

Capital Letters



SPRING 2017

Cover photo: Flourishes workshop with Holly Monroe.

Upcoming events

Coming up this spring: Capital Calligraphers members' show at the Elsinore Gallery in April

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

ABOUT OUR GUILD

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Events/Exhibits: Laura
Drager

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Wenger

Membership: Carol Baumann

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Are all of you missing not having a February meeting like me? I'm glad we all decided to be safe than sorry. March will bring us spring flowers and Gothic Tape Letters for our monthly meeting. The end of the month is the deadline for The Graceful Envelope contest. Are you planning on entering your creative envelope art?

Laurie N. and I have been busy planning the upcoming year of workshops and programs as well as planning for AOCC 2018. We've been making contacts about facilities and what we can do to make it a wonderful event. If you have any input, please let us know.

I also want to thank Laurie Naemura for letting me take her place at the Loredana Zega workshop in Eugene. Loredana is a phenomenal calligrapher and teacher. She is enthusiastic about sharing her talents and made us all feel accomplished with our pieces. I've been wanting to take her class for 2 years since I met her in Sonoma at Conference, and now I can say I did! I highly recommend her classes.

The upcoming show at Elsinore Gallery in April will showcase our talented members. Get busy everyone! You'll also have one ready for the State Fair 2017.

As I say to my students, keep practicing and you'll only get better. Calligraphy is good for your brain, your heart and your soul. Our passion for this art form lives in us and we need to pass on our gifts to the next generation.

Living and loving the Lettering Life,

Lori Festa, President

WORKSHOP REPORT: FANTASTIC FLOURISHING WITH HOLLY MONROE

by Becky Hafer

As a newbie to the guild, I wasn't sure what to expect for my first workshop. What should I take? If a half gallon of distilled water counts as the proverbial kitchen sink, yes, I schlepped it all! The day proved quite enjoyable and challenging--in a good way.

Holly Monroe recently moved back to Oregon to care for her aging parents. She is a third generation penman. Among the slides in her presentation were some pieces that her mother and father worked on together; her father penned the words and her mother illustrated them. Holly brought several pages from her commissioned Book of Hours for us to view in person. I was surprised to see that the illustrations are much smaller in real life than the images on her website appear. Therefore, I was not surprised when she said she often uses a magnifier while working on them. A nugget I absorbed about the business side of things is the wisdom of retaining the rights to one's art in order to sell prints.

Holly describes flourishes as the heralds of letters. Just as a king's trumpeters who, in their eye-catching attire, musically announce his presence, flourishes catch our attention and draw our eyes into the letters and design. We were given several points to use in analyzing italic flourishes, then tips on making them.

Our enthusiastic educator explained how fantastic flourishes are combinations of basic elements such as sinuous lines, spirals, and loops. We practiced several single components along with Holly. It was nice to watch her in real time and see that even someone with as much experience as she has doesn't lay down the ink perfectly with the first stroke. While her first strokes are much more fluid and require fewer revisions than mine, I found comfort in the humble way she described herself as "still practicing." She wasn't pulling our legs about this either. She works out every new design in pencil first. If you haven't ever drawn calligraphic letters with a pencil, I would encourage you to do so immediately! For me, it was one of the most challenging exercises of the day. Once the broad edge was removed from the equation, smoke started pouring out of my ears trying to think about the forms of the italic letters I was trying to represent with bare bones of graphite.

The target finished project for this workshop is a flourished roundel. (Yes, that is present tense. My project is still in progress.) To save some time in the two-days-compressed-into-one, Holly asked us to use a circle guide for our words instead of a spiral. We used a compass to draw guidelines, then penciled in our

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

March 2 Thursday 7 pm Guild Meeting: meeting program with Lori Festa. She will be playing with taped Gothic letters

Supplies: Smooth water media paper, any watercolors, medium size brush for watercolor, water container and rag, painters tape, Micron and gel pens, scissors, and blow dryer (optional).

Refreshments: Barbara Taylor and Jesse McCandlish
Raffle item: Bill Smith

March 18 Mini workshop with Judy Hickman, 9:00 am -1:00 pm, St. John Evangelical Church, 1350 Court St. Delightful paper portfolio to hold cards, notes, photos. Please sign up at March meeting or check on the website
www.capitalcalligraphers.org

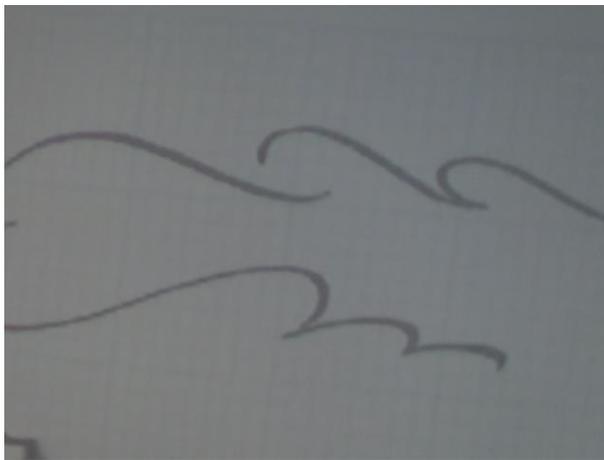
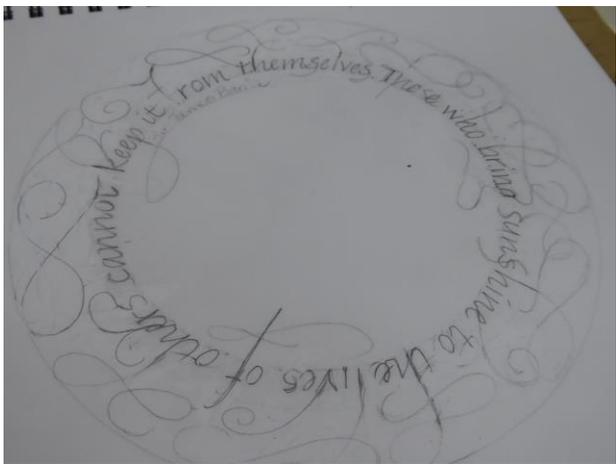
April 6 Thursday 7 pm Guild meeting. Tentative program with Jo Hockenhull on Embossing and printing using a portable printing press. Visit website for more current details.

(continued on page 5)

selected quotations. Using as inspiration some examples provided, we began adding flourishes to the ascenders around the outside circumferences. As we worked, Holly visited with each of us, encouraging and kindly showing what she would do differently.

To finish out the day, Holly demonstrated how to mix gouache for optimum flow from a pen, and how to apply it to our penciled designs. She also showed how to scrape away inky mistakes with a razor blade, draw spiral guidelines, and clicked through several more slides to inspire us. I am thankful for the opportunity to spend the day learning Fantastic Flourishes with lovely companions.

Below, sample projects from January 28 CC workshop Flourishing with Holly Monroe.



Below, photos of slide show from January 28 CC workshop Flourishing with Holly Monroe.



CAPITAL CALLIGRAPHERS DECEMBER MEETING

Our December meeting program included several stations with guild members presenting crafts.



VCG TEXTURES AND EMBOSSING WORKSHOP

I attended the Loredana Zega workshop in Eugene with Valley Calligraphers. We learned calligraphic textures and embossing. Loredana is from Slovenia and has been in North America teaching in Mexico, Oregon, and California.

- Lori Festa



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

April 6 guild meeting continued

Refreshments: Christine Anderson and Lorraine Baker

Raffle item: Sylvia Giberti

May 4 Thursday 7 pm Guild meeting with Lori Festa on utilizing things you save at home for upcycling to something useful. Titled Trash to Treasures. She will have fun projects to make as well as you can bring your own ideas to share.

Refreshments: Diane McCabe and Carol Bauman

Raffle item: Tina Wenger

April 22 Saturday Mini workshop with Lori Festa on lettering on fabric. See website for further details

May Mini workshop TBA

June meeting TBA

Questions or suggestions for programs/workshops are always welcome, Laurie Naemura, 503-949-9884, gilleb@comcast.net

Upcoming shows

Capital Calligraphers will have a show at the Elsinore Fine Arts and Framing Gallery during the month of April, 2017.

Fortieth Anniversary events will include an exhibit with reception in the Oregon State Capitol Rotunda in November, (2017).



Above, examples of portfolios from Judy Hickman's class, scheduled for March 18 (see page 3 meetings & events column for details)

Capital Calligraphers
Portfolio Mini Workshop

with Judy Hickman

Sat., March 18, 2017, 9 am - 1 pm

St. John Lutheran Church, Rm. 101-102

1350 State St., Salem, 97301



Multipurpose portfolio to hold your special photographs, notes, cards, calligraphic work, etc. in a folded, expandable display case suitable for gifts or archival storage. Judy has developed many styles of portfolios and is sharing her knowledge with us in this mini-workshop.

Supply List: 6-7 12"x12" decorated papers, ruler, pencil, scissors

Supplies provided: adhesives (liquid & tape), black cardstock, magnets

Optional supplies: Paper cutter, score board, score tape, bone folder

Cost: \$15.00 and a \$3.00 supply fee

Class is limited to 20 people. Please register by March 13, 2017

Capital Calligraphers Mini Workshop with Judy Hickman, March 18, 2017

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone number _____

Register at Capital Calligraphers March meeting or mail to: Laurie Gille Naemura,
2845 Upper Breckenridge Lp. NW, Salem, OR 97304
gilleb14@gmail.com

Checks payable to Capital Calligraphers



Decorated envelope by Cheryl Zacher

WINTER BIRTHDAYS

March: Tina Wenger 3.16
Brenda Russell 3.28

April: Christine Anderson 4.4
Jan Brumback 4.6
Maryellen Barker 4.14
Susan Wickes 4.21

May: Katy Bayless. 5.6
Nikki Clevenger 5.7
Margit Eisenhut 5.18

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