



Happy New Year friends!

Thanks to everyone that joined our holiday party last month. As usual, it was an extravaganza of food and wonderful hand-crafted gifts. We also showed many tree ornaments made from October's program. There are many pictures in this newsletter that display our members' talent and creativity.

With the hubbub of the holidays behind us, I'm looking forward to some calm, creative and thoughtful time together at our next meeting. I can't wait to meet our speaker Deana David and learn about deriving design inspiration from some of my favorite artists.

For show and tell please don't forget to bring your recently completed projects, as always. The special theme for show and tell in January is rugs using non-traditional materials, so bring those too.

If your last name starts with S through Z or A through B, please bring refreshments to share!

Finally, please start thinking about what you might want to contribute to next month's Flea Market. This is always a great time to clean out some items you no longer need and these things often help those newer to the craft build their supplies. Not to mention that this is a significant fundraiser for our chapter!

Note that once again we will be meeting in the room on the first floor of the church hall. If parking is tight in the upper lot, the lower level is also available.

Tina Carrick
Co-president

**Come Join us this Saturday,
January 18 at 10:00 at
St. Agnes Church, Reading**

Remember: We are meeting in the first floor again this month



Pattern: Massachusetts, available from Ribbon Candy Hooking

Deana David of Ribbon Candy Hooking will be with us for a discussion on her book, 'Design Like an Artist', published by Rug Hooking Magazine's Ampry Press. Deana teaches an ongoing 'Design Like' series that features an individual fine artist and explores the tricks and tropes that artist uses in his or her work to create an iconic and timeless look. Deana will present an interactive slideshow that will enable conversation on composition and color theory, and how the various artists' work might be translated into rug hooking terms and new designs. The artists featured in the talk will be Maud Lewis, Hilma af Klint, Magdalena Briner Eby, Marc Chagall, Friedensreich Hunterwasser and Gustav Klimt.

Deana is the founder and owner of Ribbon Candy Hooking. She runs a biweekly live rug hooking show on the Ribbon Candy Hooking YouTube channel and has published three books on rug hooking recently including 'The Haunted Rug', which came out this past autumn. She also publishes, with her partner Judy Taylor, 'Magpie Times' magazine, a quarterly rug hooking magazine which is now in its second year. Deana is the new President of TIGHR, The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers, and will be hosting the next TIGHR event in Newport, RI in Autumn of 2027.

Please join us this Saturday for this exciting program. Please note that we shall, once again, be meeting in the first-floor room. Hope to see you there!

2024-2025 Challenge

This year, we are challenging you to make one or more mini-mats. The size is up to you, but we're thinking mats 4-6" square.

Please note that it has been suggested that you could do the 12 designs in a single mat, as Diane Hart has done here on the right.

The goal of this challenge is to encourage you to design a pattern of your own and quickly execute it. If you do several, your design skills will improve with each one. So, with that said, here are our themes to choose from:

1. Snowy scene
2. Abstract, using two colors
3. Circles
4. Critters in the Garden
5. Leaves
6. Paisley
7. Things that Fly
8. Things in the Sea
9. Quilt Block
10. Architecture
11. Birds
12. Landscape



The rules:

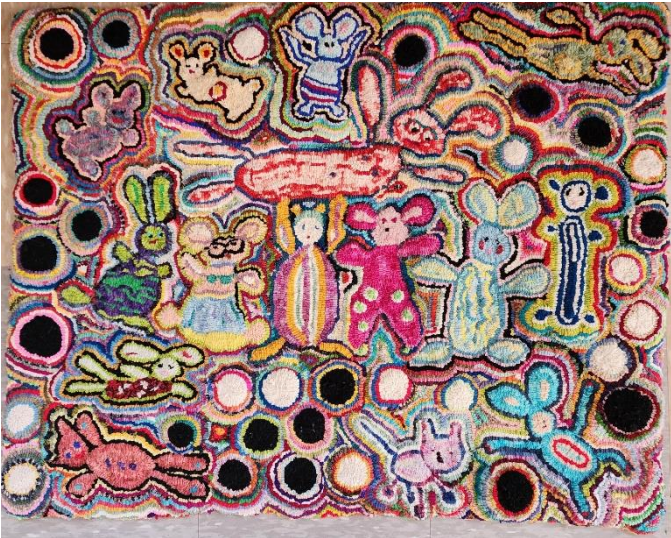
Well, there really aren't any. But here are some suggestions:

- Make your mat any size you wish, but remember, these are designed to be easy, quick projects.
- Use materials you already own. Given the small mat size, if you have a wealth of 8-cut noodles, you will probably want to cut them in half to allow you to work in a smaller scale than you normally do.
- You may make your mat any shape you wish...if you want to use some of them as ornaments, that might take you in some fun directions.
- Make as many of the themes as you wish. If there is one theme that excites you and you want to make several of that theme, please go ahead.
- You may make them in any order from the list you wish.
- You may hook, punch, embellish, or use any technique that you want to try. This challenge is designed to stretch your creative skills, so go for it!
- If you plan on making a few of these, you might want to use one piece of backing and hook your designs fairly close to each other (say 2" apart) to save on backing material. We will share techniques to finish them that don't require whipping

As you finish your mats, bring them for show and tell to inspire others. In the spring, we will invite everyone to bring theirs for a large show and tell

December General Show and Tell

Jeanie Crockett



Catherine Flowers



Debbie Power



Special Invitation Show and Tell

Our special invitation calendar for the rest of the year is:

January: Rugs using non-traditional materials

February: Vehicles (cars, bikes, RV's, etc.)

March: 3D items (purse, pillow, etc.)

April: Bugs, insects

May: Trees

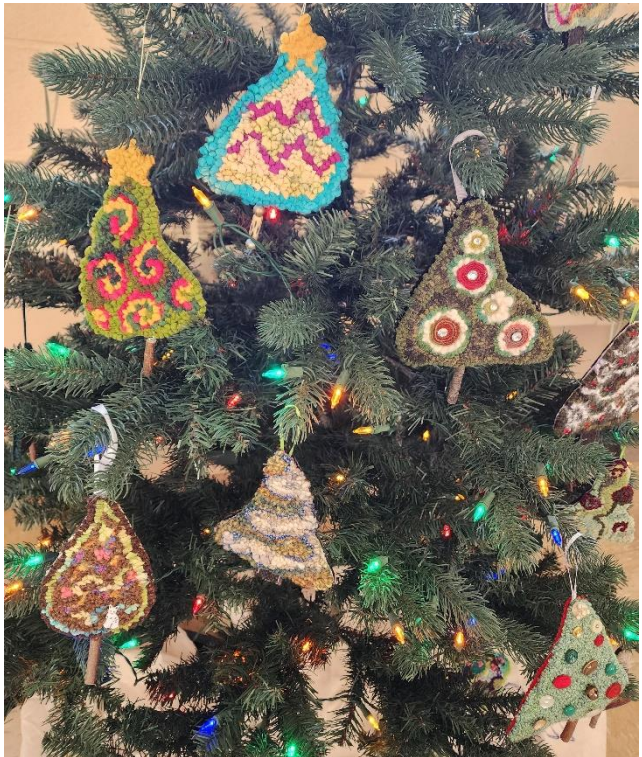
December Show and Tell Fruit-Themed Projects Shared

Donna Allen



Hooked Trees from Ildi's October Workshop

Apologies...I did not get the makers of each of these trees and I missed some!



December's Holiday Gift Swap

Anyone wishing to participate was asked to bring a gift handmade by themselves. Gifts were swapped, much to the delight of everyone!



Our Programs for the Remaining 2024-25 Year

- February (2/15):** Flea Market
March: (3/15): Sue Barry – Torn strips heart workshop
April (4/19) *: Pam Barlett – Zinnia Workshop
May (5/17): Hook-in
June (6/21): Strawberry Festival at Debbie Power’s home in Carlisle

**NOTE: As of this writing, we have been advised that we will be meeting in the first-floor room of the St Agnes hall in these months.*

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:

Seacoast Ruggers Exhibit at Portsmouth Library thru Jan 23

There are a few days left to visit this exhibit, which I highly recommend! Easy to find, easy parking and everything is free! The exhibit closes at 9pm on January 23. Please note they are closed on January 20 to observe MLK day.

ATHA Region 1 Rug School South, Sturbridge, MA April 1-4, 2025

Teachers: Laura Kenyon, Betty McClentic, Kathy Spellacy and Caroline Twigg. The registration form is contained in the ATHA email sent on 6/27 from ATHA Region 1.

ATHA Region 1 Hook-in, Bedford, MA April 5, 2025

See registration information in the following pages.

Spring has Sprung Hook-in and Workshops, Bangor, ME April 25-27, 2025

One-day workshops are scheduled for Friday April 25 and hook-in on Saturday and Sunday. Check out website www.hookedforevermaine.com for details and registration information.

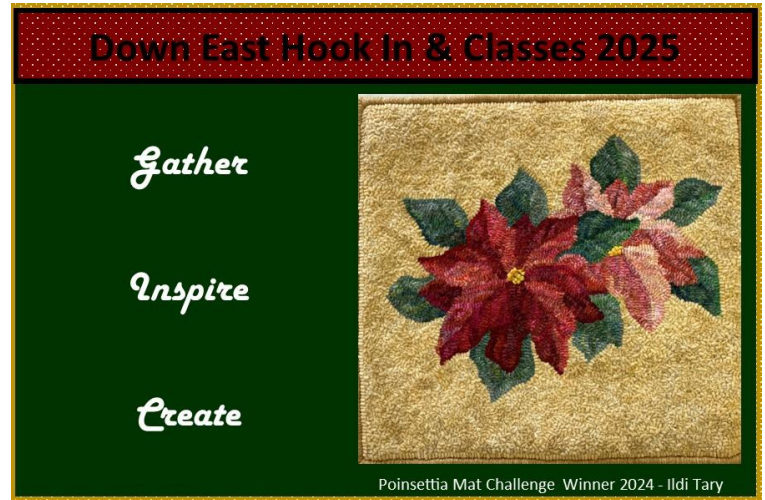
Quiet Corner Hook-in, Woodstock, CT June 7, 2025

Save the date!

If you attended the event last year, you should have received an email invitation recently. If not, the event will be opened to others in January.

Downeast Hook-in, Hermon (near Bangor), ME Nov 2-3, 2025

The hook-in next year is held Sat-Sun on November 2-3. There are some additional classes offered on October 31. The teachers are Ania Knap, Kevin LeMoine, Cherylyn Brubaker and Gail Dufresne. For more information and a registration form, please see the information on the following pages.



16th Annual ATHA Region 1

Now the Bedford Hook In

Saturday, April 5, 2025 - 9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

Middlesex Community College 591 Springs Rd Bedford, MASS 01730

Just \$38 includes:

Facility fee, breakfast goodies, fabulous lunch with desserts, and beverages.

Plus... Great Vendors - Door Prizes - Bird Mat Show!

Bring your rugs to display in the large Hallway. We love to see each others rugs!

Complete the form below;

RSVP by March 24, 2025

detach and mail by March 24th, 2025 to:

NO entrance without preregistration.

Rachael Noyes

Make \$38 check payable to :

26 Buttonwood Drive - Hollis, NH 03049

ATHA REGION 1 HOOK IN

603-465-4022 - rachaelnoyes@charter.net

For info regarding vending, please contact Nancy Jewett at nancydjewett@yahoo.com or 802-247-0089

Registration: ATHA Region 1 Hook In - Bedford, MA 01730

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

ALL attendees must be a member of **National ATHA** with current dues paid.

If you are not a current member, please send \$32 membership dues to:

Patty Andrisani 139 Columbus Circle Clarks Summit, PA 18411

Name on Check: _____ Amount of Check: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ -ATHA Chapter _____

Specify reservation confirmation & fill in to be notified; email: _____ or
phone: _____

Please specify any food **allergies?** _____

Your suggestion for the 2026 Mat Challenge: _____

Down East Hook In Registration

Hook In November 2 - 3 , 2025

Class October 31, 2025

Times: Saturday 9:00 - 4:00, Sunday: 9:00 - 3:00

Morgan Hill Event Center 82 Morgan Hill Lane

Hermon, ME

Make Check Payable to: Down East Hook In & Mail To:

Nancy Jewett 1736 Wheeler RD Brandon, VT 05733

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2 Days - Saturday & Sunday \$75.00 _____

1 Day \$40.00 Saturday _____ or Sunday _____

***** Registration Fee includes your lunch, beverages and morning snacks.**

Dietary Allergies _____

* Cancellation Policy: Cancellations will receive a refund (minus processing fees if paid by credit card), up to 2 weeks before Hook In date. If we have a wait list and can fill your place, we will refund up to 5 days before the Hook In. After this date no refunds.

Down East Classes October 31, 2025

Gather, Inspire, Create

New for 2025 we are offering an extra day for classes, on Friday, followed by our regular Hook In. on Saturday & Sunday.

The cost for the classes is \$155.00 for the day which includes class and catered lunch. Depending on the class, there may be an extra materials fee payable to the Teacher.

Teachers for 2025

Ania Knap — Tartan Plaid - reversible mat

Cherylyn Brubaker— Aurora Borealis/Dramatic Skies

Gail Dufresne—Sunflower Passion -Proddy, Sculpting, Blending Colors

Kevin LeMoine — Punch Hooking a Bear with multiple sizes and multiple fibers

Name _____

Address _____

Email: _____

Phone _____

Payment _____

Pick your choices in class and we will notify you which one you get in ASAP.

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Class \$155.00 _____ Class & 1 Day Hook In \$188.50 _____

Class & 2 Day Hook In \$225.00 _____