

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG) Newsletter

February 2014

Presidents' Letter –Hopefully our February meeting will manage to arrive between snow storms! Thank You to all who braved the unpredictable forecast for our January meeting. It was decided that enough people arrived as the morning progressed to hold a truncated auction. The wool was wonderful the bidding was robust and as always humor and generosity prevailed. And since there are still many items that have been donated we plan to have another auction opportunity at a future meeting. So hold onto the donations you intended to bring as they surely will entice raised hands!

Thanks to all who stepped up and made hospitality possible, especially very appreciated sandwiches that saw us through the afternoon. For most, the meeting was followed by slip-sliding our way to The Hampton Inn for the Annual Retreat. Read further on in The Loop for details of another relaxed winter weekend; uninterrupted hooking except for stories, laughter, massages, guessing games, socks and treats!

The upcoming program will be a presentation of redware by Sharon and Karl. This unique pottery has inspired both collecting and reproduction in other mediums. They will share examples and provide an opportunity to interpret the patterns and colors in planning a hooking project. The Guild will provide drawing paper, red dot, graphic supplies and Jan and Fred Cole will have wool dyed in the famous redware colors available for purchase and or order. We are hoping that both newcomers to pattern creation and old hands will work together to make this a learning experience for all.

Plans for the Spring Fling are being finalized and students will be hearing from their teachers shortly. There are still a few openings – see details in the newsletter.

The bus trip to The Barnes Foundation Museum is filling up as we have opened participation to Guild member spouses. So if there is an interest please contact Sharon Ballard as we will next be offering participation to other guilds. We need a final count for ticket confirmation for The Barnes on April 9th. So if you are considering joining us please keep that final date in mind.

We do hope the one advantage of being snowed in again will be the number of finished projects at our next show and tell. Cindy & Therese

February Meeting – Friday, February 14, 2014 --.Our February 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 of the Complex is 314 State Highway 12, Flemington, NJ 08822 although that does not appear on the road. The meeting runs from 10-2. Guests are always welcome.

Guild Program – Upon arriving from Europe, early American settlers had a need for all sorts of household wares and utensils. Usually these were available only through local potters

whose shops were built on or near natural clay deposits. When fired in the kiln, the items developed a red color; hence the name “redware”. Redware from the 18th and 19th centuries is highly collectable and can still be found at local auctions, antique shops and flea markets. There are also highly skilled contemporary potters who continue the tradition, several of whom have a national following.

Redware plates, bowls, jugs, and flower pots provide interesting images for hooked rug patterns. Sharon Ballard and Karl Gimber will bring redware pieces from their collection to our meeting and these can be used for those who want to design a redware rug. Jan Cole will have suitably colored dyed wool available for your project. Members who wish to participate should bring backing. Sharon will have some extra backing available too.

A brief history of redware will be given along with several books that will provide additional history and many redware images.

Show & Tell – February is the month of RED. Members are encouraged to bring rugs to share that feature this special color. (See Nina Seaman’s Notebook article on page 9 for ideas and inspiration). Current projects are always welcome for S & T. Those who bring rugs to share will be eligible for a door prize.

Hospitality – We thank in advance the following members who have volunteered to bring snacks/treats to the meeting – Cindy Boult, Jean Laurence, Dee Rosebrock, and Janet Santaniello. Your snacks and treats helped make our gatherings more enjoyable.

February Birthdays – Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month - Sharon Ballard (2/10), Barbara Boyko (2/25), Kat Britt (2/15), Ingrid Cosmen (2/25), Shirley Hofling (2/14), Linda Miller (2/11), Robin Perelli (2/14), Dee Rosebrock (2/8), Laurie Rubinetti (2/29), Lib Ryman (2/12) and Janet Santaniello (2/22). Enjoy your day!

Sunshine – One of our new members Camile Buchanan underwent surgery on January 24 and will be recovering for the next six to eight weeks. We wish her a speeding recovery and look forward to seeing her soon.

Karl Gimber had to cancel attending the retreat due to the side effects of what has now been diagnosed as Lyme Disease.

Doug Sardo also missed the retreat due to a severe cold.

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

Historical Exhibit: Hooked on the Presidents -- February 8-27, 2014 Fiber artists Nola Heidbreder and Linda Pietz present a series of 44 rugs depicting the men who took the oath of office as President of the United States. Heidbreder & Pietz present the Presidents as people rather than names we memorize out of history books. Learn more about the likes, dislikes, pets & other fun facts about the Presidents. The exhibit is at the Barron Art Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

Textile/hooks artist Linda Rae Coughlin will be giving a talk about some of the techniques used in the creation of these rugs on Thursday February 20, 2014 at 5:30PM.

4th Annual Woolwrights Spring Hook-in – Saturday March 15, 2014 – The Woolwrights ATHA Chapter is hosting its 4th Spring Hook-in on Saturday, March 15, 2014 from 9 to 4 at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center located at 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA 17601. Registration forms and information can be found at www.woolwrights.com. Registration deadline is March 1, 2014.

Ontario Hooking Craft Guild Annual Rug Show -- Sunday May 25, 2014 -- The Ontario Hooking Craft Guild is hosting its annual rug show on May 25, 2015 from 9:30 to 2:30 at Durham College, Oshawa Ontario. There will be over 600 rugs on display and vendors. The admission fee is \$10.00. For more information, contact Jayne Nevins jnevins@rogers.com. We thank Iris Simpson, one of our favorite camp instructors, for suggesting that the rug show be brought to our attention.

Monthly Meeting Site – 2014 -- Our regular meeting site will not be available in April, June and November due to it being used for activities associated with Hunterdon County's yearlong 300th Birthday celebration. In April and November, we will be meeting at our alternate site -- the Court Room within the Police Station of the Raritan Township Municipal Complex. Other locations are being sought for our annual June picnic meeting. Ideally the site for the picnic will be within 10 miles of our regular location. If you have any ideas, please let Sharon Ballard know.

Book Donated In Memory of Patty Mahaffey – We wish to say “Thank You” to Lydia Brenner for her donation of American Sewn Rugs: Their History With Exceptional Examples by Jan Whitlock and Tracy Jamar. The book was donated in memory of Patty Mahaffey.

The Library Page on our website (www.hcrag.com) has been updated to include the many recent additions. Our extensive collection of books related to rug hooking and other fiber arts is a valuable benefit to Guild members. All you need to do borrow a book is to contact Kathy Donovan, our Librarian, 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 freija2@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.

Barbara Johnson Hooked Rug Collection Auctioned – Kristina “Barbara” Johnson was a passionate collector who started developing her folk art collection in the mid-1960s when she became involved with the Museum of American Folk Art in New York. In the early 1980s, her growing interest in hooked rugs led to her assembling one of the largest collections of hooked rugs in the country. Her passion for hooked rugs led to an exhibit at the Squibb Gallery in Princeton in 1988/1989 along with the publication of American Classics, Hooked Rugs from the Barbara Johnson Collection. Many of her rugs were featured in numerous books devoted to hooked rugs and magazine articles. (We acknowledge the Pook & Pook Auction Catalog for this historical information.)

Most of Barbara Johnson's hooked rug collection was sold at the Pook & Pook Auction located in Downingtown, PA on January 18, 2014. A majority of the rugs sold for

reasonable prices, within or below the pre-sale estimates; a few went for considerably more. While Barbra Johnson was an avid collector, she appears to have paid less attention to how the rugs were mounted. Nails, staples and tacks were clearly visible. The backing on several of the rugs had evidence of water damage. The rugs offered in the sale were found stored away in the servant's quarters at the Johnson estate in Princeton. Perhaps they suffered water damage while in storage.

One of the more curious rugs had a braided rug border but was mounted with the back of the hooked rug to the front. Presumably, the front of the rug was heavily faded and therefore mounted face down.

Barbara Johnson's folk art collection and several addition hooked rugs, presumably her better ones, were sold at a Sotheby's auction on January 25, 2014.

The Pook & Pook auction catalog, American Classics and auction price information will be available for perusal at the February meeting.

Guild's 2014 Demonstration Schedule -- Educating and informing the public about traditional rug hooking is one of the objectives of our Guild. Demonstrating rug hooking at local events is the major way in which we fulfill this objective. Our participation not only helps promote rug hooking and our Guild, but also helps support local organizations and historical sites. The current schedule is shown below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
April 12	Peter Wentz Farmstead (Worcester, PA)	Karl Gimber/ Joanne McIllmurray
May *	Howell Living Farm (Lambertville, NJ)	Karl Gimber
May 10	N.J. State History Fair (Titusville, NJ)	Joyce Combs
August 2 & 3	Mercer County 4-H Fair (Howell Living Farm)	Karl Gimber
August 21-25	Hunterdon County 4-H Fair (Ringoos, NJ)	D. Rosebrock
September 6 & 7	Sheep & Fiber Festival (Ringoos, NJ)	G. Meader
September 20	Historical Fall Festival (Hilltown, PA)	Karl Gimber
October 4	Apple Butter Frolic (Mennonite Heritage Center)	Joanne McIllmurray
October *	Colonial Market Day (Newtown, PA)	Lydia Lewis
October *	Howell Living Farm (Lambertville, NJ)	Carol Kindt

* Date not yet established

All members are encouraged to assist in our demonstration efforts. You can participate for an hour or two or for the entire day. It is a satisfying activity to share our commitment to rug hooking with others. Please contact the coordinators for information on how you can help.

Time to Start Thinking About Election of Officers/Chairs -- Our by-laws call for the election of officers at our April meeting. The election of new officers/chairs is a

healthy process of renewal that provides for new energy and fresh ideas. Many of our current officers/chairs have served in their roles for over two years and it is expected they are now anticipating stepping down.

All members should consider how they can contribute to the ongoing success of our Guild. Please look at the list of positions found at the end of the newsletter and let Therese or Cindy know of the positions in which you have interest in serving or for which you need more information. You can also approach the incumbents with questions.

Bus Trip To Barnes Foundation Museum -- May 9, 2014 -- Spouses are invited to join members for our bus trip to the Barnes Foundation Museum in Philadelphia on May 9, the day of our May meeting. Participants need to only pay the museum admission fee (\$30), which includes an audio tour cassette. The cost of the bus rental and driver gratuity will be paid by the Guild. Weezie Huntington will begin collecting for the trip at the February meeting. Checks should be made payable to HCRAG.

After departing from the Hunterdon County Library parking lot, the first stop will be Philadelphia's historic Reading Terminal Market where members will have an exhilarating choice of luncheon selections. The Market has often been called a "gastronomic bazaar" with more than 80 merchants. For more information, go to www.readingterminalmarket.org.

After lunch, the group will proceed to the Barnes Foundation Museum. The Barnes Foundation was established in 1922 to "promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of the fine arts and horticulture." The Barnes holds one of the finest collections of Post-Impressionist and early Modern paintings, Old Master paintings, important examples of African sculpture and Native American ceramics, jewelry and textiles, American paintings and decorative arts and antiquities from the Mediterranean region and Asia. Visit its website -- www.barnesfoundations.org – for more information.

Spring Fling (March 28-30, 2014 & March 31– April 1 & 2, 2014) – There is still room in the color wheel class with Norma Batastini (March 28 - 30) and a few slots in the Monday/Tuesday (April 1 & 2) class with Betsy Reed. We will be making these available to people in other local guilds, so sign up now if you want to attend.

Norma's Workshop -- Exploring Color, A Hands-On Approach -- The workshop will be an in-depth look at color theory. We will explore two color wheels and the many color harmonies that are possible. With this knowledge, students will color plan a small pattern and begin hooking. Each student will have a kit of materials to work with (Cost about \$55) that will include dyed color swatches, pattern and other tools. Wool for the pattern will be extra. Students may purchase wool or bring some from home. There will be three pattern choices: fish decoy, pineapple or owl. Students will be contacted before class for pattern selection and other supplies to bring to class.

Betsy's Workshop – Betsy will be offering workshops on "ripped" wool...as wide as it gets! Many saw her examples at the Hooked Rug Festival. These classes for torn strips will be using a simple styled motif pattern. You can draw your own pattern or use a pattern from another designer. Betsy will have a variety of patterns available ranging in price from \$20.00 and up. She will have designs in hearts, cats, pumpkins, crows, horses and geometrics. Pictures of patterns are available. You should bring wools you think you would like to use up. Betsy will also be bringing wool for you.

The registration fee is \$150 for members and \$175 for nonmembers. We would appreciate final payment for the class in the coming month. Checks made out to HCrag should be sent to Cindy Bouts, the event coordinator..

Participants can commute or stay overnight at the Flemington Hampton Inn. A discounted room rate of \$119 is available to those who will be staying over but the lock on the room rates will be removed by the end of February. A reservation can be made and held with a credit card but not charged until the event by calling the Hampton Inn at 908-284-9427 and mentioning our Guild.

2014 Rug Hooking Camp -- Our 18th annual rug hooking camp will be held on August 11-15, 2014 at the ESC School in Lambertville, NJ for what promises to be a stimulating week of rug hooking. We will have four instructors this year -- Jayne Hester, Liz Marino, Carrie Martin, and Anita White.

At the present time there are two openings with Liz and Anita; the other workshops are currently full. HOWEVER, our past experience has shown that cancellations develop between now and August, so anyone who hopes to attend should get on the waiting list by contacting Eleanor Dunker, Camp Co-Director.

Details on the workshops and the registration process can be found on the Guild's website (www.hcrag.com).

Questions should be directed to Camp Directors Anndee Byers (856-829-7179 or Anndee@hookandhistory.com) or Eleanor Dunker (609-267-8704 or eldunker@hotmail.com).

Attend Camp Free -- Members who provide housing for a camp instructor attend camp free. 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.

Housing is needed for Carrie Martin. If you have interest in providing housing, let Camp Directors Anndee Byers or Eleanor Dunker know and attend camp free.

Annual Retreat a Success Amid Nasty Weather – While the unexpected snow made getting to the January meeting a challenge, it did not deter our retreaters from enjoying a weekend hooking at the Hampton Inn in Flemington. In fact, the inclement weather made it more enjoyable to be warm inside with lots of treats brought by participants, hot coffee and tea provided by Hampton Inn, and the camaraderie of being with other rug hookers.

According to Weezie Huntington, our retreat coordinator, “The retreat was a resounding success despite people dropping like flies in the 48 hours before it began. Everyone had a valid medical reason, ranging from shingles to a terrible cold to surgery. At the most, we would have had 47 people, but we ended up with ‘only’ 39. Rugs were started, rugs were finished, food was abundant, laughter was long and loud, and massages were awesome. I cannot say enough good things about the weekend. We missed those of you who could not be there, and we are looking forward to next year's event.”

There are quite a few members who attend each year and some who were there for the first time. Mary Passerello was one who attended for the first time. She shared that “The retreat was great. I really got to know more of the Guild members and was able to see what they were working on. We really have many talented artists. I was able to get many good tips on cutting and storing wool as well as techniques. On Saturday Joyce's friend Marilyn came with her stash of wools (unfortunately she can no longer rug hook because of a problem with her hand). Many of the members were able to increase their stash and supplies with the items she was selling. I was able to get a fabulous stash of gold tones for my project that I am working on. It is a pattern called "Cowardly Lion and Cocky Lamb" designed by the "Two Old Crows" shop. I saw the finished rug at the Mill show and decided I wanted to hook it. I'm making great progress with all the shading and detailing. I think rug hooking has me permanently hooked!”

The “Guess the Number of Worms” contest and the “Crazy Socks Lottery” added elements of entertainment. Dona Kolznak organized the worm contest and explains that “Everyone who participated gave a handful of worms. I counted them and put them in a container. Then on Saturday everyone guessed how many there were. There were 445. Paula Patty won with 472. She won a Lamb Yankee's Dye Book, wool for dyeing and cording for whipping. Joyce Combs won wool for her guess of 477. A prize was also given for the person who guessed below the 445 and that went to Juliana Kapusta . She also was given wool. The Dye Book was donated by Lamb Yankee's ATHA Chapter and the wool by Jan Cole (Wool ‘n Gardener)”.

Betsy Warner organized the “Crazy Socks” lottery. She notes that “Anyone who wore ‘crazy’ socks to the retreat participated in a drawing. The first person received a crazy sock scarf. The next two received hand-dyed wool donated by Jan and Fred Cole of The Wool 'n Gardener in Emmaus, PA.”

A group photo of the participants and a photo of the crazy socks will appear on the Guild’s website.

Featured Member – Annie Edwards – At her core Annie Edwards is an artist which influences how she approaches her work as a photo stylist and garden designer and how she approaches rug hooking. As a freelance photo stylist, Annie is responsible for obtaining all that is needed and creates a product display ready for the photographer’s camera. Her goal is to make the product beautiful and appealing. Her clients include national and international consumer product companies. We have seen Annie work her magic when she sets up our exhibits at local libraries, our demonstration set-ups and, of course, at the Hooked Rug Festival where she created the Boutique display.

Annie first learned about rug hooking in late 2009 when she discovered a copy of Rug Hooking Magazine at the Doylestown Library. (Interestingly, our Guild provided the magazine subscription.) She went online to look for the guilds in the area and found HCRAG to be the closest to her home in Bucks County. From there, Annie contacted Weezie Huntington who was the Guild’s President at the time. Weezie invited her to attend the January meeting and encouraged her to also attend our retreat. Before coming to the retreat, Annie learned of Gail Dufresne and attended one of her open studio sessions to learn how to hook a few loops and get supplies. After hooking a few rows, Gail declared “Ok, you’ve got it, you can do it now!” With that brief orientation to rug hooking, Annie went to the retreat.

When it comes to her hooking, Annie likes to challenge herself. She does not think of hooking styles although she is open to any style or technique. She likes to work with thin cuts because of the detail that can be achieved and “to put in a small piece here and there for a bit of color”.

Annie is basically self-taught; she is not one to attend classes or workshops. She has gone to two open studio sessions, but they were not for her. Annie admits that she has “an aversion to being told what to do when it comes to her artwork. I prefer to watch others, listen and ask questions. Not knowing how to do something is better for me because it makes me think it through to find the answer.”

Annie does not hook at home noting that “At this point of life, I do not have the time and would feel guilty. My hooking is done only when I am around other people.” Annie is a member of the Wool Whisperers, has been a regular at the annual HCRAAG retreat, and the Old Rock Hooking Retreat. She worked feverously to complete her first rug in time to have it exhibited at the Hooked Rug Festival.

New and recycled wool are used in Annie’s hooking. Her wool comes from local thrift stores and local suppliers. Presently, she has no interest in dyeing wool because “it would take me too long to get it right”. In addition, Annie’s busy schedule does not allow the time. Wools from her mother’s and mother-in law’s skirts were used in her rug. Annie also buys wool from Judith Dalleget who is a rug hooking teacher and painter living in Montreal. Whenever Annie goes home to see her father, she stops to chat and buy wool from Judith.

The pattern for Annie’s first rug was inspired by a photo of her chickens. Basic lines were drawn on the rug backing with enough detail in the small spots. Hooking the chicken heads were especially challenging. Annie notes “I hooked and rehooked them multiple times until I finally got it right. I am very picky and will not let it not be right in my eyes. Members of the Guild pushed me to do it right.” Annie’s next rug will be another challenge for her. She will be hooking the face for a working clock. The design for the face of the clock is adapted from an old compass. Work on this project started at the Guild’s last retreat.

When her work schedule permits, Annie attends most HCRAAG meetings. She notes that “I like being around the people. They motivate me and my discipline is stronger as a result.” Annie observed how members who have been very ill continued to come to meetings because they wanted to be there. There is “lots of love.”

In addition to her work as a photo stylist, Annie designs and maintains gardens in Bucks County, Philadelphia, New York City, Brooklyn and New Jersey. She continues to develop her artistic skills with classes at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts. She is currently taking classes on drawing portraits using charcoal and pencil. Annie has also worked on printmaking and etching. Her work has been exhibited at a local art show.

Annie was born in Montreal, Canada and at the age of 19 went out on her own as a window display artist. After a year and a half, she came to the conclusion that she needed a larger venue for her profession and moved to New York City “in seek of adventure”. In 2011, Annie became a US citizen. She and her husband, Justin, live in Carversville, PA along with their two sons, Jasper and Ian, their dog, Kylie, and a flock of heirloom chickens. Justin is a builder who is currently the building manager of a project in Philadelphia to convert a church into a home. Jasper, age 21, is an engineering student at Bucks County Community College. Ian, age 17, is in high school and has a strong interest in geology. Annie jokes that her husband and sons are smart, and strong in

the sciences and mathematics while she is the creative one in the family.

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina's Notebook –February is the month of RED! Everywhere I see hearts, Valentines, chocolates covered with red foil, cards declaring love in big red letters, even the Super Bowl is on the billboards with the numbers in red. What a great color to cheer us up when the outside world has turned to white, but even then we give the snowman a big red scarf. You can't escape the red.

Right now I am working on a folk art rug with the title "The Sisterhood of the Bitten Tongue". How many times have you stopped yourself from saying the words you know will help, but the person hearing them would be offended or angry, so what do you do? You bite your tongue! So I am exploring many shades of red from burgundy to orange and back again. There are many challenges to using red. What do you use for a background? How many shades can you use? Do you want muted reds, over dyed reds, spot dyed reds? The possibilities are endless. One of my favorite red rugs is a hit or miss runner with many shades and compliments. Ask Tracey Fetzer about it.

Red makes you feel warm in a time of cold. So think about a red mat for this time of year. Don't be afraid to experiment. Valentine's Day is a great time to gift your sweeties with a small or large red rug with some of your favorite memories. Or a simple heart and "I love you" will bring joy to the heart of one receiving it!

So happy hooking...and make it RED! Nina Seaman

Ideas from Joyce Comb's Dye Pot – Dyeing to the Core – Joyce recently received the following question: "Sometimes when I cut wool that I've dyed, the color has not gone all the way into the wool. How can I make sure the dye penetrates to the core?"

Joyce's Answer: Dyeing needs the following: heat, water, wool, dye and a setting agent. Wool repels water, so it needs to be thoroughly wet before dyeing. To get the wool to absorb water use a wetting agent such as jet dry or synthrapol and let the wool soak for at least an hour before you start to dye. If you use detergent, soak the wool overnight. After adding the dye formula that you have chosen, your wool should be steamed or cooked at just below the boiling point for at least 30 minutes and then add your setting agent (either white vinegar or citrus acid) to set the color and cook for another 15 minutes. Watch to see when the dye color clears from the water. Sometimes if you have used more dye than you needed or if you are using a very intense color, the water will not clear entirely. If this happens first try a little more setting agent, if that does not work turn off the heat and let the wool cool in the pan. This extra step lets more dye absorb into the wool. Then rinse out the wool and dry.

Note: This article is taken from the April 2009 issue of The Loop.

Tips From Heloise – Preserving Your Wool Stash -- An article entitled "Preserving Your Textile Treasures" has been brought to Heloise's attention. The article appears in the February 2014 issue of Early American Life and provides advice from museum textile curators. One segment of the article deals with insects and their eggs. Heloise has previously commented on the importance of protecting our wool stash from moths.

However, we are reproducing below the professional advice provided by textile curator Linda Eaton of Winterthur Museum because of her expertise on the subject.

Eaton recommends “Take your interlopers on a little vacation to the North Pole. Eaton’s art treatment starts with putting your fabric in a plastic bag and sealing it with tape to lock in the critters. Then plunge the bag into your freezer – a domestic freezer is fine as long as it is not over filled.Most important is getting the temperature as low as possible – the target is minus 20 degrees – as fast as possible so that the insects don’t have time to adapt to the cold.

“Leave the fabric in the cold for three to five days, then slowly bring it back to room temperature. Then put it back for a fast freeze for another three to five days. Again, slowly warm the fabric to room temperature.”

Recipes – Our December Holiday Potluck Luncheon meeting is always a highlight of the year and a gastronomic treat. Lydia Lewis’ **Red Velvet Raspberry Roulade** was a standout and attracted much attention. Lydia has shared her recipe so that we can all enjoy it.

Ingredients

1 box angel food cake mix
2 egg whites
1/4 cup cocoa powder
2 Tbs. red food coloring
6 cups powdered sugar
1 pkg. cream cheese- at room temp
1 lemon zest end & juice
1 cup raspberries

- Heat oven 350
- Combine first 4 ingredients & 1 1/4 cups water
- Mix as package directs
- Pour into 11x17" parchment lined jelly roll pan that has been sprayed to hold paper down.
- Bake 10 minutes or until done.
- Let cool 5 minutes - run knife around edges; and invert onto a towel (I put extra powdered sugar on towel.)
- Remove paper and starting at narrow end- roll into a log with towel
- Let cool
- With mixer beat next 3 ingredients, 1 Tbs. lemon juice & 1 tsp. lemon zest until smooth
- stir in berries.
- Unroll cake & spread with filling.
- Re- roll.
- Powdered sugar on top!

Enjoy!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

4th Annual Woolwrights Spring Hook-in – Saturday March 15, 2014 – The Woolwrights ATHA Chapter is hosting its 4th Spring Hook-in on Saturday, March 15, 2014 from 9 to 4 at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center located at 1383 Arcadia Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601. Registration forms and information can be found at www.woolwrights.com. Registration deadline is March 1, 2014.

Ontario Hooking Craft Guild Annual Rug Show -- Sunday May 25, 2014 -- The Ontario Hooking Craft Guild is hosting its annual rug show on May 25, 2015 from 9:30 to 2:30 at Durham College, Oshawa Ontario. There will be over 600 rugs on display and vendors. The admission fee is \$10.00. For more information, contact Jayne Nevins jnevins@rogers.com.

2014 Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village -- August 12 – 16, 2014 -- Retreats, workshops, exhibits and vendors are all part of the experience of Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village in Archbold, Ohio. This is one of the largest rug hooking events in the country. Call 800-590-9735 or go to www.saudervillage.org for details.

Hooked in the Mountains XVII – October 15-19, 2014 – An exhibition of hooked rugs and fiber arts sponsored by the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild will be held on October 15-19, 2014 at their new location, the Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction, VT. For details visit the guild's website –www.gmrhg.org.

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.

HCRAG Calendar of Events

February 14, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Creating & Hooking Redware Pattern (Sharon Ballard, Jan Cole & Karl Gimber) *

March 14, 2014 – Monthly Meeting -- Rugs That Tell a Story *

March 28-30 & April 1 & 2, 2014 – Spring Fling, Hampton Inn, Flemington, NJ

April 11, 2014-- Monthly Meeting – Round Robin (Members with hooking businesses) **

The Loop is the newsletter of the Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG). 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.