Threadbenders Guild
WeGO Guild Report
October 2026

Donna Rainboth led a hands-on **needle felting** program in April. Guild members made either a needle **felted a pin cushion** in a teacup or a dryer ball.

Linda Ahbel. shared samples of **woven and manipulated textiles** from the **South Pacific** in May. She has been on three sailing trips south of the equator and shared examples of **Tapa cloth** from Tonga, made with tree bark, as well as a wide range of regional baskets and jewelry.

In June Maureen Kelly demonstrated the complete process of **transforming flax into linen**. Maureen **grew the flax in her garden**, dried, retted (rotted) and processed it with equipment made by her husband. The guild members went through the breaking process, scrunching to knock off the shive, leaving a more flexible fiber. Hackling is the process of pulling the flax through a bed of nails to remove more shive and separating long fibers from short fibers. Maureen is spinning the linen and plans to take it all the way through to a finished woven cloth.

Everyone gathered in the courtyard of the art center in Baker City for a hands-on wet felting program in July. Mickey Edwards walked us through the steps to create a **felted ruffle scarf**.

In August, Elaine Wagner presented a slide show and report on **The Trailing of the Sheep** in Ketchum, Idaho and we were able to see the **babydoll sheep** she is raising.

Elizabeth Venn invited us to her house in September to hear about processing sheets for **rag rug weaving**. She talked about how she **thinks about color** when she is weaving with rags or with wool. She showed us a rug on her loom and talked about her weaving process.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Newman