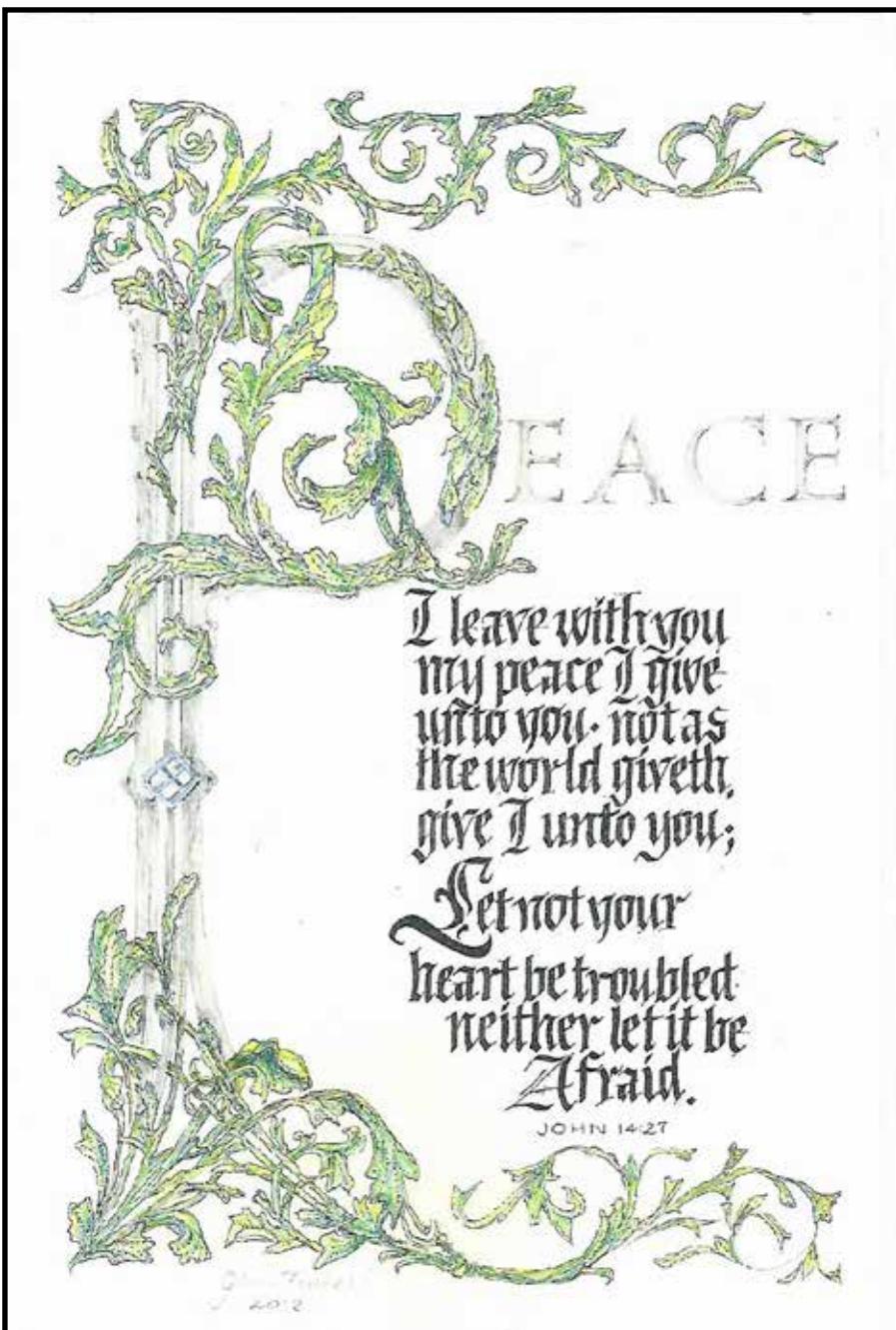


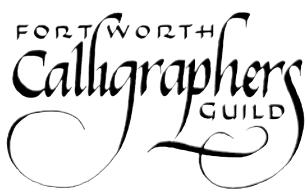
The
SCRIBES
& Scribblers

Inklings

Vol. 40, No. 4 The Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild

December 2018





P.O. Box 101732
Fort Worth, TX 76185

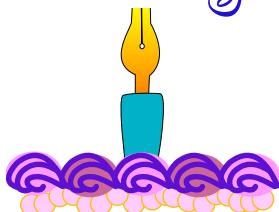
COVER ART

Artist — Gina Tanner

Gina used ink and colored pencils to create the art for the cover. The Gothic and Romans were lettered in John Stevens' style.

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!



December

- 3..... Sharon Schmidt
- 6..... Nancy Teigen
- 7..... Angie Vangalis
- 8..... Sally Jackson
- 13..... Sherry Selby
- 19..... Mary DeChellis
- 20..... June Baty
- 20..... Mark Tresnick
- 20..... Jeri Wright
- 24..... Ollie Olivarez
- 30..... Catherine Burkhardt



From the President's Pen

BUILDING MOMENTUM...

Coming back from a wonderful Thanksgiving with extended family, I rounded the corner and it feels like there's a bicycle under me that is careening toward our next, biggest holiday. Then there is the serene period of time that follows—the week between Christmas and New Year's day—that is in some ways, my favorite week because all activities curtail (no meetings, no rehearsals, no obligations away from home).

This does not mean I am in any way reluctant to participate in the regular commitments in life. In fact, it is precisely BECAUSE of these activities in which I find exhilaration and inspiration, that I also feel the release and comfort of essentially a week without to sort of reflect and appreciate them...and plan accordingly.

HOLIDAY USES FOR LETTERING

So my message to you today is ENJOY the days ahead. This year HJ's family will be coming to Texas and I really like to use my handlettering in unusual ways. (Unusual to them, not to me!) I love making gift tags and placecards, paper crafted centerpieces etc. incorporating lettering. Even some of the gifts this year will be handmade or hand lettered.

PROGRAM

And speaking of 'momentum', here's a treat for you this month: Angie and the program team will expound on Tom's program theme of It's a Wonderful Life by showing several ornaments involving lettering. This is a "must see, must DO" program. You will be able to try tools on different ornament surfaces and perhaps finish in time to adorn your own tree.

WEATHERGRAMS

In preparing to write up this month's newsletter contributions, I remembered (since I think 'seasonally') that we had done Weathergrams as a program several years ago (2011?) and I should write up something about it, especially for our newer members who had not experienced this little form of calligraphy. (See related article.)

The NEW fact I learned is that these were designed to hang outdoors from winter equinox to summer equinox, earth's longest and shortest days of the year. Since Winter Equinox occurs this year on Friday, December 21 (and technically around 4:23 p.m. Central time), I thought many of you could try making some (I will have some materials at the December meeting you can take home with you to try).

CALENDARS

Oh yes, another seasonal thing: the FWCG 2019 Calendars are ready for distribution. Some have requested to pick up at our Dec. 13 (or in some cases January 10) meeting and some have requested to have them mailed. They should go out no later than Monday December 3rd (please note additional postage).

Sincerely,
Sharon Schmidt, President



Elements of Design For Lettering Art

A Year Long Course for Intermediate to Advanced Students

Cora Pearl, Instructor

Strengthen your design skills with this unique course of study in the DFW area. Attend 9 one-day, Saturday sessions per month. That's more than 70 hours of instruction in 9 days, PLUS a weekly, online component to keep students involved and engaged between in-person class sessions.

SAVE THESE DATES!

Class begins JAN 5, 2019 and ends SEP 7, 2019 with one make up day in case of inclement weather.
 JAN 5, 2019 • FEB 2 • MAR 16 • APR 6 • MAY 4 •
 JUN 15 • JUL 13 • AUG 17 • SEP 7 • SEP 21(MAKEUP DAY)



COURSE DESCRIPTION

The elements of design will be studied as they relate specifically to calligraphy and hand lettering. Lettering art is a unique art form that features text written by hand. Usual approaches to teaching design have an orientation toward working with images, rather than text. Design teaching related to text is usually oriented toward graphic design.

Each month the focus will be on one element of design in depth. Over the course of the year, we will study the elements of Line, Texture, Shape, Form, Value, Color, and Space. The emphasis is on learning to think in terms of design rather than on the finished work, though the completion of finished pieces is part of the course. The class is more process oriented than product oriented. The online classroom encourages participation with weekly online exercises on CourseCraft.net.

WHO CAN ATTEND

This is *not* a beginning lettering course. Students must meet the prerequisites and complete Cora's Questionnaire which is included in the [Registration Packet](#).

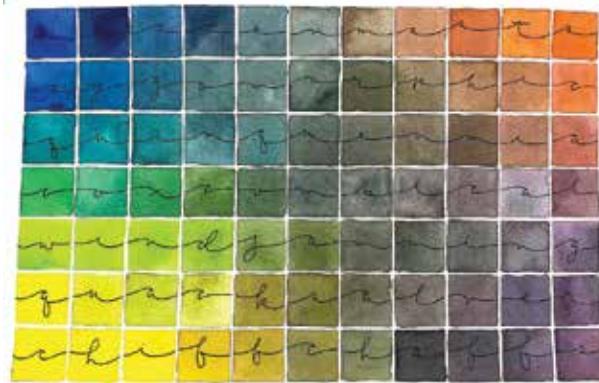
TUITION - GUILD MEMBER SAVINGS

The tuition for this course is \$1,400. Guild members may use code SAVE200 (case sensitive) for a \$200 break on tuition.

Download a detailed syllabus & registration packet:
<https://tinyurl.com/y8j9w9hd>

VENUE

Three venues will accommodate this class located in the North Dallas area. White Chapel Church - Southlake, TX, Stacy Furniture - Grapevine, TX and Createria Studios - Coppell, TX.



REFUND POLICY

There are no refunds for deposits on this course unless in the unlikely event this course doesn't fill or Cora feels you need more time to develop your lettering skills. Due to the planning involved, we depend on the deposits/committments to hold the course. If your plans change, a refund is only possible if there is someone on the waiting list who can fill your spot.

Wax Seals for Christmas

Wax seals are a beautiful way to add a finishing touch to your Christmas gift or card. Wax seals can be applied to various items such as boxed gifts, paper bags, bottles, envelopes and almost anything.

Sealing wax is available in a plethora of colors and in at least three forms.

- Sealing wax stick with wick: Light the wick and hold over item until sufficient amount is melted. Imprint with stamp.
- Sealing wax stick without wick: Slice a chunk of wax with X-ACTO knife, place in melting spoon and hold over a tea light until wax is melted. Pour over desired area and imprint with stamp. Precut wax is also available.
- Glue gun sealing wax. Use in low temp glue gun. Two sticks will be necessary to feed through glue gun. This is a convenient method for creating a large quantity of seals but limits changing color of wax. Glue gun should be dedicated to wax seal use since hot glue and sealing wax should not be mixed.

Stamp choices are unlimited. You can also have personalized seals made.

I chose to experiment with the stick with wick. I felt that it would be simplest and least complicated. It took a while to melt enough wax to make an impression. Some find this process to be meditative. The stick has to be constantly turned to get maximum "dripping." The wick kept going out and needed to be lit several times. I had a difficult time controlling where the wax fell. Some colors melted better than others. I did not find it to be meditative but tedious. I look forward to experimenting with the wickless sticks and melting spoon.

Use a tea light or lighter to light the wick of your wax stick. Allow the hot wax to drip on the area where you wish to place the seal. Confirm that stamp image is in correct position. Gently press your stamp into center of

wax. Wait a second or two and slowly lift the stamp from the wax. The wax cools very quickly but you may need to hold the impression a little longer if you have used a larger amount of wax.

Multiple colors of wax can be melted together to create a marbleized effect.

Herbs or flowers or glitter or sequins can be added to the wax before making the stamp impression. If using plant sprigs, consider the timeliness of giving your gift along with the sturdiness of the plant. Some plants retain their shape while others quickly become limp. Dried flowers and greenery would work nicely for this method and could be prepared well in advance to giving. Regardless, plant sprigs are fragile and will need careful handling.

Additional wax will be needed to seal dimensional objects into the wax. A flawless circle is hard to achieve and should not be the goal. I believe that an imperfect shape is much more interesting and desirable than a perfect circle. Every seal will be different and that is the beauty of this process.

To bring out the design of the seal, lightly brush with contrasting metallic ink, perfect pearls or even eye shadow.

Imprinting large quantities of seals will heat up the metal and cause the wax to stick to the stamp. It is helpful to have a bowl of ice water to cool the stamp between every 3-4 impressions. Dry stamp with paper towel after dipping into ice water.

Use in well ventilated area. The wax was lightly fragranced and produced fumes which I found to be irritating. You are using an open flame, so take necessary precautions. It would be prudent to have a bowl of water nearby...just in case.

Have fun adding a special decorative touch to your Christmas gifts this year with wax seals!

— Suzanne Raif

Perfect Attendance Award

FWCG will now offer a Perfect Attendance Award to FWCG meetings and events!

How It Works:

Each time you attend a FWCG meeting, FWCG hosted lecture or workshop you receive a point. Nine points are required to receive a Perfect Attendance Award.

We realize you are just hearing this now, so if you

didn't attend the September Meeting, you may attend an additional event like an FWCG hosted lecture or workshop, to receive an attendance point.

Points are verified by your signature in the FWCG Monthly Meeting Guest Book, workshop and lecture rosters.

The award, designed and penned by Mary DeChellis, will be revealed at the May 2019 Meeting.



Wax Seal on a bottle



Wax Seal with ribbon.



Wax Seal over sheer ribbon..



Wax Seal with rosemary sprig.



Wax Seal with yarrow sprig and baking twine.



Wax Seal on present.



Wax Seal highlighted with eyeshadow and rose leaves.

Examples of Using a Wax Seal



Wax Seal with rose leaves sans highlight.

2019 Calendar Distribution Scheduled for the December 13th Meeting

All told, we had participation of thirteen members in the 2019 calendar art and production process of our seventeenth calendar. Many thanks go to many people. We will publish an article in the December newsletter on this year's artists. Those who contributed more than one piece will see their second piece on our newsletter covers.

Meanwhile, so we can get an estimate on how many calendars to order, let me show you the pricing and get a response on the quantity you wish to order. These are good for gifts. Over the years we have gained several non-member calendar supporters who continue to ask for our publications each year.

Calendars sell for \$10 each but in recent years we have had a 'deal' where if you purchased 3-6, they'd be \$9 each; if 7-10, \$8 each; 11+ would be \$7 each. This is in case you want to use them as gifts to show family and

friends the work of your colleagues and yourself.

Calendar distribution will be at the December 13 meeting. If you don't need them by Christmas and wish to pick them up at the January 10, 2019 meeting, that can be arranged.

We do not mail them without prepayment, but if you cannot attend in December and would like them by Christmas, please include postage with your payment. Last year we discovered postage varies depending on destination. It averaged \$3.15 for in-town single calendars. Out of town, single calendar postage was \$3.95. For flat-rate package rate was \$6.95 in the metroplex. Since there was a postage increase this year, I will double-check postage amounts and report back to you. — Sharon Schmidt

BOOK REVIEW

"Florilege" - Author: Alain Mazeran

Description: Hardcover, large format: 11" W x 11 ¾" H; 156 pages, including 32 photographs and 86 calligraphy pieces. Published: 1987, by Alain Mazeran, Editions d'Art, Paris, France.

Review: With the title of "Florilege" and a floral graphic on the cover, one would think that the subject is botany. But, the word "florilege" translates from French as "anthology." As it turns out, the book is an anthology of photographs and calligraphy projects by contemporary scribes to display the concept of blending flowers with calligraphy. What a nice surprise!

Eight pages of English translation of the Preface, by noted British calligrapher and illustrator Marie Angel, and the Introduction by Alain Mazeran, establish the recurring theme of using flowers in Western, Oriental and Arabic calligraphy. 32 spectacular photographic portraits of flowers should certainly please and inspire members who recently completed the floral watercolor workshop.

The 86 calligraphy projects exemplify the use of varied materials, from color pencil to watercolor and oil paintings. Each project has a short English translation of the work, process and materials used. Calligraphic representations include abstract and naturalistic impressions of flowers combined with words, some scribes used flowers as letters, others simply wrote poems. The artwork is an excellent source of thought-provoking inspiration about layouts and design, color mixing and blending, and stylistic presentation of calligraphy hands such as Italic, Chancery, Uncial, Copperplate

LIBRARY CORNER

REMINDER: OUR GUILD LIBRARY HOLDINGS HAVE BEEN ENTERED INTO WWW.LIBRARYTHING.COM. THE SIGN-IN IS FWCG AND THE PASSWORD IS LETTERS26. THIS ENABLES MEMBERS TO BROWSE THROUGH THE LIST OF AVAILABLE BOOKS AND DETERMINE WHAT THEY MAY WISH TO CHECK OUT.

TO CHECK OUT A BOOK, CONTACT RICK BY E-MAIL HAROLDMAUL@GMAIL.COM TO LET HIM KNOW WHICH BOOK(S) YOU WANT TO CHECK OUT AND HE WILL BRING TO NEXT MEETING. MEMBERS MAY CHECK OUT 2-3 BOOKS AT A TIME AND DUE DATE IS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

and more. I recommend it highly for those members who signed up for the "Elements of Design" Year Long Course, with Cora Pearl.

"Florilege" ... check it out. — Cayetano Olivarez

LETTER PRESSED COOKIES

Supplies:

- Fred Letter Pressed Type-Style Cookie Cutter/Stampers, Set of 28 (available on Amazon)
- A good sugar cookie recipe such as this one:

Mary Jane's Awesome Sugar Cookies

- This “Cookie Bouquet” recipe is provided by the FWCG’s fabulous Mary Jane Ott:

1 cup butter	Drop of vanilla
1 cup sugar	2 t baking powder
2 eggs	1 teaspoons salt
3 T milk	4 c flour (more if needed)
2 t almond extract	

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, milk, almond and vanilla extracts. Mix baking powder and salt with 2 cups of the flour and then slowly add to mixture. Keep adding flour until dough is not sticky. Roll out on floured board until about 1/2" thick (1/4" if using Letter Press cookie cutters). Cut and press. Bake 350 degrees until barely brown around the edges. About 10 minutes. Makes about 20 large cookies (or about 40 Letter-Pressed cookies)

- Icing – I used a prepared frosting
- Food coloring (I used Wilton’s because it adds bright color without thinning the icing – available at Michael’s – don’t forget a coupon!)

The Process:

Bake the cookies, let them cool, and then the fun begins, or does it?

Let me tell you, the best part of this project was eating the cookie dough, and you definitely want to save this recipe, but after I pried

all the dough out of the cutters and stamped and baked them and mixed the frosting, I was feeling a bit grinchy. And when I tried my hand at hand lettering by squeezing icing out of a bag, well, it was enough to make me start drinking, and I did, and then, if you can believe it, the letters started looking much better and I was having so much fun spelling words and playing around that I actually recommend giving this project a try. Cheers!

— Mary DeChellis



The Development of Weathergrams

An immediate but easy calligraphic challenge for us this month could be the writing and hanging of a weathergram — a short quote (10 words or less) along the idea of Japanese haiku — usually reflects some words regarding nature or natural elements. They are made of natural materials: recycled paper, written with waterproof ink and hung from a nearby tree with Jute or twine. The idea is to hang them at the winter equinox and take them down in the summer equinox after they have “weathered” for six months. The wearing of materials and fraying of edges, etc further signify the elements these little pieces of art have gone through.

Lloyd Reynolds well known as the inventor of the weathergram concept. In researching the subject it was



Weathergram

discovered that Reynolds was quite the renaissance man with skills in many studious disciplines. Beyond calligraphy (he was a professor at a northwest university), Reynolds had roots in theater, bookplate design, illustration, certificate and award design, English literature, etc. A helpful link to this Reed College publication features the many faces of this remarkable man.

Check out this link:
https://www.reed.edu/calligraphy/reynolds_cooley_show.html

REYNOLDS AND WEATHERGRAMS

Based loosely on the ideas of Japanese haiku, Reynolds' weathergrams now have a permanent place in the Pacific Northwest calligraphy history. He defined the weathergram text as a sudden insight. The subject matter should be seasonal, and the resulting vertical flag, preferably made of brown paper grocery bags, should be hung on a tree branch in “the garden, at a campsite, or along a mountain trail” and left outdoors between solstice and equinox, or equinox and solstice. The three-month weathering of these written statements was essential to the weathergram, a “weather-writing,”

as it started its journey back to nature.

Reynolds wrote out the instructions for weathergram writing to go with a collection of them published by the Society for Italic Handwriting and Reed College in 1972. More weathergrams were gathered together after Reynolds' death for the society by JoAnne DiSciullo and published in 1983.

SAMPLE QUOTES FROM

LLOYD REYNOLDS' WEATHERGRAMS

“If you carry flowers butterflies may follow your footsteps.”

“The horizon is drawn according to how tall we are.”

“The wings of moths can wear away mountains.”

“We let a bough or branch be our publisher.”

FWCG members could agree to ‘ceremonially’ each hang one or two Weathergrams right before the holiday. this year the equinox is Friday, December 21 at 10:23 p.m. CST. Take a ‘before’ photo and later pair it up with an ‘after’ photo of the same weathergram when we take them down in spring on the equinox, Wednesday, March 20, 8:58 p.m. —Sharon Schmidt



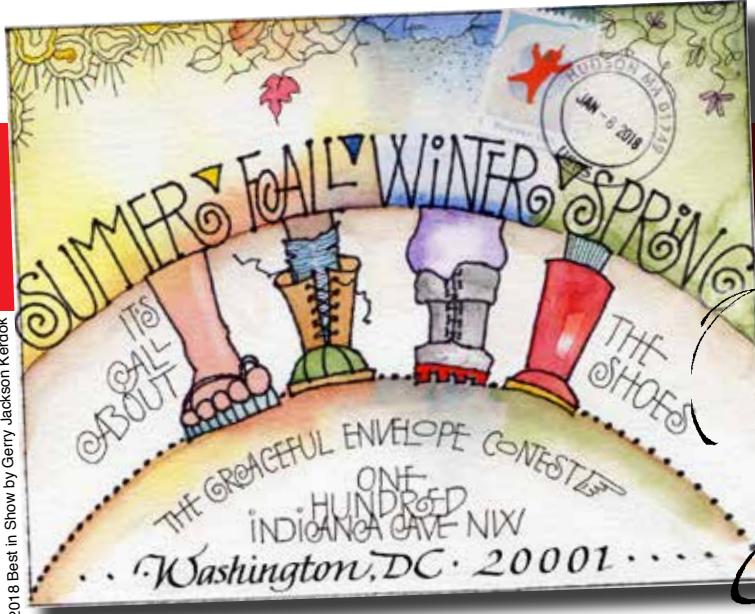
A weathered weathergram.

Directory Updates

Please add the following new member to your 2018-19 Directory.

Dawn Branam
5010 W Amherst Avenue
Dallas, TX 75209-3302
dawn@dbranam.com

April 8
214-505-4208 (C)



2018 Best in Show by Gerry Jackson Kerdok

CALL FOR ENTRIES

~ please distribute ~

Transform an ordinary envelope into a work of art!

Graceful Envelope Contest

2019 Contest Theme:

Put Your Stamp On It

This year's theme celebrates the **25th anniversary** of the **Graceful Envelope Contest** and the **125th anniversary of US commemorative stamps.**

Your challenge is to create an envelope that commemorates anything of your choosing. To "Put Your Stamp On It," make sure your submission reflects the artistic hand lettering and imaginative use of color and design that have been the hallmarks of the contest. And, of course, incorporate postage stamp(s) into your creation.

There is no entry fee.

Entries must be postmarked no later than Monday, March 25, 2019, and addressed artistically by hand to:

The Graceful Envelope
c/o Washington Calligraphers Guild
P.O. Box 3688
Merrifield, VA 22116

You may enter only one envelope. Entries must be processed and delivered through the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail and may not be wrapped in a separate envelope or protective covering (unless multiple entries are coming from one class).

On the BACK of the envelope, print "FROM" and your name, address and email (or teacher's email). Students need to provide their grade, because judges will consider entries in these categories:

- * Adult
- * Grades 9-12
- * Grades 5-8
- * Grades 1-4

**Deadline for entries:
March 25, 2019**

*See <https://www.calligraphersguild.org/envelope.html> for complete rules.

With questions, contact Erin at peonyplumecalligraphy@gmail.com

The 25th annual Graceful Envelope Contest is sponsored by the Washington Calligraphers Guild and the National Association of Letter Carriers.

For the complete Call for Entries and to view last year's winning envelopes, go to www.calligraphersguild.org.

Winners will be chosen based on calligraphy, creative interpretation of the theme and effective use of color and design, including incorporation of postage stamp(s).

Winning artists will receive certificates and their entries will be displayed online beginning in early June 2019. No prizes will be awarded. Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged and entries will not be returned.



National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO
www.nalc.org | 202-662-2851



The Washington Calligraphers Guild
www.calligraphersguild.org

NOVEMBER'S BLACK AND WHITE ILLUSTRATIONS

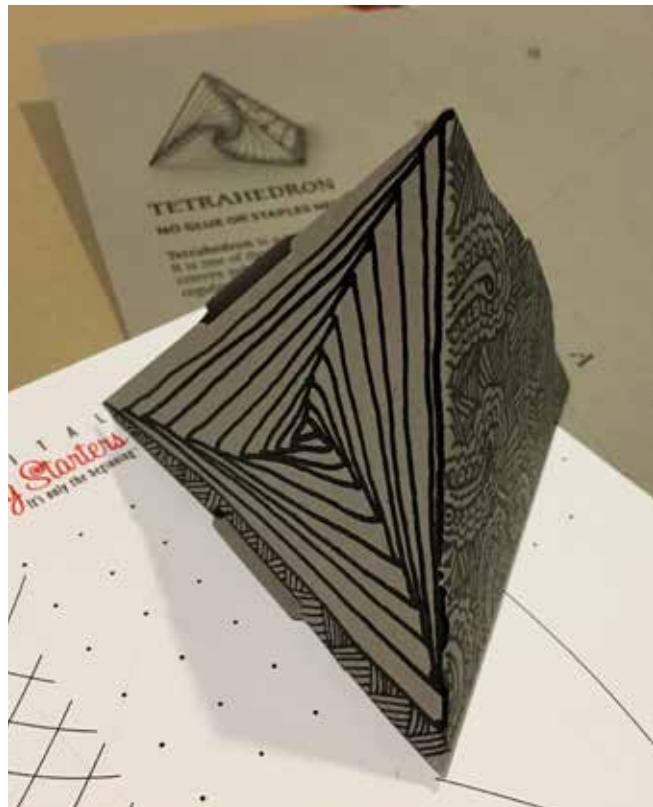
Tom Campos, vice-president in charge of programs, presented another installment of calligraphy-art studies inspired by movie themes. This month's film was the 1943 Oscar winning classic Casablanca, filmed in black and white, which was his inspiration for the program: "Black and White Illustrations."

Following a brief introduction and question-answer series about the movie, Tom conducted a Power-Point lecture about art based on repetitive patterning drawn in black and white motif. He discussed numerous examples of "expressive" and "modern" art, including decorated flowers, gourds, animal caricatures, and "doodling" or "tangling" art projects currently popular in art and coloring books. Tom elaborated on use of repetitive patterns to decorate and enhance lettering; and, he explained some historical features of unique Native American art decoration patterns as sources of creative inspiration.

Following the lecture, attendees were provided materials and informative handouts to create their own designs. To supplement the lecture, library books were made available for review and creative inspiration.

A special "thank you" is given to Angie Vangalis who provided flat perforated forms for student work, including a Tetrahedron (a four-sided form) printed on gray cardstock, and a pre-printed cup shape on white stock. Both flat forms make three-dimensional shapes once all artwork is completed.

— Cayetano Olivarez



Minutes of our Meeting

FWCG Meeting Minutes for Thursday, November 8, 2018.

President Sharon Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Cayetano Olivarez, treasurer reported a balance of \$9,848.66. Linda Jones reported that we have a new member from Dallas which brings the guild to 47 members. She asked for articles to be sent to her for the December newsletter.

Angie Vangalis, workshop chair presented 3 choices of workshops for Sharon Hanse in March of 2019. The members present voted for the Illuminated Letters workshop. Texas Lettering Arts Council is sponsoring two workshops — Cora Pearl will start a nine month course in January 2019, registration closes November 15, 2018. Paul Antonio will have a class February 20-24, 2019 on Medieval Capitals.

Old Business – the calendar is almost ready, they will be

ready for pick-up at the December meeting. There were ten participants in the holiday card exchange – cards should be mailed by November 14 and December 14. We will be having a Perfect Attendance Award this year, however points can be earned for additional activities such as writing an article for the newsletter. Awards will be given at the May meeting. We need a few more volunteers for the 40th Anniversary Celebration.

New Business – the December meeting will be the theme of It's a Wonderful Life. We will have lettering on ornaments and gift exchange of a calligraphy related gift. Everyone should bring a dessert to share. Angie was taking orders for a \$20 Fraktur exemplar set.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm. Tom Campos presented a program on Casablanca – black and white Zentangle designs that can be used in lettering projects.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Teigen, Secretary

CONTACT US

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Angie Vangalis, Workshops
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Meeting information

Thursday, December 13, 2018

at the Bedford Public Library
2424 Bedford Road, Bedford.
Business Meeting — 6:30 p.m.
Program — about 7 p.m.

Programs for this year are inspired by movie title references and each month will include experimentation with tools and surfaces.



IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE



HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS THAT FEATURE HAND LETTERING

Has there ever been a year when you DIDN'T see that classic movie offered on TV? "It's a Wonderful Life" brings out all the warmth of the season.

After a brief business meeting (this time with desserts* furnished by Mary Jane Ott and Tom Campos), please enjoy a demonstration and a Make-And-Take of three kinds of tree ornaments enhanced with calligraphy.

Program Team members Sharon Schmidt, Angie Vangalis and Vicki Villarreal, will show ways to write on and decorate ornaments like glass, wood and paper. Then, in Round Robin fashion, you can try all three techniques. All supplies are furnished by the guild.

Bring:

- Christmas quote or rhyme of five short lines (maybe 25 words?)
- Bag or small box to carry home your ornaments

Calendars:

The guild 2018 calendars are ready for distribution. Please have your checks or cash ready and take possession.

Weathergram Project:

'Tis the season for Weathergrams. We will supply materials for a take-home project. Your "homework" is to make one or two and hang them by Friday, December 21 (see related article) and discover how they blend with the elements after months of exposure.

* Bringing a dessert item, as stated in the Directory for this month, is welcomed but not required. There will be coffee

