

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

March 2011

Presidents' Letter – MARCH! Let's hope for more days that are warm than days that are cold! We are ready for a relief from the cold snowy winter weather and dull landscapes. Rug hooking has made us aware of the colors in our surroundings. We are tired of looking into the distance at all the grays, whites, browns, blacks and overall dull winter hues. March usually brings an awakening to our trees. The beginning of March brings the buds that turn various colors. Then the early spring yellow greens appear towards the end of the month. Keep a watchful eye and see the brightening of our outside world.

With colors in mind let's take a look at our wool and try to brighten our color palette. There is such a colorful selection of wool that our rugs can be anything we want them to be.

March is also the beginning of a very active time for our Guild members. There are many events where we spread the joy of rug hooking to the public. Please try to participate in one of these events. You will have fun and meet new people. It is always enjoyable to show others our wonderful art. Joyce and Dee

March Meeting – Friday, March 11, 2011 -- The March meeting returns to our regular location, the Administration Building (Building #1), which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex, on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington from 10:00 to 2:00. The street address for the Complex is 1314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the road. Guests are welcome.

Guild Program – The program will be a fun filled, educational *Round Robin* of member led demonstrations. Our talented line up will cover diverse subjects, as listed below:

- Alternate Edging – Nina Seaman
- Celtic Design – Jana Laidlaw.
- Finishing Your Rug – Margaret Lutz
- Pattern Transferring – Ellen DiClemente
- Whys & Hows of Successful Demonstrating – Karl Gimber

Show & Tell – March is a month with shamrocks, leprechauns and green beer! Please share any rug that uses a lot of GREEN. Again, your works in progress are always welcome.

Those who participate in Show & Tell are eligible for a special raffle prize. Connie Coleman, Cheryl Halliday, Jana Laidlaw, Barbara Lugg, Nina Seaman, and Martha Thieling were the winners last month. Bags of homemade Valentine cookies, candy, calendar from Nova Scotia and a hand made felted heart pin were prizes donated by Guild members

Hospitality – Helen Buchanan, Ingrid Cosmen, Kathy Donovan, and Amy Korengut are our March refreshment volunteers. We thank them in advance.

March Birthdays – Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month – Tracy Fetzer (3/4), Sandy Francisco (3/7), Juliana Kapusta (3/4), Amy Korengut (3/26), Joan Lucas (3/13), Pat McDonnell (3/17), Irene Pasternak (3/27), Laurie Rubinetti (3/29), Mary Schenck (3/29) and Therese Shick (3/20). Happy Birthday to you all!

Membership – Irene Pasternak has a new email address – irepastr@netscape.com.

Sunshine – We extend our warmest condolences to Delores Clark who recently lost her brother Edward. Kim Nixon died on February 15, 2011 after a long illness. Kim was a well liked instructor who taught at a HCRAG Camp. Notes of condolence can be sent to her husband Robert Wade and her family at 2117 Ludwick Drive, Maryville, TN 37803.

Guild News & Events

HCRAG Partners with Mennonite Heritage Center for Hook-in/Clinic –

April 16, 2011 -- The Mennonite Heritage Center, 565 Yoder Road, Harleysville, PA is the site for a Rug Hook-In and Clinic on Saturday, April 16 from 9 to 3:30 pm. The event will be led by members of the Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild.

The idea for the day is to have a regular hook-in with a few vendors, a series of mini lectures, rug show & tell and a clinic where people can get advice/suggestions on their rug hooking projects. A beginners' workshop will also be offered. Space at the Heritage Center is limited so the event will be smaller than the typical hook-in. We are planning for about 50 people in addition to the beginners' workshop. Those who plan to attend are encouraged to register early.

At the present time, the mini lectures include the following subjects:

- Finishing Rugs (Joanne McIlmurray)
- Alternate Types of Hooking -- Proddy, Sculpting, Beading, etc. (Patty Mahaffey)
- Back to Our Roots -- Hooking with Recycled Garments (Karl Gimber)

Joyce Combs will conduct the beginners workshop assisted by Cheryl Halliday and Juliana Kapusta.

Please consider giving one of the mini-lectures (alone or with a friend), helping with the clinic or helping in some other way. Let Karl Gimber know if you want to be involved

Registration is required as participation is limited. The event fee of \$40 (non Heritage Center Member) and \$35 (member) includes a full lunch and coffee/snacks. To register, contact the Mennonite Heritage Center via email info@mhep.org, call 215-256-3020 or check the website www.mhep.org.

Officer Elections – Guild by-laws call for the election of officers each April. Officers can serve in either a senior or junior role. The junior person serves as an understudy and back-up to the senior person.

Kathy Donovan and Carol Kindt are overseeing the nomination process this year. They present to the membership the following nominees:

- Co-Presidents – Joyce Combs * & Dee Rosebrock *
- Vice President -- Debbie Walsh *
- Treasurer -- Jana Laidlaw
- Secretary – Lynda Kling *
- Historian -- Sonia Force *
- Hospitality – Deanna Kinney *
- Librarian – Kathy Donovan *
- Programs – Lydia Lewis* & Gisele Meader *
- PR/Newsletter -- Karl Gimber *
- Special Events – Amy Korengut *
- Sunshine – Janet Santaniello *

* incumbent

Members are still needed to fill the “junior” position for Treasurer, Secretary and Special Events Chair. Let Carol or Kathy know if you can support the Guild by assuming one of these roles or if you need more information.

We thank those who give time to help make our Guild successful.

Guild To Exhibit Rugs at Hunterdon County Library -- We will once again have the opportunity of displaying the creative talents found within our Guild. There will be an exhibit at the Main County Branch of the Hunterdon County Library during the month of April. This is the Library located within the complex where we normally hold our meetings.

Our pieces will be on display in the locked glass cases in the front of the library where they will receive maximum exposure. Gail Ferdinando will be installing the exhibit and will be collecting items for display at the March meeting. Small rugs, small three dimensional pieces, pillows, punch needle items, mats, etc. are ideal. She plans to install the exhibit on Saturday April 2 and can use assistance. Please let her know if you can help.

Exhibits such as this one allows the Guild to spread the word about rug hooking and draws positive attention to HCRAAG.

Bus Trip to Wool Outlets/Shops – March 2, 2011 -- A bus trip to The Wool Studio (Rebecca Erb), Homespun (Kay Leisey) and Olde Peddler Wools (Morgantown, PA) is being sponsored by the Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter on March 2, 2011. The cost is \$20 (nonrefundable). Participants need to provide their own lunch. Contact Sharon Ballard for more information at 908-236-7410.

Geometrics Workshop Fully Booked -- Sandra Brown’s workshop on geometrics that will be conducted at the Flemington Hampton Inn on Friday, April 29 to Sunday May 1, 2011 is fully subscribed. Event coordinator, Weezie Huntington, is maintaining a waiting list for anyone who wants to sign up. See the October 2010 issue of The Loop for details on the workshop. You can reach Weezie at weezie711@gmail.com or 609-466-1882 for current information.

Full payment is required by the end of March. Weezie will be at the March meeting for those who have not yet paid or checks made payable to HCRAAG can be sent to her at 1 Kings Path, Hopewell, NJ 08525.

Madeline Brightbill Camp Scholarship – The Madeline Brightbill Scholarship Fund provides a full scholarship to allow a deserving member to attend the HCRAAG summer rug hooking camp. This is awarded by our Scholarship Committee based on nominations and recommendations received from our members. The guidelines for granting the prize are quite broad: it could be used to

- say thanks to a member who has made an important contribution to the Guild;
- recognize a long-time member;
- welcome a new member;
- acknowledge someone who has shown a real commitment to rug hooking;

or for any other purpose that seems appropriate.

If you would like to nominate someone for this award, or if you would like to be considered yourself, please contact Joyce or Dee, co-chairs of the Scholarship Committee, by March 11, 2011.

Attend HCRAAG Camp Free -- 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 Directors Gail Ferdinando or Debbie Walsh know.

HCRAAG 15th Annual Rug Hooking Camp --Our Guild's 15th annual rug hooking camp will be held from August 15, 2011 through August 19, 2011. In keeping with our tradition, nationally recognized instructors -- Jane Halliwell Green, Kris McDermet and Iris Simpson – will provide a stimulating, educational and fun camp experience. At the present time, both Jane Halliwell Green's and Iris Simpson's workshops are full. Debbie Walsh is maintaining a waiting list. There are still a few openings in Kris's class which will also be an open hooking class for students who would like to hook in addition to braiding, or instead of braiding

Our Teachers and Their Classes:

Jane Halliwell Green (Pictorials) Jane is known for her pictorial and floral rugs. In this workshop, Jane will offer a fresh approach to hooking houses, water, skies, trees, grass, flowers, rock walls and other pictorial elements. Participants will learn how to apply techniques such as pixelating, bundling, shagging and meandering to bring a new level of excitement and skill to their hooking projects. Jane will lead her class through a series of mini-lectures and demonstrations of techniques. She will also work with students on an individual basis. Students may work on a commercial pattern or an original design with wide or narrow strips.

Jane will also teach wide-cut florals that she calls "Close Ups." These rugs or wall hangings are hooked in a wide cut, anything from a #8 cut to a ripped strip of wool measuring close to one inch. The rugs are extremely fast to hook and dramatic in their appearance. Size can vary from a 16" pillow square to a 48" X 48" wall hanging. Jane frequently uses dip dyes to create the petals. She will have a number of her own patterns available or students may design their own.

Jane is the author of two books on pictorial rugs, including her most recent, *Pictorial Hooked Rugs*. Her latest rug "Botanical Fantasy" was chosen for the cover of the 2010 edition of *Celebrations*. Jane teaches at rug hooking schools throughout the United States and Canada. She was the first rug hooker to teach at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC and was a guest of HGTV in 2001. Jane is also a painter and signature member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society. She resides in Annapolis, Maryland. Visit her website at <http://www.rugandwool.com> and <http://www.woolofthemothclub.com>.

Kris McDermet (After the Hooking Comes Braiding and/or Open Workshop) Students will have a choice of learning how braiding can complement a hooked piece, hooking in addition to braiding, or instead of braiding

Braids can frame, compliment or add contrast to a hooked project. They can be used as a border or center with endless possibilities for switching back and forth between hooking and braiding. This class will look beyond traditional rug borders to help you add texture and interest to your projects. Kris will present the many steps of braiding on hooking with easy to understand directions and hands-on instruction. Students will learn how to add braiding to a variety of hooked shapes and to the inside or outside of any hooked wall hanging or rug. There also will be instruction in hooking and braiding with silk. Silk adds a shimmering quality to both art forms. Students are asked to bring a variety of small hooked shapes to class and will be contacted by Kris.

Kris lives in Dummerston, Vermont and teaches braiding on hooking around the country. She is a member of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild. Please visit her website at www.krismcdermetrugs.com.

Iris Simpson (Open Workshop) Iris will offer an open class where anything goes and all levels of rug hookers are welcome. Students can use a commercially designed pattern or create one of their own (with or without help from Iris). They can choose any subject and use any cut from #2 to #9 or hand cut. The variety of choices made by the students will set the stage for what will be taught. Iris will teach her class through a series of mini-lectures on different topics, such as, Primitives, Orientals, Fine Shaded Fruits or Flowers. Hints, tips and techniques for each style will be shared. In addition, students will learn about materials (traditional and unusual), technique, design, color and finishing. Iris encourages questions and dialogue in her class and fun and laughter are always welcome.

Iris, an educator by trade and a hooker by choice, loves hooking and teaching at schools and workshops in Canada, the United States and England. She is an Ontario Hooking Craft Guild and McGown certified teacher, holds a Fiber Arts-

Traditional Rug Hooking Certificate from St. Lawrence College and is a certified Oxford Punch Needle teacher. Iris enjoys all aspects of rug hooking, from mini-pictorials in a #2 cut to primitives in a #9 cut. She values close communication with students prior to, during and after class. Iris is well versed in all styles and subjects and loves to share information and fun. Her latest work combines hooking with mini punch needle for an interesting effect.

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. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 is required to make a reservation for camp. The balance of the fee is due by May 30, 2011. 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, 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.

Guild Demonstration Schedule Shaping Up -- Our Guild's tradition of demonstrating rug hooking at local events continues this year with a full schedule.

Educating and informing the public about traditional rug hooking is one of the objectives of our Guild. Demonstrating rug hooking at local events is the major way in which we fulfill this objective. Our participation not only helps promote rug hooking and our Guild, but also helps support local organizations and historical sites. The current schedule is shown below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
April 2	Peter Wentz Farmstead (Sheep Shearing)	Karl Gimber/ Joanne McIllmurray
May 7	Howell Living Farm (Sheep Shearing)	Karl Gimber
July 30 & 31	Mercer County 4-H Fair (Howell Living Farm)	Karl Gimber
August 24-28	Hunterdon County 4-H Fair	Dee Rosebrock
September 10&11	Sheep & Fiber Festival (Ringoos, NJ)	
September 24	Holcombe-Jimison Farming Festival (Lambertville, NJ)	Gisele Meader
September 17	Historical Fall Festival (Hilltown, PA)	Karl Gimber/Joanne McIllmurray
October 1	Colonial Market Day (Newtown, PA)	Karl Gimber/ Margaret Brightbill
October 8	Howell Living Farm (Lambertville, NJ)	Karl Gimber/Carol Kindt
November 5 & 6	Thanksgiving in the Country (Stockton, NJ)	Joyce Combs

A coordinator for the Sheep & Fiber Festival is needed. Please let Amy Korengut know if can assume this responsibility or need more information.

All members are encouraged to assist in our demonstration efforts. You can participate for an hour or two or for the entire day. It is a satisfying activity to share our commitment to rug hooking with others. Please contact the coordinators for information on how you can help.

Meet Our Secretary – Lynda Kling – Lynda Kling wanted to learn to hook for a long time. In the mid 1990s she learned of a beginners’ workshop conducted by Betsy Coleman in her home in Doylestown, PA. The project was a seat pad with rabbit image. After that experience, Lynda wanted to find a teacher who could help her moving forward. She soon spotted an ad in Penny Power for Vicki Calu who was beginning to teach from her home in Dublin, PA. Lynda recalls sitting in Vicki’s dining room for her weekly sessions. Lynda continues to attend Vicki’s Thursday open studio sessions that are now held in her studio. Several Guild members including Cheryl Halliday and Juliana Kapusta are regulars too.

Right from the outset, Lynda was attracted to primitive style rug hooking working with #6 and wider cuts. Even with her extensive quilting, Lynda notes that she is not attracted to “fussy work”.

Lynda is an active “thrifter” who visits the local thrift stores on a regular basis and is always on the look-out for wool for her rugs and fabric for her quilts. However, she prefers to hook with new wool and gets much of it from Jan Cole who is also a regular at Vicki’s open studio. Much of the wool is used “as is”, although Lynda does enjoy dyeing her wool. She has all the equipment and on occasion will pull it out for a day of wool dyeing. She has lots of sheep’s wool in the barn that she hopes to dye some day as well.

When it comes to rug patterns, Lynda likes to design her own, but she is also comfortable working with commercial ones. Many of the chairs pads she has hooked over the years are ones that she has designed. Lynda has accumulated a sizable number of commercial patterns over the years and is now focusing on completing them.

Lynda tries to hook at least an hour a day generally at night in addition to her weekly participation in Vicki Calu’s open studio day. She is a believer of the “10 minute rug” approach when she falls behind in her hooking. The idea is to hook for just 10 minutes a day and that you will soon see progress being made on your rug.

Our Guild was brought to Lynda’s attention by former member Kim Kagan who at the time was a regular at Vicki’s open studio. Kim has subsequently relocated to New Hampshire. “I find the work being done by Guild members to be really fantastic and inspiring” says Lynda. “The group is friendly and so willing to share. Seeing what others are doing keeps you going when you get discouraged.” she notes.

Quilting and knitting are also favorite activities for Lynda. She has lots of fabric and is always trying to get ahead of the quilts needed for gifts to family members and friends. Her goal is to have several quilts in reserve that can be used for baby and others gifts.

Lynda and her husband Larry live in Ottsville, PA with four sheep, a pony, four cats, two dogs and “lots” of chickens. Lynda has been collecting the sheep’s wool with the idea

that she will again return to spinning. Larry is an administrator with the Council Rock School District in Newtown, PA. Before retiring, Lynda was an earth sciences teacher in the Central Bucks School District. She also did long term subbing as a teacher, was a nanny for six years and also worked in a Lahaska flower shop. Lynda and Larry have two sons – Andrew and David. Andrew lives in Bristol, PA with his wife Melissa and son Campbell. David and his wife Anna live in Worcester, England with their daughter Isabella. Both grandchildren are 7 months old and each has a quilt made by their grandmother.

Visiting her family in England twice a year is a priority for Lynda. She enjoys touring National Trust Houses and seeing a quilting friend who she met on line several years ago. Lynda has been fascinated by some of the English rug hooking techniques that she has observed. “They use everything in their rugs, even sweaters that have been felted. I am amazed by what they use.” she notes. Lynda hopes at some time to take advantage of being in England and to study rug hooking with Heather Richie.

Lynda likes the old look of hand made rugs and quilts and the fact that they make wonderful gifts. She also has an interest in 18th Century American history and adds that “some of the time I should have been hooking for about 10 years was taken up doing Revolutionary War re-enactments with my younger son. I still have all the clothes and gear but don't do it any more”. Like so many of our Guild members, Lynda has diverse interests and talents that make her special.

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina's Notebook

Will March come in like a lion and leave like a lamb or will it be in like a lamb and out like a lion?

Flowers, early spring, blustery winds, four leaf clovers, St. Patrick, snakes....these are a few of the images that come to my mind when I think of March. Any of these ideas would make a great mat! What about a tavern sign with St. Patrick and shamrocks inviting you in for a "Pint"? When I think of Ireland, I see a hill with sheep grazing, gently led by a shepherd in a tweed coat smoking a pipe, and followed by a border collie.

Staying with Ireland, perhaps a small cottage with thatched roof surrounded by blooming flowers could be a subject for hooking. Along with St. Patrick, I also think of St. Columba who was sent from Ireland to Scotland in a small leather boat to bring Christianity to the Celts. And speaking of Celts, next Guild meeting Jana Laidlaw will introduce us to Celtic designs. There are several books out which have Celtic designs suitable for reproducing and copying on to mats. And then of course, there are those lions and lambs! There are many designs for lions, from realistic to folk art waiting to be hooked. The lambs have plenty of patterns too!

So while you are waiting for the blustery winds of March to die down, think about a March mat to hook while watching March madness....another subject for a mat! Happy Hooking!

Tips from Heloise (aka Lydia Lewis) – March is a green month for St Patrick's Day. Colors in a rug affect those in the room in which it is placed. If you are not sure where you are putting your rug it is best to select neutral colors. If a location has been decided upon, it is important to select the right colors for the desired area. It is not necessary to match color in a room to make a rug that harmonizes. It is more effective to have a rug with different value of the main color in a room, a dark green rug in a room with light green walls, for instance. Or you can use a color in a rug that is similar in hue to the predominant color in the room.

Addition to HCRAAG Library – We wish to thank Margaret Brightbill for her donation of: Decorative Arts of the Amish of Lancaster County by Daniel & Kathryn McCauley. It will be available at the next meeting. If you plan to attend the ATHA 2011 Biennial in Lancaster Pa. you might find it interesting to familiarize yourself with the Amish and some of their arts,

Librarian, Kathy Donovan, brings a selection of books to each meeting. If there is a specific item you want from our library, 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 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 others members.

Favorite Recipes – Gail Ferdinando's Glazed Pecans was one of the popular treats enjoyed by those at our January retreat. Gail has kindly shared her recipe.

Heat oven to 350

Ingredients:

- 2 cups pecans (I use up to 4 cups)
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 stick butter

Beat egg whites until stiff. Mix in sugar and salt. Fold in nuts. Melt butter in pan in oven. When melted, mix in nut mix. Cook approximately 40 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes.

Bet you cannot eat just one!

HCRAAG 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!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Bus Trip to Rebecca Erb's Wool Studio – March 2, 2011 -- A bus trip to Rebecca Erb's Wool Studio, Kay Leisey's Homespun and the Olde Peddler Wools is being sponsored by the Alice

Beatty ATHA Chapter on March 2, 2011. The cost is \$20. Contact Sharon Ballard for more information at 908-236-7410.

March Rug Hooking Workshops at Oakside – March 15-17, 2011 – Norma Batastini and Linda Woodbury have announced their 3rd annual spring workshop series at historic Oakside in Bloomfield, NJ. Inspired by the antique American rugs seen at Shelburne Museum, they are teaming up with Lucille Festa (American Country Rugs) to offer two exciting classes – Historic American Rugs and Primitive Americana. For additional information contact Norma at 973-746-2936 or g_batastini@msn.com or Linda at 973-743-6835 or linda.woodbury@gmail.com.

HCRAAG Hook-in/Clinic – April 16, 2011 -- The HCRAAG is partnering with the Mennonite Heritage Center for a hook-in/clinic to be held at the Heritage Center (565 Yoder Road, Harleysville, PA) from 9-3:30 on April 16, 2011. Presentations, vendors, clinic and rug exhibit. Registration required. To register or for more information contact the Mennonite Heritage Center at info@mhep.org or 215-256-3020.

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.

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

- March 11, 2011** – Monthly Meeting – Round Robin led by Members *
- April 1-30, 2011** – Hooked Rug Exhibit – Hunterdon County Library, Rt. 12
Flemington, NJ
- April 8, 2011** – Monthly Meeting – Mola Mats Lecture & Workshop (Norma Batastini) *
- April 16, 2011** – Hook-in/Clinic – Mennonite Heritage Center, Harleysville, PA
- April 29- May 1, 2011** – Spring Fling – Geometrics (Sandra Brown) Hampton Inn,
Flemington, NJ
- May 13, 2011** – Monthly Meeting – Proddy Mats (Kay Weeks) *
- June 10, 2011** -- Monthly Meeting – Annual Picnic *
- August 15-19, 2011** – HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp (June Halliwell Green, Kris McDermet and
Iris Simpson) – 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
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.com
- 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 karlg12@verizon.net
- Secretary** – Lynda Kling – 610-847-5468 or lkling@epix.net
- Special Events** – 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 margaretbrightbill1@gmail.com

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.