

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

November 2009

From the President's Corner – With Thanksgiving Day fast approaching, I find myself reflecting and giving thanks for all the many blessings I am privileged to have. As President of our Guild, my list is long.

I am thankful for:

- our officers who devote time and energy in so many ways to keep our Guild vibrant.
- our responsive members who participate in meetings, programs and activities.
- those who present our monthly programs and share their knowledge and expertise with us.
- members who provide refreshments at our meeting each month. The treats alone are worth coming to the meeting for!
- the “professionals” in the area who support our Guild and provide instruction, supplies and most importantly encouragement.
- Hunterdon County which provides facilities for our meetings and our annual camp.
- the instructors who travel great distances to teach at our workshops and camp and who inspire us.
- the local thrift stores that donate surplus wool garments to the Guild.
- the local newspapers that carry our press releases and help us spread the word.
- the friendships made over the years.

Most importantly, I am thankful to have the opportunity to be involved in an activity that provides so much satisfaction and fulfillment and a group of artisans who share, stimulate and support each other.

Keep pulling those loop! -- Weezie

November Meeting – Friday, November 13, 2009 – Our normal meeting location is not available in November, so we will meet at our alternate site -- the Court Room in the Police Station within the Raritan Township Municipal Complex at the traffic circle outside of Flemington. For new members and guests, this is the circle on Rt. 517 a mile or so from our regular meeting location. (If you were leaving our regular meeting site, turn right onto Rt. 12. Go

beyond the traffic light to the first traffic circle. The Raritan Township Municipal Complex is on the right just as you enter the traffic circle.)

Guild Program – Houses: Not Just Four Walls – Earlier in the year members Deanna Kinney and Joan Lucas shared their rugs at one of our meetings. There was a lot of interest in the houses found in many of Deanna's rugs. This month Deanna will show how she took a picture of a house from a magazine and transferred it to the foundation material. She will also tell how to hook the windows and other building elements.

Show & Tell – One of the highlights of our meetings is the "Show & Tell" portion. This month, we are asking Guild members to bring 1) rugs that represent houses/homes of any kind, 2) rugs featuring Thanksgiving or autumn themes and 3) any friendship rugs you may have. Of course, we are always anxious to see current projects. The important thing is to share.

Sampler and Friendship Rug Projects – Work on the sampler and friendship rug projects will continue. After the normal meeting, those working on these projects will gather to work on their respective rug.

February Mat Swap Idea -- Joyce Combs has suggested that for the February meeting we hook and swap a 9" X 9" mat with a Valentine motif. Members who are interested in participating please sign up at the November meeting and feel free to start now.

Hook-in – Those not working on one of the sampler projects are encouraged to bring their hooking equipment and use the time to work on a rug.

Hospitality – Lydia Brenner, Jana Laidlaw, Gisele Meader and Tony Townsend have volunteered to provide the refreshments for the meeting this month. Thank you for adding to our meeting enjoyment!

The refreshments at the September meeting were really special. In addition to the delightful sweet treats, Kay Weeks and Therese Shick brought delicious home made soups. Therese has shared her recipes -- see page 8.

Membership – We welcome Karen Cascella, Kathleen Murray-Boyda and Joan Shymko to our Guild. Their contact information is shown below.

Karen Casella	Kathleen Murray-Boyda	Joan Shymko
42 Camelot Dr.	463 Bigley Road	48 Fox Grape Rd.
Budd Lake, NJ 07828	Hillsborough, NJ 08844	Flemington, NJ 08822
973-426-0702	908-442-0995	908-968-0479
robbie448@cs.com	kathmb@hotmail.com	joanshymk@gmail.com

Sunshine – Our condolences are extended to Judy Quintman whose mother passed away in October. Barbra Lugg successfully underwent surgery and is recuperating with her daughter who lives in Flemington.

November Birthdays – Birthday wishes go to those celebrating their special day this month – Jamie Gartelmann (11/5), Carol Kindt (11/11), Marion Michel (11/28), Linda Reitz (11/16) and Kay Weeks (11/15). Enjoy your day!

Thanksgiving in the Country – November 7 & 8, 2009 -- The Guild will again be demonstrating for Thanksgiving in the Country at the Prallsville Mill Complex in Stockton,

NJ. We will be in the Sawmill Building. There are house tours in the area and a tea served in the Prallsville Mill. All proceeds go to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia-Facial Reconstruction Unit.

Joyce Combs, Guild coordinator, has volunteers scheduled for most of the two days, but can use help on Sunday from 9:00AM to 1:00 PM. If anyone wants to sell their hooking ornaments or a rug or two while demonstrating, it is allowed at this event with 15% of the sale donated to Children's Hospital. Please email Joyce at fjcombs@verizon.net or call her at 609-737-9281 to let her know if you can help support this worthy cause.

Annual Hooking Retreat Scheduled -- January 8-10, 2010 -- The Guild's popular rug hooking retreat is again scheduled to follow our monthly meeting in January. On Friday, January 8, 2010, we will gather at the Hampton Inn in Flemington to begin a weekend of hooking and relaxation. Participation will be limited to 25 HCRAAG members. A non-refundable registration fee of \$35 must be paid in advance. Give or send your check made payable to HCRAAG to Carol Kindt at 17 Lazy Brook Road, Flemington, NJ 08822.

If you want to be assured of a spot for this fun packed weekend, you are encouraged to register soon. There will be an "early bird" drawing for a free massage session for those who have registered by the end of November.

Participants can commute daily or stay overnight. A discounted rate of \$112 per night, plus tax, has been negotiated for all reservations made prior to December 11th. Please contact the Hampton Inn at (908)284-9427 to reserve your room and mention HCRAAG to get the special rate.

March Madness 2010 – Our 2nd annual March Madness Weekend is scheduled for March 19-21, 2010 at the Hampton Inn in Flemington, NJ. Michele Micarelli and Jennifer Manuell will be our instructors for this stimulating weekend. A wine and cheese reception will be held Friday night and will provide an opportunity to visit with the instructors about their workshops. The fee for members is \$150 and \$175 for non-members. Jennifer Manuell -- Purses, pocketbooks, handbags. Whatever you call them, they're quick to hook. They are fun. And they're a great way to try something new. You do not need to be a master rug hooker or a professional seamstress to create a beautiful purse. You just need patience and a few special tricks.

Over the past 5 years, Jennifer has hooked more than 20 purses and she'll share all her best tips and tricks with you. Along with a few hooking and color-planning tips, you'll go through all the steps required to create a one-of-a-kind handmade bag, including: pre-hooking preparations, choosing and sewing lining, trim, handles, attaching closures and final assembly.

Hook one of Jennifer's original designs or add your own motifs to one of her pattern shapes. Then, with Jennifer's help, learn how to put it all together.

Jennifer Manuell lives in beautiful Muskoka, Ontario, where she has been hooking for almost 10 years. She is a fourth-generation rug hooker, taught by her aunt, Jean Armstrong. She has taught purse workshops across Ontario, Nova Scotia and in the United States. Her youthful enthusiasm makes her workshops fun, as well as educational. Visit her blog at www.fisheyerugs.blogspot.com

Michele Micarelli -- Klimt Workshop. The fabulous Klimt painting, the Tree of Life, is the inspiration for the pattern. The geometric configurations hidden in the branches and underground

are just amazing. The shapes that just seem to appear as stylized flowers and seeds are fodder for color and texture as well as some mixed fabrics and yarns, Why not take this opportunity to explore your imagination with Michele Micarelli and Klimt. She will be coming loaded with wool and other supplies for your hooking adventure. Laughter guaranteed. Patterns can be purchased from Michele.

Michele lives in Hartford, Connecticut where she teaches and offers specialized rug hooking workshops in her studio. Michele is especially known for her use of color in her highly creative rugs. She has been an instructor at past HCRAG camps and workshops.

HCRAG 2010 Rug Hooking Camp – August 9-13, 2010 – Cherylyn Brubaker from Brunswick, Maine joins Diane Phillips and Jen Lavoie as the instructors for our 14th annual camp. She replaces Charlotte Price who is unable to be with us. We will have two workshops devoted to specific subjects – landscapes (Jen Lavoie) and portraits (Diane Phillips) – and one open workshop (Cherylyn Brubaker). The workshop descriptions are 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 -- 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.

In class Jen will spend time with you problem solving and helping you find your own personal style and expression. Her 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!

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 folky 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 Vermont this November.

The fee for the week is \$150 for HCRAG members. This is a real bargain, but to take advantage, you must be a Guild member by the November meeting. It is \$225 for others. We will accept \$25 nonrefundable deposits beginning at the November meeting.

ATHA Newsletter Features HCRAG Members -- Several months ago Guild member Cathy Heilferty shared with us the rug she hooked for her Goddaughter whose father worked for NASA. The theme of the alphabet rug was outer space. Extensive research was needed for Cathy to identify 26 different images relating to NASA and outer space. Since some of the images needed explanation, Cathy came up with the idea to produce a book using internet sites that allow you to upload photos and create photo books. The complete story of how the ABC rug developed and how the resulting book came about is covered in the October/November 2009 issue of the ATHA Newsletter.

The Newsletter also includes the fourth and final article in the series written by Karl and Mary Jo Gimber on their tavern and trade sign rugs.

Guild Demonstrators Active in October -- The weather did not cooperate, but that did not deter Guild members who demonstrated rug hooking at the Apple Butter Frolic (Harleysville, PA), the Peter Wentz Farmstead (Worcester, PA) and the Howell Living Farm (Lambertville, NJ). Cool and rainy weather reduced the size of the crowds, but those who did turn out were enthusiastic. Several starter kits were sold.

We thank the following members who gave their time to support our Guild:

Margaret Brightbill	Linda Reitz
Joyce Combs	Joanne McIlmurray
Karl Gimber	Gisele Meader
Lois Grieves	Agnes Wooden

HCRAG Represented at Brandywine Hook-in -- A large contingent of Guild members journeyed to the firehouse in Wagontown, PA on October 24th for the 5th annual hook-in sponsored by the Brandywine Rug Hooking Guild. Members making the trip included Sharon Bennett, Eleanor Dunker, Karl Gimber, Cheryl Halliday, Juliana Kapusta, Patty Mahaffey, Pat McDonnell, Joanne McIlmurray, Therese Shick and Janet Williams. The weather forecast called for soaking rain, so it was an ideal day to be inside hooking. The successful event featured a participants' rug show, a "Men vs Fiber" exhibit of rugs hooked by five local male hookers and many of our favorite vendors. Catching up with old friends, meeting news ones, shopping for wool and even getting some hooking done was all part of the day. It was truly inspiring to see the quality of the rugs being produced by area artisans. The Brandywine Guild is to be congratulated for another successful event.

Featured Member – Carol Kindt – While on a house tour of the Centerbridge Artisans in Hunterdon County some years ago Carol saw some hooked rugs displayed at Mary Schenck’s “Whiskey Run Herb Farm”. This peaked her interest in fiber art. Not only were the objects pleasing to the eye but they could also be utilitarian. Carol likes things that are multi-functional. Several years passed and as luck would have it she met Kay Weeks while on a Thanksgiving in the Country house tour. Kay was demonstrating hooking at a little stone church and showed Carol some proddy items she had made. She give Carol the Guild’s brochure and invited her to come to our monthly meeting which Carol did that very same month. She was “bowled over by the beautiful work that the members were doing and by the generous sharing of information and advice they were so eager to share”. Carol knew then this was a craft that she just had to learn.

The first rug Carol made was a small kit by Hooked on Rugs that she bought at the Guild’s white elephant sale. It featured a crow stealing an apple from an apple tree. With encouragement from the Guild members and an old craft book she had stashed away that showed the basics of rug hooking, Carol was on her way. That was so much fun that she started haunting garage sales and recycle shops looking for more wool and anything else connected to rug hooking. The second rug was self-designed which Carol hooked as a gift for her sister, Roberta. The house was the central theme and represented her sister’s last name which is Housel.

Looking back there are some things Carol would have done differently on that one but she moved on. Her next project was an adventure into fine hooking. It was a pattern by Jane McGowan-Flynn entitled “The Enchanted Forest”. She gave this one to her step-daughter, Kara, as the dog in the center of the mat reminded Carol of Kara’s dog, Iowa. After taking a one day workshop in 2007 with Susan Feller on designing fraktur style rugs, Carol found her preference leaned towards the more primitive style, larger cuts. She completed a design in that workshop and hopes one day soon to begin hooking it. Carol’s preference for larger size cuts was further confirmed after taking her first Guild summer camp in 2008 with teacher Jayne Hester. At camp she hooked a DiFranzia pattern entitled “The Weathervane” and Jayne was a fantastic help guiding her through the choices of colors that went into that rug. Carol gave this one to her granddaughter, Megan, because she loves horses and Carol loves her.

Carol enjoys attending Guild meetings and has “learned so much from the members and guest speakers and have yet to explore all the many facets of this fascinating fiber art.”

After working as an Administrative Assistant for upper management in a major pharmaceutical corporation for over 20 years, Carol retired in 2004 to devote more time to family and home. Ray and Carol have lived in Readington Township for over 30 years. Ray retired from the Army National Guard after over 40 years of service. They have two children, Shawn and Kara. Shawn, an engineer with the City of Tacoma, WA lives with his wife, Kelly and two children, Aaron (age 13) and Megan (age 10) in Bonney Lake. Kara, is employed with Elite Air, Inc. and is studying towards a degree in nursing. She lives in St. Petersburg, FL with her husband, Charlie and son, Ryan (age 4).

Carol is an avid photographer and when she is not looking for that next best picture, working on hooking project, scrapbooking, crafting or day tripping with Ray, she has got her nose buried in a book. Carol currently serves as the Guild’s Chair for Special Events.

HCRAG Library – Kathy Donovan will be bringing a selection of books to each meeting. 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. She can be reached at 908-755-1670 or frejja2@verizon.net.

From Joyce Combs' Dye Pot – Last month, we discussed two easy wool dyeing techniques -- “marrying” and “stewing”. This month we will explore “marbleizing” wool. All three techniques are easy and require no investment in dyes or equipment.

Marbeleized Wool

Thanks to Karen Kahle from Primitive Spirit (www.primitivespiritrugs.com), marbeleizing has become a routine for many rug hookers to enhance the colors of their wool. This is good for creating different colors of wools in the same background or in the same rug.

1. Pick a dark wool, like hunter green and then its complement medium to dark red or burgundy then a light shade of either pink or light green or a neutral like camel or tan.
2. Rip each piece into similar sizes.
3. Layer the pieces on top of each other, alternating the colors and tones. Dark, light, dark, lightRoll together long ways like a jelly roll. Take rubber bands or twine and bind the roll in several places (think tie dye). The more rubber bands the better, at least five.
4. Fill a pan with just enough water to barely soak the wool. The wool should be dry.
5. Coil the roll up like a snake and put it into the bottom of prepared pot of water and detergent (Tide or Borax – no bleach). The coil should fill the pot. Use a pot to fit the wool. Push wool down with tongs to mix the detergent into the wool and to wet the dry coil.
6. Simmer for 30 minutes, do not boil. You can turn the coil or not.
7. After 30 minutes, add ½ cup of white vinegar and simmer for another 30 minutes or until the water is clear.

The results will surprise you and you will never be able to recreate the color!

Some colors to marbleize:

- Navy, yellow and brown
- Olive, camel and maroon
- Dark red, light red and dark plum
- Russet brown, camel and eggplant
- Blue, camel and olive green
- Blue, white and brown

Tips From Heloise (aka Lydia Lewis) -- At our last guild meeting, I was talking to a new hooker and discussing where we gather our wool. Wool gathering in the dictionary means the act of indulging in vagrant or idle fancies. Many of us do just that when looking for and at wool. We picture its use and just how appropriate it will be in our rugs. Seriously, when gathering wool we use recycled clothing or fabric. We try to use 100% wool (80% or above). This is because we appreciate the durability and it is easy to hand- dye. Old clothing is great especially when we see how nice Aunt Anna's slacks fit into our rug or your grandmother's dress adds just the right spark to your creation. Wool stored for long periods of time might have some damage so remember to cut out any worn areas before you strip. Medium weight is best for hooking. Coats and heavy jackets can be very difficult to pull through. Searching for wool takes one to rummage sales, thrift shops, clearance sales at fabric stores and buying at shows and from teachers. If a

good friend is wearing wool and it looks like a great piece, I ask them to give it to me if they are thinking of getting rid of it. I have come home to donations on my front porch.

From the Archives – After decades of dust was blown off old minutes, we learned that November was an active month for our Guild back in the late 70s and early 80s.

- November 1977 – Monthly Program – Guest lecturer, Alice Beatty, lecturer, teacher, and author of the Hook Book published by Stackpole, August 1977.
- November 1978 – Monthly Program – “Christmas Projects” presented by the membership.
- November 1979 – Monthly Program – “Christmas Gift Projects”.
- November 1980 – Monthly Program – “Hooked Rugs as a Folk Art” by Barbara Eshbach from Schenectady, NY.
- November 1981 – Monthly Program – “Realistic Hooking with a Fine Cut” by Virginia Sutton, a member.
- November 1982 – Monthly Program – “Sculptured Hooking Demonstration” by Patricia Harris

New Rug Hooking Website – Newtown Hooked Art Shows – The Newtown Hooked Art Shows located in Newtown, CT has established a website – www.newtownhookedartshows.com - to promote their various exhibits, workshops and activities.

Therese Shick Shares Her Recipes -- Several Guild members requested the recipes for the soup and cake that Therese Shick brought to the September meeting. Here they are.

Quick and Spicy Tomato Soup (*Giada De Laurentiis/ Food Network*)

3 T. olive oil
2 carrots, peeled and chopped
1 small onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
1 (26 oz) jar marinara sauce
2 (14 oz) cans chicken broth
1 (15 oz) can cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
scant ¼ t. red pepper flakes
½ cup small pasta (I used tubettini)
½ t. salt
½ t. pepper

Warm olive oil in large soup pot over med. heat. Add carrots and onions and sauté until soft. Add garlic and cook another minute. Add jar of marinara sauce, chicken broth, cannellini beans, red pepper flakes, pasta and salt and pepper. Simmer 10 minutes. I let it simmer a bit longer to make sure all was warmed through

Amey's Spice Cake (a great neighbor friend of mine)

2 ½ cups flour
1 cup brown sugar
¾ cup white sugar
1 t. salt
1 t. nutmeg
¾ cup salad oil
1 egg
1 t. soda
1 t. baking powder
1 cup buttermilk

Mix the flour and the next four ingredients. Add oil and mix. You will have a crumbly mixture. Take out ½ cup of the crumbs and set aside for the topping. To the remaining crumbs, add the rest of the ingredients. Pour into greased and floured 8x8 pan. Add 1 t. cinnamon to the crumbs you set aside and then sprinkle over batter. Sprinkle with nuts if desired. Bake at 350° for 35-45 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

Thank you Therese!

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

Adam & Eve in Fraktur and Folk Art Exhibit – July 15 - November 10, 2009

The Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center in Pennsburg, PA is featuring an exhibit of Pennsylvania German fraktur from their collection which have images of Adam & Eve. Accompanying the exhibit are contemporary hooked rugs, redware pottery, “scherenschnitte” and a quilt that has Adam & Eve images. For more information contact the Heritage Center at 215-679-3103 or www.schwenkfelder.com.

Hooked in the Mountains XIV – November 7-15, 2009. The Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild presents Hooked in the Mountains XIV at Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, VT. Workshops are offered by Diane Burgess, Molly Colegrove, Beverly Conway, Lucille Festa, Jacqueline Hansen, Ingrid Hieronimus, Jen Lavoie, Anne-Marie Littenberg, Jennifer Manuell, Kris McDermet, Doris Norman, Amy Oxford, Emily Robertson and Iris Simpson. Over 15 vendors available. For more information visit the Guild’s website – greenmountainrughookingguild.org.

Tavern & Trade Sign Hooked Rugs and the Stories They Tell -- The Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center, Pennsburg, PA will be hosting presentations on November 11 & 15, 2009 by Mary Jo and Karl Gimber. On November 11th, the presentation is part of the Center’s “Brown Bag” Luncheon series from 12 -1. Bring your lunch and enjoy the presentation. Beverages are provided. On Sunday, November, 15, the presentation runs from 2:00 -3:00. For more information contact Rebecca Lawrence at 215-679-3103 or rebecca@schwenkfelder.com.

Fraktur Hooked Rug Exhibit – November 28, 2009 to April 24, 2010 at the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center, Pennsburg, PA. For more information contact Susan Feller, Guest Curator, at rugs2wv@yahoo.com with “Fraktur Rugs” in the Subject Line.

Big Fun Dye Day – December 1, 2009 -- Michele Micarelli is conducting a one day “hands on” dye lesson using Pro Chem and Cushing dyes. The workshop will be held at Michele’s house (62 Elmwood Road, New Haven, CT 06515.) The fee is \$125 and you take home samples of what you dye. The class runs from 9:30 “till we drop”! For more information contact Michele at 203-387-8690 or amicarelli@snet.net.

Klimt Workshop – January 27 to 29, 2010 -- Michele Micarelli is conducting a three day workshop on a Klimt painting titled “Tree of Life”. You can hook it all in wool colors of your choice or break out into yarns and other fabrics. Using alternate material and techniques will be explored in depth. This is a great chance to be surrounded by creative like minded people. The workshop will be conducted at Michel’s studio in Hartford, CT from 10-3. The fee is \$285. For more information, contact Michele at 203-387-8690 or my email at amicarelli@snet.net.

Woolwrights Spring Hook-in – March 20, 2010 -- The ATHA Woolwrights Chapter is hosting a hook-in at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center. This is a fundraiser to support the 2011 ATHA Biennial Conference that will be held in Lancaster, PA. For more information and to register visit www.woolwrights.com.

ATHA Biennial Conference in Lancaster, PA – October 18-22, 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

November 13, 2009 Monthly Meeting – Houses: Not Just Four Walls (Deanna Kinney)

December 11, 2009 Holiday Luncheon Meeting*

January 8, 2010 – Annual White Elephant Sale and Auction*

January 8-10, 2010 – Rug Hooking Retreat – Flemington Hampton Inn

February 12, 2010 – Something to Warm the Heart – Pet Designs (Lydia Brenner & Cheryl Halliday) *

March 12, 2010 Monthly Meeting – Round Robin Demo (Connie Coleman, Gisele Meader and others) *

March 19 – 21, 2010 – March Madness – Flemington Hampton Inn

April 9, 2010 -- Monthly Meeting -- Back a Jacket (Lydia Lewis)*

May 14, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD *

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

*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.

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.

President – Weezie Huntington -- 609-466-1882 or weezie711@gmail.com

Vice President – Open

Historian – Marion Michel – 609-397-3425 or marionmichel@earthlink.net

Hospitality – Helen Buchanan – 908-284-0749

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

Programs – Kitty Platt – 908-782-8985 or kitty_platt@hotmail.com

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

Secretary – Debbie Walsh 908-272-7012 or debywalsh@yahoo.com

Special Events – Carol Kindt 908-782-7306 or ck-rk@comcast.net

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

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

Dee Rosebrock (Asst. Treasurer) – 609-771-0596 or uncoolfred@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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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 at P. O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913 or by email to karlg@nni.com. by the 20th of the month.

Hunterdon Country Rug Artisans Guild
Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Weezie Huntington.
Four guests were present.

Old Business

- Demonstrations – The Sheep and Fiber Festival had lots of visitors. The HCRAE newspaper article was mentioned by several visitors and several kits were sold.

Holcombe Jimison Farming Festival had great weather and featured hooking and quilting. Colonial Market in Newtown, PA went well and had lots of visitors. Historic Fall Festival was a nice event and a few people stopped to learn how to hook. A picture from this event got into the newspaper. Heritage Day also went fine. The Peter Wentz Farmstead event and the Apple Butter event are both coming up. Thanksgiving in the Country will be held November 7 – 8, 2009. If anyone is interested contact Joyce Combs.

- Camp Report –Dee Rosebrock announced that a third teacher has been found for camp 2009. Cherylyn Brubaker will teach an open class. Teachers are already scheduled to teach a portrait class and a landscape class. A group of people volunteered to meet to discuss possible changes in teacher fees for Camp 2011 and to discuss suggestions and comments submitted after last camp.
- Winter Retreat – Carol Kindt reported that the cost for the retreat is \$35 and the room rate for anyone who would like to stay overnight is \$112 if the room is reserved by 12/11.
- March Madness (aka Spring Fling) will feature Jennifer Manuell teaching pocketbooks (her patterns will be discounted for this class) and Michele Micarelli teaching a Klimt Tree of Life pattern using some alternative materials. Her patterns will sell for between \$35 and \$95 depending on the size, and any size is okay.
- Amy Oxford's rug hooking book from last year's Shelburne Show can be ordered from Schiffer Books. The price is discounted if the order is three books or more.

Library

Kathy Donovan announced that she will bring several books from the Guild library to each meeting so members can view and borrow them.

-Sunshine

- Virginia Sutton is recovering from her second surgery.
- Barbara Lugg is having surgery next Thursday.

New Business

- There are seven CD's of the Jersey Girls Show rugs available at \$5.00 each. The Jersey Girl pattern and Eagle pattern are also available. See Dee Rosebrock or Claudia Casebolt if you are interested.
- Gisele Meader is a member of a quilting group that sells quilted items to raise money for batting and materials that are then used to make quilts for charitable groups. Items are available for sale today.
- The Hunterdon County Quilting Guild has a beautiful quilt show at the Lebanon Township Museum until 10/27. It is free to attend.
- Patty Yoder's rugs are on display at the Shelburne Museum until 10/25.

Treasurer's Report

Margaret Brightbill reported that the Guild has approximately \$6,700 which includes money earmarked for camp and other expenses. The scholarship fund has \$400.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Debbie Walsh