

## **THE LOOP**

### **The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter**

December 2008

**From the President's Corner** – As 2008 comes to an end, we look back with much satisfaction on the year and health of our Guild. There were stimulating monthly programs, a bus trip to the Lancaster Heritage Center, our 12<sup>th</sup> hooking camp, a 2<sup>nd</sup> annual retreat, exhibits of members' work and much support of civic organizations through our rug hooking demonstrations. I am especially pleased to see new members become involved by offering to coordinate events and by joining those who demonstrate rug hooking. New members comment on the welcoming and supportive feeling at our meetings. With our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual retreat scheduled, another bus trip planned and a Spring Fling Workshop being explored, next year is shaping up to be another exciting one.

This is the time of year when much thought is devoted to sharing and gift giving. Since our creative activities allow us to produce one of a kind gifts that are much admired, we are in a unique position to share our creations with family and friends. However there are many other ways for us to share our love of rug hooking. Let me mention a few that come to mind.

- Bring a friend to a Guild meeting
- Sit next to a new member at a meeting and help make her/him feel welcome
- Contribute to our Scholarship Fund
- Invite a Guild member or friend to hook with you
- Donate a book to our library
- Share a rug project (new or old) at our "Show & Tell". (So many members comment on the inspiration they obtain from seeing the work of others.)
- Hook an ornament for the December meeting
- Share your knowledge by conducting a meeting program
- Bring a friend on our bus trip

I want to take this opportunity to thank our officers and chairs for all they have done for our Guild this year and for the support and encouragement received from the Guild.

Happy hooking! -- Weezie

**December Meeting – December 12, 2008** – The December meeting will be held at our regular location, the Hunterdon County Complex on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington. Please note that will begin at 11:00 -- an hour later than usual.

The December meeting is the time of our highly anticipated holiday potluck luncheon. As in the past, the menu is not planned. Each member is asked to bring her/his favorite dish – salad, appetizer, hot dish, cold dish, dessert or whatever. Every year we joke (worry?) about ending up with 50 salads, but it always works out with a wonderful diversity of culinary delights. Beverages will be provided by the Guild. HCRAG members are not only renowned rug hookers, but great

cooks as well! This is a meeting not to be missed. (The recipes of favorite dishes can be shared in future issues of The Loop.)

Christmas Tree Raffle -- Members are encouraged to hook a holiday ornament that will be hung on a small Christmas tree to be raffled at the meeting. This tree with ornaments hooked by Guild members will be a one-of-a-kind and will be a very special holiday decoration to be treasured for years.

Shoebox Surprise – The “shoebox surprise” is back by popular demand. For those who want to participate, bring a wrapped shoebox stuffed with hooking related items or other items rug hookers will enjoy. Sharon Ballard will have a fun way to exchange them.

Show and Tell – The December meeting is an ideal time to share with the Guild your wool “feather trees” and rugs/mats with holiday or winter themes. Of course, we are always interested in seeing current projects or recently completed rugs. Bring something to share.

Hospitality -- A huge THANK YOU goes to all Guild members who brought refreshments throughout the year. Having coffee and snacks at our meetings makes such a difference!

Membership – Former member Phyllis Hamel reports that she and Jake have settled into their new home in Eugene, Oregon where they expect to be for at least the next year or two. She misses the Guild, but has learned of a hooking group in the area. Her new email address is [osip43@gmail.com](mailto:osip43@gmail.com).

Please welcome two new members Lynn Burtis and Mary Winkler.

Lynn Burtis	Mary Winkler
104 Harmony School Rd.	58 Sliker Road
Flemington, NJ 08822	Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
908-782-6428	908-832-7145
<a href="mailto:lynnburtis@juno.com">lynnburtis@juno.com</a>	<a href="mailto:marywinkler@embarq.com">marywinkler@embarq.com</a>

Peggie Cunningham’s new address is 570 Parrishville Road., Gore, VA 22637 and her new phone number is 540-858-3229. Sandy Barkman has a new telephone number – 630-725-6624. The correct email address for Lydia Lewis is [misspid2@aol.com](mailto:misspid2@aol.com). It was shown incorrectly in the November newsletter.

Let the Sun Shine – Our Sunshine Chair, Lib Ryman, needs a note of cheer herself. Lib had shoulder replacement surgery on October 13 and is “grounded” for 5-6 weeks.

December Birthdays – Happy Birthday to Barbie Beck-Wilczek (12/15), Helen Buchanan (12/21), Nancy Carman (12/16), Carol Collin (12/21), Karl Gimber (12/19), Patty Mahaffey (12/8), Agnes Wooden (12/2) and Karen Worthington (12/13). We wish you the best of days.

Visit the Guild Website at [www.hcrag.com](http://www.hcrag.com) to enjoy the rugs completed by our monthly featured member as well as the Gallery of member rugs. You can also connect with other rug hooking links. Laurie Rubinetti updates the site monthly. Take a look!

**Spring Bus Trip to Winterthur Museum Planned** -- On Wednesday April 29, 2009, Guild members and guests will travel to the Brandywine Valley in Delaware to visit the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum.

The museum contains a collection of American decorative arts spanning the two hundred years from the seventeenth century through the early nineteenth century. In a great country house surrounded by a private park of striking beauty are examples of domestic architecture, furniture, textiles, silver, pewter, ceramics, paintings, and prints almost unmatched in quality, and in numbers and variety the most extensive collection of its kind.

Our successful fundraising efforts permits the Guild to pay for the bus, while members will only need to pay \$20 which represents museum admission, a one hour tour, access to all exhibits, a tip for the bus driver and incidental expenses. Guests are invited at a cost of \$30. Husbands who have assisted with past Guild events can participate at the member rate.

Departure at 8:30 am will be from the Hunterdon County Complex (where we have our meetings) with return scheduled for 6 pm. Members can bring their lunch or eat at the cafeteria in the Visitors' Center or café in the main building. The museum has an excellent book store and gift shop for us to enjoy and there is no sales tax in Delaware! The museum has an extensive library that can be used by anyone who prefers to spend the day doing research.

We thank Kitty Platt and Connie Coleman for organizing and coordinating this wonderful event.

Please visit the museum's website at [www.winterthurmuseum.org](http://www.winterthurmuseum.org) for more information.

**Guild Name Badges** -- Our special Guild name badges are ordered periodically throughout the year. We normally place an order when we have three badges to order so that we save on the shipping charges. If you want to place an order, just send a check for \$8 made payable to HCRAAG to Karl Gimber at P.O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913. Include a note that spells out exactly how your name should appear.

**Third Annual Rug Hooking Retreat – January 9-11 2009** – Our popular retreat is now about a month away. There are four spots still available for the fun filled weekend. If you cannot attend the entire weekend, consider splitting the time with another Guild member. There will be an “early bird” drawing for a free massage session for those who registered by the end of November.

The retreat is scheduled for January 9-11, 2009 at the Hampton Inn in Flemington. Participation will be limited to 25 HCRAAG members. A non-refundable registration fee of \$35 must be paid in advance. Give your check made payable to HCRAAG to Gail Ferdinando at the December meeting or send it to her at 4 Bonnell Road, Pittstown, NJ 08867.

Participants can commute daily or stay overnight. A discounted rate of \$112 per night, plus tax, has been negotiated for all reservations made prior to December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the Hampton Inn at (908) 284-9427 to reserve your room and mention HCRAAG to get the special rate.

**HCRAAG Rug Hooking Camp – August 10-14, 2009** – Registrations for our 13<sup>th</sup> annual rug hooking camp have been brisk. Judy Quintman's workshop is already fully booked with one member on the waiting list. There are still openings with Sandra Brown and Abby Vakay. Information on the three instructors appeared in the October and November issues of The Loop.

The fee for members whose dues were paid by November 14, 2008 is \$150. The non member rate is \$225. To register for camp, just send a \$25 check made payable to HCRAAG to Karl Gimber at P.O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913. The balance is due in April. The deposit is non-refundable.

We thank Gail Ferdinando, Irene Pasternak and Janet Williams for offering to provide housing for the instructors. By so doing, the Guild is able to reduce camp expenses by a considerable amount.

**Madeline Brightbill Camp Scholarship Fund** – Last year the Guild established a scholarship fund in memory of Madeline Brightbill. The fund is used to sponsor attendance at our annual rug hooking camp. The scholarship can be used to recognize a member who has made an important contribution to the Guild, for someone who would not attend otherwise, to recognize a long time member, to welcome a new member, etc. In other words, the criteria are very broad. Nominations should be submitted to Weezie Huntington, who chairs the Scholarship Committee, by March 13, 2009.

Contributions to the fund can be made by sending a check made payable to HCRAAG to Guild Treasurer, Gisele Meader, at 74 Barry Road, Lambertville, NJ 08530.

**Spring Fling** --The Spring Fling is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of March 20-22, 2009 at the Hampton Inn in Flemington, NJ. Weezie is pursuing several instructors who were suggested by members. She will have an update at the December meeting.

**Rags to Rugs: Hooked and Handsewn Rugs of Pennsylvania by Patricia Herr Now Available** -- Dr. "Trish" Herr is an authority of the textile arts of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She presented a program on antique hooked rugs at one of our Guild meetings in 2006. In 2004 she and a group of other hooked rug enthusiasts presented the idea of a "rug harvest" to the staff of the Lancaster Heritage Center. That project culminated in the Rags to Rugs exhibit that the Guild viewed during our bus trip earlier in the year and now a book by the same title. Written by Trish, the book is now available for \$29.99 from Schiffer Publishing. Several Guild members assisted in the rug harvest and are acknowledged in the book.

*The Rags to Rugs Exhibit will continue at the Quilt and Textile Museum in Lancaster until the end of this month. There is still time to enjoy this special show.*

**Meet Our Member – Connie Coleman** -- Connie grew up in a "Rhode Island Yankee household" where handiwork was the custom. Both her mother and father were very creative. Her father was a professional photographer and took many photographs of her mother hooking. She worked with a group instructed by Dot Galey. Many in that group worked with recycled wool garments that were over dyed. As was common in the 1950s, most of the rugs were done in a narrow cut with beautiful shading. Connie fondly remembers her mother's hooking frame being up all the time and cutting wool for her projects. Her bedroom was decorated around a rug designed and hooked by her mother. Using a frame made by her father, Connie tried hooking a chair seat mat, but never completed the project.

Making all her own clothing during high school inspired Connie to attend design school. She wanted to be an artist but received little encouragement from her guidance counselor. This was a time when academic emphasis was placed on the sciences to support the new space program and the arts were not considered of value. However, her parents sent her to Saturday classes at the

Rhode Island School of Design. Connie later attended the Boston Museum School for her freshman year and then transferred to the Textile Program at the Rhode Island School of Design. When she graduated in 1970 there were few jobs, so she started working as a production handweaver using a floor loom given to her as a graduation present from her parents.

Connie became involved with the Rhode Island Craftsman's Guild where she was one of three professional weavers in the state. She also started teaching at Rhode Island College as a "fiber artist" - a new term at the time. That work led to being hired as a designer for a major manufacturer of knit fabrics working in their sampling plant. She worked as a Jacquard designer and "loved the challenge of the intricate patterns." The American craft movement was underway and Connie's personal work was accepted in major juried shows throughout New England giving her a lot of exposure. She started giving workshops and helped establish the first Rhode Island Craftsman's Fair. Her weavings sold, but did not generate sufficient income. Connie decided to teach and returned to Rhode Island School of Design where she earned her Masters Degree. From 1974-1976 she was the Rhode Island Arts Council's Craftsman in Residence under a NEA grant where she conducted workshops from kindergarten age up through senior citizens. Her work also took her to Rhode Island prisons. "This work is where I really learned how to teach", says Connie.

Connie met her future husband, Alan, at Rhode Island School of Design. He was one of the first to get involved with the newly emerging field of video, although he initially wanted to be a sculptor. Connie started to work with Alan when they conducted professional workshops and honed their teaching skills. After they married, they moved to Philadelphia and bought a "shell of an old brownstone building in the art museum area". Connie spent the next nine years renovating it! She also came to the conclusion that it would be too difficult economically to be a textile artist. She joined forces with Alan forming Coleman and Powell, a video/media firm. For the last 20 years, Connie has taught at the University of the Arts (formerly the Philadelphia College of Arts and Design) where she is a Professor of Computer Animation. She also teaches in the Communications Program at Arcadia University where Alan is an Associate Professor.

In 2006 Connie responded to an article on the HCRAAG Camp in the Bucks County Herald. Although she had not hooked in many years, her extensive textile experience and an afternoon reviewing the basics with Mary Jo and Karl Gimber prepared her for her first rug hooking camp. Connie saw this "as an opportunity to return to something from my childhood."

Her rugs do not fit into the commonly described styles. The rug design determines how it will be hooked. Not surprisingly considering her background, Connie enjoys designing her rugs, finding the right garments/wool and figuring it all out. She "loves the challenge of designing." Connie follows in the footsteps of her favorite conceptual artist - Hans Haacke - who "takes an idea and finds an appropriate medium and way in which to articulate it." Central and South American textiles have a great deal of appeal as well and are a source of inspiration for her. She is currently working on the first in a series of prayer rugs and a portrait/memorial rug of her cat, George.

The recycling aspect of rug hooking has a lot of appeal. She works almost exclusively with recycled garments. Connie kept the dye pots from her weaving days and uses them to over-dye her wool. She is still using her mother's Cushing dyes!

Her work schedule does not allow time to attend many workshops or classes. Since she has the summers off, Connie has attended each of the three HCRAAG summer camp since joining the Guild. "This is necessary for me to learn technique" she says. At camp she has worked with

Norma Batastini, Susan Feller and Gail Dufresne. Connie also credits Guild members for helping her learn by sharing their knowledge and rugs.

Returning to rug hooking was not done without overcoming pain and physical issues with her hands. She has suffered from debilitating osteoarthritis for which she recently underwent surgery on her right hand. The hand is healing and Connie is optimistic about being able to hook without the extreme discomfort she had to endure in the past.

During the time Connie spent as a weaver, she understood how lonely a profession it was. She came to value the importance of community and the need for association with others. Fostering the need for community is one reason why Connie actively supports the Plumsteadville Grange. She is involved with the Grange quilting group where she designs quilts that are raffled to support their Farmers' Market. Both she and Alan help with the Grange's breakfast and dinner fundraisers.

Connie is "a voracious reader and not necessarily of high-brow books." She also enjoys cooking and gardening. After many years living in center city Philadelphia, she "loves living in the country". Connie and Alan live in rural Pipersville, PA with their miniature Poodle BJ -- a rescue dog who is now blind.

As a teacher of creative people, Connie has special insights into what is needed to nurture the creative process. She observes that "There are lots of creative people who never have the opportunity to find constructive support. Our Guild provides creative energy and support. You can feel it at our meetings, camp and workshops."

Immediately upon joining the Guild, Connie found ways to get involved. She helped locate the facility we used for our hook-in and worked throughout the day of that event. Connie helped to coordinate our bus trip to Lancaster and is playing a similar role with the upcoming trip to Winterthur. She will be sharing her knowledge at the May meeting with her program on Computer Assisted Design for Rugs.

Connie Coleman is an example of our diverse, talented and supportive membership. She helps make our Guild special.

**Tips from Heloise (a.k.a. Barbara Lugg)** –There is much to decide as you start to design a pictorial rug. It may be stark winter, brilliant fall, lively summer or bloom in spring. Try to draw something familiar, maybe the farm you often pass, a quaint town you have visited, or a favorite vacation place, or even an old barn or interesting shed. Then take some photos and gather pictures relating to your theme. Start with the main object then decide on the sky, hills maybe mountains. The fun has just begun -- literally the sky is the limit.

**Rug Hooker News and Views Available** – A collection of 62 back issues of Joan Moshimer's Rug Hooking News and Views for the years 1974-1985 are being offered for sale. The asking price is \$175 plus shipping. For more information contact Emily Locke at [emily.locke@comcast.net](mailto:emily.locke@comcast.net) or at 72 Ledge Road, Seabrook, NH 03874 or by calling 603-394-9930.

**Guild Supports Thanksgiving in the County** --.The splendid fall weather provided an ideal setting for the house tours in Sergeantsville and Stockton, NJ. Guild demonstrators were located at Prallsville Mill which was the half-way stop for the buses. We were positioned in an ideal

location as the visitors had to walk past us on their way to refreshments. There was considerable interest in rug hooking, lots of questions and brisk sales of our Beginners' Kits.

Janet Bosshard, Margaret Brightbill, Claudia Casebolt, Joyce Combs, Karl Gimber, Barbara Lugg, Gisele Meader, Irene Pasternak, Linda Reitz and Dee Rosebrock supported this Guild event. The proceeds from Thanksgiving in the Country goes to the Facial Reconstruction Department of Children's Hospital, Philadelphia, PA. We thank Joyce for coordinating our involvement and those listed above who participated.

**Members Head North** -- HCRAAG members travelled to Vermont last month for the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild's annual exhibit and workshops at Shelburne Museum. Among those participating in the activities were Gail Ferdinando, Tracy Fetzer, Weezie Huntington, Kim Kagan, Eileen Mahler, LeeAnn Metropoulos, Lisa Mims, Roberta Smith and Debbie Walsh. Former camp instructors – Norma Batastini, Susan Feller, Rae Harrell and Jule Marie Smith were vendors. Rae was also one of the featured artists. Trish Becker was an instructor. Thanks to Weezie we can enjoy many of the rugs in the exhibit by going to [www.kodakgallery.com/weeziesphotos/main/shelburne\\_vt\\_rug\\_show\\_nov\\_2008](http://www.kodakgallery.com/weeziesphotos/main/shelburne_vt_rug_show_nov_2008).

**Guild Library** -- Our Librarian, Kathy Donovan, wishes to remind members of the selection of rug hooking information available in our library -- see attached list. Any Guild member who wishes to borrow an item from the HCRAAG Library should contact Kathy by 12:00 noon on the day before our meeting and she will bring it to the meeting. She can be reached at 908-755-1670 or [freyja@optonline.net](mailto:freyja@optonline.net)

**What Makes a Good Hooked Rug?** -- The March/April 1986 issue of Rug Hooker News & Views begins a serialization of Stella Hay Rex's long out-of-print book Choice Hooked Rugs. The following is from Chapter 1 – What Makes a Good Hooked Rug?

“Emphasis is placed on four prime factors that combine to make a good hooked rug – DESIGN, COLOR, TEXTURE, and TECHNIQUE. First come design and color. To decide which takes precedence is like trying to settle the old controversy on the relative importance or heredity and environment.

While *good design* in a hooked rug is basic and imperative, a pleasing rug pattern can be all but ruined by *poor color* choice and distribution. Conversely, a *good color* job will not completely counteract the effect of *poor design*. Thus both are vitally necessary.

Next in value after design and color is *texture*, a quality all too frequently disregarded by rug makers. Texture is brought into a hooked rug through the use of an assortment of weights and weaves, as well as through attention to the direction of the stitch; both factors contribute to vibration of light and reflection of shadow. A rug done for the most part in materials of just one weight and one weave, such as a fine, smooth flannel, means that all strips must be cut the same width. Therefore the work presents a surface so even that the pattern looks as if it might have been machine made, or even painted on the fabric, either of which is uncomplimentary to the sincere craftsman.

*Technique* is mentioned last in the essentials for a choice hooked rug. While good workmanship is a worthwhile quality in any product, there is a common tendency to place too much stress on the method of a craft, and too little on its *artistic* and creative possibilities. Hooked rugs are made by so simple a repeated stitch, that the operation practically becomes automatic.

Use your imagination, ingenuity, and skill in creating *design*, expressing it in *color*, and executing it through *textured technique*. Then, bearing in mind that simplicity of pattern is most pleasing on the floor, you may be able to capture the charm of the homespun craft of our ancestors; and through a feeling for the expression of the many cultures that have contributed to our country, create something that is truly American. A love of the genuine in any field makes one appreciate the simple hooked rug for what it is: an honest expression of the folk art of a sturdy people. There is no pretense of grandeur in a hooked rug.”

### **Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities**

Rags to Rugs: Pennsylvania Hooked and Handsewn Rugs Exhibition – Through December 31, 2008 at the Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum. For more information contact Kim Fortney, VP, Heritage Center of Lancaster County at 717-299-6440 or kfortney@lancasterheritage.com.

Winter Workshops at The Woolery -- Join Guild member Trish Becker at her rug hooking art studio on January 15, 16 and 17, 2009 and meet Judy Long, Editor of the ATHA Newsletter! For more information, contact Trish at [thewoolery@earthlink.net](mailto:thewoolery@earthlink.net) or 908 268 3949.

Jersey Girls Hooked Rug Exhibit – April 24 & 25, 2009 at the Firehouse in Oldwick, NJ.

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland Shores Rug Hooking School – This McGown School will be held in Ocean City, Maryland on April 19-24, 2009. The teachers are Nancy Blood, Vicki Calu, Gail Dufresne, Sarah Guiliani, Betty McClentic, Eric Sandberg and Cynthia Norwood. For more information contact Janice Russell at 410-289-4110 or [ocrug@aol.com](mailto:ocrug@aol.com).

The Mercer Hookers meet on the first Thursday of every month from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Mercer County Library in Pennington, NJ. It would be a good idea to contact Weezie Huntington ([weezie711@gmail.com](mailto:weezie711@gmail.com)) if you are coming for the first time. The hook-in is open to anyone sharing an interest in rug hooking. Bring your lunch.

A “Gathering” of rug hookers meet at Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel, NJ every Tuesday from 10-3. The hook-in is open to rug hookers of all levels. For more information, call the Farm at 732-946-3758.

### **HCRAG Calendar of Events**

**December 12, 2008** – Holiday Luncheon \*

**January 9, 2009** – Monthly meeting – Auction and White Elephant Sale \*

**January 9-11, 2009** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rug Hooking Retreat – Hampton Inn, Flemington, NJ

**February 13 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Featured Members Deanna Kinney & Joan Lucas\*

**March 13, 2009** – Monthly Meeting -- Hooking Animal Eyes – Gail Dufresne\*

**March 20-22, 2009** Spring Fling - Flemington Hampton Inn (tentative)

**April 3, 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD\* -- note date change

**April 29, 2009** – Bus Trip to Winterthur Museum

**May 8, 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Computer Assisted Design for Rugs - Connie Coleman\*

**June 12, 2009** – Monthly meeting – Annual Picnic\*

**August 10-14, 2009** – HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp – Educational Services Commission School

- Unless otherwise noted, our meetings run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Assembly Room B at the County Administration Building, which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex on Route 12, Flemington, NJ. As you turn off Route 12 onto the road leading into the Complex, it is the first building on the right.

**Guild Officers** -- Our officers are anxious to hear from you on ideas and suggestions on how we can make the Guild responsive to your needs. Feel free to contact them with your thoughts.

**President** – Weezie Huntington -- 609-466-1882 or weezie711@gmail.com

**Vice President** – Open

**Historian** – Marion Michel – 609-397-3425 or marionmichel@earthlink.net

**Hospitality** – Helen Buchanan – 908-284-0749 & Barbara Lugg – 908-996-2562

**Librarian** – Kathy Donovan – 908-755-1670 or freyja@optonline.net

**Programs** – Sharon Ballard – 908-236-7410

**Public Relations/Newsletter** -- Karl Gimber -- 215-297-0803 or karlg@nni.com

**Secretary** – Joyce Combs -- 609-737-9281 or fjcombs@verizon.net

**Special Events** -- Kitty Platt – 908-782-8985 or kitty\_platt@hotmail.com

Gail Ferdinando – 908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@att.net

Debbie Walsh – 908-272-7012 or debywalsh@yahoo.com

**Sunshine** – Lib Ryman -- 908-604-9459 or libr21226@aol.com

**Treasurer** – Gisele Meader -- 609-737-3123 or g.meader@att.net

Margaret Brightbill (Asst. Treasurer) – 215-968-2711 or katie4rose@aol.com

**Webmaster** – Laurie Rubinetti -- 908-995-4030 or Lrubinet@ptdprolog.net

**Guild’s Email List Policy** - The HCRAE Email list is not for commercial purposes, internally, or externally. The Guild does not make the list available to vendors outside the Guild, and asks that vendors within the group not solicit the membership as a whole.



The Loop is the newsletter of the Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAE). It is published monthly (September through June). Articles, suggestions or ideas for the newsletter can be submitted to Karl Gimber at P. O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913 or by email to [karlg@nni.com](mailto:karlg@nni.com). by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

***Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild  
Minutes November 14, 2008***

Meeting was called to order at 10:00AM by Karl Gimber in the absence of our President Weezie Huntington.

Many new members and visitors were introduced.

Karl explained our “wool table” to new members and visitors.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Spring Fling survey was discussed. Cost associated with the classes. Teacher possibilities and the fact the Norma Battistini was not available. There is enough interest in the event for it to go forward.

Camp was discussed; Judy Quintman's class is full or almost full, Sandra Brown and Abby Vakay have openings in their classes. We discussed what to do if a teacher's class does not fill.

January Rug Hooking Retreat still has a few openings to fill; discounted rooms are available at the Hampton Inn.

Bus Trip to The Winterthur Museum: April 29 is the best day as per of vote of the members present.

Jersey Girls Rug Show by the Alice Beatty ATHA Guild was discussed and the pattern for a rug designed by Claudia Casebolt was shown to our Guild. It will be hooked by the ATHA members and given as partial payment of the rental fees for the show.

Karl is keeping a calendar of events, anyone who knows of demonstrations and other events for the Guild to participate in should contact Karl. He will coordinate these events making sure that we have a member in charge of the event and enough people interested in participating.

Sharon Ballard discussed our programs: December Pot Luck lunch: Bring a dish and if possible donate a rug hooking Holiday ornament for a fund raiser? Shoe box gift exchange for those who wish to participate.  
Bring Feather Trees and Holiday rug hooking items for show and tell.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Date for our April Meeting need to be decided. Will our bus trip April 29 be our April meeting?

General announcement was made about various Rug Hooking items for sale.

Karl and Mary Jo's first rug hooking teacher Edie Prundeanu, visited our group.

Laurie Rubinetti was thanked for her wonderful job on our Web Site.

Margaret Lutz gave her program on Finishing Rugs, and a lively show and tell followed with the emphases on the techniques of finishing each project.