

## THE LOOP

### **The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG) Newsletter**

May 2014

**Presidents' Letter** -- Our April Guild meeting was a busy, productive gathering that despite the inability to have Hospitality, was enjoyed by all who attended. The Show & Tell included the wonderful work accomplished at our Spring Fling weekend. Beautiful color wheel influenced owls, fish and pineapples from Norma's class and whimsical ripped wool rabbits, pumpkins, crows and more from Betsy's two classes were appreciated by all. Even a tavern sign got the really wide wool application! Thank you to both teachers for an experience that was reviewed with accolades by all who attended. Check the Guild's website ([www.hcrag.com](http://www.hcrag.com)) for group photos of the participants and some of the completed projects.

Our business meeting and Show & Tell were followed by a remarkable program presented by Cheryl Halliday and Juliana Kapusta. The extensive requirements and several years it takes to become a McGowan certified teacher were both astonishing and much appreciated by all who listened to the journey toward this coveted goal. Most remarkable were the exquisite rugs that have been produced toward this effort. Each was a masterpiece that demonstrated the high level of creativity and skill both Cheryl and Juliana have attained. We learned that while excellence has remained the focus of the McGowan certification; an inclusive appreciation of hooking styles has been embraced and the process continues to evolve. A proposal has been made to include certification rugs created by our own Guild members as a special exhibit at our next Rug Festival. Thank you again to Cheryl and Juliana for their generous effort to bring full circle our examination over the last two years of some of the history and evolution of rug hooking.

And speaking of the last two years, I would like to thank the Guild for the honor of being your Co-President since May 2012. I am speaking in the first person singular because as things have evolved, Therese has volunteered to continue on as co-president with Weezie for another two year term. This will require Guild vote at our June meeting. Thank you to both of these committed and generous women who continue to once again give so much time and creative energy to our Guild.

This has been a journey that has enriched me in many ways but mostly in the opportunity to get to know so many of you. Therese and I appreciate your willingness to allow us to help the Guild evolve with initiatives we hope will serve us well in the coming years. In particular thank you to the Board for the time and support for many efforts but most importantly the updating of our by-laws. Without the help of many we would not have been successful providing leadership for the Guild and launching our Rug Festival. We need to thank all the committees who make our Guild so admired. Our programs over the last two years led by Sharon and Ellen were fun, creative and always a learning experience. Those lambs, chickens, and holiday trees were highlights of our hugely successful Festival Boutique. Thanks to all who turned a "program" into so much more!

Looking ahead we thank those who have volunteered to continue serving on their committees and to those who have stepped up to take on a position. And we would be remiss without thanking Karl for his ongoing efforts to be our oars and rudder as we move from year to year. His support

is truly valued by past and future presidents. Mary Passerello will be helping Karl with The Loop and we know he is delighted with the prospect of support as he continues in the role of Communications Director. Ellen DiClemente is to head up Programs with the hope that new ideas and support come from the membership. Nancy Sears will be organizing our next Spring Fling.

While our next meeting is our scheduled bus trip to The Barnes Foundation Museum, those of you not joining us are encouraged to meet and hook at the Police Station. The space is reserved for us from 10:00 to 2:00 so do utilize it if you wish to gather. The bus will pick up participants at the County Complex, our usual meeting place, at 9:15, leaving at 9:30. A follow up e-mail will be sent closer to the date. See you on the bus, if not in June at our Auction Round 2 and Picnic.  
Cindy

**May Meeting – Friday, May 9, 2014** -- This month our meeting is the Guild sponsored trip to the Barnes Museum in Philadelphia. The bus will depart at 9:30 from the Library parking lot in the Hunterdon County Complex on Rt. 12 (the Complex where our meetings are normally held). We should park our cars at the far end of the Library parking lot, so we will not interfere with library patrons. Participants are requested to arrive by 9:00. Cindy Boults will have her cell phone (516-578-2372) turned on if anyone needs to reach her that morning.

**Show & Tell Raffle Winners** -- Dolores Clark, Fred Cole, Jan Cole, Sandy Denarski, and Karl Gimber were our raffle winner at the April meeting.

**May Birthdays** – Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month - Sonia Force (5/15), Jeannine Happe (5/19), Cathy Heilferty (5/9), Deanna Kinney (5/13), Lydia Lewis (5/8), Margaret Lutz (5/21), Laurie Milne (5/5) and Doug Sardo (5/2). Enjoy your day!

**Membership** – We welcome Brenda Smith to our Guild. Brenda was a participant in Norma Batastini' s Spring Fling Workshop and plans to demonstrate at Howell Farm later this month. Her contact information is shown below.

Brenda Smith  
1102 Weldon Road  
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438  
973-697-9167  
bss45@cornell.edu

Marian Michel announced at the April meeting that she was relocating to Massachusetts at the end of the month to be closer to her daughters. She plans to continue her Guild membership and wants to return for camps and workshops. Her new address is 250 Main Street, #205B, Hudson, Massachusetts 01749.

**Sunshine** – Lydia Lewis fell and hit her head at a Sunshine Hookers meeting in Florida where she and Paul are wintering. She was helicoptered to the Miami Trauma Center and spent a few days in the hospital. Lydia is now recovering at home. “I can hook!” she reports.

Susan Atwater is recovering nicely from pneumonia. We were glad to see her at the April meeting.

Margaret Lutz is scheduled to have breast cancer surgery on May 9. Get well notes and cards can be sent to her at the Hunterdon Care Center, Bartles Road, Room C112, Flemington, NJ 08822.

Inform our Sunshine Chair, Gail Ferdinando (908-735-6720 or [thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com](mailto:thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com)), of any member who is ill or in need of a note of cheer.

### **Guild News & Events**

#### **Hunterdon County 300<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration – Tavern Sign Rug Challenge**

Hunterdon County is celebrating its 300<sup>th</sup> birthday throughout 2014 and has encouraged county organizations to sponsor an event during the year. Our Guild will dedicate its October meeting to this special celebration. Our current plan is to provide an opportunity for members and the community to join us for a day of rug hooking at our regular meeting site. Karl Gimber will give a presentation on “Colonial Tavern Signs & the Stories They Tell” using his collection of hooked tavern sign rugs to illustrate how tavern and trade signs were an early form of advertising in a time when buildings were not numbered and most streets unnamed.

To add to the celebration, the Guild is sponsoring a Tavern Sign Rug Challenge. Guild members and other rug hookers will be “challenged” to design and hook a rug inspired by a Hunterdon County tavern. Karl’s research has already identified over 70 taverns licensed in the early days of Hunterdon County. He is developing a workshop that will include common tavern sign terminology, popular themes and images, lettering styles, rug ideas, and historic Hunterdon County tavern names. You can also personalize your design. How about the Ballard Inn, the Boults Tavern or the Thieling Ordinary? The current thinking is to offer the workshop during a casual hooking Friday or a Saturday in early summer.

The rugs will be displayed at our 300<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration event in October, the 2015 Rug Festival, and possibly the County Library.

**2015 Rug Festival Planning Underway** -- Festival Committee Chairs met last month to begin planning for the 2015 Rug Festival that will be held on October 3 & 4, 2015 at Prallsville Mills. Four local guilds will sponsor the event – Alice Beatty, Hunterdon, Lamb Yankees and Wool Whisperers. Here are highlights of some ideas being discussed:

- The Saw Mill Building that is diagonally across the parking lot from the main mill building will be used for the vendors. There was a watercolor art show there last year.
- The second floor of the main mill building will be used for the beginner’s workshop, sale of member rugs, featured artisan exhibit, and memorial exhibit of rugs by deceased members.
- Presentations will be given by a featured artisan.
- Members will have an opportunity to sell their boutique items.
- Raffle tickets will be sold during the Festival for larger (more expensive) boutique items.

- A streamlined rug registration process will be developed.
- Website will be updated by early fall 2014.

A fuller report including a listing of volunteer needs will be provided by Therese Shick, Festival Chair, at the September meeting.

**Newly Completed Rugs to Appear on Guild's Website** – Plans are underway to display on our website completed rugs that are shared at the monthly Show and Tell portion of our meetings. Several Guild members have been recruited to photograph the rugs. After a period of time the newly completed rugs will be added to the Members Gallery portion of the website. We hope to have the new arrangement in operation by the fall.

Our website is updated monthly, normally around the first of the month. Go to [www.hcrag.com](http://www.hcrag.com) for information on the Guild and programs.

**May Demonstration Schedule** -- This month our Guild will be demonstrating at Howell Living Farm and the New Jersey State History Fair at Washington Crossing Park, Titusville, NJ.

On Saturday May 3 Howell Living Farm will be hosting its popular Sheep Shearing Day that attracts large numbers of families. There is a natural relationship between sheep's wool and rug hooking that allows us to tell our story to Farm visitors. Guild members Karl Gimber, Barbara Kimbrough, Lynda Kling, Laura Robinson, Dee Rosebrock, Brenda Smith, Martha Thieling, and Betsy Warner will be set up in the barn adjacent to the Visitor's Center. Stop by and say "hello". The event is free and open to the public.

Washington Crossing Park in Titusville, NJ is the site for the New Jersey State History Fair on Saturday May 10. This year is New Jersey's 350th anniversary and the Spirit of NJ's 10 year anniversary. Visit their web site to see all the different venues ([www.njhistoryfair.org](http://www.njhistoryfair.org).) This event attracts a large number of visitors. Guild demonstrators will be sitting by the Johnson Ferry House. Joyce Combs is coordinating our efforts. Let her know if you want to help. Parking passes are available to the first 6 Guild members who wish to demonstrate. Since it is outside demonstrators need to bring their own chairs and all they will need to hook. We need to be set up by 10:30 and the fair ends at 5. There will be many gourmet food trucks available for our lunch. At this time Martha Thieling and Dee Rosebrock will be demonstrating along with Joyce.

**Addition to Guild Library** – Dee Rosebrock has donated Dyeing Wool: 20 Techniques -- Beginner to Advanced by Karen Schellinger to our library. The donation was made in memory of deceased members Madeline and Margaret Brightbill. We are grateful to Dee for this wonderful addition to our growing collection of books on wool dyeing.

Our extensive collection of books related to rug hooking and other fiber arts is a valuable benefit to Guild members. All you need to do to borrow a book is to contact Kathy Donovan, our Librarian, by 12:00 noon on the day before our meeting and she will bring it to the meeting. Kathy can be reached at 908-755-1670 or [freyja2@verizon.net](mailto:freyja2@verizon.net).

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

**ATHA Features Lamb Yankees Workshop** -- The April/May 2014 issue of the ATHA Rugger's Companion features the Folk Art Fish Program conducted by Norma Batastini at the January 2013 meeting of the Lamb Yankees ATHA Chapter (see pages 54 – 56). Photos of the completed fish mats illustrate the successful use of color wheels and the application of color harmonies in our hooking projects. A group photo of those who attended the workshop accompanies the article. Can you spot HCRA members?

**Officers/Chairs Elected** -- In accordance with our by-laws, officers and committee chairs were elected at the April meeting. The "slate" that was unanimously elected is listed below.

President – Weezie Huntington  
Vice President/Membership –Debbie Walsh\*  
Director Communications – Karl Gimber \* & Mary Passerello  
Camp Directors – Anndee Byers\* & Eleanor Dunker\*  
Festival – Therese Shick\*  
Historian – Sonia Force \*  
Hospitality – Deanna Kinney\*  
Librarian – Kathy Donovan\*  
Mentoring –Donna Kolznak\*  
Programs – Ellen DiClemente  
Secretary – Sue Woodworth\*  
Special Events – Open  
Spring Fling – Nancy Sears  
Sunshine – Gail Ferdinando\*  
Treasurer – Jean Laurence\* & Dee Rosebrock

\*incumbent

**2014 Rug Hooking Camp** -- Our 18th annual rug hooking camp will be held on August 11-15, 2014 at the ESC School in Lambertville, NJ for what promises to be a stimulating week of rug hooking. We will have four instructors this year -- Jayne Hester, Liz Marino, Carrie Martin, and Anita White. Details on the workshops and the registration process can be found on the Guild's website ([www.hcrag.com](http://www.hcrag.com)).

Recent cancellations have resulted openings in each workshop. We will soon open registration to hookers outside of our Guild. Register now if want to be assured of a spot by contacting Eleanor Dunker, Camp Co-Director.

Each summer we rely on participants to help with the chores associated with running a successful camp. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be circulated at the June meeting for campers to sign-up to help. Contact Anndee or Eleanor directly if you will not be at the meeting.

Questions should be directed to Camp Directors Anndee Byers (856-829-7179 or [Anndee@hookandhistory.com](mailto:Anndee@hookandhistory.com)) or Eleanor Dunker (609-267-8704 or [eldunker@hotmail.com](mailto:eldunker@hotmail.com)).

**Casual Hooking Days Scheduled Through the Summer** – Last month saw the beginning of our casual hooking days at the Court Room (our alternate meeting site) on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4th Fridays of the month from 10 to 2. We meet jointly on the 4th Friday with the Knitting Guild which currently meets there on the 3rd Friday. This arrangement is scheduled until July at which time we can assess whether it is working. If so, it will be continued. This new initiative had a successful start with 10 members gathering on the first Friday to hook and socialize.

These hooking days are informal with the emphasis on gathering together just to hook. Casual hooking days will provide an opportunity to have a fun day with hooking friends, to get to know each other better, and for beginners to learn from more experienced members. Participants are encouraged to bring their own snacks and lunch.

The Court Room is in the Police Station at the Raritan Township Municipal Complex at the Rt. 12 and Rt. 523 traffic circle outside of Flemington.

**Guild Demonstrated at the Peter Wentz Farmstead**-- Joanne McIlmurray and Karl Gimber participated in Sheep Shearing Day at the Peter Wentz Farmstead in Worcester, PA on April 12. They demonstrated traditional rug hooking and displayed rugs they have hooked. The weather could not have been better. The sunny day and warm temperatures brought out many families who came to see the Farmstead's flock of sheep shed their winter coats. Puppeteers, musicians, re-enactors and other traditional craftspeople added to the activities.

This year we shared a large tent with puppeteers who performed an 18<sup>th</sup> century puppet show and sang colonial era songs, two women who demonstrated the Pennsylvania German craft of scherenschnitte (paper cutting) and a rug braider.

The staff at the Farmstead goes out of their way to make volunteers feel welcomed which makes it one of our favorite sites. Snacks and beverages are provided throughout the day. Lunch was prepared in the open hearth summer kitchen and shared with the volunteers. This year the 18<sup>th</sup> century recipes included chicken pot pie, Tiesenlop (from an old Welsh recipe), griddle scones, currant cake and lemon tea squares. Eighteen century "fast food" -- pickles and cheese – was also served.

There was much interest in rug hooking and the opportunity to recycle old wool clothing much like our early ancestors did.

**Featured Member – Bernadette Andrejco** -- Bernadette was exposed to rug hooking as a child growing up in St. John's Newfoundland. Hooking "mats" (as rugs are called in the Maritime Provinces) was more commonly done outside of the cities in the rural areas. While Bernadette lived in the city, she developed a strong interest in what was being done. One year a former teacher took her to see a young woman working on a story rug much in the tradition of Deanne Fitzpatrick. Bernadette immediately decided that she wanted to learn how to do it.

In early 2011, Bernadette met Therese Shick at a quilting group that met at St. John Neumann Church in Califon, NJ. Members of the group shared other interests in the arts and Bernadette soon learned of Therese's involvement with rug hooking. "Therese took me under her wing, gave me wool for my first rug and became my mentor," Bernadette recalls. True to her roots, her first

rug was a Deanne Fitzpatrick pattern.

Bernadette met Margaret Lutz at Therese's home and since she lived in Flemington Fields where Bernadette lives, they became friends. Although she never took a class with Margaret, Bernadette often visited her at her home and asked her advice. She continues to visit Margaret at the Hunterdon Care Center. Margaret would give her wool when needed, but Bernadette also purchased wool and supplies. Bernadette continued to develop her hooking skills with the help of Therese and from Deanne Fitzpatrick's online instructional material. She also learned from a collection of hooking books given to her by a man whose deceased wife was a rug hooker.

Bernadette started hooking with #8 cuts, but has recently started to use #6 cuts of wool which she likes. Recycled wool was used as a necessity by the early Newfoundland rug hookers; the next stop for their "turned clothing" was in their mats. Bernadette "wants to do it the old way" but recycled wool is not always available. As a result, she hooks with both new and old wool. However, she wants to avoid having a basement full of wool, so she is careful not to buy too much.

The desire to "do things the old way" carries over to Bernadette's approach to developing rug patterns. Deanne Fitzpatrick's books are a rich source of inspiration. She adapts and combines pictures and sketches by holding them up to a window and tracing them. Her desire to follow old paths, however, does not prevent her from taking advantage of modern resources as Staples's photocopy and enlarging services!

"Developing a more structured hooking routine is something I need." While Bernadette hooks several times a week, issues with her back make it difficult for her to sit and hook for long periods. It is actually easier for her to hook standing up. For a while Bernadette hooked with Therese at her home until the demands of Rug Festival preparation made that difficult.

Bernadette is a skilled seamstress and has used her skills in a variety of different venues. Years ago she owned a craft business where she sold many of her creations such as custom pocketbooks and old fashion dolls. Creating costumes for theatrical shows, doll costumes, and wedding dresses were other applications of her creative and sewing skills. When her son, Paul, was with the Boston Ballet she made costumes for the dolls that matched those of the Nutcracker performers. Bernadette has also done counted cross-stitch and hand quilting. For 20 years she helped make quilts for her church's fundraising auctions. "It's all about the creative process that attracts me," she says.

Bernadette and her husband, Matt, live in Flemington, NJ. Matt is a retired engineer who is "passionate about golf." Their son, Paul, and his wife, Shari, live in South Orange, NJ with their three children – Jane (age 15), Owen (age 13) and Daisy (age 10). Paul owns the Puppet Heap located in Hoboken, NJ, which is recognized as one of the leading studios for puppet production in the United States. Shari is a children's book illustrator with many books to her credit. Daughter Megan, a writer, and her husband, Richard, live in Milford, NJ with their two sons – Freddy (age 9) and Collin (age 7). Richard is the Shop Manager for his brother-in-law's business. Before retiring, Bernadette devoted 27 years in child assault prevention. Her work entailed giving school presentations/workshops for grades K through 8 using skits as a way to deliver this safety program.

In late 2011, Therese Shick brought Bernadette to her first Guild meeting after which she became a member. It was at that meeting that she met Nina Seaman who spends part of the year in Nova Scotia. Their common love for the history and mats of the Maritime Provinces was an

unexpected blessing. The support provided by the Guild has been responsible for Bernadette's ongoing participation in Guild programs. Hooking allows her to connect with her cultural heritage; hooked rugs, especially those made with recycled wool, provide a link to her culture. Bernadette's rugs allow her to share her Newfoundland heritage with her grandchildren.

Visit our website ([www.hcrag.com](http://www.hcrag.com)) to see some of Bernadette's creations.

## **Hooking Information & Techniques**

**From Nina's Notebook** – What words and colors come to mind when you think of the month of May? For me, the color is green...in all shades and tones. There is the yellow green of the leaves newly budding from the trees, the emerald green of the grass, chartreuse of the willow, just to name a few of the many shades we encounter in the spring. For words, hope, faith, beauty, think, and create...come to my mind. Have you thought about creating a mat using a single word? Deanne Fitzpatrick has a few on her website which illustrate this idea. I particularly like the one based on the word, think.

I have been invited to be part of a hooking show in Nova Scotia this summer and the criteria include being large (40" minimum) and using multiple fibers. After much tinkering, thinking, and searching I came up with a design based on the concept of faith. I wanted it to be inclusive of several of the world religions so I settled on Christianity, Judaism and Islam with Tibetan Buddhism added to the mix. I spent some time researching major symbols of each faith, looking for some familiar symbols, but also some that are not so obvious but illustrate some of the major tenets of that religion. After choosing the theme, the next issue I dealt with was how do you tie it all together and do it in an artistic way? I decided that what they all have in common is the concept of water as the living stream of life. We as humans cannot live without water. In Judaism, you have the crossing of the Red Sea, or the exodus as a pivotal moment of history. For Christians the Sea of Galilee plays an important role, as well as the River Jordan. So I have a river as a primary design element to unite the various sections illustrating each faith.

I share with you my thinking and process of coming to a design for a mat using a single word. It has been long and sometimes arduous task, but I think when I am finished with the hooking, I will be pleased. It is my wish that this story will inspire you to think of a favorite word or color and go to work designing a mat. I know that with so many creative hookers in our Guild we will have many good mats to hang in our show next year.

Happy spring and Happy Hooking!

**Ideas from Susan Schulz's Dye Pot** – In celebrating the red and blue of the coming summer months and patriotic holidays, I thought it would be fun to share two dye recipes that I "concocted" last summer for a primitive American flag rug. **Each formula will dye ½ yard of wool.** If you'd like varying shades of each color, use just a portion of the dye ~ for instance, using ½ or ¾ of the dye formula over ½ yard of wool will give you a lighter value of the red or blue.

### **Rosalita Red**

Mix in 1 cup of boiling water:

- 1/8 tsp ProChem Brown 503
- 1/8 tsp ProChem Choc. Brown 502
- 1/8 tsp + 1/16 tsp ProChem Bright Red 351
- 3/8 tsp ProChem Fuschia 349
- 1/8 tsp ProChem Yellow 135

### **Glory Days Blue**

Mix in 1 cup of boiling water:

- 1/2 tsp ProChem Slate Blue 441
- 1/32 tsp ProChem Brown 503

Get out you dye pots and have fun!

**Tips From Heloise – Stuffing Hooked Pillows** – Heloise eavesdropped on several of Betsy Reed’s (Heavens to Betsy) instructional sessions at our recent Spring Fling and found her to have a wealth of practical rug hooking advice.

One of her tips was to use inexpensive bed pillows from Walmart that she buys for around \$2.50 on sale for the inside of hooked pillows. Betsy has found that this is less expensive than buying Poly-Fill at craft stores. She cuts the pillows open and pulls out some of the stuffing then sews it in half making two pillows.

Betsy saves rug backing scraps left over or cut off as our rugs are finished and wool snips-its and left over strips. She stuffs these into the corners of the pillow using a 1/2” wide artists brush with half of the bristles cut off leaving just the stubble. This tool allows you to really stuff the scraps into the corners of the pillow. This process gives the pillow weight and makes it firm.

Watch for other tips from Betsy’s workshop in later issue of The Loop.

**Recipes** – Therese Shick’s **Chocolate Fudge Cookies** were a big hit at the Spring Fling. We thank her for sharing her recipe with us.

### **Ingredients**

- 10 ounces bittersweet chocolate bars, chopped (I used Ghirardelli)
- 4 T. butter
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1 t. instant coffee powder
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 t. baking powder
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1 cup chocolate chips

Melt chopped bittersweet chocolate and butter in microwave and let cool to room temp. In electric mixer, beat sugar and eggs until pale yellow and thick, about 5 minutes.

In medium bowl, combine instant coffee, cocoa powder, flour, baking powder, and salt. Slowly add dry ingredients into mixer. Add vanilla and melted chocolate/butter to mixer on low until just blended together. Add one cup chocolate chips and mix to combine.

Cover bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for about an hour.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Form dough into balls. I found the dough to be a little bit dry, so you will need to form the balls together. I also made the cookies on the small side because they are quite rich. Bake between 10-14 minutes. When cracks start to show, the cookies are done. Let them cool a bit on the cookie sheet and then on rack to cool completely.

### **Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities**

Early American Tavern/Trade Sign Rugs & the Stories They Tell – May 11, 2014 – The Historical Society of Hilltown Township is hosting an open house on Sunday, May 11, 2014 from 1:30 to 4:00 with a presentation by Mary Jo and Karl Gimber at 2:00 on early American Tavern/Trade Sign Rugs. Each of their rugs has a special story associated with the tavern or shop from which the sign hung. The program will be held at the Society's Headquarters – the Hartzel-Strassburger Homestead -- that is located at 403-407 Keystone Drive, Sellersville, PA 18960. Contact Cindy Gerry at 267-614-9174 for additional information. Admission is free.

Ontario Hooking Craft Guild Annual Rug Show -- Sunday May 25, 2014 -- The Ontario Hooking Craft Guild is hosting its annual rug show on May 25, 2015 from 9:30 to 2:30 at Durham College, Oshawa Ontario. There will be over 600 rugs on display and vendors. The admission fee is \$10.00. For more information, contact Jayne Nevins [jnevins@rogers.com](mailto:jnevins@rogers.com).

2014 Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village -- August 12 – 16, 2014 -- Retreats, workshops, exhibits and vendors are all part of the experience of Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village in Archbold, Ohio. This is one of the largest rug hooking events in the country. Call 800-590-9735 or go to [www.saudervillage.org](http://www.saudervillage.org) for details.

The Country Inn Rug School – September 7 – 12, 2014 – The Woodbound Inn in Rindge, NH is the location for this McGown Rug HooKrafters camp. The instructors this year will be Betty McClellent, Lois Dugal, Gail Walden, and Sarah Guiliani. For more information contact Camp Director Arline Bechtold-Apgar at 908-757-5257 or [bechtoldt@comcast.net](mailto:bechtoldt@comcast.net).

Rugs by the Sea (A Traditional Rug Hooking School) – September 14 -- 19 & September 21--26, 2014 – The popular rug hooking school held at the Chalfonte Hotel in Cape May, NJ will again be held for two weeks in September. The instructors for the first week will be Bev Conway, Chizuka Hayam, Michele Micarelli and Ali Strebel. The second week will feature Cherylyn Brubaker, Cammie Bruce, Diane Stoffel, and Margaret Wanger. For more information contact Norma Batastini at 973-746-2936 or [nbatastini@gmail.com](mailto:nbatastini@gmail.com) or Linda Woodbury at 862-253-4343 or [linda.woodbury@gmail.com](mailto:linda.woodbury@gmail.com).

Hooked in the Mountains XVII – October 15-19, 2014 – An exhibition of hooked rugs and fiber arts sponsored by the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild will be held on October 15-19, 2014 at

their new location, the Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction, VT. For details visit the guild's website –[www.gmrhg.org](http://www.gmrhg.org).

Olde Cape Cod Rug School – November 14- 17, 2014 -- This new rug hooking camp will be held at the Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis, MA. Nancy Blood, Bev Conway, Sarah Guiliani, and Michele Micarelli will be the instructors. For more information, contact Camp Director, Norrma McElhenny at 508-896-9283 or [oldecapecodrugschool@gmail.com](mailto:oldecapecodrugschool@gmail.com).

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](mailto: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 Kathleen Murray-Boyda at 908-442-0995 or [kathmb@hotmail.com](mailto:kathmb@hotmail.com). Visit the Lamb Yankees website at [www.lambyankees.weebly.com](http://www.lambyankees.weebly.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](mailto: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](http://www.springlakenjatha.org) – or contact Barbara Kimbrough at 908-309-3881 or [beedkay@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### **HCRAG Calendar of Events**

**May 2, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day \*\***

**May 9, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Bus Trip to Barnes Foundation Museum, Philadelphia**

**May 23, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day \*\***

**June 6, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day \*\***

**June 13, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – “January Auction” & Guild Picnic (Location TBD)**

**June 20, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day \*\***

**July 25, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day \*\***

**August 11-15, 2014 – Rug Hooking Camp – ESC School, West Amwell, NJ**

**August 12, 2014 – Beginner’s Workshop – ESC School, West Amwell, NJ**

**September 12, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Rugs with a Story \***

**October 10, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Hunterdon County 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration \***

**November 14, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – TBD \*\***

**December 12, 2014 – 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 314 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/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** – Weezie Huntington – 609-477-4339 or weezie711@gmail.com  
Therese Shick – 908-735-7985 or etshick@gmail.com.

**Vice President – Membership** – Debbie Walsh – 908- 272-7012 or debywalsh@yahoo.com

**Director -- Communications** -- Karl Gimber -- 215-297-0803 or karlg12@verizon.net  
Mary Passerello – 908-782-1765 or mpassere@comcast.net

**Camp Directors** – Anndee Byers -- 856-829-7179 or anndee@hookandhistory.com  
Eleanor Dunker -- 609-267-8704 or eldunker@hotmail.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

**Mentoring** – Donna Kolznak – 610-681-6357 or dmk17@ptd.net

**Programs** -- Ellen DiClemente – 908-284-9570 or ergot53@embarqmail.com

**Rug Festival** -- Therese Shick – 908-735-7985 or etshick@gmail.com.

**Secretary** – Sue Woodworth – 908-273-3198 or srw0717@aol.com

**Special Events** – Open

**Spring Fling** – Nancy Sears – 410-627-8179 or njsears@ptd.net

**Sunshine** – Gail Ferdinando – 908-735-6720 or thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.

**Treasurer** – Jean Laurence – 610-287-9278 or [j\\_laurence@verizon.net](mailto:j_laurence@verizon.net)

Dee Rosebrock – 609-771-0596 or deerosebrock@aol.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](mailto:karlg12@verizon.net) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.