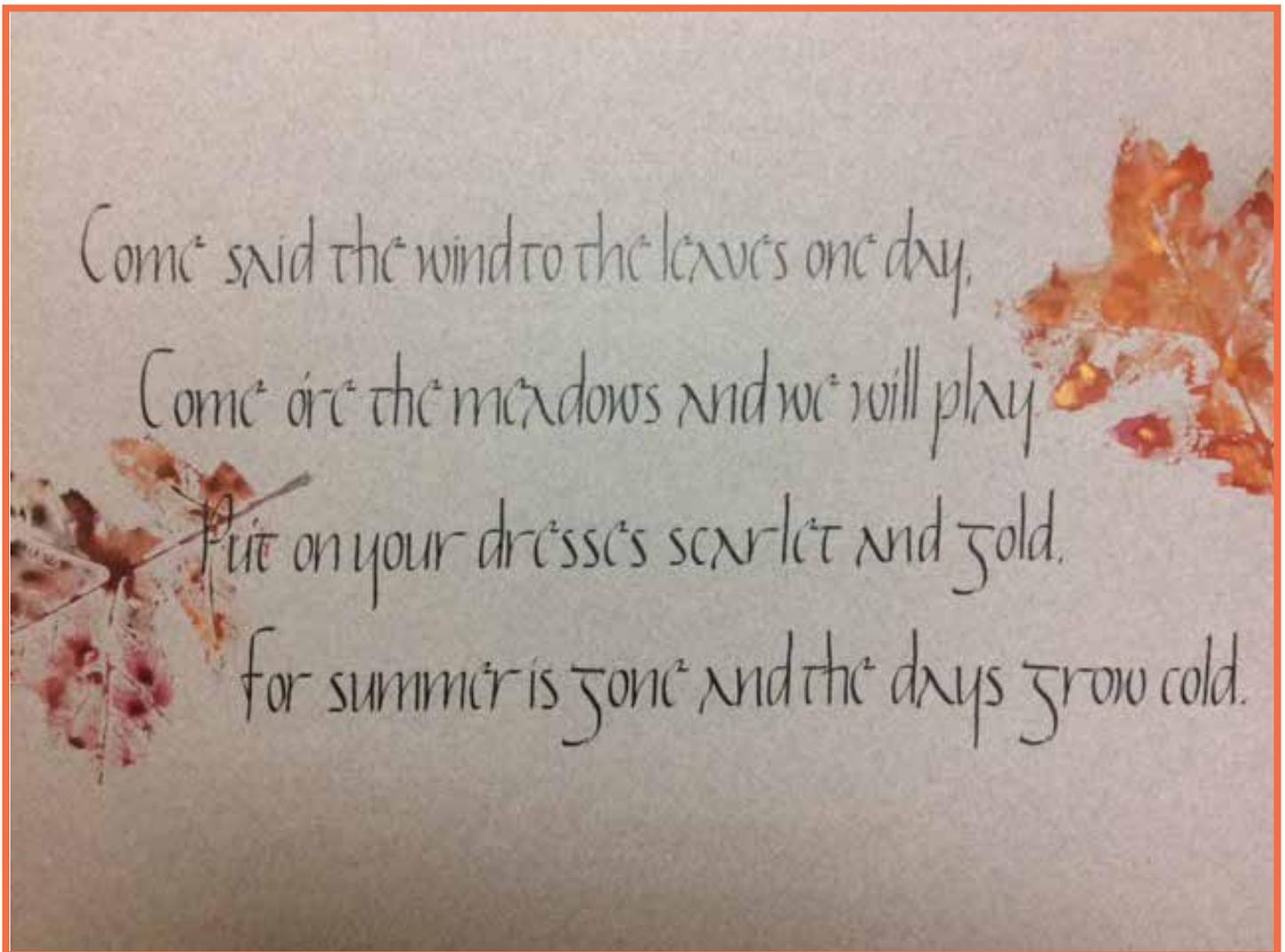


The *SCRIBES* *& Scribblers* **Inklings**

Vol. 39, No. 2

The Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild

October 2017



COVER ART

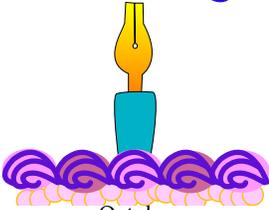
Jeri Wright, artist — she used Nideggen paper, black gouache, actual leaf prints made with watercolors.



Inklings is published by the Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild monthly, September through May. To submit an article for this publication, please email text to news@fortworthcalligraphers.com - attention Newsletter Editor, by the 26th of the month prior to the publication. Text should be in MS Word document or equivalent. Photos should be submitted in JPEG 300dpi format. Prints and hard copy can be mailed to P.O. Box 101732, Fort Worth, TX 76185. We try our best to give our members accurate and current information.



Happy
Birthday!



October

Belinda Anderson.....4

November

Leslie Wade.....3

Mary Jane Ott.....4

Linda Jones.....8



the President's brush...

The AH-HA Moment

Brush lettering is very trendy right now. You can see it on room decor wall hangings and everywhere on Pinterest in journals. But not many of these are legible, classical forms.

In teaching some non-calligraphers the basics of brush lettering this summer, I witnessed a couple of AH-HA Moments with the students. And I had a couple of those moments myself — you know, the snap of realization that the brain is sending information through the writing muscles and it translates to the page... as you envisioned it happening! Or, in my case, as the teacher, the moment you come up with a description or word picture that sparks that recognition within the student, allowing them to better grasp the concept.

Also in preparing the teaching materials, I took time to mentally filter though and remember all the input I'd received on the subject through guild programs and workshops, then distilling this array of information into my own exemplars. It was great taking time to review this material which subsequently led me to new ideas on the subject.

Moving toward the autumn months, I am looking forward to adding to my experience as a brush lettering artist by attending the guild-sponsored retreat/workshop with Carol DuBosch with her take on brush lettering. In working with a brush, opposed to steel nibs, it can be argued that brush writing isn't meant to be equivalent to traditional lettering because it is more like painting letter shapes rather than constructing letters with nibs. However, in my experience, ANY time spent in letter forms COUNTS!

Setting TIME aside to practice lettering — intentional practice being the somewhat methodical repetition of strokes that make up the letters and elegantly merging the strokes to make recognizable characters — **is never wasted.**

I have come to agree with Reggie Ezell that a line-full of misconstructured letters does not improve the letter. But slowing down, analytically and proportionately making the letter DOES convey to the brain and to writing muscles what makes a good form. And a good form can be repeated.

—Sharon Schmidt

FWCG 2018 Calendar Deadline

Our calendar for next year has an animal theme. Nancy Teigen needs to receive your calendar artwork by our meeting, October 12. If you can't make the meeting deadline, you can deliver it to her or scan it at 300 dpi and e-mail it to her at tteigen@swbell.net. Nancy needs to receive all artwork as soon as possible but no later than October 26. Nancy will return your artwork at the November 9th meeting.

Artwork should be 8 inches across by 4-1/2 inches tall. You may do your artwork larger than the finished size as long as it can be reduced to that size. The calendar will be printed in color.

HARVEY'S HELPFUL HINTS



OCTOBER 2017

TURNER & HARRISON #87 GREY NIBS —

It's hard to believe that October is here already! So the vintage spotlight will be shining on the vintage Turner & Harrison #87 grey nibs. This wonderful nib will astound you for its fine flexibility, fine upstrokes and broad swells! Plus, it will do anything you ask of it including have long life expectancy without sputtering on the page.

PENSTAFFS — News Flash! Don't be tied down with only one or two penstoffs and one or two nibs. Chances are some of your nibs won't fit the penstaff flanges. Solution: have several penstoffs with different size flanges that can accommodate different nib curvatures. Plus different handles may suit your hand better to avoid hand fatigue. Be sure that ALL penstoffs have open ended flanges so that the back end of the nib can stick out the back end of the flange (to have the correct amount of point sticking out the front).

VALUE OF VINTAGE NIBS — There might be some controversy as to why buy vintage nibs over the current made nibs – a downside with vintage nibs is that you can begin to really like and enjoy one, but since they aren't being made any longer you might not be able to find the same one again and they are a bit more pricey. This is very true, but there are others that are available that you might enjoy using even more – experiment! They were made with a different grade of steel, and the production standards were much better – a lot of hands-

on existed then when production and users were plentiful. The users in the past were much more critical than we are today, consequently the production standards were exemplary not allowing a nib to go to the public that wasn't perfect in every way. Today's nibs are poor by comparison – made of a less costly grade of steel, and without proper supervision go to the public forcing us to put up with pen-scratching and sputtering. Probably the best pointed nib in current production (in my humble opinion) is the Leonardt EF Principal. It's the only newly made nib I stock among my thousands of vintage nibs. They will give you perfect satisfaction every time! And they aren't expensive! In the past the break-in period was minimal by comparison – today when you get a nib broken-in it's probably time to throw it away. So, if you are a serious lettering artist try the vintage nibs – your work will look even better with less effort and aggravation.

GLASSINE ENVELOPES — Your friendly post office counter worker can furnish you with glassine envelopes which can be used to burnish your gilding and paper erasures. Yes, these are the same envelopes they put your stamps in (if asked).

Til next month, for beautiful calligraphy and happy days,

Harvey Anton
penstaff@verizon.net,
469-320-9754 (H), 817-470-2735 (C)

Minutes of our Meetings

Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild
September 14, 2017
General Meeting

1. President Sharon Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed all.
2. President report: "FWCG in the Community" — Over the summer, FWCG was a featured exhibitor of approximately 30 framed calligraphic pieces during the months of July and August in our host site, the Bedford Public Library. Also, three members participated in a Haltom City Public Library fundraising event, offering personalized bookmarks. The guild thanks Angie and Bill Vangalis, Deanna Fava, Tom Campos and Sharon Schmidt for their help in these projects. Finally, during the month of October, Haltom City Public Library will show four glass cases of smaller calligraphic works and handmade art books by members. Old business: our long-time parliamentarian, Polly Campbell, had been named Honorary Member and presented with a certificate by then President Tom Campos.

3. Reports
 - A. Program Chairman, VP Tom Campos, was prevented from returning from family vacation due to Hurricane Harvey's disruption of flight services. He called on state-side members Deanna Fava and Trudie Simoson to run with his outline of art techniques sent via email. This year's program theme is "Completing a Project in Hour."
 - B. Secretary: May 2017 minutes were read and approved.
 - C. Treasurer's report: by C. Olivarez (report accepted without motions)
 - (1) Bank balance as of 9/1/17 is \$14,164.88.
 - (2) Ollie presented a 2017-18 budget of \$2,280. Linda Langley moved the budget be approved; Deanna Fava seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

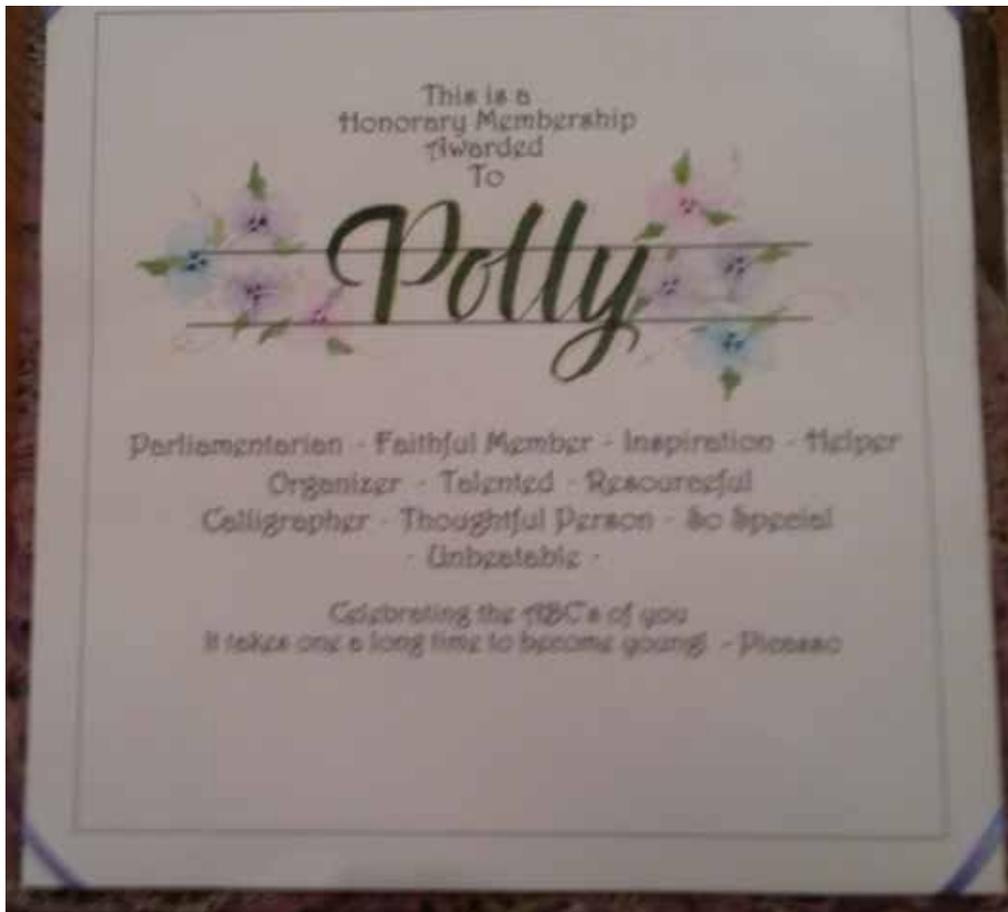
... continued on page 11



Honorary Membership

Last year, the membership voted to make Pauline “Polly” Campbell an honorary member of the Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild. Deanna Fava designed and created an honorary membership certificate. Since Polly is not able to attend very many meetings, last year’s president, Tom Campos, this year’s president Sharon Schmidt went to visit Polly at her home in June and presented her with her new membership status.

Left – Tom Campos presenting Polly Campbell her lifetime membership certificate. Below – Certificate created for Polly by Deanna Fava.



Public Art Installation Along East Lancaster Avenue

The City of Fort Worth Public Art Program recently installed original artworks on a series of fourteen traffic signal control cabinets along the East Lancaster corridor.

Suzanne McNeill-Sparks, a former Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild member, is one of the twelve local artists whose work is represented.

Suzanne said, “I feel honored to have my ‘Texana Inspired’ painting chosen for the box. It was fun to watch them wrap the printed vinyl cover around the traffic box. They used a hair dryer to coax the vinyl to fit around nails, bumps and hinges.”

The traffic signal control cabinet with Suzanne’s artwork is located in the center median of East Lancaster and Tierney. It is the only cabinet that is surrounded by a guard rail. Suzanne joked that it was there to protect her art which is entitled “Yellow Bug TX.”

Fourteen original artworks were selected by a panel of community members, artists, elected officials and city staff from more than 260 image submissions from local artists. The original artwork was formatted to fit the traffic signal control cabinets and printed on a special 3M vinyl media designed for outdoor use, which was then applied to the cabinets. The vinyl artworks will last for approximately 3-5 years, at which time the city will remove them and may choose to re-issue a call for new images.



Suzanne McNeill-Sparks and her artwork entitled “Yellow Bug TX.”

A dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the East Division Police Station; 5650 East Lancaster Avenue; Fort Worth, TX 76112.

— Suzanne Raif

Upcoming Events

IRVING ARTS CENTER

3333 N MacArthur Blvd, Irving, TX 75062 — (972) 252-7558

The Irving Arts Center is hosting the 6th Annual Juried Exhibit of Islamic art. . .beginning October 8. This is an exhibit by a group of calligraphers based in Richardson (if I remember correctly after having visited the exhibits in the past two years.) Very impressive!!

The Irving Arts Center (on MacArthur Boulevard) is hosting an Arabic calligraphy workshop on Oct 21 and 22. The Oct. 21 event is for children at 10AM and a FREE talk and demo by visiting artist Arash Shiribad at 4PM. Plus a calligraphy class on Oct. 22 for adults at 2PM.

The IAC currently has an exhibit of Arabic Alphabet and geometric art on display in the main lobby...by Shafaq Ahmal (lady calligrapher). . .The exhibit is called “Lifting of Veils to Lights of Mystery.” The art works are large and colorful pieces based on presentation of individual letters of the Arabic Alphabet set on geometric backgrounds. This exhibit runs through Nov 26.

If anyone is interested, they can call the IAC box office to register for the calligraphy workshop, and/or look up the Irving Arts Center website to get more information.

I have no idea who the artists are, but I just enjoy viewing art from other cultures. . .regardless of current political issues and events and opinions. I accidentally happened on to this information, as I had to run an errand to the IAC a couple of days ago.

— Cayetano Olivarez

Exhibit at the Haltom City Public Library

October 1 – 31, 2017

The Haltom City Public Library invited us to exhibit calligraphy work in their four glass cases which have now been situated together in their facility as you enter the book room, not the street entrance. Their cases will allow us to show dimensional pieces like handmade books, boxes, calligraphic ornaments, mini scrapbooks using hand-lettering, etc. plus smaller framed pieces





Workshop ABCs: A mini-refresher course in workshop etiquette

As calligraphers, we are often consulted on the finer details of “wedding etiquette”; as enthusiastic workshop attendees, we sometimes lose our heads and forget the finer details of any etiquette – especially when calligraphic rock stars come to town to teach a class. I recently read Brenda Swenson’s Blog “The Workshop Experience” (<http://brendaswenson.blogspot.com/search/label/workshops>), and decided I am overdue for a little refresher in workshop etiquette. How about you? I thought so. Let’s get to it.

A Ask first. Ask your instructor what his guidelines are for taking pictures, video, and posting to social media. Ask yourself if what you are about to do could be a distraction to the instructor or other students. If you think it might be, don’t do it. Most people are too nice to tell you that they can’t see the teacher demo because your camera is in the way or that they don’t want their boss to see them on Facebook or that the raw onions on your subway sandwich has brought them to their knees.

B Be prepared. Most teachers provide a course outline along with a supply list. Purchase what you need early; don’t wait until the night before like I usually do to make sure you have all the supplies on the list. Arrive in time to set up, sharpen your pencils, silence your cell phone, and say hi to your friends *before* class starts.

C Cell Phones. Turn them to silent or turn them off, even if your text tone is unbelievably cute. Take your phone calls out of ear shot, even during breaks. Remember the hallway just outside the classroom door is *not* out of earshot.

D Don’t be a distraction. The bustle of arriving late and unpacking your supplies after class has started is a distraction. If it can’t be helped, sit quietly, take notes, and catch up on unpacking and setting up after the instructor has finished the lesson.

E Endeavor to be early. It’s one of the best ways to be prepared.

F Find the snack table. It cures a lot of ills. If you’re late, stand by the snack table, take notes, have a cookie. Don’t know anyone? Stand by the snack table and make new friends. Need a break? Need inspiration? Go to the snack table.

G Give it your all. You only get out what you put in.

H Help clean up. Pretty much everyone who makes the workshop possible is a volunteer. They spend a lot of time organizing the workshop, finding venues, coordinating dates, etc. They are the ones who arrive early, set up the tables, and provide snacks. Everyone appreciates a helping hand, and helping clean up and take down might possibly be the one of the top three quickest ways of making new friends.

I Immerse yourself in the workshop experience and take advantage of some of the retreat settings that are offered.

J Join a calligraphy guild. Be the first to know about upcoming workshops, early-bird discounts, and other information.

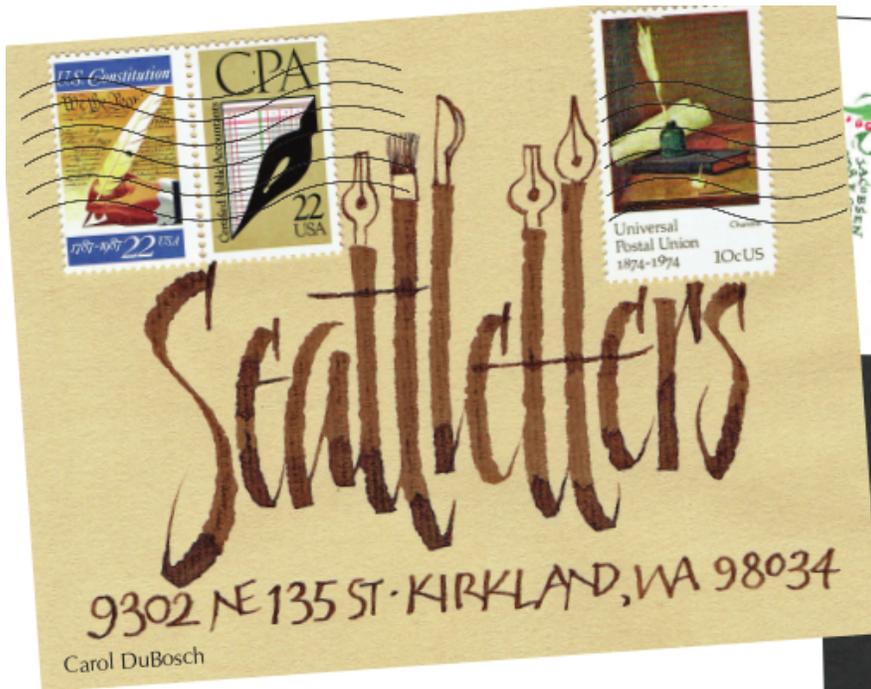
K Keep a positive attitude. It will help you *do* more than you thought you could.

L Let’s have lunch together. It’s a great time to reenergize your body, refresh your brain, and exchange ideas with your classmates.

M Maximize your mental preparation by completing any pre-workshop assignments, by reading books and articles by the instructor, or by simply arriving early.

- N** Nip negative comments. If something is going wrong or your expectations are not being met, as Brenda Swenson said in her post, “Don’t fill the air with negative remarks to other students.” Instead discuss the issue with the workshop coordinator at an appropriate time.
- O** Open your mind. Take everything in. You will *learn* more than you thought you would.
- P** Participate fully. There may be a particular exercise or lesson in the workshop that you do not like. Do it anyway. This time might just be the time you learn to like it.
- Q** Quiet please. Remember others may be working during breaks – let them finish. If noise or idle chatter bother you during breaks and work time, consider wearing ear buds and listening to music.
- R** Realistic expectations. Pay attention to the workshop description, skill-level requirements, and commitment required. If it is too easy, too difficult, or you do not have the time to commit to practice, you may be disappointed.
- S** Secure your supplies. Having been on both sides of the supply chain, I know what it is like to be mortified that I forgot something and have to borrow, as well as what it is like to be a bit annoyed at lending out stuff after staying up all night preparing. No matter what side you find yourself on, be kind. If you borrow, repay your benefactor. If you loan, smile and remember it may be you next time.
- T** Take detailed notes as if you will have to teach this lesson to someone else. You will be glad when you come back to your notes next month wondering exactly how to do that new technique you learned.
- U** Use your free time or break time in the workshop to practice what you have just learned or to refine your notes. Take advantage of the time while the instructor is there to receive helpful comments on your work or to ask questions.
- V** Volunteer to help. It might possibly be the second quickest way to make new friends.
- W** Work hard. Work smart.
- X** Xpect to have a great experience.
- Y** Yes! to bringing snacks, and, yes, *this* might possibly be the number one quickest way to make new friends.
- Z** Knock. Knock.
Who’s there?
Zeke.
Zeke who?
Zeke a positive workshop experience and you will find one.

Ask first. Be prepared. Curtail cell phone use. Don’t be a distraction. Endeavor to be Early. Find the Fun. Give it your all. Help clean up. Immerse yourself. Join a guild. Keep a positive attitude. Lunch together. Maximize mental preparation. Nip negativity. Open your mind. Participate fully. Quiet please. Realistic Expectations. Secure your supplies. Take notes. Use your time. Volunteer to help. Work hard. Xpect a great xperience. Yes to snacks. Zeke a positive experience.



Calligraphy & Hand Lettering Envelope Contest

Contest Rules

1. Entry is by physical envelope mailed to one of the entry addresses below.
2. Entry envelopes must be addressed to one of the following:
Seattletters, 9302 NE 135th St., Kirkland, WA 98034
 (Adding "in Bellingham" to "Seattletters" is optional.)
John Neal Books, 1833 Spring Garden St., Floor 1, Greensboro, NC 27403
Letter Arts Review, 1833 Spring Garden St., Floor 1, Greensboro, NC 27403
Bound & Lettered, 1833 Spring Garden St., Floor 1, Greensboro, NC 27403
 (Spell out or abbreviate as you wish. *Floor 1* could be abbreviated as *FL 1*.)
3. All entered envelopes must include your own calligraphy and/or hand lettering, applied by hand.
4. All entered envelopes must include a stamp or multiple stamps on the front. The decorated envelope itself can be sent through the mail, or it can be sent within another envelope addressed to: John Neal Books, Calligraphy Envelope Contest, 1833 Spring Garden St., FL 1, Greensboro, NC 27403. Each envelope entry must have your name and a return address **on the back of the envelope**, even if it is sent within another envelope.
5. Entry envelopes mailed to Seattletters can contain conference fee payments. Entry envelopes mailed to John Neal Books/Bound & Lettered/Letter Arts Review may contain orders, subscriptions, and/or payments. If your mailed envelope is solely a contest entry, write "Entry Only" on the back of the envelope. Including one or more blank sheets of paper in the envelope may help smooth the envelope passage through the postal service.
6. #10 Business envelopes (4-1/8" x 9-1/2") are encouraged, but you may use any envelope size that mails at the one-ounce rate.
7. By entering, you give permission for your envelope to be reproduced in

promotional materials, both print and web; to be reproduced in an issue (or multiple issues) of *Bound & Lettered*; and to be displayed at Seattletters and other venues.

8. Deadline for receipt of entries is April 1, 2018.

9. A selection of the entries will be on display at Seattletters and will be reproduced in *Bound & Lettered*, issue 15.3 (Summer 2018). A copy of the issue can be preordered at www.johnnealbooks.com. Everyone with an envelope reproduced in that issue of *Bound & Lettered* will receive a complimentary copy of the magazine. Subscribers will automatically receive a copy of this issue of the magazine.

Prizes

- \$100 Gift Certificate for envelope judged *best envelope design*
 - \$100 Gift Certificate for the People's Choice winner at Seattletters
 - \$50 Gift Certificate for the envelope judged *best integration of the stamp(s) in the design*
 - \$50 Gift Certificate for the envelope judged *best pointed pen script*
 - \$50 Gift Certificate for the envelope judged *best broad-edged pen calligraphy*
 - \$50 Gift Certificate for the envelope judged *best illustrative elements*
- In addition, ten \$25 honorable mention Gift Certificates will be awarded. Gift Certificates are for purchases from John Neal Books and are good toward anything in their store, catalog, or website, including subscriptions. Prizes will be announced at Seattletters in July of 2018.

Illustrate your Backgrounds with Color

PROGRAM FWCG SEPTEMBER, 2017

In the absence of Tom Campos (Hurricane Harvey-related absence), Deanna Fava launched a type of Backgrounds for Calligraphy by demonstrating the use of watercolor markers on plastic, spritzed with water (or another fluid), and the 'offset printed' onto a business envelope by laying it face-down into the fluid to transfer ink to paper. She also showed a technique where salt could be added to water and then applied to water based marks or water colored backgrounds for a completely different effect. Deanna then opened the floor to others who shared techniques.

Sharon showed a Suminagashi technique (a Japanese water color that literally floats atop a tray-full of water). Similar to marbling paper, this technique does not require the alum pre-treatment of paper nor the seaweed-filled water or ox gall to float paint. This is dependent on surface tension of the water and makes a very high color but random color application when paper is laid flat onto water surface and lift out. We tried rice paper but it was VERY thin and pulled apart the paper as it dried. Marilee and Sharon carefully spread out the paper fibers and let it dry. A scan of this pattern is in this issue. It was decided that the rice paper should be a little heavier grade to use this technique

Trudie Simoson, having had experience in the descriptions Tom sent for uses of water color pencils and regular color pencils and art teacher experience gave us definitive descriptions from which to execute Tom's techniques. And the results, while differently applied by various attendees, showed a great deal of possibilities. I am sending a few photos (worth a thousand words each). It came up the the Colored Pencil Society has resurfaced as an organization and their artwork is on display at Bedford Library at least for September.

Others at the meeting shared tips on



Jeri Wright creating patterns with colored pencil, June Baty creating patterns with colored pencil.

portable watercolor kits (Mary Dechellis), and graphic technique with colored pencil from an architectural design perspective (Gina Tanner). The program was inspiring because of all the impromptu contributions, sharing ideas and inspirations.

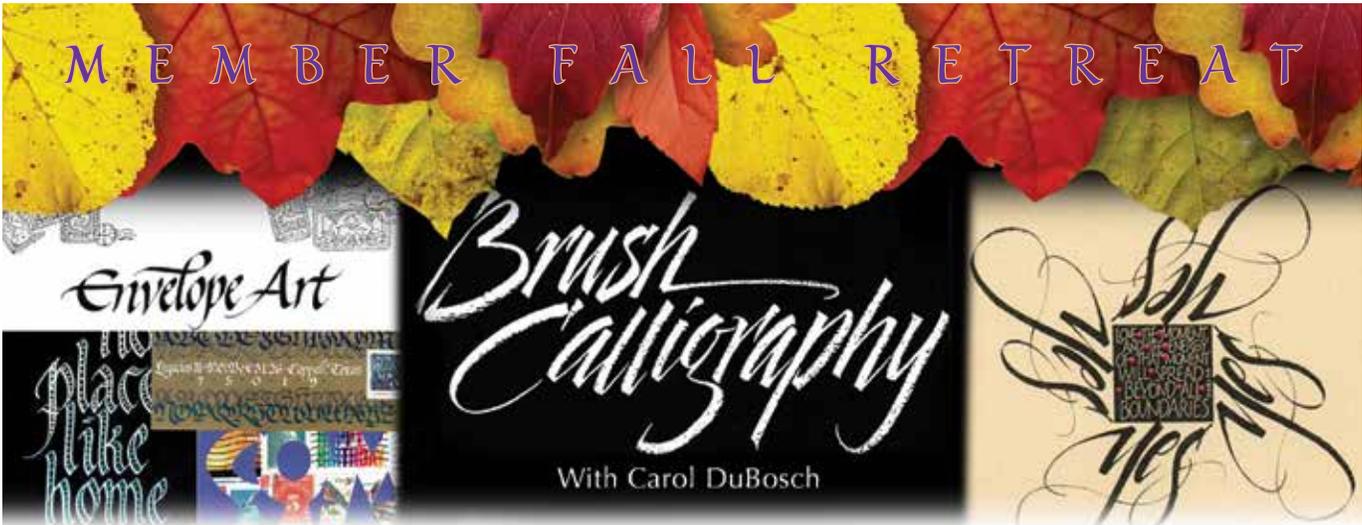
Minutes continued . . .

. . . continued from page 3

- D. Newsletter: deadline for submission to newsletter is the the last day of the month prior to a meeting.
 - E. Workshops. Two more student spaces are available for the October 27-29 workshop/retreat with instructor Carol Dubosch. Contact workshop chairman Angie Vangalis if interested.
 - F. The annual FWCG calligraphy color calendar theme is Animal Kingdom. Lettering is to be turned in with a horizontal ratio to Nancy Teigen who will assemble the calendar. Camera-ready art may be (a) brought to the October meeting and will be returned at the November meeting), or scanned at high resolution (minimum 300dpi) and emailed to Nancy no later than Monday, October 30.
4. Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 and intruduction of the program was made .

Respectfully submitted,
Trudie Simoson, Secretary

REVISED RATES



Hosted by and for the Membership of the Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild

OCT 27, 28 & 29, 2017
MD Resorts, Aurora, TX

Spend a 3-Day retreat weekend of fun and learning *Tricks of the Trade* with a day of *Envelope Art* and two days of *Brush Calligraphy* with [Carol DuBosch](#) - PLUS extra lettering activities after dinner.

ENVELOPE ART – One Day

We all love to see our name “in lights” and creatively addressing envelopes to friends and family is a great way to let them shine and know they are special. This workshop will give you dozens of clever and practical ways to use your calligraphy to make unique envelopes.

Brush Calligraphy

Learn to write a personal script using a pointed brush and discover the many new uses for this exciting calligraphic style.

EVENT VENUE

Give yourself the time relaxing and creating with a *fabulous creative instructor* and fellow lettering artists. MD Resorts is on a 37 acre ranch located in Aurora, TX, near the *Texas Motor Speedway* ready to serve you with true old-fashioned southern hospitality.

TUITION & OVERNIGHT STAY

Meals begin Friday Breakfast through Lunch on Sunday

Commuter 3 Day - (lunch & dinner)	\$345
2 Night stay - (Fri & Sat)	
Double Occupancy	\$505
Single Occupancy	\$605
3 Night stay - (Thurs, Fri & Sat)	
Double Occupancy	\$585
Single Occupancy	\$735

RESERVE YOUR SPOT

Mail* a check *made payable to FWCG* for half the amount to hold your spot. Send to Angie Vangalis, Workshop Chairman PO Box 3126, Coppell, TX 75019.

* **CREATIVE BONUS!** *Send your check in a handlettered, decorated envelope for a prize drawing.*

BALANCE

Balance is due August 1, 2017. After this date a refund will be provided if your spot's filled from a waiting list.

MEMBERS ONLY RETREAT - TAKE OFF \$25 WHEN PAID IN FULL BY MARCH 1, 2017

Questions? Contact Workshop Chairman, Angie Vangalis angie@txlac.org • 214-957-1736



NAME _____ CELL PHONE _____

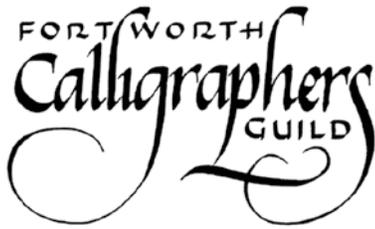
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Send your (50%) check or pay in full to hold your spot. Choice of lodging:

<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUTER 3 DAY		\$345
<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Night	\$505
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Night	\$585
<input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Night	\$605
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Night	\$735



P.O. Box 101732
Fort Worth, TX 76185

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Guild Meeting

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Meeting Location:

Bedford Public Library
2424 Forest Ridge Drive
Bedford, TX 76021

BUSINESS MEETING — 6:30

PROGRAM following Business Meeting — 7:00

— ILLUSTRATE YOUR CALLIGRAPHY WITH 3-DIMENSIONAL LETTERING —

Experiment using Perspective Lettering on envelopes, bookmarks or small frame-size formats. Our October Program will be presented by Tom Campos and will show how to adapt studio techniques to calligraphic letter forms. Come learn and enjoy 3-D lettering.

Supplies furnished: graph paper, markers, handout samplers

Supplies you should bring: favorite quote(s), paper (any favorite paper, plain copy paper, or card-stock paper), colored pencils, favorite markers, ruler



A type of 3-D lettering done by Doug Boyd of California.

