

# The Roving

**April 2014**



## **President's Message**

A big "Thank you" to Judy Trimble for her program "Weaving A-Z, Part 2". DeeDee King and Judy Trimble have gotten us off to a great start this year with their programs. Let's hear it for Ann Belau, our newest weaver! She fought it as long as she could, but had to give in and try it. Who would have thought?

We will be having a spin-in at Nancy Register's house in Bakersfield April 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be a day for guild members to bond and check out what we are all doing. It will be a great day. Since the focus of this meeting is bonding, there will not be a business meeting. I know how sad this makes you, but what can I say.

Reminder: We won't have a May meeting, but will meet again in June for Wool Day. If you are interested in participating, contact Dee Dee King. Remember this is a day for members to show off their fleeces and sell their fibers to the members.

## **April Meeting**

### **Spin-in in Bako**

**At Nancy Register's house**

Directions at end of newsletter

**Date: April 12**

**Location: 6501 Desmond Ct**

**Time: 9:30 goodies and chatting  
10:00 spinning and dyeing**

**The Bakersfield group is providing morning goodies and lunch!**

**Please carpool.**

What is a spin in?

We come together to spin, visit, and eat. If you don't spin bring whatever you're working on that is easy to transport. It's always interesting to see the creative paths our members are taking. I have some chairs, but those who can, bring your own as most of us are too old to sit on the ground for long.

Because of the hot pots involved in the type of dyeing we're doing, please no young children.

Dyeing

The people who signed up to dye will be taking turns as there are too many to do all the dyeing at once. It's an easy dye procedure, but does require cooking time. Make sure you bring something to work on while you wait your turn.



## 2014 Meetings

- April 12: **Spin-In** at Nancy Register's in Bakersfield and **Alter Ego Scarf Dying**
- May 11: **No Meeting**
- June 14: **Wool Day**
- July 12: **Spin-In at Camp Nelson** hosted by DeeDee King
- August 9: **Carding Machine Demonstration** presented by Nancy Reimer & friends
- September 13: **Show & Sale last notes**
- October 25 – **Show & Sale**, no regular meeting
- November 8: **Wool Dying Day** presented by Lindsay Dion and DeeDee King
- December 13: **Christmas party**

- Do you Facebook? HWOTV has its own Facebook page. Go check it out! If you have pictures you would like to add, send them to Judy Trimble. She's our Facebook Administrator.
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- **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 at 10:00 in Three Rivers at the Presbyterian Church. Visitors always welcome!

### Upcoming Fun!!

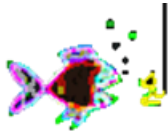
**CNCH** is April 25-27 at the Marriott Convention Center in Oakland. The theme is "Branch Out with Fibers". Visit [www.CNCH.org/cnch2014](http://www.CNCH.org/cnch2014) for details and registration.

**Fresno Mini Maker Faire**, April 12, FAM+Radio Park located at First and Clinton.

**California State Fair**, the former Creative Arts division in now called California Crafts. This open competition for CA residents 18 and over. It will keep all the old categories and add some new ones for gourds, glass, and felting. The intention is to honor the traditional, celebrate the contemporary and look to the future. Contact Carol Buchanan, Exhibit Coordinator, 916-263-3161. The competition handbook and on-line entry information will be on the website in late February.

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Paso Robles Arts Fest**, May 24, 2014. Deadline for exhibitors is February 15, 2014.

**Paradise Chocolate Festival** is excited to announce the 3rd annual Choc Full of Fiber Arts Show on Saturday, May 11, 2014. It would be appreciated if you would share the attached information with your members as an opportunity for them to be a vendor, a demonstrator or an attendee. The Chocolate Festival includes not only the Fiber Arts Show but a Wine and Chocolate Tasting, fine art, craft, commercial and community booths plus all things chocolate! Attached is information regarding the Chocolate Festival including a vendor/demonstrator application. As the proceeds from the Chocolate Festival benefit the children of Paradise a donation form is on the website in case any of your members have an item they could donate for the silent auction/raffle basket. Visit the Paradise Chocolate Festival on Facebook or contact [www.chocolatefest.us](http://www.chocolatefest.us) for any questions.



## FISHING FOR INFO...

with Lynda Bass

Our guild has embarked on an overshot project, of which I spoke in our March Roving. While we work through this project, there are some weaving problems that may occur. I have a few members emailing me about these issues and I will share the issues and my solutions here.

**Question:** I've noticed that although I had 15" coming thru the reed, the actual measurement of my improved sample is 14". It had pulled in one inch! Is there any way to overcome this problem?

**Answer:** This is an ongoing thing that weavers must be aware of. While the weft thread travels over and under the warp threads some of its length is 'eaten up'. This is something that changes with the changing journey of the weft changes as the structure of the weave changes. The longest journey is the plain weave, over or under every thread. With twills, for example, the weft can scoot over a couple of threads, then under a couple, making it a shorter journey. The weaver must watch this carefully to keep draw-in to a minimum. After one has woven for a while and gets some experience, a 'feel for it' is developed. Because of the extra length needed, weavers use a 'bubble' when they throw the weft. To do this, I usually check the edge is not loopy, nor tight, and then make sure the weft thread goes up toward the reed at a 45 degree angle, so that there is extra weft length for the under/over journey it must make. Then, when we bring the reed toward the fell, the excess weft in the shed will be able to exit the side.

**Question:** My warp threads keep breaking on the right selvedge, could I be beating too much or too hard?

**Answer:** I am sorry to hear that! When are they breaking – as you beat; while you throw the shuttle; or, when you advance the warp? Is there draw in? If so, perhaps they are being abraded by the reed, weakening them. It could also be an uneven tension. When you start the next square, and have done the tabby previous to it, choose the threads that are loose (if there are any) and pull on them enough to even the tension. With a tapestry needle, choose them, and holding it horizontally, you can tug some up a tiny bit until the tension is even. This will give you some little humps in the tabby, but if it helps the tension, it may be a good thing. If you think it is a tension problem from the very beginning, and you feel you have enough warp, you could cut off what you have woven and tie on again. Also, I have padded the warp on the back beam to even out my tension, by putting something between the last wrap of warp on the beam and the one beneath it.

**Follow-up: As RE: the coverlet** - I'm not sure what happened, but with this next square on the coverlet, it all seems better! I'm not using quite the max tension that I used and the selvedge threads seem to be OK with no breakage (so far). I really like that idea of putting something behind the warp on the back beam to help with tensioning problems - perhaps some packing bubble thingies or something soft but firm?

**Question:** I've been beating before and after each shot - seems to be working better. Do you have a special beating procedure for overshot that you use?

**Answer:** I am now finished with the first of the squares for the project. I am on my BabyMac so that the beater has a very delicate beat. I need to be sure to square the design I am doing, so I am beating it really firmly, twice, changing the shed, and beating it again. Madelyn van der Hoogt says to change the shed and then beat. Since the shed has changed, it locks in the weft and keeps it from bouncing out of it position. Because we are using cotton on many of these squares, and it does not pack in like wool, squaring the image is a bit more difficult, but it can be done, even with a flimsy beater!

I have also been working on keeping the draw-in to a minimum. To combat this I have added a side temple. It is a very make-shift thing. You need two large paperclips, some weight and string. If you have high sides on your loom alongside the woven fabric, you only have to hang some weight over the side (equal on both sides) from a string, using an unbent paperclip as a hook, set into the selvedge. You move it up every inch or so. It seems to work well. Some have fashioned these out of alligator clips, but I had the paperclips, weights from my knitting machine, some plastic grocery bags and of course, string. It isn't very pretty, but it works. Voila, a temple!

I hope that these questions and answers will speak to you and will help you build good habits in your weaving, or make you feel confident in what you already do at your loom. Happy Weaving.



#### DIRECTIONS TO NANCY REGISTER'S HOUSE

Coming from the North take Olive Dr exit off Hwy 99 and turn right. (Coming from the South take Olive Dr exit off Hwy 99 and turn right going back over the freeway.) Go 4 stoplights and just after the 4<sup>th</sup> one which is Fruitvale Ave. will be Crestwood, turn right on it (only can turn right) and the first street will be Desmond, turn right and I'm at the end of the cul de sac on the right side. 6501 Desmond Ct. If you miss Crestwood off Olive just take the next street- Crestmore and turn right on Desmond Ct. If you get lost, call 661-399-6713.

#### Parking

Please use the driveway, the street, and Fruitvale Ave. If you park on Fruitvale Ave. there is a walkway to come through right to my house.

