

THE LOOP

The Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild (HCRAG) Newsletter

May 2009

From the President's Corner – To the uninitiated, rug hooking may appear to be a repetitive and perhaps a boring process. On the other hand, it is fascinating to see how many who first experience hooking a rug become “hooked” and fall in love with the craft and art form.

The simple act of pulling loops can be extremely relaxing and even a form of meditation. While our hands are working the wool, our minds relax and drift. Certainly there are times when hooking details demand full concentration. However, when working on large segments and background, the hooking becomes almost automatic. This allows our minds to rest or float to other places. Our subconscious mind takes over and we may find ourselves solving some troublesome issue, recalling favorite family experiences or designing our next rug. Pressure and tension melts away.

Taking an idea for a rug that you have been “noodling” and working it through to the design you want is a fulfilling process. Design elements are moved around, enlarged, reduced and maybe eliminated until we say “Yes, this is it”. If we relax and allow the creative juices to flow, the end result can be very satisfying. Some rug designs require research, which can be fulfilling in its own right. At our last “show and tell”, I shared my latest project - a rug with a series of large butterflies. Researching butterflies was great fun and I learned a lot. Closely related to designing a rug and equally fulfilling is color planning and selecting wools to be used. How pleasing it is when we see the effects of different colored wools hooked next to each other.

Our rugs are made from living fibers, and they grow and change as we work on them. Our rugs represent new life -- a fitting thought for the month of May during which we celebrate Mother's Day.

Keep pulling those loops. It's healthy! – Weezie

May Meeting – Friday, May 8, 2009 – There is an unexpected change in the location and the time of our May meeting. Our normal meeting site is not available. Arrangements have been made for us to use the meeting room in the Hunterdon County Library in the Hunterdon County Complex on Rt. 12 outside of Flemington, NJ. This is the same complex where we normally meet. The meeting will begin an hour later at 11:00 and will end at 2:00.

Guild Program -- Traditional rug hooking techniques developed in the mid 19th Century are still used today. The May program will show how these techniques can be assisted by 21st Century technology. In the 1850s, a woman would take a piece of charcoal from the fireplace and draw a design on a burlap bag. Today computers can be used to help design rugs. Guild member Connie Coleman will present the program “Computer Assisted Design for Hooked Rugs.” She will walk through the processes of taking a sketch or photo and developing it into a design, showing several examples from start to finish. She will also cover basic graphic terms that one encounters in the various paint software. Participants bringing laptop computers should have full charges on their

batteries. Connie is an Adjunct Professor in the Media Arts Department at the University of Arts, Philadelphia and in the Communications Program at Arcadia University, Glenside, PA.

Show & Tell – Members should bring hooked rugs that have been designed with the aid of a computer, any completed roving projects from last month and current hooking projects. Our “Show & Tell” is a much anticipated portion of the meeting.

Hospitality – Deanna Kinney, Joan Lucas and Mary Schenck are our refreshment volunteers for May. Thank you in advance! Having coffee and snacks at our meetings makes such a difference.

Membership – The correct email address for Helen Dowling is hdowlingdc@comcast.net.

Let the Sun Shine – Cliff Ballard underwent emergency surgery to deal with a serious infection following a routine medical procedure. Sharon reports that Cliff is home and recovering. Susan Atwater will soon have surgery on her hand to correct a tendinitis condition. Juliana Kapusta has had foot surgery and reports having more time to work on the rug she started at the Spring Fling. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

Please let Sue Woodworth, our new Sunshine Chair, know if a member needs a get well message or note of cheer. (Sue’s contact information can be found at the end of the newsletter.)

May Birthdays – Happy Birthday wishes go to Donna Brandt (5/22), Deanna Kinney (5/13), Lydia Lewis (5/8) and Margaret Lutz (5/21). We hope you have a marvelous day!

Rug Hooking Community Mourns Loss of Patsy Becker -- Patsy Becker passed away April 11, 2009 after a brief illness. A memorial service was held on April 18, 2009 after which her ashes were scattered on her beloved gardens at home.

Besides being a rug designer, Patsy was a popular teacher. When she lived in Holmdel, NJ, she gave classes in her back yard and they were called Patsy’s Garden Party. Many HCRA members studied with her. Patsy was a member of the Alice Beatty Chapter of ATHA. There was a memorial table in her honor at the Jersey Girls Rug Exhibit featuring some of her rugs and other artistic creations.

Guild member Lydia Brenner fondly recalls that “I had the privilege of having Patsy Becker as my first teacher. She lived here in Monmouth County for many years before she moved to Cape Cod. She was a curious, white haired little lady, enormously talented and very generous in sharing those talents. This is a great loss to the rug hooking community.”

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). This demonstration is the only one for the Guild in June.

Jersey Girls Exhibit a Huge Success! -- The weather was ideal and people came from far and near to admire over 250 rugs on display. When the exhibit doors closed, over 500 people had streamed through the Oldwick Fire House during the two days of the exhibit on April 24 & 25, 2009. Many were experienced rug hookers, but a goodly number, including many men, were not. They came to admire contemporary hooked rugs. Over half of the rugs were dedicated to the New Jersey theme. There was a lot of variety from primitive to fine hooking with a wide range of subjects including animals, pictorials, floral, fruits, people, shore and geometrics. A number of rugs were submitted from other states with one rug from a woman in Krakow, Poland. She had never been to New Jersey but had downloaded a satellite picture and hooked it with plastic bags, jute, yarn and other materials. It was one of the many creative rugs on display.

Outstanding vendors from the area -- Norma Batastini, Margaret Lutz, Linda Woodbury, and Two Old Crows – provided a nice selection of equipment, patterns and wool. Rug hooking demonstrations were held throughout the two days.

A special memorial table was dedicated to Patsy Becker who recently passed away. Patsy was a member of Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter before relocating to Cape Cod. The memorial table displayed the rug that she had hooked for the Playing Cards Exhibit and other rugs that were hooked using her patterns. One of Patsy's paintings was also on display.

There was much positive feedback about the show's professional appearance. The exhibit area was sprinkled with antiques and appropriate props. A "People's Choice Award" will be presented after the weary crew of volunteers has a chance to count the votes.

Chapter President, Janet Santaniello, and the entire Alice Beatty ATHA Chapter are to be congratulated on the success of the exhibit. They deserve the thanks of the rug hooking community and admirers for all their work.

HCRA Rug Hooking Camp – August 10-14, 2009 – It is not too late to sign up for camp. There are still a few openings with Norman Batastini and Sandra Brown. A waiting list is available for Judy Quintman. We anticipate that all workshops will be fully subscribed.

The fee for members whose dues were paid by November 14, 2008 is \$150. The non member rate is \$225. To register for camp, send a \$25 non refundable deposit check made payable to HCRA to Karl Gimber at P.O. Box 16, Carversville, PA 18913. *The balance is due by May 30, 2009.*

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 doorstep. 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. A registration flyer is attached. Please share it with potential workshop participants.

Madeline Brightbill Scholarships Awarded -- The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the awarding of the 2009 Madeline Brightbill Scholarship to the August camp. This year's recipient is Karl Gimber. In making the announcement, Committee Chair, Weezie Huntington, stated "There is no question that Karl is deserving of this award as his service

to HCRAAG has been above and beyond. We are very grateful for all that Karl does, and has done, and this scholarship is just a small token of our appreciation and gratitude.”

The Scholarship Committee also voted to extend an invitation to attend the Beginners’ Workshop to Judith Bebout, who recently returned the Guild’s rug.

Connie Coleman, Kathy Donovan, Weezie Huntington and Dee Rosebrock served on the committee.

Charter Member Lillian Vail Sends Greetings from Florida -- While visiting her mother in Florida last month, Mary Jo Gimber attended the weekly meeting of the Clearwater hooking group. It turned out that this was the group formed by Lillian Vail after she relocated to Florida. Lillian recently started a second group which meets weekly on Tuesdays in Seminole. Lillian is one of the founding members of our Guild. She is pleased to receive our newsletter each month so that she can stay in touch with our activities. Lillian asked Mary Jo to send her warmest greetings to her hooking friends.

Sheep Shearing at Peter Wentz Farmstead -- The summer like temperature brought out families who were tired of the damp and cold spring weather. With no entrance fee, the Sheep Shearing Festival at the Peter Wentz Farmstead is a popular event for families. Joanne McIlmurray and Karl Gimber represented the Guild at the Festival on April 25, 2009. Their rug hooking demonstrations were a natural compliment to the other activities which included wool fiber processing and use. Guild member Pat McDonnell lives in the area and stopped by to say hello before starting her day working on the Worcester Historical Society’s event that was being held nearby. Kim Boice, the site’s Educator, was a participant in our Beginners’ Workshop last year. Her current project, a McGown chicken pattern, shows her developing technique. Kim hopes to attend our camp in August if her schedule permits.

Our First Spring Fling is a Success! – The evaluations of our initial spring workshop have all been very positive. In addition, the Guild made a modest profit. Weezie announce that next year the weekend will be called “March Madness.” “The idea is to leave your husbands at home to watch the basketball games and to come and hook.”

After the weekend, we received the following message from Michele Micarelli: “Thanks so much for having me as a teacher at your Spring Fling. I’m sure you will all see the amazing projects as they develop. What a wonderful, happy, and enthusiastic group you all are. I had a great time and hope you will invite me again to teach some day. I hope to come as a vendor to your other event as the calendar allows. Karl sends the newsletter to me so I feel like I am one of the bananas in the bunch. I know when your birthdays are and all the other good stuff going on. Can’t he post your ages also?? Big hugs to all. Michele Micarelli.”

Meet Our Member -- Lydia Lewis -- In 1990 Lydia Lewis was on a bus trip traveling throughout England with her garden club. She had her knitting along with her to help pass the time. Two of the other women on the trip admired her work and mentioned that they were rug hookers. Lydia’s reaction was “I don’t think I can do that”. However, she was intrigued and agreed to join them at a meeting of the Bux-Mont Guild when they returned home. After the meeting she bought a small kit and “fell in love with hooking”.

Lydia is basically a self taught artisan. She did have a two hour lesson with Betsy Coleman where she learned the fundamentals. Betsy was an “avid hooker” recalls Lydia. Her first project

was a pineapple chair pad. Lydia became a member of the Bux-Mont Guild where she received help and encouragement. Workshops at the Highlands, Marathon, Florida with B.J. Andreas and the Outer Banks, North Carolina with Bev Conway helped to round out her knowledge and understanding of rug hooking. At one workshop, Lydia was working on a rug with a Swiss cow and a mountain. The instructor arbitrarily said "Take it out!" referring to the mountain and, needless to say, Lydia was not impressed. However, she was impressed by Hildegard von Tenspolde's guidance when hooking Eleanor's Garden. Hildegard and Betsy Coleman are among those who have been most influential in Lydia's development as a rug hooking artisan.

When it comes to rug hooking styles, Lydia's work defies simple categorization. She prefers to hook with #6 cuts, but does work with #4 and #5 cuts too. "I like to try new things", she says. Her rugs include stain glass images, geometric patterns and lots of pictorials. Lydia prefers to design her own patterns, mostly from every day images. Her stain glass rugs were inspired by a church in Florida. She designed a rug based on her father's favorite sweatshirt. A zoo animal rug was inspired because of a fund raiser fair featuring a petting zoo and exotic animal lectures for the benefit of Friends Home and Village in Newtown, PA. Scratches on her washer and dryer inspired rugs to be placed over the scratches. A wine bottle rug with real corks was completed for her husband. Lydia notes that many of her rug ideas come to her as she is falling asleep at night. Pattern ideas also come to her from magazines, note cards and photos.

Lydia prefers to work with new wool. "It is beautiful and easy to work with", she says. Much of the wool she acquires comes from Dorr in response to ads in rug hooking magazines. She does some dyeing, but "it is not my thing". Lydia uses a lot of recycled garments, but avoids men's sport coats since "there is not much wool".

A day is not complete without working on a hooking project. Lydia tries to hook for several hours every day. Most of the hooking is done at nights while she is watching TV. During the winter when the weather is bad, she will hook during the day too. July and August are also major hooking times for Lydia. That is when she and her husband, Paul, spend time in their place in the Poconos. Lydia always takes a hooking project along.

Margaret Brightbill encouraged Lydia to come to a HCRAG meeting for sometime. She resisted because she belonged to several groups and did not want to spread herself too thin. Lydia came to her first meeting last year and joined the Guild at that meeting. "I found Guild members friendly and open". She immediately became involved and volunteered to coordinate a hooking demonstration in Langhorne, PA this year and will be one of the team teaching the 4-H club this month. She will be attending her first HCRAG camp in August. Lydia has also become active with the "Hooksome and Chatmore" group.

Lydia does not sell her rugs but does donate them to local charitable organizations for fund raisers and gives them as gifts – especially to her family. Each grandchild has a Winnie Pooh rug. Lydia's husband, Paul, is a retired banker. "Paul is very understanding", says Lydia. "He is allergic to wool!" Paul and Lydia have two sons – Justin and William. Justin lives in his hometown of Newtown. He works for Newtown Township, is a volunteer fireman and has his own lawn mowing business. Justin is working toward his fire science degree at Bucks County Community College. William lives in Holland, PA with his wife Elizabeth and their two children -- Connor, age 8, and Evelyn, age 6. William and Elizabeth are graduates of the Johnson & Wales Culinary School in Providence, RI. Will is a chef at the Knight House in Doylestown, PA and Elizabeth has an "in house" dessert business.

The creative qualities found in Lydia's rugs find their origins in her other interests and activities. For 18 years she worked at a floral shop where she designed and arranged floral arrangements. She now designs floral arrangements at home and will create flowers for weddings, parties and funerals. Lydia has been involved with the renowned Philadelphia Flower Show since 1980 when her mother first had a display at the show under Countryside Gardens which was started 76 years ago by her grandmother. Lydia and her partner Geri Williams won several ribbons for their work in medium niches. Lydia also had a stenciling business that she ran from her home. Lydia serves on the Board of the Friends Home and Village, a Quaker retirement home in Newtown. Paul and Lydia are members of Middletown Meeting in Langhorne, PA. She enjoys bridge, tennis, weaving, knitting and is a member of the Penns New Towne Questers group. Her career started as a 1st Grade teacher which she loved, but "retired" before her children were born.

Lydia is a multitalented member who brings so much to the Guild. We are fortunate to have her as a member.

From Joyce Comb's Dye Pot – Many of us dye from formulas in dye books but did you ever wonder how to get a color without a formula? The following is a great exercise to teach yourself about color.

Buy three tubes of water color paint in the primary colors, (blue, red, and yellow). Primary colors are pure colors that are not mixed with any other colors. Use a large dinner dish to draw a circle on a piece of water color paper. Divide the circle into 12 parts. (Think pie slices!) Paint the top slice with your yellow paint. Skip three slices and paint the fourth blue, skip three and paint the next red. Now we can start to play.

To the right of the yellow, mix the yellow paint with just a little blue to make a pale yellow/green. Paint the pale yellow green in the slice to the right of the yellow. Next add more blue until you get green and paint in the next slice to the right. Next add more blue and you will get a blue green, keep painting in a clockwise order. The next slice is pure blue. Start mixing blue with red to see what you get. A little red is blue-violet, more red is violet, even more red will be a red violet, then the red and yellow, more red than yellow = red-orange, even red and yellow = orange, mostly yellow makes a yellow orange.

Now you are getting an idea of how to mix the primary rug hooking dyes. It is not as simple as water color but it is fun to experiment using the color wheel as a guide. When you mix your primary rug hooking dyes you can check your results using a white paper towel cut into strips to see what your color looks like.

There is so much more to dyeing wool but this is an interesting start!

More on Recycled Wool -- The front panels of women's blazers and men's sport coats have an interlining that helps the garment retain its shape. That interlining is often difficult to remove. If the garment is old, the adhesive may be dried out which allows the interlining to be easily removed. Otherwise, it can be a chore to pull it off. Some do not even bother and simply discard that part of the jacket. A Guild member recently reported success in removing the lining after washing the garment and taking it apart while it was still damp from the washing machine. It appears that the moisture from the washing softened the adhesive. This process worked on two separate occasions. Let us know if you have similar success.

Tips from Heloise (a.k.a. Barbara Lugg) -- *Question:* What is a crossover and why should it be avoided?

Barbara's Answer: A crossover occurs when one hooks across a line of hooking already in place. It should be avoided because it creates a bump on the underside of the rug and will get more wear as the rug is walked upon. While most rug hooking books stress avoiding crossovers, I had an instructor say that crossing over one single line was acceptable. Make your own choice, but it would not matter so much if the piece is a wall hanging or not used as a rug.

Tavern and Trade Sign Rugs Featured in ATHA Newsletter -- The April/May 2009 issue of the ATHA Newsletter includes an article written by Mary Jo and Karl Gimber on their rugs that are inspired by old tavern and trade signs. Subsequent articles on tavern sign rugs with patriotic, animal and humorous themes are planned.

Lebanon Township Museum Workshop Sells Out -- Following the interest shown in the hooked rugs on display during the HCRAG exhibit, the Lebanon Township Museum is offering weekly hooked rug workshops during the month of May. Guild member Kay Weeks will be teaching participants to hook a chair pad. The workshops were sold out within two days of being announced!

HCRAG Library -- To borrow an item from our library, 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 frejia@optonline.net.

HCRAG Website -- Visit the Guild's website at www.hcrag.com to enjoy the rugs completed by our monthly featured member, current and past, as well as the Gallery of member rugs. You can also connect with other rug hooking links. Laurie Rubinetti updates the site monthly. Take a look!

Rug Hooking Events and Related Activities

Out of the Loop: Innovations in Hooking -- This exhibit sponsored by the Brookfield Craft Center and Newtown Hooked Rug Show runs through May 3, 2009. The 13 featured artists have created unique work by redefining the art form through their innovative use of alternative materials and sculptural forms. The show is free and open daily. For more information, call 203-775-4526.

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) 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 -- Lucille Festa (May 19-21), 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 jeri_liv@verizon.net for further information.

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 Cherylyn 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 TIGHR Triennial – September 20-23, 2009 In Louisville, KY just before ATHA Biennial. Make it a week in Louisville! Start with The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers (TIGHR) then attend the ATHA Conference. Visit www.tighr.net for membership and conference information.

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.

Fraktur Hooked Rug Exhibit – November 11, 2009 to April 24, 2010 at the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center, Pennsburg, PA. For more information contact Susan Feller, Guest Curator, at rugs2wv@yahoo.com with "Fraktur Rugs" in the Subject Line.

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

May 8, 2009 – Monthly Meeting – Computer Assisted Design for Rugs - Connie Coleman*

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 – Program TBD*

October 9, 2009 – Monthly Meeting -- Program TBD*

November 13, 2009 Monthly Meeting – Program TBD*
December 11, 2009 Holiday Luncheon Meeting*

*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 debywalsh@yahoo.com
- Special Events** – Carol Kindt 908-782-7306 or ck-rk@comcast.net
- Sunshine** – Sue Woodworth 908-273-3198 or srw0717@aol.com
- Treasurer** – Margaret Brightbill - 215-968-2711 or katie4rose@aol.com
Dee Rosebrock (Asst. Treasurer) – 609-771-0596 or uncoolfred@aol.com
- Webmaster** – Laurie Rubinetti -- 908-995-4030 or Lrubinet@ptdprolog.net

Guild’s Email List Policy - The HCRAAG 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 (HCRAAG). 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.

Meeting Minutes April 3, 2009

(Meeting was held at the Court Room/ Police Station /Raritan Township Municipal Buildings)
Meeting was called to order by President Weezie Huntington at 10:10AM.

Old Business:

Spring Fling was a success. Surveys were e-mailed to participating students and teachers and favorable comments were received. All suggestions will be considered while planning the 2010 event. The 2010 workshop will be named “March Madness”. We made a small profit this year and it was suggested by Susan Atwater that we use the profit towards the 2010 March Madness.

Jersey Girls - Margaret Lutz will collect Jersey Girl Rugs brought to this meeting. There is no longer a limit of rugs that one person can submit. Volunteers are needed to work the two

day show and help set up on Thursday.

Winterthur Bus Trip - Today is the deadline to give Winterthur our head count. There are 13 seats left. Spouses of members can come at the member rate.

Karl Gimber and Joanne McIllmurray will be demonstrating at the Peter Wentz Farmstead on April 25th.

Our new officers were introduced and thanked for volunteering their services. Our old officers were thanked for their service.

Camp - Kay Weeks showed the projects (a hooked brick cover or a mat with a log cabin pattern) that our beginner class will hook.

Irene Pasternak returned rugs from our Clinton Library, North Branch, Rug Show.

New Business

Karl Gimber received a call from Jamie Mirabito . Jamie would like Guild members to demonstrate rug hooking at the Sergeantsville Farmers Market on 6/27 from 9-12 . Volunteers are needed. We could sell our hooking kits.

Carol Kindt volunteered to coordinate the assembly of our Guild rug hooking kits. Cindy Boults and Joyce Combs volunteered to help.

Mary Jo Gimber met one of our founding Guild members, Lillian Vail, at a rug hooking gathering in Florida. Mary Jo was visiting her mother.

Howell Farm would like to have the Guild demonstrate rug hooking. Howell Farm is a working farm showing how things were in the period 1850 - 1910. They would like participants to dress in period costume and they would love for us to tell stories about the history of hooking during that period. Volunteers needed.

Connie Coleman announced that members could bring their notebook computers to our May meeting. Computers can be used to follow along with her program. A free download, Gimp,(??) can be downloaded before the meeting. Connie feels it is a good program to use.

Two guests were introduced: Lee Hurford and Cindy Quinn

Program followed the meeting: A history of sheep and their wool. Then a workshop on 3-D sheep was taught by Joyce Combs.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:
Joyce Combs