

Weave to  
re-create  
the past



Weave to  
create for  
the future

## The Roving

June, 2025

*June, 2025* Greetings, HWOTV!

If you're new or relatively new to The Handweavers of the Valley, you might as well give in; it's all about surrendering and falling (or jumping) down the rabbit hole . . . At our afternoon spinner group in Exeter this week, one of our members was talking about how her husband was recommending that she master her spinning before she takes on weaving. Imagine the impertinence! We all reserve the right to get interested in new fiber arts while we continue to work on becoming proficient in the ones we've already started.

That got me thinking. I remember when I first started weaving, I didn't understand why some people had two, three, five, seven plus looms. Then, I did my first set of towels. Suddenly, I understood that when you have a pattern you like with 400 or more threads on the loom, and all you have to do is tie on to start the next batch, you don't want to scrap that all to do a 60 thread scarf,



**Guild Meeting:**

**Date: June 14,  
2025**

**Time: 10:00  
AM**

**Where: Exeter  
Memorial  
Building**

**Program:  
Summer &  
Winter Weave!**

and then start all over again next time you want to do towels. It's more than just the threading, it's getting it correct and making sure you don't have any of the threads going through heddles on the wrong harnesses and having to rethread a third of your warp threads to fix it. After approximately 20 years in the guild, I currently have three floor looms (and one disassembled in the garage--any takers?), four spinning wheels, at least two table looms in the basement in case I take a class, an inkle loom, and all the stuff for knitting with the yarn I make! Of course, that means I have all the shuttles, bobbins, bobbin winders, benches, warping boards, kniddy-knoddys, swifts, ball winders, and yarn balances . . . and. . . let's not get started on my yarn stash! If I was a single woman, I think I would have more. I don't believe this passion is about moderation! Embrace the excess!! (That being said, if you are starting out and you need anything, ask me! I most certainly have extras!)

Julie McIntosh, President

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



## June, 2025

Thanks to Laurie K for an outstanding and very inspirational program on the *Tour de Fleece*. Whether you spin or create cloth or make baskets, please consider adopting the work ethics and challenges of the *Tour de France* riders to your craft. Thanks to all who stayed the afternoon and picked and carded Arvada's lovely fleece. All pulled together, shared tools and laughs and worked on preparing the cashgora. Thanks to Julie for a yummy lunch that helped sustain us through the task.

Thank you to the Make It committee members who are preparing for our next out-reach event by making 100+ Kumihimo disks. If you are interested in joining the fun (and it is!), please email Monica.

It is almost June. It is getting warm and it will get warmer! Now is the time to hide and weave... Weave... WEAVE! This program will introduce you a different weave structure, **Summer and Winter-** (originally scheduled for April) to play with during these hot months. **We'll see you on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 10AM.**

**On July 12<sup>th</sup>**, we will talk about Christmas, hence Christmas in July, just like the sale advertisements. For background, Donna Smith, our former HWOTV Treasurer had suggested that we have a small area at Show and Sale for handwoven, felted, or dyed Christmas ornaments. Use your noggin to design a few ornaments and be ready to share your ideas with the other members.

As many of you know, Lisa was chosen to participate in last year's NEST grant event. She will share the background of this generous organization and make connections with every weaver in the room. **Join Lisa on August 9<sup>th</sup>** for this amazing presentation.

**On September 13<sup>th</sup>**, it is time for silly messy fun: Ice Dyeing! Remember this is a program to introduce members to the joys of ice dyeing. While it is still a number of months away, plan ahead. In past years, folks have brought warps, t-shirts, aprons, skeins, bandanas and tote bags. If you would like to order bags (Dee Dee's great idea) please note that those orders will close on July 7<sup>th</sup> (money due) so we can order and ensure delivery. The guild provides the soda ash, gloves, dyes, paper towels and so on. You will be asked to bring a 10 pound bag of ice, a colander or nursery tray (or plastic basket), and the item or items you would like to dye.

**Don't forget the Sunflower Challenge.** We are racing toward November and the Sunflower Challenge from Dee Dee and Terri will be shared at the November meeting. What fun! What have YOU created for the Sunflower Challenge?

**Also,** remember to look on the new Tulare County Fair Website. The fair will showcase Tulare County talents during the annual five day run. Enter your hand spun, weaving projects, or fine art and show Tulare County your talent!!

### **Show and Sale**

Save the date: **October 25, 2025**

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our 44<sup>th</sup> annual Show and Sale, Harvest of Handwovens from 10AM-3PM. Please start talking about Show and Sale. Please share our special event with YOUR friends on social media as you see fit.

Applications for a booth will open June 14<sup>th</sup> after the meeting. This year there is an understudy for most of the bigger tasks which will be helpful in years to come. Thanks to all for your input. This will be a grand opportunity to share our guild's talents with the larger community.

### **Please Meet...**

Hello! **I am Judy Askins!** My grandmother had me making potholders when I was very young. I used a square frame with nails in it. She was the crafty one. She was an excellent crocheter, unfortunately I could not make chains. My aunt taught me to knit when I was about ten. I loved crafting so much that I got a job at a local craft store in Tulare. From there I moved to Monterey to put a craft store in a large hardware store. While there, I took weaving, spinning, and dyeing classes at MPC. I put a weaving, yarn, and spinning section in the craft store. I moved to Tulare, met my future husband, then opened my own craft store that lasted for nineteen years. When I retired I took up lamp work, and glass beads, is there more?????

### **And...**

**My name is Rain Chamberlain** and my pronouns are they/them. I got into fiber arts with hand sewing in my early 30's primarily because my disabled queer body will not fit into most off-the-rack clothing. Once I was into sewing it became a major creative outlet and eventually a personality-defining trait. I hand sew garments and housewares, re-upholster, embroider, hand sew leather, scour wool, knit, and do various non-fiber arts (especially pencil/colored pencil). I am starting the process of learning weaving in various forms, spinning, making lace, and retting flax and nettle. I have lived in Fresno most of my life, but I'm gearing

up to live in my car/van (boondock) so I'll be a little bit of everywhere depending on the weather probably mostly in the mountains around the central valley. For work I make custom arts and crafts, do a variety of gig work, and am starting a You Tube channel about my various arts and crafts and van life. My You Tube channel is called @SUSTAINING RAIN.



**Kaweah Konnection:** Kaweah Konnection will meet again in the Fall. Please contact Linda Hayden - [saddleblankets@haydenranches.com](mailto:saddleblankets@haydenranches.com) for further info.

**Squeekie Wheels!** Plan to bring your wheels and spin up a storm on **June 20th** at 10:00 and then our second Squeekie get-together **June 27th** at 3:30. Also be sure to bring your show and tell items so we can all see what you've been spinning, weaving, knitting, or crocheting! Any questions? [quailhaven@protonmail.com](mailto:quailhaven@protonmail.com) (Sophie's new e-mail address). See you on **June 20th & June 27th!**

Exeter Public Library  
230 E. Chestnut Street,  
Exeter, CA

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**SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!**

