

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG) Newsletter

June 2012

Presidents' Letter – June is “busting out all over” and we will be celebrating the end of our hooking year gathering one last time to hook, laugh, remember beloved members and share the always astonishing variety of Pot Luck Lunch, all in a lovely farm setting! (see details below)

“Thank You” to Lydia and Weezie, our member demonstrators, for a really helpful and informative program at the May meeting. To finally have the know how to finish those bricks resulting in something both lovely and useful was appreciated by all those who participated. “Hands on” definitely beats trying to puzzle out a page of notes!

Weezie’s demo also demystified the concept of dyeing for value...If you can COUNT then it’s easy and fun and made even our newest members feel this is indeed doable! And we will all buy those incredible gloves.

Once again the Show & Tell rugs were beautiful and plentiful. We love seeing rugs both in progress, completed from our programs offerings (feathers and masks) and rugs from long ago that speak to our connections and stories.

“What I did this summer” seems to inspire so many of our rugs as we fan out to mountains, beaches, lakes and gardens. The memories of canoe trips, children on beach chairs, light houses, hooking camps, rocking chairs on porches, hikes, history and beloved landscapes have all been captured over the years. So in September while you will not be asked to write that essay we all recall from school days, we will surely share our adventures in a much more joyful creative manner. So go forth and be inspired! We are busy making plans for the Fall and know we will return renewed, rested and ready for the new hooking year. Cindy and Therese

June Meeting – Friday, June 8, 2012 -- Our last meeting of the program year will be our traditional potluck picnic luncheon. This year the picnic will be at a very special place -- Gravity Hill Farm --a small family farm dedicated to teaching about nature and nurturing through organic farming and raising animals. The farm is located just below Lambertville, NJ. Directions accompany the newsletter. If the weather is inclement, we can meet inside one of the Farm buildings. To learn more about the farm, visit its website – www.gravityhillfarm.com.

For those members who would like to car pool, please meet at our usual meeting place at the Hunterdon County Municipal Complex and will park and drive together at 10 am. It would be helpful if those of you who will want to car pool would let Cindy or Therese know so they can organize vehicles. **Please note that the meeting will begin an hour later at 11:00, but you may arrive at 10 am to have time to hook before we lunch and visit the farm and animals.**

Guild Program – Our annual picnic is a potluck affair and all members are requested to bring their favorite appetizer, entrée, salad or dessert. HCRAAG 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 – June marks the completion of our Guild year. Have you completed a rug this year? If so, bring it this month for Show & Tell. We will have a special drawing for those rugs completed within our Guild 2011-2012 year. Remember, it does not matter when you started the rug, just that you completed it within this Guild year, including the binding and the label! Pieces in progress are always welcome.

Members who participated in the recent hooked sheep project are requested to bring their sheep so we can photograph our flock. Gravity Hill Farm is the perfect setting for our flock of sheep!

Remember there is a raffle ticket for those who show and tell with a chance to win one of our many prizes. Any member donations for raffle prizes are greatly appreciated. If you could send Barbara Boyko, Robin Perelli or Sharon Ballard an email message or call to let them know you are bringing a prize, it will be helpful in planning the quantity of prizes at any one meeting. We thank you for your support!

The S & T raffle winners for May were:

Cheryl Halliday (scented candle)	Margaret Lutz (purple bag)
Barbara Kimbrough (memo paper)	Patty Mahaffey (fig jelly)
Jana Laidlaw (Rug Hooking Magazine)	Aggie Wooden (wool)

We thank our generous raffle donors -- Susan Atwater, Karl Gimber, Weezie Huntington, Joan Lucas, Dee Rosebrock and Nina Seaman.

June Birthdays – Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month. 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), Weezie Huntington (7/11), Nina Seaman (7/20), Susan Schulz (7/13), 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 Laura Robinson to our Guild. Laurie saw the article about our new officers/chairs in the Bucks County Herald and from there went to our website. She attended our last meeting. Laura's contact information is shown below.

Laura Robinson
2930 Stover Trail
Doylestown, PA 18902
215-794-2998
Robinson.five@comcast.net

The current membership list is being sent to members along with the newsletter. Save it for use during the summer.

Sunshine – Sharon Ballard recently had gall bladder surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Guild News & Events

Norma Batastini Lecture at Historic Longstreet Farm – June 2, 2012 – “Hooked Rugs - Backgrounds and Borders” is the subject of a presentation by Norma Batastini that will be given on Saturday June 2, 2012 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel, NJ. Registration is required and the fee is \$10. To register or for more information call 732-842-7000 or go to the Monmouth County Parks website -- www.monmouthcountyparks.com.

Colonial Caper at Holcombe-Jimison Homestead – June 3, 2012 -- The Hunterdon County Historical Society is teaming with the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead in sponsoring Colonial Caper at the Farmstead on June 3 from 3:00 – 6:00. Our Guild has been invited to participate in this special fundraising effort by demonstrating rug hooking. Gisele Meader, our event coordinator, has recruited Joyce Combs, Lydia Lewis and Jana Laidlaw and Robin Perelli to support the effort. Tickets are \$50.

Hunterdon County 4-H & Agricultural Fair -- The Guild will once again be exhibiting in the 4-H Fair on August 22 - 26, 2012. Dee Rosebrock will be collecting rugs for the show at our camp on Thursday, August 18th. If you would like to give Dee your rugs at the June meeting, she will have the submission forms available and will be happy to keep all rugs submitted secure until the show.

This is a great opportunity to showcase your hooked items and make the public aware of this wonderful art form. We thank you in advance for participating. If you have any questions, please contact Dee at deerosebrock@aol.com or (609) 771-0596.

Edward Redfield Hooked Rug at Michener Museum -- Edward Redfield (1869-1965) is best known as one of the Bucks County impressionist artists. Few know that he also hooked rugs, did tole painting and made Windsor chairs. One of his rugs, Winter Scene in Normandy (ca 1928), is currently on exhibit at the Michener Museum in Doylestown, PA. According to the information accompanying the rug “Redfield jokingly remarked that he could not afford to sell these objects since they took so much longer to create than the painting he could finish in one day.”

Summer Challenge -- This year our Summer Challenge is designed to generate ideas and prototypes of possible items that can be sold at our boutique table at the Hooked Rug Festival at the Mill. You may choose a theme, such as a holiday (Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween or patriotic) or simply seasonal (winter, spring, fall, summer). Nautical, folk art, houses, animals, floral and word signs are other ideas. The items created can be pins, ornaments, mats, penny rugs, felting, and pillows. Keep in mind that the items should sell for under \$100. Use your imagination and have fun! Bring your creations to the September meeting.

New Local ATHA Chapter Formed -- A new ATHA Chapter, Wool Whisperers, has been established in Montgomery County, PA. They meet one Sunday each month from 10 to 4 at Foulkeways, in Lower Gwynedd, Pennsylvania. For more information contact Cheryl Halliday at havewenewool@yahoo.com or Patty Mahaffey at McMahaffey@comcast.net

Bus Trip Planned – Ideas Sought -- Our program schedule for the coming year anticipates a bus trip in May, 2013. Please let our Program Chairs – Sharon Ballard, Barbara Boyko or Robin Perelli – know of any ideas you have for a possible destination for the trip.

Additions to our Library --Joyce Combs donated Joan Moshimer's catalogue Treasury of Hooked Rug Designs and The Enjoyment and Use of Color by Walter Sargent from the estate of Margaret Brightbill. These are another wonderful way to remember Margaret. Thank you Margaret and Joyce.

Stock Up for Summer Reading -- One of the benefits of HCRA membership is access to the ever growing number of books in our library. Now is the time to stock up for your summer reading. An updated list of the books in our Library accompanies the newsletter. 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 freya2@verizon.net.

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

2013 Spring Fling -- Plans are underway for our popular Spring Fling weekend workshops that are normally held in March or April at the Flemington Hampton Inn. One or two workshops have been offered in the past. Ideas on possible instructors are now being assembled. Please let Cindy or Therese know if you have a favorite teacher you think should be considered.

Guild Invited to West Amwell Country Fair – The West Amwell Country Fair has been held for a few years, but this is the first year that rug hooking demonstrations were part of the event. On May 19, 2012 Gisele Meader, Dee Rosebrock, Joan Shymko and Martha Thieling delighted visitors by sharing their rug hooking stories and demonstrating hooking techniques. Robin Perelli completed the picture with her “From Sheep to Rugs” demonstration. Special thanks to Gisele for coordinating this event.

Hooked Rug Festival at the Mill – Update – Please keep the Festival at the Mill on your mind as we head into the summer. Yes, it is over a year away, but it is going to take lots of effort and help to make it a success. So, put on your creative caps over the summer and hopefully we will have some great boutique ideas come September. If you have an idea or any questions regarding a potential boutique item, you can always contact Sharon Ballard who is our chair for the boutique. Also, if you have not decided on a way to help, please think about that as well. We will need the committees to fill up come the fall so we can work on each aspect of the Festival! You can always contact Therese Shick or Cindy Boults or Weezie Huntington (who is the overall chairperson for HCRA) over the summer regarding the festival. Thanks in advance for all your energy and creativity...we need it all!

Beginner's Workshop Offered – August 14, 2012 -- Judy Quintman, a certified McGown instructor, will be teaching the Beginners' Workshop that is offered during our annual rug hooking camp at the ESC School (see below). This year the workshop will be

held on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 from 9:00 until noon. The fee is \$50 which includes a pattern on linen backing, a hook and wool. Participants need to provide a 14" hoop and sharp scissors. Beginners are welcome to bring a lunch and stay to hook for the afternoon with those attending camp. To register mail a check made out to HCRAAG to Debbie Walsh, 51 Spruce St., Cranford, NJ 07016.

Any questions contact Debbie Walsh (debywalsh@yahoo.com or 908-272-7012) or Gail Ferdinando (thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com or 908-735-6720).

HCRAAG Annual Summer Camp (August 13 -17, 2012) --Our Guild's 16th annual rug hooking camp will be held from August 13, 2012 through August 17, 2012 at the ESC School outside of Lambertville, NJ. In keeping with our tradition, nationally recognized instructors – Arline Bechtoldt, Jeanne Benjamin and Lucille Festa – will provide a stimulating, educational and fun camp experience. Openings have developed in Arline's workshop. Those who still want to attend the other workshops are encouraged to place their names on the waiting list for other openings that may develop. Please note that the balance of the registration fee is now due.

Our Teachers –

Jeanne Benjamin: Jeanne started hooking in 1971 and became McGown certified in 1979. She owns New Earth Designs, a pattern business of diverse designs, and also has a dyed wool mail order business. Jeanne has a loyal following and is known for her beautiful dyeing and color planning, often dyeing 50 yards or more of wool weekly.

Jeanne stresses good pre-camp communication and advance planning to maximize students' class time. She gives instructions in small increments which enables her to get around the classroom quickly. Class time includes question and answer periods so everyone can participate and learn, not only from individual instruction, but from group time as well.

Jeanne expects you to relax, keep an open mind, and enjoy this creative time! Jeanne often teaches an open class (she enjoys a large class with diversity) but her specialties are Orientals, making a primitive design look antique, folk art, and pictorials.

Arline Bechtoldt: Arline is an accredited teacher who enjoys teaching a student driven class. She recently gave a talk at the Alice Beatty Chapter of ATHA and showed her rugs which ranged from beautifully fine shaded faces, flowers, and antique designs, to whimsical and primitive motifs.

Before camp Arline discusses with each student their particular needs for their rug. She will help with color planning and can provide custom dyed wool as needed and/or work with wool already on hand. She will also bring a supply of wool to class.

During class time Arline will discuss technique, color planning, and finishing, and as the day is winding down, creative stitches, dyeing techniques, labeling, and any other topics of interest. Arline plans to ensure that your rug becomes the masterpiece you envision!

Lucille Festa: Lucille is a collector of antiques and a history buff especially interested in the American Civil War era and women's history. She started her business, American Country Rugs, about seven years ago and sells patterns (including her “door people”) via her website.

She specializes in primitive style rugs and often incorporates old antique colors, textures, and wide cut wools as well as folk art images into her rugs. Lucille loves colors that evoke a feeling of antiquity and enjoys creating rugs with an aged look. She brings plenty of wool plaids, checks, tweeds, and herringbones to her classes. She will help you to color plan and hook a warm, antique style rug that will be passed down through the generations.

Registration/Instructional Fees –The fee for camp is \$175 for Guild members who have paid their dues by December 31, 2011. For all others, the fee is \$250. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 is required to make a reservation for camp. The balance of the fee is due by May 30, 2012. For all reservations received after May 30th, the camp fee must be paid in full at the time of registration. Checks made payable to HCRAAG can be sent to Debbie Walsh at 51 Spruce Street, Cranford, NJ 07016.

Refund Policy –For cancellations received on or before June 10, 2012, the camp fee less the \$25 non-refundable deposit will be made. For cancellations received after June 10th, no refunds will be made unless the camp vacancy is filled and paid in full.

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

“Rug Hooking Traditions with Magdalena Briner Eby” Added to HCRAAG Program Schedule -- The dip dyeing program by Cyndy Duade that was scheduled for October 2012 has been rescheduled since the October meeting will be at our alternate meeting site which does not have the water and electrical facilities needed.

Evelyn Lawrence who is widely known and admired for the work she has done with rugs inspired by Magdalena Briner Eby has been booked for October 2012. Evelyn is the co-author of Rug Hooking Traditions with Magdalena Briner Eby. Her rugs were exhibited at the ATHA Biennial in Lancaster and last August at Historic Sauder Village during its Rug Hooking Week. Evelyn also brought her rugs to the Guild’s 2007 Hook-in. Patterns and kits in the style of Magdalena provided my Heart In Hand (Norma Batastini and Linda Woodbury) will be available.

Guild Demonstrates at Howell Living Farm and Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair – May is an active month for Guild members who volunteer to demonstrate rug hooking at the various community events held in the spring. We thank Cindy Boults, Joyce Combs, Karl Gimber, Weezie Huntington, Gisele Meader, Dee Rosebrock, Martha Thieling and Agnes Wooden for representing the Guild at Howell Living Farm on May 5 and the Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair on May 12. The weather was beautiful both days.

The State History Fair was held in the Washington Crossing NJ State Park where we were in a cool shaded spot under a large tree. There were many people wandering around in period custom. Actors were giving history lessons, food was cooking over an open fire, canons were being shot, dancers were performing and there was a great magic show for the kids. If you have never gone, mark your calendars for next year.

These events draw large crowds and are an ideal forum by which HCRAAG can support the community, inform the public about rug hooking and publicize the Guild. Go to the Guild's website – www.hcrag.com – and click on “Demonstrations” to find the Guild's full schedule for the year.

Guild Website -- Visit the Guild's website at www.hcrag.com to enjoy the rugs completed by our monthly featured members, current and past, 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!

Featured Member – Barbara Boyko -- Barbara Boyko and her husband, Rick, relocated to Bucks County from Richmond, VA in 2009, although they had bought the property 2 years earlier. They purchased a 1747 stone farm house outside of New Hope in 2007 and it needed a lot of work. It was a “real fixer-upper” notes Barbara. Even with much work to be done before they could move into the house, Barbara was already thinking about how she wanted to decorate her new home. Her sister suggested hooked rugs for the floors.

Barbara had a few “hooked rugs from China” but wanted the real thing. While still in Richmond, Barbara started to ask around and learned of Mary Henck. Mary, a former HCRAAG member, taught rug hooking in the Richmond area and had a small shop where she sold basic rug hooking supplies. Barbara called and soon was taking private lessons. “I was ready for a new art form,” Barbara recalls. “Mary was great. She is McGowen trained and certified so I had the best teaching me.”

“Regular traditional rug hooking is what I prefer to do,” says Barbara although many in the Guild associate her and proddy. Her January retreat project was a proddy pillow top and Barbara demonstrated proddy technique at the recent “round robin” meeting program. “Primitive is more my style” Barbara insists. She believes that hooked rugs are for the floors and proddy rugs are not suitable for that, but they are very suitable for boudoir pillows. “I love just inventing proddy flowers. It's my bag. The possibilities are unlimited!”

For the last three years Barbara has attended the popular camp held at the Outer Banks of North Carolina in late October. She learned of the camp from Mary Henck who runs and organizes it, along with her sister Pat. Last year Heather Richie was the guest instructor from whom Barbara learned proddy. Bev Conway and Diane Stoffel were her other teachers, also at the Outer Back Rug Hooking Camp. Barbara attended the HCRAAG camp last year for the first time and worked with Iris Simpson. “Iris is a real hoot and lets you do whatever you want and will honestly critique it, and I learned a lot from her. I have learned from all my teachers. Mary is very disciplined, Diane and Beverly have a great sense of color and Heather really knows all about proddy” says Barbara.

So far Barbara has worked primarily with new wool that she buys at the camps she goes to and at other events. She will pick up a piece of wool if it has a nice color that she thinks she can use in one of her projects. Barbara does have a pair of cashmere pants that she is getting closer to incorporating into one of her rugs. She also recently found some

bolts of wool at the Lambertville Flea Market. Barbara has not yet undertaken dyeing wool, but expects to eventually start. "I am afraid I may create a monster."

Barbara tends to be a seasonal hooker; she is an avid gardener so hooking in the summer is difficult especially taking into account visiting children and friends. Retreating to the house from the August heat is a time to begin her hooking season. Barbara is also conscious of the sedentary nature of rug hooking and tries to offset all the sitting with daily four mile walks.

When Barbara started rug hooking, it was a new art form for her. "I am not a fine artist, but I can execute. My family members can draw anything I need", Barbara observes. "I have a good sense of color and a good eye."

After moving into the area, it did not take Barbara long to discover the local guilds. She was one of the early members of the Goat Hill ATHA Chapter where she learned about the Hunterdon Guild. Last year she attended our camp for the first time and claims that we "got her going." She is recently volunteered to serve as one of our Program Chairs. Barbara enjoys the social element of her guilds. "I am not a joiner, but enjoy the women and the meetings." She draws a lot of inspiration from the work being done by others in the Guild.

In addition to gardening, Barbara loves to cook and has a large collection of cook books which she regularly reads. Knitting and quilting are other interests. Taking care of her pets (three dogs and a cat) and occasionally her daughter's two dogs can be a full time job all by itself.

Barbara and Rick live outside of New Hope, PA. on 24 acres, 22 of which are wooded and in land conservancy. They lived in the guest cottage for some time while extensive work was done to the main house. New plumbing, heating system and bathrooms were needed. After retiring as an executive with a major advertising firm, Rick headed up the graduate advertising program at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. He will retire from that position at the end of this month and according to Barbara "is already talking to people in New York about his next venture."

Rick and Barbara have three daughters -- Mary, Jessica and Kate. Mary and her husband, David, live in Madison, NJ with their son, Dylan (2 ½ years old). A second child is due at the end of this month. Mary is a graphic designer and David is the creative director for a New York based advertising agency. Jessica is an art therapist at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. Her husband, Andy, will graduate from the University of Pennsylvania as a nurse practitioner in August. They are expecting their first child in September. Kate is a clothing designer for a custom apparel company in New York. She recently relocated from Los Angeles and lives in Brooklyn.

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina's Notebook -- June is a month of special occasions -- weddings, graduations, and Flag Day! All of this sets my mind in action. What mat can I create to celebrate those times?

For a wedding, it is fairly simple, something that is particular to that bride and groom. One couple I know went canoeing on the lake in front of the cottage where they were wed on the morning of the ceremony! Add the names and date and there is your rug.

Graduation brings to mind caps and gowns and all the achievements of the graduate. Again, name and date are important as well as the location.

Flag Day is perhaps the easiest of all the occasions. Think stars and stripes! Ask Weezie about her flag rugs, she has done quite a few. A rug of just stars can be stunning. You can use any color as well as the traditional red, white and blue.

Summer is a time to explore new ideas and designs, as well as new palettes and embellishments. I wish you a joyous summer filled with creative, stimulating and challenging times as well as times of rest and refreshment. Happy Hooking! Nina Seaman.

Tips From Heloise -- Eleanor Dunker recently brought to Heloise's attention a special hooking technique developed by Bev Conway whereby words or a message is hooked but can not be seen or detected from the front of the rug. When you look at the back of the rug, you can easily read an extensive message. You can make the message short, long or just add your signature.

The technique is accomplished by drawing your message backwards on the front of the design before you begin any other hooking. By reversing the message on the front, it reads correctly from the back of the rug. You must hook very low with a narrow cut. After you have completed hooking the message, continue with your usual style of hooking, being careful to hook higher than your message. The loops conceal the message from the front. You must pull back the loops to see where you concealed the message loops.

We congratulate Bev for her creativity and thank Eleanor for bringing this to our attention.

Recipes – Amy Korengut's Espresso and Chocolate Swirl Cheesecake was a big hit at a recent Guild meeting. Amy has shared her recipe with us.

Espresso and Chocolate Swirl Cheesecake Bon Appétit | March 1991

Yield: Serves 10

Crust

1 9-ounce package chocolate wafer cookies
6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) unsalted butter, melted, cooled

Filling

2 tablespoons instant espresso powder
1 tablespoon water
3 8-ounce packages cream cheese, room temperature (Amy used 1/3 less fat cream cheese)
1 cup sugar
3 large eggs
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, melted, cooled
1 tablespoon finely ground coffee

6 ounces bittersweet (not unsweetened) or semisweet chocolate, chopped
1/4 cup whipping cream

For crust:

Position rack in center of oven and preheat to 400°F. Grind cookies in processor. Add butter and process using on/off turns until crumbs are moist. Press crumbs on bottom and 1 1/2 inches up sides of 9-inch-diameter springform pan with 2 3/4-inch-high sides. Wrap outside of pan with aluminum foil.

For filling:

In small bowl, dissolve instant espresso in 1 tablespoon water. Using electric mix, beat cream cheese in large bowl until smooth. Add sugar and continue beating until mixture is light and fluffy. Add eggs 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. Mix in espresso mixture, butter and ground coffee beans.

Combine chocolate and cream in heavy small saucepan. Stir over low heat until chocolate melts. Pour half of cheese filling (about 2 1/2 cups) into prepared crust. Drop 5 tablespoons melted chocolate mixture by tablespoons around edge of filling, spacing evenly. Use small sharp knife to swirl chocolate into filling. Carefully pour remaining cheese filling over. Drop remaining chocolate mixture by tablespoons into center 6 inches of filling, spacing evenly. Swirl mixtures together using tip of knife.

Bake cheesecake until edges are puffed and beginning to crack and top is golden brown, about 40 minutes (center will not be set). Cool on rack. Chill overnight. (Can be prepared 3 days ahead.)

Run small sharp knife around edge of pan to loosen cheesecake. Release pan sides. Let stand at room temperature 30 minutes. Transfer to platter and serve.

Epicurious.com © Condé Nast Digital, Inc. All rights reserved.

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Architecture in Contemporary Hooked Rugs and Traditional Folk Art Exhibit – March 18 – September 7, 2012 – Susan Feller is the curator of an exhibit of hooked rugs to accompany works from the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center that reflect the use of architecture in folk art. On view in particular will be glorious Schwenkfelder townscape wool needlework pictures. The Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center is located in Pennsburg, PA. For more information visit its website – www.schwenkfelder.com.

2012 Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village -- August 14-18, 2012 – Featured Exhibits: Barbara Carroll - Karl & Mary Jo Gimber - Esther & Judith Knipe. Special Exhibits: Celebration of Hand-Hooked Rugs XXII – Eye See You II – Retreat Teachers – Zodiac Collection. Main Exhibit: Extensive representation of contemporary artists. Retreats & Workshops: Over 30 half, full, 2-day, 3-day, & 4-day classes. Vendors: Everything a rug hooker could ever want or need. Receive the most up-to-date information by going to www.saudervillage.org/creativity/rughooking.asp.

“Rugs by the Sea” Workshops – September 9-21, 2012 – The 25th “Rugs by the Sea” Camp will be held in Cape May, NJ from September 9-21, 2012. The line up of instructors for this year is Bev Conway, Lucille Festa, Cindi Gay, Kris Miller, Laura Pierce, Judy Quintman and Sharon

Townsend. For details contact Norma at g_batastini@msn.com or 973-746-2936 or Linda at Linda.woodbury@gmail.com or 973-743-6835.

Buckeystown Workshop – October 7-10, 2012. – Judy Carter is conducting a three day workshop based on her “Eye See You” rug at Buckeysville, MD. She will be teaching a full face Tiger, the full Mother's Comfort, or the baby giraffe. Anyone who may be interested should contact Pat Duggan at masondixonatha@gmail.com for 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 Janet Santaniello at 908-754-6787 or flowjans@hotmail.com.

Goat Hill 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 Goat Hill website at www.goathillatha.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.

Wool Whisperers ATHA Chapter meets one Sunday each month from 10 to 4 at Foulkeways, in Lower Gwynedd, Pennsylvania. For more information contact Cheryl Halliday at havewenewool@yahoo.com or Patty Mahaffey at McMahaffey@comcast.net.

HCRAAG Calendar of Events

June 8, 2012 – Monthly Meeting – Annual Picnic (Gravity Hill Farm)

August 13-17, 2012 – 16th Annual Rug Hooking Camp – ESC School (West Amwell, NJ)

August 14, 2012 – Beginners Workshop -- ESC School (West Amwell, NJ)

September 14, 2012 – Monthly Meeting – Hooked Christmas Trees for Rug Festival*

October 12, 2012 – Monthly Meeting – Rug Hooking Traditions with Magdalena Briner Eby (Evelyn Lawrence) **

November 2012 – Guild Exhibit – Bucks County Library, Doylestown, PA.

November 9, 2012 – Monthly Meeting – Construction of Christmas Trees *

December 14, 2012 -- Monthly Meeting – Holiday Luncheon with mitten themed gift/ornament exchange *

January 11, 2013 -- Auction & White Elephant Sale *

February 8, 2013 -- Proddy Demonstration (Barbara Boyko) *

- March 8, 2013** – Festival Boutique Items – Ideas & Patterns *
- April 12, 2013** – Member Led Round Table *
- May 10, 2013** – Bus Trip (Destination to be determined)
- June 14, 2013** – Guild Picnic *

*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** – Cindy Boult – 908-730-0146 or cboults@gmail.com.
Therese Shick – 908-735-7985 or etshick@gmail.com.
- Vice President – Membership** – Debbie Walsh – 908- 272-7012 or debywalsh@yahoo.com
- Historian** – Sonia Force – 908-782-5716 or sojon@comcast.net
- Hospitality** – Deanna Kinney – 908-832-7587 or deakinn@yahoo.com
- Librarian** – Kathy Donovan – 908-755-1670 or frejja2@verizon.net
- Programs** – Sharon Ballard – 908-236-7410 or stancot@comcast.net
Barbara Boyko – 267-544-0371 or boykobarbara@yahoo.com
Robin Perelli – 609-737-8107 or shelterwoolfarm@comcast.net.
- Public Relations/Newsletter** -- Karl Gimber -- 215-297-0803 or karlg12@verizon.net
- Secretary** – Sue Woodworth – 908-273-3198 or srw0717@aol.com
Lynda Kling – 610-847-5468 or lkling@epix.net
- Special Events** – Amy Korengut – 908-221-9061 or gutvet@optonline.net
- Sunshine** – Gail Ferdinando – 908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com.
- Treasurer** – Jana Laidlaw – 609-497-4576 or jana@fastmail.fm
Jean Laurence – 610-287-9278 or j_laurence@verizon.net

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.

.....

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.