

GMRHG Membership Meeting  
Jan 23, 2021 via Zoom

- Meeting started at 10:15AM with approximately 45 people in attendance.
- Secretary's report read and accepted
- Treasurer's report stated the guild made \$5225 from the wool Nancy Jewett donated after her car caught on fire. We made \$4352 from the online raffle. Our membership is down so that income is down but we ended 2020 \$5165 in the black. We accepted the report by vote.
- Education has had 3 requests for kits. Suzanna took several and has initiated several new hookers, one of which joined the guild. Nancy Jewett sent Sue some wool which she will use in kits and some was given away as door prizes at this meeting.
- Kathleen Harwood won the first door prize.
- Membership Report stated we have 262 members not including 6 founders and 19 honorary and 17 lapsed.
- First JamBoard on Membership growth ideas:
  - : Facebook page for guild that any member can post to and people need to post to it!
  - : Get more publicity somehow.
  - : Have Zoom hook-ins.
  - : Hook-ins at parks around the state and have parking lot sales for vendors.
  - : Zoom seminars
  - : Links to hooking videos
  - : members should recruit through their own Facebook pages (person to persons works best)
  - :Also members should use Front Porch Forum or local list serves to promote hooking
  - : Guild can hire teachers to teach via Zoom (need to be a member to attend)
  - : Save any videos from speakers/workshops with permission.
  - : Have a goal to hook in as many towns in Vermont (251 club for hooking); anyone could just say "I am going to X town Saturday to hook and then people could just show up".
- Newsletter report: Barb was dismayed that maybe only half of the newsletters sent out ever get read so how do we connect?

- Virtual Show stats: opening day 1045 visits; Dec 3500 unique visitors, 366 spent more than an hour. Facebook links brought in traffic. 99% came because they were given the link. Show will be up until end of 2021(at least). Some kits were given out because of the Show. Barb spent 60-80 hours putting the Show online. Another time, Barb could delegate a lot of the work. But maybe we should pay her as it is her profession.
- Go to Jam Board and volunteer to submit stuff for upcoming newsletters. They can be 2 sentences to 3 pages. One idea was to have pictures of a rug and a get to know the hooker article.
- Another Jam Board about Zoom hook-ins but I did not record the items (too fast moving)
- Nominating Committee said only a VP candidate is missing and candidates are from all over Vermont and other states. We voted through the slate Suzanna Brown as President, Fern Strong as Secretary, Sharon in Programs, and several members-at-large: Louise Clark, Belinda Whipple Worth, Sandra Grant, Cherie Giddings, Nancy Monguer, Tricia Miller. (Biffie, Sue G, and Barb continue on the board, as their terms did not expire this year.)
- Louise Clark wins next door prize
- Suzanna challenges members to get hooking news into local papers. She has recruited several new hookers by just talking to people. And a guild challenge was discussed. Want more letters hooked by Feb 15 for the 2020 Vision challenge. Another idea was to hook a door (any kind). It was not clear that we agreed to these.
- Another idea for a mentorship program where people can volunteer to help people who need it via email, phone, zoom, etc. People added their names to the jam board. Kris McDermott had ideas for how to teach effectively online.
- One more Jam Board about a Directory of resources (list of schools, vendors, teachers, shows, etc..) Looking for a team of people to help. Mary Liptak and Lynn Soule volunteered. Any list will have to be kept updated so this will be work.

- Linda Faye wins last door prize.
- Kris McDermott talked about the new national braiding guild (~ 50 people). They are having (online) history talks, artist's talks, \$5 for non-members to attend, online classes, look at their website, could have mini-gatherings for a nominal fee non-members could attend. Barb has a list of links online for learning about hooking.
- In newsletter we could post questions and answers (like what to do with old too thick wool?) Maybe an area for experimentation that is going on (more artsy stuff).
- Meeting ends at 12:20

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Davey (Secretary)