

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

October 2014

Presidents' Letter – Wow. It is fall already. Summer flew by, with, thankfully, very few days of hot weather, and now we are into my favorite season. I have already had the heat on in my car, but not in my house. My rule has always been “no heat before Oct 15.” Don't know if we will make that this year.

Fall is my favorite season—the colors are sensational, even if they don't happen all at the same time, and I start thinking of making soup, blending a little of this and a little of that. My favorite soup is always “refrigerator soup” -- tossing together whatever is in my fridge, some chicken base, some ginger, maybe topped with a few roasted whatever-I-have-on-hand nuts, etc. Sort of the way I dye -- by the seat of my pants. I will often take a piece of fabric and just start tossing dyes onto it. It makes for great stone walls, if nothing else. Every fall I try to dye really good fall colors, based on what I see around me. Sometimes it works, sometimes not. “There is no such thing as a bad color, just bad placement.”

We have a lot on our calendars this fall, starting with our October meeting, which is our celebration of Hunterdon County's 300th birthday. Please, please, please be sure to attend our Open House (that IS our meeting) and hook-in. Bring something to work on, bring lunch, bring rugs to share, come listen to Karl give an informative talk on tavern signs and the stories they tell. And please bring something for hospitality—we are sharing our snacks with the public. It would be a shame to run out. Be sure to read the article on the Celebration.

Also, we will be signing up for the retreat, explaining the camp 2015 registration procedure, and talking about Spring Fling. One of the things I repeatedly hear is that our guild is SO active. Other people wish they had a guild like ours. Truly. I will also say, again, that this is YOUR guild -- it is only as good and as strong as the people who participate. We always have room for more volunteers.

Wishing us crisp days, beautiful colors, and a wonderful celebration on Oct 10th. Weezie

October Meeting – Friday, October 10, 2014 -- Our October meeting this year will be at our normal location – the Administration Building (Building #1), which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex, on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington. The street address for a GPS is 314 State Highway 12, Flemington, NJ 08822 although there is no street number on the building. The Open House meeting runs from 10-4. Guests are always welcome.

We will begin with a short business meeting and move into our “Open House” 300th Celebration that includes the following:

- A public day of rug hooking. Members of other guilds are invited to join us along with other rug hookers from the area.

- A workshop for beginners to accommodate the overflow from our camp workshop and others who registered. Cheryl Halliday will be the instructor.
- Members Hooked Rug Display. Members are encouraged to bring rugs to exhibit. While any rugs are welcome, any that depict life in Hunterdon County such as farming, homes, buildings, local flora and fauna would be really appropriate. The County has display boards for us to use to exhibit our rugs.
- Display of Tavern Sign Challenge Rugs. Guild members and other rug hookers have been “challenged” to design and hook a tavern sign rug inspired by Hunterdon County. Completed challenge rugs will be displayed at the meeting. Visitors will be able to observe ongoing hooking of tavern sign rugs still in progress.
- Presentation on Early American Tavern Sign Rugs. Guild member Karl Gimber and his wife, Mary Jo, will share their passion for colonial tavern signs with a presentation on “Early American Tavern Signs and the Stories They Tell.” According to the Gimbbers, “Tavernkeepers and merchants relied on boldly designed and eye catching images to attract patrons at a time when literacy was relatively low, houses did not have numbers and many streets were still unnamed. Sign painters used religious, political, humorous and patriotic themes among others as a way to attract the attention of their patrons. Political correctness and coded symbols could also be found in the images appearing on signboards.” The Gimbbers have been working on a series of hooked rugs inspired by early American taverns and their signs. They will use their rugs to share the histories, stories and messages associated with the taverns and their signboards.
- The Golden Talents -- Guild member Kay Weeks will be presenting the history of The Golden Talents and our Guild. Kay has the original hooked rug created for this group and will have it available for display.

Our Celebration will be a full day of rug hooking activities. Encourage your family, neighbors and other friends to stop by.

Hospitality – We will be providing snacks and treats for those attending our 300th Celebration, so we will need significantly more refreshments than usual. Please bring something to share with our guests.

October Birthdays -- Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month - Catherine Basich (10/26), Patricia Branch (10/5), Alexis Marie Contessa (10/17), Annie Edwards (10/3), Gisele Meader (10/25), Barbara Perry (10/5), Judy Quintman (10/3), Katie Simonson (10/6), and Bernice Smith (10/10). We wish them all the happiest birthdays. Enjoy your day!

Membership – We welcome Marian Hall, Kathryn Kane and Loretta Scena to our Guild. Their contact information is shown below.

Marian Hall
805 Amelia Drive
West Chester, PA 19382
610-431-1835
mariangh@aol.com

Kathryn Kane
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Loretta Scena
7 Ashbury Street
Deer Park, NY 11729
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lorettascena@verizon.net

Dues (\$20) for the new program year are now payable. The membership renewal form can be found on our website – www.hcrag.com.

Sunshine – Annie Edwards is recovering from surgery to her right hand. The procedure forced a well-deserved respite from a very busy summer work schedule.

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

Guild News & Events

A Message from Guild's Founder -- Thank you for inviting me to your Open House celebrating Hunterdon County's 300th Anniversary. Unfortunately I will be on vacation with my daughter at the Delaware Maryland Seashore at that time.

Nothing pleases me more than to have an opportunity to relate how I originated the Textile Guilds while Coordinator of Special Projects for Hunterdon County Adult Education and coordinated the establishment of Golden Talents, which gave to Hunterdon Senior Artisans a place to sell their creations for 28 years. I am so proud of the fact that the Hunterdon County Rug Artisan Guild and several other Guilds are still in existence after nearly thirty eight years and are continuing to preserve the cultural heritage of their craft for posterity.

Congratulations and enjoy your day as part of Hunterdon County's 300th Anniversary.

Sincerely Yours, Josephine Knobloch

Fall Demonstration Schedule – We have two remaining demonstrations on our 2014 schedule. This month we will participate in the Apple Butter Frolic at the Mennonite Heritage Center in Harleysville, PA and at Colonial Market Day in Newtown, PA.

- Apple Butter Frolic (October 4, 2014) – This popular autumn event has been enjoyed by the community for 40 years. It is an opportunity to learn how Mennonites and their neighbors lived 100 or more years ago. The Guild will be represented by Karl Gimber, Juliana Kapusta, Jean Laurence, Pat McDonnell, and Joanne McIlmurray. For more information on the Apple Butter Frolic go to the website for the Heritage Center (www.mhep.org).
- Colonial Market Day (October 11, 2014) – Historic Newtown is an ideal location for Colonial Market Day. The event attracts large numbers of visitors who enjoy strolling past historic homes with a variety of artisans, vendors and demonstrators set up in the streets that are closed for the day. Wonderful food vendors add to the pleasure of the day.

Lydia Lewis, who lives in Newtown, is coordinating this event for the Guild. She is in need of additional support, so please let her know if you can help. You can reach her at 215-968-3278 or misspid2@aol.com.

Changes to Guild's Annual Hooking Retreat (January 16-18, 2015) -- This year we have run into a snafu with scheduling the Flemington Hampton Inn for the January Retreat. Due to staffing changes at the Hampton Inn, we were unable to reserve their meeting rooms for our retreat on the traditional weekend following our January meeting. The consensus of those at the September meeting was that we should hold the retreat at the Hampton Inn a week later rather than pursuing another location that would be further away. We are shifting everything -- the meeting and the retreat -- to the weekend after our usual meeting. The monthly meeting will be on January 16, 2015 with the auction following the business meeting. We do not yet know if our regular meeting room is available for the meeting, but since the Hampton Inn is going to charge us for Friday regardless, we could always have the meeting and auction there before the retreat begins. As soon as we know the location for the meeting, we will let you know.

Weezie will start taking names for the retreat if she is able to be at the October meeting. The cost this year will be \$40 since we are charged for the rooms on Friday. This is a member-only event. Weezie is willing to take names by email or regular mail, but will need full payment as soon as possible. The Inn will be giving us a reduced rate on the rooms for people spending the night (half the fun of the retreat). Arrangements are being made to have our favorite masseuse, Joy Andrews, at the retreat to relax those stiff hooking muscles. You can reach Weezie at weezie711@gmail.com or 609-477-4339, if you have questions.

Spring Fling Set for March 20-22, 2015 -- Cheryl Halliday and Loretta Scena will conduct two exciting Spring Fling workshops at the Flemington Hampton Inn on Friday evening March 20th to Sunday March 22, 2015.

Cheryl Halliday's Workshop – Tangle Art -- The latest craze in the art world is a form of tangled doodling called "Zentangle" (a copyrighted name for specific tangle artwork created by Rick Roberts and Maria Thomas).

Doodling is a relaxing art form in which segments of a shape are filled with repetitive patterns. If you like to doodle, this could be the next great way to express yourself in a rug of your own design. Not a doodler, but want to join the fun? There will be designs to get you started. Drawing materials will be provided for all to design for #3 to #6 cuts. Come and explore the possibilities!

Loretta Scena's Workshop – Spirit Dolls -- Participants working with Loretta have two choices – an "Open Workshop" or a "Spirit Doll" class.

Loretta offers six doll choices with faces and motifs that are interchangeable. Each will be a one of a kind doll representing all things good in a hooker's world. She will teach embellishments like felting, free form crochet, beading and more. A full range of wool, embellishing supplies and an embellishing machine will be available for use. The spirit doll patterns can accommodate #2 -- #6 cuts. Those who want a more primitive doll can hook with #8 cuts. Doll patterns will be available for 25.00 and will have both a front and back which can easily be joined. Loretta will be sending a completed doll for us to see

and additional information on the patterns available. This workshop promises to be a really creative and fun time.

Those who prefer the open workshop can bring their projects that need a bit of help or they can start a pattern that they have in their stash.

You can learn more about Loretta and her work by going to her website – www.lorettsscena.com.

Registration Process – The Spring Fling cost will remain at \$150 for members and \$175 for non-members. Registration will begin immediately at our October meeting and will be on a lottery system as required by enrollment. Please contact Diane Liberto (diane.mannon@yahoo.com or 908- 782-7563) indicating teacher preference. The lottery drawing, if required, will be Nov 12 and names will be announced at our November 13 Guild meeting. No deposit is required but full payment will be due by the close of the January meeting. Checks can be mailed made out to HCRAG to Diane Liberto (8 Allens Corner Rd., Flemington, NJ. 08822) on or before the January meeting.

HCRAG 2015 Rug Hooking Camp (August 10-14, 2015) -- Our 19th Annual Rug hooking camp will take place from August 10 – 14, 2015 at the ESC School outside of Lambertville, NJ. We will again have four instructors -- Cyndy Duade, Michele Micarelli, Kris Miller and Diane Stoffel. The teachers will be submitting bios and course descriptions soon. Class size will be held at 12. However, if needed, a teacher may be approached and asked if she would take 13 or 14 students. Classes will never exceed 14.

The Board has adopted a new registration policy for summer camp. Note that there are many changes in how to register and the camp fees.

Camp Fee -- The cost of camp is now \$200 for members with dues paid by November's meeting. Non-members will pay \$275 if there is available space after January 30th. A deposit of \$100 will be required with registration with final payment due by April 10th. If you need to cancel after April 10th, \$150 will be refunded only if a replacement is found. \$50 is non-refundable if canceling before April 10.

Anyone housing a teacher will get to attend camp for free and will get the teacher of their choice. If you chose to host two teachers, \$200 will also be allotted for your compensation. Teachers need a private room and bath and if you house two teachers, each needs their own room and bath.

Registration Process -- Registration forms will be available at the October meeting and will be mailed out to those without email. All registration is by mail. Registration forms can be sent in after our meeting on October 10th with a check for \$100. The registration form provides for a selection of your first, second, third or fourth choice of an instructor.

Registrations received between October 10 and November 1st will be chosen by lottery if there are more than 12 registrants. The results will be announced at the November meeting followed by email confirmation or wait list information. Your first choice will be honored if a place remains, if not; we will go to your second, third or fourth choice as needed if you selected that option.

If your first choice of a teacher has a full class, we will try for your second, third or fourth teacher in that order or on the waiting list. If you only make the waiting list for all of your choices, your deposit will be returned at that time. Any registration forms that come in after November 1st will be placed as forms come in and as space allows.

These changes were discussed at length by the Board and deemed fair to those who cannot attend the meeting, or may be on vacation.

Nominations Due for the Memorial Scholarship -- The Guild's Scholarship Fund was established several years ago in memory of Madeline and Margaret Brightbill. With the passing of Connie Coleman and Carol Collin in recent years, the Board has decided to broaden the fund's name to the HCRAG Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of all deceased members. The Fund provides a full scholarship to a deserving member to attend the HCRAG summer rug hooking camp and is awarded by our Scholarship Committee based on nominations 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 Therese or Weezie by December 1, 2014. The scholarship recipient will be announced at the December meeting. One position in each teacher's workshop is being left open until the Scholarship is awarded so the winner can select the teacher of her/his choice.

2015 Rug Festival – The four participating guilds are already active with preparations for our 2015 Hooked Rug Festival. There will be nine vendors and we should have that list by December. The Rug Collection committee has been busy refining the process and we will be looking for guild reps very soon to help Eleanor Dunker and Nancy Sears with rug collection. Ellen DiClemente will need a vendor facilitator for the Festival weekend. This person is a liaison with the vendors to make sure they have everything they need. Karl needs two additional people to help with PR. Karl will be providing specifics.

Keep in mind that you can be working on items for the Boutique. You can donate them to the Festival, or take advantage of the new policy. With this policy, you would keep 80% of the price of your item. (20% would go to the Festival). Any Boutique questions should be directed to Sharon Ballard. And Cindy Boults will be asking for donations for the mini raffle. Debbie Walsh and crew have (probably by the time this goes to print) finished the absolutely gorgeous raffle rug.

Soon, we will also be providing an update on the exciting NEW aspects of the Festival. And if you are not already helping, please be thinking about ways you can. Please contact any of the people mentioned if you are ready to lend a hand. Big or small, we need lots of help!

Update From Rug Restorer -- Cindy Comly is an expert rug restorer who has her studio in Bucks County. She also provides instruction for anyone who wishes to do their own restoration work. She recently responded to our Guild's newsletter with the following update.

“Thanx for sending the newsletter, nice to read about what your group is up to. Sounds like you still have a very active organization. Thank you for keeping the 'Spirit' alive.

“Did your repair come out OK? I've wondered about it. Hope my instruction was helpful.

“I have been quite busy with my textile repairs, have worked on some lovely pieces this past year, of particular interest were two 200 year old yarn sewn rugs, which I had to spin wool for and dye; and a beautiful applique rug from about the same period. I did use some natural dyes for these projects, but had to tweak the colors with commercial dyes – Cushing, mostly. I also used vintage fabric provided by my customer. Vintage wools are very hard to come by and all vintage fabrics are dear in price. These were incredibly challenging, as all three had to be extensively restored.

“In addition, many, many hooked rugs have made it to my studio for restoration and repair, as is usual. I also had some unusual things show up, including a lovely 17th century tapestry, a very early pen wipe, early stuffed dolls & animals, and a hatbox of all things - I never know what challenges are coming to my door....keeps my work interesting, if not mind bogging at times.”

Cindy is listed on the Resources Page of our website under “Rug Restorers.” You can reach her at 215-441-5059 or rugfix@verizon.net. If you contact her, please let Cindy know that you learned of her services from our Guild.

Guild Members Exhibit at Major Traditional Artisans Show – Jeannine Happe (Two Old Crows) and Karen Worthington (Blue Tulip) were selected to participate in the Bedminster Traditional Artisans Show held at Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, Pa on September 20 & 21, 2014. Nancy Sears' husband, Brad, who does fine woodturning, was also selected for the show. “This is a showcase of high-quality traditional crafts. The craftsmen selected are all tops in their field,” noted the show organizer. Several of the participating craftsmen have their work at major museums and historical sites including the White House, Mount Vernon and Williamsburg. Our members' selection reflects the talent within our Guild. Jeannine, Karen and Brad make us proud!

Ellen DiClemente, Karl and Mary Jo Gimber and Carol and Ray Kindt were spotted carrying bags at the show. Their purchases helped support the artisans and the exhibit sponsor, the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy, a non-profit dedicated to preserving a scenic nook of the national landscape – Upper Bucks County.

Guild Volunteers Support Local Festivals – Our community support and outreach efforts continued last month with demonstrations at the Sheep & Fiber Festival and the Hilltown Historical Fall Festival.

- The Garden State Sheep Festival – This two day Festival draws large crowds of people interested in fiber arts which make it an important venue for promoting rug hooking and our Guild. There was much interest in our form of fiber arts and our Guild’s programs.

Cindy Boults organized our participation and recruited a strong cadre of demonstrators. We thank Sandy Denarski, Ellen DiClemente, Gail Ferdinando, Ann Gagnon, Juliana Kapusta, Lynda Kling, Eileen Koch, Diane Liberto, Gisele Meader, Mary Passerello, Martha Thieling, and Debbie Walsh for supporting this important Guild event.

- 7th Annual Historical Fall Festival & Open House (Historical Society of Hilltown Township) – Beautiful weather provided ideal conditions for the annual Fall Festival held at the Hartzel-Strassburger Homestead in Sellersville, PA. The day’s events included tours, local artisans, and historical demonstrations. Karl Gimber and Juliana Kapusta enjoyed sharing how rugs are hooked with visitors who are always fascinated with what can be achieved with strips of wool. The Historical Society always provides a warm and friendly reception to participating artisans.

Guild Library – Our extensive collection of books related to rug hooking and other fiber arts is a valuable benefit to Guild members. The full listing of books in our library can be found on our website (www.hcrag.com). 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 frejja2@verizon.net.

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

Featured Member – Sandy Denarski -- Sandy had an interest in art from the time she was very young. Her mother and grandmother sewed clothing and other relatives did embroidery and needlepoint. Sandy recalls learning to sew buttons when she was three! In college she was an art history major and developed a strong interest in antiques and American folk art. In time she taught herself how to do scherenschnitte (paper cutting) and faux graining.

Those interests led her to take a rug hooking class in 1988. It turned out to be a disaster! Her teacher had rigid rules and kept having Sandy pull out what she had hooked. She made limited progress with her project which was a black cow on a white background. In frustration, Sandy threw it all – backing, wool, hook, hoop -- in the trash exclaiming “hate it, hate it!” She turned her attention to embroidery and quilting joining guilds for both art forms.

In 2013 one of Sandy’s friends attended our first Hooked Rug Festival at Prallsville Mills and dragged her there saying “This is a great show. You must see it.” Afterwards Sandy “reluctantly came to the Guild’s next meeting. I did not want to like it.” However, she was intrigued with what she saw and heard and ended up buying a small kit. Sandy met Therese Shick who encouraged her and taught her the basics. A positive and encouraging approach made all the difference. Rug hooking has now become Sandy’s preferred fiber art form.

Sandy is still developing her technique, but is gravitating towards primitive hooking. “I love the

freedom and the feel,” she says. Primitive rugs are a natural extension of her love of folk art and antiques. The vitality and color of it appeals to her. Sandy admires fine cut hooking because it reminds her of needlepoint which she has done for many years. “I like it all” she beams.

After learning informally from Therese, Sandy had an opportunity to take a formal workshop with Kris Miller that was sponsored by the Lamb Yankees ATHA Chapter where she learned more about color. Sandy is mostly self-taught and has learned other crafts by experimenting and studying completed projects. In the case of rug hooking, she bought a rug hooked by Betty Dekat (Americas, Kansas) that she examined often and compared her work to the rug.

Sandy currently works primarily with new wool that is over dyed. She has a few pieces of recycled clothing that she plans to introduce into her rugs. Sandy is comfortable taking a garment apart because of her sewing experience. She is slowing building her stash but notes that “sticker shock” keeps a limit on how much she buys.

Each hooking project is a building and learning process. Sandy completed two kits purchased over the internet and then bought a Karen Worthington pattern of a redware pot which introduced her to working with different cuts of wool. Her project from Kris Miller’s workshop introduced her to hooking with “women’s tights.” Sandy did most of the color planning. At the Guild’s January auction she found the movement in a pattern of a house appealing and was able to pick it up at a very reasonable price. A large whale tavern sign rug will be her next project. Sandy tries to heed the advice of finishing one project before starting another. She learned from an article by Deanne Fitzpatrick “The job is to finish it.” Kathleen Murray-Boyda stressed that “Your hooking will change. If you put the rug aside, the quality of your hooking will change and look different. You will not be happy with the two styles in the same project.”

Sandy is still trying to establish a hooking routine. She does some form of needle work every day. The afternoons when she is fresh are best when she needs to use her sewing machine. After dinner she will hook or do embroidery generally sitting with her husband who enjoys watching TV at night.

Sandy’s creative interests include embroidery, folk art, quilting, sewing, scherenschnitte, and needle felting. However, her passion is hooking rugs. “I love the look and its utility. Rugs can go on the floor, the wall and on chairs and tables. There is nothing like a hand hooked rug. I like the visual impact of a hooked rug. Rugs are so versatile.” As she looks to the future, Sandy wants to learn to incorporate wool yarn and roving in her rugs. She also wants to design her own patterns based on antique rugs.

Sandy and her husband, Tony, who is a retired software engineer, live in the old town of Crosswicks, NJ with “Pompom,” their 17 year old cat, “Sparky”, a Welsh Corgi, and “Nitro,” an American Paint horse. “Nitro and I are developing arthritis together,” Sandy jokes. Their daughter, Alison, is a dialysis social worker who lives in Hamilton, NJ. Sandy retired after 37 years with J & J where she worked in finance with a variety of operations both domestic and international. She was graduated from Douglas College where she majored in Art History.

Visit our website (www.hcrag.com) to see some of Sandy’s creations.

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina's Notebook -- Can it be that October is here? In Nova Scotia the leaves are beginning to turn. The flaming reds, the burnt orange, harvest golds and that limey green color stand out against the background of the evergreens. Reminds me of all the color planning we do for our mats! There are the little lavender cosmos next to the tall golden rod with the rose hips peeking through the foliage. Fall is my favorite time of the year. The air is crisp and invigorating. Walking through the woods with the leaves crunching underfoot fills me with joy. The cranberries have appeared in the stores because the Canadians celebrate their Thanksgiving the second weekend of October. Yes, they have the same menu we do and it is also a time of homecoming. Easier to travel in October than late November!

One of the local towns has a scarecrow festival the first weekend of October. It has the usual scarecrows but also many satirizing political figures including the Royal family. There is a grave yard tour at dusk which combines local history with local folk lore. Pumpkins, mums and apples are all the rage at the local farmers market.

Think of all the images for creating a fall mat! Pumpkins hooked with large torn strips or with sari silk, yarn and wool strips...a runner for table or the hallway made with images of autumn leaves...chair pads with mums or big yellow sun flowers, the possibilities are endless.

So take a long walk in the woods then take out your backing and your sharpie and create! Celebrate this beautiful time of the year.

Happy Hooking! Nina

Ideas from Carrie Martin's Dye Pot – Spot Dyed Pumpkin Pie -- Carrie Martin, who was one of our camp instructors this summer, has shared with us her "Pumpkin Pie" dye formula that is perfect for wools to be used in rugs with autumn themes featuring Halloween, fall colored landscapes and, of course, pumpkins.

She uses the following Pro-Chem Dyes that are spot dyed over ½ yard white, off white, camel, or pastel yellow or orange or pink wools:

- #199 Golden Yellow
- #135 Yellow
- #255 Brick
- #725 Forest Green

Instructions:

- Scrunch wool into basket of Presto cooker
- Add ¼ - #199 Golden Yellow & ¼ - #135 Yellow
- Place dye into bath, stir, place basket in cooker, turn wool in basket once
- Add glug glug of vinegar
- When water clears of dye remove basket, take wool out of basket; scrunch wool in basket
- Add ¼ - #255 Brick
- Place dye in bath, stir dye, place basket of wool in cooker
- When water clears of dye remove basket, take wool out of basket

- Add 1/8 - #725 Forest Green
- Water clears, simmer 45 minutes

Enjoy!

Tips From Heloise – Storing Miniature Punch-Needles -- The needles used for miniature punch-needle projects are difficult to store because of their shape and size. Carol Kindt recently shared a neat tip with Heloise– put your punch needle tool, accessories and snips in a travel toothbrush holder. You can put small pieces of cardboard in each end so that the sharp needle will not poke through.

Recipes – Barbara Lugg’s Fruit Crisp

Those at our September meeting who were fortunate enough to sample Barbara Lugg’s Fruit Crisp enjoyed a real treat. We thank Barbara for sharing her **Fruit Crisp** recipe with us.

Ingredients

3-4 peaches	¼ cup & 1/8 cup flour
1 cup blueberries	¾ cup rolled oats
1 apple	5 tbs. butter
½ cup brown sugar	½ cup chopped walnuts (optional)
1 tsp. cinnamon	

Preparation

- Grease 8” baking dish
- Peel and slice peaches & apple
- Layer peach slices on the bottom
- Scatter apple slices next and add blueberries over all
- Combine sugar, cinnamon and 1/8 cup flour --- sprinkle over fruit
- Combine ¼ cup flour, 2 tbs. butter, brown sugar and oats
- Stir in 3 tbs melted butter
- Mix well and sprinkle over fruit
- Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes until lightly brown

Serve warm or cold.

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

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.

LIGRA Biennial Rug Show & Fiber Art Exhibit – October 18-19, 2014 – This hand hooked fiber art exhibit will be held at the American Legion Hall, 22 Grove Place, Babylon, Long Island, NY 11702. Vendors and raffle prizes. The exhibit hours are 10-4 on Saturday, October 18 and 10-3 on Sunday, October 19. Contact Loretta Scena at 516-480-4467 or lorettascena@verizon.net for more information.

Brandywine Guild's 9th Annual Autumn Hook-in (October 25, 2014) -- The Brandywine Rug Hooking Guild is hosting its annual autumn hook-in on October 25, 2014 at the Wagontown Fire Hall from 10-4. For more information visit their website at www.brandywinerughookingguild.org.

"Hooked Art 2014" Exhibit (October 25 through November 29, 2014) -- Newtown Hooked Art Shows is presenting the exhibit at The Gallery at the University of Connecticut (One University Place, Stamford, CT 06901). This is billed as "the largest show of innovative contemporary hooked art ever assembled" with 55 works by 18 artists from the United States and Canada. There is an opening reception on Saturday, October 25 from 1-4 that will include artist talks and book signings. For more information call 203-270-8293 or go to newtownhookedartshows.com.

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, Norma McElhenny at 508-896-9283 or 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.

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. Visit the Lamb Yankees website at 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) 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 – or contact Barbara Kimbrough at 908-309-3881 or 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.

HCRAAG Calendar of Events

October 3, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day **
October 10, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Hunterdon County 300th Celebration *
November 7, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day **
November 14, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Hooking Through Wool (Kay Leisey) **
December 5, 2014 – Casual Hooking Day **
December 12, 2014 – Monthly Meeting – Holiday Gathering *
January 16, 2015 – Monthly Meeting -- Annual Auction (location TBD)
January 16-18, 2015 – Annual Hooking Retreat (Hampton Inn, Flemington, NJ)
February 13, 2015 – Monthly Meeting – Tavern Rug Design (Karl Gimber) *
March 13, 2015 – Monthly Meeting –Hooking in Woven Fabric (Kay Leisey) *
March 21-22, 2015 – Spring Fling (Hampton Inn, Flemington)
April 10, 2015 – Monthly Meeting -- (Paul Deluca, ColorQuest) *
May 8, 2015 – Monthly Meeting – TBA *
June 12, 2015 – Monthly Meeting – Picnic or Luncheon *
August 10-14, 2015 – Rug Hooking Camp (ESC School, Lambertville, NJ)
August 11, 2015 – Beginners’ Workshop (ESC School, Lambertville, NJ)
October 3 & 4, 2015 – Hooked Rug Festival at the Mill (Prallsville Mills, Stockton, NJ)

*Unless otherwise noted, our meetings run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Assembly Room B in the County Administration Building, which is part of the Hunterdon County Complex on Route 12, Flemington, NJ. As you turn off Route 12 onto the road leading into the Complex, make the first right into the parking lot. The meeting is in the first building on the right. The street address for a GPS is 314 State Highway 12, although that does not appear on the building.

** Meeting will be at our alternate site – The Court Room within the Police Station at the Raritan Township Municipal Complex. The Complex is by the Rt. 12 and Rt. 523 traffic circle just outside Flemington. The address for a GPS is 1Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822-3446.

Guild Officers/Chairs -- Our officers and committee chairs are anxious to hear from you on ideas and suggestions on how we can make the Guild responsive to your needs. Feel free to contact them with your thoughts.

Co-Presidents – 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 frejja2@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.com.
Treasurer – Jean Laurence – 610-287-9278 or 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.



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.

HCRAE CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Gruber 14" dia. hoop swivel lap frame. Perfect for rug hooking, punch needle and needlework. Frame swivels 360 degrees while base remains steady in your lap. Brand new-never used. **Asking \$70.00**

Contact- Sandy Francisco at harryfranc@yahoo.com

Large Universal Craft Floor Stand, hardwood construction, fully adjustable, folds down for easy storage, will easily hold round or oval hoops. **Asking \$35.00**

Smaller Universal Craft Floor Stand, hardwood construction, fully adjustable, folds down for easy storage, will easily hold round or oval hoops. **Asking \$25.00**

17" X 15" hooking frame with gripper strips all four sides **Asking \$45.00**

Contact - Carol Kindt at 908-782-7306

"Ergo" Hartman Hook Asking \$30.00

**16 inch Wool Christmas Tree with Metal Tree Stand
Asking \$ 40.00**

Contact - Donna Kolznak...dmk17@ptd.net

**

WANTED

#9 Blade for the Townsend Cutter

Contact - Donna Kolznak dmk17@ptd.net

Please submit any items to be included on the Classified Section of "The Loop" to Mary Passerello at mpassere@comcast.net or 908-782-1765 by the 20th of the month prior to when you want the item included. The classified section is refreshed monthly so please resubmit repeat ads. The following information must be included with each submission:

- **Description of Item for Sale or Wanted**
- **Asking Price for sale items**
- **Contact Information**