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Wuzzie George—  
Sagebrush Clothes

# Rabbit Tracks



## Cradle Me, I'm Yours

Everyone in this group has memories of being raised in a cradleboard. None of us really learn how to make cradleboards, or baby baskets as we grew up, but now we all wanted to experience making our own. The class learned what time of the year is best for picking willow, and the foot work associated for completion. Students remained dedicated throughout the process despite frustrations but learned as a group. Students were also tested on what they learned while coming to the willow class. Violet Brigham began working on one in earnest, as she had a grandchild due in

March. With Vinnie's guidance, she began the labor of love with scraping and tying, then putting a canvas cover over the frame and adorning it with beads. She sent the completed project to Idaho for the baby. Sandra Ellison completed her mothers unfinished work. Sharon Williams, Willie Brown, Neasha Wasson and Laneva George also started doll baskets.

We learned that we can still do willow work through out the year, provided that we had made ourselves enough supplies to work with during the winter months.



Sandra Ellison completed a project started by her mother.



Sandra Ellison holds a cradleboard frame, while Violet Brigham ties it in place.

## And so ends the Willow season...

With Spring the willows begin to bud and grow leaves, making them unsuitable for splitting, however can be scraped for hood and bed material. Hopefully, we have made enough scraped willows and "threads" to finish up our projects. In the meantime, we used hemp material for mock coil baskets and learned the gap stitch and coiling technique

for making coil baskets. Starting with just a knot, we begin whip-stitching a hemp string around the larger cord and continue to make our basket small, or large, or wide or tall or deep. It is up to us to "make it happen"! Another option is to fashion a lid for the baskets the students made. We wonder if anyone might be ambitious enough to make a basket hat

for themselves? Participants will be kept occupied with other projects until "Willow Season" this Fall.



Anne Delevaga showcasing her hemp coil baskets.



Desmond Mitchell was our tour guide. Look at the "big one" with cultural models Libby & Lynette

*Everyone is welcome to attend any of the cultural classes or to take part in our planned cultural activities.*



Ralph Burns  
Paiute  
Language Instructor



Morning Song Singers:  
Tanner Allen, Nikolas and  
Damion Baltazar, Schylar  
Weideman and Vinton  
Hawley.

## Kooyooee Panunadu Fish Hatchery

It was a cold day when we attended Pyramid Lake for the last spawning. Upon arrival we viewed the spawning channel and the numerous sizes of fish held there.

Special thanks to Desmond Mitchell who gave us the fisheries experience at Lake Operations. Participants observed the spawning channel, (fresh running water) and holding tanks for smaller fish. Only the largest fish are used for spawning. Partici-

pants learned how gender is determined and we observed as they milked the fish and the fertilized the eggs. we were given the opportunity to mix a batch as well. We learned the fish are tagged when they are minnows for statistical data. When the fish reach a certain size they are released into the Truckee River or lake. The group was amazed to hear that a fish, after spawning, being tagged and released in Wadsworth,

make their way back to the spawn channel in just a few days!

Fisheries staff was welcoming and accommodating and glad to see a tribal program. Participants were also given a trout for dinner.



Lynette mixing eggs

## Language Teachers

We are happy to announce that Mary Hard is returning as the Shoshone Language teacher. We welcome a new Paiute Language teacher; Ralph Burns. These classes are designed to assist beginning learners, moderate to advanced learners. Everyone is encouraged to come and take part. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings at the

Education Center from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. The program provides light refreshments and water. On the last class of every month, we hold a potluck dinner. Phrases that we go over are every day commands and introductions. We go over colors and numbers and are always having "refresher" courses. We discuss dialects and how some-

times even brothers and sisters utilize their vocabularies differently. Material is utilized from previous classes and includes books created by SYLAP & developed material of the instructors.



## Spring Break Youth Handgames

During Spring Break we worked with the youth attending Spring Break. Each day began with a new prayer and learned 4 handgame songs. We gave thanks for all that we were given and asked for safety during the day.

Cultural staff provided handgame instruction throughout the week and on the last day the kids had a

handgame tournament. The youth chose their own team names and it was on. We have a lot of great up and coming singers and players. also during the week had a fry bread making class. Staff made the dough and participants were given a dough ball to roll out it was than cooked to perfection. All enjoyed eating their very own

bread with butter, honey, powdered sugar and sometimes all three.



## Lili Ana Santio and her Tortillas

Lili Ana is 8 years old and she participated in the Tortilla making class with the Cultural Program, She was the youngest one there. Vinnie Hawley and Libby Austin were the demonstrators.

Lili Ana enjoys making the tortillas, her little hands patted out the bread and using a small size roller pin she rolled out the soft dough and formed a pretty good shaped circle. She did not cook the bread of course, but she enjoyed eating her own bread.

This past year Lili Ana attended the Numa School here in Fallon, and toward the end of the school year her class had a talent show. Lili Ana asked if she could make Tortilla for her talent. Other kids were doing jumping jacks and told how they rode a horse, but Lili Ana wanted to show how she made Tortillas. So, her and her Auntie made 20 small tortillas, using the special recipe that Vinnie handed out to everyone, and they took butter and some homemade Blueberry

ry Shelly's Jelly, Shelly Ellison who resides in Stewart made her special batch of Blueberry Jelly.

The kids enjoyed their tortillas, but, Lili is so shy she did not say much during the demonstration, but, she was happy afterwards to show her talent in her shy way.

By Brenda Hooper



**Lili Ana Santio**  
Waiting to cook her tortilla

### Tortilla Recipe

**4** Cups Flour/ all purpose  
**1/4** TSP Salt  
**1/4** TSP Baking Powder  
**1** Tablespoon lard or shortening.

Mix dry ingredients, cut shortening in, slowly mix in water. Set for 5 minutes.

**TIP:** Make sure your pan is HOT.

## Hopi Pottery

The Cultural Program wanted to provide a diverse activity for participants. We decided Hopi pottery would be a project we could see through to the end. Participants were shown a short video of Hopi pottery.

The class learned how the materials were mined in a rock form, crushed, soaked

and strained to make the raw clay product. We then began molding our vessels. Participants learned the coiling process and adding coils to build on the original foundation of the pottery. Small pots &



dishes were achieved. The pieces were dried, sanded and polished using a smooth stone. Finally, students learned how the paint was made and learned to make a paint brush using the finest fibers from a yucca plant.

The final process will be the "firing" using sheep dung, this process takes roughly 7 hours.

*Learning our culture is meant to be intergenerational; including grandchildren and great grandparents.*



**Laneva George & Ladybug**

## Drum Making

The Cultural Department contracted with Vernon Rogers from Yerington to come in and give a presentation and instruction to the community.

The Cultural Departments



supplied the materials, rawhide and drum frames for the classes. 4 classes were held, participants cut out their own drum covers and strips from rawhide that had been soaking and then fitted it over the frame.

Drums were tied together and allowed time to dry, and modifications were made as needed, such as re-soaking and re-tying.

Once the rawhide was dry,

and drums were completed participants painted their completed projects.

Drums were decorated with a Navajo basket design, Hopi butterfly, quail and basket design, roses and many other creations.

The final step to completing the drum project was taking the drum makers out to gather material to make a drumstick.



**Jillian Yesslith and Rhonda Hardin** sharing their completed drums.



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### Words from the Cultural Program Coordinator:

I would like to thank our Cultural Students who make our program a success with every class you attend and who give a piece of themselves with every craft they complete. It is very rewarding to see the results of your hard work and dedication. Our program's goal is to provide you with a variety of diverse activities and projects from not only our tribes' (Paiute & Shoshone) but also to expose you to other tribe's crafts to expand your cultural knowledge and provide you with new experiences.

What a pleasure it is to see a member of our circle complete a craft such as a cradleboard (Sandra & Violet) or moccasins (LaBelle) or a drum (Leneva & Lonnie) and to see the excitement and pride you take in your completed projects.

I asked for feedback from our participants and what they had learned from the classes so far and Beverly Hicks responded with a statement that touched me, "She said that the knowledge she was gaining in her Language and Culture was reconnecting her tie to her Grandmother that she thought was gone forever." And that's what we are about. It is with that vision in mind that we continue to provide you with hands-on experience and cultural knowledge. And we look forward to seeing new participants in future classes.

- Vinton Hawley, Coordinator



## Toi Ticutta Community Garden



A special thanks to the Natural Resources Department who prepared the ground for planting.

The Cultural Program purchased seeds and garden supplies to get the garden in the ground.

We purchased seeds and planted sunflower, pumpkin, blue corn, tomato plants, carrots, onions, chili peppers, squash, melons, cucumber seeds and potatoes.

We are hoping the cottontails and insects don't devour

the fragile plants as they are coming up. Our Cultural participants keep tabs on the garden, often calling us to remind us to water and check on it. They say "How does your garden grow?" We had one cold weather day, but the tomato plants bounced back after the initial shock of being transplanted outdoors. We look forward to harvest time and making salsa, salads and other recipes using our very own garden produce!

Healthy eating is on every-

one's mind these days and by planting your own garden can help you achieve this goal.

Remember when planting:

"One for the birds, one for

