

**HUNTERDON COUNTY RUG ARTISANS GUILD**  
**RUG HOOKING CAMP**  
**August 13-17, 2012**

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) is sponsoring its 16<sup>th</sup> annual rug-hooking camp from August 13 to 17, 2012. Nationally known textile artisans – Arline Bechtoldt, Jeanne Benjamin and Lucille Festa - will be the instructors. Participation is open to rug hookers at all levels, but the camp is not designed for those who do not know how to hook. (A Beginners' Workshop is offered on Tuesday, August 14, 2012). Participation in camp workshops is limited to 12 individuals in each class.

**Camp Location** – Camp is held at the Educational Services Commission (ESC) School outside of Lambertville, NJ at 1422 Rt. 179, West Amwell. See detailed directions below.

For those not familiar with our camp site, the Educational Services Commission (ESC) School is a regional school for children with learning disabilities. Classes will have ended, so we will be the only ones using the facility other than staff. All three workshops will be in the large gym/cafeteria. The room is quite large and easily accommodates us. The nice thing is that each workshop will have its own space, yet we can walk around and see what others are doing. You should bring whatever hooking frame is your favorite. Lighting is fine, but if you bring your own light, bring an extension cord too. The building is secure at night, so we can leave our equipment there unless you plan to hook in the evening.

**Camp Schedule** - Camp begins on Monday, August 13 and ends on Friday, August 17. The daily hours are 9:00 to 4:00. The building will be open at 8:00 am for anyone who wants to get an early start. Our instructors will be available from 9:00 to 4:00 each day, except for Friday, when they will leave at noon.

**Our Teachers and Their Classes:**

**Arline Bechtoldt:** Arline is an accredited teacher who enjoys teaching a student driven class. She recently gave a talk at the Alice Beatty Chapter of ATHA and showed her rugs which ranged from beautifully fine shaded faces, flowers, and antique designs, to whimsical and primitive motifs.

Before camp, Arline discusses with each student their particular needs for their rug. She will help with color planning and can provide custom dyed wool as needed and/or work with wool already on hand. She will also bring a supply of wool to class.

During class time Arline will discuss technique, color planning, and finishing, and as the day is winding down, creative stitches, dyeing techniques, labeling, and any other topics of interest. Arline plans to ensure that your rug becomes the masterpiece you envision!

**Jeanne Benjamin:** Jeanne started hooking in 1971 and became McGown certified in 1979. She owns New Earth Designs, a pattern business of diverse designs, and also has a dyed wool mail order business. Jeanne has a loyal following and is known for her beautiful dyeing and color planning, often dyeing 50 yards or more of wool weekly.

Jeanne stresses good pre-camp communication and advance planning to maximize students' class time. She gives instructions in small increments which enables her to get around the classroom quickly. Class time includes question and answer periods so everyone can participate and learn, not only from individual instruction, but from group time as well.

Jeanne expects you to relax, keep an open mind, and enjoy this creative time! Jeanne often teaches an open class (she enjoys a large class with diversity) but her specialties are Orientals, making a primitive design look antique, folk art, and pictorials.

**Lucille Festa:** Lucille is a collector of antiques and a history buff especially interested in the American Civil War era and women's history. She started her business, American Country Rugs, about seven years ago and sells patterns (including her "door people") via her website.

She specializes in primitive style rugs and often incorporates old antique colors, textures, and wide cut wools as well as folk art images into her rugs. Lucille loves colors that evoke a feeling of antiquity and enjoys creating rugs with an aged look. She brings plenty of wool plaids, checks, tweeds, and herringbones to her classes. She will help you to color plan and hook a warm, antique style rug that will be passed down through the generations.

**Meals & Refreshments** -- Coffee, tea and refreshments will be provided by Guild volunteers. Participants bring their lunch. Refrigerators are available to keep our food cold. Pizza Night will be on Wednesday after classes end for those who want to join in. Stay to hook and enjoy pizza with the other campers.

**Massage Therapy Available** - Do your muscles get stiff and sore after sitting at the hooking frame for a few hours? Reinvigorate yourself with a few minutes of relaxing massage. Joy Andrews, a certified massage therapist, will be at camp on Tuesday and Wednesday for those who want to take advantage of her services. The fee is \$1 per minute with a recommended minimum of 10-15 minutes to get real relief. We will have a raffle for someone to win a relaxing 15 minute message.

**Overnight Accommodations** – The HCRAG camp historically has been a commuter's camp. Each year several guests attend from outside of the area. There are several motels and B & Bs within 15 minutes of our camp location. A list will be provided to those who need overnight accommodations. Lambertville, NJ and its sister community, New Hope, PA are popular tourists destinations. Making early reservations is strongly encouraged.

**Lambertville & New Hope** -- Lambertville and its sister town, New Hope, just across the Delaware River, are both known for their fine restaurants and shops. Many of the shops will be open after camp ends for the day. The Lambertville Flea Market is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. They start early, so for those who enjoy hunting for bargains, you can hit the flea market Wednesday morning and still get to camp on time. The flea market is on Rt. 29 two miles south of town.

**Registration/Instructional Fees** – The fee for camp is \$175 for Guild members who have paid their dues by December 31, 2011. For all others, the fee is \$250. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 is required to make a reservation for camp. The balance of the fee is due by May 30, 2012. For all reservations received after May 30th, the camp fee must be paid in full at the time of registration.

**Refund Policy** – For cancellations received on or before June 10, 2012, the camp fee less the \$25 non-refundable deposit will be made. For cancellations received after June 10th, no refunds will be made unless the camp vacancy is filled and paid in full.

**For more information**, contact Debbie Walsh at 908-272-7012 or [debywalsh@yahoo.com](mailto:debywalsh@yahoo.com) or Gail Ferdinando at 908-735-6720 or [thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com](mailto:thebrownieexpress@embarqmail.com).

**Directions to the Educational Services Commission (ESC) School**

**A. From Above Flemington, NJ**

1. Take Rt. 202 south through Flemington
2. Look for Wertsville Road several miles beyond Flemington. There is a traffic light and Shell Gas Station on the right. Continue on Rt. 202.
3. There will be a series of exits just beyond Wertsville Road. Take the exit for Rt. 179 south – Lambertville
4. Go about 3 miles and you will see an “ESC School” sign on the left. It is directly opposite the West Amwell Elementary School that you will see on the right. You cannot see the school from the driveway.
5. The address of the school is 1422 Rt. 179. The address does not appear on the sign, but it is on a large mailbox.

**B. From Below Lambertville, NJ**

1. Take Rt. 29 (River Road) north to Lambertville.
2. Go to the second traffic light and continue through the light. You will now be on Rt. 179 north. Go 1.9 miles and you will see the “ESC School” sign on the right. The West Amwell Elementary School is across the road.
3. The address of the school is 1422 Rt. 179. The address does not appear on the sign, but it is on a large mailbox.

**C. From Pennsylvania**

1. Take the bridge from New Hope to Lambertville.
2. Go 3 traffic lights and turn left onto Rt. 179 north.
3. Go 1.9 miles and you will see the “ESC School” sign on the right. The West Amwell Elementary School is across the road.
4. The address of the school is 1422 Rt. 179. The address does not appear on the sign, but it is on a large mailbox.

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR HCRAg 2012 RUG HOOKING CAMP**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Preference \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to "HCRAg" and send along with the registration form to: Debbie Walsh 51 Spruce Street, Cranford, NJ 07016