



Mayflower Chapter Newsletter October 2021

This month's meeting was a virtual one, with Gail Dufresne as guest speaker.

Gail Dufresne is well known in the industry and has been hooking for 24 years. She is a McGown certified teacher who has been teaching for 20 years. She is the author of two books, Rug Hooking with Fancy Fibers, and Geometric Hooked Rugs: Color and Design. She is a past president of many years at ATHA and is currently the Education chair for ATHA.

Both her mother and sister hooked and eventually Gail got involved, "head over heels". While she started with "fine" hooking, she has moved into wider cuts and geometrics. She works mostly with textures now.

We enjoyed a virtual tour of Gail's studio in New Jersey, where she teaches classes. She likes 3-cut up to hand torn, and often mixes sizes in her rugs. Many of her rugs began as inch mats, or little squares. She noted that inch rugs started out in Canada. She showed us how she has superimposed creatures, such as lizards onto her inch mats. She incorporates dyed and textured wools, proddy, mohair, glitzy wool, quillies and silk sari. She will use the same motifs over and over, such as lizards and sunflowers, as well as the colors black and white.

Gail's rugs are unique, to say the least. She will sometimes add dimension to a rug by incorporating a second image that is slightly brighter. To highlight an animal in a rug, Gail will make the eyes brighter or add darker tones around the animal to draw your attention to it. She said the Values and Chroma are what make a great rug. She recommended the quilting book, The Value of Values, as well as the Kent books on hooking.

We saw several 3 dimensional animals she hooked, including sheep, a loon, and a shark. Two of her most memorable rugs are the Veggie rug and Lizards and Ladders (her version of the Snakes and Ladders game).

For dyeing wool, she uses Jewel Tones.

What a wonderful guest speaker – thank you Gail!

TASK FORCE and SURVEY

The Task Force is made up of 4 volunteers – Donna Allen, Jeanie Crockett, Andrea Gendron and Ann Duggan. Donna Allen sent summaries of the multiple choice questions Oct 15 for members to review. More to come on the survey results!

Christmas Party

One of the survey questions focused on Christmas gift giving. Responses indicated the handmade gifts were a big hit at 61%, versus store bought gifts at 32%.

Given that feedback, this year we will have one gift exchange only, handmade gifts (**must be handmade by member**). We also decided to re-introduce the fun “sheep” game where everyone brings a quarter yard of quality wool (approx. 9” x 44”).

Board Member Roles/Descriptions

Survey Feedback indicated people would like to better understand the roles of board members. Below are role descriptions.

President (Jenna Sleeper): Runs meetings; negotiates with church for meeting date and pricing; coordinates with board members on various tasks; provides membership and activity reports to ATHA; participates in two ATHA meetings per year.

Vice President (Ildi Tary): Assists president as needed. Ildi, as you know has been instrumental in setting up and running Zoom meetings.

Membership (Ildi Tary): Maintains the membership list, including dues payment status and ATHA expiration dates. Provides membership list to board and members. Coordinates with Treasurer regarding dues.

Program Director (Ann Duggan): Seeks speakers and outing ideas. Contracts with speakers and provides lunch for speakers.

Treasurer (Tina Carrick): Collects membership dues, donations, and coffee money. Pays speakers; reimburses

expenses; submits rent checks to the church. Maintains detailed expense reports. Files tax information.

Secretary (Andrea Gendron/Jenna Sleeper): Maintains meeting and board notes. Publishes newsletters to all members. Submits articles to ATHA.

Webmaster (Susan Russo): Maintains website and posts pictures and other information.

Hostesses (Janice Oberlander/Marcy Young): Sets up food table and tea/coffee. Puts out plates, silverware, etc. Sweeps floor as needed and puts out trash.

DID YOU KNOW?

ATHA offers many resources free to members. If you don't have a log-on, it's well worth the time to create one at atharugs.com. Under the Members tab, you can access on line ATHA magazines, see what's in the ATHA Library that you can borrow, read weekly tips, find free patterns to use, and much more!

Mayflower Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

Oct 16, 2021 – Gail Desfresne – Geometrics
(Virtual / Zoom)

Nov 20, 2021 – Faith Webster – Historic Rugs
and Pocketbooks

Dec 11, 2021 – Christmas Party

Jan 15, 2022 – Karl Gimber – Tavern Signs
(Virtual / Zoom)

Feb 19, 2022 – Ania Knap – Tiffany Stain
Glass Workshop

March 19, 2022 – Diana DeRoche

April 16, 2022 – Kathy Spellacy

May 21, 2022 – Hook-in or Possible Road Trip

June 18, 2022 – Strawberry Festival

Board Members:

President – Jenna Sleeper

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Vice President and Membership – Ildi Tary

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Programs – Ann Duggan

Treasurer – Tina Carrick

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Secretary – Andrea Gendron, Jenna Sleeper

Hostesses: Janice Oberlander, Marcy Young

Webmaster – Susan Russo

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External Events:

***Members are invited to submit info on
upcoming events and hook-ins. Please send
to Jenna Sleeper.***

Meeting Locations

Most meetings take place at St Agnes Church,
186 Woburn St, Reading MA behind the parish
house. Changes will be announced.