

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAAG) Newsletter

January 2016

Presidents' Letter – As 2015 winds down, and 2016 appears right around the corner, we should all take time to reflect on what was really good this year, and what do we want to have be really good next year. We need to forgive ourselves for not accomplishing everything on our 2015 list, and maybe make two lists for 2016—one list for the things we really *need* to get done, and the other list for those things we really *want* to get done. I have plenty of things on both lists.

At a high school reunion this fall, we had to list three things on our bucket list and say what we were doing to accomplish them. Not a bad idea for us to do -- a hooking bucket list. Maybe your list would include taking a class from a specific teacher. Maybe it would include a trip to Nova Scotia to visit all the wonderful hooking sites. Maybe it would be to learn to dye. What are you doing to accomplish those things?

Therese has served four years as Co-President of our wonderful Guild, and she is passing the torch. Unfortunately, no one has yet stepped up to receive the torch. Both Summer School directors will be stepping down, as will our Program Director. These are key positions in our Guild and those are the things that make our Guild great. Each of you need to look within yourself to see where you can step up. Do it with a buddy. It would be nice to have some volunteers, otherwise we get into the land of “voluntold.” We have not had a Secretary since Sue Woodworth resigned, and I believe Debbie Walsh would like to pass the Vice-Presidency to someone else. Your Guild -- that is, YOUR Guild needs YOUR help. I am willing to stay on for two more years, but I need a Co-President. I know I will be missing some meetings. Folks, the Guild doesn't run itself. If people don't step forward, we will implode. Not every year needs to be bigger and better than the one before, maintaining what we do is fine. So, again, please consider your commitment to the Guild, and how you can give back.

We thank those who have served so well for the last couple of years.

Happy New Year to all! And may it be the best year yet. Weezie and Therese

January Meeting – Friday, January 8, 2016 – Our January meeting will be at our alternate site – the Court Room within the Police Station in the Raritan Township Municipal Complex at the Rt. 12 and Rt. 523 Traffic Circle outside of Flemington. The address for the Complex is 1 Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822-3446, although it does not appear on the road. The meeting runs from 10-2. Guests are welcome.

Program – Our annual auction meeting is a major fundraiser for the Guild. Part of the auction will be silent and part out loud and raucous. Bring quality items you are willing to donate. They do not have to be related to rug hooking, although hooking things do sell well. Items hooked by Guild members are always valued, so consider donating one of your earlier projects. Of course, bring your check books so that you will be prepared and able to bid and buy enthusiastically. It will be a fun and lively event. Your

participation is a great way to support our Guild - by recycling – by bidding -- by buying – by cheering on the bidders.

Show & Tell – Bring your latest completed rug or current project to share with us.

Hospitality – We thank in advance the following members who have volunteered to bring snacks and treats to the meeting – Jane Anderson, Linda Ehly, Mary Passerello, Brenda Smith, Jeanne Surdi, and Martha Thieling. Our meetings are enhanced by their contributions!

January Birthdays -- Birthday wishes go to members celebrating their special day this month – Jane Anderson (1/9), Cindy Boults (1/14), Anndee Byers (1/27), Teri Dabrowski (1/11), Lois Grieves (1/14), Donna Kolznak (1/16), Annie Lee (1/15), Pat Levin (1/3), Linda Meier (1/16), and Brenda Smith (1/3). We wish them all the happiest birthdays. Enjoy your day!

Membership – We welcome Ida Kelleher to our Guild. Ida is a friend of Kathleen Murray-Boyda and will be at our retreat. Her contact information is shown below.

Ida Kelleher
239 Waverly Road
Wilmington, DE 19803
idakelleher@gmail.com

Kathy Kane has a new email address – kathykane1974@gmail.com.

An updated yearend membership list will be sent to members shortly.

Sunshine – Ann Gagnon underwent hip replacement surgery last month. We wish her a speedy recovery.

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 –

Members Open Hearts and Pocketbooks for Victims of Domestic Violence – Each December the Consignment Shop of Flemington coordinates a clothing drive to support victims of domestic violence in Hunterdon County. Many of those who seek refuge at the Safe House arrive without basic items such as slippers, socks, sweat suits and pajamas. It has become a Guild tradition to support the holiday clothing drive. This is our seventh year!

An additional \$250 was generated by raffling a Santa and hooked Christmas stocking by Therese Shick, a hookers basket made by Marry Passerello along with a hook, pattern and wool and wool donated by Weezie Huntington.

Chris Vogel, Manager of the Consignment Shop, thanked the Guild and noted that “The pajamas and slippers, etc. were sent to the Safe House for the women upon their arrival into the house; many come in with nothing except the clothing they are wearing, and are so appreciative of a cozy robe or pair of slippers. So many times they pack for their children but not for themselves. The money raised from the raffle was designated to also go the Safe House. Thank you again for

your generosity.”

All the proceeds from the Consignment Shop support programs and services for individuals and families touched by domestic violence and sexual assault in Hunterdon County. The Consignment Shop donates their surplus wool garments to the Guild which in turn are offered to members for our hooking projects.

2016 Rug Hooking School Memorial Scholarship Winners Announced – Jean Laurence and Ellen DiClemente are the winners of HCRAG Memorial Scholarship and Susan Woodworth Memorial Scholarship respectively.

Several worthy candidates were nominated for the HCRAG Scholarship. Jean was chosen in recognition of her significant contribution to both of the Hooked Rug Festivals and as the Guild Treasurer.

All Guild members registered to attend our 2016 Rug Hooking School were eligible for the Susan Woodworth Memorial Scholarship which was awarded based on a random drawing. Ellen DiClemente’s name was drawn.

Nominations for Susan Woodworth “Learning” Scholarship Due by January 1, 2016 – This scholarship is funded by the sale of Susan’s hooking equipment, supplies and wool stash. It will be presented to a member who can best identify what they want to learn by attending Hooking School. Submissions need to be sent to Eleanor Dunker by January 1, 2016.

Next Hooked Rug Festival – Therese Shick, Festival Chairperson, has asked that the letter below be sent to members of the guilds that participated in the 2015 Hooked Rug Festival.

“Now that the dust has settled on the 2015 Festival, I just want to extend my thanks to all of you. It’s through a huge combined effort that we are able to put on such a fabulous show and you should all pat yourselves on the back. We put on another wonderful event and we made money to boot!

“Since the Festival, the committee chairs have met to discuss the future of another Festival. I have decided to step down as chairperson. I have been fortunate enough to be able to help with two consecutive Festivals, and now I need a break. There are a couple other chairperson positions that would need to be filled if we were to host another Festival in two years. One of the main positions also needing to be filled would be that of Treasurer, as well as other committees.

“So, what I’m asking of you is this. Think about whether or not you’d like to be a part of a third Festival that would theoretically take place in October of 2017. I am recommending that the chairperson spot (and indeed any committee chair positions) be filled by not one, but two people. These types of things are always more manageable (and more fun) if you have a partner. But we need people to step forward and be willing to take this on. Myself, as well as other chairs that are stepping down, have all the documents from the past Festivals and would be available to help in any way needed. So, think about it...would you and a buddy like to take this on? If not, the chairperson spot, maybe one of the other committees?

“If we were to host another Festival in 2017, we would need to secure the Festival Mill location with a deposit by Feb. of 2016. So, I would ask that you think about it. Contact me or the president of your guild with any questions or to discuss. I will be in touch by mid-February with any updates on volunteers I have heard from by that point so that we can make a definite decision going forward. Feel free to contact me to discuss.

“Thanks again for all you did, and have a wonderful Holiday season, Fondly, Therese Shick”

Website Enhancements – Our website is being expanded to include images of completed Show & Tell rugs from our meetings and for other completed rugs members wish to post on the site. We will also be able to display photos from Guild events such as the Rug Festival, Hooking Retreat, monthly meetings, and Rug School. John Austin, our new webmaster, has contributed the software to allow these enhancements.

In order to have a completed rug added to the site, send a photograph to Karl Gimber at karlg12@verizon.net. The photo needs to be identified with your name and the name of the rug, as follows: Lastname.Firstname.Rugname. Without this identification protocol, we cannot assure that the rugs will be uploaded to the site.

January Retreat Follows Guild Meeting (January 8-10, 2016) -- Our popular rug hooking retreat is this month at the Hampton Inn in Flemington, NJ. After our monthly meeting on January 8, 2016, retreaters will move to the Hampton Inn for a weekend of hooking and fun.

Retreat Coordinator, Weezie Huntington, has the following final announcements and requests:

- We usually end late Sunday afternoon, but can stay until 10 PM, if we choose.
- There are no openings right now, but there is a waiting list in case anyone needs to cancel. Please let her know as soon as you know that you cannot attend, so she can let the others know.
- Everyone is encouraged to bring snacks--some healthy and some not.
- Our favorite masseuse, Joy Andrews, is set to come on Saturday. She is bringing her full table, so if you want a total body massage, that will also be available. Please let Weezie know if you intend to sign up for a massage (and a rough idea of how long) so we can give Joy a start time.
- A gourmet pizza night is planned for Saturday dinner for those who want to participate.
- Bring your favorite ceramic mug if you do not want to drink from papers cups – and water bottles. Stay hydrated.

Guild members are invited to stop by during the weekend and enjoy a cup of coffee.

Any questions? Give Weezie a call at 609-477-4339 or send her an email message at weezie711@gmail.com.

Casual Hooking Days Discontinued in 2016 – The turnout for the Guild’s Casual Hooking Days did not support continuing to reserve the room at the Raritan Township Municipal Complex. It was agreed at the December meeting that Casual Hooking Days will be discontinued in 2016.

Spring Fling Ideas Needed – Cindy Boultz pursued the suggestion of having Betsy Reed (Heavens to Betsy) return for Spring Fling, but unfortunately Betsy is not available that weekend. Consequently, we are back to the drawing board. A decision needs to be made on whether a Spring Fling should be held next year. Last year the weekend was turned into a hooking retreat when there were not sufficient registrations to support bringing in the instructors. The arrangement with the Hampton Inn may require booking the meeting rooms for three days.

The basic questions are:

- Do you have interest in attending a three day spring workshop?
- Is there a subject, theme or technique you would like to see covered?
- Is there a specific instructor with whom you want to work?
- Do you prefer to have another retreat instead of a workshop?
- Are you willing to serve as the event coordinator?

Please provide your thoughts to Cindy at 908- 730-0146 or cboultz@gmail.com.

Plainsboro Audubon Preserve Seeking Fiber Artists for Juried Art Exhibit -- New Jersey is a wild place, celebrated through art in many creative and unique ways. Audubon's Plainsboro Preserve is hosting the third annual juried art exhibit of all artwork representing the wildlife of New Jersey flora and fauna. If you are a photographer, painter, or otherwise creative artist (read rug hooker) and have original work that features New Jersey wildlife, be part of this public exhibit. Registration will be in March, and the exhibit will be the month of April at the Plainsboro Recreation Center. For further information, contact Nancy.fiske@njudubon.org.

Nina Seaman brought this opportunity to our attention and noted that the organizers have lots of photos, videos, watercolors, but would love to have fiber art such as quilts and hooked rug/mats. We know there are some beautiful pieces created by members of our Guild that would be great for that show.

Library Addition –Donna Hrkman's newest book Creative Techniques for Rug Hookers has been added to our library. It will be available at the next meeting.

Our Librarian, Kathy Donovan, brings a selection of books to each meeting. If there is a specific item you want from our library, contact her by 12:00 noon on the day before our meeting and she will bring it to the meeting. Kathy can be reached at 908-755-1670 or 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.

Exciting Field Trip Planned for May Meeting -- A field trip to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center in Pennsburg, PA is planned for our May 2016 meeting. The Schwenkfelders are a protestant religious sect that migrated to Pennsylvania from southern Germany and lower Silesia in the 1700s. They are one of the groups known as the Pennsylvania Germans. The Heritage Center has a major collection of Schwenkfelder decorative arts such as

fraktur and textiles. For additional information, visit the Heritage Center's website at www.schwenkfelder.com.

Fiber artist, Susan Feller, will provide an hour presentation entitled *The History of Rughooking from an Artist's Frame*. Susan relocated from New Jersey to West Virginia several years ago where she now maintains her studio, Ruckman Mill Farm (www.ruckmanmillfarm.com).

The timing of the trip coincides with the Penn Dry Goods Market that will take place at the Heritage Center. The Market is a special kind of antique sale and show. It features antiques and vintage textiles plus things that might have been found on the shelves of an old dry goods store.

After the visit to the Heritage Center, we will travel to Kay Leisey's Homespun that is about 10 minutes away.

The Heritage Center entrance fee of \$5 includes admission to the Penn Dry Goods Market, Susan Feller's presentation and the Schwenkfleder exhibits. It was agreed that a bus will not be needed since a sufficient number of members are willing to car pool. Members who can take two other members from New Jersey will be reimbursed \$25 (\$15 from Pennsylvania). It was previously ascertained that members preferred to bring a brown bag lunch instead of going to a restaurant.

A signup sheet was circulated at the December meeting.

2016 Rug Hooking School – Our 20th Rug Hooking School is scheduled for August 8-12, 2016 with instructors Norman Batastini, Nancy Jewett, Iris Simpson and Ali Strebel. There are currently openings in the workshops of Ali, Iris and Nancy.

Camp Fee -- The cost of camp is \$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.

Registration Process -- Registration forms are available at our meetings and on our website. All registration is by mail. The registration form provides for a selection of your first, second, third or fourth choice of an instructor.

Additional information can be found on our website (www.hcrag.com).

Attend Rug School Free -- Anyone housing a teacher will get to attend rug school for free and will get the teacher of their choice. All that is required is to provide housing, breakfast and dinner for the week. Lunch is provided by the Guild. You are not expected to entertain the instructors. They are tired at the end of the day and need time to relax, reflect on the day and prepare for the next day. If you 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.

If you have questions or interest in providing housing for an instructor, let Rug School Directors Anndee Byers or Eleanor Dunker know.

Featured Member -- Kathy Kane -- Kathy has always liked to work with her hands and is attracted to textiles in general. She made baskets for a while but was not familiar with rug hooking until she attended the 2013 Hooked Rug Festival at Prallsville Mills. She was taking a local tour and went into the Mill where she met Weezie Huntington. Weezie enthusiastically showed her how to pull loops. Kathy went home thinking she knew what to do but soon realized that she “could not do it.”

Shortly thereafter Kathy saw an announcement in the paper about the Guild’s workshop for beginners that was offered at our 2014 Rug Hooking School. The newspaper failed to include information about the need to register for the workshop. When Kathy arrived for the workshop, she learned that it was full and that preregistration was needed. However, she was invited to observe the activities of the regular rug hooking school workshops taking place. Kathy spent considerable time observing the three workshops and found everyone very helpful and welcoming. She was able to attend the Guild’s next workshop that was conducted by Cheryl Halliday. “Hooking got to me and I wanted to continue,” Kathy recalls. At that point she still lacked the basic tools and knowledge as to where to buy them. Joining the Guild solved that problem!

Kathy is still developing her hooking style but clearly says that “I am not a color in the lines hooker. I always work outside the box.” She is drawn to including three dimensional elements into her projects. “You can say I am a 3-D primitive hooker,” she jokes. Kathy currently hooks with recycled wool but will buy bright colored wool when a spark of color is needed. She has not yet tackled wool dyeing. “It intimidates me. I need to see it done first.”

Kathy had the opportunity to attend the Guild’s 2015 Rug Hooking School where she studied with Michele Micarelli. “It was a wonderful experience. Michele is my kind of person,” she exclaims. Kathy credits Guild members as well as the teachers she has had for helping her learn the fundamentals of rug hooking. “I am open to and learn from constructive criticism,” she notes.

Drawing her own patterns comes naturally to Kathy. “I do not like to hook the patterns drawn by others. I prefer to use my imagination.” After her beginner’s log cabin project, Kathy hooked her “3-D Cow” mat and then a small rug featuring a beach house in which she incorporated bead embellishments. A proddy sheep with buttons and colorful pins followed. The proddy technique was also used in her Rug School project with Michele Micarelli. A pattern that is still evolving in Kathy’s mind is a long runner with lots of circles and a square.

A regular hooking routine is still being established. Kathy prefers to hook at night with the TV on in the background and finds that hooking is relaxing after a stressful day. She also hooks with the group that meets in Oldwick on Tuesdays.

Kathy lives in Asbury, NJ with her son, Shawn. She unexpectedly lost her husband last June while at the Jersey Shore. Her older son, Joseph, lives in Easton, PA. Kathy has three dogs – Buster (Boxer), Callee (Shar Pei Mix), Henny (Boston Terrier Mix) – and a three legged Siamese cat named Kittles. They are all rescue animals. Kathy retired after 14 years working in patient care with state psychiatric hospitals. A workplace injury resulted in taking early retirement.

Kathy attributes the Guild with “saving me from the ordeal of losing my husband.” She points out that “A Guild member generously and anonymously paid for me to attend rug school. Everyone is tightlipped about it. I cannot find out who paid. The Guild is awesome. I feel comfortable and feel that I fit.”

Our Guild has benefited by Kathy’s involvement. She is giving back by joining our members who demonstrate rug hooking at local festivals and 4-H Fairs. Kathy has a natural flair and warmth that comes out when she is interacting with the public.

Go to the Featured Member page of our website (www.hcrag.com) to see some Kathy's hooked projects.

Hooking Information & Techniques

From Nina's Notebook -- Happy New Year 2016! A new year and my mind races ahead to some of the coming events of this year -- a significant birthday, a new knee for my husband, a presidential election. Those are the main events. And then there are the small but oh, so meaningful pleasures of every day -- walking on the beach in the summer, feeling the sunshine on your skin, watching the flowers grow, the smile of family and friends, the unexpected note from a friend of long ago. Each one of us has our own personal list. It is often hard for me to wrap my head around a year. A week, a day is much more doable. Carpe Diem, one day at a time, that seems possible. Life hands us good days and bad, times for laughter and tears...woven together in a tapestry of light and dark.

Michele Micharelli's presentation in November included a mat which she made illustrating aspects of her life and personality. In it was her family, her special causes such as the environment, aspects of her personality...the jester, her accomplishments...hooking the red rose as well as other illustrations of her passions. It is a remarkable piece of hooking, highlighting periods of her life. The color, the design, the use of symbols, materials...it is a mat which profoundly moved me in many ways. It was one which you could see and study for days and discover something new each time.

So what amazing, complex, fascinating mats are ahead for you this year? Some of them are already in their formative stages; some are mere wisps, floating in the recesses of your mind; still others are out in space, waiting to come to light when the moment is right. Let 2016 be the year when we open our minds and hearts to new ideas, new challenges, new experiences in rug hooking and discovering more of the artist the lives within each one of us.

Happy New Year! Nina Seaman

From Douglas Leechman's Dye Pot – The Magic Dyes of Olden Days – William Winthrop Kent's book The Hooked Rug published in 1937 includes a chapter on "Suitable Material and Dyeing." In that chapter reference is made to an article in the March 1930 issue of *The American Home* entitled "The Magic Dyes of Olden Days" written by Mr. Douglas Leechman in which he discusses using natural ingredients for dyeing wool for hooked rugs. We quote from that article:

"The following list of plants which can be used direct, without any previous preparation or mordanting of the goods to be dyed, does not pretend to be complete, nor are the dyes of equal value. Experiments should always be made before risking any valuable cloth in little-known dye baths.

Red: Alder, bedstraw, bloodroot, cedar, cranberry, dogwood, elm, grape, gromwell, hemlock, hooked-crowfoot, lamb's quarters, maple, sorrel, spruce roots, sumac, tamarack.

Yellow: Alder, barberry, beech, blue beech, crab apple, goldenrod, goldenseal, hickory, marsh marigold, oak, poplar, prickly ash, quercitron, sassafras, sumac, sunflower, touch-me-not, willow.

Black: Alder, poison ivy, sumac, walnut.

Green: Ash, hound's tongue, mint, smartweed, walnut (young), yellow adder's-tongue.

Purple: Blueberry, elderberry, huckleberry.

Brown: Alder, butternut, oak, walnut.

Blue: Grape, larkspur, oak, spruce bark, sycamore, toadflax.

“It will be seen that some plants, such as alder, are listed as giving more than one color. In most cases this depends on the length of time that the goods are boiled in the dye or the strength of the decoction.

“Most of these dyes of olden days were prepared in very simple ways, generally by boiling the goods with parts of the dye-bearing plant.

“Therefore, after some proficiency has been reached in the technique of hooking, it will be found very interesting not only to try certain of the old dyeing recipes, but also to make experiments along the same lines with entirely different barks, roots, leaves and blossoms. But dyeing to be successful must be carefully done and the proportions of ingredients as well as the incidents of the whole operation carefully and specifically noted, otherwise it may not be possible to secure the same result twice in succession. One thing is certain, the beginner will get better results by using pale or faded colors throughout a rug rather than very brilliant new tones.”

Tips from Heloise – More on Getting Rid of Moths – Keeping moths from our stash is a perennial issue for which many suggestions have been discussed. Diane Stoffel shared a solution with Heloise at our last rug school that was new to us. Her recommendation is to get moth balls the kill larvae and seal them in a plastic bag along with the wool for seven days. After seven days, remove and wash the wool. The key is to find moth balls the kill larvae. The information should appear on the box.

Recipes – Teri Dabrowski's Apple-Cheese Danish for a Crowd – We are grateful to Teri for sharing with us her Apple-Cheese recipe. We enjoyed this special treat at a recent Guild meeting.

Ingredients

- 2 eight oz. pkgs. of cream cheese at room temperature
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 4 tubes (8oz.) refrigerated crescent roll dough
- 1 can apple pie filling, well drained
- Glaze: yolk of 1 egg beaten with 1 tsp. water

Preparation

- Heat oven to 350.
- Lightly butter a 15 ½ x 10 ½ inch jelly roll pan (cookie sheet with sides).
- Mix first four ingredients until smooth in a medium bowl.
- Remove two tubes of crescent rolls -- unroll and place on pan to cover bottom.
- Warm in oven four minutes.
- Remove from oven and cool slightly.
- Spread cheese mixture over dough evenly to edges.
- Scatter apples evenly over cheese.

- Unroll and separate last two crescent dough triangles and line up atop apples.
- Brush triangles with egg glaze.
- Bake 30 minutes, cool, dust with confectioners' sugar.

Enjoy!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Blanket Statements: New Quilts by Kaffe Fasset (Exhibit at Michener Art Museum November 14, 2015 to February 21, 2016) -- The Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA is featuring an exhibit of new quilts by Kaffe Fasset and historical quilts from the collection of the Quilt Museum and Gallery, York, England. More information can be obtained by calling the Museum at 215-340-9800 or by going to its website –michenerartmuseum.org.

2016 Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village (August 16-20, 2016) – Outstanding vendors, extensive exhibits, exclusive “Celebration Rugs,” and creative retreats and workshops are all part of Rug Hooking Week at Sauder Village. More information is available by going to www.saudervillage.org/RugHookingWeek.

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 --

January 8, 2016 –Monthly Meeting – Annual Auction *

January 8-10, 2016 – Annual Rug Hooking Retreat (Flemington Hampton Inn)

February 12, 2016 – Monthly Meeting –Designing a Tavern Sign Rug (Karl Gimber) Location TBD

March 11, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Program and Location TBD

April 8, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Rug Finishes Round Robin (Members) Location TBD

May 13, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Field Trip – Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center – Penn

Dry Good Market – Susan Feller Presentation – Kay Leisey/Homespun
June 8, 2016 – Monthly Meeting – Summer Luncheon – Location TBD
August 8-12, 2016 – 20th Annual Rug Hooking School – ESC School
August 9, 2016 – Beginners Rug Hooking Workshop – ESC 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. 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 debywalsh1@gmail.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
Diane Liberto (Transporter) – 908-782-7563 or diane.mannon@yahoo.com

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

Mentoring -- Amy Korengut – 908-221-9061 or akorengut@gmail.com.

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

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

Secretary -- Open

Special Events – Chris Coslet – 973-962-1884 or chris622@optonline.net

Spring Retreat & Hook-in -- Diane Liberto – 908-782-7563 or diane.mannon@yahoo.com

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 HCRAG 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 (HCRAG). 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.

HCRAg CLASSIFIEDS

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