

Weave to
re-create
the past



Weave to
create for
the future

The Roving

February, 2026

February 2026 Greetings, HWOTV!

A message from our President, Sharon:

February, Fiber, and Finding One Another

February arrives wrapped in familiar symbols: hearts, flowers, handwritten notes, and the quiet promise of connection. It's the month we associate with love and friendship, a cultural pause that reminds us, at least briefly, that relationships matter. And yet, we are living in a paradoxical moment. Despite unprecedented access to one another through screens, messages, and endless digital communities, rates of loneliness and depression remain stubbornly high. We have never been more connected, and yet many people have never felt more alone. The digital world offers speed, convenience, and scale. With a few taps, we can speak to someone across the globe, join a group centered on any interest imaginable, or learn a new skill from a video watched in solitude. These tools are powerful, but they often lack something essential: the grounding presence of real, embodied



Guild Meeting:

**Date: February
14, 2026**

Time: 10:00 AM

**Where: Exeter
Memorial
Building**

Program:

**Friendship
February!**

human connection. A comment, a like, or even a long text thread can't fully replace the feeling of sitting beside another person, sharing time, space, and attention. This is where February's message of love can expand beyond romance and into something broader and more sustaining: community. One surprisingly powerful path back to connection is through fiber crafts and hands-on activities,.....knitting, crocheting, weaving, sewing, quilting, spinning, embroidery, and beyond. These practices are often dismissed as hobbies or nostalgia, but they carry something deeper. Fiber crafts are inherently human. They require patience, touch, rhythm, and time. They slow us down in a world that rarely allows slowness, and they open doors to connection in ways that feel natural rather than forced. When people gather around fiber crafts, conversation flows differently. Hands are busy, eyes don't have to meet constantly, and silence is allowed. This creates a gentle social space,.....one that can feel safer and more accessible, especially for those who struggle with anxiety, loneliness, or depression. You don't have to perform. You just have to show up, loop by loop, stitch by stitch. Historically, fiber work was communal by default. People spun, knit, and mended together,.....not as a special event, but as part of daily life. Stories were shared. Skills were passed down. Relationships formed quietly, without pressure. In many ways, modern fiber circles, craft nights, and workshops are a return to that tradition: small, tangible antidotes to isolation. There is also something deeply affirming about making things alongside others. Creating with your hands can restore a sense of empowerment and competence that depression often erodes. Doing it in community adds another layer: your presence matters. Your work exists in a shared space. You are seen, not as a profile or username, but as a person. February is a perfect time to lean into this. Instead of focusing solely on grand gestures or idealized versions of love, we can practice everyday acts of reaching out. Invite someone to knit with you. Attend our Guild meeting. Join one of our spinning, weaving, or knitting groups. Start a small, informal craft circle with friends, neighbors, or coworkers. Even sitting quietly together while working on individual projects can be enough. Love doesn't always arrive as fireworks. Sometimes it looks like borrowed scissors, shared yarn, and a table full of half-finished projects. Sometimes friendship grows not from constant conversation, but from showing up regularly and making something side by side. In a time marked by digital saturation and emotional distance, choosing real-world participation is a radical, hopeful act. Fiber crafts remind us that connection doesn't have to be loud or perfect. It can be soft, repetitive, and human. This

February, let love and friendship be more than ideas. Let them be something you make,.....together, with your hands, in the presence of others.

Sharon Farrar, President

~~~~~

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



**Thank you...**

The Handweavers of the Valley Guild is so incredibly special! Our members are bright, compassionate, funny, inspirational, creative, generous, and so much more. Your gifts influence me and so many in our community. Your sneakiness amazes me and your generosity touches my heart deeply. As my family and I enjoy dinner, we will certainly think of all of you. You are treasured; YOU are the backbone and heart of this guild! Thank you! Thank you!

Just an aside: Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support in all our endeavors (Spinning and Weaving Week-3 years, Mooney Grove Museum Jamboree-2 years, Ag Expo, charter schools, donations to those in need, Show and Sale, the Giving Tree, Dry Creek Nursery, Taste of Visalia, and so on...). I am very proud to be a part of our guild.

**...with Love!**

There are several members who have embraced Rosepath and are in the planning stages! Congratulations. Remember, if you are not a weaver, translate your idea to your skill set. Don't forget to bring samples/feedback to share along There will be a few copies on the back table in February of Marguerite P. Davison's pattern if you missed the presentation in January. Sophie has the Power Point, and she will share it out with the guild. Please send her an e-mail if you want to see it.

The HWOTV calendar is on the HWOTV website. Just below the picture, there is a button to print the calendar. Print one for your fridge, if you like!

### 2026 Tentative Calendar

| -Dates                                           | Times                                            | Place                                              | RED HOT TOPIC<br>(10 minutes max)                                            | Program                                                           | Presenter                                 | EXTRA EXTRA                                                   | Run<br>no |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| January 7, 2026                                  |                                                  |                                                    |                                                                              | Rec Day                                                           | None                                      |                                                               |           |
| January 10, 2026                                 | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m.              | Exeter Veterans<br>Memorial Building<br>South Room | How to plant dye seeds for<br>spring                                         | Roses in January<br>and June                                      | Guild                                     | WEAVING: Floating<br>selvedges; how to read a<br>draft review | 1         |
| January 31, 2026                                 | ALL DAY (8-4)                                    | VIRTUAL                                            | HGA Retreat                                                                  | HGA Retreat                                                       | Various                                   | N/A                                                           | N/A       |
| February 14, 2026*                               | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | HGA Retreat Report<br>(Participants) Sharon/Nancy                            | Friendship February                                               | Guild                                     | Try it...you will like it!<br>Spin, Weave, Knit, Felt...      | 2         |
| March 14, 2026*                                  | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | How to cut strips (Nikki)                                                    | Spin In at<br>Arvada's Home                                       | Julie/Hope?                               | Spinning (con't)                                              | 0         |
| March 28-29, 2026                                |                                                  | Tulare County                                      | South Valley Art Tour                                                        |                                                                   | N/A                                       | N/A                                                           | N/A       |
| April 2026                                       |                                                  |                                                    | N/A                                                                          | Acton Creative WAL                                                | Chris Acton                               | N/A                                                           | N/A       |
| April 11, 2026                                   | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Creating Jewels<br>(why we need to create)                                   | Color Theory                                                      |                                           | Color My World (task)                                         | 1         |
| May 9, 2026                                      | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Twining                                                                      | Protein Dyeing                                                    | Lindsay Dion - magic<br>pot<br>-Microwave | Protein Dyeing/practice<br>twining                            | 1         |
| June 13, 2026*                                   | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Ergonomics of Our Work                                                       | Roses in January<br>and June                                      | Guild                                     | What in the World is<br>in our Library?!                      | 1         |
| July 11, 2026                                    | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Felting Needles/Supplies                                                     | Fractal Spinning                                                  | Laurie K                                  | Spin-in Fractal spinning                                      | 1         |
| August 8, 2026                                   | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Break Peak at Basketry                                                       | Felting                                                           | Judy A                                    | Felting (con't)                                               | 1         |
| September 12, 2026                               | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting/Tour | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Last Year's Show and Sale in<br>Pitt                                         | Basic Garlic Basket                                               | Toni                                      | Make another basket to<br>share                               | 1         |
| October 5-11, 2026                               |                                                  | Tulare/Kings County                                | Spinning and Weaving Week                                                    |                                                                   | HGA/HWOTV                                 | N/A                                                           | N/A       |
| October 10, 2026                                 | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting/Tour | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Show and Sale Prep...technology, kid projects,<br>marketing, presentation... |                                                                   | Guild Mentors                             | Q                                                             | 1         |
| October 24, 2026                                 | No Meeting                                       | EWMB<br>All Rooms                                  | SHOW AND SALE                                                                |                                                                   | All                                       | Q                                                             | all       |
| November 14, 2026                                | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Show and Sale to-die-for?                                                    | Bag Challenge Reveall                                             | Guild                                     | UFO (un-finished objects)                                     | 1         |
| December 12, 2026*                               | 9:30 a.m. Social Time<br>10:00 a.m. Meeting      | EWMB<br>South Room                                 | Membership Drive                                                             | Celebration/Party                                                 | Guild                                     | Social                                                        | 1         |
| Squeekie Wheels Meets Third Friday of Each Month |                                                  |                                                    |                                                                              | Kawah Connection meets Second Wednesday of Each Month             |                                           |                                                               |           |
| Related Community Events                         |                                                  |                                                    |                                                                              | Tentative- please refer to the Roving on Social Media for updates |                                           |                                                               |           |

\*Board Meeting at 9:15 (Please check newsletter/social media/website for confirmation)

Bring a SNACK LUNCH if you are going to stay for EXTRA EXTRA!

## PROGRAMS

Our February Program is called Friendship February. During the meeting's program, members will interview and get to know one another from several perspectives. It is a hope that members will bond over similar fiber interests and create a close-knit community.

We have many generous volunteers who will bring soup, bread, and dessert, among other things for a luncheon in the East Room. This is a time to just chat and learn about the folks in our guild.

Following lunch, we will have the Try It! You Will Like It! portion of the day in the West Room, so please bring a project and equipment and a fiber art friend. During this time, work on your project and be available to answer questions from other guild members. Be curious about others' work and ask them questions about their work. This is a time to REALLY inspire others to try something new... hook 'em!

In March, we have a change of venue (mark your calendars). We will travel to Arvada's house to prep fiber, spin, and enjoy each other's company. Don't worry, we will get the map to you in a timely fashion. Consider carpooling with other members of the group, if you like.

## SHOW AND SALE

At the last meeting, we discussed a few aspects of Show and Sale. According to the feedback from all present members, we will be continuing with the Giving Tree. Please feel free to make and donate a handmade ornament for the tree. Proceeds will go to a charity of our choice so keep your ears and eyes open for good causes. We will also keep the community table (aka First Harvest) to help our (newer) members sell one or two items they have created. The Welcome Table and the Quiet Room were viewed by our members as valuable, so we will work those pieces into the 2026 Show and Sale.

## OTHER ITEMS

We have submitted the registration form for Farm Day (King's County Fair Grounds) on Thursday, March 19, 2026. HWOTV will be presenting Transforming Fiber for Our Needs and Wants. If you would like to be a part of this outreach, please contact Monica for more information. You will be busy between 8-12:30 with curious

3<sup>rd</sup> graders and teachers. The KCOE provides a complimentary BBQ lunch at the completion of Farm Day.

The HGA's Virtual Retreat is January 31<sup>st</sup> 8-3PM PST. Because we are a member of HGA, we can register 4 members for this event. Currently 3 of our members are registered. If you are interested in interacting with like-minded people from all over the nation and beyond, please contact Sharon F.



Thanks to all who paid their 2026 dues. If you have not paid 2026 dues, please do so today! Remember - our Guild and its future depend on its members in order to remain viable and continue with meetings, Show & Sale, workshops, etc and etc. PLEASE - if you haven't sent your renewal, be SURE to do so today. Many, many thanks!

Remember our "Bag challenge"? Here's another inspirational pattern to try:



## The 100 Bag from Laurie K

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/the-100-bag> works with any yarn gauge.

<https://woolencottage.com/100-bag/>



It's a project bag, a wristlet, a gift bag... perfect for however you want to use it. 100g of yarn - 100 stitches = 100% fun!

Sure, we all have fabric project bags, but let me tell you, it is fun to knit from a knit bag. The looped strap construction allows it to rest comfortably on your wrist, and you can knit while on the go.

If you have trouble accessing the above links, please contact [Monica-rooksworld@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Monica-rooksworld@sbcglobal.net) or [Sophie-quailhaven@protonmail.com](mailto:Sophie-quailhaven@protonmail.com) for the pattern!

Here's your link again:

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/the-100-bag>

~~~~~



LIBRARY NOTES:

With our wonderful valley fog I haven't been able to get over to Exeter to work on the library books. I am also waiting for the staff at the Center to build a few more shelves. Once the new shelves are installed the books will be expanded, hopefully making it easier to peruse the library books. We also have a wealth of magazines and DVDs for viewing. I am hoping to separate the books by fiber art topics, i.e.: weaving, spinning, color blending, knitting... The books are already in categories just really jammed in the cupboard, so that should be easy.

I'm looking forward to having the library become a greater source of inspiration to our fiber artists!

Juliet V., Librarian

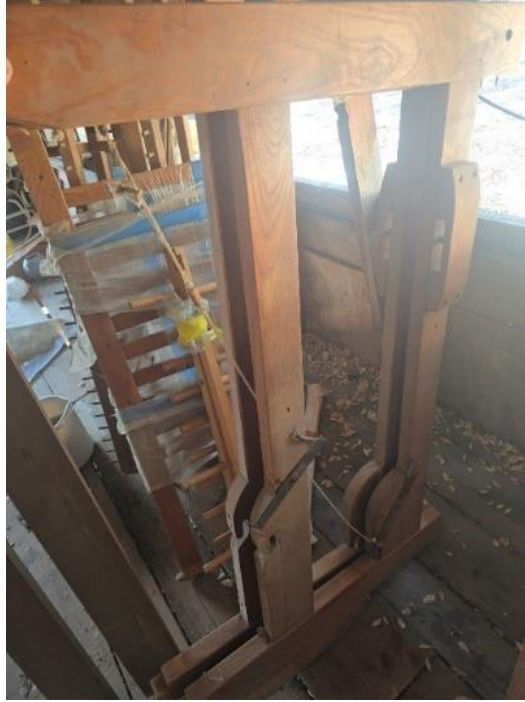


AND NOW.....

A Story of a Loom:

By Linda Hayden

IN THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER OF THE GUILD, CHARLENE VARTANIAN POSTED A PICTURE OF AN OLD LOOM IN PIECES UNDER A BARN THAT WAS UP FOR GRABS.



I TOOK IT AS A CHALLENGE THINKING I COULD ALWAYS USE THE PARTS. AFTER LOTS OF SCRUBBING AND OILING OF THE WOOD, I FOUND THE OLD LOOM TO BE A GILMORE AND EVERY PIECE WAS STILL IN THE BUNDLE. I RECONSTRUCTED IT THEN CALLED BOB ALLEN OF GILMORE LOOMS WHO WAS ABLE TO TRACE IT BACK TO THE ORIGINAL OWNER. THE LOOM WAS BUILT IN 1954 FOR A PERSON IN PORTERVILLE BY THE NAME OF BLACKMAN.

THE LOOM IS NOW IN FULL PRODUCTION IN MY SON'S STUDIO IN CARMEL VALLEY. IT'S A TREASURE!



End of Story (But not the beginning of a long weaving career!)



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! Two days for Squeekies this month: the 20th at 10:00 AM and the 27th at 3:30 - both at the Exeter Library. Remember also - there is an extra spinning wheel there for anyone who wants to try this wonderful, satisfying craft!



Listing 1:

Schacht Baby Wolf loom for sale

4 harness

26" weaving width

Like new, barely used, perfect condition.

New, \$2,386. I'm asking \$1,500

Call Linda 559-568-6895,

saddleblankets@haydenranches.com



Listing 2:

From Donna Smith:

8 harness Dorothy Loom (Re-furbished) w/table **\$350**

&

24" 4-harness Structo Loom (Re-furbished) **\$150**

Contact: Donna Smith

Springvilledonna@gmail.com or 559-359-5450 (leave message). (See pics below)





Listing 3:

For sale: Grant 20" table loom

\$100 (OBO)

4 shaft Grant Table Loom 20" weaving width

Contact: Larry Laird 559-936-1788

(Loom belonged to his mother)





SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!