

# The Roving

**DECEMBER 2011**



## *The Prez Sez,*

For the past two years I have experienced great pride and also humility (an oxymoron?) when I introduced myself as president of Handweavers of the Valley. Our guild is very special, hence the pride. But being president does not mean that I can take the credit. The humility comes from knowing that so many others are making this guild what it is. We have a great team that makes sure we have good programs and workshops, that our history, equipment and library are well tended; our newsletter and website are top notch; we're on Facebook; the finances are in great shape; our Show & Sale rivals anything found in metropolitan areas and supplies are always ready for our refreshment times. We have good camaraderie that makes us feel like a family. We have grown to the point that it appears we will have 100 members next year! These things will not change with new leadership. Let's all give our support to Susan and her team. I thank you all for the support you have given me. I love this guild.

... *Nikki*

For those of you who don't know **Show and Sale** sold **\$18,735.24** worth of work from our hands!!! The Guild nets 15% to cover costs, the other **\$15,924.95** (85%) went directly to selling members – totally awesome! Great work! For those who want to know what we had: handwovens made up 74.29% of items, spinning 6.34%, felting 6.16%, baskets/gourds 4.86%, weavers attic 4.6%, other items 3.75%. In descending order, dishtowels; scarves, clothing, afghan/throws, mug rugs, placemats, purses/bags, socks/gloves, runners, rugs, woven toys, and shawls were the most popular items. Mark next years' Show and Sale date – Oct. 27, 2012 on your calendars and start weaving, spinning, felting, and gourdng!

“A Day to Dye For” – It was obvious from Nov's turnout and enthusiasm, that we all enjoy the dye workshops. Remember Nikki's “Ace bandage” scarf she dyed green? She sold it the next time she had it in a booth! To Lindsay and Dee Dee for the hard work they put in to make our day possible here's a big **THANK YOU!** (let's do it again soon!)

Life member Janet Hughes had her 100<sup>th</sup> (!) birthday! You can send cards and letters to Janet Hughes, c/o Tom & Diana Bowser, P.O. Box 3274, Abilene, Tx, 79604-2374.

## **December Meeting**

### ***Holiday Party !!***

**WHEN:** December 10

**WHERE:** Ellen & Rich Henderson's  
Directions on LAST page

**TIME:** 9:30- 2ish

**PROGRAM:**

9:30- 10:00 coffee & goodies  
(provided)

10:00 Short Meeting,  
Installation of Officers

Gift Swap - wrapped, handmade  
or < \$20

***12ish The Best Lunch Ever!***

(A-L your favorite salads; M-Z your  
favorite desserts)

**Please carpool.**

***Must be a member to attend.***

One of Bertha Huber's many talents was writing. This poem expresses her joy and love of weaving.

## A TAPESTRY OF LIFE

Bertha G. Huber, 1982

God gave me hands that I may weave  
A cloth of brightest hue.

He gave me eyes to ascertain  
a blend of colors true.

He gave me feet to change the shed;  
and arms to throw the shuttle.

He gave me strength to beat the web  
To weave a pattern subtle.

And I thank Him.

I sit and ponder at my loom;  
And God speaks to me clearly.

He says,

"I am the weaver of your life  
because I love you dearly.

I take some threads of brightest hue",

He says, "for joy and gladness.

I sometimes weave in shades of gray;  
and these may bring some sadness.

The quiet tints are woven in  
For peace - and blended neatly.

The black will brighten all the rest  
When woven in discreetly.

And love is woven with it all:  
A tapestry of life".

So as my threads and shuttles, Lord,  
Submit to my creation,  
May I submit to you my life  
In faithful dedication.

As love is woven with it all:  
This tapestry of life.

The Guild is migrating back to our original domain name – [www.hwotv.org](http://www.hwotv.org). The [www.hwotv2.org](http://www.hwotv2.org) will still be the main site while our “new” old site undergoes updating. It’s too much to explain in the newsletter, but behind the computer screen many updates, changes and great things are happening. The short and sweet version is that the old/new site will be more user friendly and allow links to other member sites.

Be sure to check out our Facebook page. If you have pictures you would like to add, send them to Judy Trimble. She’s our Facebook Administrator.

**Squeekie Wheels** – the spinning group of Guild members meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month in Porterville at Sierra Hills Retirement Community located at 2500 W. Henderson Ave from 10am-3pm, bring your lunch or get it there (\$7). They also meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in Exeter at the at Capella’s Coffee House, 10-3ish.

**Kawaeah Konnection** meets on the second Wednesday in Three Rivers at the Presbyterian Church.

Need your own personal holiday present? Remember, Convergence will be held July 15 to 22, 2012 in Long Beach ([www.weavespindy.org](http://www.weavespindy.org)). Mark your calendars now because going to Convergence is an event you will never forget!

If you haven’t visited the Conference of Northern California Handweavers website, check it out – [www.cnch.org/CNCHnet](http://www.cnch.org/CNCHnet)

Dues are due - \$20/year single, \$25/year family. Membership cards will be issued for the new year.

**January’s meeting** will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the Veterans’ Bldg.. Carole Dulitz, guild member and traveling fiber arts teacher, will show us some “New Uses for Yarn & Fiber” for the program. She will share new and innovative uses of fiber she has seen during her travels and have some new fiber and yarn products available.

### **PERSIAN RICE SALAD** from Cookie Hale

- 2 14oz cans vegetable broth
- 2 cups instant brown rice
  
- 1-1/2 cups roasted and salted cashews, coarsely chopped
- 1-1/2 cups chopped dates
- 2 bunches green onions, sliced
- about 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- about 1/2 cup chopped dried apricots
  
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 tea. ground cinnamon

Bring vegetable broth to a boil, add rice, cover and reduce the heat to a simmer and cook until all the liquid is absorbed and the rice is tender. Do not stir the rice while it is cooking. Spread the rice out on a cookie sheet to cool.

Transfer rice to a bowl adding the cashews, dates, green onions, and cilantro. Stir until combined.

Mix the dressing ingredients with a whisk until blended and add to the rice. If you can let it set for about ½ an hour before serving, it’s even better.

The nuts, dates, green onions, cilantro and apricot amounts can easily be increased or decreased according to your tastes.



Jan and Blake Nov. 21, 1982

## Meet Life Member Janet Hughes

Jan Hughes was born and raised in Pennsylvania. This Yankee girl married a “Johnny Reb” from the hills of Kentucky. (Both families, North and South, were sure the marriage was doomed.) Family prophets were wrong and these two shared a long and colorful life together.

Janet “joined up” during WWII, but did not “see the world”. She served stateside as an Army food service manager feeding military personnel in the later half of the war. After the war, however they traveled to many exotic places following her husband’s work with international construction companies liquidating equipment from defunct mining operations. At one point they lived in Arequipa, Peru. While her husband was about his business Janet began mining artifacts from some of Peru’s ancient burial sites. This was a window in time when such activities were legal and “Penn State Jan” gave Indiana Jones some competition. She was especially interested in textiles and brought back many valuable artifacts. Her collection was later donated to the Fresno Art Museum.

The late 40’s or early 50’s is when weaving caught Jan’s attention. She attended a “Home Arts” weaving demonstration featuring Mrs. Burnham. Living then in southern California

she bought her own loom and began to teach herself to weave and also took lessons from Mrs. Burnham. She worked for a time in Mrs. Burnham’s studio as a production weaver. Weaving artists Harriet Tidball and Theo Mormon were among her friends & acquaintances.

It was then that Jan came to Three Rivers, first as a “weekender” and later (1963-64) as a permanent resident. It was during the early time that Jan loaned a small Burnham loom to the local Three Rivers artist’s program at the Woman’s Club (Now the Three Rivers Art Center) and offered to teach.

Thus weaving was added to the roster of arts: painting, potting (ceramics), jewelry, sculpture, photography and other arts and crafts taught by local artists.

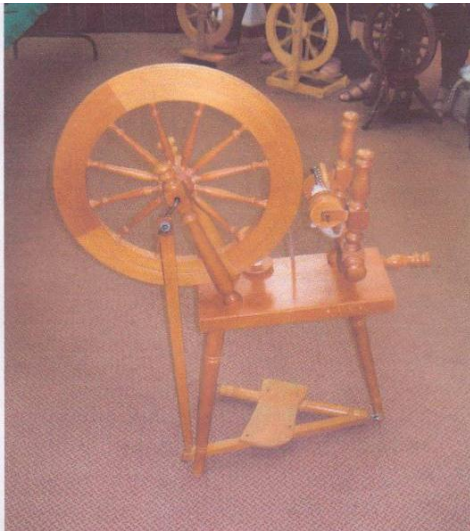
Jan’s first weaving students were Mary Barnett and Peg Seaborn, but they were soon joined by others. As interest grew more space and more looms were needed. Jan’s 60” Cranbrook loom took up residence in the living room of an old adobe house on the Seaborn ranch, joined by Burnham looms rescued from the Tulare County Schools storage. The Burnhams had fostered a weaving program in the Tulare County Schools which failed after the death of Mrs. Burnham. Other looms were acquired from different individuals and also from the College of the Sequoias when their weaving program was closed. The “Loom Room” was born and grew from a little corner in the Women’s Club to the living room of the old adobe and finally filled the whole house donated by Peg Seaborn. It was there that Jan and Peg invested about 20 years mentoring a new generation of weavers.

Jan now lives in a retirement home in Texas close by her siblings. She is 98 years young and still weaving despite macular degeneration. She needs help dressing the loom but Jan still weaves her well known placemats.

**For Sale**



Harrisville loom - 4 harness, top gadget tray, warping board.  
Good condition. \$400 obo  
[sarahschachter@sequoiahistory.org](mailto:sarahschachter@sequoiahistory.org)



Saxony spinning wheel - \$250 obo  
Sharon Warren 561-3805 or [sharwarren@att.net](mailto:sharwarren@att.net)

**Directions to Holiday Party at Ellen and Rich Henderson's home**

The address: 12707 Avenue 320, Visalia, CA

To get there: From the easterly side of Visalia get to and go North on Ben Maddox; turn left on Avenue 320 (about 3 miles from Hwy 198/ Ben Maddox turn off) ...or from the westerly side of Visalia go North on Hwy. 63 (about 3 miles from Hwy 198/63 turn off) then turn right on Avenue 320.

The Henderson's home is on Avenue 320...half way between Ben Maddox & Highway 63. Parking across the street and to the east of the home, please car pool if possible. If you get lost, call 739-8201.