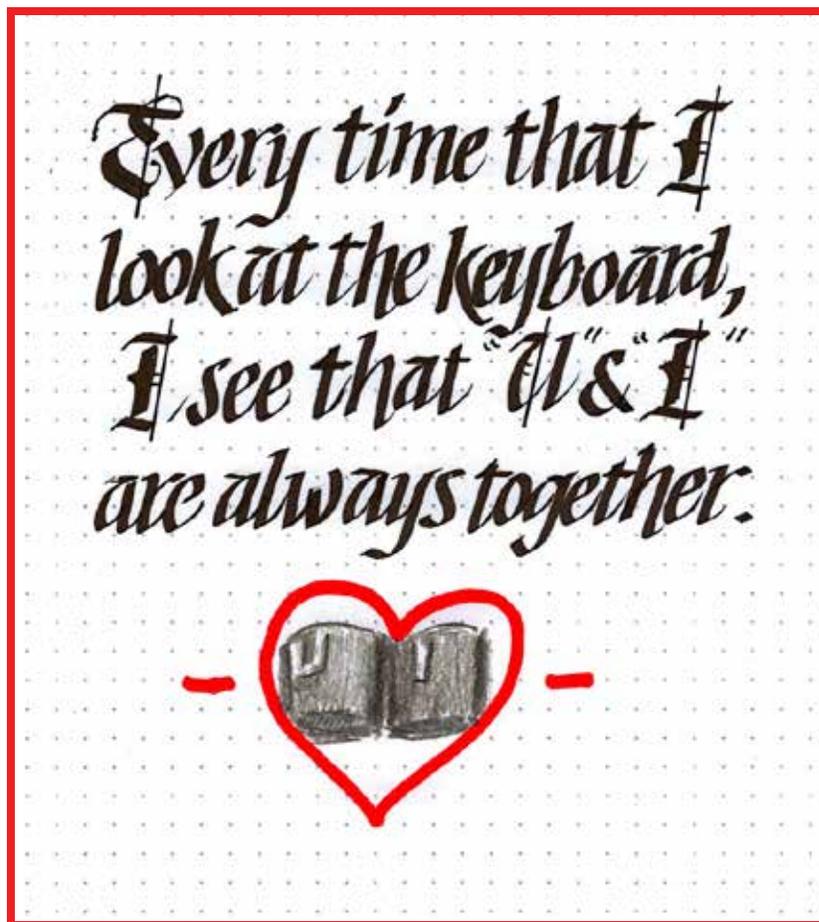


The *SCRIBES* *& Scribblers* **Inklings**

Vol. 39, No. 6 The Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild

February 2018

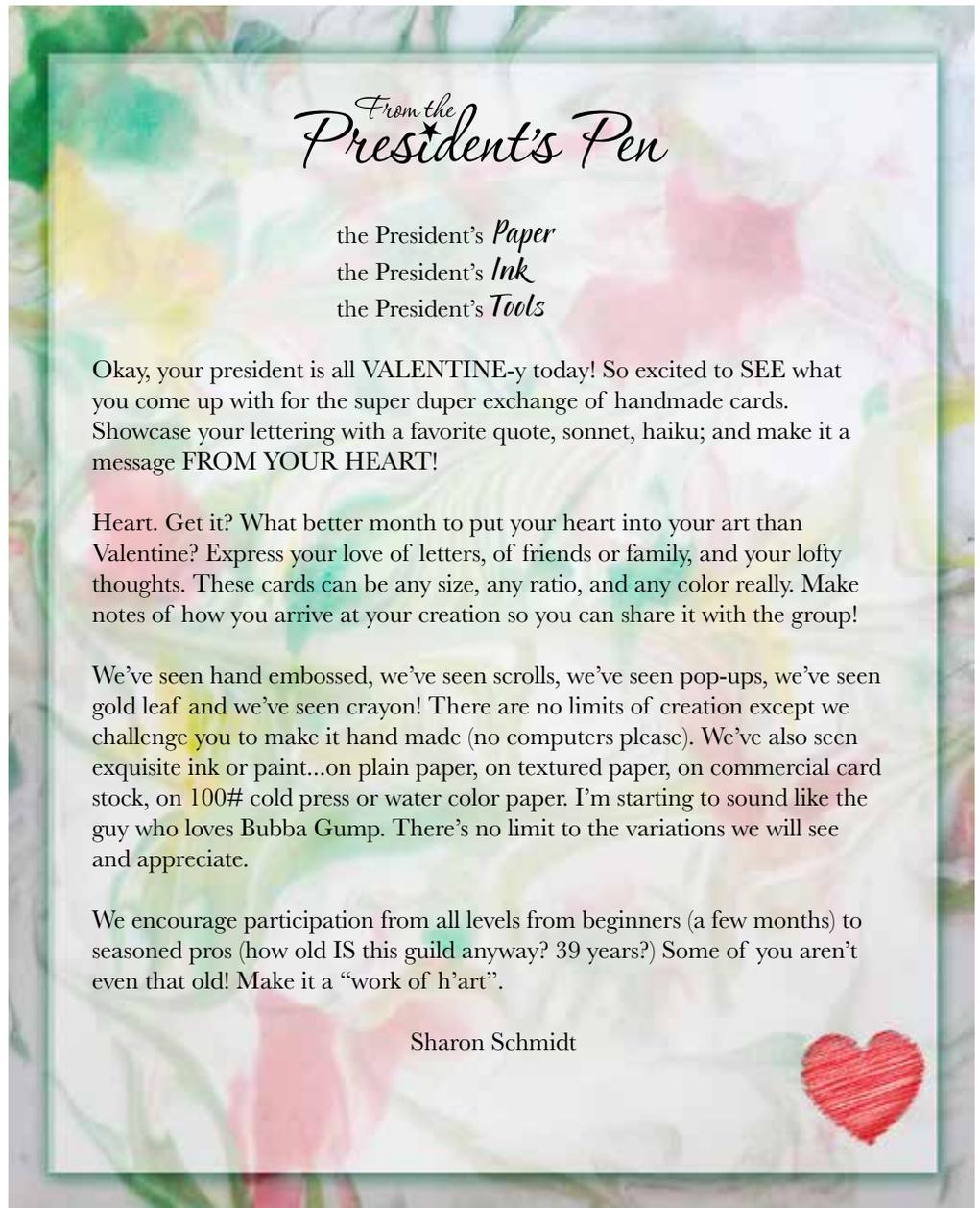


COVER ART

Tom Campos — I found this quote and photograph on the internet. Italic script was done using a Pilot Parallel Pen and black ink.



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.



Directory Updates

Please add the following new members to your 2017-2018 Directory.
If you haven't received your 2017-2018 Guild Directory,
let Linda Jones know at Lindajones817@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members

Catherine Burkhard
6660 Santa Anita Drive
Dallas, TX 75214
bookltrs@att.net

Dec 30
214-363-7946 (H)

Mark Tresnicky
P. O. Box 1192
Bedford, TX 76095-1192
marktrezz@yahoo.com

Dec 20
214-392-7733 (C)

Directory Corrections

Victoria Villarreal
3508 Belmont Street
Denton, TX 76210
vickivillarreal@yahoo.com

Jan 7
214-760-2267 (C)

HARVEY'S HELPFUL HINTS



FEBRUARY 2018

VINTAGE NIB SPOTLIGHT

This month's nib spotlight highlights the Blanzly-Conte-Gilbert vintage nib #172F. It is bronze (HOT AIR BALLOON EMBOSSED) , and styled as the Gillott #404 nib with longer tines and longer nib vent hole to make it more flexible with extremely sharp pointed tines for thin strokes as well as broad swells. It even has the overhead reinforcement bar as the Gllott #404. Overlook this nib and you will be doing yourself and your art a great injustice!

GLUING

When gluing multiple items (envelope flaps, etc.) use an old phone book underneath. If you get glue on the page just tear it out and keep on going.

STORING NIBS

Another good container for your nibs is an old glass salt (or pepper) shaker with the screw-off top. First place a silica gel packet on the bottom. It might be wise to stick a label on the outside of the shaker to let you know what nibs are inside. The holes in the top will allow any moisture from remaining inside, and the silica gel packet will help absorb any moisture inside.

ERASING PENCIL LINES

You can use rubber cement to erase pencil lines on paper without harming the paper. Just roll it into a ball and erase away.

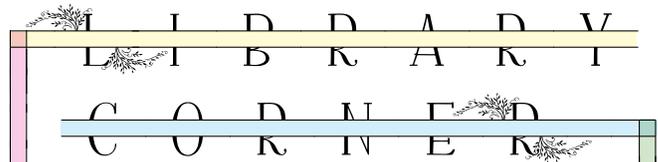
INK WELLS

Ink dipping cups are varied to size – the ones I mostly used were the plastic caps from insulin needles, but larger sizes are: tooth paste caps, orange juice caps (to glue the smaller caps onto , and on and on. When the ink is used up just refill with a rubber-backed eye-dropper.

WRITING IN A CIRCLE

Want to write in a circle, but find it difficult? Here's a quick answer: write the line out on paper, measure the length in millimeters (this is the circumference of the circle, multiply this length by .31831 (this is the diameter of the circle. Draw a circle on your paper this size and your text should fit very nicely in it.

For beautiful writing — Harvey Anton
469-320-9754 Cell 817-470-2735
for vintage nibs and supplies



Note to guild membership from the Library Committee:

Please check your calligraphy desk and book shelves for any possible books in your possession from our library that may have inadvertently been overlooked. Please email Rick Maul (haroldmaul@gmail.com) if you find anything and make arrangements to return them at a meeting or by appointment.

We are trying to freshen the library with the full array of resource books, instructional DVDs and periodicals we have collected. We are streamlining the check-out process so that members can avail themselves of these gems more easily.

Please help us out by taking a moment to return any item that might be in your possession. See elsewhere for a list of outstanding items. We do have record of who last checked them out, but we are not publishing the names (yet).

AND, while you are at it, if you run across books of your own that might make a good addition to the library, please consider donating also.

Happy Birthday!

February

Edith Dwight.....	7
Suzanne Raif.....	16
Tom Campos.....	17
Lynda Kemple.....	17
Sherry Barber.....	18
Cynthia Stiles.....	24

America's First Valentine

Reminiscing the other day, I recalled that wonderful time when my husband and I were heavily involved with Cornerstone Theatre. All of the productions were original or adaptations written by Rich Peterson and had strong Christian themes. One of my favorite musicals of Rich's was "The Black Petticoat." This delightful show was based on the Culper Spy Ring of 1779. In the midst of this dramatic spy thriller a young British officer falls in love with an American girl thus presenting her with America's first Valentine. But first, a little background information.

In 1779, the Revolutionary War was in full force and so was the Culper Spy Ring. Parts of New England were occupied by the British. In Setauket, NY, Anna

Strong hung up a black petticoat with her washing to signal that a message was ready to pick up. Alongside the petticoat, hung a certain number of handkerchiefs to designate the location of the pickup. This was integral in getting messages to General Washington and his spy operatives – all under the nose of the unsuspecting Redcoats.

Meanwhile, in Oyster Bay, NY, Lt. Col. John Simcoe and his Queen's Rangers occupied Raynham Hall, the home of Sarah "Sally" Townsend. Sally was eighteen and a beautiful young woman. Simcoe soon fell in love with Sally. On February 14, 1779, he gave her a love poem which is believed to be the first recorded "Valentine" in America.

*Fairest Maid, where all is fair
Beauty's pride and Nature's care;
To you my heart I must resign
O choose me for your Valentine!*

*Love, Mighty God! Thou know'st full well
Where all thy Mother's graces dwell,
Where they inhabit and combine
To fix thy power with spells divine;*

*Thou know'st what powerful magick lies
Within the round of Sarah's eyes,
Or darted thence like lightning fires
And Heaven's own joys around inspires;*

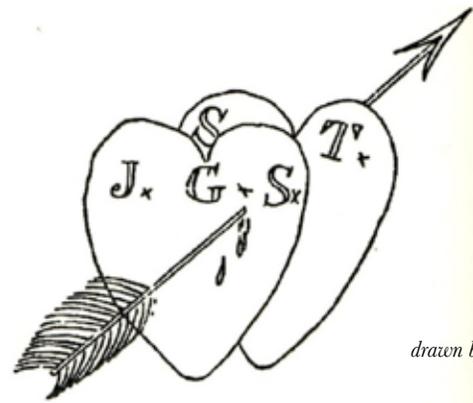
*Thou know'st my heart will always prove
The shrine of pure unchanging love!
Say; awful God! Since to thy throne
Two ways that lead are only known-*

*Here gay Variety presides,
And many a youthful circle guides
Through paths where lilies, roses sweet,
Bloom and decay beneath their feet;*

*Here constancy with sober mein
Regardless of the flowery Scene
With Myrtle crowned that never fades,
In silence seeks the Cypress Shades,*

*Or fixed near Contemplation's cell,
Chief with the Muses loves to dwell,
Leads those who inward feel and burn
And often clasp the abandon'd urn,--*

*Say, awful God! Did'st thou not prove
My heart was formed for Constant love?
Thou saw'st me once on every plain
To Delia pour the artless strain -*



drawn by Lt. Col. John Sicoe

*Thou wept'st her death and bad'st me change
My happier days no more to range
O'er hill, o're dale, in sweet Employ,
Of singing Delia, Nature's joy;*

*Thou bad'st me change the pastoral scene
Forget my Crook; with haughty mien
To raise the iron Spear of War,
Victim of Grief and deep Despair:*

*Say, must I all my joys forego
And still maintain this outward show?
Say, shall this breast that's pained to fell
Be ever clad in horrid steel?*

*Now swell with other joys than those
Of conquest o'er unworthy foes?
Shall no fair maid with equal fire
Awake the flames of soft desire:*

*My bosom born, for transport, burn
And raise my thoughts from Delia's urn?
"Fond Youth," the God of Love replies,
"Your answer take from Sarah's eyes."*

AMERICA'S FIRST VALENTINE continued on page 5 . . .

Sally's biography, "Sally Townsend, George Washington's Teenage Spy," indicates that Sally was quite smitten with the dashing young officer. However, this did not prevent her from providing her brother, Robert, with any intelligence she might uncover or overhear. As you can imagine, this created inner conflicts for Sally. However, there were several occasions where Simcoe's dark side was exposed – he was unnecessarily cruel and ruthless in dealing with the patriots. Though these incidences distressed Sally greatly, she continued to have strong feelings toward Simcoe. Ultimately, she chose her country over the man she loved.

After the war Simcoe returned to England, married and fathered 11 children.

Sally never married and lived out her life at Raynham hall. The Valentine was said to have been found among her possessions after her death at the age of 82. It was believed to be one of her greatest treasures.

There is much more to this fascinating saga of the Revolutionary War than I could possibly include in this brief article. There are many stories of brave patriots who took great risks in order for us to have the freedoms we enjoy today. I encourage you to read more about the Culper Spy Ring, Anna Smith Strong, Robert Townsend, Sally Townsend, Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe and Major John André (just for starters).

RESOURCES:

- *Sally Townsend, George Washington's Teenage Spy* by Paul R. Misencik
- *Sally Townsend: Patriot* by Dorothy Horton McGee
- *The Culper Ring: The History and Legacy of the Revolutionary War's Most Famous Spy Ring* by Charles River Editors
- *George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring That Saved the American Revolution* by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger
- <https://raynhamhallmuseum.org/>
- <https://raynhamhallmuseum.org/history/first-valentine/>
- <https://raynhamhallmuseum.org/history/culper-spy-ring/>
- <https://www.britannica.com/biography/John-Graves-Simcoe>
- <http://www.womenhistoryblog.com/2011/07/anna-smith-strong.html>

— *Suzanne Raif*

Darla Bostick's Art Retreat/Workshop & Art Abroad Opportunity

Why stay at home when you can immerse yourself in art somewhere new at Darla's 11th/12th Ghost Ranch Art Retreat/Workshops in New Mexico AND the 2018 Art Adventure Abroad to Denmark & Germany

Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, New Mexico!

Now there are 2 workshops!

Spring: 11th Annual Ghost Ranch Retreat/Workshop: Monday, June 4 thru Sunday, June 10 — A season of renewal at Ghost Ranch--leans heavily on all kinds of materials--textiles and dye, printing, painting, pouring and more!

Fall: 12th Annual Ghost Ranch Retreat/Workshop — Sunday, September 30 thru Saturday, October 6 — untraditional watercolor workshop combines the media of photography, watercolor, ink, acrylic and more--using watercolor paper, clayboard, etc!

Relax, enjoy, create! Live at Ghost Ranch for 7 days/6 nights! Plein air opportunities (outdoor painting) and the comfort of a group activity room (floor to ceiling vista views). The Georgia O'Keeffe Landscape Tour takes you to where she painted the local magnificent area. Tour the O'Keeffe studio/home. Limited to 18 participants. New room and board pricing provides the ultimate discount when sharing a room (bring a friend/spouse)! Daily demos, slide presentations, door prizes and optional happy hour. Details appear on Darla's registration tab www.darlabostick.com. See why Georgia O'Keeffe loved Ghost Ranch! Spaces are now filling for both workshops. Unclaimed rooms are released 6 weeks before the workshop. Don't want to fly? You can ride with Darla from Denton, TX or caravan!

Denmark & Germany!

If you want something more, Darla is leading a group to Copenhagen, Denmark and then to Hamburg and Berlin, Germany, June 26 thru July 8! Only 10 in the group, complete details on her website!

If you have a facebook account, please help spread the word!

Darla Bostick, 940.320.5660
Email: darlabostickart@gmail.com

You can preview Darla's "Time 2018: A Calendar of Original Watercolors by Darla Bostick" on her website — www.darlabostick.com

Ten Tips for Bridal Albums

Ever do one of those fill-in-the-blank bridal albums? I'm sure many of us have. Have you ever been hired to *re-do* an album? I hope most of us have *not*. However, not long ago I had the dubious honor of doing exactly that, hence I made myself a few notes or guidelines to follow in case another Bridal Album comes my way.

Time

Know your time constraints. Most of the time, your client will want her album back yesterday, so this may not be the best project to show off your creative flair.

Legibility

Remember the bridal album is not *Art* -- it's names -- and your client wants to be able to *read* them, so choose your calligraphy hand accordingly

Restraint

Restrain that creative urge. I love some of the new modern hands as much as the next guy, but sometimes I think the traditional hands like copperplate and italic have maintained their place in our traditions because they are both beautiful *and* legible.

Calligraphy Hand

It's always a safe bet to match the pre-printed titles and headers -- your client bought the album, so she probably liked what was pre-printed in it. But it's even safer to ask first.

Ask First

Even after you have (a) restrained yourself from using that cool, new hand you learned in a workshop last week and (b) have carefully matched your hand to the pre-printed titles and headers, provide a mock-up or a draft of the first page to ensure your client likes *her names* in the hand and the format you have selected.

Visually Pleasing Pages

Not only should each *line* be readable but the *pages* should be visually pleasing -- especially at arm's length when laid out on a table for guests to ooh and ahh over.

Layout

Use a computer or paste board to finalize your layout before inking in the pages to ensure that your pages are both readable and visually pleasing -- it's easy to think we can skip this step since we are just "filling in the blanks."

Line Spacing

Sometimes you may be required to write several names in a space made for one. Be mindful not to crowd the lines together, this will affect the readability -- don't make your letters so big that they are overcrowded -- plan ahead.

Provide Examples

It's always nice to have examples of bridal album pages in different styles on hand for your client to see when choosing how she wants her album to look. Sometimes clients can come in having already made poor choices -- what looked charming on an envelope does not always translate well to pages with preprinted headings.

Finally

Keep a few creative bridal album pages in your stash to show your clients exactly what you can do from scratch. Just maybe they will decide to ditch those pre-printed pages and commission you to do something that shows off your creative talents!

— Mary DeChellis

Experimenting with Colorful Backgrounds

Paper Marbling

January 2018 Program

Paper Marbling is a method of producing colorful patterns and designs similar to smooth marble or other kinds of stone. The patterns are the result of colored inks and paints that float on either plain water or a viscous solution known as size and then are carefully transferred to an absorbent surface such as paper or fabric.

It is often employed on a writing surface for calligraphy especially book covers and endpapers in bookbinding. Part of its appeal is that each print is quite unique.

Tom Campos demonstrated the suminagashi style of marbling. This method dates back to 12th century Japan. Inks were originally used. They were dropped carefully on a still water surface and then blown across to form delicate swirls after which the ink was picked up by laying a sheet of white rice paper atop the ink covered water.

The other method Tom demonstrated and invited us to try was using a base of shaving cream. He then dropped



food coloring in various places on the shaving cream and used a chop stick to draw designs in the colors. Once he was pleased with the design, he laid paper over the shaving cream to pick up the color. The color could be “stirred” additionally, to create a new pattern or additional colors could be added and “stirred” or a card could be skimmed over the top of the shaving cream to “clean” it off and start over. Tom brought several pans for shaving cream and a set of food colors for us to experiment with. Several of the patterns created are shown above.

Thanks for teaching us another technique for adding color to the background of a piece of calligraphy, Tom!

Minutes of our Meeting

General Meeting
Thursday, January 11, 2018
6:30 p.m.

This was a snow-threat evening which affected attendance. The business meeting was abbreviated. Called to order 6:45 p.m. by Sharon Schmidt. 11 Members were present.

In lieu of officer reports, simple announcements were made:

Program — VP Tom Campos. Tonight's topic introduction.

Starting a New Year brings to mind what Time represents. Learn to use ideas for Calendars or Clock-faces. Try lettering the numbers out instead of using analog digits. For colorful backgrounds, we will experiment tonight using Shaving Cream Paper Marbling and a Suminagashi technique of marbling.

Coming meetings will be on the theme of: February FWCG Valentine Party. Members can participate in the Card Exchange with a Valentine theme.

Also bring a covered dish to share. March instruction by member Trudie Simpson is an art technique to incorporate with lettering. April

Learn to Experiment with media transfers for your Calligraphy; Inkjet printers with Fabric sheets; Modge-podge transfers of photos onto glass, wood, or fabric. May Experiment using Fancy Initials or Versals on Colorful Backgrounds

Valentine Party — Thursday February 8, 6p.m.

- Venue, Bedford Public Library. A list was started for sign-ups

of food categories. Folks not attending tonight may call Sharon with their chosen dish or seek ideas of what might be needed.

- Volunteers sought for (a) preparing party favors, (b) early arrival and table set up, (c) clean-up volunteer (this is easy).

SWCC — February 23-24, 2018, reports by president and workshop chair; increased expenses (previously approved, travel, mileage, housing etc.)

Workshop — Angie is working with Robbie Saslow on selecting a workshop topic. Membership attending the meeting leaned toward the Map Making workshop as something unique to our region where he will give methods and styles of modern map making.

Newsletter and Membership — Linda announced cover art is sought for February and May issues. Directories have been distributed to those who have attended meetings these last few months. After the February meeting, the remaining directories will be mailed. We are hoping a few extra of our members will be available at the party for picking up their directories.

Library Committee — Sharon announced the addition of Ollie and Mary Jane to the library committee to work with Rick on updating library records, publishing a list of guild-owned books, streamlining the check-out process and highlighting books by reviews or features in our newsletter for the coming months.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.. The program began at 7:10 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,
Trudie Simpson, Secretary

Missing Library Books!

*Please check your bookshelves and studios. We are trying to locate the books that are missing from the FWCG Library.
Contact Rick Maul if you locate any of the books — 817-501-1604*

Calligraphers Project Book Hardcover – September 27, 1987
by Susanne Haines (Author)

Faculty Exhibit, Conference of 1982

Humanistic Script, Oxford Library

Illumination for Modern Calligraphers Hardcover – June, 1988, by Christopher Jarman (Author)

Lettering Arts (Library of Applied Design) Paperback – September, 1994, by Joanne Fink (Author), Judy Kastin (Author), Sheila Waters (Foreword)

Pictorial Calligraphy and Ornamentation (Dover Pictorial Archives) Paperback – March, 1972, by Edmund V., Jr. Gillon

Pen Calligraphy Manual, By Fran Strom

The Anatomy of Letters, By Charles Pearce

The complete guide to calligraphy: techniques and materials
Hardcover – Import, 1984, by Judy MARTIN (Author)

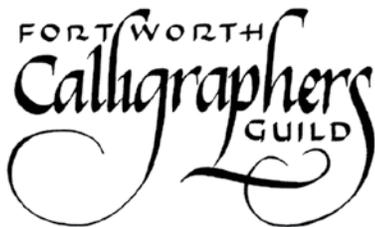
The Development of Writing, By Graphic Press

The Macclesfield Alphabet Book: A Facsimile by Christopher De Hamel (2010-12-31) Hardcover – 1763
by Christopher De Hamel; Patricia Lovett (Author)

The Story of Writing Hardcover – September, 1981
by Donald Jackson (Author)

The Universal Penman
Victoria and Albert Museum Catalogue

Using Calligraphy: A Workbook of Alphabets, Projects, and Techniques Oct 1979, by Margaret Shepherd



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Seattletters

International Calligraphy
Conference
July 14-21, 2018
Bellingham, WA

Seattletters is extremely pleased to announce that Donald Jackson will be at the conference this year, delivering the keynote presentation on Sunday evening, July 15. While he will not be teaching a class, he will be with us throughout the conference week. We are excited for the opportunity to spend time with him.

— Anna Konyukhova

It's a Party!
It's a Card Art exchange!
It's a Dinner!

It's the 2018 Valentine Event!

Thursday, February 8, 2018 at the Bedford Public Library.
2424 Bedford Road, Bedford.

Spouses and guests are welcome!

Arrive at 6 p.m. for setup of buffet line.
Dinner at 6:30 followed around 7:15 with the Valentine Card portion of the evening.

The guild will furnish the main dish. This time it will be two kinds of quiche and Italiano meat pie. So think of pot luck items to go with them.

BRING::

- **a pot luck food item** (anything from side dish, salad, dessert, bread or beverage and ice. (probably good to leave a message with Sharon, 817-999-4339, as to what item you choose so that we can avoid duplication.)
- **a handmade, hand lettered Valentine by you** (for exchange with another artist). Sign the artwork.

After a leisurely dinner, we will focus on each card as its artist gives a brief description of the process (materials, inks, choice of paper, inspiration for the design or quote, etc.) for full appreciation by your fellow members. This is a chance to shine, to incorporate the things you've been learning about lettering, embellishing, backgrounds, card construction, etc.

After the description phase, then the card exchange begins. You're sure to come away with a grand card in exchange for your efforts...and perhaps be inspired by the creativity of others!

