

The
SCRIBES
& Scribblers

Inklings

Vol. 40, No. 5 The Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild

January 2019

IN EVERY WALK WITH
NATURE
ONE RECEIVES FAR
MORE THAN HE SEEKS

CLAUDE MONET

COVER ART

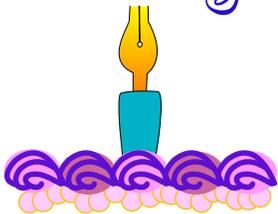
Artist — Tom Campos

Quote is from impressionist painter Claude Monet who is famous for many garden landscapes. The calligraphy is a modern variant of Uncial using a zero slant angle, green ink on golden parchment paper and a 2.4 mm Pilot Parallel Pen.

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!



January

6.....Deanna Fava
7..... Vicki Villarreal



*From the
President's Pen*

The fabulous holidays were a great time of fun with family and reflection of the year's accomplishments and, for me, goal setting for a new year. I try not to take down my tree for a week or two after Christmas just so I can bask in its light while NOT trying to wrap gifts. The week between Christmas and New Year's Day is typically more of a relaxed pace because normal weekly meetings and rehearsals get breaks. This year the days fell so that the week after New Year's Day was less encumbered too.

I've not made Resolutions in decades because I treated them as "suggestions" to be achieved (or ignored) on whatever whim I felt at the time.

I do, however, take time to set goals of personal and professional areas of life. The trick with GOALS is: you have to factor in TIME each week to work toward them. So nowadays I am better at tracking my activities, allocating small blocks of time to tackle this or that, depending on what else is on my calendar. I guess I am not rigid about scheduling, but I am mindful and carry my calendar 'everywhere' so that I do not double or overlap too tightly the things I try to work on in a given week.

That said, I am jotting down the desired goals and setting aside an evening here or there to devote to accomplishing these goals. Calligraphically, I do have the incentive and commitment to take a course to keep me on track. I hope you are creating time in your schedule to play with inks and letters and see what your muse leads you to do.

Come join us this Thursday, January 10, 2019! I am sure there will be a NUMBER of inspirations for you.

Sincerely,
Sharon Schmidt, President
Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild

P.S. Oh yes, this is State Tax month if you have any calligraphic income to claim.

Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild presents

Illuminated Letters

with Sharon Hanse

MARCH 23 & 24, 2019

10:00am - 5:00pm

Stacy Furniture ♦ 1900 S. Main Street, Grapevine TX 76051

\$135* Member ♦ \$160 Non-Member

\$125* Member Early Bird ♦ \$150 Non-Member by Jan 10, 2019

Plus supply fee of \$15 includes patent gold, powdered metal, and other items.



Participants will be introduced to some of the basic steps they can take to create a beautiful illuminated letter. We will proceed step-by-step through the processes to build up the form adding shading and highlights and line accents. Materials and painting techniques, as well

as ways to add gold or metallic accents to their work will be discussed - using paint, powdered metals, and gilding techniques.

In addition, students will experiment with some methods to add a modern twist to your letters.



Sharon Hanse - As seen in the Speedball Textbook, 24th Edition

*Mail a check for tuition for full amount made payable to FWCG for the full amount to hold your spot.

Send to Angie Vangalis, 757 E Bethel School Road, Coppell, TX 75019.

Early Bird payments accepted on a first-come-first-served basis postmarked or paid via PayPal online at www.PayPal.me/FWCG/140 by JAN 10, 2019.

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

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



NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EMAIL

CELL PHONE

Early Bird Discount applies to current members as of Jan 1, 2019.

SIGN ME UP!

Illuminated Letters with Sharon Hanse

Enclosed is my check for:

Member \$125. OR pay online at

<https://www.paypal.me/FWCG/130>.

Convenience fee applies. Please include address, city, state, zipcode - plus phone (cell preferred) for online payments.

Non Member \$150. OR pay online at

<https://www.paypal.me/FWCG/155>.

Includes Membership through the end of the membership year 2020.

New Year's Resolution Rant

This article isn't for you disciplined people. This is not for you who regularly make beautiful cards with beautiful lettering. You've got your act together and I'd rather you not know how pathetic I am. So, you can skip on to the next item in the newsletter. This is just for those of us who struggle with making a simple card.

Have they left the conversation? Okay, now we can talk!

Making a card for a loved one should be fun and rewarding. I should enjoy the process but instead it is ridiculously stressful. I know – don't get "shouldy" on yourself. Usually, I plan to make a card for someone but I never quite get around to it and so they go without. They never know that I was thinking of them. And I missed an opportunity to bless someone. I've done this more times than I care to admit.

And then there are the cards themselves and/or decorated envelope exchanges. I think, "No problem. I can do one card a month. Easy peasy." Yeah, right.

Of course, I procrastinate. A deadline is looming. The card always takes longer to make than I think it will. The process does not go smoothly. I'm snapping at my husband. (He hasn't done anything wrong.) I'm shrieking at the cats. (Well, they are in the way.)

Lettering is my biggest challenge. Big! HUGE!!!

Second biggest hurdle is what shall I say in the card? Drives me nuts!! Everything I think of sounds mundane or maudlin. I really do want to personalize each card.

What shall I do about this?

Resolved: To schedule time in my week to make "practice cards." These will be cards that go to no one (unless they happen to turn out really nice) but will serve as reference for future cards.

Resolved: To experiment with the inks, pens and markers that I have. To determine what they will do and how they look on paper. Document and use as reference.

Resolved: To make and have a varied supply of envelopes on hand which will be ready to decorate.

Resolved: To practice lettering (this is going to hurt) on a daily basis; to master the strokes, ascenders, descenders, slants and all that make lettering consistent.

Resolved: To gather a variety of greetings and scriptures that can be used in most cards; and practice lettering these sentiments.

Resolved: To develop a stash of cards ready (after personalizing) to mail so that I avoid the stress factor.

Resolved: To follow through with my "intent" to make cards to be mailed to guild members.

I LOVE getting a card in the mail. It truly makes my day. I don't care if it is store bought. BUT receiving a handmade piece of what is really art is a bazillion times more special. I know of two guild members who make cards for loved ones who are ill. They make these cards daily or weekly. What a beautiful gift of love. Other guild members make birthday cards so that guild members can receive a card on their birthday. Each and every card requires time, skill, love and devotion. And the recipient is so blessed.

— *Suzanne Rajf*

February Meeting & Valentine Party

The February meeting of the FWCG will be held February 14, 2019 with our annual Valentine party with a potluck meal. The Guild will furnish the meat. We will have a sign-up at the January meeting for what you would like to bring for the potluck. If you are unable to attend the January meeting, you can also e-mail Nancy Teigen at <tteigen@swbell.net> to indicate what you are willing to bring.

— *Nancy Teigen*

National Handwriting Day

A year ago I found an article mentioning that National Handwriting Day received Congressional recognition.

National Handwriting Day was established in 1977, on January 23, the birthday of John Hancock, America's most notable scribe and the first signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The resolution itself emphasizes educational benefits of handwriting for children and mentions its attributes of their cognitive development and motor skills.

To view the complete resolution, go to <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hres654>.

For additional information on National Handwriting Day visit http://www.pencilsandpens.org/national_handwriting_day.

— Sharon Schmidt

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 a 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.

Minutes of our Meeting

FWCG meeting December 13, 2018

President Sharon Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Cayetano Olivarez, treasurer, reported a balance of \$9, 519.70. Linda Jones reported that membership remains at 47 members. She also requests help with cover art and articles for the newsletter. Monica Kelley, website coordinator, gave an open invitation for members to send her items to post on the website. .

Angie Vangalis, workshop chair, reported that the Sharon Hanse workshop on Illuminated Letters will be in March. Linda Jones will be sending out details soon. There are 3 more open spots left for the 9 months long Cora Pearl course.

Rick Maul, librarian, was unable to attend the meeting. Sharon asked for a volunteer to be an assistant to the librarian.

Old business –2019 Calendars were available for

pick-up at the meeting. There were ten participants in the holiday card exchange – the Christmas cards should be mailed by December 14. Please take a snapshot of the final art before mailing and send to Sharon with a description of the media, hand chosen, etc. These will be featured in the January newsletter – deadline to send to Sharon is December 28.

New business –the SWCC will be January 25-27, 2019. Sharon and Angie will be attending. San Antonio is hosting, however the retreat will be held in Grand Prairie so travel costs will be much less.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm. Tom Campos introduced the program on "It's a Wonderful Life." The members had opportunities to make several Christmas ornaments as well as weathergrams.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Teigen, Secretary

Printing Calligraphic Notecards

For 2019, my New Year's resolution is to keep better project notes. Why? Because every year around Christmas time, I get a few requests to do "notecards," and every year when I am up to my eyeballs in other projects, I put it off – and not because I can't do it, but because I don't remember how to do it and have to start all over again. And no one has time for that. So, I hereby resolve to keep better notes, and my first project starts here. So let's get started printing those notecards we put off in December.

Supplies:

- Completed art work to scan
- Envelopes for your notecards (Hobby Lobby carries lots of size A2 and A7)
- Right-sized card stock or paper for your design and envelope size (see below)

Good to Know Before You Start:

A2 envelope = 4 3/8" x 5 3/4" and will work with 8 1/2 x 11 paper (2 notecards per sheet)

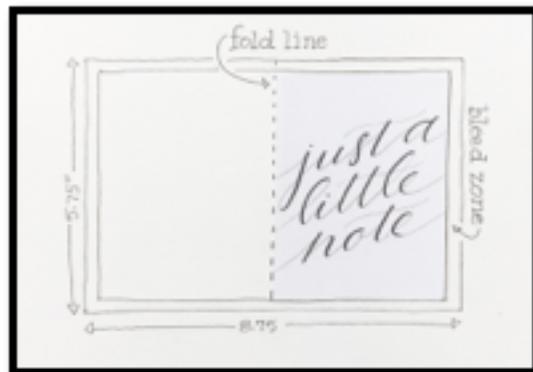
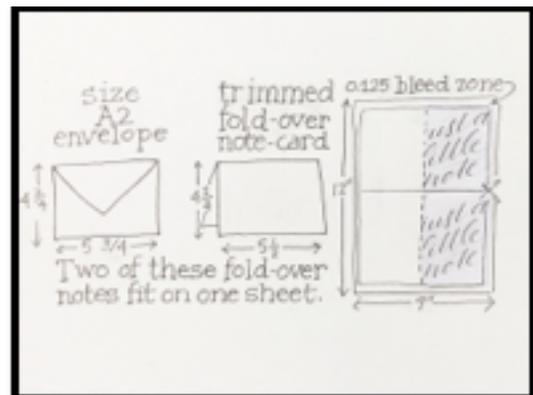
A6 envelope = 4 3/4" x 6 1/2" and will work with 9 x 12 paper (2 notecards per sheet)

A7 envelope = 5 1/4" x 7 1/4" and will work for 10 x 14 paper (2 notecards per sheet)

"Full bleed" means you have elements in your design that touch the edge of the page leaving no white margin. Since no printer can print right to the edge of a sheet, full bleed documents must be printed on larger paper and then trimmed down.

Process:

1. For this project I buy A2 envelopes from Hobby Lobby for a 5-1/2 x 4-1/4 fold-over note. Since my friend wants notecards with a full bleed, I bump the paper size up from 8-1/2 x 11 to 9 x 12 that I can trim down later. For these note cards I like 9 x 12" Fabriano Studio 140-lb hot-press paper.
2. I scan my artwork at the highest resolution possible – usually 600 dpi – and save it to a file and folder that's easy to find later (e.g., documents/stationery/justanote_A2_bleed)
3. Next I use Paint or Photoshop to prepare my image for printing:
 - a. Place the 5.5 x 4.25" image on an 8.5 x 5.5" page so it is in the right place when the notecard "opens"
 - b. Clean up any unwanted lines or blemishes that may have occurred in the scan



Printing Calligraphic Notecards ... continued

- c. Add ¼ inch to the document dimensions to allow for a 1/8” bleed on all sides if any element in the image – whether it’s a background color or a line -- touches the edge of the page.
4. Now I’m ready to print my notecards, two pages per sheet. The Fabriano paper I mentioned above works in my printer at home but I also know a local printer who will use my paper and trim the edges for me. Since I have this fantasy of opening an Etsy shop and processing hundreds of notecard orders, I decide go to the printer this time. I take him a hard copy and an envelope so he’ll know if the cards are trimmed right. I also take him some letter press cookies because, you know, Etsy.



Here’s to 2019 and all those notecards we are going to print For our friends and family! Cheers!

— *Mary DeChellis*

2019 Calendar Distribution at the January 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. Those who contributed more than one piece will see their second piece on our newsletter covers.

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.

Calendars can be picked up at the January 10, 2019 meeting.

We do not mail them without prepayment, but if you cannot attend, 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.

— *Sharon Schmidt*

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.

Holiday Ornaments

Our December program featured several different holiday ornaments that had lettering on them. We set up three stations (a table for paper ornaments, one for wood, and one for glass, clear or mirrored ornament(s)), so each person attending could try one of each and take a sample home.

Table One - Paper ornaments were (a) made from strips of paper or (b) assembled from paper circles (20 pre-cut, same-size circles from coordinating papers): Ornaments were made with five 1"-wide paper strips. We used a variety of scrapbook papers so the printed side was different on each one and lettering could be written on the back of each. Once lettered, the five strips (graduating lengths from i.e., 11", 9-1/2", 8", 6-1/2" and 5") were gathered at each end by a two-pronged paper fastener with ribbon hanger was used to attach all of the loops of paper at the top, forming a tear-drop shape. The color or printed paper shows on the outside but lettering is revealed inside the strips (see photo).

Table Two - Wood slices cut from trees. Wood ornaments were purchased at a craft store and pre-painted by the program team, to which they added eyelet hooks for hanging. The bark was left its natural color, and the centers were painted with black chalk paint (dried and cured), ready for lettering with chalk marker pens or even white paint. Recollections (Michaels) and American Crafts (often seen online or at Tuesday Morning), make some of the chalk markers we tried. Also, a brand the pros use (called Chalk Ink 'Wet Wipe') had a high-contrast white ink that worked very

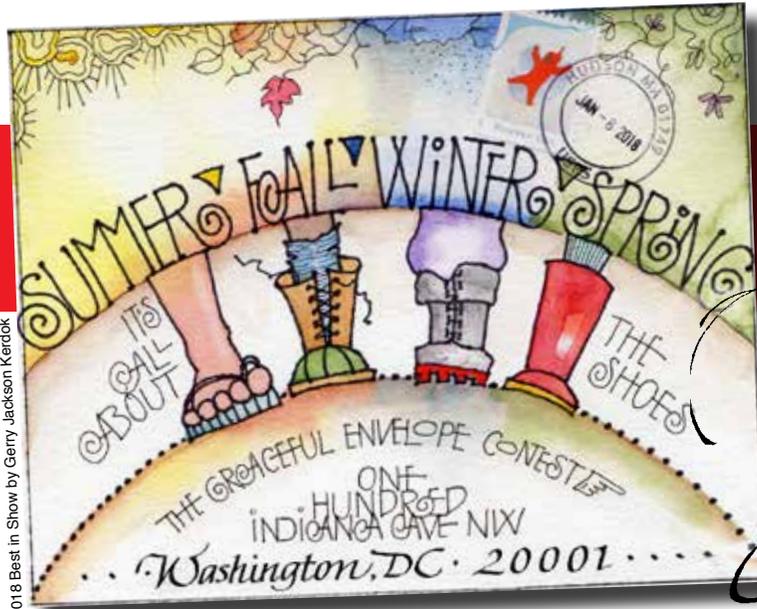
well. The American Crafts one calls itself Permanent Chalk markers so we do not assume it is a wash-off version of ink, but as implied, some markers may be wet wiped and reapplied with different wording.

Table Three - Glass ornaments. Several methods were suggested for adding color to the clear ornaments prior to lettering on them: (a) shredded paper filling; (b) pouring acrylic paint inside of some; (c) filling with a light coat of Minwax Water-based Polycrylic "clear satin finish" (swirl to coat the inside of ornament and then pour in some glitter). We simply wrote letters / quotations on some of them with. The possibilities are endless. We found that ZIG makes three styles of metallic pens (brush tip, chisel edged felt tip, and plain tip), plus their new Fudebiyori metallic markers (shaped like Wink of Stella pens but with opaque ink instead of glitter ink). Also, with the shiny metallic inks there were two other brands represented: Elmer's Project Popperz -- the kind you have to shake -- had high-shine ink but the writing surface was pretty big (too big for fine writing); also Prang has a metallic marker that had some satisfactory results although the ink was a little more transparent so they would require more contrast by coating inside the ornament somehow; and SRX Metallic Color Sharp. The non-metallic shake pens we used for writing on glass or micro surfaces were craft store brands like Craftsmart (Michaels) or DecoColor, Sakura Permapaque and Treehouse Studio paint marker (JoAnn's). Sharpie markers seemed to work well.

— Linda Jones and Sharon Schmidt



Top left: orb assembled from 20 paper circles. Top second: ornament made with paper strips. Top third: ornament made from tree disc. Top right: tree discs – some left natural, some painted and various inks and paints used for words and illustrations. Bottom left: ball ornaments — 1) filled with cut shredded paper, 2) coated inside with Minwax polycrylic protective finish clear semi gloss and Heidi swapp glitter for glittery finish, 3) filled with "snow confettie," 4) painted black and written on with a Zig gold brush pen. gold. Bottom right, ball ornament written on with metallic brush marker and lettering shadowed with a fine point gold marker.



2018 Best in Show by Gerry Jackson Kendok

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).

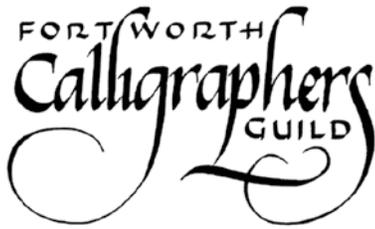
Winning artists will receive certificates and their entries will be displayed online beginning in early June 2019. No prizes will be awarded. Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged and entries will not be returned.



The Washington Calligraphers Guild
www.calligraphersguild.org



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



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Meeting Information

Thursday, January 10, 2019

at the Bedford Public Library
2424 Forest Ridge Drive, 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.



January 2019 Guild Program

“48 Hours” - Historical Calligraphic Numerals

The hands-on Program will show Numerals in a variety of historical scripts from Roman, Gothic, Copperplate to Modern lettering. A Power-Point presentation and Hand-outs will be given.

Supply list:

- Blank Paper will be supplied
- Bring your Calligraphic Pens, Colorful Markers, etc.
- Optional Bring blank envelopes to letter addresses
- Optional Bring alternative surfaces to Letter numerals on

— Tom Campos

P.S. Happy New Year 2019

