



# HOOKER HAPPENINGS

Crooked River Rug Hookers

March 2022

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March greetings, Crooked River Hookers! So many happenings in March. Today is Fat Tuesday. Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 14, and of course St. Patrick's Day...on you guessed it...the 17<sup>th</sup>.

My snowdrops and winter aconite are ready to bloom and the daffodils are peeking from the ground. Only 19 days until spring.

It was so good to finally be able to meet once again in person at the Westlake Porter Library. Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 23. We hope to see you there.

Please pray for the people of the Ukraine.



Happy hooking,  
Lauren

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**Our hook in co-chairs Sharon Morton and Debbie Francis are hard at work planning our September 17th Hooktoberfest.**

**Hook-in news:**

**Door prize mats are being collected. The committee asks that they be about 8" x 8" or the equivalent. Of course, larger mats are most welcome, too. Hooked, appliqued, needle punched, and quilted mats...let your imagination run wild. All will be gladly accepted. We have already collected nine of them 😊 ! Currently there are four free patterns available on our website, [www.crookedriverrughookers.com](http://www.crookedriverrughookers.com). If you have a copyright free pattern to share, please email Heidi at [go.woolnuts@yahoo.com](mailto:go.woolnuts@yahoo.com).**

**Raffle baskets are needed. This is the major source of our hook-in income. Please include a complete list of the items in your basket for labeling purposes. Please do not bring loose items. We greatly appreciate your donations and will receive them, with gratitude, as a prepared basket. Remember, you may work with another member to put a basket together. Baskets don't have to**

be hooking related. Many of us would be happy to win a wine and cheese basket or perhaps a movie themed basket with a DVD, popcorn and candy. Any and all are welcome.

Volunteers are needed!!! The hook-in requires many volunteers. If you can donate a few hours of your time (you do not need to work the entire hook-in), contact Sharon at [skbee56@gmail.com](mailto:skbee56@gmail.com) or Debbie at [quiltedgirl@icloud.com](mailto:quiltedgirl@icloud.com).

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Hook-in vendors include:

- Silver Hook Rug Hooking
- Orphaned Wool
- Because of Ewe
- Jewelry & Sundries by Melissa and Lauren
- Elderberry Marsh
- Carried Away Designs
- Crows on the Ledge
- Wool Riot
- Connie's Wool

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## Calendar of Events

April 2, 2022 - Connie Bradley's spring hook in

April 30, 2022 - Western Reserve hook in. Please note this has been **CANCELLED**.

June 4, 2022 - Great Lakes hook in - Susanne Woodbury

**September 17, 2022 - Hooktoberfest**

October 15, 2022 - Ft. Laurens hook in

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## Our 2022 meeting dates at Westlake Porter Library

March 23 ~ working on sunflowers for hook in

April 27

May 25 ~ member garage sale

June 22

July 27

August 24

September 28

October 26

November 16 (Note this is the third Wednesday because of Thanksgiving)

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### **Living with Dyeing**

by Heidi Kramer

You haven't tried dyeing yet? Here is a simple formula to get you started.

This is a beautiful, canned-peas-green dye for your upcoming spring mats, or for light foliage.

It is the perfect green to add spring color to your primitive mats.

This formula has been dyed over ½ yard oatmeal wool.

For a brighter green, you might want to dye over white wool.

For a deeper color, use ¼ yard of wool.

This recipe uses Cushing Perfection dyes.

General dyeing instructions are below.

*"Canned Peas"*

1/8 t. Canary, Cushing Perfection Acid Dye

1/4 t. Bronze, Cushing Perfection Acid Dye



It's easy to dye with the right equipment! Your equipment is dedicated to dyeing. Do not EVER use it for cooking. Mark each piece of equipment with a Sharpie, "dye only", so no one else uses it for cooking.

- Plastic tub or bucket for soaking. (A 5-gallon bucket if you're serious about dyeing a lot of wool in one day.)
- Stainless steel stock pot, 12 to 20 quarts. The bigger the better, but whatever you can handle. (*Not* enameled, *not* aluminum! They are reactive to the mordant.) The thrift store is a good source, but Target and Walmart have them as well.
- 2-cup glass measuring cup (Pyrex).
- 1-cup glass measuring cup; or tea or electric kettle.
- Large, stainless-steel cooking tongs.
- A set of measuring spoons. (You can buy a dyeing set from a hooking vendor or purchase a cooking set at the dollar store that includes a 1/8 measure.)
- A stainless-steel tablespoon, for stirring dye solution and measuring citric acid.

- A wetting agent such as Synthrapol (many sources, Google it), or Jet Dry (for the dishwasher).
- Citric acid (granular) or white vinegar. (Bulk food stores and Walmart carry citric acid.)
- Clothes washer and dryer.

### **Instructions:**

This is the one of the ways I dye. I get great results.

Use ¼ to ½ yard wool (½ for light colors, ¼ for deep color. Tear your wool into ¼ yard sections. Fill the plastic tub or bucket with warm water. Add a small amount (teaspoon) of Synthrapol or Jet Dry to the tub (after the water, or you'll have suds). Completely submerge the dry wool. Work it around and squeeze, with the tongs or gloved hands, until it is fully wet. Leave it to soak for a minimum of one hour, or overnight.

Fill the stock pot to ¾ full. Bring to a boil. Mix the powdered dye formula in a glass, 2-cup measure. Add a small amount of boiling water (from the boiling stock pot using the 1-cup measure, a ladle or with boiling water from an electric/tea kettle) and stir until dye is completely dissolved. Add more boiling water to bring the dye solution to 1 cup and stir again. Add the dye solution to the boiling stock pot and turn the heat to low.

Remove the wet wool from the soaking tub with the tongs, gently turning and wringing out most of the water (or, use gloved hands). Place the unfolded wool into the dye pot, stirring completely. (If you want an abraded [mottled] wool don't stir too much or use less water and let the dye sit in puddles on the wool.) Allow the wool to simmer on very low heat for 30 minutes.

Mix 1 tablespoon (just a heaping, regular tablespoon...you needn't measure) of citric acid with 1 cup hot water. (Or mix ½ cup white vinegar with ½ cup water.) This is your mordant (setting) solution. It locks the color into the wool. Using the tongs, move the wool to one side and add the citric acid (or vinegar) solution to the dye bath. Stir well. Allow the wool to simmer for another 20 to 30 minutes. Turn off the pot and let the wool cool in the water for up to one hour.

Remove the wool from the dye pot to the plastic tub or bucket and dump it in the washing machine. Set the machine on a regular wash cycle with a small amount of detergent, hot water, and an extra rinse cycle. If you don't have an extra rinse choice, wash it a second time, no detergent, on a short setting. When wool has finished washing, place it in the dryer with two bath towels. Dry on high heat. The towels will reduce your drying time (I do this with *everything* I dry). You may use a dryer sheet, if desired. You may also air-dry the wool. It looks beautiful outdoors, on a clothesline!

### **Dyeing tips:**

Keep two plastic tubs, as you can re-use the wetting solution during the day, if needed, for more wool. Use the second tub for moving wet wool. The dollar store has dish tubs. (I also have 4 stock pots, because I have 4 burners. If I have to dye-up-a-storm, I'm ready.)

I use Q- tips to check the color of a dye solution. Dip the end in the dye bath before adding wool to see if I want to adjust color. It's not an exact science, but it helps me.

Set the measuring cups, dye packets/containers, spoons, etc. on newspaper or a couple of layers of paper towels, keeping it away from the hot stove. If you get dye on your counter, clean it up when you are done dyeing. A cleaner with bleach, or straight bleach, will remove it. Don't get bleach on your wool....it will disintegrate the fiber!

Open a window and/or keep your stove vent fan going, *after* you mix the dry dye. (No breeze when handling dye pigments!) Dye does not smell wonderful. If your stove vent does not vent to the outdoors, no point in using it...just crack a window.

You can re-use a dye bath. Be aware that you may have remnants of color, so your next dye formula may change a bit. Also, you have some citric or vinegar in there, which means your dye will lock on right away. That's good for the abraded look; keep stirring until the dye has been taken up for a less-mottled wool. You will still add more citric (or vinegar) after 30 minutes.

If you screw it up, **awesome!** The best colors and finishes often come from mistakes. True story.

Dye questions or recommendations? Send them to Lauren Fuqua at [lauren@centurytel.net](mailto:lauren@centurytel.net)

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Are you interested in attending a rug camp? Dragonfly on the Lakes at Cedar Lakes in Ripley, WV, will be held May 8-13. Our very own, most talented, Sibyl Osicka is one of the teachers, along with Jeanne Benjamin, Sue Clark, Gail Dufresne, Liz Marino, Kris McDermet and Joan Reckwerdt. Contact Christine Hornby at [hornbychrisgds@gmail.com](mailto:hornbychrisgds@gmail.com) for more information.

FYI...as of this newsletter, there are still openings.

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**Our current officers ~**

- President Deb May - [debmay48@ymail.com](mailto:debmay48@ymail.com)
- Vice President Nancy Page - [nancy2page@gmail.com](mailto:nancy2page@gmail.com)
- Secretary Nancy Weitendorf - [n.weitendorf0709@gmail.com](mailto:n.weitendorf0709@gmail.com)
- Treasurer Kim Hirt - [becauseofEWE@gmail.com](mailto:becauseofEWE@gmail.com)

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Nancy Page, vice president

Hooking since 2018

Other fiber addictions - spinner, basic weaving, felting

Family - husband Stephan

Furkids - none yet

A little known fact - Born and raised in Kansas. Came to Cleveland in the late 80's to be a wardrobe mistress at the Cleveland Playhouse. She has since moved on to being a member of 4 guilds.

On bucket list - to go back to Wales

Other information - loves learning new crafts

Kim Hirt, treasurer

Hooking for 17 years

Classes & teachers - Barb Carroll, Gene Shepherd, Capri Boyle-Jones, Cindi Gay, Anne Boissinot, Trish Johnson, Jon Ciemiewicz, Caroline Twigg, Anne Bond, Molly Colgrove, Michelle Palmer, Donna Hrkman, Sandra Brown, Judy Carrter, Ali Strebel (WHEW!!!)

Camps - 11 years art Sauder Rug week

Other fiber addictions - used to be a quilter - still has a huge stash of fabric, wool applique

Family - husband Joel, son Christopher (Lauren), grandkids Abby & Shawn (Derry, NH), Jamie (Ryan) Tailford - baby on the way (Toledo Ohio), Kyle (VA)

A little known fact -lived in Hawaii for 4 years

On bucket list - visit Europe, tour the Canadian Maritimes with a rug hooking focus

Other information - currently the church secretary & choir director at Genoa Trinity

Nancy Weitendorf, secretary and hospitality

Hooking since 2006 - started when her sister purchased a kit for her from Heidi Kramer

Other fiber addictions - crocheting & Oxford punch needle

Family - CRRH member Sue Putkonen is her sister

Furkids - two rats, six parrots and sixteen (!) guinea pigs (also known as furry little poop machines) and spends about four hours a day tending to their wants

Fun fact - reads tarot cards

On my bucket list - would like to get a tatoo. Would like to visit the church of St. Malangell in Wales, Stonehenge and Dun Rungill on the Isle of Skye

Other information - recently move to a century home in Wellington

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Kim Hirt                      March 7

Lauren Fuqua              March 20

Carole Beverage          March 23

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I was asked by one of our members to share Kaye Swor's tennis shoes with you. Aren't these just too cool? I was told they could be purchased from Zazzle. Sorry. I have no more information than that.

