Moore adjourned the meeting at 2:50pm.

Submitted by Karen Levendusky 2/11/2026