

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

June 2011

Presidents' Letter -- We would like to thank our Board members who have served over the past year and congratulate them on a job well done. Through their efforts, we've had wonderful programs and events, excellent resources in our library, great publicity and delicious snacks and treats. We have built a healthy treasury, kept in touch with members with cards and notes and kept written records of our meetings. Thanks also to the members who will serve on our new Board and are committed to our continued growth and success in the coming year.

A special thank you to all who have volunteered for demonstrations and Guild projects donated to raffle baskets and fund raising events, participated in show and tell, brought goodies to our meetings and shared the recipes, contributed to the Guild's Loop, and attended our meetings and shared your special talents and techniques with the other members. Our Guild is strong because of the strengths that each member has brought to our group.

Our June meeting and picnic will give us a chance to celebrate all that we have accomplished this year. We hope that you will join us for great food, lots of laughter and lively conversation. It is a perfect time to bring your frame and to work on your latest hooking project.

Joyce and Dee

June Meeting – Friday, June 10, 2011 -- Our last meeting of the program year will be our traditional potluck picnic luncheon 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. **Please note that the meeting will begin an hour later at 11:00.**

Guild Program – For those who have not attended in the past, this is an inside picnic. It is a potluck affair and all members are requested to bring their favorite appetizer, entrée, salad or dessert. HCRAG members are known for their exceptional cooking skills as well as their rug hooking. The food is wonderful!! The informal nature of the picnic presents an excellent opportunity to get to know each other better.

Show & Tell – Summer is here again – people travel to the mountains and the shore. Have you created a summer rug that you are willing to share? There are many with a seashell theme – just leave the sand at home. Current projects are always welcomed.

Those who participate in Show & Tell are eligible for special raffle prizes. Last month Ingrid Cosmen, Karl Gimber, Lydia Lewis, Dee Rosebrock, and Virginia Sutton won bundles of wool, home made bread and a hooking book. Special proddy tools were won by Ellen DiClemente, Kathy Donovan, Weezie Huntington, Patty Mahaffey, Ellen McNally, Lib Ryman, and Betsy Warner. A special thank you to members who donated the raffle items.

Hospitality –We thank all members who added to our meetings by bringing snacks and treats during the year.

June Birthdays – Janet Bosshard (6/14), Lydia Brenner (6/4), Gail Ferdinando (6/6), Cheryl Halliday (6/18), Jackie Lee (6/26), Barbara Lugg (6/15), June Madden (6/8), Kathleen Murray-Boyda (6/1) and Debbie Walsh (6/6) celebrate birthdays in June. We wish them all the happiest birthdays.

July Birthdays -- The Loop is not published in July, so we want to recognize Guild members with birthdays next month. Sharon Bennett (7/9), Margaret Brightbill (7/11), Connie Coleman (7/19), Weezie Huntington (7/11), Arlene Schnaare (7/23), Nina Seaman (7/20), Joan Shymko (7/28), Virginia Sutton (7/14), Betsy Warner (7/10) and Susan Woodworth (7/17) have birthdays in July. Happy Birthday!

Membership – We welcome Arlene Schnaare to our Guild. Arlene attended our recent hook-in at the Mennonite Heritage Center. Her contact information follows:

Arlene Schnaare
230 Hutchinson Ave.
Haddenonfield, NJ 08022-3914
856-547-1205
Amr11@verizon.net

Carol Collin has relocated to Newtown, PA from Virginia. Her new address and contact information is shown below. Carol will again be joining us at camp this summer.

Carol Collin
134 Thornhill Lane
Newtown, PA 18940
215-504-1207
Email Address – no change

Sunshine – Margaret Lutz “has been under the weather”. We hope that she bounces back quickly.

Guild News & Events

Rugs From Library Exhibit -- Gail Ferdinando has three items from the April exhibit at the Hunterdon Country Library exhibit that were not claimed last month. They are (1) a Christmas tree with embroidery hoop around it (2) a floral pillow and (3) a 3-d sheep on a wooden base. She will bring them to the June meeting. Contact Gail to arrange for pick up if you cannot make the meeting.

HCRAAG 15th Annual Rug Hooking Camp (August 15 – 19, 2011) – Jane Halliwell Green has withdrawn as an instructor because of unanticipated surgery. We are fortunate that Diane Stoffel was available to replace her. She recently filled in for Jane in Canada and did pictorials and landscapes, so the class will not change. Those who registered to work with Jane were immediately informed and given time to withdraw and receive a full refund.

Our lineup of instructors now includes Kris McDermet (open workshop on hooking or braiding), Iris Simpson (open workshop) and Diane Stoffel (open workshop with options to work on pictorial and floral rugs). Please refer to the May 2011 issue of The Loop for full workshop descriptions. There are a couple of openings in Kris' workshop. Debbie Walsh is maintaining a wait list for the other two classes.

An article featuring Kris McDermet's special braid finishes to hooked rugs is in the June/July 2011 issue of the ATHA Newsletter. Her braided edging is spectacular!

Registration/Instructional Fees – The fee for camp is \$175 for Guild members who have paid their dues by December 31, 2010. For all others, the fee is \$250. The full fee was due by May 31, 2011. Any remaining fees can be sent to Debbie Walsh at 51 Spruce Street, Cranford, NJ 07016. If you are unsure of how much you owe or have any questions, contact Debbie at debywalsh@yahoo.com or 908-272-7012.

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

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

Volunteers Needed for Camp -- Camp participants will have the opportunity at the June meeting to sign up to help with the various camp chores. Each Guild participant is requested to help by signing up for two camp duties. If you will not be at the meeting, please call Debbie Walsh or Gail Ferdinando to learn what help is needed.

Beginners' Workshop – Tuesday, August 16, 2011 -- The Guild's popular Beginners' Workshop will again be offered during our annual rug hooking camp at the ESC School. Connie Coleman and Kay Weeks will be the instructors for the workshop on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 from 9-12.

As in the past, Guild members are requested to donate wool that can be used for the kits. Kay and Connie can use wools in the following colors: blues, coral reds, browns, greens and neutrals (for background/sky). Odds and ends will do. Please bring what you can to the June meeting.

Workshop participants are requested to bring a 14" embroidery hoop and a sharp pair of scissors. All other supplies and equipment will be provided. The fee is \$50.

Geometrics Workshop Well Received -- Sandra Brown's Geometrics workshop held at the Flemington Hampton Inn during the April 29, 2011 weekend was a major success. This was not the typical rug hooking workshop. There were specific lessons each day and a lot of time spent designing and planning. Pulling loops was not the object. The object was to design and plan sufficiently that there would be no more decisions to be made once you started hooking.

A sampling of the feedback confirms that the Guild members in attendance were highly satisfied and motivated by the workshop.

- “Her communications prior to class were the best that I've gotten. She was well organized and interested in seeing that everyone succeeded in class.”
- “The class was well worth the money to me.”
- “I thought the workshop was wonderful.”
- “I have only positive inputs for the entire weekend - great teacher, great company!”
- “The teaching and learning was excellent -- except for the sleep at night thinking over my design...but that is a good thing.”
- “I think you already know how thrilled everyone was with this class. I will speak loudly for myself that I would take a class with her anywhere. Prepared, inspirational, and clear.”
- “I learned a great deal about something I had no idea would be so inspirational for me.”

Our thanks to Weezie Huntington for organizing and coordinating this special workshop.

New ATHA Chapter -- The Spring Lake ATHA Chapter has been formed and will meet the second Monday of every month from September through May. The first meeting will be September 12, 2011 at St Andrews Methodist Church, 907 Fourth Ave., Spring Lake, NJ 07762. Chapter officers are shown below.

- Barbara Kimbrough, President beedkay@gmail.com
- Margaret Dickerson, Vice President Wdicker410@aol.com
- Janet Bosshard, Secretary j.bosshard@verizon.net
- Marcye Gough, Treasurer MarcyeG@aol.com

We wish them much success.

Get Rug Hooking Books for Summer Reading -- One of the benefits of HCRA membership is access to the ever growing number of books in our library. The current list of the rug hooking books available to members accompanies this issue of the newsletter. Now is the time to stock up for your summer reading. Let our Librarian, Kathy Donovan, know what you want and she will bring it to the June meeting. 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 others members.

Guild Members Recognized in Celebrations -- Each year Rug Hooking Magazine conducts an international juried exhibit of hooked rugs that is published in A Celebration of Hand-Hooked Rugs, commonly known as “Celebrations”. For those interested in seeing how their rugs compare to others, being selected for Celebrations is considered the pinnacle of recognition in the rug hooking community.

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild has a proud history of the rugs hooked by its members being recognized by Celebrations. As a Guild, the designation is an indication of the artistry found within our talented membership.

Members Cheryl Halliday, Juliana Kapusta and Debbie Walsh have recently had rugs accepted in Celebrations. Their success has prompted us to compile a list of HCRA members recognized by Rug Hooking Magazine. We thank Gail Dufresne who supplied back issues of Celebrations for us to review.

The list of HCRA members, past and present, with rugs in Celebrations follows:

1. Claudia Casebolt – “Casebolt House” (Celebrations VI – 1996)
“Hildegard’s Garden” (Celebrations XI – 2001)
2. Linda Rae Coughlin – “100% Pure Virgin Wool” (Celebrations VII – 1997)
“My Ropes” (Celebrations VIII – 1998)
“Fly on Fly” – (Celebrations XIII -- 2003)
3. Kathy Donovan – “Potluck”
4. Gail Dufresne – “Sunflowers” (Celebrations VII – 1997)
“Thanksgiving” (Celebrations VIII – 1998)
“Carib” (Celebrations IX – 1999)
“Lizards and Ladders” – (Celebrations XII -- 2002)
“Log Cabin Spin” – (Celebrations XIII – 2003)
5. Cathy Edwards – “American Express Train” – (Celebrations XVII – 2007)
6. Cheryl Halliday – “My Lissa” – (Celebrations XXI – 2010)
7. Sherri Hieber Day – “Horse Heaven” – (Celebrations VII – 1997)
8. Phyllis Hammel – “Ivy Tiger” – (Celebrations XVI -- 2006)
9. Kim Kagan – “Whispering Pines” – (Celebrations XI – 2001)
10. Juliana Kapusta – “The Cutting Garden -- Coneflower” – (Celebrations XX -- 2009)
11. Janet Keller Laughlin – “Harmony Along the Delaware” – (Celebrations XX -- 2009)
12. Eileen Mahler – “Ketchikan Dream” – (Celebrations XVI – 2006)
13. Janet Santaniello – “Old Stony with Geraniums” – (Celebrations XII - 2002)
14. Margaret Lutz -- Her home and rugs are featured in Celebrations XVI -- 2006
15. Gail Schmidt – “Howdy” – 2007(08?)
16. Judy Quintman – “Star Flower”
17. Debbie Walsh

Our list is a work in progress and will be updated as we learn of additional rugs. Inform Karl Gimber if you can add to the list.

Book on Proddy Donated to Guild Library -- Thanks to Kay Weeks our library has been enhanced by her donation of Prodded Hooking for a Three-Dimensional Effect by Gene Shepperd. Thank you Kay!

Guild Demonstrates at Howell Living Farm -- The weather was beautiful for sheep shearing at Howell Living Farm on May 7, 2011 and the families turned out to enjoy the festivities. Guild members Margaret Brightbill, Joyce Combs, Karl Gimber, Barbara Kimborough, Carol Kindt and Lydia Lewis established themselves in the barn annex to

the Visitor Center and shared their enthusiasm for rug hooking with visitors who stopped by. A hearty lunch was provided by the Farm staff/volunteers.

Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter Celebrates 30th Birthday -- Congratulations are extended to the Alice Beatty Guild which celebrated its 30th Anniversary on May 8, 2011 as an ATHA chapter. Lots of loops have been pulled and rugs made over the years.

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

Meet Our Member – Judy Quintman -- When it comes to rug hooking Judy Quintman does it all. She hooks each day. She designs all her own patterns. She dyes all her wool. She is active in several hooking groups. She attends three camps a year and she teaches at three others. Judy lives in Wilmington, NC with her husband Larry and is the stepmother of our favorite twins – Gail Ferdinando and Debbie Walsh.

Years ago Judy stopped at the Dorr Mill Store and had a fast lesson on pulling loops. She purchased a pattern of shaded fruit and some wool. The project was soon put away in a closet where it remained for some time. In 1998 Judy and Larry were spending about half their time in Vermont and Judy was looking for ways to meet people. Rug hooking provided that vehicle. Judy met Jean Evans who was a local rug hooking instructor from Rupert, VT and started to take classes with her. When she arrived with all her shaded wool from her Door Mill Store project, Jean told her to “put the colors away and have fun”. Her first project was finished in one and a half weeks. Judy was addicted.

Judy loves primitive style rug hooking. However, she is currently working with mixed size cuts. She was recently given lots of fine cut wool and is having fun working them into her rugs. Judy is a serious hooker and typically hooks for two to six hours a day. The amount of time depends “on how excited I am about the rug. I can easily hook for eight hours if I am really excited; less if I am just doing the background” she notes. Most of her hooking is done in the afternoon and evening.

About six years ago, Judy and the twins began what has become a family hooking tradition. They meet at a local motel and spend the weekend hooking in a suite with a large living room where they can set up their frames and comfortably hook. They begin Thursday night and work straight through to Sunday afternoon. They bring plenty of food, snacks and wine. “We eat and drink continually” she jokes. After the first year, they decided to have a project challenge for the weekend. For the first challenge Judy provided clip art ideas. It was agreed that each would come with something on paper, although they did not have to hook it. Another rule was that they could not discuss or share their pattern until the “big reveal” at the weekend. This was especially difficult for the twins who constantly talk and share what is going on. Judy recalls “how very similar their first patterns were in design and color. It was uncanny.”

In 2001 Judy was encouraged by Jane King, another influential instructor and mentor, to consider becoming McGown certified and to teach. She was apprehensive at first because “shading is not my thing”, but “Jean Evans agreed and was so encouraging and enthusiastic” that she decided to go ahead. Her stand-up skills acquired from work in management training

proved to be an asset when combined with her love for rug hooking. Judy completed her McGown certification in record time – one year!

Judy finds that attending several camps each year is important as a way to remain revitalized. She participates in an annual workshop that Patty Yoder started. The participants meet in Georgia and hook for five days during which time they share what they are doing. Specialized presentations are part of the program as many of the attendees are teachers. Our camp is another of Judy's favorites. She also participates in a "Friendship Group" that invites a teacher to join with them once a year. This year it was Norma Batastini. In a normal year, Judy will attend one other camp.

Instructors with whom she has studied include Norma Batastini, Jean Evans, Karen Kahle, Jane King, Maryanne Lincoln, Jule Marie Smith and Dianne Phillips. Judy attributes Jean Evans, Jane King and Patty Yoder as being the most influential in her development as a rug hooking artisan. She met Patty in a hooking group at Jean Evans' home and recalls how generous she was with her time. They all inspired Judy to give back and share her love of rug hooking.

Teaching rug hooking is a way that Judy gives back and shares her enthusiasm with the rug hooking community. However, she limits her teaching to three camps a year. Judy wants to remain fresh and does not want the teaching to "turn into a job that I hate" she notes. She taught more in the early years but found that "it was hard to maintain my energy and to give it my all. There is a lot of up front time involved in teaching at a camp than most people realize." Dyeing wool for students and for sale, pre-camp planning and communicating with participants, packing, driving for hours and unpacking are the unseen realities of those on the teaching circuit.

Not surprisingly, Judy designs all her own patterns even though she claims "not to be an artist". She likes the fun and challenge of designing rug patterns. She carries a notebook where she can record ideas that may come from a plate pattern seen in a department store, a magazine article or an object in a museum. Judy rips out and saves pages from catalogs, decorating magazines and antique magazines. Sometime, just the color can serve as an inspiration.

Selling her rugs is not something on which Judy concentrates. She has had commission sales, but this is not a goal. Judy finds that a commission rug may be stifling and not an enjoyable project. Clients often have very specific design and color requirements that she finds limiting. On the positive sign, Judy finds working with colors that she normally does not use can be a challenge.

The twins introduced her to our Guild. Living in North Carolina does prevent monthly involvement, but Judy has taught at one of our camps and attends others. This year she is one of our camp directors along with the twins. Judy is also a member of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild, the Southern Bells (a local McGown Guild) and a local hooking group that she formed in Wilmington, NC.

Other than rug hooking, Judy loves to cook, makes greeting cards and does beading. At one time, she did a lot of quilting, but gave that up when hooking took over. "The freedom of creativity" is what Judy sees as the main appeal to rug hooking. "Quilting had too many rules for me" she notes. "With rug hooking, I can do anything I want to."

Judy and Larry now live in Wilmington, NC. Larry is a retired from an advertising agency which he started. His artistic talents are now expressed in exquisite bird carvings that are displayed in realistic settings, sculptures, bronzes and paintings. Judy and Larry have three step children (Debbie, Gail and Andy) and seven grandchildren. Debbie and her husband Dave live in Cranford, NJ with their three children – Devin, Maggie and Eric. Devin, just graduated from Princeton University, Maggie is an undergraduate student at Rider University who likes to work with children with disabilities. Eric will be attending Lehigh University after graduation from high school this June. Gail and her husband Ken live in Pittstown, NJ with their three children – Kyle, Keith and Abby. Kyle is a sophomore at Lehigh University. Keith is a high school sophomore. Abby is about to graduate from 8th grade. Andy and his wife Analis live in Hamden, CT with their daughter Maya, age 4. Andy teaches Tibetan studies at Yale University.

Judy's rugs have been featured in Hooked Rugs Today by Amy Oxford, Celebrations and an upcoming book by Jessie Turbayne on Southern Rugs. The March/April 2008 issue of Rug Hooking Magazine features an article on the four generation of rug hooking artisans in the family and shows one of her rugs on the cover.

Visit the Guild's website – www.hcrag.com – and click on “Featured Member” to see some of Judy's rugs...

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina's Notebook – A friend recently announced the happy news that her daughter is expecting a baby in September. This news set me to thinking about birth rugs.

For each of my four grandchildren I created a rug with their full name and birth date. For my first grandchild, her mother actually designed the rug using the motifs from the nursery rhyme, “...and the dish ran away with the spoon”. The full name of the baby and the birth date were incorporated in the border. The second grandchild had the theme of Noah's ark.

If you are anticipating a new member of the family, talk to the parents and see what themes or ideas they have for the child's room. This will give you the clues you need to create that very special rug. Also pay attention to the colors that are used in the mat. I stay away from the cliché colors of blue and pink and create a color palette that will catch the eye of the baby as well as the parents. I have also created small wall hangings with the child's name and birth date. You can incorporate designs that reflect that child's heritage, such as a shamrock if they are Irish or perhaps a family pet, anything that is particular to the child.

There is a special joy that comes with hooking a birth rug for that new member of the family and it is a treasure that the child will have throughout their life. Happy Hooking! Nina Seaman

Tips from Heloise – Seeing the rugs hooked by those attending our recent hook-in was one of the highlights of the day. Among the masterpieces on display was a Pearl McGown floral pattern (“Quickie”) hooked by Barbara Brown who traveled from Factoryville in upstate Pennsylvania to be with us. The shading

achieved with beautifully dyed wool was one of the features that made her rug stand out. Barbara works exclusively with recycled wool which she dyes without using commercial dyes. Heloise had an opportunity to speak with Barbara who gladly shared two wool dyeing techniques she uses.

Dyeing with the Color in the Wool

- Fill dye pot and add a little liquid dish detergent
- Barbara takes a wool skirt that has been washed, cuts it into six or so strips (roughly 3” x 15”) and puts it in the pot dry. One of the strips is held out.
- After the water simmers, the dye from the garment bleeds out.
- The strips are pulled out one at a time after the desired color has been achieved. The first one removed will be the darkest and the last will be the lightest.
- The strips are placed in clean water with some vinegar.
- If there is still color in the water, she adds some gray or beige wool. The color that has bled is used as her dye.

Dyeing with Onion Skins

- Barbara uses this technique with yellow, orange and bright colored wool. She has also used the technique with six different greens.
- Take a baking pan and layer wet wool with onion skins placed in a random or spotty manner.
- Sprinkle salt on the onion skins
- Add about ¼ inch of water and cover the pan with foil.
- Place in the oven (300-375 degrees) for about an hour.
- The bleeding wool blends the color and the onion skins adds a glow.
- Rinse

We thank Barbra for sharing her expertise with us.

Proddy Rugs -- Kay Weeks shared her knowledge and enthusiasm for proddy hooking at our May meeting. One of the handouts was compiled by her and is reproduced below for those not at the meeting.

“The method of making rugs called proddy was first started in England, mostly in the northeast and southern sections. A frame was not always used but the art of prodding was often a family activity, one member of the family picking up where

another stopped. Every member was expected to assist. The background was called Hessian and bought by the yard, but occasionally an old sack was put into service. In the Second World War washed sand bags were also used. Other names given to this method of rug making are poked and proggie.

Pegged rugs had very simple designs often with a black border made of old stockings or men's suits. The center was filled with random strips known as his and miss. Sometimes a circle or diamond shape filled the center.

Prodded rugs were, and are, made by poking strips of fabric through a burlap ground fabric. They have a long, shaggy pile which often blurs the design. They were often made for hard use since the thick pile held the dirt and thus good examples of old prodded rugs are rare. A common design was one large diamond touching the center of each side of a rectangular mat.

Large simple designs are best suited to this technique. Prodded rugs are made of short fabric strips, each of which goes through the burlap once to produce two strands of the rug. This can be an advantage to those wishing to change the colors frequently since several colors prodded near each other can blend optically to form an area of color.

The choice of fabrics, size of rug, and length of pile are limitless as they are for hooked rugs. It is also possible to combine these two forms of rug making to produce unusual effects.

We have available now two tools to make these rugs. The original tool was/and is a wooden peg type tool which was used with the wrong side of the rug facing you. The rug should be taut on the frame. Using the tool, force a small hole between the burlap weave and push one end of a strip of fabric through fabric approximately one inch wide and 3 ½ inches long. Move along about ¼ inch and push the other end through using both hands one on each side of the rug. Pull the ends of the strips until they are about even. Prod a second strip in the same way, about ¼ inch from the first one. Continue prodding this way until no burlap can be seen on the right side of the rug. When the prodding is complete, check the pile for smoothness, trimming any long ends.

Another method of prodding is a long tool that looks like a curling iron, and is called a spring tool. It is used on the right side of the rug. With this tool you would insert the end of the tool into two holes approximately ¼ inch apart going down into the first hole and back onto the front in the second hole. Insert a corner of your length of fabric securely in the clip in this tool and then pull the tool including the fabric through the first, then second hole, leaving one half the fabric in each hole. Release the fabric and pull ends of fabric even. Continue this method each ¼ inch covering the area needed for the rug.”

Bibliography:

Rag Rugs: Techniques in Contemporary Craft Projects by Juju Vail

Rag Rugs by Ann Davis

Rag Rugs of England and America by Emma Tennant

Favorite Recipes – Cheryl Halliday donated a delicious loaf of Banana Buttermilk bread for a raffle item at the May meeting. She now shares her recipe with us.

For two pound loaf

- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2/3 cup mashed ripe banana
- egg
- tsp. butter
- 4 cups bread flour
- 1/4 cup sugar
- tsp. salt
- 1 1/4 tsp. active dry or bread machine yeast

Add ingredients to the machine according to the manufacturer's directions. Select the basic white bread cycle. For the 2 pound loaf, the bread machine must have a capacity of 12 cups or more.

Recipe from "Better Homes and Gardens, Best Bread Machine Recipes "

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Jon Ciemiewicz Workshop - July 15-17, 2011 -- Jon will hold a workshop on bringing animals and people to life in a rug. The program will be held in Adamstown, PA. For more information, please contact Jon at www.anajon-rughooking.com.

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

Rugs by the Sea at Chalfonte Hotel in Cape May, NJ -- September 11-16 and 18-23, 2011
Beverly Conway, Cindi Gay, Kris Miller, and Judy Quintman are the instructors for the first week. Cherylyn Brubaker, Beverly Conway, Lucille Festa, and Sharon Townsend are the instructors for the second week. To register or for more information, contact Co-Directors Norma Batastini (973-746-2936 or g_batastini@msn.com) or Linda Woodbury (973-743-6835 or Linda.woodbury@gmail.com).

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

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

Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild Exhibit and Workshops – November 12-20, 2011 – “All the Live Long Day” is the theme for the popular Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild’s rug exhibit. After a year off, the Guild is returning to Shelburne Museum for its highly anticipated exhibit,

workshops, vendors and special events. Visit the Guild's website – www.gmrhg.org – for more information.

Open Studio Sessions – Several local instructors offer open studio sessions on a regular basis. Rug hookers are invited to drop in and spend a few hours working on their latest project in the company of other hooking enthusiasts. There is normally a nominal fee. When attending for the first time, it is best to call the instructor to confirm the date and space availability. A partial list of local open studio sessions follows:

- Vicki Calu (Three Bags Full – Dublin, PA) – Normally every Thursday from 9-12. Contact Vicki at vickicalu@gmail.com or 215249-0790 for details.
- Jeannine Happe (Two Old Crows – Columbia, NJ) – Days can differ each month. Contact Jeannine at 908-496- 4870 or by email at jhappe@ptd.net for details.
- Kay Leisey (Homespun, Hereford, PA) – Wednesdays Noon to 5 and first Fridays 5-9. Call Kay at 215-541-0565 for the particulars.
- Karen Worthington (The Blue Tulip – Harmony, NJ) – Fridays 10-3. Contact Karen at 908-859-6350 or Karen@thebluetulipwoolery.com. For more information.

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 Sue Johnson at 908- 464-6324 or PowderhornSue8@hotmail.com.

Goat Hill ATHA Chapter normally meets the first Saturday of the month (September to May) at the South Branch Reformed Church, Hillsborough, NJ. For more information or to verify meeting dates, contact Kathleen Murray-Boyda at 609-397-3425 or kathmb@hotmail.com.

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

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

HCRAG Calendar of Events

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

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

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

September 9, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD *

October 14, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD *

November 11, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD **

December 9, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Holiday Luncheon *

*Unless otherwise noted, our meetings run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Assembly Room B

in the County Administration Building, which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex on Route 12, Flemington, NJ. As you turn off Route 12 onto the road leading into the Complex, make the first right into the parking lot. The meeting is in the first building on the right. The street address for the Complex is 1314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the road.

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

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

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

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

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

