

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG) Newsletter

December 2010

Presidents' Letter – As we begin the holiday season this month, we would like to thank our members who have so tirelessly given their time and effort to the Guild this year.

We have had an incredibly busy 2010. In addition to our regular monthly meetings, we sponsored a weekend hooking retreat in January, a mini-workshop in March and a week long camp in August. We also demonstrated at 16 events and participated in the Hunterdon County 4-H Fair where we showcased the rugs of many of our members. Additionally, we published and distributed an informative monthly newsletter to our members and others in the rug hooking community.

While we have over 100 members in the HCRAAG, there has been a core group of individuals who have willingly volunteered to direct and coordinate these many activities. Thanks to them, we have a productive and successful Guild.

In 2011, we would like to ask each member to participate in at least one activity to help HCRAAG continue to grow. Perhaps you could demonstrate at one of the events, assist with Summer Camp or the 4-H Fair, bring refreshments to one of our meetings or serve on a committee. If each member assisted in some way, the work of the Guild would be lightened.

We feel very lucky to be part of such a talented group of rug hookers who get along well and care about each other. We thank those of you who have contributed to the success of 2010 and welcome those who will help in the coming year.

We hope that everyone had a wonderful ThanksgivingDee and Joyce

December Meeting – Friday, December 10, 2010 -- The December meeting will be held at our regular location, the Administration Building (Building #1), which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex, on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington. The street address for the Complex is 1314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the road. Please note that the meeting will begin at 11:30 this month

Guild Program – 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. HCRAAG 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.)

In addition, Joyce Combs will give a presentation and demonstration on how to make hooked ornaments and small hooked items. Barbara Lugg will share her ornaments as examples of the many styles and types possible.

We will again have our hooked ornament exchange. For those who wish to participate, please bring your ornament wrapped. We will have a fun time making the exchange!

Show & Tell – December is a month filled with holiday festivities so bring any hooked pieces you have completed over the years, or any in progress, that represent this celebrated month. We would love to see old and new hooked holiday ornaments too! Current works in progress are always welcome!

Those who participate in Show & Tell are eligible for a special raffle prize. Last month's winners were Karl Gimber (wool feather tree kit), Debbie Adams (dozen eggs from Gisele's back yard) and Martha Thieling (dozen eggs from Gisele's backyard). Remember you need to bring a rug or project to share in order to participate in the raffle drawing.

December Birthdays – Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month – Deb Adam (12/30), Judi Bailey (12/29), 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), Paula Patti (12/28), Agnes Wooden (12/2) and Karen Worthington (12/13). Enjoy your day!

Membership – We welcome Ann Gagnon and Ellen McNally to our Guild. Their contact information is shown below.

Ann Gagnon
177 Upper Kingdom Road
Pittstown, NJ 08867
980-238-9753

Ellen McNally
386 Pittstown Road
Pittstown, NJ 08867
908-538-4296
Neelie2348@yahoo.com

Guild dues need to be paid by December 31, 2010 in order to receive the member's discounted rate for our annual rug hooking camp.

Sunshine — Our condolences are extended to Barbara Lugg at the passing of her mother, to Norma Batastini at the loss of her stepfather and to Debbie Adam at the death of her mother-in-law. Best wishes go to Margaret Brightbill who is home recovering from successful surgery. Guild member Ellen Dolmetsch from Delaware had an accident during a rug hooking class and broke both bones in her left wrist. Full recovery is expected to take six weeks.

Guild News & Events

Guild Supports SAFE Holiday Collection -- Our Guild is again supporting the holiday clothing drive coordinated by The Consignment Shop in Flemington that donates their surplus wool garments to the Guild.

All proceeds from the Consignment Shop go to support "SAFE" (Stop Abuse for Everyone) in Hunterdon County. SAFE provides a series of programs and services for individuals and families touched by domestic violence and sexual assault.

For their 2010 holiday clothing drive, SAFE has come up with the idea of a "Holiday House" where parents and children will be able to personally select and wrap gifts for each other. The families will be able to "shop" for each other by selecting gifts displayed as they would be in a department store. SAFE will set up festively decorated rooms, one for parents' gifts, one for children's gifts, and one for teen gifts. In addition, there will be wrapping stations set up with gift wrap, tape, ribbon and volunteers to help.

SAFE is requesting help from the community by donating new unwrapped gifts of a particular type. They have suggested our Guild collect slippers, flannel pajama bottoms and children's books. Many who seek refuge at their safe house arrive without these basic items. For more information on SAFE and its services, go to its website -- www.safeinhunterdon.org or call 908-788-7666.

We will be collecting new and unwrapped slippers, flannel pj bottoms and children books at the December meeting. (Tax receipts will be available.) Last year we filled the back seat and trunk of a car with donations. Let's do that again!

HCRAG "Story Boards" to be Updated -- Several years ago, "story boards" were created as a display when Guild members demonstrate rug hooking at local community events. Guild member Annie Edwards has offered to update the story boards which have become somewhat worn with use. She plans to do more than two boards so we have different sizes conforming to different sites and table sizes (horizontal and vertical for example) and so more beautiful rugs can be represented.

Annie will be taking photos of rugs to appear on the updated story boards at the December meeting. Bring rugs to the meeting that you would like to have included. Even if a rug has been pictured before, it would be good to bring it in for Annie to photograph again so we be sure to have a variety of styles/colors and subjects.

ATHA Dye Book -- The 2011 ATHA Biennial Committee has compiled a limited edition dye book in an effort to raise funds for the next ATHA biennial, which will be held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania from October 19, 2011 through October 22, 2011. Some of the best and most well known dyers and rug hookers were asked to participate.

Two inch samples of wool dyed with the formula are pasted into the book along with instructions and the rug photo. Dye manufacturers include PRO Chem, Cushing and one uses Aljo dyes. A sample book will be available at the meeting for you to examine.

The book is \$38 plus \$5 shipping and handling in the United States. (To save the shipping costs, arrangements can be made to have the book picked up and brought to a

future meeting.) The check should be made payable to "2011 Biennial, The Woolwrights", and should be mailed to Gail Dufresne at 247 Goat Hill Road, Lambertville, NJ 08530.

Donations to Guild Library – The HCRAG Library continues to grow through generous donations from Guild members. In the past month, Joyce Combs, Weezie Huntington and Debbie Walsh helped our library grow.

Weezie Huntington donated the rug hooking books listed below that her aunt, Trudy Huntington found while cleaning out her mother's (Mrs. Enders) things.

Books

- Batchelder, Martha The Art of Hooked Rug Making 1947
- McGown, Pearl K. The Dreams Beneath Design: A Story of the History and Background of the Design of Hooked Rugs 1949
- Rex, Stella Hay Practical Hooked Rugs 1949
- Underhill, Vera Bisbee with Arthur J. Burks Creating Hooked Rugs 1951
- Waugh, Elizabeth and Edith Foley Collecting Hooked Rugs 1927

Notebooks

- Koehler, Doris H. Color and Contour for Hooked Rugs (flowers and fruit, fine shading) 1964
- Masters Margaret Hunt and Robert L. Master Designs, "Tapestry Hooking" a catalogue with numbered and shaded charts pertaining to the designs in this catalogue. Also Keeping in Touch (addendums to Master Designs) August 1, 1967 through January 1969

Joyce Combs donated the following from Helen Zelley:

Notebooks

- Moshimer, Joan Handouts on hooking and dyeing
- Sprout, Mildred Flower Shading Manual and Design-A-Patt 1954

Debbie Walsh donated the new ATHA Dye Book (see previous article) to our collection.

Thank you Debbie, Joyce and Weezie for your generous support. Librarian Kathy Donovan will bring the new additions to the December meeting for your perusal. An update Library List accompanies the newsletter.

Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter Sponsors Bus Trip -- A bus trip to Rebecca Erb's Wool Studio and two or three other rug hooking shops including Homespun is being sponsored by the Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter on March 2, 2011. The bus will originate in Plainfield, NJ and make a pick-up in Flemington. The cost is \$20. Contact Sharon Ballard for more information at 908-236-7410.

Townsend Fabric Cutters Available – The Bee Line Company of Bettendorf, Iowa, has announced that Townsend Fabric cutters can now be purchased through their website – www.beeline-townsend.com – or by calling 866-218-1590. In 2011 they expect to offer the Tote Table and frames.

Guild's "Fabulous" ATHA Basket -- Thanks to generous donations from members our Guild donated a large basket of rug patterns, books, wool, dye packets, instructional CDs, punch needle kits and a hand crafted felted hat to the Goat Hill Guild fundraising auction at the recent Brandywine Hook-in. Allie Barchi, President of the Goat Hill ATHA Chapter, thanked the Guild for its "fabulous" basket and noted that "the Hunterdon basket drew lots of oohs and aahs." Proceeds from the auction support the ATHA Biennial Conference that will be held in Lancaster in October 2011.

Guild Supports Children's Hospital of Philadelphia -- Last month Guild members once again turned out to support the annual fundraising effort for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Facial Reconstruction Unit by demonstrating rug hooking at the Thanksgiving in the Country House Tour and Craft Show held at the Mill at Prallsmill a short distance north of Stockton.

The following members gave of their time for this worthy cause:

Claudia Casebolt	Carol Kindt	Marion Michel
Joyce Combs	Lynda Kling*	Dee Rosebrock
Annie Edwards	Jana Laidlaw	
Tracy Fetzer	Gisele Meader	

*1st time participant

Annual Hooking Retreat Fully Booked – Our popular hooking retreat will take place from January 14-16, 2011 at the Hampton Inn in Flemington. After our meeting, retreaters will move to the Flemington Hampton Inn for a weekend of hooking and fun from Friday afternoon until Sunday at 4:00. A gourmet pizza night is planned for Saturday dinner for those who want to participate.

At the present time all 25 spots have been reserved, but a waiting list will be maintained in case there is a cancellation. For additional information contact Gail Ferdinando at 908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com.

Geometrics Workshop Fully Booked -- Sandra Brown's workshop on geometrics that will be conducted at the Flemington Hampton Inn on Friday, April 29 to Sunday May 1, 2011 is now fully subscribed. Event coordinator, Weezie Huntington, is maintaining a waiting list for anyone who wants to sign up. See the October 2010 issue of The Loop for details on the workshop. You can reach Weezie at weezie711@gmail.com or 609-466-1882 for current information.

HCRA 15th Annual Rug Hooking Camp --Our Guild's 15th annual rug hooking camp will be held from August 15, 2011 though August 19, 2011. In keeping with our tradition, nationally recognized instructors -- Jane Halliwell Green, Kris McDermet and Iris Simpson – will provide a stimulating, educational and fun camp experience. At the present time, both Jane Halliwell Green's and Iris Simpson's workshops are full. Debbie Walsh is maintaining a waiting list.

Our Teachers and Their Classes:

Jane Halliwell Green (Pictorials) Jane is known for her pictorial and floral rugs. In this workshop, Jane will offer a fresh approach to hooking houses, water, skies, trees, grass, flowers, rock walls and other pictorial elements. Participants will learn how to apply techniques such as pixelating, bundling, shagging and meandering to bring a new level of excitement and skill to their hooking projects. Jane will lead her class through a series of mini-lectures and demonstrations of techniques. She will also work with students on an individual basis. Students may work on a commercial pattern or an original design with wide or narrow strips.

Jane will also teach wide-cut florals that she calls "Close Ups." These rugs or wall hangings are hooked in a wide cut, anything from a #8 cut to a ripped strip of wool measuring close to one inch. The rugs are extremely fast to hook and dramatic in their appearance. Size can vary from a 16" pillow square to a 48" X 48" wall hanging. Jane frequently uses dip dyes to create the petals. She will have a number of her own patterns available or students may design their own.

Jane is the author of two books on pictorial rugs, including her most recent, *Pictorial Hooked Rugs*. Her latest rug "Botanical Fantasy" was chosen for the cover of the 2010 edition of *Celebrations*. Jane teaches at rug hooking schools throughout the United States and Canada. She was the first rug hooker to teach at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC and was a guest of HGTV in 2001. Jane is also a painter and signature member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society. She resides in Annapolis, Maryland. Visit her website at <http://www.rugandwool.com> and <http://www.woolofthemothclub.com>.

Kris McDermet (After the Hooking Comes Braiding) Braids can frame, compliment or add contrast to a hooked project. They can be used as a border or center with endless possibilities for switching back and forth between hooking and braiding. This class will look beyond traditional rug borders to help you add texture and interest to your projects. Kris will present the many steps of braiding on hooking with easy to understand directions and hands-on instruction. Students will learn how to add braiding to a variety of hooked shapes and to the inside or outside of any hooked wall hanging or rug. Students are asked to bring a variety of small hooked shapes to class.

Kris lives in Dummerston, Vermont and teaches braiding on hooking around the country. She is a member of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild. Please visit her website at www.krismcdermetrugs.com.

Iris Simpson (Open Workshop) Iris will offer an open class where anything goes and all levels of rug hookers are welcome. Students can use a commercially designed pattern or create one of their own (with or without help from Iris). They can choose any subject and use any cut from #2 to #9 or hand cut. The variety of choices made by the students will set the stage for what will be taught. Iris will teach her class through a series of mini-lectures on different topics, such as, Primitives, Orientals, Fine Shaded Fruits or Flowers. Hints, tips and techniques for each style will be shared. In addition, students will learn about materials

(traditional and unusual), technique, design, color and finishing. Iris encourages questions and dialogue in her class and fun and laughter are always welcome.

Iris, an educator by trade and a hooker by choice, loves hooking and teaching at schools and workshops in Canada, the United States and England. She is an Ontario Hooking Craft Guild and McGown certified teacher, holds a Fiber Arts-Traditional Rug Hooking Certificate from St. Lawrence College and is a certified Oxford Punch Needle teacher. Iris enjoys all aspects of rug hooking, from mini-pictorials in a #2 cut to primitives in a #9 cut. She values close communication with students prior to, during and after class. Iris is well versed in all styles and subjects and loves to share information and fun. Her latest work combines hooking with mini punch needle for an interesting effect.

Registration/Instructional Fees – The fee for camp is \$175 for Guild members who have paid their dues by December 31, 2010. For all others, the fee is \$250. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 is required to make a reservation for camp. The balance of the fee is due by May 30, 2011. For all reservations received after May 30th, the camp fee must be paid in full at the time of registration. Checks made payable to HCRAG can be sent to Debbie Walsh at 51 Spruce Street, Cranford, NJ 07016.

Refund Policy –For cancellations received on or before June 10, 2011, the camp fee less the \$25 non-refundable deposit will be made. For cancellations received after June 10th, no refunds will be made unless the camp vacancy is filled and paid in full.

For more information, contact Debbie Walsh at 908-272-7012 or debywalsh@yahoo.com or Gail Ferdinando at 908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com.

Rug Hooking Community and Local Organizations Benefit From Guild

Demonstrations -- During 2010, our Guild demonstrated at 16 community events. Our involvement added to the diversity of the activities found at the fairs and festivals and was responsible for introducing many visitors to our 19th century craft about which they knew little. The Guild benefited as well by the public exposure. We are thankful to our members who gave of their time to support the Guild and community.

Meet Our Featured Member – Debbie Adam -- Debbie Adam has been hooking for about one and a half years after being exposed to rug hooking at the Lebanon Township Museum by her friends Deanna Kinney and Joan Lucas. Her first project was a guinea hen on burlap. Debbie found working on burlap to be painful and did not really get “into it” until she took a beginners’ class at the Museum with Kay Weeks where she hooked a rooster on linen. The linen backing made all the difference.

Hooking in the primitive style is “definitely me” says Debbie who jokes that “my inconsistent loops lend to primitive hooking too”. Debbie likes to draw her own patterns, often drawing freehand on the backing. Other times she draws on paper first and then cuts out the image and traces around it on the linen. So far her rug designs are a result of specific requests from family members – large white daisy for her mother, piano keyboard for her daughter and lobsters for her grandson. Designing the piano keyboard rug required counting the linen threads to make sure the design was properly balanced.

Debbie's rugs are hooked with a combination of recycled and new wool. Jeannine Happe's shop, Two Old Crows, is a favorite source of new wool.

Debbie says she "has always done some form of needle work and rug hooking is another form of that creative process". She finds it "very satisfying to create a pattern that means something to someone".

Deanne Kinney, Joan Lucas and Kay Weeks have been influential in Deb's development as a rug hooker. She does not make it a practice to attend formal workshops, preferring to learn informally by hooking at the Museum with Deanna and Joan on Tuesdays and observing the work being done by Guild members. She tries to hook at home at least once or twice a week in addition to the day at the Museum. Debbie's husband recently converted their chicken house into a hooking studio. When it is too cold to go to the unheated studio, Debbie works at her frame that is set up in the living room.

Kay Weeks mentioned our Guild during her beginners' workshop and outlined all the benefits associated with membership. Debbie came to her first meeting shortly thereafter and has been coming ever since. She "likes being with people with common interests." Debbie is a regular participant at the Guild's annual weekend retreat at the Flemington Hampton Inn.

Debbie and her husband Richard live in Washington, NJ in an 1840 house. Richard is responsible for delivering milk daily to Shop Rite Stores up and down the east coast from New Hampshire to Maryland. That means he is up and out of the house at 2:00 AM and returns home around 2:00 in the afternoon. Richard and Deb have two daughters – Jennifer and Melissa.

Jennifer and her husband George live in Highlands, NJ with their son Jacob. Jennifer is a music teacher in Newark, NJ where she teaches piano, violin, trombone and saxophone. She also provides private music lessons. George is following in his father-in-law's footsteps as a truck driver delivering seafood in the area. Melissa is a homemaker who lives in Middlesex, NJ with her husband Sean and three children – Samantha (age 12), Alex (age 8) and Keith (age 6). Sean is a wholesale florist.

In addition to rug hooking, Debbie spends a considerable time with her "critters" – three llamas, three turkeys, a small flock of chickens and two goats (one is pregnant) that they just purchased. Her llamas are registered and bred for the cria (baby llamas) that are sold locally. She also harvests llama fiber that is sold to spinners in the area. Debbie recently bought a spinning wheel at an estate sale and hopes to learn to spin. The turkeys are pets that "follow Richard around like puppy dogs."

Up until recently, Debbie managed a flock of over 250 chickens which produced green colored eggs that she sold at a co-op and local farmers' market. She recently downsized and now has eight chickens that produce enough eggs for the family's needs. Ironically, Debbie was one of the Show & Tell raffle winners at the last meeting and received a dozen eggs!

For many years Debbie was the comptroller for an aircraft maintenance corporation and had a private pilot's license. Ten years ago she required a spinal fusion which made it difficult for her to work outside the home.

Debbie's warmth and enthusiasm for rug hooking is evident and contributes to the spirit of our Guild.

Hooking Information & Technique

Working in Thrums -- The January/February 1988 issue of Rug Hooker News & Views contained an article written by Mary Sheppard Burton entitled "Working in Thrums – A Surface Technique as Old as the Hills". (See note below) Portions of the article were presented in the October and November 2010 issues of The Loop. An additional segment is repeated below.

"The old kings of the Norse reveled in their progeny and encouraged their travel. As the boy princes grew into manhood they were encouraged to set their sails to new lands to conquer and to take new brides to bear them children. It has been recorded that one of the sons took a Shetlands Islands girl as his princess. In records still in existence her dowry records a number of hooked or thrummed 'bed rugges'.

As the power of the Norsemen became reflected in the countries which they overpowered, the products created from wool became the fiber of choice in the textile art forms. Thus the French and the English began their creative art forms in wool, while surprisingly the 'old mat' seen on the backs of pack animals showed up through Northern Europe. These mats are rarely seen today but a few are still to be found in Northumberland in England.

Of course, one must not discount the British sailor who also did his share in promoting the spread of the mat.

Mats were found in Scotland, Wales, some Canadian provinces and New England before anyone even dreamed of the founding of the United States of America.

Wherever I travel I search for signs of hooked work. In 1979 I found a rug hook in Waioli, Hawaii. It was made of reindeer horn and most likely arrived there via a New England sailor. At the mission of Waioli (early 19th century) missionaries covered their floors with hooked rugs. They may be seen at the Mission House today.

While searching the silver vaults in London in 1985, I found a pair of bent shank coin silver rug scissors.

In 1986 in Shanghai, China, I toured the textile schools and factories. At Shanghai in a small factory, one of the dyers showed me her own rug hook which she herself had made. It was incredibly fine and would have produced tapestry hooking of exquisite caliber.

In 1984, a Chinese friend of ninety-nine years watched me at work. She spoke no English and I no Chinese. All smiles, "grandmother" picked up my hook and proceeded to work stitch after stitch. In Chinese she told her daughter that as a small girl she made the tops of her shoes in this exact manner. Did

'grandmother' learn this from the English sailor? Not likely, as she had come from inner China. She says that the Chinese child has 'always made shoe tops by this method.' Perhaps there was a twinkle in Marco Polo's eye, for he and his entourage would surely have travelled from Italy through the near east and into China via the land routes. He, and others, would have travelled with the lowly mat upon their animals' backs. The technique of thrumming remained the same."

To be continued in subsequent issues of The Loop.

Note: Mary Sheppard Burton passed away on July 1, 2010.

Tips From Heloise (aka Lydia Lewis) – The holiday season is here! What a good time to hook a favorite remembrance of the season. It may be a Santa, a reindeer, some elves, holly, cookies or a Christmas tree. Designs of snow and snowmen, winter wonderlands, and woodland animals can be used longer than the traditional Santa themes. Small rugs, backings for jackets, ornaments, stockings, and hot mats can be hooked quickly. Heloise enjoys hooking round coaster size decorations and backs the finished item with glue and then cuts right up to the edge and attaches felt on the back. Adding a short worm for a handle makes the item into an ornament or looped under- just use as a coaster----- Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday - Enjoy the Season

From Nina's Notebook – Happy Holidays to all! The matriarch of our family is Aunt Virginia, now age 98 and still going strong. Her favorite season is Christmas; anything Santa captures her attention from the hip hop Santa figure to the classic Coca Cola image, she loves it all.

Aunt Virginia is a braider of rugs and a shell and stain glass lamp maker. Each Christmas we are gifted with one of her creations. When I began to hook, one of my first mats was a Santa for Aunt Virginia. She was delighted....and so began a family tradition. Each year I search for a new presentation for Santa. This year I decided to go back to the original and have hooked Saint Nicholas in his Bishop's hat holding his crozier. In the background is the sea and a sailing ship because he is also the patron saint of sailors.

This mat will join the other Santas in the collection of Aunt Virginia. Hooking mats for the Christmas season - or any other season- is a way of creating a tradition for your family. What joy it brings to the hooker and to the recipient of the mat!

Happy Hooking...whatever the season! Nina Seaman

Favorite Recipes – Everyone liked the Cranberry Mousse that Deanna Kinney brought to the October meeting. We thank her for sharing the recipe.

Ingredients

- 1 package (6 ounces) strawberry-flavored gelatin
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 can (20 ounces) crushed pineapple

- 1 can (16 ounces) whole- berry cranberry sauce
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon peel (I left it out)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 2 cups (16 ounces) sour cream
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans (I used 1 cup of walnuts)

Directions

- In a large bowl, dissolve gelatin in boiling water.
- Drain pineapple, setting the pineapple aside and adding juice to gelatin.
- Stir in cranberry sauce, lemon juice, peel and nutmeg.
- Chill until mixture thickens.
- Fold in sour cream, pineapple and pecans.
- Pour into a glass serving bowl or an oiled 9-cup mold.
- Chill until set, at least 2 hours.

Yield: 16-20 servings

HCRAG Library – Librarian, Kathy Donovan, brings a selection of books to each meeting. If there is a specific item you want from our library, contact her by 12:00 noon on the day before our meeting and she will bring it to the meeting. Kathy can be reached at 908-755-1670 or freya2@verizon.net.

Members who borrow books are reminded that they need to be returned in a timely manner, so that the books will be available for others members.

HCRAG Website – Visit the Guild’s website at www.hcrag.com to enjoy the rugs completed by our monthly featured member, current and past, as well as the Gallery of member rugs. You can also connect with other rug hooking links. Laurie Rubinetti normally updates the site by the first of the month. Take a look!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Rug Hooking in Maine and Beyond – The Farnsworth Museum in Rockland, Maine is the site of a special exhibit of 40 splendid examples of hooked rugs that include Waldoboro, Arts and Crafts, cottage industry and other types of rugs. The exhibit is open until December 31, 2010. For more information contact the museum at www.farnsworthmuseum.org. or 207-596-6457.

Bus Trip to Rebecca Erb’s Wool Studio – March 2, 2011 -- A bus trip to Rebecca Erb’s Wool Studio and two or three other rug hooking shops including Homespun is being sponsored by the Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter on March 2, 2011. The bus will originate in Plainfield, NJ and make a pick-up in Flemington. The cost is \$20. Contact Sharon Ballard for more information at 908-236-7410.

2011 Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village – August 17-20, 2011 are the dates for Rug Hooking Week which includes workshops (Jeanne Field, Cindi Gay, Jen Levoie and Susan Quicksall) and exhibits including the Celebrations XXI Exhibit. Get the latest information at www.saudervillage.org or by calling 800-590-9755.

Harvest Celebration at the Wool Studio – October 18- 23, 2011 – Rebecca Erb is hosting this special event at the new location of her studio which is half an hour north of Lancaster, PA . Participants will include Homespun (Kay Leisey), Jim Brewley (hand-turned wooden snippet bowls), Misty Pond Primitives (Pat Donoho), Wool'n Gardner (Jan Cole), Wood Crest Rug Design (Joanne Gerwig) and the Wool Studio (Rebecca Erb). Visit www.thewoolstudio.com for directions and more information.

ATHA Biennial Conference in Lancaster, PA – October 19-22, 2011 -- For more information, visit the ATHA website at www.atharugs.com.

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) 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 10, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Holiday Luncheon & Ornament Exchange *

January 14, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Auction & White Elephant Sale *

January 14-16, 2011 – Rug Hooking Retreat – Hampton Inn, Flemington, NJ

February 11, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Tavern & Trade Sign Hooked Rugs (Karl Gimber) *

March 11, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Round Robin led by Members *

April 1-30, 2011 – Hooked Rug Exhibit – Hunterdon County Library, Rt. 12
Flemington, NJ

April 8, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Mola Mats Lecture & Workshop (Norma Batastini) *

April 29- May 1, 2011 – Spring Fling – Geometrics (Sandra Brown) Hampton Inn,
Flemington, NJ

May 13, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Proddy Mats (Kay Weeks) *

June 10, 2011 -- Monthly Meeting – Annual Picnic *

August 15-19, 2011 – HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp (June Halliwell Green, Kris McDermet and
Iris Simpson) – ESC School, Lambertville, NJ.

August 16, 2011 – HCRAG Beginners’ Workshop – ESC School, Lambertville, NJ.

*Unless otherwise noted, our meetings run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Assembly Room B in 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, make the first right into the parking lot. The meeting is in the first building on the right. The street address for the Complex is 1314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the road.

** Meeting will be at our alternate site – The Court Room within the Police Station at the Raritan Township Municipal Complex. The Complex is by the Rt. 12 and Rt. 523 traffic circle just outside Flemington. The address, which does not appear on the road, is 1 Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822-3446.

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.

Co-Presidents – Joyce Combs – 609-737-9281 or fjcombs@verizon.net

Dee Rosebrock – 609-771-0596 or uncoolfred@aol.com

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

Historian – Sonia Force – 908-782-5716 or sojon@comcast.net

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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.

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