



Mayflower Chapter Newsletter Dec/Jan 2015

Greetings -

Our annual Christmas meeting took place on Dec 20th and members enjoyed a Pot Luck lunch. We conducted the traditional Christmas Exchange, as well as the Handmade Exchange Board members donated two hooking theme baskets which we raffled off.

Pictures of these wonderful handmade items:







In January, we hosted Jon Ciemiewicz, who spoke on “Adding Dimension”.

When he first started hooking, Jon told us he was interested in finding something to do when he retired. He saw a demonstration and signed up for a class, but was never called. Turns out, the instructor did not want to teach a man to hook rugs! Eventually, someone taught him the craft and he has been hooking ever since, and is well known for his work.

Jon explained that we work in two dimensions – horizontal and vertical. However, there are two ways to create the illusion of a third dimension – through Perspective and through Shading. He cited the first recorded drawing of depth perception by Filippo Brunelleschi, an architect and engineer in 1415. By looking at different pictures of buildings, we were able to see how the third dimension comes alive. He showed us how a building closer to you will have larger columns that are spaced close together. As you look towards the distance, the columns appear to get shorter and shorter, and closer together. Similarly, a field of lavender will be very well defined in the foreground, but then it will appear to fade into more of a haze as you view it in the distance.

Jon spoke about the horizon (skyline) that separates the earth from sky. There can be a true horizon or a false horizon. The vanishing point is the point on the horizon line where the parallel lines of a railroad bed (for example) diminish.

Jon showed us an example of snow leopards sitting in an overhang. The background was very light in color; the pastels used push the background (likely mountains) to the back. Several layers of depth can be created by adding other touches, like snow.

When working with water and reflections, the reflection should not be an absolute mirror image. The water will have some movement, which distorts the shape of the reflection. This adds depth to the picture. Also, the reflection should be darker, and the complement of the color should be used in the dye bath for use to darken the value of the same color used for the primary object. Jon made an interesting point when he mentioned the splash in the water would be oval, not round. The only way it could be round would be if you were looking directly down over the splash area.

Due to the haze layer, mountains further away are lighter, and ones nearer are darker. The sky at the horizon will be lighter and the sky at the top will be darker. The exception to this rule would be if there were low clouds.

Pick the direction of your light source and keep it constant in your rug. You will note more of a contrast early in the day and later in the day. Jon also explained the halo effect which occurs when the light behind an object outlines the object.

Jon suggested we pay attention to how Mother Nature paints her scenes. He mentioned that when using greens for leaves, using spot dyes will bring out lots of colors, just as in real life. It's best to hook the main parts of your rug first and be sure to establish the light source. Keep your background simple; too many things like big swirls will pull the eye away from the main motif.

Jon also shared a technique he learned from someone on how to "take a picture" without a camera. You look at the scene, close your eyes and picture it, look again at the scene, close your eyes and picture it. Repeat this process multiple times. You will then have this "picture" permanently in your mind as a resource.

Thank you, Jon for your engaging speech and lessons learned.



The January meeting also included lots of donated wool, patterns, dyes, etc for sale. As someone said, it was like "Filene's Basement" with all the activity!

Susan Russo donated a Prochem dyes, pots, dye spoons and a book by Mary Ellen Cooper, "A Passion for the Creative Life". Proceeds from a silent auction for the book and dye spoons totaled \$55. Jean Jones and Doris DeProspero donated wool, patterns and dyes. These items brought in \$429.

Altogether, the proceeds totaled \$484, of which \$384 will go to Mayflower, and \$100 will be donated to the Guatemalan rughooking women.

Show and Tell

Work in process by Cynthia Dabroski:



Runner by Peggy Ricker:



Rug by Ania Knap:



Braided Rug by Carlene Iudiciani



Susan Russo's rug:



Ania's peacock rug, which will be the subject of her upcoming workshops:



Share Your Talent!

We have some great talent right here in our chapter. Please consider sharing a lesson, idea or anything of interest to the group. Please contact Jenna or Carlene for more information.

Mayflower Calendar:

February 21, 2015	Big Bee Refreshments: J – R
March 21, 2015	Janet Conner Proddy Flowers Refreshments: S – Z
April 18, 2015	Ginny Shannon, Mandala Workshop Downstairs Room Refreshments: A - I
May 16, 2015	Bring your own work Refreshments: J – R
June TBD, 2015	Strawberry Festival Refreshments: S - Z

External Events:

- Jan 31, 2015, Eliot Hook-in
Regatta Banquet & Conference Center
Eliot, ME, \$5 donation
- Mar 21, 2015, Westford, MA Hook-in
(see Region 1 Newsletter for signup)
- Mar 27-29, Alfred, ME Hook-in
- April 17-20th, Olde Cape Cod Rug School
Hyannis, MA
- April 30-May 3, 2015, Region 1 Rug School,
Litchfield, CT
- May 2/3, Dover, MA
Peacock Workshop by Ania Knap
- May or June TBD, Maine
Peacock Workshop by Ania Knap
- Aug 15, 2015, Region 1 Hook-in West
Shelburne Falls, MA, \$10

Rug Registry available (see Region 1 news)

Nov 13-15, 2015, Alfred, ME Hook-in

Magical Creatures Workshop by Michele Micareilli
(TBD - Fall)

April 1-3, 2016, Alfred, Maine Hook-in

Nov 11-13, 2016, Alfred, Maine Hook-in

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Don't Forget! **Bring a Mug, Save a Rug!**

