

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

June 2018

From the Presidents:

Robin and I can't believe that it is already time for us to take over for Weezie, Jan and Fred. They have done a wonderful job and it will be hard for us to continue in their footsteps. Regardless, we will try our hardest. We decided that our first message should tell you a little about ourselves, with that in mind brief introductions and backgrounds are provided below. You will notice that we are both relatively new hookers and will enjoy getting any help we can. Mary... I have lived here in Hunterdon County for my entire life. I grew up about 5 miles south of our meeting site, got married and moved 5 miles north of our meeting site. However, I worked for the Telcom industry and commuted 30 to 40 miles daily for over 40 years. When I retired in 2013 I decided that it was time to get reacquainted with my Hunterdon County home, so I volunteered at the Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce. While there, I met Therese Shick. Therese came in to do an interview about HCRAG and when she walked out I told her how much I liked her purse. She told me that she had hooked it and that I should come to HCRAG to see what hooking was all about. From the first meeting 4 years ago, I was hooked. I had always admired hooked rugs but never thought I could hook one. It turned out that I love hooking with a passion. Along with hooking comes new friends, new ideas, new patterns, new material, and new gadgets to shop for (unfortunately another one of my passions) so it is a win-win situation. I'm looking forward to a long career as a hooker and hope I can do a good job as co-president of the guild.

Robin...I moved to New Hope, Bucks County in 2009 after 16 years in Princeton. We downsized after enrolling our son in the Solebury School. (He's graduating college in May!) I took my first rug hooking class at Rhinebeck in 2007 and another class the following year. At the time I was working at Pins and Needles in Princeton, so my focus was more on knitting and needlepoint. I was also working as a medical social worker which was my main career. Needless to say, I wasn't able to do much rug hooking. I ran into Dee Rosebrock when I was working at JJILL in Flemington and she told me about the guild. When I retired in 2015, I called Dee to ask how I could get involved with the guild. She put me in touch with Weezie who immediately got me started. I was so impressed with the talent, energy and welcoming atmosphere of our guild. I knew I had found a group which I wanted to become a part of for a long time. I echo Mary's sentiment that I hope I can do a good job as co-president, knowing we have the support of so many truly talented people!

June Meeting – Friday, June 8, 2018 at 11:00

Program The June Meeting is our traditional Potluck Picnic! After our business meeting and show and tell, we will eat and socialize! Also, the show and tell participation tickets will be drawn. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Remember to put your name on your serving dish. Your newsletter editor welcomes your recipes!!!!

REMEMBER: Meeting starts at 11:00!!!!!!

New Member

We'd like to welcome the following new member:

Mary Alpher Brown
23 Hamilton DR Princeton, NJ 08540
609-799-5968 609-462-3942 maryalpher@gmail.com
5/31

Sunshine

Members-if you have any information that you would like included under "Sunshine", please email Gail Fernando at gqferd@gmail.com.

June Birthdays

Kathleen Murray-Boyda (6/1), Lydia Brenner (6/4), Gail Ferdinando (6/6), Debbie Walsh (6/6), Phyllis Shapiro (6/14), Barbara Lugg (6/15), Cheryl Halliday (6/18), Kirstin Ditullio (6/19), Alma Coia (6/22), Jacqueline Lee (6/26), Teddi Pearson (6/26)

July Birthdays

Lisa Savino (7/6), Lynn Monteleone (7/8), Betsy Warner (7/10), Weezie Huntington (7/11), Susan Schultz (7/13), Misuk Lee (7/14), Nina Seaman (7/20), Laura Robinson (7/21), Marylou Green (7/22)

August Birthdays

Brigitte Levine (8/2), Leanne Sitler (8/4), Sandy Denarski (8/6), Janet Williams (8/6), Jan Cole (8/8), Deb Leshner (8/12), Bernadette Andrejco (8/16), Martha Thieling (8/19), Loretta Turner (8/19), Mary Passerello (8/21), Lynda Kling (8/25), Sally Tucker (8/27), Jeanne Surdi (8/30)

Guild News & Events

Member Items For Sale

Members are encouraged to bring rug hooking equipment they wish to sell to monthly meetings. This will allow current and new members to see equipment in person prior to purchase. A table will be set up for display. All items are to be labeled as to what it is, brand name, current owner, contact info, and price. Remember, there is a classified section in our newsletter. To place your item in the classifieds, email Brenda before the 20th of the month. Bss45@cornell.edu.

Newsletter Contributions Requested

Reminder from the editor--- this is YOUR newsletter! Please contribute to it! Are you a veteran hooker? What do you wish you knew when you first started? Please share that. Have you picked up a neat tip from rug school or a teacher? Let us know! New to the guild? Introduce yourself! Can you describe yourself in 5 sentences or less? Please share! Beginner hooker? What attracted you to hooking? Share your enthusiasm! Email your contribution to Brenda at bss45@cornell.edu. Thanks!!!!

Nina's Notebook

June is here, bringing sunshine, brides, graduations, anniversaries, reunions and other happy occasions. Each one can be a subject for a special mat either to keep for ourselves or to present as a gift.

I have done several mats for my granddaughters to mark their graduation from high school. On one I used the names of her friends, schools, special trips, dogs and other memorable times to show the streams of her life through those growing up years. The second one was for my granddaughter who plans to be a photojournalist.

I took some of her photos and hooked them into an album style mat which also included her prom dress and other special events. It was a challenge to design these mats. I wanted to show something that was unique about each girl.

I have also done wedding mats, one of which was used in the wedding as the couple stood on that mat when they took their vows. Now it is mounted over their bed as a reminder of those vows. It was a fairly simple design but incorporated their names and their wedding date.

This year my husband and I will celebrate a significant anniversary but I confess I have yet to come up with a design for a special mat. Instead I have been busy with two mats for the floor in our summer house, one for the kitchen and one to replace a mat in our

living room. Two large mats in a row, time for some small projects! I am sure something will come to mind this summer and it can be my winter project...also I can celebrate all year long!

So here is my challenge to you for the summer. Think of a significant happy time in your life...childhood, young adult, arrival of children, graduations, anniversaries whatever is special to you. The best mats are made when we are passionate about our work. The loops fly out of our fingers and we are happy throughout the whole process...even the dreaded finishing! So let the artist within you shine and make that special mat!

I wish you a joyous summer. Happy Hooking!

Nina Seaman

2018 Hunterdon Hook-in

We are having our second Hook-in on June 2, 2018 at the Three Bridges Fire Hall, 9am to 4pm. Registration is required and there are a few spaces left. Contact Joyce Combs via email at fjcombs@verizon.net. If you can't come for the day, walk-ins for shopping are welcome for \$10 after 12:00. This year we are having a food drive to benefit the Flemington Area Food Bank. For every dollar value of the food you donate you will receive a door prize ticket that will qualify you for one of two great prizes.

If you didn't attend last year it is a day of good fun.... bring your latest hooking project to work on, catch up with old friends, meet new hookers from all over, win wonderful door prizes, and find great shopping. If you haven't ordered your Jersey Mikes lunch by now you can bring your own lunch. Snacks are provided by Guild members and water is provided by the Guild.

Our vendors this year are:

The Wool n' Gardener

Wooly Dye Works

Diane Pearce (baskets)

Two Old Crows,

Susan Gonzalez Designs (wool applique)

The Wool Farm (from Delaware)

M.J. Miller (finished ornaments and applique work).

We are looking forward to seeing everyone!

Rug School 2018

Guild's 22nd Rug Hooking School (August 6-10, 2018) – Instructors Pris Buttler, Carrie Martin, Sharon Smith, and Ali Strebel follow in the Guild's tradition of inviting highly regarded and sought after teachers who will spend the week with us. Rug School will begin on Monday, August 6, 2018 and run to Friday, August 10, 2018. Workshop descriptions, teacher bios, and registration information are available on our website (www.hcrag.com.)

We currently have several openings-Contact Debbie Walsh or Lydia Brenner to sign up.

New Venue For School

St. Anna Greek Orthodox Church

85 Voorhees Corner Rd.

Flemington, NJ 08822

The website for the new place is: www.stannagoc.org Check it out!

HCrag Library – Kathy Donovan brings a selection of books to each meeting. A listing of the resources available to members from the Guild’s library can be found on our website (www.hcrag.com). If there is a specific item you want from our library, contact Kathy 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 frejja2@verizon.net.

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

HCrag Website -- Our Guild’s website (www.hcrag.com) is an important source of Guild and rug hooking information. The site includes a wealth of information for rug hookers that is updated monthly.

In order to have a rug added to the site, send a photograph to Patti Mahar at patriciamahar@verizon.net. The photo needs to be well focused and identified with your name and the name of the rug.

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter normally meets the first Wednesday of each month (September to June) at the Vermeule Center, 614 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, NJ at 10:00 a.m. For more information contact Janet Santaniello at 908-754-6787 or flowjans@hotmail.com.

Lamb Yankees ATHA Chapter normally meets the first Saturday of the month (October to June) at the South Branch Reformed Church, Hillsborough, NJ. For more information or to verify meeting dates, contact Barbara Boyko at barb@bboyko.com or 914-588-7077.

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 Julienne Stewart at 732-503-4286 or jls7952@gmail.com.

Informal Rug Hooking Groups – Informal gatherings allow those who cannot attend Guild meetings to be with friends with similar interests. The groups listed below are open to anyone who wants to attend. Some require a small donation to cover the cost of the meeting site.

Mercer Hookers meet on the first Thursday of every month from 10:00 to 3:00 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.

Woolkeepers meet at the Tewksbury Township Library in Oldwick, NJ each Tuesday at 10:00. All interested in rug hooking are invited regardless of experience. Contact Linda Reitz for details at 908-534-2659 or lindarz16@gmail.com.

Midland Park Rug Hooking meets the 2nd Saturday of each month from September to June at the Midland Park Library (Bergen County) from 10:00 to 3:00 or later. The cost is \$50 if paid in September or \$10 a session to cover the cost of insurance required by the library. Everyone is invited. For additional information, contact Chris Coslet at 973-962-1884 or chris622@optonline.net.

HCRAg Calendar of Events --

**June 8, 2018-Monthly Meeting-Annual HCRAg End of the Year Luncheon, show and tell drawing*
Meeting Starts at 11:00**

*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 a GPS is 314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the building.

** 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 for a GPS is 1Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822-3446.

Guild Officers/Chairs -- Our officers and committee chairs 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 *-- Robin Nissenfeld (609) 933-5641 robinknits@hotmail.com
Mary Passerello (908) 782-1765 mpassere@comcast.net

Vice President *-- **Membership** -- Ellen DiClemente – 908-284-9570 or ergot53@embarqmail.com
Newsletter – Brenda Smith-201-317-0586 or bss45@cornell.edu

Camp Directors* – Aggie Harris (215)348-4256 aappelharris@verizon.net
Linda Hannemann (908)730-0662 lindahannemann@icloud.com

Historian – Carol Kindt (908) 782-7306 ck-rk@comcast.net

Hospitality -- Deanna Kinney -- 908-832-7587 or deakinn@yahoo.com

Joan Lucas

Barbara Lugg

Aggie Wooden

Librarian -- Kathy Donovan -- 908-755-1670 or frejja2@verizon.net

Mentoring -- Amy Korengut -- 908-221-9061 or akorengut@gmail.com

Programs* -- Facilities -- Lisa Savino -- 908-534-1517 or lisasavino55@gmail.com

Show & Tell -- Sarah Gerding

Monthly Program -- Joyce Combs 609 737-9281 or fjcombs@verizon.net

Secretary *-- Jane Anderson -- 908-735-4355 or jasuanderson@gmail.com

Special Events -- Open

Spring Hook-in -- Marian Hall

Sunshine -- Gail Ferdinando -- 908-735-6720 or gqferd@gmail.com

Treasurer *-- Jean Laurence -- 610-287-9278 or j_laurence@verizon.net

Dee Rosebrock -- 609-771-0596 or deerosebrock@aol.com

* Designates Board Member, please feel free to contact any board member with issues or concerns.

Guild's Email List Policy -- The HCRAAG 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 (HCRAAG). It is published monthly (September through June). Articles, suggestions or ideas for the newsletter can be submitted to Brenda Smith at bss45@cornell.edu by the 20th of the month.

HCRAAG CLASSIFIED SECTION

Please submit items to be included in "The Loop" to Brenda Smith bss45@cornell.edu or 201-317-0586 by the 20th of the month prior to the month you want it included. The classified section is refreshed monthly so please resubmit repeat ads.