

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

June 2010

Presidents' Letter -- Happy Memorial Day to all, and a special thanks to all the Guild members and their families who have served in the U.S. armed forces. We hope you all find a moment to remember and give thanks, in between all the picnics and trips to the shore that we all enjoy this time of year.

Memorial Day is the traditional beginning of the summer season, and for many kids (and for all of us who used to be kids) this means no more school, lazy days, and most of all a trip to summer camp. Summer camp meant swimming, boating, hiking, arts and crafts, bad food in the mess hall, and songs around the campfire, but most of all, memories of good times spent with friends that have lasted a lifetime. We hope you all remember to reserve a little time for yourself this summer, by planning to join your friends at the HCRAG summer camp in August. We have an outstanding lineup of instructors this year, and have redesigned the schedule to guarantee that everyone will have even more time to get personal help and advice on their specific project or problem.

On a personal note, Dee would like to put in a special plug for Jen Lavoie who will be teaching an open class at our camp this year. When Dee took her class about two years ago, she was really stumped about what to do for the background of a fish rug, and Jen gave her suggestions that really worked and that she would have never even thought of without her guidance. The results were wonderful, and we urge anyone who might be interested to take this class. Regardless of your experience level or style, Jen will have something for you – you won't be disappointed!

Here's wishing all of you a peaceful summer season – happy hooking! We look forward to seeing you at camp or at our September meeting!

Dee & Joyce

June Meeting – Friday June 11, 2010 – 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 1314 State Highway 12, 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 – June signifies the end of another Guild year, so show us what hooking accomplishments you have achieved during the 2009/2010 Guild year! Current hooking projects are always welcomed at Show & Tell.

Hospitality – We thank all members who provided refreshments for our meeting during the past program year. The coffee, tea and snacks certainly add to our meeting enjoyment.

June Birthdays -- June Bennett (6/24), Janet Bosshard (6/14), Lydia Brenner (6/4), Gail Ferdinando (6/6), Cheryl Halliday (6/8), 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 of days.

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), Linda Czeck (7/13), Weezie Huntington (7/11), 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 – Lynn Burtis wants her Guild friends to have her new email address – lynnburteis@gmail.com.

A current membership list is being sent with the newsletter so that you will have it available for use during the summer.

Sunshine – We wish Margaret Lutz a speedy recovery. She is suffering from pneumonia. Our condolences are extended to Pete Watson (Howell Living Farm) on the passing of his mother.

Message From Weezie -- Thank you for being such a great group of people--I have really enjoyed my tenure of leadership. You have made it easy and pleasurable. Thank you for the gift certificate to one of my favorite restaurants, the flowers, and the scholarship to camp. I have been plentifully blessed by all of you.

I will be around for a while--our house is not quite ready to put on the market, and then who knows how long it will take to sell. Then we need to figure out where to go. I look forward to pulling many more loops with all of you--no matter where I live.

Thank you again, and I ask that you support Dee and Joyce in their leadership efforts the way you supported me. Continue volunteering to help out--that is what makes our guild so special, and so successful. Blessings on all of you. Weezie

Guild Returns to the Sergeantsville Farmers' Market -- Former Guild member, Jamie Miribito, who helps run the Farmers' Market in Sergeantsville, NJ has invited the Guild to demonstrate rug hooking on June 26. Sergeantsville is a quaint town in the heart of Hunterdon County and their Market is an ideal venue for the Guild. Last year several visitors signed up for our Beginners' Workshop. We will be there from 9 AM to Noon. Please let Karl Gimber know if you can help demonstrate. The Market is relaxed, friendly and you can shop for fresh produce too.

14th Annual HCRAAG 2010 Rug Hooking Camp – August 9-13, 2010 – We still have a few openings in our camp workshops with Jen Lavoie and Diane Phillips. Cheryl Brubaker's workshop is full.

Jen Lavoie is known for her special wool dyeing technique and her creative use of the wool in landscapes and other rug patterns. You can work on a landscape or any other project. Diane Phillips is nationally known for her portrait rugs. Cherylyn Brubaker will conduct an open workshop where you can work on any pattern or style you want. More on each of these talented instructors is shown below.

Cherylyn Brubaker You are invited to work on the pattern that excites you! All styles of hooking and pattern designs are welcome. Cherylyn particularly enjoys hooking in the primitive style with over dyed textured fabrics, but is equally at home with fine cuts. Achieving depth and richness in our rugs through value, texture and color is what she strives for. Discussions are planned during the week on topics such as color planning and background techniques.

Cherylyn resides in Brunswick, Maine and is the owner of Hooked Treasures. A former graphic designer and a certified teacher with the Rug Hooking Guild of Nova Scotia, she teaches at workshops in the Northeast and Atlantic Canada. Her work has been featured in Celebrations X and XVII. Most recently she was a contributor to the book "Pattern Designs for Rug Hookers". Her pattern designs and finished rugs can be viewed on her website -- www.hookedtreasures.com.

Jen Lavoie – In this class, you are welcome to work on any pattern of your choice - new or old. All levels of hookers are also welcome - fairly new or seasoned hookers. Jen will spend time with you problem solving. Jen's focus is on discovering originality and true mastery of the medium. Class will consist of individual student sessions as well as short talks on process, wool as an art medium, dyeing and the principles of color, texture, line and perspective in rug hooking. Jen wants you to find inspiration to hook from your own personal experiences in life and even if you are working on a pattern, to discover what makes it truly your own artwork. All types of projects are welcome!

Jen Lavoie lives in Huntington, Vermont. She was featured artist at the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild's annual show at the Shelburne Museum in 2007. Her work can be seen in Anne-Marie Littenberg's most recent book, Hooked Rug Landscapes. She uses a variety of cuts and dye techniques, including painted wool, dip dye and gradation value dyes, to create landscapes and pictorials in a painterly style.

Diane Phillips – This workshop will focus on hooking faces, portrait style. The faces will be at least 8 inches from forehead to chin so that you can play with color and expression. An imaginary person, a family member, a national figure or YOURSELF- all faces are fair game. We will have individual lessons as well as daily demonstrations of hooking eyes, noses and mouths. We'll learn how many lovely colors can enhance skin and learn some techniques of dying unique shades of skin for all the world's people. Hooking hair gives us great opportunities for textures. Diane's personal style swings from very folkly to realistic, so you can work in your own style or try a new one. All cuts of wool from 3 to 7 are fine – Diane believes in cutting the size one needs to get the look one wants. She will provide lots of samples and inspirational materials as well as a DVD she produced for the Home and Garden Channel. Come have fun and hook a portrait that will become a treasured rug!

Diane lives in Fairport NY with her husband, Bruce, and four dogs. For eight years she directed the rug school held by the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild at the Shelburne Museum in Vermont. In 2009 Diane was the Featured Teacher at the Sauder Village Rug

Show and School in Ohio and will be a featured artist at the Hooked in the Mountains Rug Show in Shelburne, Vermont.

The fee for the week is \$150 for HCRAAG members who paid their dues by November 13, 2009. It is \$225 for others. The balance for those who paid a deposit is now due. Please send your checks made payable to HCRAAG to Karl Gimber at P.O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913.

Members who provide housing for a camp instructor attend camp free. All that is required is to provide housing, breakfast and dinner for the week. Lunch is provided by the Guild. You are not expected to entertain the instructors. They are tired at the end of the day and need time to relax, reflect on the day and prepare for the next day. If you have interest, let Camp Director, Dee Rosebrock, know.

Beginners' Workshop – Thursday, August 12, 2010 -- 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 Thursday, August 12, 2010 from 9-12.

The mat this year will be of a robin or bluebird sitting on a cherry tree branch (with cherries). 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.

Old Barn Rug Hooking Guild Hook-in -- Saturday, August 14th, 2010 -- Spend a wonderful day with new and old friends in a pleasant, relaxing (air conditioned!) atmosphere in the quaint town of Wyalusing, PA nestled along the Susquehanna River. Bring your lunch, or dine out in one of the eateries in town. Door prizes galore and a special raffle of a \$100.00 "shopping spree" with the Hook-In Vendors! (Winner must be in attendance) This event is a fundraiser for the ATHA 2011 Biennial Conference in Lancaster, PA.

- When: Saturday, August 14, 2010 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
- Where: Blue Heron Art Gallery, 121 Main Street, Wyalusing, PA. (North East Pennsylvania)
- Hosted By: The Old Barn Rug Hooking Guild
- Cost: \$10.00
- Vendors: Heavens to Betsy; The Wool'n Gardener & Two Old Crows

Questions? Call or email Janet Schleeter; 570-928-9190; jschleeter@epix.net

Brandywine Guild Hook-in and Auction – October 30, 2010 -- Terry Dorr of Dorr Mill Store will be a guest speaker at the hook-in sponsored by the Brandywine Rug Hooking Guild on October 30, 2010. There will be a special auction featuring antique paisley fabric donated by Cynthia Norwood and wonderfully dyed wool by Gail Dufresne. The event will be held at the Wagontown Fire House Founder's Hall in Wagontown, PA. Proceeds will benefit the 2011 ATHA Biennial scheduled for October 2011 in Lancaster, PA. Visit brandywinerughookingguild.weebly.com for more information.

Gail Ferdinando and Amy Korengut to Co-Chair Special Events --The last remaining position of our new team of officers/chairs has been filled. Gail Ferdinando and Amy Korengut have volunteered to co-chair the important Special Events position. The Special Events Chair oversees a committee to consider and organize special events such as retreats, hook-ins, demonstrations, exhibits and fundraising. We look forward to supporting their efforts.

Creative and Diverse Programs Scheduled -- One of the valuable benefits of being a member of our Guild is the opportunity to learn about various aspects of rug hooking at our monthly meetings. By drawing on the talent within the Guild and supplementing that with outside experts, our members are exposed to techniques and ideas that help us develop as rug hooking artisans.

Our Co-Program Chairs, Lydia Lewis and Gisele Meader, have already established exciting monthly meeting programs for the upcoming year. The schedule for the 2010-2011 program year is listed below.

- September -- Show & Tell of our Summer Projects
- October – Tavern, Trade and Farm Sign Rugs (Karl Gimber)
- November – Lettering (Claudia Casebolt)
- December – Holiday Luncheon
- January – Auction & White Elephant Sale
- February – How to Create and Transfer a Pattern onto Backing (Ellen DiClemente)
- March – Round Robin (Led By Members)
- April – Mola Mats – Lecture and Workshop (Norma Batastini)
- May – Proddy Mats (Kay Weeks)
- June – Annual Picnic

Gisele and Lydia continue to look for ideas, so pass your suggestions on to them.

Townsend Industries Closes Its Doors – The owner/founder of Townsend Industries died in February. The company's inventory has been sold and the company will close on June 17. This is sad news indeed.

Books for Your Summer Reading – The June meeting will be your last time to stock up on rug hooking books from the Guild's library for your summer reading. The updated HCRAAG Library Listing is attached to the newsletter. Just let our Librarian, Kathy Donovan, know what you want to borrow and she will bring it to the meeting. Kathy can be reached at 908-755-1670 or freija2@verizon.net.

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

Greetings from Virginia -- Guild member Carol Collin responded to the last newsletter to say "The Guild is doing the most terrific job of promoting hooking....My husband and I will be in PA for Mother's day and while there we are scoping out 55 and older communities for possible relocation. If that happens rest assured I'll become an active member of the Guild....having a rug hooking group available is one of the "must haves" if we relocate (golf courses count too). Wish I could come to camp this year but still have lots of things left to handle due to our son's passing in December -- maybe next year."

HCRAG Exhibits Rugs and Demonstrates at Howell Living Farm – Thanks to Joyce and “Skeet” Combs and Carol and Ray Kindt, our rugs were creatively displayed in the Visitors’ Center barn at Howell Farm on Saturday May 1, 2010 for guests to enjoy during the annual sheep shearing festivities.

Joyce reported that “The farm had an amazing amount of people visiting today. Our wonderful spot in the barn remained cool all day and many of our visitors were looking for a cool spot to relax for a while. We did have a steady flow of people who were interested and tried their hand hooking on our teaching rug. The lunch was exceptional with fresh foods from the farm.

Margaret, Kitty and I hooked from 10 to 4 and Giselle stopped by for several hours between her job and a wedding. (That deserves a gold star!) Kitty's husband Gerry visited for a while and took some pictures while he was there. My Granddaughter Clara had her 6th birthday on the grounds and I was able to leave for a while to enjoy her party and watch the kids have a great day. My son Jeff and his nephew Aiden took the show down in record time.”

The exhibit was very well received by the staff. Pete Watson, who heads up the Farm staff, sent the following message: “Thanks for a terrific exhibit! I was stuck driving a wagon so couldn't visit with you much, but it seemed to fit the program perfectly and I did hear some very nice comments about it from people riding the wagon. Thanks again to you and all your members for a great day.”

Guild Has Successful Afternoon at Mercer Museum -- Joyce Combs, Annie Edwards, Karl Gimber, Cheryl Halliday, Joanne McIlmurray and Dee Rosebrock spent the afternoon on Saturday May 8th at the Mercer Museum in Doylestown, PA. sharing their enthusiasm for rug hooking with Museum visitors.

Museum Vice President Cory Amsler sent the following thank you message: “I have heard much good feedback on your group's display and demonstration. Thank you again so much for offering it. Especially noted was the hands-on set up your folks had that allowed visitors to try their hand at the craft - that is a terrific thing. Evidently there were a number of people who came to the museum especially to see your group.”

We look forward to returning to the Mercer Museum in support of their programming.

Therese Shick’s Strawberry-Rhubarb Cobbler Recipe -- You could tell that it was good because it did not last long! The strawberry-rhubarb cobbler that Therese Shick brought to the May meeting was gone in no time. Several members wanted the recipe and we thank Therese for sharing it with us.

Strawberry-Rhubarb Cobbler (Good Housekeeping Magazine)

- 1 orange
- 1 lb. strawberries, hulled and cut in quarters
- 10 oz. rhubarb, trimmed and cut in ½ inch pieces
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 T. cornstarch
- 2/3 cup old-fashioned oats
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup flour
- Salt

- 6 T. slightly softened butter

Preheat oven to 375°. Zest orange and divide in half. Juice orange and set aside. In large bowl, with ½ of zest, combine strawberries, rhubarb and sugar until well mixed. To orange juice add cornstarch, and mix until well combined. Add orange juice mixture to the fruit mix and toss until well combined. Pour into 9 inch glass or ceramic pie plate and spread evenly.

In another bowl, combine the other ½ zest, oats, brown sugar, flour and pinch of salt. With pastry blender or fingers, blend in butter until it forms coarse crumbs.

Sprinkle oat mixture evenly over fruit mixture. Place pie plate in cookie sheet to catch any drips. Bake about 45 minutes or until topping is lightly golden. Cool until filling is set but still slightly warm.

Eat as is, or with a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Featured Member – Jana Laidlaw -- In 2007 Jana finally had more time to devote to her creative interests. She knew that there was a quilters group that met at the Mercer County Library on Thursdays and went to see what they were all about. It turns out that she went on the wrong Thursday and the Mercer Rug Hookers were there and not the quilters. She was “blown away” by what she saw being done. Jana had seen rug hooking in Nova Scotia years before while on vacation and was somewhat familiar with the craft. The Mercer Hookers are also HCRA members and told her of our Beginners’ Workshop, which she attended.

Her timing was ideal because shortly after the workshop Norma Batastini had her yard sale. The Mercer Hookers took Jana under their wing and took her to the sale where she bought wool, a cutter, patterns and other basic supplies. She was now all set up to seriously begin her rug hooking.

In her first year, Jana was “just trying things out” with the Mercer Hookers. The next summer at the HCRA camp she took Gail Dufresne’s workshop and started her first rug. Jana continues to go to Gail’s open studio workshops in Lambertville, NJ once or twice a month. Jana has sampled different styles and once took a workshop with Cynthia Norwood where the focus was on using wide cuts. “I like Cynthia very much, but hooking with a 9 cut is not for me.” notes Jana. She attended Doris Norman’s Celtic knot workshop with Weezie Huntington and “loved it”. Jana continues to learn as a participant with the “Hooksome & Chatmore” group who meet to hook every Thursday

Jana has hooked with recycled wool, but tends to work almost exclusively with new wool. She notes that “going to Gail’s and seeing her wool is like finding the mother lode. It’s there and it’s beautiful. If it is not there, Gail will dye it for you.”

So far, Jana has tended to work with commercial patterns, although she is beginning to design some of her own. Her Celtic knot rug was designed using internet images. Jana envisions doing more of her own designs in the future. “There are so many possibilities.”

The amount of time that Jana can devote to her hooking depends on what else she is doing. Sometimes it is haphazard, especially when she is working. Often she works on her current project while watching TV. “My hands need to be busy”, she says. Jana gets hooking done on the days she goes to Gail Dufresne and Thursdays with the Hooksome & Chatmore group. In mid March of this year, Jana’s basement was flooded when they lost power and the sump pump failed. The water caused structural wall problems and the house is undergoing major remedial

construction. The family's routine has been disrupted. "Most of my stuff is in a big pile in a storage unit." she notes.

The combination of the manual process involved in hooking and the creativity involved in designing patterns and selecting and combining wool provide an experience that Jana did not find in quilting or knitting. "It's absolutely the best thing for me", she claims.

For 35 years Jana worked as a molecular and cellular biology laboratory researcher focusing on the process to bring new drugs to the market. Initially she worked in a university setting at the University of Michigan and the University of Texas before moving into the corporate world with a small pharmaceutical firm and then Bristol-Meyers Squibb. Then Jana moved into regulatory affairs with Merck and worked on the process of getting drugs approved. Now retired, Jana devotes time to volunteer work. Her major activity is with Centurion Ministries who investigate situations where individuals may have been incarcerated incorrectly. Much of their work involves forensic DNA examination. Jana does the early case work. Her portion takes a few months on each case which generally take years to be resolved.

Jana and her husband Bob live in Princeton, NJ with their two sons, Kai and Ryan. Bob is a Chartered Financial Analyst who does analysis of various stocks for a hedge fund in New York City. Kai works with computers at Princeton University and Ryan is a college student. At the present time, they share their home with five pets – Molly (a Boston Terrier), Autumn (a cat who is the ruler of the house), Coco (a bunny), Percy (a duck who rules the backyard) and Terry (a turtle). Their guinea pig died a few months ago.

Besides rug hooking, Jana enjoys quilting, gardening and knitting, although she does knit as much as she once did. As a family they like camping, hiking and sailing in Barnegat Bay with their small sail boat.

Jana joined our Guild shortly after participating in the Beginners' Workshop. She finds that the longer she belongs, the "more fun it becomes. The programs and seeing the people are worth the drive from Princeton."

To see some of Jana's creations go to the Guild's website (www.hcrag.com) and click on "Hooker of the Month".

"From Nina's Notebook" One of the questions I am sometimes asked is where do you get your inspirations for rugs? When it is time to think about a new mat, I am sure we have all faced that question. Perhaps we have lots of ideas in our heads, but which one gets the nod to become a mat. One thing I have found useful is to keep a journal of ideas. My journal is a large notebook in which I glue pictures, record my thoughts, paste in articles from magazines, doodle on the pages, whatever might be helpful in planning a new piece. I have also found that blogs about hooking can be helpful.

One of the Nova Scotia teachers who has been a great mentor to me is Deanne Fitzpatrick. She has a website www.hookingrugs.com which has a gallery of her work as well as a blog. This morning I went out of my house and heard the birds tweeting and singing, and the smell of fresh earth and grass was in the air. The change of seasons brings back many memories and images which can be translated into a design for a mat. Last but certainly not least are family memories. My grandmother, Nanny as we called her, was an important person in my life. One of my fondest recollections of her is in the kitchen, baking bread. And so I hooked her kneading bread at her kitchen table and labeled it, "Give us this day."

The show and tell at HCRAAG meetings is my favorite part. Seeing the creativity and passion in those mats often sets off new ideas which work their way into a fresh design. Visiting a museum, seeing a rug exhibit, looking at a new magazine, these are all sources we can use. There are many places to look for inspiration, these are just a few.

Happy Hooking – See you in the fall!

Tips from Heloise (a.k.a. Lydia Lewis) – This time of year with all the flowers blooming we think of color. Color and design are so important when beginning a rug. Texture is also very important. A rug hooked with all the same weave and weight lacks the quality of texture and may be boring (Unless that is the look you want). Texture can be accomplished by using plaids, tweeds, checks, fuzzy materials, and loosely woven materials. When using different weights and weaves- the width of the strip used in hooking will have to be varied to be evenly hooked. This variation gives texture, which bring interest and diversity to your rug.

Designing & Hooking Primitive Rugs by Susie Stephenson -- Several Guild members met Susie Stephenson in 2006 at the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild's annual exhibit and workshops held at the Shelburne Museum in Vermont. Susie had just completed her hooked coat that was the talk of all who saw it. Susie, a very prolific hooker, recently had her first book, Designing & Hooking Primitive Rugs, published by Schiffer Publishing.

Susie now lives in Maine, but divides her time between Maine and Nova Scotia. Each of her rugs is an original design and hooked exclusively with recycled wool. Maritime themes of ships, water, mermaids and the simple life of fishing and farming are evident in her work. "As a rug hooker she expresses, without inhibition, the world around her in a simple and real way. Because she hooks alone and without a group, she doesn't have the influence of other people's ideas or rules."

The book begins with several chapters on rug hooking basics before sharing images of Susie's significant number of hooking projects, many of which are now in private collections. Her work is presented in the following categories:

- Designing Rugs from Children's Drawings
- Pictorial Scenes
- Beloved Animals
- Mermaids and Other Nautical Scenes
- Welcome Mats and Motto Rugs
- Padullas & Other Flowers
- Geometrics
- Hooked Items Other Than Rugs

Guild members who enjoyed Jennifer Manuell's recent March Madness Workshop on hooked purses will be delighted with the examples of hooked items other than rugs -- coats, vests, purses, hats and even a bikini.

The final chapter, Repairing and Cleaning Old Rugs, treats an important subject not often covered in current rug hooking books.

One way to use Susie Stephenson's book is to literally take each image of her work and study it very closely. How does she hook faces? How does she hook the whiskers on the critters? How

does she hook backgrounds? How does she use color? How about the borders? There is so much that can be learned.

Designing & Hooking Primitive Rugs provides a master's class in creative primitive rug hooking and is an important book for those who hook in the primitive style. A copy of the book will be available for examination at the June meeting.

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 updates the site monthly. Take a look!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

At the Sign of the Hooked Rug: Historic Rug Designs Exhibit– April 6 – July 11, 2010 -- *At the Sign of the Hooked Rug: Historic Rug Designs by Mary Jo and Karl Gimber* will be the first exhibit of the 200th Anniversary season of the historic Red Mill Museum Village and will be on view from Tuesday, April 6 through Sunday, July 11, 2010. The Museum is located at 56 Main Street, Clinton, NJ. For more information contact Melissa Mohlman at 908-730-7626 or matmohlman@yahoo.com.

Woolfest 2010 at Lake Metroparks Farmpark in Kirtland, Ohio -- June 26 & 27, 2010 . In addition to the Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers (Kirtland, OH), the Northcoast Knitting Guild (Mayfield, OH) and Western Reserve Rug Hookers Guild (Bainbridge, OH) are participating. About three dozen vendors are currently scheduled for the weekend and about two dozen classes in the various fiber arts are scheduled from Friday, the 25th, through Sunday, the 27th. For more information, visit www.lakemetroparks.com/Programs/Woolfest.shtml.

Rugs by the Sea – September 12 – 24, 2010 -- The popular rug hooking school returns to Cape May, NJ for its 23rd season. The instructors for the first week (September 12 -17) will be Bev Conway, Gail Dufresne, Kris Miller and Judy Quintman. Week two (September 20 - 24) features Cheryl Brubaker, Bev Conway, Lucille Festa and Cindi Gay. For more information contact Norma Batastini at 973-946-2936 or g_batastini@msn.com or Linda Woodbury at 973-743-6835 or Linda.woodbury@gmail.com.

Hooked on New Jersey Exhibit – September 24 – October 24, 2010 -- Rugs initially hooked for the Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter's 2009 Jersey Girls Challenge will be on display at the Barron Art Center in Woodbridge, NJ. An opening reception will be held on September 26. For more information, contact Janet Santaniello at 908-754-6787 or flowjans@hotmail.com.

Brandywine ATHA Chapter Annual Hook-in and Auction – October 30, 2010 – The Brandywine Rug Hooking Guild is hosting a hook-in to support the 2011 ATHA Biennial in Lancaster, PA. Terry Dorr of Dorr Mill Store is the guest speaker. For more information, visit their website – brandywinerughookingguild.weebly.com.

ATHA Biennial Conference in Lancaster, PA – October 19-22, 2011 -- For more information, contact Mary Lynne Naples at marylynnelan@aol.com.

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) 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 11, 2010 -- Monthly Meeting - - Annual Picnic*

August 9-13, 2010 – HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp – Educational Services Commission School

August 12, 2010 – HCRAG Beginners’ Workshop – Educational Services Commission School

September 10, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Summer Show & Tell *

October 8, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Tavern & Trade Sign Rugs (Karl Gimber) *

November 12, 2010 – Monthly Meeting -- Lettering (Claudia Casebolt)*

December 10, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Holiday Luncheon & Ornament Exchange *

January 14, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Auction & White Elephant Sale *

February 11, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – How to Transfer a Pattern onto Backing (Ellen DiClemente) *

March 11, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Round Robin Led my Members *

April 8, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Mola Mats Lecture & Workshop (Norma Batastini) *

May 13, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Proddy Mats (Kay Weeks) *

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

August 15-19, 2011 – HCRAGI Rug Hooking Camp (June Halliwell Green, Kris McDermet and Iris Simpson) – ESC School, Lambertville, NJ.

August 18, 2011 – HCRAG Beginners’ Workshop – ESC School, Lambertville, NJ.

*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.

** 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.

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

Dee Rosebrock – 609-771-0596 or uncoolfred@aol.com

Vice President – 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.net

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

Programs – Lydia Lewis – 215-968-3278 or misspid2@aol.com

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

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

Secretary – Lynda Kling – 610-847-5468 or lkling@epix.net

Special Events Co-Chairs – Gail Ferdinando – 908-735-6720 or

thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com and

-- Amy Korengut – 908-221-9061 or gutvet@optonline.net

Sunshine – Janet Santaniello – 908-754-6787 or flowjans@hotmail.com

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

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

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