

## **THE LOOP**

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

January 2009

**From the President's Corner** – Earlier this year one of our new members suggested that the Guild consider conducting a week-end workshop similar to the ones once offered by the Highlands Rug Hooking School. Upon reflection, we realized that our experience running summer camps, hooking retreats and hook-ins gave us the organizational and administrative experience needed to do this. We increasingly were getting to know and be known by the top instructors in the northeast and we are familiar with many of the possible workshop sites. An informal survey at one of our meetings indicated support for what we are now calling the Spring Fling. The most challenging part was finding a time that worked for the Guild and the instructors who were suggested. We are so pleased that Jayne Hester and Michele Micarelli are able to be with us for our first week-end workshop. Some members are precluded from attending events that take place during the week, so we are especially pleased to provide a week-end opportunity to work with two fabulous rug hooking instructors. Both Jayne and Michele have been instructors at past Guild rug hooking camps. Perhaps the Spring Fling will become another HCRAG annual tradition.

As we turn the page on the calendar to 2009, it is time for our New Year's resolutions. Do not forget to include the Guild in your rug hooking resolutions. Consider ideas that will allow you to develop as a rug hooking artisan and ideas for helping the Guild.

Happy New Year and keep on hooking! -- Weezie

**January Meeting – January 8, 2009** – The January meeting will be held at our regular location, the Hunterdon County Complex on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington from 10:00 to 2:00..

**Guild Program** – Our annual White Elephant Sale and Auction is a major fundraiser for the Guild. Bring quality items you are willing to donate. They do not have to be related to rug hooking, although hooking things do sell well. Items hooked by Guild members are always valued, so consider donating one of your earlier projects. Of course, bring your check books so that you will be prepared and able to bid and buy enthusiastically. It will be a fun and lively event with Sharon Ballard serving as the auctioneer. Part of the auction will be silent and part loud and raucous. Your participation is a great way to support our Guild - by recycling – by bidding -- by buying – by cheering on the bidders.

**Show & Tell** – Bring rugs/mats with a seasonal theme, your current project or something you completed in 2008. Members often comment on the inspiration they receive from seeing the work being done by others in the Guild. The “show & tell” portion of the meeting is important, so please share your work with the Guild.

**Hospitality** – We are indebted to all who brought the wonderful food to our potluck luncheon. We had a feast! Claudia Casebolt's Taco Carnival Casserole recipe appears later in this issue.

Gail Ferdinando, Amy Foregut and Debbie Walsh volunteered to provide the treats for the January meeting. Thank you in advance! Having coffee and snacks at our meetings makes such a difference!

**Membership** – An updated membership list has been sent to the Guild. It reflects all members as of December 2008. Jamie Gateman has a new email address – [jgigi6@gmail.com](mailto:jgigi6@gmail.com).

**Let the Sun Shine** – Founding member Virginia Sutton slipped and fell on her icy porch and broke several ribs. We wish her a speedy recovery. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to Weezie Huntington who lost her father in the past month.

**January Birthdays** – Happy Birthday wishes go to Sandy Barman (1/17), Trish Becker (1/24), Joyce Combs (1/15), Lois Grieves (1/14), Janet Kovach (1/19), Jacqueline Lee (1/6) and Kitty Platt (1/9). Enjoy your special day!

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

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

The cost of the trip is \$20 for members (\$30 for non-members), which includes museum admission, a one hour tour, access to all exhibits, a tip for the bus driver and incidental expenses. Husbands who have assisted with past Guild events can participate at the member rate. Kitty Platt will begin accepting reservations at the February meeting. Connie Coleman will again be serving as the coordinator for the day and will assure that nobody is left at the Flemington or Winterthur parking lots.

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

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

**Third Annual Rug Hooking Retreat – January 9-11 2009** – Following the January meeting, those participating in the retreat will migrate to the Hampton Inn to begin a relaxing week-end of rug hooking. Participants are asked to bring their favorite snack or treat to share with the others. The team of Debbie Ferdinando, Kitty Platt and Debbie Walsh have worked hard to assure that fun will be had by all.

**HCRA Rug Hooking Camp – August 10-14, 2009** – We continue to accept reservations for our 13<sup>th</sup> annual rug hooking camp. Judy Quintman's workshop is fully booked with two members

on the waiting list. There are still openings with Sandra Brown and Abby Vakay. Information on the three instructors appeared in the October and November issues of The Loop.

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

A scholarship for attending camp is available from the Madeline Brightbill Camp Scholarship Fund. The criteria for the scholarship are very broad. It can be used to recognize a member who has made an important contribution to the Guild, for someone who would not attend otherwise, to recognize a long time member or to welcome a new member. Nominations should be submitted to Weezie Huntington, who chairs the Scholarship Committee, by March 13, 2009. Contributions to the fund can be made by sending a check made payable to HCRAAG to Guild Treasurer, Gisele Meader, at 74 Barry Road, Lambertville, NJ 08530.

**Jayne Hester and Michele Micarelli to Lead Spring Fling Workshops** –The Guild’s first Spring Fling is scheduled for the weekend of March 20-22, 2009 at the Hampton Inn in Flemington, NJ. This week-end event is a wonderful opportunity for those who are unable to attend our week long rug hooking camp to work with fabulous instructors. The details are shown below.

**Date:** March 20-22, 2009

**Location:** Flemington Hampton Inn

Discounted room rate for those who want to stay over night -- Call Hampton Inn (908-284-9427) to make reservations and mention the Guild

**Instructors:** Jayne Hester & Michele Micarelli

**Workshop Size:** 15 each

**Meals/Snacks** – Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided. Participants can bring their lunch or take advantage of the many local restaurants.

**Cost:** \$150 with \$25 non refundable deposit required at time of registration. Balance due at the February meeting.

**Schedule:** Friday, March 20 – wine/cheese reception and meeting with instructors (5-7 pm)  
Saturday, March 21 -- workshop (9-4:30)  
Sunday, March 22 -- workshop (8:30-3:30)

To register, just send a \$25 check made payable to HCRAAG to Karl Gimber at P.O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913 along with a note indicating the instructor with whom you want to work.

**Holiday Greetings from Tokyo** -- Kanon Kimura, who attended our camp last summer, sent holiday wishes to the Guild and again expressed her appreciation for the warm welcome and assistance she was given during her stay in Lambertville.

**Meet Our Members – Mary Jo & Karl Gimber** -- Mary Jo and Karl Gimber have admired the decorative arts from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries for as long as they can remember. Their formal introduction to hooked rugs came in 2003 when they purchased a Christmas mat at a local auction. It turned out that Edith Prundeanu, who hooked the mat, was at the auction and introduced herself. They learned that Edith was about to start a beginners’ workshop at the Mercer Museum in Doylestown. Both signed up. “Edith was a perfect instructor for us” says Mary Jo. “She was supportive and encouraging and had few hard and fast rules.”

Mary Jo and Karl work as a team. While they both hook, Mary Jo designs most of their rugs and Karl does most of the hooking. They do not use commercial patterns. Both are attracted to primitive style rugs and hook with cuts ranging from #6 to #9 with an occasional #4 or #5 cut used for detailing or outlining. They work almost exclusively with recycled "as is" wool. Karl volunteers at a local thrift store where he finds many of the woolen garments that end up in their rugs. He and Mary Jo regularly visit several other thrift stores in the search for old woolen garments. The Lambertville Flea Market is another favorite source for them.

Guild member Margaret Brightbill spent an afternoon teaching them the fundamentals of dyeing wool. Mary Jo will occasionally pull out the dye equipment and spend an afternoon dyeing wool, sometimes with a specific project in mind. Last year they were given some new wool that had already been dyed and cut into strips. They are always tempted by the beautiful new wool they see when attending hook-ins and workshops.

Neither Mary Jo nor Karl attend many classes, but they have attended a few open studio sessions, week-end workshops at the Highlands and HCRAG summer camps. In 2006, they participated in the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild workshops at Shelburne Museum. They have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Gail Dufresne, Susan Feller, Lucille Festa, Rae Harrell, Jayne Hester, Karen Kahle, Kay Levan, Michele Micarelli, Jule Marie Smith and Helen Woffel. They both feel privileged to be able to learn from such talented and knowledgeable instructors.

The Gimber's interest in early American history is reflected in the rugs they design and hook. Mary Jo and Karl have been working on a series of rugs adapted from old tavern, trade and farm signs. (They have completed over 50 rugs so far.) Sometimes they find an image of an old sign that Mary Jo adapts for the rug pattern. Other times, they come across only the tavern name and Mary Jo creates the design. Books on old taverns and folk art are often used as sources. Auction catalogs and publications dealing with antiques have also been rich resources for them. Karl enjoys searching out tavern names. When visiting museums and historical sites, he often spends time in their libraries researching new ideas. They are especially looking for tavern names that are in the form of a rebus or with an interesting story. "There are a lot of taverns named after the owners such as "Smith's Inn" that do not lend themselves to a creative image." notes Karl.

When looking at the projects they hook, Karl observes that "Mary Jo needs more variation in style, subject matter and technique than I do. I am pretty fixed (and content) in what I want to do. Mary Jo likes to experiment. She does traditional rug hooking, proddy, sculpting, regular punch-needle and miniature punch-needle."

Karl tries to hook every day. He routinely sits down to watch the news in the late afternoon or early evening and starts his hooking for the day. He normally hooks 2-4 hours a day. If the weather is inclement and prevents him from doing outside work, he may start to hook earlier in the day. Mary Jo has periods when she hooks a lot and periods when her time is devoted to her other creative activities. When she is in a rug hooking mode, her routine is similar to Karl's.

HCRAG was first mentioned to the Gimbbers by Margaret Brightbill. Mary Jo and Karl were impressed by the Guild's sampler project that Margaret was working on. Mary Jo attended the November 2003 meeting and asked whether the Guild was receptive to having a male member. The Guild president and members responded "Yes!" Karl came to the December holiday luncheon with Mary Jo and has not missed a meeting since! He says that he "likes being with people who share his interest in hooking rugs and learns and is inspired by what others are doing." Both Mary Jo and Karl have supported the Guild in many ways. Mary Jo served as Vice

President and Program Director from 2006 to early 2008. During her tenure, she began the annual hooking retreat, organized a successful hook-in and planned many new and creative programs. She also organized and installed multiple rug shows in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, which included festival/fair, library and museum venues. Karl produces the Guild's newsletter, The Loop, and handles PR and other administrative functions. He also demonstrates at several local festivals. Mary Jo and Karl have enjoyed hosting teachers while in the area teaching at camps and workshops. They are also members of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild and the Goat Hill ATHA Chapter where they will be speaking in January.

The Gimbbers do not sell their rugs, but do enjoy exhibiting and talking about them. Several of their creations have been on display at the year long juried exhibit at the Lancaster Heritage Center in Lancaster in 2008. They have donated rugs for fundraising efforts for local museums and historical societies. Mary Jo and Karl have been invited to talk about their rugs at Guilds in Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont and West Virginia as well as at local historical/civic groups. Their rugs were featured in the June/July/August 2006 issue of Rug Hooking Magazine and are included in Contemporary Hooked Rugs by Linda Rae Coughlin, Hooked Rugs Today by Amy Oxford and Rags to Rugs by Patricia Herr.

Mary Jo and Karl have many interests in common and others they pursue on their own. They both enjoy early American history and the decorative arts of the period, travelling, antiquing and flea marketing. Mary Jo has been involved with art and textiles since childhood. She attended Saturday art classes at the Cincinnati Art Museum where she learned drawing and sculpting in clay. Her interests include quilt history, Pennsylvania German arts and culture, art history, drawing and painting (oil, pastel, mixed media and watercolors). She is a juried member of the Historical Society of Early American Decoration (HSEAD). Karl has a strong interest in the period of the American Revolution and has been collecting books on the subject for over 30 years. He volunteers at local historical sites where he gives tavern tours and portrays the fictional character Pliny Freeman, who now in his 60s recalls when he was a 12 year old drummer boy with General George Washington at the crossing of the Delaware River prior to the Battle of Trenton in 1776. Karl also portrays the role of a Pennsylvania German itinerant peddler "Liniment Renninger" at several Pennsylvania German festivals.

The couple met in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1962 while Karl was in one year training program following graduation from Muhlenberg College. At the end of the year, he went into active duty with the Army Reserves and Mary Jo moved to Fort Worth, Texas to train as a stewardess with American Airlines. Both were reassigned to Long Island and were married in 1964. After graduation from Goddard College in Vermont, Mary Jo began to exhibit her art regionally and nationally. Her work received many prizes and is included in corporate, public and private collections including the Cincinnati Museum of Art and New York Public Library Print Collection. Karl worked for a major insurance company until 1983 when he joined a human resources consulting firm in New York City. The couple relocated to Bucks County in the early 1970s. Karl continued to commute to New York until he retired in 1997. Their daughter, Jennifer, lives in Concord, Massachusetts with her husband, Dave, and 15 month old daughter, Kate. Last year Mary Jo designed a rug that Karl hooked as a gift to celebrate Kate's baptism. Mary Jo, Karl and their two cats – Muffin and Rootie Tootie – live in Carversville, PA.

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

### **Claudia Casebolt's Taco Carnival Casserole Recipe from Holiday Luncheon --**

Claudia brought a wonderful casserole to our potluck luncheon last month. Many wanted her recipe.

16 Oz. Package Frozen Corn  
2 Lbs. Ground Turkey or Beef  
½ C. Chopped Onion  
1 ½ Oz. Package of Taco Seasoning  
1 C. Water  
10 Oz. Can of Enchilada Sauce  
2 C. Shredded Cheddar Cheese  
6 Oz. Bag of Corn Chips

Cook corn according to package directions only until thawed. Brown ground meat with onion, drain off any excess fat. Add taco seasoning and water, simmer 10 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in corn. Sprinkle 1/3 of corn chips in the bottom of a 2 quart casserole (or a 9 X 9 baking dish). Add half of the meat mixture, top with half of the enchilada sauce and sprinkle with half of the cheese. Repeat each layer ending with cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Top with last third of corn chips and bake another 5 minutes.

**Using Recycled Garments for Hooking Rugs** -- Recycling garments for use in hooking rugs is an ideal way to extend the use of clothing and provide an inexpensive source of wool. Thrift stores, flea markets and rummage sales can be productive sources of old garments.

Wool or Blends? -- Most rug hookers prefer to work with 100% wool. Some will use an 80% - 20 % blend if the garment is a special or hard to find color.

Most often the garment will have a label that shows the fabric content. If there is no label and you are unsure, there is an easy test you can use. Bleach dissolves wool, so put a piece of the fabric in a small container of bleach. It will dissolve overnight (or sooner) if it is 100% wool. If it is 100% synthetic fiber, the bleach will do nothing to the fabric. If the fabric is a blend, the wool will dissolve.

Another test that can be used is to take a small piece of fabric and burn it with a match. If it is wool, it will smolder and leave a soft ash. If the fabric is synthetic, the fabric will leave a hard residue and give off the smell of burning plastic.

With experience you can also tell by the sound of ripping the fabric. Wool rips with a soft sound while synthetic fabrics have a harsher sound.

There's Wool and There's Wool -- Wool garments vary in thickness. Avoid thin wool such as what is generally used in men's suits and trousers. The wool in overcoats is normally too thick, although it may be useable if you are hooking in a narrow cut (#3 or #4). A tight weave will hook better than a loose weave which often frays. With experience you will get the feel of what wool hooks and looks best.

What Garments are Best? -- Skirts provide the most wool with minimum waste. Pleated skirts are the best, but it does take time to open up the pleats. You can find some wonderful plaid and textured fabrics in wool skirts! Pants also produce minimum waste. Blazers and sport coats can be the source of great tweeds and herringbones, but the amount of wool in the garments is less.

You basically get the sleeves and back panel. In some cases you can use the front panels too (see below). Wool scarves are another good source and an easy one to process with virtually no waste. Wool blankets can be used if they are not too heavy.

How to Process Your Woolen Finds -- When buying used garments from thrift stores, flea markets or rummage sales, it is important to wash them before you do anything else with them. You have no idea where the garment has been or whether it may contain moth eggs. Do not bring the garments into the house until you are ready to wash them.

The first thing to do is wash the garments in the washing machine using warm water and regular laundry detergent. Washing removes dirt, dry cleaning chemicals and any insect eggs. The fiber may also tighten somewhat depending on the wool. If you wash the garment before taking it apart, it eliminates fraying at the cut edges.

Some prefer to disassemble the garment first. The front of sport coats and blazers are normally lined with an interlining that helps maintain the shape of the garment. In some older sport coats, the adhesive may be very dry and the interlining can easily be pulled off. That allows you to use the front as well. In newer garments, the facing can be removed too, but it is a lot more work. A residue remains on the wool after pulling off the interlining but some, if not all, will come off in the washing.

After washing, put the garment in the clothes dryer (normal cycle) with a fabric softener sheet. Drying can produce a lot of lint depending on the fabric, so it is best to check periodically and remove excess lint from your dryer.

The next step is to disassemble the garment. In the process, you can salvage the buttons and skirt linings. The buttons can be used to replace missing ones and for other craft projects. Skirt linings can be used to dye and marleize wool (see next article.) It is not necessary to take the time to cut open the seams. For a skirt, cut off the waistband, remove the zipper, remove the lining, cut off the hem and open any pleats. The process is similar for trousers. It takes more time to disassemble a blazer or sport coat. First cut off the sleeves, remove the lining and cut off the buttons and cuff. Next cut the wool from the back of the jacket and remove lining. If you plan to remove the interlining from the front panels, cut out those panels next and work on separating the interlining.

A disassembled garment will result in pieces of wool that are in irregular shapes. It is critical when cutting your wool strips for your rugs that the cuts are made on a straight edge. All you need to do is to take the irregular shaped piece, make a small cut (1" or so) at one end and rip the full length of the piece. That will give you the straight edge needed.

**From Joyce's Dye Pot** -- Joyce Combs, our self proclaimed "Frugal Dyer", shares in the following article how she uses recycled skirt linings in her wool dyeing.

I often make rugs using what I have on hand especially recycled wool clothing collected from friends and thrift stores. Often the colors in the wool are not as vibrant as they once were because the clothes have been worn or cleaned many times. If the clothes have a lining and the color in the lining is still strong you might be able to "pull" color from the lining and use it to enhance the wool.

To do this you need to put the liner into one of your dye pots, fill with a couple of cups of water (depends on the amount of lining you are using, more lining more water, less...etc.) with a dash

of jet dry or any wetting agent and a small amount of detergent. Slowly bring the temperature up to a simmer and if the color leaches into the water you have free dye!

When the color becomes strong, put a ¼ yard piece of pre-soaked wool into the same pan. (If your color is weak put a smaller piece of wool in the dye.) I leave the lining in the dye bath. For even color stir frequently and for spotting or irregular color try not to move the wool around as much. Bring to a simmer and maintain for 20 minutes then put a couple of “glugs” of white vinegar into the dye pot. Simmer another 10 minutes and then let the wool cool in the pan. Rinse and dry.

Some linings are color fast and will not leach out color so you will have to test them to see which ones will work. I have also rolled the wool with the lining and tie it so it stays together, as in “marbleizing”, and put the “roll” in the dye pan and let the leached dye do its work directly on the wool as it comes out of the lining.

This is not an exact dyeing method so do it without expectations and you might be pleasantly surprised!

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

**Guild Library** -- Any Guild member who wishes to borrow an item from the HCRAAG Library should contact our Librarian, Kathy Donovan, by 12:00 noon on the day before our meeting and she will bring it to the meeting. She can be reached at 908-755-1670 or [freyja@optonline.net](mailto:freyja@optonline.net)

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

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

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

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

2009 ATHA Biennial – September 23 – 27, 2009 in Louisville, KY. Go to [www.atharugs.com/biennials.htm](http://www.atharugs.com/biennials.htm) for more information.

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

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



## **HCrag Calendar of Events**

**January 9, 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Auction and White Elephant Sale \*  
**January 9-11, 2009** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rug Hooking Retreat – Hampton Inn, Flemington, NJ  
**February 13 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Featured Members Deanna Kinney & Joan Lucas\*  
**March 13, 2009** – Monthly Meeting -- Hooking Animal Eyes – Gail Dufresne\*  
**March 20-22, 2009** - Spring Fling - Flemington Hampton Inn  
**April 3, 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD -- note date change  
**April 29, 2009** – Bus Trip to Winterthur Museum  
**May 8, 2009** – Monthly Meeting – Computer Assisted Design for Rugs - Connie Coleman\*  
**June 12, 2009** – Monthly meeting – Annual Picnic\*  
**August 10-14, 2009** – HCrag Rug Hooking Camp – Educational Services Commission School

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

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

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

**Vice President** – Open

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Guild's Email List Policy** - The 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 at P. O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913 or by email to [karlg@nni.com](mailto:karlg@nni.com). by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.