

LETTERS



It was a busy summer and fall for Capital Calligraphers! Clockwise from top left, Prindi Flug teaches at AOCC, Pat Brasch's ornate pictorial flourishing class at AOCC, Jessie McCandlish writes names at Salem Art Fair, Marilyn Reaves' flat brush calligraphy class, and an envelope at AOCC.



WINTER 2011



Presidents' Prologue

The past few months have seen our guild participating in a number of activities and we would like to thank you all for your hard work and volunteer ethic.

Next year will see the International Conference taking place in Portland, and the people who attend will have a wonderful experience, meeting other calligraphers from all over the country and the world, and taking classes from top-notch educators. We understand that the conference is completely booked and there is a waiting list, so those who signed up early are doubtless feeling very pleased with themselves, and will be able to bring what they learn home to our guild.

In the new year we will be welcoming Victoria Pittman in April. All those who attended her workshop a few years ago were very enthusiastic about what they learned, so get your name on the list as soon as possible.

Our December meeting will be our traditional learning and giving celebration - and don't forget to bring a plate of snacks to share.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all - Penny and Laura

Programs & Hospitality

December 1, 2011

Lyn Graybeal with a craft, Jessie McCandlish showing work from the Dremel class, and Nancy Orr doing a folded place card or photo holder

Refreshments: Everyone brings treats to share! Also, you may bring donations to the Union Gospel Mission and bring a gift for our gift exchange.

January 5, 2012

Penny White and the Australian fold book

Refreshments: Trish Hibler and Nancy Orr

Raffle item: Trish Hibler and Sandi Cormier

February 2, 2012

Group project making pen nib sharpener for the 2012 Int'l. Conference goody bag

Refreshments: Sandi Cormier and Brenda Russell

Raffle item: Bill Smith

Birthdays

December

28 – Diane Wullert

28 – Carol Deglow

29 – Darlene Anderson

January

11 – Nancy Orr

17 – Cheryl Zacher

February

7 – Sandi Cormier

9 – Jessie McCandlish

15 – Roberta Chapman

26 – Lyn Graybeal

AOCC 2011, Sweet Home, Oregon

Class: Ornate Pictorial Flourishing with Pat Brasch

By Diane Hutt

What a warm welcome Weathergrams present. They were hanging on the shrubbery as we approached the door waving to us to come on in. In we came to be greeted by smiles, hugs, old and new faces. After the program, lunch and perusing the sale booths we dispersed to attend our class. Ornate Pictorial Flourishing presented by Pat Brasch was my choice. We used a pointed pen to create greeting cards. With the techniques Pat showed us we had ladies with attitudes, flower filled pots, and other creations. More can be seen in Linda Schneider's book *Designing Faces, Figures, Florals and More*. Pat taught the class with Linda's permission.



This screen shot shows a game called "Kern me." Carol Baumann shared it with us from a book arts list. Carol says it's a lot of fun to do and although it's designed for people working with typesetting, the spacing issues are true for calligraphers as well. Check it out at <http://type.method.ac/#>

AOCC 2011, Sweet Home, Oregon

Class: "The space between two flowers is a flower" with Prindi Flug

By Laura Drager

We looked at letters as design elements. The white space is as important as the black space. There's something creative between two elements. Our first exercise was to think of our favorite alphabet and favorite letter. With 5mm pens (C-2 or Parallel or any other), we played with letters on bond paper. My examples were done with a 3.8 mm parallel pen with walnut ink. The copies may not be as black because of the ink.

Example 1. Writing on tracing paper over the sample on bond paper, we made designs with the letters moving the tracing paper around to see how different designs would look, then writing. Another suggestion was to outline the letter for your designs.

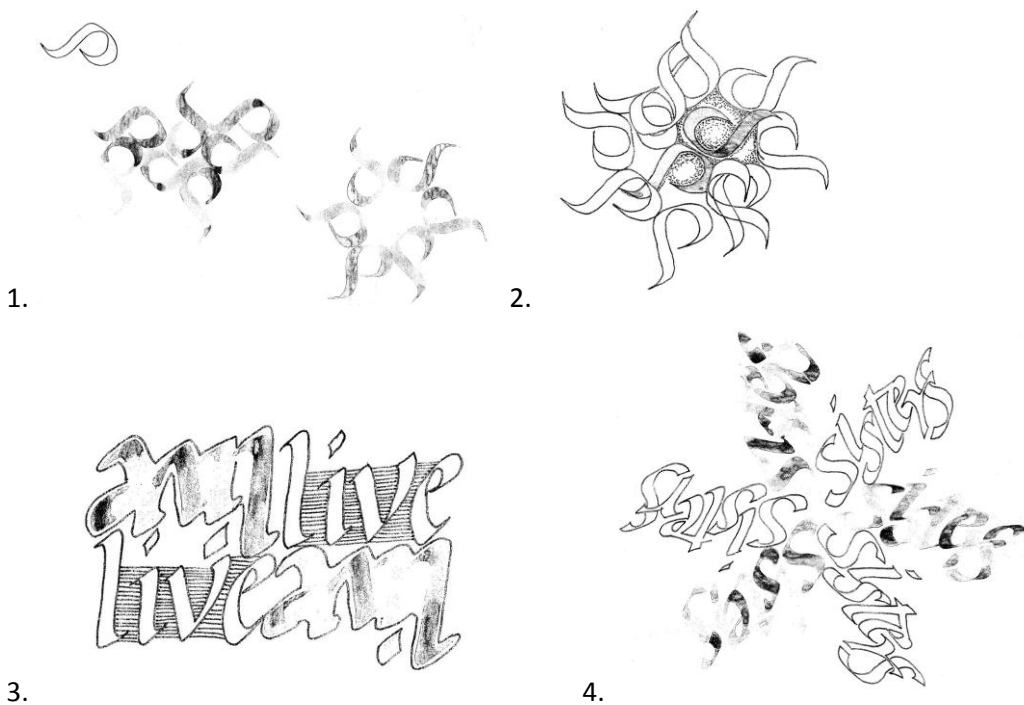
Example 2. Again writing on tracing paper, I outlined the design on #1 moving it down to repeat and overlap. I was using walnut ink on the inner letters. Shading/stippling was added.

Example 3. Next we were to think of a 3-4 letter word and make a design with it.

Example 4. I tried this design scrunching the word together and overlapping it a little.

We stopped frequently and walked around the room to see what others were doing. All were different and amazing. Prindi brought a class project book printed from a former class she taught. Their work was stunning with many great ideas.

This is definitely easy and addictive once you get started thinking of possibilities, and with 26 letters there is an infinite number of possibilities! I made an envelope using this technique for the recipient's name. Turned out great. Thanks for a fun afternoon, Prindi!



CC Workshop: Flat Brush Artistry with Marilyn Reaves

By Diane Hutt

Choosing a brush: Want a brush that tapers on the end and springs back into shape. We were working with flat brushes so edge chiseled.

Gouache: Marilyn likes to work with gouache in her brush because it has body. She recommended the Graham brand since it doesn't get hard in the tube. How to prepare: put a dollop of color in a container, add water and mix so it is like heavy cream. Also have a spray mister handy to keep the gouache moist. She supplied a card for palleting – scrap of textured (so not slippery) mat board works. Put some color on brush and pallet (shape the brush by wiping back and forth on the mat board) to get a flat even edge on brush.

Watercolor: It has a lighter coverage and not as much body. Marilyn buys an empty palette that can be closed and puts in water colors she likes instead of buying a paint set with colors she may not use.

Holding the brush: It is okay to hold the brush like a pen but an almost upright angle is better. Using two fingers is another method allowing you to twist and twirl the brush. If your piece is large – stand while lettering. If a wall is your working space, sit in a chair.

Paper: Textured paper is best. If paper is slick it is harder to control the brush.

Tips: Using a brush is similar to a pen. Pen height, slant, lines all the same. Using more than one color on brush is easy by dipping pen in color then one side of brush into a different color.

Another trick is to take a small brush and “paint” series of colors on brush. Can spritz with water to get another stroke or two before repeating “painting”. To change color, simply swish brush in water. Dab on cloth, dip in next color. Not necessary to thoroughly clean or to use a different brush. If using more than one color simply use a bigger piece of mat board so have room to pallet more colors. If a hair pulls away from the brush pull out with tweezers. Colored pencils can be used to highlight gouache after it has dried. “Pump up” color by lightly working colored pencil in letter and blend so it isn't obvious. This gives more “umph” and builds up color. These are not water color pencils but the ones used for sketching.

Cloth: working on cloth is great, very forgiving. Go slower so bristles keep up with the lettering. Marilyn uses cloth for lettering wall hangings. Cotton muslin works well. Just tape it down and write. Can wash first to rid the cloth of sizing. Use a fabric marker to make lines. It simply brushes off.

Images: The broad brush can be used to draw images. This really adds to the lettering. See example.



News and Events

Capital Calligraphers present 2 December shows in Salem

Visit our upcoming shows at the Salem Library and Deepwood Estate! Both shows run during the month of December. The show at Deepwood is titled "Christmas memories" and features pieces with a Christmas theme. The Salem library show features a variety of work by our talented members!

Thank you Art Department!

Once again this year, the Art Department in Salem gave us a discount on ink and other supplies in support of our booths at the Salem and Silverton Art Fairs. We appreciate your support!!



Diane Hutt and Sandi Cormier write names at the 2011 Salem Art Fair.

Tip: Paradise Pen Co in Portland maintains a list of calligraphers who can be hired for projects.

Church presented free workshop

The St. Mark Lutheran Church offered a free Uncial workshop to the public on November 19. CC member Lyn Graybeal was the instructor.

Dues reminder

Membership dues are \$20 and are due in September. To renew your membership for the 2011-2012 year, send dues to:

Carol Baumann, Membership Chair
2265 Timothy Drive NW
Salem, OR 97304

Classes and Workshops

CC Workshop: Victoria Pittman

Mark your calendars for a CC Workshop next year with Victoria Pittman! Victoria gave a highly popular workshop in 2007 called "Tortured Metals, Tangled Words." She returns on April 21-22, 2012 to present a workshop called "Flowers and Flourishes."

Penny White's calligraphy class at Keizer Art Association will start on January 10th and run for eight weeks until February 28th 2012. Cost \$40. Time: 1.15 to 3.15 pm.

Valley Calligraphy Guild will be hosting a workshop called Layer Upon Layer with Heidi Stolp on April 14, 2012.

Portland Society for Calligraphy is hosting two workshops in March 2012, one with Anne Hechle and one with Barbara Close.

Calligraphy Northwest International Calligraphy Conference will take place at Reed College in Portland from June 24-July 1, 2012. For more information, visit the conference web site at <http://www.2012calligraphyconference.com/>

NEW LIBRARY PROCEDURES

There have been changes in our library's location since our September 2011 Guild meeting. The Capital Calligraphers Library is now housed at Bill Smith's house until we can find a new meeting place where our collection of over 230 items can be stored between meetings. We are very grateful to Bill for not only securely storing our library, but shelving it on open shelving where members can make prior arrangements with Bill to peruse and check-out items at his studio. Thank you, Bill!

Sylvia will still be the contact person for questions and renewals.
PH (503) 399-8274 Email: librarian@capitalcalligraphers.org

WAYS TO ACCESS LIBRARY COLLECTION

1. Check Capital Calligraphers' website at www.capitalcalligraphers.org and click on LIBRARY. The titles are listed alphabetically under the headings BOOKS, CDS, DVDS, MAGAZINES & PERIODICALS, and VIDEOS.
2. Now, members can physically peruse the library collection at Bill's after making prior arrangements with Bill to schedule time and day via email: jb30y@hotmail.com (emailing is always best) or phoning: (503) 269-6758.
3. You can also email Bill to request a library item from the website list. He will reply to your request and bring it to the next Guild meeting. (when possible)
4. Bill has also volunteered to bring a selection of Library materials to each Guild meeting for check-out.

PROCEDURES FOR CHECKING OUT LIBRARY ITEMS

1. Find the card at the back of library item.
2. Sign and date the DUE DATE for the MONTH/YEAR of our next Guild meeting. Give the card to Bill if at Bill's or to Sylvia if at the meeting.

PROCEDURES FOR RETURNING OR RENEWING LIBRARY ITEMS

1. Return your checked out item to the RETURN BOX or to Sylvia at the Guild meeting when it's due.
2. Call or email Sylvia to renew library items for one month at a time as long as another member has not requested it. (limit of 3 months total). See phone number and email address above.

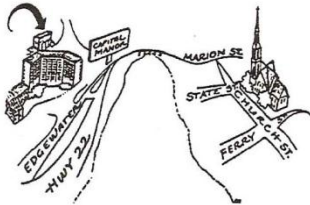
PROCEDURES FOR OVERDUE LIBRARY ITEMS

1. Items are overdue if kept out (or not renewed) past the Due Date.
2. All items need to be returned no later than 3 months* past the Due Date. If a library item is lost, mislaid, or overdue, the member who has it checked out may replace it or be billed for the replacement value.

*these refer to the active meeting months of September-June.

CAPITAL Calligraphers

PO BOX 2294
SALEM, OR 97308



The Capital Calligraphers' Guild welcomes anyone interested in calligraphy.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday after Labor Day in September, and the first Thursday of the month, October through June, at 7:00 p.m. in the Capital Manor Community Center in West Salem.

About Capital Calligraphers

Capital Calligraphers' mission is to promote the study, teaching, and practice of calligraphy and related arts. We welcome anyone interested in calligraphy to attend our meetings and join the guild.

Officers

Laura Drager and Penny White, co-presidents
Jessie McCandlish, Treasurer
Sylvia Ludwig-Giberti, Library Services
Mary Ellen Barker, Hospitality
Diane Hutt and Nancy Orr, Programs & Workshops
Kathy Van Kleeck, Historian

Barbara Taylor, Vice President
Kathleen Kelly, Recording Secretary
Carol Baumann, Membership
Doug Hutt, Webmaster
Stephanie Page, Newsletter/Corresponding Secretary

Contact us

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capitalcalligraphers@yahoo.com

For membership information, contact Carol Baumann, 2265 Timothy Drive NW, Salem, OR 97304