

The
Scribes
Scribblers

Inklings

NOV-DEC 2020 THE FORT WORTH CALLIGRAPHERS GUILD Issue Two of Four



Enjoy the craft from the start:
Texture, strokes, color, art.
Discover lettering! For your part,
Embrace *Calligraphy* with your heart.



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COVER ART by Sharon Schmidt

In recent excavation of my files, I discovered a retro piece from my early calligraphic years. At that time I only knew Italic and had just discovered the brush! I'm sharing it because of the original poem. Who knew this hobby would become an enduring passion!??!

Inklings is published by the Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild four times during its meeting year, September through May. Issues will be released during the months of **September, December, February and April**. The in-between months will be email blast communications. E-Blast will likely occur the Monday prior to set meeting dates.

To submit an article, 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. We try our best to give our members accurate and current information.



Tamer Ghoneim

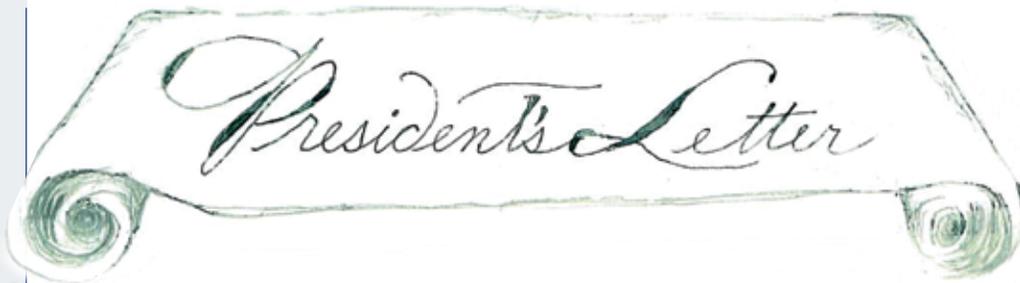
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Houston, TX 77065

Birthday April 5

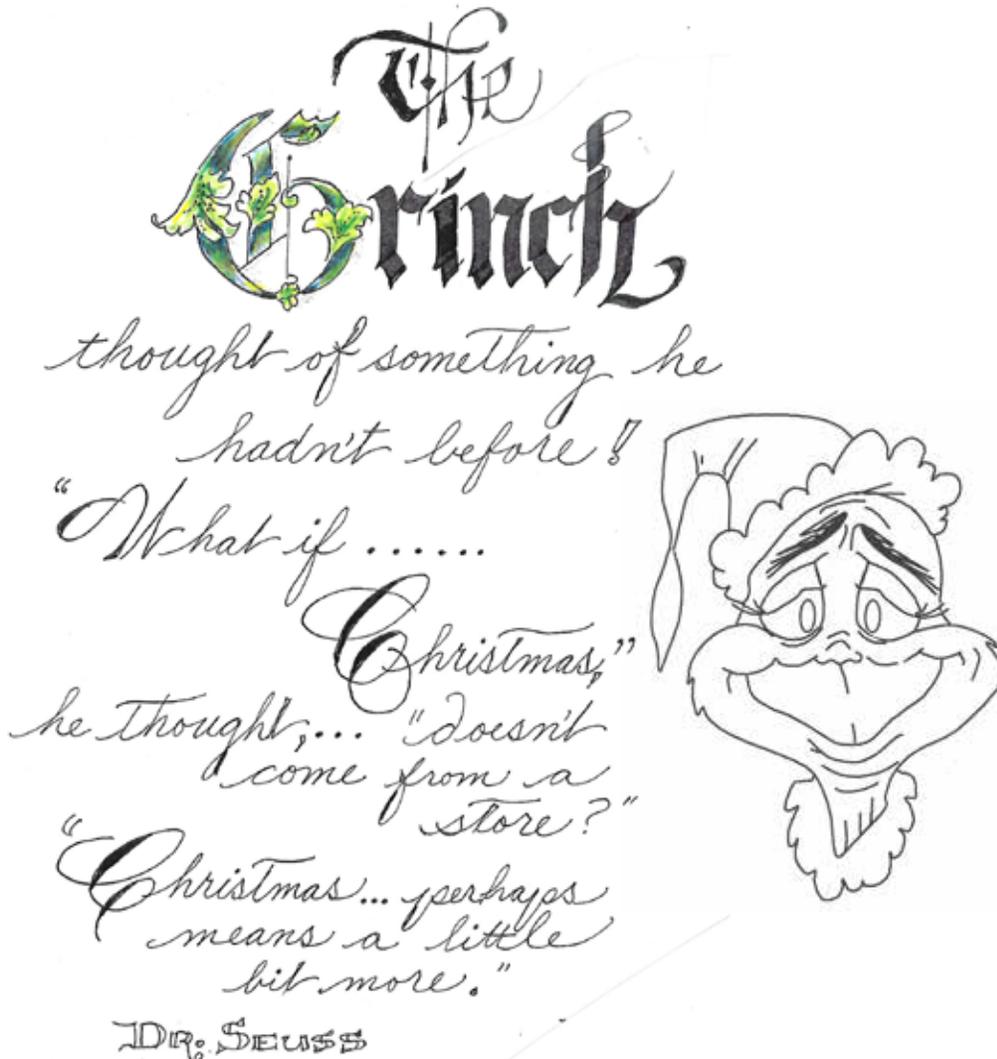
tamer@tamerghoneim.com

Please add this to your directory. And when Tamer comes a meeting, be sure to welcome him to our awesome group!



The holiday season is upon us, bringing memories of our festivities past. But, Christmas is not just an occasion to party. It is a time to count all that we've been given.

Perhaps the wise words of Dr. Seuss said it best:



Blessings to all, and stay well and safe 'til we meet again.

Gina

P.S. If you want to be a part of the Christmas card exchange, send Gina a note (spacedesign2001@aol.com) with your name and email and snail mail addresses and she will put your name in the (Grinch) hat and draw out the name for you to send a card to a fellow calligraphy member. You will then receive a hand lettered card from a fellow member.

December Happenings – Don't Miss!

FREE ZOOM HOLIDAY PROGRAM *Wedge Brush Wreaths*

with Jane Matsumoto — sponsored by Southern California's Society for Calligraphy, San Diego chapter.

Sunday, Dec 6, 2020. 1:30-3pm.

This is a self-serve registration: <https://societyforcalligraphy.org/Calendar>. Dec 06, 2020 is the second event on their calendar. Their workshops are usually for members only. They have graciously extended the invitation to us, so this is a nice treat!



DECEMBER FWCG PROGRAM

Hands-on
Join the
fun!

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020. 2-4pm on Zoom

(Watch for the meeting link in your email that day.)
More program details on back page.

Wendy Telford Card Folder Project

There is a little preparation involved and it will be worth it!

Please download and print the pattern and cut it out. **Please be prepared PRIOR** to the December 13th meeting.

[more samples p. 12]

1. PRIOR to the meeting, download the pattern from the **following links**. Choose the link based on your printing capability. Cut out the pattern.

<http://avgraphics.net/FolderPatternLegalSize.pdf>

<http://avgraphics.net/FolderPatternLetterSize.pdf>

2. Cut out the pattern and extension pieces. Tape extension piece to increase the height until the unit measures 12" from top to bottom.

Supplies to make and decorate the folder:

- Sheet of one or two-sided scrapbook or other paper that measures at least 6" x 12"
- If using one-sided scrapbook paper or a solid color paper, have on hand small pieces of decorative papers to spice up the paper.
- Scissors Ruler Pencil Bone folder
- Thin double-sided tape and/or glue stick. (*Narrow double-sided tape or tape runner is more permanent, but glue stick will work for most of this. Sticky Dots tape also works well--use whatever you have on hand.*)
- If you want to include or attach photographs, print out sizes no larger than 3" x 4-1/2"
- Any trim or embellishment for your blank canvas: *Stickers, washi tape, zigzag...whatever fun stuff that's in your stash*



JENNY ALLEN



The 2021 guild-published calendar is back from the press and will be mailed (upon receipt of payment) to those who have requested them. If you have not had a chance to order, please go online to fortworthcalligraphersguild.com and look for the ordering info at the bottom of the first page. Payment by check mailed to Nancy (or through the website PayPal) will work. The website has details of pricing. If using PayPal, use the Donate button at the end of the first page meeting info (just above the calendar).

FWCG MINUTES: OCTOBER 11, 2020

The General Membership meeting of FWCG convened Sunday, October 11, 2020 using Zoom video conferencing. Meeting was called to order by President Gina Tanner at 2:03 PM. There were 24 people logged into the meeting.

Gina thanked the board and committee members for all their efforts in keeping the guild going during this time of virtual meetings.

Cayetano Olivarez, treasurer had e-mailed the treasurer's report to the board earlier in the week. We have a current balance of \$ 11,088.73.

The minutes from the September meeting were published in the E-blast that was sent out last week via e-mail.

Sharon Schmidt reported that we have had 12 volunteers for the calendar artwork. The layout process is almost complete and will be ready to send to the printer soon. The cost of printing increased by only a slight amount, so the pricing structure will remain the same as last year. Pricing structure is: 1=**\$10** each; 2-4= **\$9**; 5-7=**\$8**; 8-9=**\$7**; 10-24=**\$6**; 25+ will be **\$5** each. Since we are not meeting in person, the calendars will be mailed with the cost of postage included in the price. Nancy Teigen will collect the orders and money. The November meeting will be a "reveal" of the 2021 calendar with each artist presenting their piece.

Mary DeChellis, librarian, said that she would be e-mailing a reminder to everyone who currently has a book checked out. If anyone wants to check out a book, please e-mail Mary. Mary DeChellis is also the coordinator of the 3x3 monthly word challenge. She had a 3x3 post-it note presentation explaining the project. The word for October was Abstract. Mary, Angie, Judy, Cindy, Cynthia, Nancy, Ollie, Catherine, June, Sharon and Gina all showed their 3x3 inch interpretation of Abstract. Mary requested that a photo of each piece be e-mailed or texted to her in order to showcase on the FWCG Facebook page and/or website. She announced that the November word will be BOLD.

Angie announced that the November meeting – in addition to the calendar reveal and word of the month – will now feature some virtual studio tours.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 pm. Angie introduced the speaker, Vivian Mungall, from the Scribes of Central Florida. Vivian presented a wonderful program on Cadel Capitals.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Teigen, FWCG Secretary



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CAPTIVATING CADEL CAPITALS with VIVIAN MUNGALL

Program Review by Suzanne Raif

On Sunday October 11, 2020 Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild hosted Vivian Mungall and her presentation called "**Captivating Cadel Capitals.**"

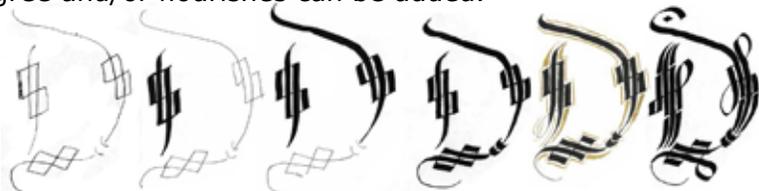
Ms. Mungall defined "Cadel" as a letter composed of a series of tape-like strokes — nearly parallel lines — which interweave and knot together to produce a complete letter.

A false cadel is made up of 2 or more unconnected strokes.

A true cadel is a pattern that can be traced completely from beginning to end without retracing any part; the entire pattern can be made without lifting the pen from the paper.

Often both true and false cadels are used to create a letter.

Ms. Mungall gave instruction in how she designs a cadel. She draws the capital freehand and makes a pencil outline of the strokes to build it. Using a 3.8 parallel pen, she manipulates the pen to create broad and narrow strokes. Once the letterform is completed, embellishments like filigree and/or flourishes can be added.



She explained her process in detail and her presentation was beautifully done. Vivian also showed us several examples of the art she had created using this wonderful letter form.

The Captivating Cadel Capitals program was very timely for me. I have difficulty coming up with ideas for cards for men. I needed a Boss's Day card and fast! Using this technique, I made a very nice card and the recipient loved it! This is not the first time a Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild workshop or program has come to my rescue! I'm sure it won't be the last.



NOVEMBER

- 4..... Mary Jane Ott
- 8..... Linda Jones

DECEMBER

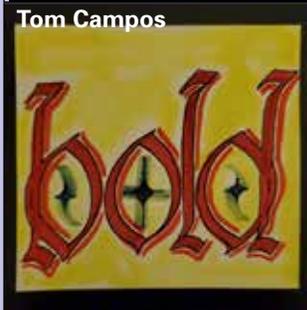
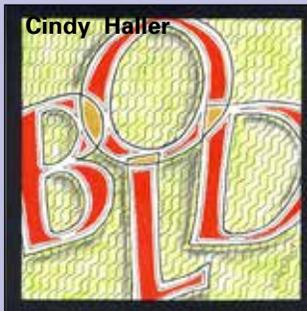
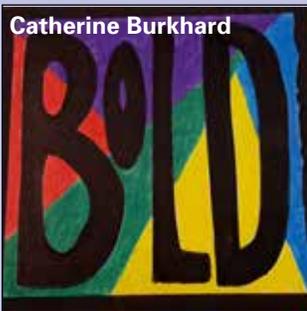
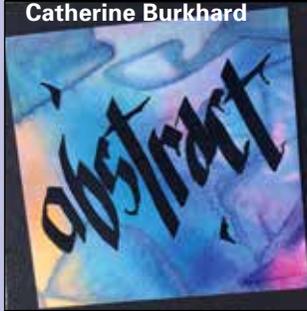
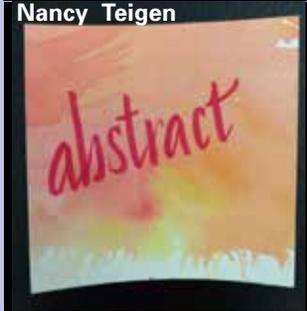
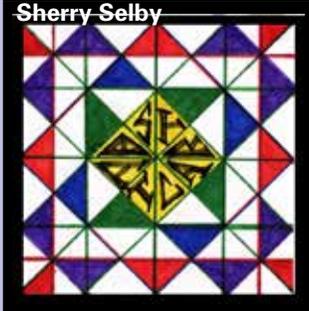
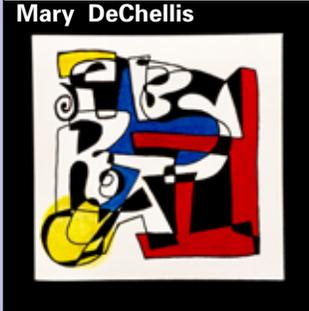
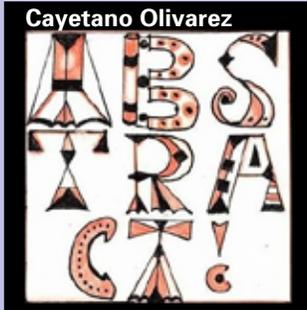
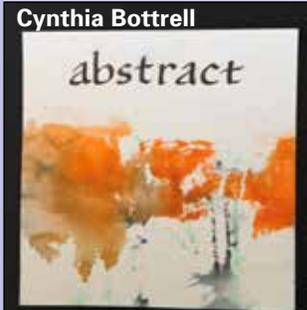
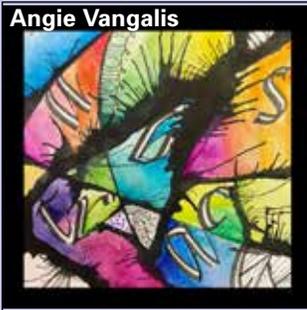
- 3..... Sharon Schmidt
- 4..... Nettie Richardson
- 6..... Nancy Teigen
- 7..... Angie Vangalis
- 8..... Sally Jackson
- 13..... Sherry Selby
- 19..... Mary DeChellis
- 20..... June Baty
- 20..... Mark Tresnicky
- 20..... Jeri Wright
- 24..... Ollie Olivarez
- 30..... Catherine Burkhard

JANUARY

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



Boss's Day card by Suzanne Raif



Cheat Sheet for Ready-to-Post 3x3 Art Work

The goal of this little cheat sheet is to help you photograph your 3x3 art work so it's ready to post on social media. I'm no expert and this is no comprehensive technical article, but when you get to the end, you might feel a little better about snapping those photos and posting your work.

Supplies:

- Smart phone with camera
- Black card stock, cloth, placemat, or anything black
- A place with diffuse lighting
- 3x3 art work
- A steady hand



Cropped and edited for Light and Color

Staging your photo shoot:

Place your art work on the black (or contrasting) cardstock. I have a piece of 9x12 cardstock that I keep handy just for taking pictures of my work.

Now find some diffuse lighting. A north facing window which provides plenty of indirect light usually works well. Direct sun light and overhead light can cast a shadow on your art work. Avoid using a flash which can wash out your colors and cause weird lighting effects.

Now frame your art work through your camera's view finder making sure all the edges are squared up. Take your time. Make sure there are no shadows. Make sure it's in focus. Now hold your breath and squeeze the trigger. Sometimes I take several pictures in several places just to see which one got "squared up" and "lit up" the best.



Not squared up



Not squared up



Overhead lighting and shadow



Glare in background is distracting



Poor lighting and background choice



Weird light effect from flash

It's been such a joy seeing everyone's 3x3 art work, and I'm looking forward to seeing what everyone does with December's word: CHAOS.

~Mary DeChellis

See Page 12 for more information about upcoming 3x3 assignments.

3-PART PROGRAM REVIEW

Due to continuing Covid restrictions, our "Second Sunday" meeting continue to be broadcast via Zoom.us

The Nov. 8 meeting featured three segments.

- Calendar Reveal
- 3x3 Word of the Month
- Studio Tour

The 18th annual calendar production culminated this year with a "calendar reveal" program whereby the artist got to comment upon their process in creating artwork that was projected on screen for better detail. All but one of the artists were able to attend the meeting so we heard from Angie Vangalis, Mary DeChellis, Nancy Teigen, Gina Tanner, Betty Barna, Suzanne Raif, Tom Campos, Cindy Haller, June Baty, Linda Langley and me. (Jeri Wright had sent in her comments.) I think the attendees enjoyed seeing and hearing a preview of the release.

In October we began a new art series called Word of the Month. The format consists of small renderings of an assigned word. The word "BOLD" was rendered by several members. (In October the word was "ABSTRACT".) I will feature snapshots of the ones that have been displayed in these two months. You might also tune in to the guild's Facebook page where Mary DeChellis (the coordinator of this project) is regularly posting our 3x3s.

Thirdly, we were treated to the first of a series of Studio Tours done virtually through Zoom. Angie showed how her studio workspace is set up and some of the clever ways she has solved storage and desk space issues. She has unique ways of displaying art she has done, ways of storing her open projects in 12x12 totes to house all the info she is working with to create that artwork. (See p.11 for photos)

—Sharon Schmidt

FWCG MINUTES: NOVEMBER 8, 2020

A Zoom virtual board meeting of the FWCG was held Sunday, November 8, 2020. President Gina Tanner called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

Gina proposed for the December meeting that we do a Christmas card exchange. Members can e-mail the coordinator if they wish to participate and the coordinator will facilitate the name exchanges. Gina volunteered to be the coordinator. Looking ahead to February, we may still be meeting virtually so various options for the traditional Valentine card exchange were discussed.

The 2021 calendar has been completed. Gina recommended that we be thinking of a theme for the 2022 calendar by April with a voting decision made in May. Ollie suggested a Art Nouveau or Art Deco style calendar.

Treasurer Cayetano Olivarez reported a book balance of \$10, 983.73. Ollie presented the proposed budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year. Cayetano Olivarez moved that the board approve the budget, Angie seconded and the motion carried.

Angie Vangalis asked where we are able to store our recorded videos of meetings. Monica Kelley recommended uploading them to the FWCG YouTube channel.

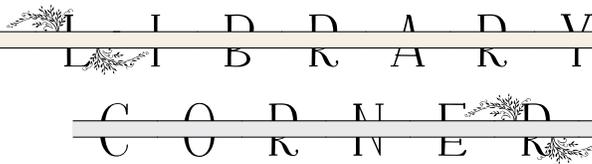
Mary DeChellis, coordinator of the 3x3 challenge stated that it was easier if members e-mailed a .jpg photo of their monthly project. Texting is the alternative option. She has been posting the photos of the 3x3 projects on the FWCG Facebook page. It was recommended that information on accessing the Facebook page be included in the upcoming newsletter. Mary will also write an article on editing the 3x3 photos for optimal viewing.

Judy Johannesen reported that she is reaching out to Jacqueline Sullivan regarding possibilities for the February 2021 workshop. The workshop is scheduled for Feb. 5-7, 2021

Angie has been participating in a Guild Vitality Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1853721804855898> which provides support and ideas for guilds. She suggested switching to a e-mail service provider such as Mail Chimp. Angie reported on upcoming workshops sponsored by TX Lettering Arts: Eleanor Winters on Copperplate, Carrie Imai, a 4 session class on Foundation Meets Bone. There is also a virtual Russian conference starting Nov. 9. For \$30, participants receive access to all recorded sessions. <https://calligrafest.ru/>

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Teigen, FWCG Secretary



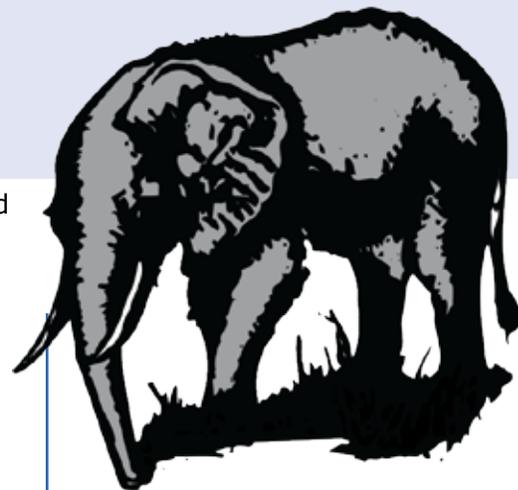
Bet you'd like to have one of our terrific library books to peruse during the after-holiday break! The temporary check-out system during Covid restrictions are the same procedure of requesting a book (go to www.librarything.com. On the home page, under "Already a member?" enter FWCG in the "name" field; the case-sensitive password is **Letters26**.)

Then contact Mary by e-mail mary.dechellis@yahoo.com to let her know which book(s) you want to check out. Arrangements can be made for you to pick up the book(s) and if no one else had requested it, an extended return date could be arranged.

THE CREATIVE PROCESS

(Or How to Eat an Elephant — Part 2)

Second Edition by Sharon Schmidt



My friend and musical director Megan reminded me of a joke I'd heard as a child.

"How DO you eat an elephant?" she addressed the group of singers as we were about to read through a monumental piece for the first time.

"One bite at a time."

So we proceeded to break it down in phrases and chipped away at it for most of an hour. By the end of that session we had, well, eaten the first course.

Have you ever said: "I'm not creative" or "I wish I could be more creative but I just never seem to be able to let it out" ?

There's that elephant in the room again. Anyone got a spoon? The more I read about it, the more I'm convinced **we ALL have creative potential.**

So let's explore the steps to and through the process of creativity. "Charlie" in a blog called productiveflourishing.com distills the creative process into four steps:

- **Preparation** (Ignition)
- **Incubation**
- **Illumination**
- **Implementation.**

As I meditate on this premise, I begin to see creativity as an exercise because it involves physical action. In relation to calligraphy and other arts, I now see it really IS a creative process. **It is not one action; it is a series of actions.**

My next thought is: Why not have all four steps start with "I"? So I'm renaming the first step "Ignition" and I'll explain why.

The Ignition Phase

This is where the work begins. It IS preparation on several

levels. It is the **acquisition of knowledge and skills, the development of ideas and the vision of how the art will look when created.** It is becoming familiar with the tools and concepts that enwrap it. It is the practice phase. (It may not always be the enjoyable part.) It is WORK!

I used to dread the part of tole painting where we had to select the wood, sand it, seal it, base coat it, etc. before we got to the fun part of painting on it. I wished I could hire somebody to prep the project so I could step

Continued, Page 10

Every creative endeavor has these steps in common:

DISCIPLINE (metaphor)	Ignition (the idea is born)	Incubation (the percolation)	Illumination (the Eureka! moment)	Implementation (the execution)
Cooking (<i>I'll make a meal.</i>)	Learn compatible ingredients, oven timing, etc.	Ingredients gathered; decide what to make	Presentation	Garnish
Exercise (<i>I'll get toned up.</i>)	Stretches, moves, etc.	DO the running, lifting, swimming, etc.	Performance	Cool-down
Music - Piano (<i>I'll learn a song.</i>)	Scales and chords	Practice the song	Perfect the song	Take a bow
Music - Vocal (<i>I'll write a song.</i>)	Vocalise (exercises)	Study lyric nuances	Perform the song	Goals for improving
ART - Scrapbooking (<i>I'll tell a story.</i>)	Idea/purpose. Who will read? How will it look?	Decide how to present; gather papers, tools,	Gather elements and assemble 'final'	Present the final art
ART - Calligraphy (<i>I'll letter a quote.</i>)	Practice strokes, vary papers, inks.	Experiment with tools/fluids/papers	Select/design/interpret the quote	How presented or framed
ART - Making Paper (<i>I'll make a gift.</i>)	Gathering supplies	Decide the form it should take	Make mold; cast pulp; dry	Mount or display
ART - Tole Painting (<i>I'll make wall art.</i>)	Prep the wood	Study/Decide	Produce the painting	Seal it/Hang it
Organizing - TIME (<i>I'll get more done.</i>)	Set goals, set limitations	Decide projects	Execute projects	Evaluate projects
Organizing - WORK SPACE (<i>I'll get control of my materials.</i>)	Decide on form/function, set 'zones'	Divide and Conquer	Contain/Display	Use and enjoy the space — CREATE!

Written for Fort Worth Calligraphers Guild, first published in 2010
Revised 2020

The above chart is part of the article but can be read separately. If you think of other disciplines that require similar stages of development, please let me know.

The Creative Process

Continued from Page 9



in and make it beautiful. With piano, we always had to practice the fingering of scales to train our little hands to hit the notes accurately with enough pressure to induce proper tone. Vocally, we'd have to hum a bit; sing a scale or two; sing softly some lines in the lower, then upper octaves in the warm-up of the lesson.

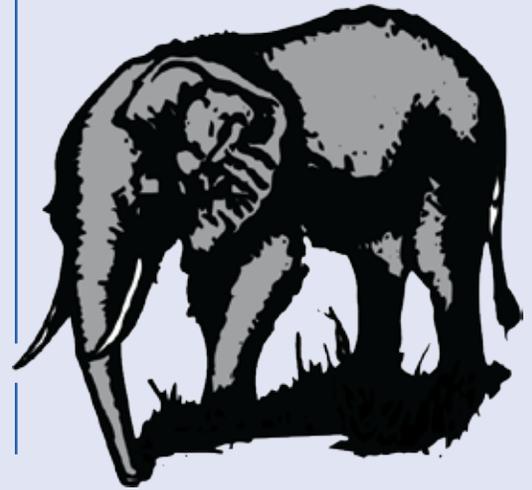
In all these illustrations, the **common denominator is the time spent in preparation** — the stretching of muscle specific to the task. The ignition of an idea is born in this phase. The spark

is likely to occur during this phase. **Ignition is more like work than play—more like discipline than creativity**—but somehow the one leads to the other.

In calligraphy, it is the experimentation of **making strokes** with different fluids on different papers (just to see how they react with each other). It is the **study of letterforms**. We study letter shapes and proportions trying to hit upon the pleasing balance of height and width of stroke and form. Thankfully, this can be a **satisfying process** because (a) there are only 26 letters to work with, and (b) no matter which letterform you start with, the things you learn can be *applied to all new studies*, thus shortening the

learning curve for mastering future hands.

In the next issue I'll focus on the other CP steps, but let me ignite YOU (challenge you) to familiarize yourself this month with different writing tools, different papers, different writing fluids — so you'll be prepared for the fun stuff to follow. It really IS a fun way to 'work.'



Look for Part 3 in the next issue of **Inklings**, scheduled for February 2021

WORKSHOP UPDATE

Jacqueline Sullivan has been scheduled for over a year to conduct a workshop the weekend of February 5-7, 2021. We hope to choose between "Lively and Luscious Layers" or "Sumptuous Surfaces," both of which are designed for all levels of Calligraphy.

Because of the pandemic, Stacey's is not open for classes yet, we agreed to put the final decision on hold until the end of the year. At that time, we hope to have better and more up-to-date information.

Jacque is trying to put a calendar together to keep everyone posted, but there were just too many uncertainties right now. She is fine with doing it virtually if that is good for our guild (another option). She has ongoing Zoom classes, but most are for the painting world instead of the Calligraphy world. Jacqueline plans to sit tight for now. Jacque is fine with whatever happens.

*Judy Johannesen, Workshop Chairman, 940-300-8424
workshops@fortworthcalligraphersguild.com*



ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

DECEMBER PROGRAM INFORMATION

WE WILL SHARE VISUALLY our Christmas Card Exchange cards

- Please take a photo of the envelope you receive so we can post on our website and Facebook page.
- Block out part of the address by placing a pen or something that doesn't interfere with the design and then snap the photo)

Plans for Legacies III include Virtual Classes. If you are tech savvy, and would like to help as a Tech Host, please contact angie@fwlac.org to get on the list!

UPCOMING JANUARY 2021 MEETING

Janet Takahashi will share ways artists can get organized for 2021.

Hey Guild! Below are photos from the first Studio Tour of FWCG back a few decades ago!

STUDIO TOURS

Tune into the **December 13 general meeting at 2pm.** After the presentation 3x3s and the hands-on project, the **December Studio Tour** via Zoom will be graciously hosted by **Monica Kelley** from her home.

Last month's tour was by **Angie Vangalis** (see page 8 for the program review.) Below are photos she supplied representing segments of her studio.



Above, Angie devised a "lazy Susan" that houses a myriad of pens.

She has created extra work space by stacking a second desktop elevated by 3" legs to allow some items to be stored underneath.

STUDIO TOUR Circa 1988 (by your editor)

A little history: Our first guild Studio Tour was actually an excursion to the homes of four scribes plus a restaurant lunch break. It was a full day of carpools in summer heat.

We went to the homes of people you may have heard of in our guild: Rachael Colvin, Sally Jackson, Harvey Anton and Marie Kizer. Each host showed his/her studio space and also offered a demonstration or a hands-on take-home project.

Above, Harvey showed his garage had been converted with kitchen-height cabinetry. He had full size professional mat cutter, light table and plenty of space for tools, papers, cutters etc. He even had heat and air piped in for working comfort. I believe he demonstrated how to do "String Embossing" by hand.

If you look closely you will see a few folks who are still around, albeit they may have their backs to you: Deanna Fava, Trudie Simoson, Mary Jane Ott, Marilee Haughey. (I was behind the camera.)

Below shows her ample floor space and treasured flat file.



Above shows Angie's elevated computer and camera for showing work on Zoom.

Continued
from
page 3



Wendy Telford Card Folder Project Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020. 2-4pm on Zoom

More examples of this style of card folder...



WENDY TELFORD



GAYLE ACKERMAN

3X3 WORD OF THE MONTH CHALLENGE

The December word is
CHAOS

Ground Rules:

The purpose of creating a 3x3 is for YOU to explore and try a technique or hand that resonates with YOU and the 3x3 Word of the Month.

- Artwork must be on a 3"x3" background. The 3x3 Word of the Month must be drawn or hand lettered.
- List the tools and materials you used to create your 3x3 Word of the Month on the backside of the 3x3.
- Photograph or scan the front of your 3x3 on a contrasting piece of paper (so the 3x3 stands out from a plain background) and mail or text to Mary DeChellis for her to post to our social media. See sidebar for details.

* IMPORTANT *

Prior to the meeting, you may text your photographed 3x3 to Mary at **817-271-4022** or email to mary.dechellis@yahoo.com AND PLEASE PUT "3X3" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

List which tools and materials you used to create your 3x3 in the text or email. Mary will tag you and your artwork!

Your artwork will be uploaded by Mary to our social media.