

Wedgewood Platter

Heirloom Patterns are older patterns, which date to the Pearl McGown era. The current owner of the patterns has not been printing them for almost a decade. I have long collected these patterns, and when I retired from teaching rug hooking three years ago, I sold all but the ones I wanted to hook to my students as a fundraiser for a Palestinian school in Bethlehem.

My husband and I both retired in our early 60s to accept the positions of Liaisons to Israel/Palestine, representing the United Methodist Church. We worked mostly in the West Bank and Gaza, partnering with Christian, Jewish, and Muslim projects working for peace with justice.

Having retired again, this time to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, I completed my McGown certification and taught rug hooking for seventeen years. Three years ago, I retired for the third time! I should say I have much more time to hook, but somehow, the days seem shorter. Anyway, *Wedgewood Platter* is finally complete, and I'm almost finished with another Heirloom Pattern: *Geranium Oval*.

I dyed all eight-value swatches and a spot dye for this rug. I love red! Pomegranates are red, and with a little research, I found that the bush's flowers are red as well. What more could I want! I was going to Maryland Shores Rug School with Nancy Blood, who has been teacher, friend, and mentor for years. I asked Nancy to plan the rug using red and some of the newer bright greens. As usual, Nancy worked her magic



and sent me the formulas to dye, and she laid out the colors.

I began with the pomegranate, of course. However, the pattern was drawn as a large oval with several huge seeds. After hooking, rehooking, and rethinking (all euphemisms for ripping out!), I finally, after a full day's work, produced a decent-looking pom.

My friend Lyn Lovell and I, partners in crime, were avid knitters and sewers. Living in Massachusetts where, at the time, there were dozens of woolen and yarn mills, we managed to squirrel away bags of mill ends for enough projects to last a lifetime. One day, she said she had something new to show me, called rug hooking. I inwardly vowed not to be lured into another fiber arena! Our families were on a ski trip to New

Hampshire, and Lyn suggested she and I visit Dorr Mill where, to please Lyn, I picked up a doorstep kit, replete with hook, a little pattern, and pre-cut hook-by-number strips. The rest is history! I enjoy rug hooking because I find it meditative, and I also had a 200-year-old house with wide pine floors that needed rugs! Other houses later, I find the hooked rugs fit any décor.

In The Judges' Eyes: A warm palette and the reds move our eye around; Coloration and shapes are well done; Colors glow and take one's breath away. Beautiful background to boot; Beautiful rich color, fabulous background.



Peggy Hannum
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Peggy is a retired high school English teacher and a retired rug hooking teacher. She is a juried member of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen and has won many awards in their annual guild craft show. This is her tenth appearance in Celebration.



Wedgewood Platter, 27" x 38", #3- and 4-cut hand-dyed wool on linen. Designed by Louise Zeiser of Heirloom Patterns and hooked by Peggy Hannum, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 2016. BILL BISHOP, IMPACT XPOZURES