From the President’s Corner – June marks the end of our current program year. I want to once again thank our officers, chairs and committee members who contributed to our successful year and to Guild members for your strong support. Our success is the result of the collective efforts on many people. Planning is already underway for the coming season.

The Program Committee is discussing creative subjects for our monthly meetings. They have identified several topics that will stimulate and inspire us. Maximum advantage is being taken of the marvelous talent and “know-how” within the Guild. The tentative program schedule is listed in the “HCRAG Calendar of Events” found on Page 8 of the newsletter. Program ideas are always welcomed and encouraged.

Our popular retreat (the 4th one!) will be held in January again. The retreat has a loyal following who find this week-end to be a relaxing and fun event for a time of the year when the weather tends to be dreary. Our experiment with a spring workshop with two instructors was a success in spite of the troublesome economic times. The Spring Fling will be back, but renamed “March Madness”. While college basketball fans will have their excitement, we will be enjoying ourselves at the Flemington Hampton Inn with stimulating rug hooking instructors and friends.

The Guild’s schedule of rug hooking demonstrations continues to grow. We are up to 17, including three new events. The new requests from community organizations are a pragmatic sign of the public’s growing awareness of the special nature of our Guild.

All of our programs and events require the active support of our members in order to be successful. If you have not been able to help on any of our projects in the past year, I encourage you to find a way to help as we start a new season. In our Guild, as in most organizations, the “80-20 rule” applies all too often – 20% of the members do 80% of the work. As President of your Guild, I worry, at times, that our dedicated workers will burn themselves out and our Guild will suffer. Please find a way to help.

It has been a Guild tradition to close the program year and to usher in summer with our potluck picnic. Guild members are terrific cooks as well as terrific hookers. The food at our potluck luncheons is alone worth the price of membership. Come help us celebrate our year of success.

Have an enjoyable summer and keep on hooking! -- Weezie

June Meeting – Friday, June 12, 2009 – Our last meeting of the program year will be our traditional potluck picnic luncheon at our normal location – the Hunterdon County Complex. Please note that the meeting will begin an hour later at 11:00.

For those who have not attended in the past, this is an inside picnic held at our regular location. It is a potluck affair and all members are requested to bring their favorite appetizer, entrée, salad or
dessert. HCRAG members are known for their exceptional cooking skills as well as their rug hooking. The food is wonderful!! The informal nature of the picnic presents an excellent opportunity to get to know each other better.

The inspirational “show and tell” portion of the meeting will feature rugs with a summer theme as well as any current projects. The important thing is to bring a rug to share with everyone.

Bring your hooking equipment and use the time to work on a project.

**Hospitality** -- We thank all who provided snacks and treats for our monthly meetings throughout the program year. Kudos to Helen Buchanan and her committee for arranging delicious refreshments attractively served at each meeting. They really do add a special element to our gatherings.

**Membership** – A membership renewal form is attached for anyone who wants to renew membership at this time.

**Let the Sun Shine** -- We sadly report that Lib Ryman’s oldest daughter, Kathy, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in April. Our sincere condolences go to Lib and her family.

**June & July Birthdays** – The Loop is not produced in July; therefore, Guild members who celebrate birthdays in June and July are recognized this month.

- **June Birthdays**: June Bennett (6/24), Janet Bosshard (6/14), Lydia Brenner (6/4), Gail Ferdinando (6/6), Jackie Lee (6/26), Barbara Lugg (6/15) and Debbie Walsh (6/6)
- **July Birthdays**: Sharon Bennett (7/9), Margaret Brightbill (7/11), Connie Coleman (7/19), Linda Czeck (7/13), Weezie Huntington (7/11), Nina Seaman (7/20), Virginia Sutton (7/14) and Susan Woodworth (7/17)

We hope you all have a marvelous day!

**Artists in Residence** -- The Bloomsbury Elementary School Cultural Arts Committee has invited the Guild to participate in their Artist in Residence Program on Friday, June 5, 2009 from 9-3 (set up at 8:00). Guild members will join other artisans in demonstrating and discussing their work. Contact Irene Pasternak (908-735-2754 or irepastr@wmconnect.com) or Kay Weeks (908-832-7155) if you want to participate in this fun event.

**March Madness 2010** -- Planning for March Madness 2010 (formerly the Spring Fling) is underway. It is tentatively scheduled for March 19-21, 2010 at the Flemington Hampton Inn. Weezie Huntington who is coordinating the event wants to know what members want to learn. All ideas are welcome. Two workshops currently being considered are:

1) Lettering with Emmy Roberts, currently head of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild
2) Pocket Books (purses, bags) with Jennifer Manuell. Weezie met her at Shelburne last November and saw her “fabulous bags.”
Both of these workshops will be offered at Shelburne in November. Jane Halliwell has also been suggested as a possible instructor. Please let Weezie know if you have something you would like to learn or have an instructor with whom you want to work or if you have other ideas.

“Skeet” Combs Constructs Creative Display Rack for Guild Rug/Banner -- Joyce Combs' husband, Skeet, designed and built a mahogany display rack for the Guild’s rug, which recently surfaced and was returned to us. The size and weight of the rug posed special design challenges that Skeet addressed with a unique and creative design. We can now proudly display our rug/banner at Guild meetings. The rug and display rack are available for Guild events such as hooking demonstrations. We thank Skeet for all his time, effort and creativity.

2009 Guild Demonstration Schedule -- Educating and informing the public about traditional rug hooking is one of the objectives of our Guild. Demonstrating rug hooking at local events is the major way in which we fulfill this objective. Our participation not only helps promote rug hooking and our Guild, but also helps support local organizations and historical sites. As HCRAG becomes more visible, the number of requests we receive grows. Three events have been added to the schedule. The current schedule is shown below (not all the dates have been confirmed).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Sheep Shearing (Peter Wentz Farmstead)</td>
<td>Karl Gimber/Joanne McIlmurray</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>New Jersey State History Fair (Titusville, NJ)</td>
<td>Margaret Brightbill</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>Sergeantsville Farmers’ Market *</td>
<td>Jamie Mirabito</td>
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<td>July</td>
<td>Plumsteadville Farmers’ Market</td>
<td>Connie Coleman</td>
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<td>August 1-2</td>
<td>Mercer County 4-H Fair (Howell Living Farm)*</td>
<td>Karl Gimber</td>
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<td>August 19-23</td>
<td>Hunterdon County 4-H Fair</td>
<td>Dee Rosebrock</td>
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<td>September 12-13</td>
<td>Sheep &amp; Fiber Festival (Ringoes, NJ)</td>
<td>Weezie Huntington</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>Colonial Market Day (Newtown, PA)</td>
<td>Karl Gimber</td>
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<td>September 19-20</td>
<td>Holcombe-Jimison Farming Festival (Lambertville, NJ)</td>
<td>Gisele Meader</td>
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<td>September 26</td>
<td>Historical Fall Festival (Hilltown, PA)</td>
<td>Karl Gimber</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>Heritage Day (Trappe, PA)</td>
<td>Joanne McIlmurray</td>
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<td>October 3</td>
<td>Apple Butter Frolic (Harleysville, PA)</td>
<td>Karl Gimber/Joanne McIlmurray</td>
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<td>October 10</td>
<td>“Larenswaert” Festival (Peter Wentz Farmstead)</td>
<td>Karl Gimber/Joanne McIlmurray</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
<td>Howell Living Farm (Lambertville, NJ)</td>
<td>Karl Gimber/Carol Kindt</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Millbrook Days</td>
<td>Deanna Kinney/Joan Lucas</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Langhorne Harvest Day (Langhorne, PA)*</td>
<td>Lydia Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 7-8</td>
<td>Thanksgiving in the Country (Stockton, NJ)</td>
<td>Joyce Combs</td>
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* New event for 2009

All members are encouraged to assist in our demonstration efforts. You can participate for an hour or two or for the entire day. It is a satisfying activity to share our commitment to rug hooking with others. Please contact the coordinators for information on how you can help.

**Guild to Demonstrate at The Sergeantsville Farmers’ Market** -- On Saturday, June 27, 2009 the Guild will be demonstrating rug hooking at the Farmers’ Market in bucolic Sergeantsville, NJ from 9AM to Noon. Patrons of farmers’ markets typically have a natural interest in handmade items and appreciate the recycling aspect of rug hooking.
Sergeantsville is in the heart of Hunterdon County and an ideal location to publicize our Guild’s activities such as the Beginners’ Workshop. It is also an opportunity to sell small hooked items. Jamie Mirabito is coordinating this event. Let her know if you can assist (908-806-7123 or jbmirabito@hotmail.com).

**Call for Fraktur Design Rugs** -- The Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center, Pennsburg, PA is sponsoring an exhibit of hooked rugs inspired by Pennsylvania German fraktur. The exhibit will open on November 17, 2009 and close on April 10, 2010. Susan Feller is the Guest Curator for the exhibit. Anyone wishing to enter a rug in the exhibit should contact her at 304-496-8073 or rugs2wv@yahoo.com. Rugs for the show need to be available by November 14, 2009.

Guild members will recall that the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center was the site for a HCRAG hooked rug exhibit and a hook-in a few years ago. It has a magnificent collection of Pennsylvania German decorative arts including an extensive collection of fraktur. Visit its website (www.schwenkfelder.com) for more information on its programs and collections.

**HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp – August 10-14, 2009** – Camp is now about two months away. The list of participants will be sent to the instructors this month, so that they can initiate contact and begin planning projects. It is not too late to be included. Three nationally known instructors – Norma Batastini, Sandra Brown and Judy Quintman – will provide a stimulating and rewarding week. Contact Karl Gimber at 215-297-0803 or karlg@nni.com for information on fees and workshop availability.

**Learn to Hook Rugs** -- The Guild’s popular Beginners’ Workshop will again be offered during our annual rug hooking camp at the ESC School. Connie Coleman and Kay Weeks will be the instructors for the workshop on August 13, 2009 from 9-12. This year participants will have a choice between two projects – a small hooked mat with a log cabin pattern or a hooked doorstop. All supplies and tools are provided for the $50 fee. Those attending the workshop will be invited to join us for the Guild’s potluck luncheon and to stay for the instructors’ review of camp projects.

**Meet Our Member – Cathy Edwards** – During a trip through North Carolina with her husband, Chuck, in the mid 1990s, Cathy spotted a store advertising “Hooked Rugs by Local Mountain Women”. She was curious and stopped in. Inside there were beautiful rugs (she had never seen a hooked rug before) which were made by the local women. At this point, Cathy does not remember whether they were hooked with yarn or wool – just that they were very expensive and the thought entered her mind that she would like to find someone to teach her how to hook. Several years later, at the annual “Victorian Days” in Belvidere NJ, she happened upon a woman doing a dye demonstration and exhibiting several hooked rugs. She had a list of local teachers which included Margaret Lutz. Cathy called Margaret and set up a lesson. That was the beginning of her rug hooking journey and her friendship with Margaret as well as the other women she met through Margaret’s informal weekly hook-in that she had at her home.

Cathy likes diversity in her hooking projects and has an eclectic style. She has hooked geometrics, pictorials, and florals and is currently working on a piece inspired by crewelwork. She hooks in #3 to #8 cuts. Cathy tends to hook commercially available patterns, although she did design her “Love Rug” for granddaughter Madelyn.
Cathy is a regular at Gail Dufresne’s Goal Hill Studio in Lambertville, NJ. Beside the expert instruction and advice she receives from Gail, she enjoys the camaraderie of the group. “It is also wonderful to have available to me the most wonderful wool which Gail provides.” Cathy is also a regular attendee of HCRAG camp. She has taken workshops with Helen Wolfe, Susan Feller, Michele Micarelli and Sherri Heiber-Day at camp in addition to workshops with Cynthia Norwood, Jackie Hansen and Elizabeth Black.

Whenever possible, Cathy hooks every day. Hooking late in the afternoon normally works best for her. When the errands and daily activities are done, she can sit at her frame and hook for a couple of hours before it is time to prepare dinner. Cathy gets more hooking done during the winter months than during the summer when outside activities demand her attention.

Like so many members, Cathy learned about the Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild from Margaret Lutz and from Sharon Ballard whom she met in Margaret’s hooking group. She joined the Guild right after she started hooking in 1998. After 11 years, Cathy still finds the Guild as a source of new ideas, inspiration and camaraderie. “I like the women I have met there. They are friendly and supportive and we share a love of hooking”. Cathy observes that “rug hookers take delight in the accomplishments of their peers. There is no competition.”

Supporting her church, tending to her perennial flower beds, improving her golf game and visiting her grandchildren are other priorities for Cathy. She has been a religious education teacher for over 13 years and serves as a Eucharistic Minister. Cathy is also a serious gardener. With seven acres of property, she has all the room needed for extensive gardening. During the summer, Cathy works on improving her golf game and spending time with her golfing buddies. She has been an active member of Harkers Hollow Golf Club for the last seventeen years and has held several positions in the Ladies Association.

Chuck and Cathy live in Harmony, NJ. Chuck is Executive Vice-President with Micro Stamping Group of Companies involved with contract manufacturing in the medical and automotive industries. They have four children – Michelle, Michael, Melissa and Gregg. Michelle, the oldest, lives in San Francisco with her husband Ray. They are both attorneys. Michael, an engineer, lives in Greenville SC with his wife Julie and their two children, Madelyn (age 7) and Nathan (age 5). Melissa, also an engineer, lives in Fairfax, Va. with her husband Bob and two sons, Trevor (age 7) and Jeremy (age 6). Their youngest son, Gregg, who is a planning analyst, is single and living in Phillipsburg, NJ.

Creating family heirlooms is how Cathy sees the rugs she hooks and shares with her family. Cathy’s parents died early in life and did not leave items that traditionally become treasures. That will not be the case for Cathy’s family. Each of her children and grandchildren has at least one of her rugs. She likes to “hook something special and personal in each rug”. Normally it is a message worked into the background but is hard to detect unless you know where to look. A rug inspired by a Currier & Ives print “American Express Train” and hooked for grandson Nathan, has the wording “I love you” hooked in the clouds. This rug won an “Honorable Mention Award” in the 2007 Celebration sponsored by Rug Hooking Magazine. Cathy’s “Love Rug” was hooked for granddaughter Madelyn, and was featured in the February/March 2008 issue of the ATHA Newsletter. This rug was designed during a workshop with Susan Feller in 2006. Cathy shared the rug with the Guild during a “show and tell” portion of one of our meetings. We were all amazed to learn that she hooked the rug so that all the tails were hidden!
Cathy Edwards is a talented artisan who strives to have her most recent rug better than the one before it and who finds rug hooking a source of enrichment in her life on so many levels. We are fortunate to have her in our Guild.

**Jersey Girls Exhibit -- People’s Choice Awards Announced** -- Janet Santaniello, President of the Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter, announced the winners of the People’s Choice Awards from the Jersey Girls Exhibit. We congratulate the following winners:

- **Jersey Girls Theme**
  - 1st Prize: Margaret Brightbill, “Washington Crossing the Delaware”
  - 2nd Prize: Norma Batastini, “Jersey Girls Don’t Pump Gas”
  - 3rd Prize: Janet Bosshard, “Hunterdon County Jersey Girls”

- **Non Jersey Girls Theme**
  - 1st Prize: Jeannine Happe, “Colonial Quilt”

We are proud that three of the winners are HCRAG members. Photos of these special rugs can be found at [www.jerseygirlschallenge.org](http://www.jerseygirlschallenge.org).

**HCRAG Library** -- The June meeting will be your last opportunity to borrow an item from our library for your summer reading. If you want to borrow a book for the summer, contact Guild Librarian, Kathy Donovan, 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 freyja@optonline.net.

**HCRAG Website** -- Visit the Guild’s website at [www.hcrag.com](http://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**

- **Pennsylvania-German Vintage Hooked Rugs (April 25, 2009 – August 9, 2009)** -- The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, MD is the site of this beautiful exhibition of textile arts. Pieces selected from Dr. Patricia T. Herr’s collection of Pennsylvania-German Vintage Hooked Rugs will be showcased. The methods by which these rugs were made and their history will be examined, giving the visitor the opportunity to admire the beauty of these handmade items, as well as learn about the resourcefulness of the women who made them from scraps of fabric and yarn. For more information, visit the Museum’s website ([www.wcmfa.org](http://www.wcmfa.org)) or call 301-739-5764.

- **Rug Hooking Workshops at Lollipop Farm** -- Lucille Festa is offering a series of workshops at her studio in East Rupert, VT. The instructors and dates follow -- Norma Batastini (June 8-10) and Jayne Hester (July 15-17). For information, contact Lucille at 802-325-2543 or lucillefest@hotmail.com.

- **Brandywine ATHA Guild Workshops with Elizabeth Black** -- The Brandywine Rug Hooking Guild is offering two workshops with Elizabeth Black on August 1-3, 2009 and August 4-6, 2009. (The initial workshop will be filled first.) Elizabeth who is known for her animal hooking will teach all cuts including everything but geometrics and Orientals. The workshops will be held at St Francis in the Fields Church 689 Sugartown Rd. Malvern, PA 19355. Contact Jeri at
Rugs by the Sea -- September 13-25, 2009 -- The 22nd year of Rugs by the Sea will be held at the Chalfonte Hotel in Cape May, NJ for two weeks in September. The first week (September 13-18) will feature Bev Conway, Gail Dufresne, Lucille Festa, Cindi Gay and Charlotte Price. The instructors for the second week (September 20-25) will be Cheryllynn Brubaker, Bev Conway, Nancy Miller Quigley, Judy Quintman and Abby Vakay. For more information, contact Norma Batastini by phone at 973-746-5361 or by email at c_batastini@msn.com.


2009 ATHA Biennial -- September 23 – 27, 2009 in Louisville, KY. Select classes from 21 notable rug hooking instructors and shop with 17 nationally known vendors. There will be two hooked rug exhibits and a keynote speech by Frank Bielec, star of TLC’s “Trading Spaces”. Go to www.atharugs.com/biennials.htm for more information.

Brandywine Guild Hook-in -- October 24, 2009 in Watertown, PA.

Grenfell Workshop -- October 27 & 28, 2009 at Oakside in Bloomfield, NJ. The workshop begins with a lecture by Paula Laverty, the author of “Silk Stocking Mats”, on Dr. Winifred Grenfell and the mission he started in Labrador and Newfoundland. Following the lecture Norma Batastini and Linda Woodbury will lead two classes on the techniques needed to hook with stockings. For more information, contact Norma Batastini at 973-746-2936 or g_batastini@msn.com.

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 11, 2009 to April 10, 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.

ATHA Woolwright Chapter Hook-in -- March 20, 2010 at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center. The ATHA Woolwright Chapter is hosting a fund raising hook-in to support the 2011 ATHA Biennial Conference that will be held in Lancaster, PA. 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

June 12, 2009 – Monthly meeting – Annual Picnic*
August 10-14, 2009 – HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp – Educational Services Commission School
August 13, 2009 – HCRAG Beginners’ Workshop – Educational Services Commission School
September 11, 2009 – Monthly Meeting – Welcome Back – Show & Tell. Introduction of Friendship Sampler*
October 9, 2009 – Monthly Meeting – Using Fuzzy Wools & Roving (Joyce Combs & Kay Weeks)*
November 13, 2009 Monthly Meeting – Houses: Not Just Four Walls (Deanna Kinney)*
December 13, 2009 – HCRAG Beginners’ Workshop – Educational Services Commission School
September 11, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Welcome Back – Show & Tell. Introduction of Friendship Sampler*
October 9, 2010 – Monthly Meeting – Using Fuzzy Wools & Roving (Joyce Combs & Kay Weeks)*
November 13, 2010 – HCRAG Beginners’ Workshop – Educational Services Commission School
December 11, 2010 – Holiday Luncheon Meeting*
January 8, 2011 – Annual White Elephant Sale and Auction*
January 8-10, 2011 – Rug Hooking Retreat – Flemington Hampton Inn (tentative)
February 12, 2011 – Something to Warm the Heart – Pet Designs (Lydia Brenner & Cheryl Halliday)*
March 12, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Program TBD*
March 19-21, 2011 – March Madness – Flemington Hampton Inn (tentative)
April 9, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Back a Jacket (Lydia Lewis)*
May 14, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Design Your Own Labels & Tech Savvy (Connie Coleman & Gisele Meader)*
June 11, 2011 – Monthly Meeting – Annual Picnic*
August 9-13, 2011 – HCRAG Rug Hooking Camp – Educational Services Commission School
August 12, 2011 – 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 – Irene Pasternak – 908-735-2754 or irepastr@wmconnect.com
Historian – Marion Michel – 609-397-3425 or marionmichel@earthlink.net
Hospitality – Helen Buchanan – 908-284-0749
Librarian – Kathy Donovan – 908-755-1670 or freyja@optonline.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 debyalish@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 Rosebrook (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 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 at P. O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913 or by email to karlg@nni.com by the 20th of the month.

Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild
Minutes – May 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by President Weezie Huntington.

Old Business

Jersey Girls Rug Show – Weezie thanked Janet Santaniello, President of the Alice Beatty Chapter of ATHA, for including the Guild members in the show. Janet thanked members for all of their rugs and help. About half of the rugs were Jersey rugs. The venue, which was suggested by Susan Atwater, worked out great. About 500 people showed up.
The Jersey Girls People’s Choice Awards go to:
Top award – Washington Crossing the Delaware by Margaret Brightbill
2nd Place – Jersey Girls Don’t Pump Gas by Norma Batastini
3rd Place – Jersey Girls (Cows) by Janet Bosshard
Best non-Jersey rug – Colonial Quilt by Janine Hoppe of Two Old Crows

Winterthur trip – The trip was wonderful but no rugs were seen. The rugs were on the 8th floor and the tour only went up to the 6th floor. Future trips should be sure to request that rugs be part of the tour.

Demonstrations – Karl Gimber and Joanne McIllmurray demonstrated at the Peter Wentz show. It is a free event and attracts lots of people. They took very good care of the demonstrators who got to sample food cooked over the hearth. Dee Rosebrock and Margaret Brightbill worked at the NJ History Fair, which took place at Washington Crossing Park inside the Ferry House. After seeing the demonstrators, Carol Carter signed up for the Beginners’ Workshop. Joyce and Lydia worked with a 4-H group, teaching 7 enthusiastic 4th through 8th graders to hook. Karl is waiting to hear from the Howell Living Farm in Hopewell regarding us demonstrating there.

Camp – Judy Quintman currently has one opening. Norma Batastini’s class is full. Sandra Brown has 9 people signed up so far. The balance is due this month and is $125 if a $25 deposit has been paid and if Guild dues were paid by November. Two of three contracts have been sent back for the 2010 camp. An email will be sent out to get volunteers to bring food for camp. The masseuse is confirmed for two days; Weezie will check to see if she is available for a third day.

Kits – Carol Kindt has 11 kits completed for the stockpile. The price of hoops has gone up and Carol will put together a committee to check current prices of different hoops and decide if we need to change the amount we charge for the kit.
Irene has a list of all upcoming events.

**Sunshine**

No report.

**New Business**

**June Picnic** – Last year the picnic was in our regular meeting site. Kitty Platt will check availability for us having it there again this year.

**Bloomsburg Elementary School** – Weezie received a letter from the Arts Committee. They are asking artists to demonstrate for 160 students from pre-k through 8th grade at their school on 6/5 from 9 – 2:15. They would love to have some Guild members demonstrate rug hooking. A complementary breakfast and lunch will be supplied and a $100 stipend is offered to cover costs for the day. It was not yet decided whether the stipend would go to the volunteers or to the Guild. Irene Pasternak and Kay Weeks volunteered to be there. Anyone else who is interested should contact Irene or Kay.

**Show and Tell** – Many beautiful rugs were shown.

**Program** – Connie Coleman could not be here so Weezie presented a program on hooking a small piece with one plaid piece of wool.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Debbie Walsh
Secretary