

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG) Newsletter

December, 2015

Presidents' Letter -- Hard to believe that 2015 is almost over! Where did it go? What did you accomplish this year? Did you learn anything? Have you bought all your gifts yet?

The holiday season is time for reflection, as well as celebration. Which holiday(s) do you celebrate and why? As for the questions above, we all start the year with big objectives, but do we periodically assess how we are doing in achieving them? Did you start and finish a rug this year? Did you attend a rug school (ours or another one), and learn something you will be using in a project?

We are using those questions to remind you that we offer one of the best rug schools in the country, and certainly one of the least expensive. We have excellent teachers coming in 2016, and this is the time to sign up before it gets opened to the general public. We also mention *learning* -- we feel that if you are not expanding your mind by learning something, you are shrinking your mind and your world. There is no such thing as a static mind -- it is either growing or diminishing. What you learn does not have to be about hooking, it can be from books, travel, other crafts—anything that makes you think.

Have you bought all your gifts yet? Our Guild is very fortunate. As presidents (because we are prominently listed on the website) we frequently get calls from people who are dismantling a hooker's supplies/stash/studio. "I am cleaning out my mother's/aunt's/grandmother's/wife's hooking supplies. She is no longer hooking and I was wondering if you could use...frames, stands, cutters, hooks, wool, and books." We were recently gifted with a TON of wool and some patterns that had been owned by Harriet Williams, who had been a member of the Bucks-Mont Guild. Every bit of wool was inspected and sorted. All the cut worms were tossed out, as were pieces that were way too thick or thin to use, as well as several pieces of highly suspect content. All the remaining wool was washed and dried (This took four days of constant washer/dryer use.). All the large pieces will be brought to the December meeting to be auctioned off. We felt that if we brought them all to the January auction we would never finish. She had lots of wool (still with tags) from people we buy from—Dorr, Rebecca, Norma, Lucille Festa, Cheryl Brubaker, Michele, etc. The smaller pieces will be bundled and brought to the January auction. This was an amazing gift to us. (Your husband called, and said his gift to you was to let you buy as much as you wanted!!)

So, about those holidays...we need to keep an eye on our holidays (the small spaces we missed while hooking) to make sure they don't become vacations (large spaces we missed!). So, whatever holiday you celebrate, we wish you and yours the best of them (even the hooking kind, because if you are finding holidays it means you are working on your pieces!).

Wishing you even loops and wonderful colors. Weezie and Therese

December Meeting – Friday, December 11, 2015 – Our December meeting will be at our normal location – the Administration Building (Building #1), which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex, on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington. The street address for a GPS is 314 State Highway 12, Flemington, NJ

08822 although there is no street number on the building. **Please note that the meeting begins an hour later than usual at 11:00 and runs to 2:00.** Guests are always welcome.

Holiday Luncheon -- 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. 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.)

Festival Raffle Rug Pattern Available -- The Hooked Rug Festival Raffle Committee (Kathy Donovan and Debbie Walsh) are sharing the design of the raffle rug, *Diamonds in Bloom*, as a “Thank You” for selling raffle rug tickets.

A paper copy of the center diamond design and a copy of ¼ of the background (These are put together to make the overall rug.) will be available at our December meeting. Members who have interest in making a copy of the pattern need to bring tracing paper to trace the rug pattern. You will need two (2) pieces of tracing paper approximately 18” x 24” each.

Mini Wool Auction – Weezie was "gifted" a huge amount of wool by a late hooker's husband that she will be bringing to the meeting and offering it in some form of auction (See Presidents’ Letter). She is still thinking through the logistical details. Weezie has checked and washed it all and will put it in bundles.

Show & Tell – Please bring and share your current projects.

Hospitality – We thank all members who provided snacks and treats for our meetings during the past year. The food adds a pleasing dimension to our meetings.

December Birthdays -- Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month – Blanca Alvarez (12/13), Barbie Beck-Wilczek (12/15), Helen Buchanan (12/21), Linda Ehly (12/31), Karl Gimber (12/19), Paula Patti (12/28), Nancy Sears (12/16), Susie Simmons (12/18), Helen Trammell (12/22), Agnes Wooden (12/2), and Karen Worthington (12/13). Enjoy your day!

Membership – We welcome Michelle Dandreaux, Carolyn Russo and Helen Trammell to our Guild. Their contact information is shown below.

Michelle Dandreaux
470 Old Main Street
Asbury, NJ 08802
908-323-3314

Carolyn Russo
530 River Rd.
Belle Mead, NJ 08503
908-829-4422

Carolynprusso59@yahoo.com

Helen Trammell
60 Valleycrest Rd.
Annandale, NJ 08801
770-861-1600
alabamahelen@gmail.com

Sunshine – Linda Woodbury is recovering from recent surgery. We wish her well.

Inform our Sunshine Chair Gail Ferdinando (908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com), of any member who is ill or in need of a note of cheer.

Guild News & Events –

Guild to Collect for Victims of Domestic Violence at December Meeting -- Supporting the community holiday clothing drive coordinated by The Consignment Shop of Flemington has become an annual Guild tradition. The Consignment Shop donates their surplus wool garments to the Guild. All proceeds from the Consignment Shop go to support Victims of Domestic Violence in Hunterdon, which provides a series of programs and services for individuals and families touched by domestic violence and sexual assault.

Members are being asked to donate flannel pajama bottoms, slippers, socks and sweat pants. Many who seek refuge arrive at the safe house without these basic items for themselves and their children. Donated items should be new and unwrapped.

We will be collecting donations at the December meeting. (Tax receipts will be available.) Sharon Ballard will be offering wool items for \$2 raffle tickets with the proceeds going to Victims of Domestic Violence in Hunterdon.

International Rug Hookers Day– December 4, 2015 -- The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers (TIGHR) is celebrating its 20th anniversary on December 4, 2015 and have encouraged that the day be an international hook-in day. December 4th happens to be one of our scheduled Casual Hooking Days, so it is an ideal time to come together and hook with friends. For Casual Hooking Days, we meet at the Court Room within the Police Station of the Raritan Township Municipal Complex. The Complex is by the Rt. 12 and Rt. 523 traffic circle just outside Flemington. The address for a GPS is 1Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822-3446.

Three Scholarships Now Available for 2016 Rug Hooking School -- The scholarship provided through our Memorial Scholarship Fund is augmented this year by two additional scholarships made possible as a result of the passing of Susan Woodworth. Each scholarship provides for free attendance to our annual rug hooking school; however, each has different criteria and different nomination dates. Please note the following:

HCRAG Memorial Scholarship -- This provides a full scholarship to a deserving member to attend the our summer rug hooking school and is awarded by our Scholarship Committee based on nominations received from our members. The guidelines for selecting the winners are quite broad: it could be used to

- say thanks to a member who has made an important contribution to the Guild;
- recognize a long-time member;
- welcome a new member;
- acknowledge someone who has shown a real commitment to rug hooking; or
- for any other purpose that seems appropriate.

If you would like to nominate someone for this award, or if you would like to be considered yourself, please contact Therese or Weezie by December 1, 2015. The scholarship recipient will be announced at the December meeting.

Susan Woodworth Memorial Scholarship – Susan was scheduled to attend our Rug Hooking Camp last August but was unable to do so because of her declining health. She requested that her spot be given to another Guild member. This scholarship will be awarded by a random drawing.

If you want to be eligible, submit your name to Eleanor Dunker by January 1, 2016. The names of members who have already registered for Hooking School will automatically be entered for the drawing.

Susan Woodworth “Learning” Scholarship – This scholarship is funded by the sale of Susan’s hooking equipment, supplies and wool stash. It will be presented to a member who can best identify what they want to learn by attending Hooking School. Submissions need to be sent to Eleanor Dunker by January 1, 2016.

Blanket Statements: New Quilts by Kaffe Fasset (Exhibit at Michener Art Museum November 14, 2015 to February 21, 2016) -- The Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA is featuring an exhibit of new quilts by Kaffe Fasset and historical quilts from the collection of the Quilt Museum and Gallery, York, England. More information can be obtained by calling the Museum at 215-340-9800 or by going to its website – michenerartmuseum.org.

Mrs. Stitches Is Closing – For many members, Mrs. Stitches in Mendham, NJ has been the “go-to” source for all needlework supplies especially Patarnayan yarns to whip hooked projects. It was recently announced that the shop will be closing at the end of the year. Mrs. Stitches’ website (www.mrsstitches.com) has hours and maps.

Photography Resource -- Do you need to have a rug photographed for a *Celebrations* submission or for a magazine article? A member has recently used and recommended Rutherford’s Camera Shop in Doylestown, PA. They have been in business since 1938 and can handle small or large projects. Their contact information follows:

Lee Rutherford, President
23 West State Street,
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-348-4221
rcslee@verizon.net

Annual Rug Hooking Retreat Set for January 8-10, 2016 -- Our popular rug hooking retreat will again be held at the Hampton Inn in Flemington, NJ following our January meeting. After our monthly meeting, participants will move over to the Hampton Inn where we will hunker down for a weekend of hooking and fun from Friday afternoon until Sunday. We usually end late Sunday afternoon, but could stay until 10 PM, if we choose to. Participants can commute or stay overnight. Joy Andrews, our favorite massage therapist, will be there to help relax stiff muscles. Participation in the retreat is limited to members.

The price will be \$45 and members reserving sleeping rooms before December 12 will get a reduced rate of \$115 plus tax (figure \$130 per night). Mention the Rug Retreat when reserving rooms.

To register for the retreat send your check made payable to HCRAG to Weezie Huntington at 69 Minuteman Circle, Allentown, NJ 08501. Payment can also be made at the December meeting. A few spaces are still left, so anyone interested who has not already contacted Weezie needs to do so. She will maintain a wait list, if necessary. Email her at weezie711@gmail.com or call her at 609-477-4339. It will be helpful to let Weezie know how much massage time you want to schedule with Joy Andrews.

Spring Fling Ideas Needed -- Cindy Boultz who has organized past Spring Fling Weekends is looking for input on whether a Spring Fling should be held next year. This year the weekend was turned into a hooking retreat when there were not sufficient registrations to support bringing in the two instructors. The arrangement with the Hampton Inn may require booking the meeting rooms for three days.

The basic questions are:

- Do you have interest in attending a three day spring workshop?
- Is there a subject, theme or technique you would like to see covered?
- Is there a specific instructor with whom you want to work?
- Do you prefer to have another retreat instead of a workshop?
- Are you willing to serve as the event coordinator?

Please provide your thoughts to Cindy at 908- 730-0146 or cboultz@gmail.com.

Exciting Field Trip Planned for May Meeting -- A field trip to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center in Pennsburg, PA is planned for our May 2016 meeting. The Schwenkfelders are a protestant religious sect that migrated to Pennsylvania from southern Germany and lower Silesia in the 1700s. They are one of the groups known as the Pennsylvania Germans. The Heritage Center has a major collection of Schwenkfelder decorative arts such as fraktur and textiles. For additional information, visit the Heritage Center's website at www.schwenkfelder.com.

Fiber artist, Susan Feller, will provide an hour presentation entitled *The History of Rughooking from an Artist's Frame*. Susan relocated from New Jersey to West Virginia several years ago where she now maintains her studio, Ruckman Mill Farm (www.ruckmanmillfarm.com).

The timing of the trip coincides with the Penn Dry Goods Market that will take place at the Heritage Center. The Market is a special kind of antique sale and show. It features antiques and vintage textiles plus things that might have been found on the shelves of an old dry goods store.

After the visit to the Heritage Center, we will travel to Kay Leisey's Homespun that is about 10 minutes away.

The trip was discussed at our November meeting and the consensus was that a bus will not be needed since a sufficient number of members are willing to car pool. Members who can take two other members from New Jersey will be reimbursed \$25 (\$15 from Pennsylvania). It was previously ascertained that members preferred to bring a brown bag lunch instead of going to a restaurant. Ellen DiClemente is working on additional details.

2016 Rug Hooking School -- Next year is the 20th year for our Rug Hooking School and we continue the tradition of inviting instructors considered among the most respected in the rug hooking world today. *Diane Phillips cannot participate as one of the instructors as planned. Iris Simpson has been selected as a replacement and will join Nancy Jewett, Norma Batastini and Ali Strebel.*

The week our rug school will be held has been moved forward a week from when it is normally held to August 8-12, 2016 to avoid a conflict with Rug Hooking Week at Historic Sauder Village.

This will allow members to go to Sauder Village and allow us to consider teachers who will be at Sauder's Rug Hooking Week.

School Fee -- The cost of attending rug school is \$200 for members with dues paid by November's meeting. Non-members will pay \$275 if there is available space after January 30th. A deposit of \$100 will be required with registration with final payment due by April 10th. If you need to cancel after April 10th, \$150 will be refunded only if a replacement is found. \$50 is non-refundable if canceling before April 10.

Registration Process -- This year registration will be done by mail only. (The registration form is available on the Guild's website – www.hcrag.com.) Forms can be mailed on or after October 10th with a check for \$100. Remember, that \$50 is a non-refundable fee. Registrations received between October 10th and November 1st, will be processed on November 1st by using the Board approved lottery system. Make sure you indicate your first, second, etc., choice on the form. Last year, everyone got either their first or second choice. Any registrations that arrive after November 1st will be placed in class as space allows. You will receive an email informing you of your instructor. For those without email, you will receive a phone call.

The following initial bios are being provided so that members not familiar with the instructors can get to know them:

Norma Batastini -- Norma has been hooking since 1995 and is a certified McGown teacher. She teaches nationally and privately a variety of workshops in a variety of themes such as primitive embellished pineapples, handbag design and finishing, Rufus Porter primitives, designing primitives, log cabin, dyeing, geometrics, the Mola, and the Grenfell hooked mat. She is the Co-Director of Rugs by the Sea held in Cape May, New Jersey every September. Norma is currently on the editorial board of Rug Hooking Magazine and has written several articles.

The class will be an open class where you can hook on any commercial pattern or your own design. In class there will be mini-lectures on current topics as well as student requests.

Nancy Jewett -- Fluff and Peachy Bean Designs was launched in October 2003 by Nancy D Jewett, a self-taught artist and proud 4th generation Vermonter. All of Nancy's hand drawn designs are inspired by her imagination, life stories, words and quotes with her sense of whimsy. Her abiding love and joy for music, nature, animals and unwavering belief in focusing on the abundance and beauty in life is reflected in her patterns.

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.

Ali Strebel -- Alice has been teaching fiber art nationally and internationally since 1986. Her business, Ali Strebel Designs for Kindred Spirits, is located in Dayton, Ohio; where she sells the extensive line of books and patterns she has published as well as hand dyed wool, yarn, roving and other fiber art supplies. She has also developed a line of fiber and fiber art inspired jewelry. Beside her own books, Alice's work has been featured in Rug Hooking Magazine's Designs for Primitive Hookers, The Wool Street Journal and numerous other publications.

Attend Rug School Free -- Anyone housing a teacher will get to attend rug school for free and will get the teacher of their choice. All that is required is to provide housing, breakfast and dinner for the week. Lunch is provided by the Guild. You are not expected to entertain the instructors. They are tired at the end of the day and need time to relax, reflect on the day and prepare for the next day. If you chose to host two teachers, \$200 will also be allotted for your compensation. Teachers need a private room and bath and if you house two teachers, each needs their own room and bath.

If you have questions or interest in providing housing for an instructor, let Rug School Directors Anndee Byers or Eleanor Dunker know.

November Meeting Was a Blast! -- Our November meeting was a fabulous program by Michele Micarelli. We heard the history of how she started hooking, and then she discussed the stories behind several of her magnificent pieces. Michele is a very engaging story teller, and we were alternately laughing and deeply touched by her story and the rug stories.

After a short break for snacks, she guided us through a water-themed project which used lots of different fibers--wool strips, stockings, stockings made into 3D sea shells, yarns, roving, cotton fabric, etc. Many of us are making small purses, and some are planning to do small seascapes using the same techniques.

If you missed this meeting, you missed one of the best ones.

HCRAG Library -- Our 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 freyja2@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 other members.

Featured Member Cyndy Duade -- Cyndy Duade is an admired rug hooking instructor especially by those who have an interest in learning the nuances of dyeing wool. Her journey from being a novice to a respected professional began in the 1990s when Cyndy returned to a town in Massachusetts where she had lived 25 years before and where she had maintained friendships. A friend invited her to her home where Cyndy saw others hooking rugs and "fell in love" with hooked rugs. She went home and

immediately designed a pattern, even though she did not have any equipment or supplies needed. Cyndy was not deterred when she learned that the group was “not taking new members.” “I don’t care. I can learn this!” she declared and along with her friend, Sandy, found a store (one and a half hours away) where they bought dyeing equipment and the other supplies needed to begin hooking. “I was determined to learn,” Cyndy recalls. A year later she received a list of the hooking group’s members and saw her name on it. “I guess I am in,” she chuckled to herself. A few years later she was invited by the group to teach a workshop!

Cyndy started to hook with her friend, Sandy, and is basically self-taught. At that time, Rug Hooking Magazine had instructional pages at the end of each issue. With the magazine and a dye book she purchased, Cyndy had all she needed to begin the process of becoming an accomplished rug hooker and instructor. Her desire to make color was there from the beginning. Cyndy recalls that she and Sandy would have wool dyeing days focused on a specific color. On “green day,” they would see what could be achieved with dyeing wool in various shades of green.

Cyndy moved a lot in her life due to the job requirements of her father and then her husband, Russ. At one point she moved back to Cincinnati and remembers going to an exercise class where she saw a partially completed rug in a woman’s bag and learned that the woman was going to a guild meeting above the gym. She followed her to find 30 people hooking rugs! She still maintains friendships with some of those rug hookers.

The desire to improve and to know more compelled Cyndy to seek out other instructors. Since there were no teachers in the Cincinnati area, she attended rug schools in New York State. It was there she met Helen Connelly on Long Island. “She was just brilliant and we became good friends,” Cyndy notes. “She taught me a lot about dyeing wool, often during long phone conversations and occasional visits. Helen was truly my mentor.” Sally Ballinger and Betty McClintic were also early teachers. The need to learn more led her to attend her first McGowan Teachers’ Workshop with Helen’s sponsorship. Attendance at other workshops and schools continued Cyndy’s pattern of ongoing learning. Today as an instructor, she notes that “I learn from my students.”

When it comes to a preferred hooking style, Cyndy “loves it all.” Her natural tendency is being a “realist” but has “fun exploring many styles.” She always has multiple hooking projects underway with various motifs and styles. She needs to keep a balance between the hooking she does for personal enjoyment and the hooking needed for teaching and her classes. “There are tons of things I want to hook, but often need the time to prepare for class.” Cyndy develops her own patterns and enjoys helping her students design their own too. “It starts with helping them ascertain what they are trying to do with a pattern or color plan.”

Our Guild was brought to Cyndy’s attention through a family connection – Cindy Boults and her husband, George, who is Cyndy’s first cousin. When Cindy lived on Long Island, Cyndy taught her to hook during frequent visits. Then George and Cindy moved to New Jersey. After a visit which included a HCRAAG Guild meeting, Cyndy decided that Cindy had found “rug hooking heaven.” She subsequently joined Cindy, Sharon Ballard and Margaret Lutz in informal hooking gatherings when she was visiting in New Jersey. Cyndy has shared her expertise with us as an instructor for a Spring Fling Weekend and for our 2015 Hooking School.

It is Cyndy’s nature to be a teacher. “Teaching comes naturally to me,” she observes and points to her experience as a YMCA Program Director, health fitness instructor at Springfield College and hospital wellness programs. After attending her first McGowan Teachers’ Workshop in 2003, Cyndy continued and became McGowan certified. Her early rug hooking teaching experience started while she was living in Ohio and developed a dye workshop for the local guild and workshops for the Dayton ATHA Chapter.

Cyndy now conducts open studio sessions on Monday afternoon and Tuesday night (for those who work during the day). She has a pot of soup on the stove so students can come straight from work. The ages of her students range from 23 to 86! Cyndy credits Claire de Roos who developed the early Prism Dye books for giving her “my first break.” Claire arranged for Cyndy to teach a winter Teachers’ Workshop. She returned to conduct a hooking retreat. Invitations to teach at guilds and other workshops soon followed. “I love the teaching challenge,” she beams.

Gardening and flower arranging have always been among Cyndy’s avocations. She worked for the Horticulture Society while living in Cincinnati which she discovered stimulated her artistically. She also enjoys cross country skiing and looks forward to an annual skiing and rug hooking week in Waterville Valley, NH. Cyndy and Russ live in New London, New Hampshire. Russ is a retired regional sales vice president for a large insurance company and is a beekeeper. Their daughter, Cheryl, lives in East Granby while her son, Jeremy, lives with Cyndy and Russ while he is a student at Colby Sawyer. They all proudly note that he is an “A” student.

As Cyndy reflects on her rug hooking journey, she recognizes that part of the attraction has been the “opportunity to paint with fabric” more so than she found in her earlier embroidery and crewel yarn work. The ability to create and design with fabric and to help others has been a major driving force in her professional development. “I love being a student too,” Cyndy notes. “I tell my students you never stop learning. Take lots of teachers and try as many things as possible.”

Today rug hooking is increasingly seen as an art form and some rug hookers refer to themselves as *fiber artists* to reinforce the distinction between art and craft. Cyndy points out that “the word *craft* comes from the 18th Century when craftsmen were highly respected artisans in the community and the Guild system produced the finest craftsmen.”

Go to the Featured Member page of our website (www.hcrag.com) to see some Cyndy’s hooked projects.

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina’s Notebook -- **Winter is a Comin' in!** The wind has a nasty nip to it, the trees are bare and the sky is now a pale blue. Bleak and grey days are becoming more frequent. Visions of snow flakes, kids on sleds, cozy fires and wreaths of balsam dance in our heads. Warm, wool clothing has come into our closet, away with the pastels of summer and the cool cotton shirts we love so well. Turtlenecks, boots and down coats are in fashion again. Soups and chowders, root vegetables and hearty stews are the meals of choice.

The holiday season is upon us. Green and red are the colors of choice. Carols play softly in the Mall and the ho ho ho of Santa is in the air. This year it seems that Thanksgiving has been forgotten in the rush to get us thinking about shopping for Christmas.

Regardless of our personal traditions and wishes, there is a buzz of excitement and anticipation. Out come the decorations; family treasures of ancient vintage as well as contemporary additions. Each one is a keepsake for generations to come. Each one carries a special memory. Whether we celebrate in a religious or secular way, the holidays are a time for reflection and gratitude for the many gifts life brings to us throughout the year. As a rug hooking Guild, let us celebrate the gift of creativity that lives within each one of us.

Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays! Feliz Navidad! Nina Seaman

Tips from Heloise – Moth Control Kits -- Cindy Comly who is a professional rug restorer was at our last meeting and shared with Heloise new moth protection products available from Gaylord Archival. Gaylord now has moth lures and traps which attract and destroy moths if they are present. Information on the moth kits can be found by going to www.gaylord.com, clicking on Environmental Control and then on Pest Control. Cindy has found the kits to be effective, but notes “they are not inexpensive.” Contact information for Cindy Comly can be found on the Resources Page of the Guild’s website.

Recipes – Jean Graham’s Quiche – Jean Graham is an accomplished cook as we saw from the tasty quiche she brought to our last picnic luncheon. We thank her for sharing the recipe with us.

Ingredients

- 9” pastry-lined pie plate
- 6-7 slices of bacon fried, drained and crumbled
- 4-5 eggs
- 1 c. heavy cream
- 1 c. 2% or higher milk
- 2 cups medium chopped onions
- 1 ¼ c. Parmesan or Romano cheese, grated
- Dash of Tabasco
- ¼ tsp. nutmeg
- ½ tsp. salt

Preparation

- Pre-bake pastry pie plate for 5 minutes at 425 degrees
- Beat eggs with cream and milk
- Sauté onions in some bacon fat
- Sprinkle some cheese over pastry, about ¼ cup
- Spread onion, then crumbled bacon, then remaining cheeses in plate
- Pour egg mixture with seasonings over all. Optional – sprinkle nutmeg or paprika on top.
- Bake at 400 degrees for 15-20 minutes, reduce oven temperature to 375 degrees and bake another 10-15 minutes. (You may find you need to adjust temperatures for your oven.)

Enjoy!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Blanket Statements: New Quilts by Kaffe Fasset (Exhibit at Michener Art Museum November 14, 2015 to February 21, 2016) -- The Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA is featuring an exhibit of new quilts by Kaffe Fasset and historical quilts from the collection of the Quilt Museum and Gallery, York, England. More information can be obtained by calling the Museum at 215-340-9800 or by going to its website –michenerartmuseum.org.

2016 Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village (August 16-20, 2016) – Outstanding vendors, extensive exhibits, exclusive “Celebration Rugs,” and creative retreats and workshops are all part of Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village. More information is available by going to www.saudervillage.org/RugHookingWeek.

Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter normally meets the first Wednesday of each month (September to June) at the Vermeule Center, 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, NJ at 10:00 a.m. For more information contact Janet Santaniello at 908-754-6787 or flowjans@hotmail.com.

Lamb Yankees ATHA Chapter normally meets the first Saturday of the month (October to June) at the South Branch Reformed Church, Hillsborough, NJ. For more information or to verify meeting dates, contact Kathleen Murray-Boyda at 908-442-0995 or kathmb@hotmail.com. Visit the Lamb Yankees website at www.lambyankees.weebly.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.

Spring Lake ATHA Chapter meets the second Monday of every month from September through May at St. Andrews Methodist Church, 907 Fourth Ave., Spring Lake, NJ 07762 from 10 to 2. For more information visit its website – www.springlakenjatha.org – or contact Barbara Kimbrough at 908-309-3881 or beedkay@gmail.com.

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.

HCRAAG Calendar of Events --

December 4, 2015 – Casual Hooking Day **

**December 11, 2015 – Monthly Meeting – Holiday Luncheon & Copy Festival Raffle Hooked Rug
“Diamond in Bloom” Pattern ***

January 8, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Annual Auction -- Location TBD

January 8-10, 2016 – Annual Rug Hooking Retreat (Flemington Hampton Inn)

February 5, 2016 – Casual Hooking Day **

**February 12, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Designing a Tavern Sign Rug (Karl Gimber) Location
TBD**

March 4, 2016 – Casual Hooking Day **

**March 11, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Rug Hooking Embellishments (Loretta Scena) Location
TBD**

April 1, 2016 – Casual Hooking Day **

April 8, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Rug Finishes Round Robin (Members) Location TBD

May 6, 2016 – Casual Hooking Day **

**May 13, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Field Trip – Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center – Penn
Dry Good Market – Susan Feller Presentation – Kay Leisey/Homespun**

June 3, 2016 – Casual Hooking Day **

June 8, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Summer Luncheon – Location TBD

August 8-12, 2016 – 20th Annual Rug Hooking School – ESC School

August 9, 2016 – Beginners Rug Hooking Workshop – ESC School

*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 a GPS is 314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the building.

** 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 for a GPS is 1Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822-3446.

Guild Officers/Chairs -- Our officers and committee chairs 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 -- Weezie Huntington – 609-477-4339 or weezie711@gmail.com
Therese Shick – 908-735-7985 or etshick@gmail.com.

Vice President – Membership -- Debbie Walsh – 908- 272-7012 or debywalsh1@gmail.com

Director – Communications -- Karl Gimber -- 215-297-0803 or karlg12@verizon.net
Mary Passerello – 908-782-1765 or mpassere@comcast.net

Camp Directors -- Anndee Byers -- 856-829-7179 or anndee@hookandhistory.com
Eleanor Dunker -- 609-267-8704 or eldunker@hotmail.com

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

Hospitality -- Deanna Kinney – 908-832-7587 or deakinn@yahoo.com
Diane Liberto (Transporter) – 908-782-7563 or diane.mannon@yahoo.com

Librarian -- Kathy Donovan – 908-755-1670 or freyja2@verizon.net

Mentoring – Amy Korengut – 908-221-9061 or akorengut@gmail.com.

Programs -- Ellen DiClemente – 908-284-9570 or ergot53@embarqmail.com

Rug Festival -- Therese Shick – 908-735-7985 or etshick@gmail.com.

Secretary -- Open

Special Events – Chris Coslet – 973-962-1884 or chris622@optonline.net

Spring Retreat & Hook-in -- Diane Liberto – 908-782-7563 or diane.mannon@yahoo.com

Sunshine -- Gail Ferdinando -- 908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com

Treasurer -- Jean Laurence -- 610-287-9278 or j_laurence@verizon.net
Dee Rosebrock -- 609-771-0596 or deerosebrock@aol.com

Guild's Email List Policy -- The HCRAG 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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The Loop is the newsletter of the Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG). It is published monthly (September through June). Articles, suggestions or ideas for the newsletter can be submitted to Karl Gimber, P. O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913 or karlg12@verizon.net by the 20th of the month.

HCRAG CLASSIFIEDS

Please submit any items to be included on the Classified Section of “The Loop” to Mary Passerello at mpassere@comcast.net or 908-782-1765 by the 20th of the month prior to when you want the item included. The classified section is refreshed monthly so please resubmit repeat ads. The following information must be included with each submission:

- Description of Item for Sale or Wanted
- Asking Price for sale items
- Contact Information

