

Weave to
re-create
the past



Weave to
create for
the future

The Roving January, 2026

January 2026 Greetings, HWOTV!

Happy New Year, Fiber Guild Friends!

As we step into a fresh year, I find myself feeling both grateful and energized. Grateful for the incredible community we've built together,...one of creativity , generosity, curiosity, and joy,.....and energized by the possibilities that lie ahead for our Guild.

The past year brought us so many moments worth celebrating: beautifully finished projects, inspiring classes, craft outreach achieved, new members joining our circle, a successful sale, and the warm camaraderie that forms whenever fiber artists gather. Each of you plays a vital part in making this Guild not just an organization, but a welcoming home for makers of all kinds.



Guild Meeting:

Date: January
10, 2026

Time: 10:00
AM

Where: Exeter
Memorial
Building

Program:

**Roses in
January &
June!**

As we begin this new year, I encourage every one of you to try something that stretches your imagination, whether it's exploring a new technique, diving into your stash with a fresh vision, or sharing your skills with someone who is just beginning their fiber journey. Our Guild thrives when we learn from one another, support one another, and show up with curiosity.

We have an exciting year planned, filled with opportunities to grow, connect, and create. I look forward to seeing familiar faces, welcoming new members, and celebrating the beautiful work that emerges when passion meets fiber.

Thank you for being the heart of this Guild. May this year bring inspiration, laughter, and plenty of time with the materials we love.

Sharon Farrar, President

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**ANNOUNCEMENT:** did you know we have a new Librarian? It's our own Juliet V. It is her goal to share our Guild Library's resources - and they are many!

Here is her note for this month:

**What's In the Library?**

Hi everyone, I am the new Librarian for the Hand Weavers of the Valley. Thanks to our previous librarians and generous members we have a very comprehensive resource for our use - our Library.

This month I would like to introduce you all to “The Intentional Spinner, a Holistic Approach to Making Yarn.” by Judith Mackenzie McCuin. We can all improve our fiber skills. This book has great pictures and comprehensive explanations of the nature of fibers and spinning techniques.

This will be in our library with many other fabulous resources for your education and enjoyment. Please feel free to peruse the fabulous resources at your disposal.

Enjoy our craft!  
Juliet Vitz  
Librarian

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**And NOW.....News from
Our Vice-President and Program Chairman, Monica!**



January 2026

At our last meeting, members gathered to celebrate the end of 2025 and its many shared adventures. Good food, great conversations, and much fun filled the day. Thanks to all for a grand day!

CALENDAR

Our calendar has a few changes this year. We will keep Red Hot Topics, our program, and revive our Extra, Extra. All are invited to the Extra, Extra. The topic of each month roughly corresponds to a program. In January, there will be a review of reading drafts and floating selvages which will help with your weaving plans.

The 2026 Tentative Calendar of Programs will be published on the website (www.hwotv.org) after the January meeting.

Remember, life happens, weather happens (remember the 2023 rains) so consider the calendar a guide for our guild.

PROGRAMS

The January program is called Roses in January and June. We will explore the beautiful Rosepath pattern so the weavers will be able to use it as a weave structure. It will be a great addition to your toolbelt for future projects.

We will have February Friendship on February 14th. This is the month where we meet new and old friends. We will have a Soup Bar (we already have volunteer "souper" soup makers). During the day, we will write and update the biographies. Remember, things happen in life and we need to welcome new members to our guild. There are always new and exciting adventures to share.

After lunch we will have a "try it" session after for those who are curious. All members, bring your favorite tool/task to do or share information about your process with others. You are the inspiration for others in our group!

So, bring your: spinning wheel and latest roving/yarn or

rigid heddle loom with project or

lucet, kumihimo disk, incredible rope machine or

knitting needles with your project attached or

crochet hook with your latest and greatest creation into your purse or

gourd basket (in progress) or

felting project...

You get the idea!

THE 2026 CHALLENGE IS HERE!

Last November we were given a new challenge by the Dynamic Duo, Dee Dee and Terri. Your challenge, if you choose to accept the challenge for 2026 is to create a bag. It will be a bag of your choice and it will reflect your growth as a fiber artist in 2026. Have fun playing with many ideas!

To nudge individuals, the newsletter will contain a new pattern or idea each month. Do you have to use the patterns? NO! The patterns are there to simply inspire. If you have a dynamite pattern, feel free to share it with the guild, at the meeting or in the Roving.

LITTLE LOOMS

We have a possible meeting place: Visalia Learning Center (630 S. Atwood St. Visalia- near Lifestyles, CHP). If you are interested in participating in the Little Looms (and knitting, spinning) start up, we will meet on the 26th of January at the VLC from 9-12. There is a little café (limited menu) in the building, good bathrooms, and a great welcoming librarian. Bring your project and let the fun begin!

ROC DAY OR DISTAFF DAY

Roc Day or Distaff Day, which dates back centuries, is January 7th. If you have never heard of Roc Day, there is a nice article by Anne Merrow in the January 2024 issue of Spin-off.



Engraving of Old Woman with a Distaff by Enea Vico after Parmigianino. Courtesy of the National Gallery of Art, Gift of W.G. Russell Allen.

We will be celebrating ROC Day at the Exeter Library on Wednesday, January 7th from 10-12 if you would like to join the spinning action on Roc/Distaff Day.

For those who would like to try spinning, the Exeter Library (230 E. Chestnut Ave, Exeter) has an Ashford Spinning Wheel. The library allows visitors to use it during library hours. At noon, you might shop downtown Exeter OR join the crew for lunch!

THANK YOU, JULIE!

Thanks to Julie for her many years of service as President of our Guild. Julie and Lindsay took the reins from Leonora and Toni in 2020. In 2024, Julie went solo and has been a great advocate for our mission and Guild. Thank you, Julie! 🤝🤝🤝

PLEASE WELCOME

Welcome Sharon Farrar as President of HWOTV. Please join the Guild giving her a warm welcome. Be sure to introduce yourself to Sharon and offer your talents before or after the next two or three meetings.

Early in 2025 Sharon shared this short bio with us:

My name is Sharon Farrar. I learned to crochet as a child, maybe 8 or 9 years old. I still enjoy crocheting, embroider, and embroidery. I am

learning to knit and spin. I hope to move onto weaving next. I was raised by very crafty and artistic parents who supported and encouraged all my creative endeavors. I am still working full-time so my crafting time is limited but I make the most of the time I have.

SHOW AND SALE

Please think/consider these questions about Show and Sale:

Do you think we should use Bingo cards? Why? Why not?

Would you like a way to order lunch from a local eatery (remember we have the Quiet Room)?

Do you want to continue with the Community table?

How do you feel about continuing last year's proposal-the addition of knitted items using commercial yarns (juried and tagged as commercial yarn)? Why? Why not?

Would you like to make Christmas ornaments for a similar Giving Tree?
Which charity?

GIVING TREE DONATIONS

We have done well selling the Christmas ornaments. We have almost \$400 to donate to Cancer research. Thank you so much for your hands and heart!

LOST AND FOUND

Did you leave a pair of long tongs at the December meeting? Please claim them if they are yours. You might need them for Holiday parties.

DUES ARE DUE!

Don't forget to pay your dues (individual -\$25/ family at same address-\$35). Membership forms are on the website, if you wish to pay your dues on January 1st otherwise, update your information and pay at the January meeting. **NOTE from membership & newsletter chairs:**

Please be sure to pay your dues by **January 31, 2026** in order to continue receiving the newsletter and receiving important Guild notices.

Please see the dues coupon below:



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Handweavers of the Valley (HWOTV)

Membership Form



Please complete the following HWOTV Membership Form and return with payment of yearly dues.

Yearly Dues: Individuals - \$25 Family - \$35

(Make check payable to: HWOTV)

Name _____

Address _____

City / State _____

Zip code _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Renewal () New Member () Life Time Member ()

Weaver () Spinner () Dyer () Other ()

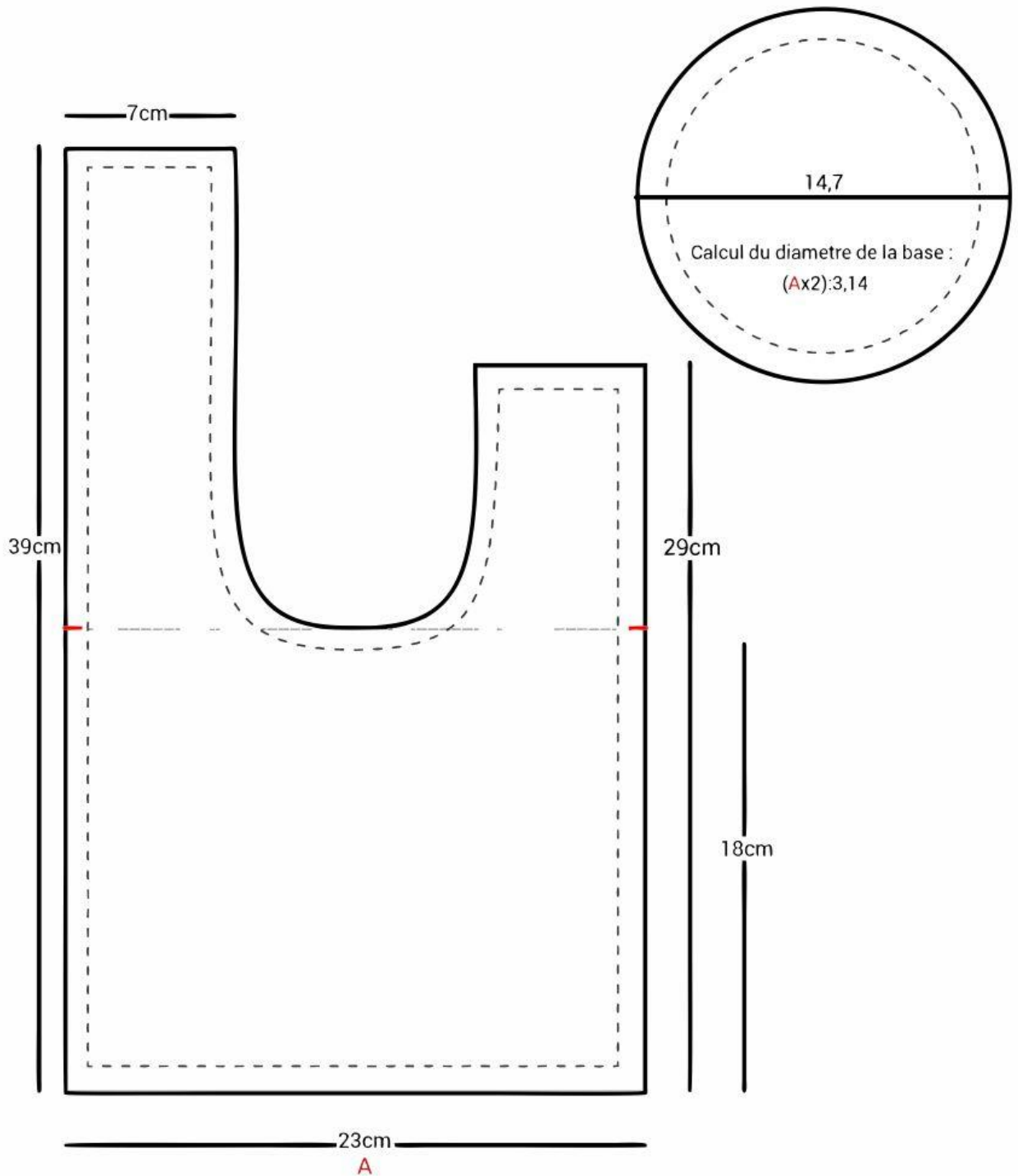
Amount Paid \$ _____

Send to:

Julie McIntosh (outgoing president)
37975 Balch Park Road
Springville, CA 93265

Date: _____

January's Pattern- No idea where it came from! It is a Knot
Bag!





Kaweah Konnection: Kaweah Konnection meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Community Presbyterian Church in Three Rivers. Please contact Linda Hayden - saddleblankets@haydenranches.com for further info.

Squeekie Wheels! Remember we celebrate ROC Day on January 7th! We get an extra day of spinning this month! Please meet at the Exeter Library from 10-12 (or later) We will be there as well on our regular days - January 14th & 23rd. Remember also - there is an extra spinning wheel for anyone to try!

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**SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!**