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THE DALLAS CALLIGRAPHY SOCIETY

*Calligraphos*

OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 31 | ISSUE 3

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THE AWESOME



RULING PEN

*Kaligrafos*

[www.kaligrafos.com](http://www.kaligrafos.com)  
October 2009  
Volume 31 Issue 3

Published 10 times a year  
by Kaligrafos,  
The Dallas Calligraphy Society

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# President's Letter



Presidential Seal By Janell Wimberly  
"We Ink 'em Up!"  
(for outgoing president Kathy Setina)

October is fast approaching and that means that the holidays are not far behind. It is time to prepare the cards and gifts of art that you might wish to present to family and / or friends. Perhaps you will be participating in some of the many craft bazaars selling your work this fall. The October program will be able to help answer any questions that you might have regarding: how to start a project, layout a project, market a product and many more. It is an open panel discussion so come prepared with your questions. Janell Wimberly, Harvey Anton, and Debi Sementelli are the perfect source to get your questions answered. Don't forget that we will be meeting at Custer Road United Methodist Church in Plano. It is located on Custer Road just south of Legacy Road and north of Spring Creek Parkway. It is easy access from either the Dallas Tollroad or US 75.

The first Newbie Workshop will be held October 3 from 9-12 at Custer Road United Methodist Church in Plano. Catherine Burkhard will present Gothicized Italic - a beautiful hand that resembles Blackletter. Don't miss it.

At the end of October is the much anticipated RETREAT! Donna Sabolovic and Jeri Wright have worked hard to give us a weekend date with our inner artist. This is better for the soul than any amount of chocolate. Lisa Engelbrecht will lead us in lettering on canvas. We will make a book over the weekend, but this technique applies to stretched canvas as well. It will stretch your skills to new mediums and fill your soul with the creativity that you were made for. It is just what you need before the more hectic time of year.

Sherry Barber

*Come early at 9:30 am to have some coffee and catch up with your fellow scribes.*

Kaligrafos meetings officially start at 10:00 am

... BUT...

we want more time to visit. To accommodate this wish you are invited to come early at 9:30 for coffee and a treat and time to visit. This will also allow the meeting to move from the short business session to the program session without a long break giving us even more time to learn about our craft.

# 30 Years of Kaligrafos

## 2009-2010 Kaligrafos Kalendar

### · General Meetings 2009-2010

<b>October 10</b>	9:30 am	<b>Panel Discussion</b> - Janell Wimberly/Harvey Anton/Debi Sementelli/Marie Adamson - Custer Road United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
<b>November 14</b>	9:30 am	<b>Embroidery Techniques for Designing Cards</b> - Betty Barna - North Central Division Police Station
<b>January 9</b>	9:30 am	<b>Come over to the Dark Side: Lettering on Dark Surfaces</b> - Janell Wimberly - N. C. Div. Police Station
<b>February 13</b>	9:30 am	<b>Annual Valentine's and Kaligrafos 30th Anniversary Party</b> - TBD
<b>March 13</b>	9:30 am	<b>Iris Folding</b> - Catherine Burkhard - North Central Division Police Station
<b>April 10</b>	9:30 am	<b>Color Theory</b> - Kathy Setina - North Central Division Police Station
<b>May 8</b>	9:30 am	<b>Flourishing Techniques: Making a Statement</b> - Marie Adamson - N. C. Division Police Station

### · Board Meetings 2009-2010

<b>January 24</b>	3:00 pm	<b>Kaligrafos Board Meeting</b> - Home of Betty Barna
<b>March 28</b>	3:00 pm	<b>Kaligrafos Board Meeting</b> - TBD

### · Newbie Workshops 2009-2010

<b>January 23</b>	9:00 am	<b>Lombardic Capitals</b> - Linda Jones - TBD
<b>April 17</b>	9:00 am	<b>Learning Parallel Pen</b> - Donna Sabolovic - TBD

### · Kaligrafos Retreat 2009

<b>October 23</b>	Begin 5:00 pm	<b>Fabric Books</b> - Lisa Engelbrecht - Springhill Retreat Center
<b>October 24</b>	All Day	<b>Fabric Books</b> - Lisa Engelbrecht - Springhill Retreat Center
<b>October 25</b>	Until 3:00 pm	<b>Fabric Books</b> - Lisa Engelbrecht - Springhill Retreat Center

### · Kaligrafos Workshops 2010

<b>February 20,21</b>	9:00 am	<b>TBD</b> - Sharon Zeugin
<b>June 5,6</b>	9:00 am	<b>Marbling</b> - Betty Barna and Rick Garlington
<b>October 23,24</b>	9:00 am	<b>TBD</b> - Annie Cicale ( <i>tentative</i> )

# Meeting Place Update

November  
North Central Division Police Station  
6969 McCallum Blvd # A  
Dallas, TX 75252-5990  
(214) 670-7253

October  
Custer Road United Methodist Church  
6601 Custer Road, Plano, TX 75023  
Phone 972-618-3450, ext. 236  
Fax 972-618-3778 \*\* [www.crumc.org](http://www.crumc.org)

Nov. 14 - Meeting/Program  
10 AM - 12 Noon (early birds at 9:30 AM)  
The room is quite lovely and the sergeant who books the rooms is putting us first on the list for the same meeting room for all the 2010 meetings (except the February meeting). The room is actually booked from 9 AM until 12 to allow us to be early.

Oct. 10 - Meeting/Program: Fellowship Hall.  
10 AM to 12 Noon (early birds at 9:30 AM)

## Just a MINUTE SEPTEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Regular Meeting - September 12, 2009

Meeting at Fretz Park Rec Center with 32 members and 1 guest. Library books now listed online and requests can be made via the site. Future meeting locations discussed. October 3 Newbie Workshop on Gothicized Italic to be at Custer Road United Methodist Church. Membership Directories were distributed. The new "Letter of the Month" program was introduced and the letter "M" was drawn with end results to be in person's own style, media, surface, and final being no larger than 6" x 6". Donna Sabolovic presented the program, "The Ruling Pen".

-- Catherine Burkhard, Secretary

### Executive Board Meeting - September 27, 2009

Donna Sabolovic is now scheduled for the April Newbie Workshop. The February 20-21 Workshop has Sharon Zuegin as the instructor. Guidelines set for "Letter of the Month" endeavor; results can well be part of a future exhibit or the exhibit itself. No fund raising projects decided at this point, but many cookbooks remain to be sold. A number of plans have been made by the Library Committee with a goal to have members utilize this educational facet. There are currently 75 members. Membership Directories are being distributed. Future meeting location a major issue since it is no longer feasible to continue at Fretz Park Rec Center. The two October meetings will be at Custer Road United Methodist Church and the November one at North Central Police Station. The Board agreed to have a bazaar in November, similar to the one held a year ago with a percentage back to the Society. Next Board Meeting, January 24, 2010.

--Catherine Burkhard, Secretary

**Illuminated Letter** \$100  
*Includes all supplies - choose Wed or Thu*  
**Wednesday Evenings** 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM  
October 7,14,21,28  
**Thursday Mornings** 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
October 8,15,22,29  
Will need a 1/2" or 1/3" flat watercolor brush and a pan set of watercolors. I have some for sale.

**Blackletter a.k.a Gothic** \$100  
*Includes all supplies - choose Wed or Thu*  
**Wednesday Evenings** 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM  
November 4,11,18, Dec 2  
**Thursday Mornings** 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
November 5,12,19,Dec 3

The above 3 classes are at  
Stamp Asylum 972/596-1224  
Contact Donna Sabolovic:  
[dsabolovic\(at\)sbcglobal.net](mailto:dsabolovic(at)sbcglobal.net)

Workshops taught by Janell Wimberly  
[www.jkwimberlydesign.com/Workshops.html](http://www.jkwimberlydesign.com/Workshops.html)

## Local Classes

**Private Lessons** \$30/Hour  
Summer & Fall  
**flexible hours**  
My studio in Sachse  
Contact: Carol Scott  
[www.carolscalligraphy.com](http://www.carolscalligraphy.com)

**Card Making Classes** \$5  
**2nd Tuesdays** 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM  
At 6805 Oak Falls Dr, McKinney, TX 75070  
**3rd Saturdays** 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM  
At THEO - <http://theosonline.org/Location.htm>  
Beverly Stewart, Instructor  
214/551-5782  
[beverlystewart@gmail.com](mailto:beverlystewart@gmail.com)

Come have a little paper "fling" before you get bogged down in all the homework papers! Bring your own scissors and adhesives. If you make a Stampin' Up! purchase, the class is free. As always there is no pressure to buy. Come, make cards and have fun!

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# Announcements

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## Mini Auction

**Do you have** tools, paper or supplies you bought but no longer use? Do you have some calligraphy work that needs a new home?

Bring it to Mini-Auction table at the next Kaligrafos meeting! Please specify a minimum bid. Unpriced items will be available for "best offer" donation.

**All proceeds from** the auction go to Kaligrafos to offset expenses of the Southwest Calligraphy Conference in Dallas this past January. The conference is a leadership meeting of the nine guilds in our region where we share ideas to become better guilds !

## Show and Share

Please bring any new work you have to show whether in process or complete and share it with us. You may also ask for suggestions from the crowd but this is not required. Input from others can get the creative juices flowing again.

## Membership Dues

2009-2010 Membership Dues are payable at the meeting. \$25.00 Single/\$30.00 Family.



### Library Books

A book of the month review is now a regular feature of the newsletter. Anyone can submit a review of their favorite calligraphy (or related) book. The book does not have to be in the library. That's not to say you can't check out a book from the library and submit a review of it either.

Dust off, update, revitalize, and grow our collection. The library is always looking for more books; donations are welcome in the form of books or money.

If ever you have questions your librarian is always available to help, just ask. There is an [email](#) link on the [website](#) or you can hunt me down at a meeting.

### Library Check-out Policy

- \* Only current members of the guild are allowed to check books out
  - \* No more the three (3) items shall be checked out at any time to any one member
    - \* Return Due Date is the date of the next regular meeting of the guild. No books shall be checked out over the summer break unless previous arrangements are made.
  - \* Library items are to be returned directly to the Librarian and will not be available for check-out until processed.
  - \* Past-due Fine breakdown:
    - o \$1/item for being one (1) month late
    - o \$2/item for two (2) months
    - o \$4/item for three (3) months
    - o \$8/item for four (4) months
    - o \$16/itme for five (5) months
- Summer months are included the past due month's accumulation.
- At six (6) months the item(s) shall be purchased by the member. The replacement value of the item(s) is at the discretion of the Librarian.
- \* Any member owing fines shall not be allowed to check-out privileges until fines are paid in full.
  - \* The books may be returned via the US Post Office to the Librarian

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## Southwest Calligraphy Member Guilds

Kaligrafos	Dallas, TX	<a href="http://www.kaligrafos.com">www.kaligrafos.com</a>
Fort Worth Calligrapher's Guild	Fort Worth, TX	<a href="http://www.fortworthcalligraphersguild.com">www.fortworthcalligraphersguild.com</a>
Sooner Scribes	Oklahoma City, OK	<a href="http://wimgo.com/events/27940/sooner-scribes-calligraphy-guild">wimgo.com/events/27940/sooner-scribes-calligraphy-guild</a>
Calligraphy Guild of Oklahoma	Tulsa, OK	<a href="http://www.orgsites.com/ok/calligraphytulsa">www.orgsites.com/ok/calligraphytulsa</a>
Capital City Scribes	Austin, TX	<a href="http://www.ccscribes.com">www.ccscribes.com</a>
Houston Calligraphy Guild	Houston, TX	<a href="http://www.calligraphers.org">www.calligraphers.org</a>
San Antonio Calligraphy Guild	San Antonio, TX	<a href="http://www.sanantoniocalligraphy.com">www.sanantoniocalligraphy.com</a>
Waco Calligraphy Guild	Waco, TX	<a href="http://www.wacocalligraphyguild.bravehost.com">www.wacocalligraphyguild.bravehost.com</a>
New Orleans Lettering Arts Association	New Orleans, LA	<a href="http://www.neworleanscalligraphy.org">www.neworleanscalligraphy.org</a>
Texas Lettering Arts Council (TXLAC)	Dallas, TX	<a href="http://txlac.org">txlac.org</a>

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# Spotlight on ... Sherry Barber



Sherry is the proud new president of Kaligrafos who is celebrating her 5th year with the group. A love of all things paper naturally lead her to the calligraphy. She happily shared some of her thoughts and passions with us.

## How I got started in calligraphy?

I have been making books for some time and went to an exhibit at the Minnesota Center for the Book and the subject was calligraphic books. They were incredible and I fell in love. Also saw my first letterpress at the same time. Luckily Legacies was being held in Dallas soon after I became a wannabe calligrapher and I took classes there.

## What keeps me coming back to Kaligrafos?

I find it a great place to learn more and be inspired by the work of others. I love being around fellow artists with the same love as I have for the art world. We have some incredibly talented members and I learn so much just listening to them.

## My favorite hand?

I love uncial as well as contemporary pointed pen. An odd combination, but that is just me.

## My favorite medium?

I like to use gouache as well as stick ink for lettering. Watercolor, acrylic, paste papers all all to the backgrounds as well as photography.

## My favorite tool?

Pointed pen and ruling pen.

## What I do with my calligraphy?

Books, cards, some wall art

## What I'd tell a new calligrapher?

Take classes from several different people. You can learn different techniques and philosophies from new perspectives.

## My family life?

I have been married to Alan for 31 years and have 3 children. My daughter lives close to us with a son, Noah. My eldest son will graduate from UNT this winter. My youngest son is at Texas Tech so we are empty nesters for the past year.

## I've lived in the Dallas area?

Since 1982 we have lived in the Dallas area. My husband got out of the Army and did a fellowship in Dallas and we found a spot in Plano to work and have been here ever since.

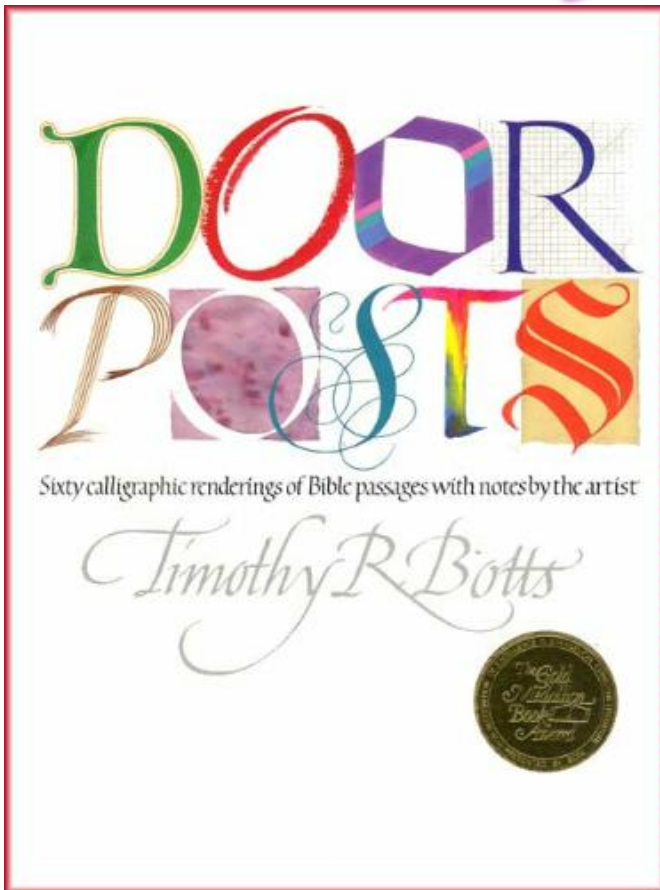
## In my "other life"?

What other life? I make books, print cards and invitations via letterpress, play at photography and calligraphy. I teach an in depth Bible study every week that requires a lot of prep time. My husband and I have been taking Ballroom dancing lessons for 3 years now. That is incredibly fun and great exercise. I also have to feed hubby so I cook a fair amount as well.

## My other interests?

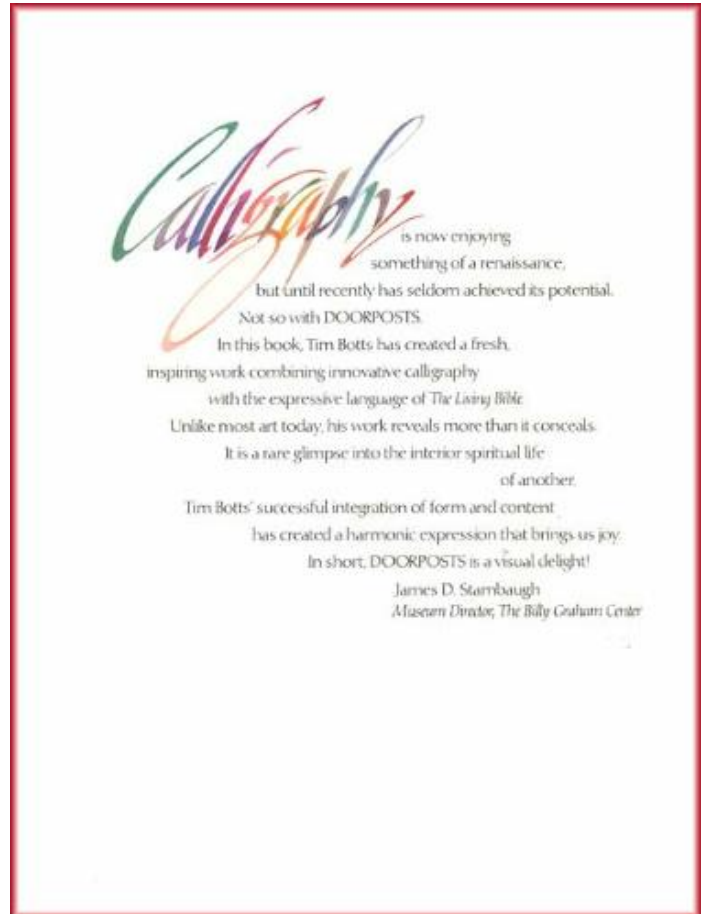
Dance, swim, ski, photography and eat Mexican food.

# Book of the Month



Cover

Back



Author: Timothy Botts  
Title: Door Posts  
Ranking: 5 Stars



Many times we are left staring at a blank page wondering what to do. Inspiration is a funny thing and can come from anywhere. Timothy took a journey through the bible and as passages moved him he wrote them, and through his writing captured his feelings and interpretations. This book is a journal through the bible in the eye and hand of a fabulous calligrapher. One does not need to be spiritual to be moved at the beauty of the work. Each piece has a brief narrative shedding light onto how it was interpreted and why.

.. Tom Burns

# Fine Watercolor Brushes

Have you ever wondered...

What makes a brush a watercolor brush?

And what makes a brush a *fine*, watercolor brush?

Should I care?

A calligrapher uses brushes for several tasks such as backgrounds, drawing and even for lettering. Some tasks are suited for throw-away brushes but for fine lettering what your brush is made of can make a big difference. There are more fine details about brushes than we can address here but we can hit the high spots. To further simplify I will stick to just watercolor brushes for now since most calligraphers use watercolor or gouache paints.

Any brush is constructed by taking brush fibers and binding them to an attractive handle using a metal ferrule. A good brush is balanced and comfortable to hold. The main difference between a watercolor brush and an oil or acrylic brush is in the length of the handle, a watercolor brush is shorter. That is the difference. But the simplicity ends here.

A good quality brush will have a seamless nickel or brass ferrule to prevent rusting and hair loss. The hairs will have a good "belly" at the widest point to hold lots of paint. The handle will balance comfortably in the hand and be painted or lacquered to prevent water distortion. Size, maker and series should be stamped on the handle.

Price is the basic reason for using different materials for the hairs. It is

interesting that even in our age of machine production that most watercolor brushes, even the cheaper ones, are still handmade so the price difference is in the material. A natural fiber will hold much more paint than synthetic fiber of the same size due to the microscopic ridges along its length. For instance a #8 round natural brush will hold as much paint as a #10 round synthetic. A Kolinsky brush will cost 10 times as the equivalent synthetic due to the desirable characteristics and the scarcity of supply. However, you will get a lifetime of use out of a good quality, natural watercolor brush that is properly maintained while a synthetic brush will get soft, fray and lose its shape.

The best brushes use natural hair for the fibers. Squirrel or sable hair is the best. But the very, very best fibers are winter tail hairs of the male Siberian Mountain Weasel, aka the Kolinsky (*Mustela sibirica*). These hairs have an unparalleled combination of softness, spring and snap.

There is one company so dedicated to the quality of their brushes that one must apprentice for 10 years before being allowed to make a Kolinsky brush. Other natural fibers used are squirrel, goat, and ox. Synthetics used are nylon and acrylic. Blends of natural and synthetic fibers are also used.

If Kolinsky is out of your price range then try sable. Sable comes from weasels and minks and has excellent spring, snap and water retention properties. Spring is the ability of the brush to return to its natural shape, snap is how fast the hairs straighten back out. A squirrel hair brush is soft, retains water well and holds a point when wet making it good for pointed round brushes and flat brushes. Goat hair has poor water retention and does not hold a tip but is still good for use in a mop brush for large area washes. Ox hair is usually blended with other fibers to improve water retention and flex but still does not hold a point well. Sabeline is fine Ox hair dyed to look like red sable and is effective in round or flat wash brushes. Nylon and acrylic retain water and a hard edge but they tend to soften and fray quickly. Brushes made from a blend of natural and synthetic are typically better than any synthetic alone. They have more spring and retain their edges better.

A brush is either round or flat but there are many special kinds of each type. A basic assortment of watercolor brushes would include rounds, flats, ovals and large wash brushes. When using a round brush use the largest size you can and still get the line you want as it holds more paint. Flat brushes have a fixed width so you don't have the same flexibility of choice. For a calligrapher the size of the letter will determine the width of a flat brush.

A round brush produces a variety of strokes from thin lines (using the tip) to washes (using the edge). A larger brush size has more to do with how





much paint it will hold than the line width you plan to produce. Although for very fine lines you will want a Liner or Rigger brush. Sizes are from 0000 for the smallest to 24 for the largest. A blunt round will not have the fine tip of a regular round.



A flat brush has a square tipped edge that produces hard-edged strokes and is used often in calligraphy. A bright brush is just a flat brush with shorter, springier hairs. Sizes range from 1/8" to 3" wide measured at the ferrule. A hake (hay-kay) brush is a wide flat brush made from goat of sheep used for large washes. Oval and filbert brushes are flat with a rounded tip used to produce blunt, soft strikes. An oval mop brush is used for large washes.



that produces hard-edged strokes and is used often in calligraphy. A bright brush is just a flat brush



A basic set of watercolor brushes would include

- #12 or #14 Round
- # 6 or #8 Round
- #1 or #2 Rigger (Liner)
- 1/4" Flat
- 1/2" Flat
- 1" Flat
- #6 Squirrel mop
- 1-1/4" flat

Good, natural fiber brushes are an investment. Better brushes will give you better results. Buy the right brushes to begin with and treat them well and they will last a lifetime!



.. Randy Stewart



We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,  
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.  
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,  
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.  
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,  
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.  
If the plural of man is always called men,  
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?  
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,  
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?  
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,  
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?  
Then one may be that, and three would be those,  
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,  
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.  
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,  
But though we say mother, we never say methren.  
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,  
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!  
So if Father is Pop, how come Mother isn't Mop?  
And that is just the beginning--even though this is the end

Tell this to your customer when you just  
transposed the letters in the last word of your  
commissioned work.

Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it  
deosn't mttair in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the  
olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at  
the rghit pclae. The rset can be a total mses and you can  
sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn  
mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as  
a wlohe.

amzanig huh?

## The place

My studio is the guest bedroom, so all my art things are sharing space with a trundle bed and nightstands. Art reference books are on bookshelves in the den, lying flat so the spines are easy to read.

## The process

In January 2008, I had to do major overhaul of my studio – after The Year of Reggie. So much stuff had just piled up. Since then, I’ve made two full sweeps of my studio – touching everything I own and dusting every shelf. I became reacquainted with items I had forgotten about – and found duplicates I didn’t know I had. I know I will repeat this “stem to stern” housecleaning periodically just to keep things fresh.

You may find the following tips helpful in creating a “healthier” studio for yourself, one where you can find things quickly and actually have time for art!

# My Studio

- ✿ Consider a small table for your light box so it’s always available – and off the work space.
- ✿ Keep like items together throughout the studio.
- ✿ Have most frequently used items (working supplies) close at hand.



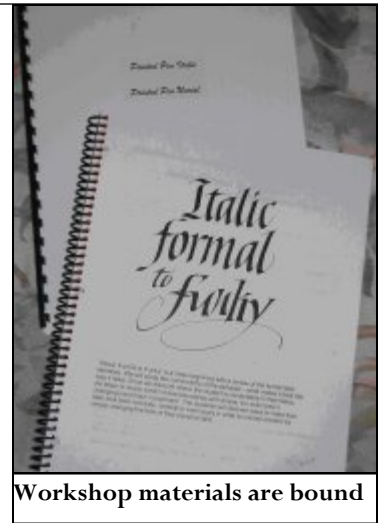
Most used items are close at hand on a lazy susan



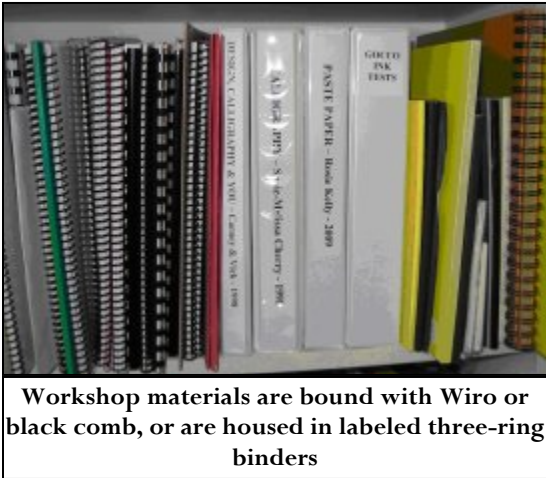
Clear bins are labeled for easy retrieval

- ✿ Consider a lazy susan for containers of most used brushes, pencils, color pencils, Sharpies, etc.
- ✿ Use clear plastic storage bins (shoe box size or other size) and put a label on each end.

- ✦ Bind workshop handouts, notes and practice sheets with black comb or Wiro, using clear acrylic covers front and back. (Thanks, Angie Vangalis, for this excellent idea years ago.)
- ✦ Create labels for the spines of binders housing workshop notes, portfolio, etc.



Workshop materials are bound



Workshop materials are bound with Wiro or black comb, or are housed in labeled three-ring binders

- ✦ Maintain an organized hard-copy portfolio of samples of your work.
- ✦ Maintain an electronic portfolio of scanned or photographed one-off work.



Commercial card stock is easy to grab

- ✦ Don't forget the amenities that attract your muse: cats, coffee and classical music.

Always looking for that perfect font. Look here for free fonts!

<http://www.1001freefonts.com/index.htm>

Thanks to Janell for telling us about this link.

## Reminder.....

The 2009 Kaligrafos Fall Retreat participant list is 'waiting list' only. Total retreat cost is \$200.00. Our instructor for the weekend will be Lisa Englebrect from Long Beach, California. We will be making a "Book of Intentions", an alphabet book on fabric, each page a different letter and affirmation.

The dates are October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Beginning Friday evening and concluding around 2:00 on Sunday afternoon.



Please see Donna Sabolovic or Jeri Wright with any questions or to sign up.

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# Kaligrafos

At the September meeting, we began our Letter Challenge! Each month, we'll choose a letter. You can interpret your letter design any way that you like. No rules, just one guideline...we'd like the finished size to be 6 by 6 inches.

## Letter Challenge

That's it! Try out new techniques, materials, or styles. Be creative with color. Bring your design to the next meeting to display in our informal "letter gallery". It will be fun to see each other's work, and we hope you'll participate!

The letter for September is "M".

...Julie Yuhanna

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The logo for Odyssey 2010 features the word "Odyssey" in a large, blue, stylized font. Below it is a blue silhouette of a ship's hull with a white mast and sail. The year "2010" is written in a decorative, circular font below the ship.

30th International Gathering of Letter Artists

**Letter,  
Learn,  
Experience.**

July 24 – July 31, 2010  
Stonehill College, Easton MA USA

For Information and registration  
visit our website

[www.2010CalligraphyConference.com](http://www.2010CalligraphyConference.com)

Registration for Odyssey 2010, the 30th International Gathering of Lettering Artists has begun. See all the details by clicking the "registration" button at the web site [www.2010calligraphyconference.com](http://www.2010calligraphyconference.com).

Odyssey 2010 also announced a scholarship fund designed to bring several young people to Odyssey 2010 to experience a week of lettering. Donations may be made by check payable to "2010 Calligraphy Conference" with 100% of the money collected used for scholarships. Please note on the check that it is for scholarship. If you would like a receipt of your donation for tax purposes, please include your name, address and email information and we will send one to you. If you know of any potential candidates, please let us know and we'll send you scholarship application information when it is published.

Odyssey 2010 is an umbrella organization of Masscribes Inc., a 501(c) 3 charitable organization. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

# Harvey's Helpful Hints



## Clean Up

In case you don't – do! Clean up your desk after each project. It is like yeast – the more you press it down it will rise again.

## Glue

For a wider spread of glue to paper use an old expired credit card cut to width.

## Color Pencils

Before buying a bunch of colored pencils you can get an array of colors out of Prismacolor TrueBlue #903, Magenta #930 and Canary Yellow #916. These colors blend very well together and will give you any number of hues.

## Wet & Dry

Watercolor dries lighter than when applied – gouache dries darker.

## Paper Trick

To flatten watercolor paper after painting, wait until the work is completely dry, turn it over, spritz the back of the paper with water – iron it flat again. Be sure the iron is set on a low setting so that the paper will not burn.

## Walnut Ink

Recipe for making Black Walnut Ink: Use a hammer to crush 10 walnut shells into fine pieces, place the walnut shells in a saucepan and cover with boiling water. Simmer until the water turns dark brown, add 1 tbs salt and 4 tbs vinegar (these make the ink permanent). Strain the ink through cheesecloth into a small bottle. Keep the bottle tightly covered when not in use.

## Envelope Test

If you are concerned how your envelopes will look after the post office gets through doing their thing

(we all are), mail an envelope to yourself and make any adjustment to the bulk.

## Wondering

Did you ever wonder why the alphabet is in that order?

What would a chair look like if our knees bent the other way?

Excellence is the gradual result of always wanting to do better.

There is a fine line between fishing and standing on the shore like an idiot.

## A Stretch

To ease the stiffness in your neck and shoulders try this exercise: using your head as a writing tool write the numerals 1 thru 10. This will stretch your neck muscles and make them limber again.

Till next month

*Plano Harvey*



Amazing paper sculpture cut from a single sheet of paper - to see more <http://jumeisetyo.multiply.com/photos/album/14>

# September Program Recap

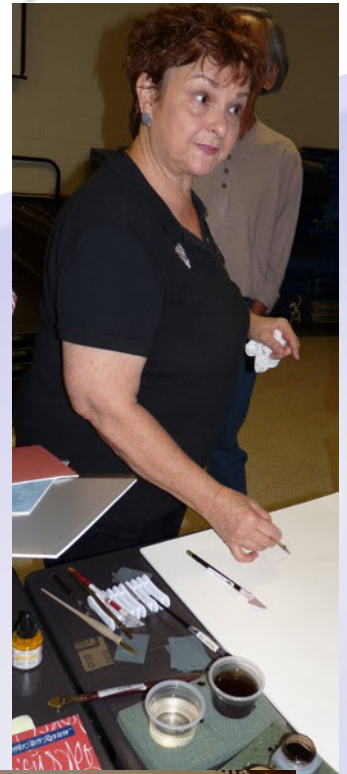
## THE AWESOME RULING PEN

Presented by Donna Sabolovic

Nan Kirby

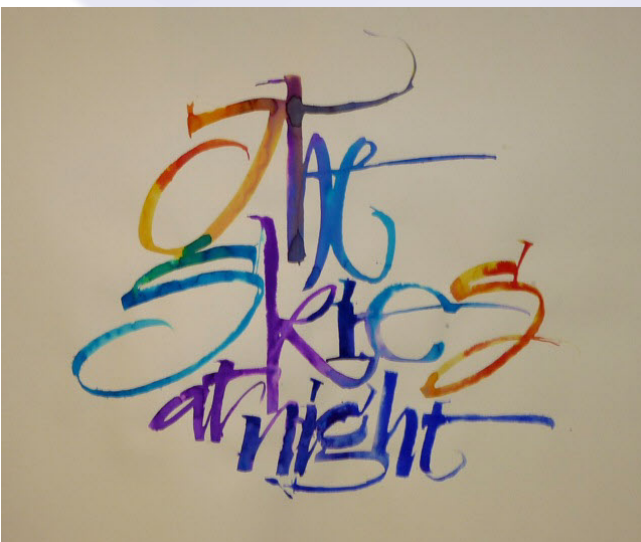
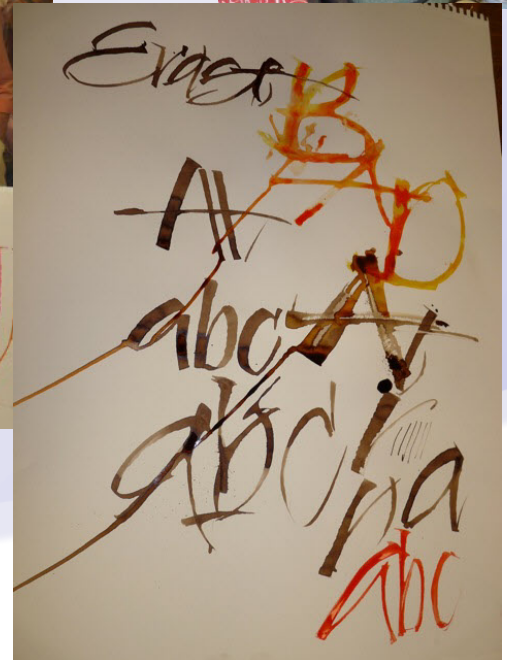
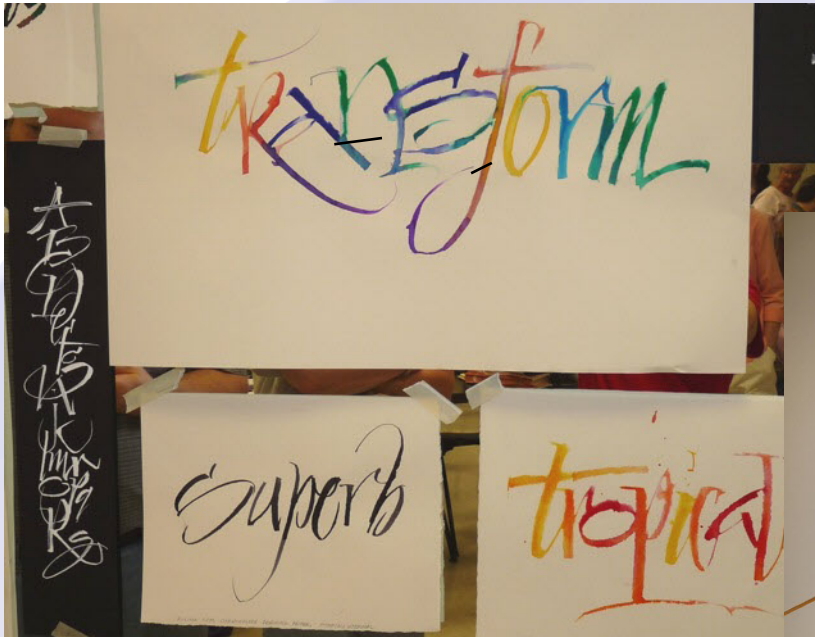
Louise Weber

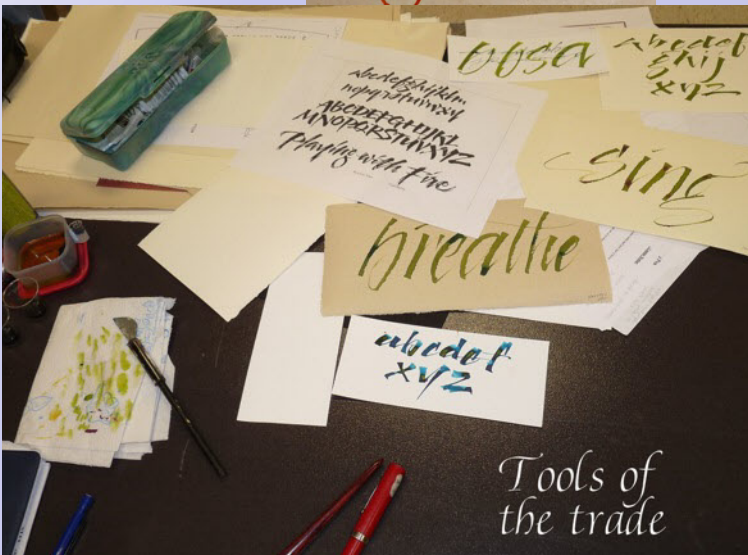
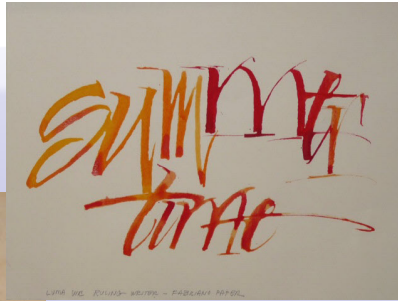
Bonnie Hoffman



We all had great fun learning to use the ruling pen, folded pen or ruling writer.

Pens used were true ruling pens, homemade folded pens and the ruling writer. The pictures tell the story...





## Practice Time

If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.

Mark Twain

All marriages are mixed marriages.  
Chantal Saperstein

*Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half of the people are right more than half the time.*  
E. B. White

**I am not young enough to know everything.**  
**Oscar Wilde**

I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.  
Will Rogers

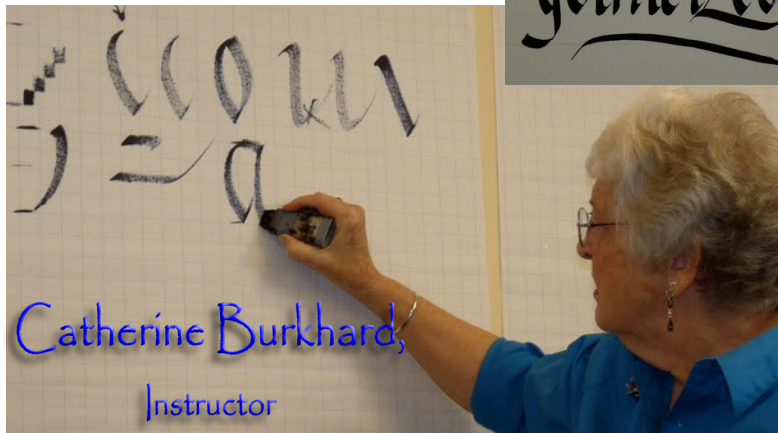
**M**

**An atheist is a man who has no invisible means of support.**  
**John Buchan**

**AN HONEST POLITICIAN IS ONE WHO, WHEN HE IS BOUGHT, WILL STAY BOUGHT.**  
**SIMON CAMERON**

# Newbie Workshop Recap

gothicized italic



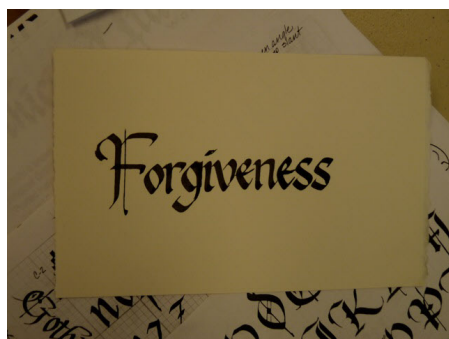
anna hithersay  
vocabulary  
autumnal

Donna Marie

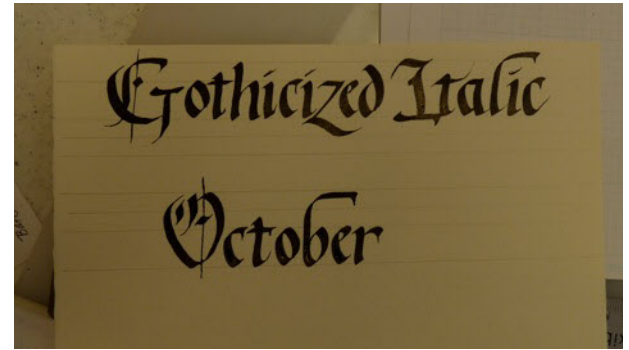
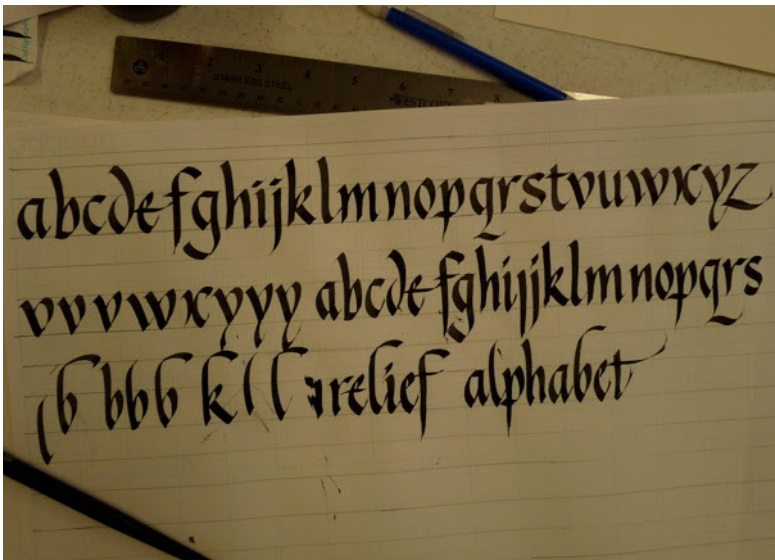
Catherine Burkhard taught Gothicized Italic to a class full of eager guild members and guests. While some were true “newbies” and others only new to the hand, all learned the basic strokes and found that beautiful words somehow appeared on the paper. It turns out that Gothicized Italic is a very forgiving hand and is a good one for a beginner to learn. The rustic look works in a variety of applications, even for formal works.

As Catherine told us we would only have time to learn the lower case letters in three hours we had, I snickered to myself thinking there is plenty of time to get the the upper case.

Somehow the time evaporated in spite of the quick

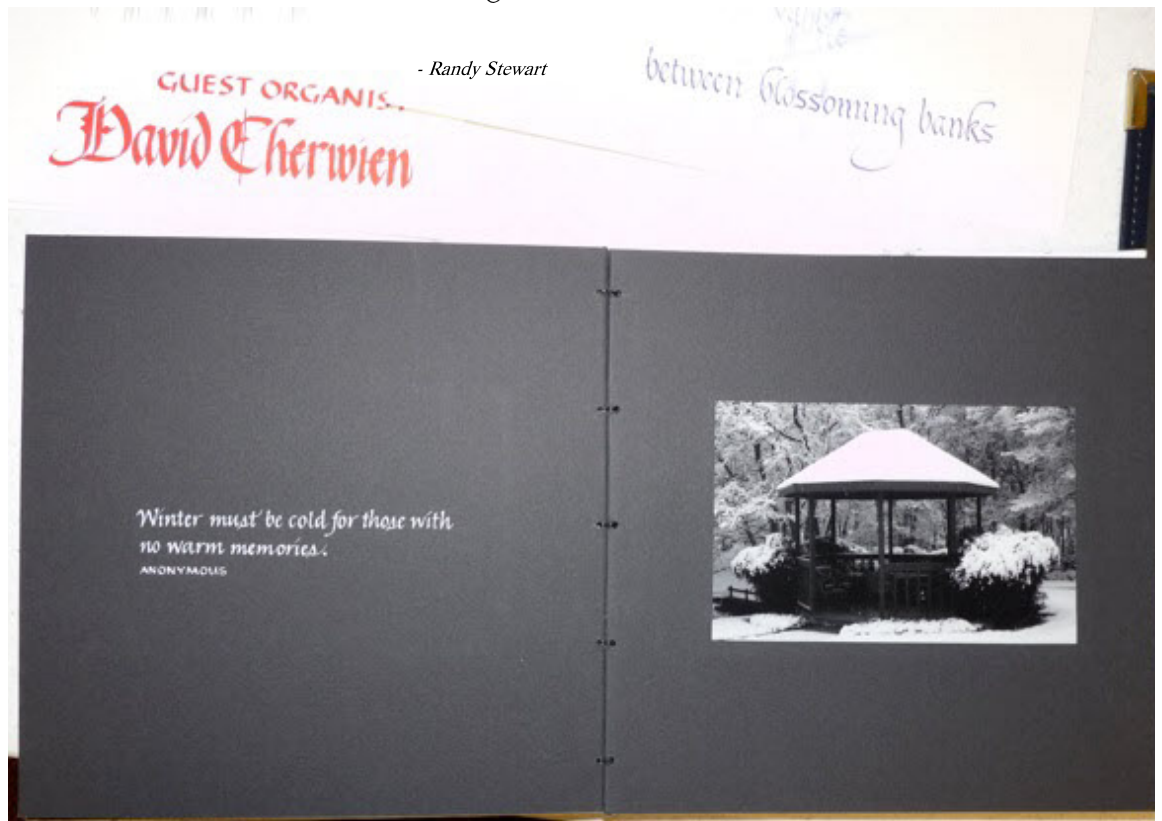






pace set by our instructor. Some did get a chance to pen a Capital or two with stunning results. I hope someone was taking notes on all of the technical jargon our instructor shared with us during the morning. If it were just me, I would think that some of the terms used were just made up.

When you add the pumpkin bread, coffee and orange juice and a room full of artists it was a very fine morning.



# From the Kaligrafos Mail Bag

Here are a few gleanings from the many newsletters our Society receives.

Don't forget to check with the Library Chairman to see the full article or whole newsletter. --Catherine Burkhard

## Bulletin

### The Washington Calligraphers Guild Washington D.C.

The Sept 09 *Bulletin* includes a) a great tip from Sheila Waters which will help Speed-ball nibs flow better; b) informative write-up about the 2009 Calligraphy Connection; and c) several photos of members entries in the Graceful Envelope Contest (good ideas!).

### Bow Valley Calligraphy Guild, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

EVERYTHING in the June 2009 issue is noteworthy for investigating and reading. And the titles in the Bone alphabet are super. Get this issue and enjoy!

## Alphabet

### The Friends of Calligraphy San Francisco, CA

The Summer 09 issue is full of excellent, educational articles. Another newsletter to obtain and enjoy!! I especially gained from *Wings, Skins, Ink and Splashes of Gold: A Workshop Review*.

## Nib 'n Inks

### Nib 'n Inks, Olympia, WA

This Spring 09 issue is a fun one! Patterns, ideas, information, and good article with illustrations on colored pencils and related techniques.

### Spotted in the September 09 Newsletter From the Nashville Calligrapher's Guild:

BBs added to ink to serve as mixing balls are not a great idea if the BBs are the plated ones (copper comes off) or steel ones -- they all rust. Your ink will be ruined. But aren't there stainless steel BBs? If you've put BBs in your ink bottles, you might want to check into this.

## Bulletin, Summer 2009

### Carolina Lettering Arts Society

This summer issue was mostly about their 30th Anniversary -- giving snippets of memories from through the years. A big laugh can be had by checking out page 18, "The Well-prepared Workshop Students' Checklist" by Mark Van Stone, Annie Cicale, and Pat Sheeler in 1983. And the cartoon was of the calligrapher with everything imaginable for a workshop hung about him, pulling a wagon (or truck?) of even bigger items. You just never know what you might need at a workshop?!

## Bulletin

### Carolina Lettering Arts Society

Fall 2009 is busting out all over in this issue. The full cover is all in color showing ice prints -- beautiful -- made with fall leaves. Read the article to learn more. (Yes! *We in Texas can do this!*) And on top of this, you don't want to miss *Japan Journal: Making Ink Sticks at the Boku Undo Factory in Nara, Japan* by Annie Cicale. Sooo interesting. And don't miss pages 8-9 and 11. [You'll have to check the issue out from our Library to see why. :-)]

## Newsletter

### The Valley Calligraphy Guild Eugene, OR

Their May-August 09 issue is another publication chock full of wonderful articles: a) *Envelope Book*; b) *Collage & Collaboration*; c) *All About Inks* -- 6 pages!!!; and d) 7 pages (one in color) of photos in a recent exhibition.

## Flourishes

### San Antonio Calligraphers Guild

Their Sept 09 newsletter was received via e-mail. Pictures are included of two play days held in August which allowed for 100 sheets of paste papers (4 layers on each side) to be made. Result was a 'limited edition' of packets with these papers which sold for \$10.00. Their mini-workshops also have some photos and sound like fun while learning.

### Handscrit, July-August, 2009 Houston Calligraphy Guild

This issue features several great photos of the Guild's 30th Anniversary Celebration last May. They had a good crowd of 70 present, had six tables set up for demonstrations and hands-on participation (read the issue for all that was taught!), and ended with a buffet of pizza and lasagna with salad and pies. Yum. Congrats to Houston!

This issue also describes this year's Retreat October 17 & 18, an annual event. The members offer the workshops (9 offerings this year), you get to take 3 of them. The event is being held at the Westchase Marriott.

## Summer 2009 Bulletin

### The Washington Calligraphers Guild

This Bulletin's review of Sheila Waters' recent exhibition is very interesting and several of her pieces are featured on the two pages. The exhibit, "Sheila Waters: A Retrospective 60 Years in the Calligraphic Arts", was held July 18-August 22, 2009, at The Mansion at Strathmore, Rockville, MD

## Newsletter, August 2009

### Michigan Association of Calligraphers

Though it was a small article in the August 2009 issue, it caught the eye. Where do you get your color inspiration? Author Lisa Gleeson said she got her inspiration for a beautiful purple when she purchased a pint of "smushed" blueberries that had been made into sorbet. She noted that the fun part was the effort in replicating the color, which can be the case with any color you'd like to duplicate -- be it with gouache, ink, watercolor, acrylic, etc. (She asked their members to share how they got color inspirations so they can be shared in the next newsletters. So we may be hearing more!)



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