

## Portland, ME – October 13, 2019 - Cost \$49 per person – Approx. 7 ½ hours

Depart from the Portland Maine Cruise Terminal and travel to W Cushing.

W. Cushing & Company has been making and selling Cushing's "Perfection" Dyes in Maine since 1879. Our dyes are beloved by generations of dyers. We offer Acid Dyes as well as Direct Dyes to the fiber industry! On April 1, Lisanne and Ron Miller purchased this company and merged W. Cushing & Co with P is for Primitive. This combination now allows us to service more rug hookers, needle punchers, spinners, weavers and fiber lovers than ever before.



But we have a rich history, which makes us proud, as for more than 50 years ago Joan and Bob Moshimer built this company into a complete source of rug hooking supplies. We still import specially made backing cloths from Scotland. We have thousands of printed patterns available- by E.S. Frost who printed the first commercial patterns here in Maine more than 100 years ago; by Joan Moshimer, Pearl McGown, Ruth Hall, Anita Allen, Ralph Burnham, P is for Primitive and many others. We offer a complete selection of equipment, wool, specially dyed swatches and hooked rug kits all at competitive pricing. Lisanne will provide a complimentary box lunch.

We depart W Cushing and travel to Kennebunk Maine to visit Camp Wool. Established in August 2008, Camp Wool is a retail wool store with a mission to find you the best quality wool, patterns and products to meet your rug hooking, pennyrug, cross stitch, needle punch and braiding needs! They offer a huge selection of hand-dyed and bolt wool with an emphasis on textured wool for primitive designs. They carry a large selection of hand dyed floss and pearl cotton and hundreds of patterns for penny rugs and punchneedle and general needlework projects.



Then on our way back, if time permits, we will pass Walker Point, summer home of our past president, George H.W. Bush. Then we travel up the coast to Fort Williams Park, home to the most famous light house in the world, the Portland Head Light for a short visit before heading back to our ship.

## Halifax, Nova Scotia – October 15, 2019 – Cost \$89 – Approx. 9 hours

We depart the ship to visit the Maud Lewis exhibit at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

### EARLY YEARS



Maud Lewis (1903-1970) was born to John and Agnes Dowley on the Yarmouth and Acadian Shore of Nova Scotia. Although there is some debate about her exact birth place, recent research has revealed that Maud was born in the town of Yarmouth, NS. As a child, Maud spent most of her time alone, mostly because she felt uncomfortable about her differences around the other children. She had been born with almost no chin and was always much smaller than everyone else. However, Maud seemed to be a happy child who enjoyed the time she spent with her parents and brother. Maud's mother started her painting Christmas cards to sell and thus her career as an artist began.

Her life and only experience of the world extended to an area between her birthplace in Yarmouth County and her married home in Marshalltown, Digby County. In 1935 Maud's father died and in 1937, her mother

followed. As was typical at the time, her brother inherited the family home. After living with her brother for a short while she moved to Digby to live with her aunt. There she met Everett Lewis, an itinerant fish peddler, and married him shortly after in 1938.

## LIFE IN THE HOUSE

Maud spent the rest of her life living with Everett in their house in Marshalltown. The two had what has been perceived as a formidable companionship, despite any character flaws neighbors found in Everett. Because of Maud's worsening rheumatoid arthritis, she was unable to do housework. Everett took care of the house, and Maud brought in money through her paintings. The two were a pair that Maud was proud to be a part of.



The home they lived in was tiny in stature but large in character. Despite the lack of modern amenities like indoor plumbing and electricity, the house shows that Maud's life in Marshalltown was full of enjoyment through her art. Those who stopped after seeing her roadside sign, "Paintings for sale", found a quiet woman with a delightful smile. Her pleasure didn't come from the pride of having done a painting, but the creative act itself and the enjoyment others seemed to get from her work.

Through newspaper and magazine articles, as well as television documentaries, Maud became well known and a reputation grew that's still growing today.

## THE HOUSE



After the death of Maud Lewis in 1970, and subsequently of her husband, Everett Lewis, in 1979, the lovingly painted home began to deteriorate. In reaction, a group of concerned citizens from the Digby area started the Maud Lewis Painted House Society; their only goal was to save this valued landmark.

After a number of years of fundraising, the society realized that the project was going to take more resources than they could gather. In 1984, the house was sold to the Province of Nova Scotia and turned over to the care of Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

In 1996, with funds from the federal Department of Canadian Heritage and from private individuals, the processes of conservation and restoration began. The final, fully restored house is on permanent display in Halifax at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

Then we are off to Mahone Bay, a tranquil destination with spectacular views of our scenic harbor, where sailboats gently bob and the sun sparkles like diamonds on the deep blue waters. As you walk through town, you'll see vibrantly painted Victorian homes and shops, colorful heritage gardens, and their world-famous three churches, which sit at the water's edge and form the iconic backdrop for one of Canada's most picturesque towns.

We will stop at Encompassing Designs. Launched on the nautical theme, ENCOMPASSING DESIGNS RUG HOOKING STUDIO took float in 2000 with the classic marine inspired designs of the Compass Rose. This essential and decorated practical aid to navigation that has adored nautical charts, dating back to at least Magellan's time, encompassed the era of the New World's exploration and conquest by many European sea-powers.

Although CHRISTINE LITTLE'S studio now encompasses all genres of design, she remains committed to the icons of seafaring times. From sailing ship, anchor and line to the mystical sea serpents and mermaids, they live on in our imagination and in the vibrant colors and crafted wool of the studio. These designs and hand-hooked heirlooms command attention providing eye catching accents at home, ashore or fittingly, afloat adorning a vessel's cabin.



We will be in Mahone Bay for about 3 hours where you will have ample time to browse, shop, walk around town or maybe stop to have a cup of coffee or tea.

Then we are off to the Hooked Rug Museum of Nova Scotia where we will have dinner and have time to visit the museum.

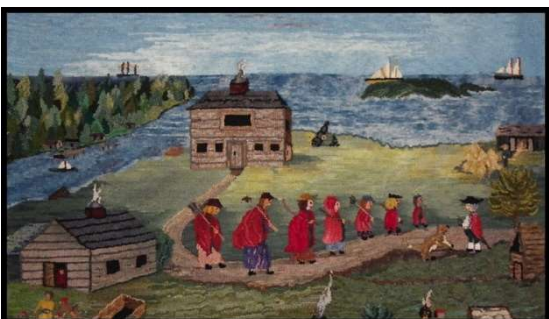
The Hooked Rug Museum of North America was the dream of Suzanne Conrod of Chester, Nova Scotia. Together with her husband Hugh, they began collecting rugs and artifacts that would form the basis for a museum collection.

By 2005, they had assembled an impressive collection and they looked for community support to build a proper museum to serve North America. Support came quickly as a number of people began to share their vision.

In 2006, the Hooked Rug Museum of North America Society was incorporated. Governed by a Board of Directors in Nova Scotia and Directors At Large in Canada and U.S.A. with Suzanne Conrod as the Chair, the Society was recognized by the Government of Canada as a legally registered charity which may issue formal receipts acceptable to Revenue Canada for tax purposes. This not-for-profit society is committed to the long-term success of the project.



In 2011, the museum opened the doors to the Market Place for the summer season in their new building in Queensland (near Hubbards). The museum occupies 8950 square feet. With the aid of a summer student and many volunteers they were open 7 days a week and received visitors from far and wide who were anxious to see the new home of the museum.



In 2012 the first 5 galleries were opened and the interior of the museum was completely finished by the winter of 2013. Every year the museum will feature 2 contemporary artists, one from Canada and one from the United States. In 2018, your host, Gail Dufresne, was the US featured artist.

In 2013 HRMNA celebrated their Official Opening in June. All the gallery rooms were open and featured many exhibits. The ribbon was cut on the Founders' Gallery during the celebration. The Market Place had a very successful year and we had approximately 2000 visitors to the museum. HRMNA truly is an international museum!

## St. John, New Brunswick – October 17, 2019 – Cost \$59 – Approx. 8 hours

We depart St. John to stop at the Historic Church of Barachois.

The 200-year-old **Barachois Historical Church** is the home of the **200 hooked cushions for my 200th** project. A permanent collection of over 225 hooked cushions from all over Canada and the USA is on display on the pews of the old church. A world class exhibit unique in North America. Come and get inspired."

They took on this project to have 200 cushions all hooked and are on display. We are fortunate to have one of those cushions created by our own Gail Dufresne.



After a short stop we are off to Amherst Nova Scotia to Deanne Fitzpatrick's Rug Hooking Studio.

### Deanne's Story



So many times, I have heard people that rug hooking changed them. As they started rug hooking, they began to see the world differently, started noticing beauty around them. Hooking rugs allowed them to express themselves, to use their time wisely and creatively, and opened up a whole new community of people to them.

Rug hooking is full of possibilities. It has changed my life, and been a powerful force in changing the lives of the people I have met through it over these twenty-five years.

It has made me who I am. I started out as a therapist, thinking that was how I would spend my life helping people, but rug hooking found me and helped me find myself. I have learned that craft and handmade can totally change the way you view the world and how you feel about it. I believe that I have helped as many people by teaching them how to hook rugs and embrace their own creativity as I would have as a therapist.



My style of rug hooking, with its meditative qualities, and its freedom from rules adds beauty to our world and is therapeutic on its own. It is joyful, powerful and transformative. My style of rug hooking is not about being perfect, it is about creating beauty every day.

Today people come from all over North America for my workshops in my studio. My rugs are in major private and public collections, including the Canadian Museum of Civilization and The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. I have written six books about rug hooking.

We will have about 3 hours to visit Amherst where you will have time to shop at Deanne's store and maybe stop at a restaurant to have a bite to eat (on your own). Oh, did I tell you, Deanne has a women's clothing store right across the street that she will keep open for you to browse and buy. Also, you can visit the Spruce Top Rug Hooking Shop @ 225 Main Street located about a ½ mile away on Main Street.

Then we head back to the ship.