

Kaligrafos

The Dallas Calligraphy Society

SEPTEMBER 2006

VOLUME 27 | ISSUE 3

POINTED BRUSH LETTERING

You will need:

1. good quality pointed brush
2. ink, gouache or watercolor
3. paper

If you have a **Niji Waterbrush** (the refillable kind), bring it as the point quality is very good. Do not fill with watercolor or ink, just use this as any other pointed brush.

My personal favorite is the Pentel Color Brush. It has the color right in the barrel of the brush and the pointed tip is excellent.



E l i z a H o l l i d a y

SEPTEMBER meeting

Saturday,
September 9th
10AM

Artists' Showplace
15615 Coit Road
Dallas, Texas

DALLAS HERITAGE VILLAGE

Immediately following the meeting, Kaligrafos will be participating in the craft sale & demo at Dallas Heritage Village (formerly Old City Park).

You're invited to come and enjoy the festivities of the day.

Discounted vouchers will be provided the day of the Kaligrafos meeting.

For more information, please visit DallasHeritageVillage.org

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Texas Crossroads Festival
Saturday, September 9
11:00AM to 4:00PM
immediately following meeting

Formerly Old City Park

DALLAS HERITAGE VILLAGE



Kaligrafos will be participating in the family-friendly event hosted by Dallas Heritage Village (formerly Old City Park). There will be live music (Biscuit Brothers and Eddie Coker) and an old-fashioned carnival area.

Kaligrafos Members have been invited to sell their calligraphy-related items at this event.

If you're interested in selling items or providing demonstrations, please contact Marie Adamson for complete details.

Marie Adamson
marie@kaligrafos.com
972.771.4721

Below are some ideas if you are interested in participating:

- Bookmarks
- Cards
- Poems
- Books
- Paper goods
- Paste Papers
- Marbled Papers
- Calligraphy Supplies
- Anything calligraphy related!

You are not required to have a lot of items. Big or small—all are welcome!

Kaligrafos will also be participating in these upcoming events at [Dallas Heritage Village](#):

[Pioneer Harvest](#) in October
[Candlelight](#) in December

Tips for Framing Artwork

submitted by Donna Sabolovic

When participating in an exhibit of artwork, there are a few items we need to take into consideration. Framing our artwork is a large item. Almost all venues for exhibiting ask for regulations in framing

1) With calligraphy, mat your piece whenever possible. A calligraphic piece can be framed for a short time without a mat but should be transferred to a permanent frame later. Calligraphic artwork will adhere to the Plexiglas surface after a time and can cause a problem to your artwork. Mats are not just for aesthetics. They allow a space between your artwork and the Plexiglas or glass for protection of the work.

2) When framing for an exhibit, use Plexiglas instead of regular glass; this is a safety issue. Plexiglas can be purchased at Michaels, Hobby Lobby and Home Depot cut to size. I have ordered specific sizes from:

Altair - 972.231.5166
1260 International Parkway
Richardson, Texas

3) Use wire attached to eye screws on the back of wooden frames or metal hooks on metal frames. DO NOT USE SAW TOOTHED HANGERS. These are difficult to hang and can fall off the wall and damage your artwork.

4) Some artwork can be wrapped with heavy plastic without framing. This material can be purchased at Azel's in different thicknesses. These also need to have some sort of hanging mechanism. Individual art venues will let you know if wrapped pieces are allowed.

Iron that Paper

submitted by Janell Wimberly

I have alternately cursed and praised Arches Text Wove. This little trick has put this paper in my MUST HAVE category! Besides, it's not expensive and has a lovely feel!

Having to do several finished pieces for a client on antiqued Text Wove, I've come across a little tip that might make penning on this paper easier.

It is a good paper for calligraphy but has a tendency to catch the nibs, especially sharp chisel-edge and pointed nibs and causing splattering and interrupted ink flow. Antiquing the paper also adds to the problem because ink then wants to "feather" and spread when lettering.

I had to get these sheets as smooth as possible so I used a very hot iron and ironed directly on the antiqued/writing side. This is the side where the ARCHES watermark reads correctly. The other side is a bit rougher but can be written on as well. If you're nervous about putting a hot iron directly to your writing paper, put a sheet of clean white paper over the Text Wove before ironing.

Anyway, when I tried writing on it, the pen moved smoothly on the paper and the ink didn't feather or spread.

I used Higgins Eternal with a few squirts of very dark Walnut ink to warm up the color a bit. I used Tape and Speedball nibs as well as the pointed Nikko G nib and they responded beautifully on the paper. Just be sure to test on a piece of scrap paper the flow of ink each time you fill your nib. Too much ink will blob, as on any paper.

Before trying this procedure, the only things I could do to get it to work was to rub a lot of sandarac on the paper or spray with hair spray (heaven knows what that does to the longevity of the paper!)

Anyway, give it a try. If you've got a few scraps of text wove around, iron it! It's a beautiful paper to color ON BOTH SIDES without having to stretch it like most watercolor papers. It loves colors and by ironing it, it becomes much more compatible for lettering as well!

Harvey's Helpful Hints

Welcome back from another hot summer to a new year of calligraphic hard work. Hope everyone has dusted off their workspaces, nibs and pens by now and ready to dig in!

I would like to start this first newsletter column with a quote by Kahlil Gibran:

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.

As a substitute for sandarac and pumice, sprinkle Bon Ami onto the paper, rub it gently (it will scratch the paper if rubbed too hard), shake off the excess and write away.

What is the permanence rating on gouache tubes? The letter "A" is for maximum permanence of ink for pieces that will face East or South windows. The inks and colors will fade less with "A" permanence.

Use a cookie cutter to make larger size stickers out of contact paper – you can fancy them up with art, color, markers or ink

A good practice ink can be made by diluting the remaining ink in a bottle. You can see the joins and skeletons of the letters easily.

A good nib and window cleaning solution can be made with this mixture: 1 pint isopropyl alcohol, 1 cup sudsy ammonia, $\frac{1}{2}$ ~ 1 tablespoon mild liquid detergent. Now you have no reason not to clean your nibs and windows...or get someone else for the windows.

To avoid bottle ink spills: when buying a bottle of ink, use the paper box the ink bottle came in to cut an "H" into the wider side. Bend these flaps inward and put the bottle into the newly cut "H". The bottle will stay secure in this "H" and even catch an occasional drip from nib to paper.

Did you know that 10/11 words per line are easiest to read?

Keep a notebook for all your trials and record them (ink, paper, nibs, brushes, sizes and any other pertinent info). If you're like me, you won't remember what you did six months (or less) ago. This is a good idea also for your pieces sold to clients – the client might come back to you and want the same job done the same way with the same look next year...and you will have all the parameters at your fingertips.

Most shellac-based inks will destroy your pen nibs in a short time if not cleaned and dried quickly. A solution is to immerse the nib into water or cleaning fluid until you have enough time to clean the nib thoroughly.

And a good pen-wipe is a cotton ball (which will leave cotton threads on the nib, an a tee shirt square (which might leave cotton threads also), but one of the better wipes is a Mr. Coffee paper filter, which is totally lint-free.

It's best to proof-read an article from the bottom up and not try reading the word.

Store Exacto blades (in holders) by attaching a bulldog clip over the sharp blade to prevent hands and fingers from getting too close.

Till next month
Harvey Anton

Exhibit

Kaligrafos to host October Exhibit

Kaligrafos is hosting an exhibit during the month of October at the Renner Frankfort Library.

If you're interested in participating, contact Dianna Powrie for details.

Dianna Powrie
dpowrie@sbcglobal.net



September Classes •••••

Classes also posted on Kaligrafos.com

Carol Scott

Calligraphy

Beginning and Continuing

[Carol Scott](#)

September 11 & 18

Mondays

6:30PM to 9:30PM

S'Cool—Richardson

\$66.30 for Members

\$78 Regular Price

\$20 Supply Fee

Donna Sabolovic

Fall Flat Brush

[Donna Sabolovic](#)

September 13, 20, 27

and October 4

Wednesdays

10AM to 12:30PM or
6:30PM to 9PM

Stamp Asylum

\$80 + \$15 supply fee
 $\frac{1}{2}$ " flat brush and
pan set of watercolors

Calligraphy ~ Uncial

[Kathy Setina](#)

Mondays

October 9, 16, 23, 30 and

November 6

9:30AM to 11:30AM

Carpenter Park

Plano Parks and Recreation

Calligraphy ~ Italic

[Kathy Setina](#)

Saturdays

September 9—23

9:30AM to 12:30AM

\$30

Brookhaven College

Kathy Setina

Bookbinding Classes

[Catherine Burkhard](#)

Books 'n Letters Studio

September 12—January 2007

Tues. and Wed. classes available
Mornings or evenings.

3 hrs. each class

\$300 for this fall semester

[Catherine Burkhard](#)

Books 'n Letters Studio

Kaligrafos October Retreat

There is one available space at the upcoming Retreat. Contact [Donna Sabolovic](#) if you are interested in attending.

Our last retreat was a wonderful success and enjoyed by everyone.



6thJames Walters

19thDiane Crawford

25thMarylyn Bennett



Members who sell supplies

This section is now posted exclusively on [Kaligrafos.com](#). Visit section the “contact us” section for complete details.

MONTHLY MEETINGS: (business & program) are open to the public and are held on the 2nd Saturday of most months. | **MEMBERSHIP:** Open to anyone with an interest in letters. **ANNUAL DUES** are \$25 for individual—payable April 1st. Direct inquiries to Betty Barna 972.437.9757 | **NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS & EXCHANGE:** Direct articles, pictures, art or ads to Marie Adamson 3115 Lakeside Drive; Rockwall, Texas 75087 972.771.4721 or fax 413.618.9333 marie@kaligrafos.com **ARTICLES** may submitted via fax, as snail mail, text in an email or Word. Digital photos accepted as JPEG, TIF, GIF. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles and news is the 3rd Saturday of the month prior. **KALIGRAFOS** is published 10 times annually. Publication of any article or advertisement does not imply endorsement by the guild or its officers. Direct all other inquiries, general mailing and newsletter exchanges to **NO RE-PRINTS** without permission. **ADVERTISEMENT** of items for sale by members can be posted in the newsletter if space permits. A **FEES** of 10% of any sales through the newsletter or at meetings must be made to **KALIGRAFOS**. Contact newsletter editor, Marie Adamson, at address/phone listed above for information or to place an advertisement.