



Hello, Mayflower Friends.

I hope you're all well and enjoying the early unfolding of spring! We're slow to the spring table here in north central Massachusetts, but I'm rewarded with forsythia, magnolia and colorful buds on trees within a short drive to the east.

Last month's program with Kris McDermet was incredible, wasn't it? It was such a treat to be in the midst of all of those uniquely beautiful creations. Having just reviewed Ildi's draft of the current newsletter containing photos of the last Show and Tell, I'm also struck by the incredible talent within our own chapter and am grateful that we have this forum to learn from and inspire each other.

As a reminder, Mayflower dues for the 2024/2025 program year are due in May. As mentioned at a meeting earlier this year, our room rental fee starting in September 2024 will be \$100/month higher than it was through the 2022/2023 program year. As a result, dues will be increased to \$30 (from \$26) going forward. Specifics regarding check and Paypal payment options will be provided in the May newsletter.

I'm looking forward to Beverley Mulcahy's program this Saturday. Bev is the consummate finisher of all things and we're sure to learn some great new techniques from her.

Hoping to see you there!
Donna Allen, Co-President

**Come Join us this Saturday,
April 20 at 10:00 at
St. Agnes Church, Reading**



Our Guest Speaker is Bev Mulcahey

Bev is a McGown Certified teacher and co-director of the Country Inn Rug School. She has taught rug hooking at her home in Paxton, MA, for several years and has had a long, successful career as a professional seamstress.

Bev will share her innovative techniques for finishing and displaying hooked pieces - from rugs, to pillows and more!

Please come and join us for what promises to be an inspiring talk.

April Hospitality

We invite those whose last names begin with D-M to bring something to munch on in our meeting, either sweet or savory. Thanks in advance.

Show and Tell

Please bring any new rugs you have to share, or any ones previously completed that have interesting or unusual borders for our special invitation show and tell. Our final special invitation for this year will be Bright and Bold rugs!

Suggestions for subjects for next year's special invitation show and tell include: People/portraits, Birds, Landscapes, Fruit, Rugs using non traditional materials, Vehicles (cars, bikes, motorhomes, etc.), Trees, Landscapes, and Lighthouses. If you have other ideas to contribute, please let Ildi know.

New Members

Please welcome two new members that joined our chapter last month:

Lori Russo from Tyngsboro and
Elaine Stefanik from Marlborough

A message from Wanda Blanchard

A friend of mine, Bethany Groff Dorau, has asked a favor of me. I feel this is more of a worthy cause, so let me explain.

Bethany is the executive director of the Museum of Old Newbury (MOON), but before joining the museum she worked for years at Historic New England. She managed many properties including the Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm in Newbury, which is an animal sanctuary farm. When Bethany joined the MOON she also took over her family's farm and it is now the Poore Family Farm Sanctuary in West Newbury. Bethany spends two hours every morning with her volunteers in the fields caring for the animals before coming to the Moon.

The farm adopted two Cotswold lambs last spring and they shorn them this last fall. The wool was sent to be cleaned and spun. The results returned was some roving and some fingering weight yarn. Bethany is looking for some very kind people to knit (she does not know how) some hats, scarf or such to give her volunteers.

I hope you can help her out, and if you can, please call her at 978-462-2681. If you can help, let me know how we can get the wool to you and how much. The picture is of Castor and he is one of the lambs.

THANKS for reading my request for help,
Wanda Blanchard,
978-462-9705.



Challenge Mats for This Year

All those that chose to participate in the challenge for this year brought their mats to our March meeting. The challenge was to design a small mat using either the chicken or sea life templates that had been provided. All the mats were delightful!



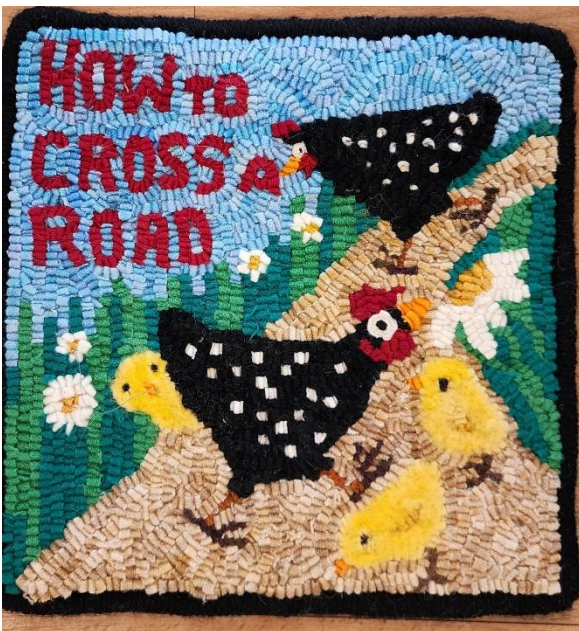
Carol Feldhusen



Debbie Power



Tina Carrick



Donna Allen



Diane Hart



Audrey Hanna



Jean Blanchard



Mary O'Mara



Jane Sittnick



Alicia Mills



Right: Carol Stearns, who was unable to attend the meeting



Last Month's Meeting

We were all treated to a great presentation last month by Kris McDermet. Kris and her husband Stuart (who ended up doing some improv while Kris was trying to work out some technical issues) presented a truly awesome show of her rugs, which combined hooking with braiding. Here are just a few pictures of her inspiring presentation.



Show and Tell – New Rugs and Projects

This is a pillow made by Donna Allen. She used a pattern by Michelle Palmer that was provided in the *Punch Needle and Primitive Stitcher* magazine



Another beautiful rug by Jeanne Crockett in bright and bold colors, with her trademark of animals peeking through here and there



Tina Carrick designed and hooked this rug with a variety of animals scattered about



There were two mats made specifically for the bug challenge at the ATHA Hook-in held in Bedford on April 6. Donna Allen designed, dyed the wool, hooked and framed the plump little ladybug and Ildi Tary hooked the dragonfly.

Not shown: Tina Carrick hooked a tobacco cutworm (enemy of tomato plants) just in time for the show and shall bring it to one of our upcoming meetings.



Show and Tell – Special Invitation Rugs – Flowers in Vases

Cynthia Dabroski hooked this pattern by Tina Payton



Jean Blanchard created this rug from a Happy Difranza pattern



Joanne Millen hooked these charming chicks surrounding the vase of flowers



Ildi Tary hooked these flowers using a Deanne Fitzpatrick pattern



Our Remaining Programs for 2023-2024 Year

May 18:

Hook-in

June 15:

Strawberry Festival at Ildi's house in Topsfield

Upcoming Events of Interest

A short list of upcoming events is provided below. If you know of anything else coming up that should be added, please email Ildi at itary@comcast.net for publication in our next newsletter:

Cranberry Rug Hookers Annual Show, May 4

 <p>CRANBERRY RUG HOOKERS</p> 	<p>Visit Our Rug Show on Cape Cod May 4, 2024 10-3</p>
<p>Harwich Community Center 100 Oak Street Harwich, MA 02645</p> <p>Contact: Joanne Levine cranberryrughookers@gmail.com</p> 	 <p>Vendors: Lucille Festa Laura Kenyon Ania Knap</p>

Downeast Hook-in, Hermon (near Bangor), ME Nov 3-4, 2024

For more information and registration form, please refer to earlier newsletters from this year, or visit <http://fluffpeachybeandesigns.com> or <https://www.facebook.com/FluffPeachyBeanDesign/>

Country Inn Rug School

Registrations are now open at <https://www.countryinnrugschool.com/>

Session 1: September 8-13, 2024

Cherylyn Brubaker	Sarah Guiliani
Betty McClentic	Diane Stoffel

Session 2: September 15-20, 2024

Kathy Spellacy	Ingrid Hieronimus
Lisa Chaloner	Diane Stoffel

ATHA Region 1 Rug School North, Plymouth, NH, Nov 5-7, 2024

Teachers: Maureen Rugar, Lianne Miller, Vivily Powers and Janet Conner.

The registration form is contained in the ATHA email sent on February 12 from ATHA Region 1. A copy of the information and registration form is in the following pages.



ATHA Region 1 School North

The Common Man Inn & Spa, Plymouth, NH www.thecmaninnplymouth.com

November 5 – 7, 2024

ATHA Region 1 School North Teachers: Our talented teachers are well experienced in various techniques and are anxious to feed your individual creative needs.

Lisanne Miller

Lisanne has wool in her veins. She first held a hook at the age of fourteen as part of the Bicentennial celebration of America: hooking a simple chair pad from some of her mother's old wool suits. The hook, wool, extra burlap, and chair pad traveled around with Lisa, treasured and stored in her mother's cedar chest. Then one day, a dear friend revealed that she had a new interest she just loved: primitive rug hooking. Lisanne went back to her hooking roots and has never looked back or put her hook down since, spending her time and imagination creating and designing whimsical, wonderful pieces of modern-day folk art.

Previously the founder and designer of P is for Primitive and Peace, Love, and Wool, Lisanne now owns a treasured source of rug hooking supplies and inspiration: W. Cushing & Co. in Wells, Maine. She is the author of *Beautiful Wool: In the Dye Kitchen with Lisanne Miller*, which guides the reader through the process of creating glorious colors and applying dyeing techniques. Lisanne is the director of Caraway Rug School.

Vivily Powers

Vivily Powers is a McGown certified teacher and owner of Colorama Wool. She is a member of McGown and ATHA Guilds and has been a judge for Rug Hooking Magazine's Celebration book.

Vivily is a skilled teacher and offers an open class in a variety of subjects. She encourages the beginner and will challenge the seasoned hooker. She will work with the students' views and color palette in order to create a unique finished product.

Vivily is noted for her beautiful custom dyed wool and color planning expertise. She provides pre-camp and advanced planning communication to the student in order to maximize class time. She can provide wool or use student provided wool for their project.

She shares rug hooking information, demonstrations, and finishing techniques during class.

The ultimate goal of the class is for the student to feel comfortable with a well-planned project and an enthusiasm for finishing the project.

Maureen Rugar

Maureen Rugar began her rug-hooking journey in 1977, when she first met her future husband. It was love at first sight. Her husband or rug hooking you might be thinking. Both! His grandmother and mother were both "hookers". She was just mesmerized by the wonderful designs, with the amazing colors, that they had created by pulling up loops of tiny strips of wool using a hook.

Since that time, Maureen immersed herself in everything 'rug hooking', taking as many classes and workshops as possible from some of the finest teachers around.

In 1983 she began teaching rug hooking to enthusiastic students in her La Grangeville, NY studio. At that time, along with her mother-in-law Jeanette, purchased New Earth Designs and proceeded to put the designs to silk screen for a much-improved way of printing patterns. In 1992 they sold the business to Jeanne Benjamin of Massachusetts.

Maureen teaches for beginning students as well as experienced and in every conceivable form of hooking. Maureen is not afraid of a challenge. Although her personal preference for hooking is wide cuts, she is also skilled at the art of fine shading to 3-D hooking, and Waldoboro hooking.

Maureen has served as the president of the Dutchess County Rug Hookers Guild for over three terms. Rug Hooking Magazine has published two articles on Oriental rugs, written by her (in 1990 & 1992) and has done a commission rug for Eleanor Roosevelt's Val Kill Manor, in Hyde Park, NY. She has taught numerous classes & workshops at local Guilds in New York and Connecticut and taught at the NYS Sheep & Wool Festival since 2017. She also teaches and vends at Rug Hooking Workshops from Maine to North Carolina.

Janet Conner

Janet Conner is an avid rug hooker who has been pulling loops since 1979. Graduating from Moore College of Art in Philadelphia, she spent 30 years teaching Elementary Art in southern Maine, while raising a busy family. After retirement in 2005, Janet was able to work at rug hooking and fiber arts full time, launching her web based business, which offers a line of her own patterns as well as rug hooking supplies and

equipment, books, and natural dye recipe cards. She teaches fiber arts in her home state of Maine and throughout the United States plus Bermuda, Canada, and England, with a specific focus on art history and the inspiration found in both fine art and folk art. In addition to rug hooking, she also teaches punch needle, proddy, and penny rug techniques.

Twenty-five years of studying and repairing antique rugs has influenced Janet's love of old fashioned methods and timeless motifs. She has contributed chapters on cleaning and repair of antique rugs to *Rug Hooking Magazine's* book *Finishing Hooked Rugs*. She co-authored *Rug Hooking Traditions with James & Mercedes Hutchinson*, released with the Hutchinson Exhibit, in August of 2016.

Janet's rugs have appeared in *Celebration of Hand-Hooked Rugs XXII*, *Rug Hooking Magazine*, *Hooked Rugs Today 2004*, & *2006* and galleries throughout New England. Her greatest joy is to foster the success of her students; many of whom have made rugs in her classes that have been featured in *Rug Hooking Magazine*. After a 30 year career teaching elementary art in

public school, Janet continues to find her greatest joy in teaching.

Well known for her Van Gogh style hooking classes, Janet will be broadening her examination of art to include Impressionistic and Post Impressionistic styles of rug hooking. **For this class** students may choose one of Janet's patterns based on specific paintings, or create their own designs in the style of their chosen artist. Students will learn to analyze and discuss Impressionism and Post Impressionism, mimic the styles with the content of their choosing, and begin color planning and hooking rugs that emphasize artistic styles specific to artists like Monet, Van Gogh, Cezanne, Seurat, and Gauguin. Join Janet for an extensive journey through art history and learn to recreate some of the most famous and aesthetically pleasing styles in this thoughtful and analytic class.

ATHA Region 1 School North 2024 Registration Information

School North Director Rachel Johns rachelannjohns1967@gmail.com Phone: 207-523-0686

- Complete the registration form with your first and second teacher choices
- Please send the registration form along with your \$80.00 deposit payable to **ATHA Region 1 School North to: Rachel Johns, 12 Village Corner Rd, Ossipee, NH 03864**
- **The registration fee of \$356.00** includes lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (November 5,6,7, 2024) and is independent of all other costs. (Please note: Nov. 5 is Voting Day—you may want to plan accordingly to vote absentee)
- Confirmation email will be sent to you upon receipt of your Registration Form and deposit.
(For a paper confirmation please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope)
- There is a \$50.00 cancellation fee.
- No refunds within 30 days of the first day of school unless school is cancelled by the Administration.
- **If you send the \$80 deposit, the balance of \$276.00 is due no later than September 1, 2024.**
- We have reserved a block of rooms for school attendees. To reserve a room, please contact the Inn directly at 866-843-2626. Please mention you are with the ATHA Rug School Group. The block of rooms and special rates are available until September 4, 2024.

All Attendees must be a member of National ATHA with current dues paid.

If you are not a current member, please send \$32.00 membership dues to: Patty Andrisani, 139 Columbus Circle, Clarks Summit, PA 18411 Email: membership@atharugs.com or online www.atharugs.com

For your records: 1st teacher choice _____ 2nd teacher choice _____
Mailed registration on _____ with payment of _____

ATHA Region 1 School North 2024 Registration Form

Please print clearly.

Name _____

ATHA Chapter _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Please list two teacher choices.

1st Choice of teacher: _____

2nd Choice of teacher: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Allergies /dietary restrictions: _____

_____ None _____ Vegan _____ Non-Dairy _____ Gluten Free _____ Other* (_____)

Specific medical allergy _____

Medical information: _____

Enclosed: _____ Deposit \$80.00 (Balance \$276 due no later than September 1, 2024)

_____ Payment in full \$ 356.00