

# Kaligrafías

OCTOBER 2016  
VOLUME 37 NO. 3



**STONE CARVING WITH JAVIER MARDONES-HERMOSILLA**

# President's Letter



**"We Ink 'em Up!"**  
*Presidential Seal By Janell Wimberly*

Welcome all ghouls, goblins, and Scary line lurkers.....

Tis' October and soon enough All Hollow's Eve will be upon us. The air is crisp and the moon can have an orangish/golden hue. Nights are cooling down and fire pits will be glowing. Let yourself enjoy all that is autumn and take your lettering places it's never been. Never leave home without a journal and pencil at a minimum. Doodling while enjoying the weather outside and company of family and friends can be inspiring.

September was truly a whirlwind with the weekends packed with

lettering, from our guild meeting, followed by the Kathy Milici workshop the next weekend, and then the Dallas Pen show...Oh My!

Kathy's workshop was 2 glorious days of learning, and the excitement of changing venues made it like a scavenger hunt. Day 1 - learning Storybook Script which in its simplest terms is a pointed pen variation with the Milici touch! Having so much fun playing with letters should be a crime, but I'm glad it's not! Day 2 - Flourishing for Chocolate....and that's no lie as she gave us each a little sampling of chocolate. And, oh my goodness, flourishing was broken down so even I could follow. The mesmerizing twists and turns were de-mystified so eloquently by Kathy. I can say this is one of the few workshops that I started working on what I learned the following week and completed a couple of cards and have more ideas floating around in my mind.

The Dallas Pen Show - Holy smokes letter lovers! This was incredible and I thought last year was spectacular. BIG THANK YOU! to Eric and Rick being there all day on Friday and Saturday and Nanci for pulling 2 shifts between both days. Our fine letterers, Jeri, Trish, Angie, Nicole, Ken and our promoters Erin, Trish, Nanci, Stephanie and Brenda. We also had several other members come out and stop by. It was awesome to see everyone there. I don't know, how many names were penned between both days, but I'd say it was over 200. Maybe next year we'll have a little sign up book (hint, hint Rick) for those wanting their name written, then we could keep track. I could go on and on about all the neat and fun things at the pen show, but I won't bore you with that...however if you want to know just seek me out at the meeting and ask ;-)

Jeeper Creepers! Next month is November and that means our annual Bazaar. Don't forget to finish up your items or complete your fall clean up of items and tools you no longer use and bring them to sell.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and fun stuff on our brand spanking new re-designed web site....Huge round of applause to Sherry for taking that on. That was a big project and I think it looks really sharp! If you see anything not working or something missing drop her a friendly note. We are also looking for someone to help her out so if you're interested please let her or me know. She's done the hard work; now it's just maintaining and updating.

Signing out for now....if you need me I'll be hanging from the rafters writing.

Thomas



## BOARD MEMBERS

*President:*  
Thomas Burns

*Vice President:*  
Betty Barna

*Treasurer:*  
Rick Garlington

*Secretary:*  
Jeri Wright

*Exhibits:*  
Margaret Mall

*Historian:*  
Randy Stewart

*Library:*  
Brenda Burns

*Membership:*  
Eric Doerr

*Newsletter:*  
Trish Manche

*Programs:*  
Cynthia Stiles

*Fund Raising:*  
Javier Mardones-Hermosilla

*Communications & Workshops:*  
Sherry Barber

## 2016-2017 CALENDAR

### General Meetings - 2nd Saturdays 10:00am

Come early at 9:30am for social time.

**October 8<sup>th</sup>** • Javier Mardones-Hermosilla -  
Stone Carving

### Board Meetings

**December 3** 1:00pm • Tom's Place

**February 25** 1:00pm • Margaret's Place

**June** 1:00pm • Javier's Place

### Workshops

**March 2017** Risa Gettler Visogoth Versals

Details coming soon.

### Mini Workshops\*

**October 15** – June Baty – Zentangles

**October 29** - Tom Burns – Intro to Dip Pens

**November 5** – Jeri Wright – Copperplate Minuscules

**January 21** - Rick Garlington – Ruling Pen

**October 15** - Betty Barna - Italic

**March 25** – Linda Jones – Intro to Dip Pens

\* These are 3 hour sessions in the member's home - unless otherwise notified. Must sign up and if too many are interested, there will be a random drawing for the available slots OR a possible second session.

*The Kaligrafos Newsletter is published 9 times yearly in the months of regular meetings. Send art, articles, announcements or comments by [clicking here](#).*

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## Meeting Location

The Kaligrafos meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will be held at the  
**Lovers Lane United Methodist Church**  
**9200 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75220**

Look for us in Room C103-105 on the first floor over by the gym on the west side of the church campus.

# A Review Collaborative of the Dallas Pen Show

The Pen Show was a fabulous opportunity to get the Kaligrafos name out there and encourage folks to join us. We had several volunteers who talked with attendees of the show about our group and other volunteers who penned names on Kaligrafos' bookmarks. Friday night a member of the Arkansas Calligraphy Guild stopped by to say hello.

Tom Burns came prepared to pen names using Peter Thornton's button alphabet with four very striking inks he blended from Pearl Ex powders on both black paper as well as the bookmarks.



Angie Vangalis was there on Friday evening armed with Chisel tip felt pens doing italic and little embellishments.

During the calligraphy presentation by Tom Burns and Rick Garlington, Ken Robison penned names in his italic style. Ken was also popular and was a great spokesman for Kaligrafos and the art of lettering.

The presentation was very well received and the room filled to capacity. Tom did his usual rambling, but there was a lot of interaction with the crowd as the topic focused on calligraphy tools. The demos gathered a lot of attention as both Tom and Rick set up and let the ink fly, while folks wandered back and forth between the tables trying to soak up as much information as they could.



Our table generated a lot of interest. We have two new members from our presence and several others showed interest. It was a fun event and time well spent for our organization.



*Thanks to Kerry Kemp from the Calligraphy Guild of Arkansas who stopped by to say hello and took this*



# Batik Cards Program

## Review by Trish Manche

This was an educational and fun program. We learned a bit about the history of the Batik (pronounced Bah-tick) process. Batik is a technique of wax-resist dyeing on fabric.

Some of the supplies for this process are available locally from Asel Art and the rest can be obtained online from Dharma Trading Company.

There are a couple types of wax that can be used for the process, a special Batik (half paraffin and half sticky wax) or mix your own with half paraffin and half beeswax. Encaustic wax is not suitable for this process because it is too thick and not as permanent. The wax does not require a high temperature to melt and overheating it will damage the wax. Melt the wax in a disposable foil pan that could be easily removed from the heat and stored for future use. The wax can be reheated for multiple applications. The heat source could be a simple hot plate or griddle or you could purchase a special "Melting Skillet" for this process.



They recommended three types of paper: watercolor paper, Arches text wove, and rice paper. To get a good design, you want the wax to soak into the paper or it may crack and be ineffective. You may not see this on the watercolor paper but the reverse of Arches and the rice paper have a translucent appearance where the wax has been applied.

The tools used for this process are called Tjantings. They are constructed of a wooden handle with a metal end and a small tube. There is a hole in the handle to load the wax. They come in a variety of sizes to make different size marks. Other tools can be used such as stamps without much detail or in some cases a paint brush although it is not recommended as a tool for this process.

To begin, the wax should be melted and thin but not cool. You will want to have plenty of paper towels on hand and cover your workspace with newspaper. You will choose a pattern you want

to add to the paper. The pattern can be sketched in pencil (but the lines will need to be erased), or just free hand the design.



Load the tjanting size you want to use with wax and pour the wax through the tube making the design on your paper. Use a paper towel to catch the excess wax when transferring the tjanting to the paper. Let the wax dry completely.

After the piece dries, gently scrape the wax from the design with a palette knife and gently iron the piece with a piece paper towel on top to remove the remaining wax residue.



*Thanks for our photo contributors –  
Betty Barna and Tom Burns*

Once the design has dried and been scrapped, it can be decorated with watercolors, Adirondak color wash spray, alcohol ink, Dr Ph Martin's ink or a variety of other mediums.



If you wish to write on the piece, you should use a workable fixative spray to preserve. Be sure to avoid writing on the wax it might just resist the ink too.



If you have a unique piece, you may want to color photocopy the piece on Arches for use on cards.

Each attendee had the opportunity to create 3 pieces (one on each type of paper) and take home to make their own creation.

The samples were incredible and I can't wait to see finished samples at our next meeting.

This is a great technique to add to your bag of tricks for a unique look. Thank you to Jeri Wright and Sherry Barber for introducing the group to this awesome technique!

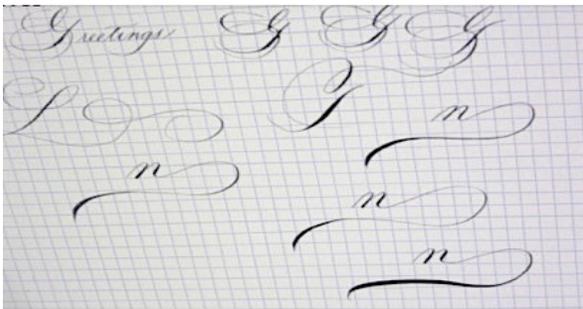
# Review of Storybook Script with Kathy Milici

By Margaret Darphin Mall

At the beginning of this day-long workshop, Kathy Milici talked about her goal which was to help participants “see” letters in a whole new way! “Story Book lettering” in Kathy’s words is a “contemporary twist to the traditional alphabet.” As Kathy said at the end of her introduction to the class, “To me, calligraphy is a metaphor for life: Full of exploration, discovery, failures/successes, and unexpected twists and turns. The greater the effort, the greater the reward. There is such joy in the learning! Slow down, relax, and enjoy every moment.”



All-in-all, the Saturday class was a lot of fun, full of learning, full of trial and error and full of spontaneity.



The Story Book letters were fun to learn and practice. One thing that meant a lot to me (the writer of *this* section of the weekend), was that when there are two letters in a word that are the same, they do not have to be lettered alike; they do not have to be lettered and look the same. Each letter can have an individual look! Surprise! It looks really good! Story Book letters seem to be quite versatile and interchangeable with other letter forms. Kathy’s exercises were designed to help us learners learn how to create ligatures, connect letters into words and ‘bounce’ across the base line to create a “casual, light and spontaneous look and feel” to our work.



*This is a spontaneous massage line that popped up during all our hard work.*



*Even Kathy joined in the fun.*

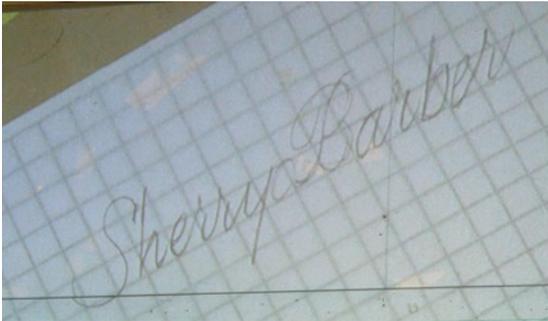
# Review of The Flourished Name with Kathy Milici

By Linda Jones

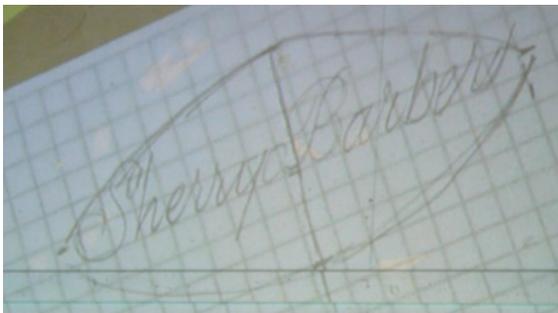
On Sunday, Kathy Milici taught The *Flourished Name* workshop. She used examples from *The Zanerian Manual of Alphabets and Engrossing* to show us that flourishes should be based on oval shapes and made as extensions of letters or added afterward. Where the flourish lines cut through letters or capitals, they should intersect at 90° angles.

Kathy recommends we start in pencil and only after creating a nice design should we move to pen and ink. She also recommends never throwing away pencil sketches as they show you what works and what doesn't. When you decide that a design isn't working, start over in a clean area rather than erase the parts that don't work and write over them.

To flourish a name, write the name in pencil. Mark the ascenders and descenders as their extensions might be flourished.



Draw an outside shape around the name. In her example, Kathy used an oval.



Use your pencil to extend the ascenders, descenders, and capitals to fill up the shape you drew around the name. Kathy recommends using bigger flourishes and making fewer of them.



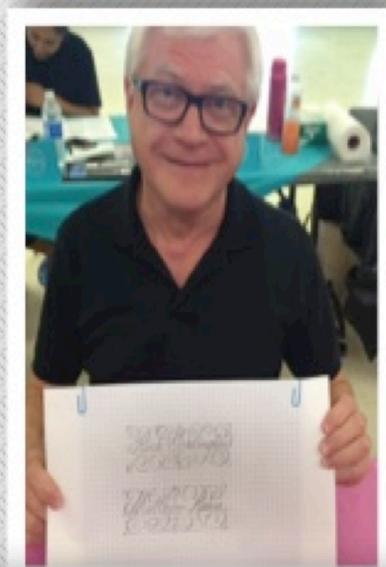
Check to make sure your flourishes don't cause a letter to read as two letters which will change the name you've written.



The pictured examples of flourishing Sherry Barber's name were done by Kathy Milici as her demonstration for the class.



**Thank you Kathy Milici for an amazing workshop!**  
Below are some additional photos of the weekend.





This beautiful piece was made by Kathy during class and given away via random drawing. Congrats Tom Burns!



Thanks to Jeri and Sherry for organizing our co-op lunch of Taco Soup on Sunday. It was delicious



Photo was taken at the end of the Sunday class. Jeri Wright, our photographer, is missing from the photo.

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## September Meeting Minutes

- Kaligrafos will have a table at the Dallas Pen Show again this year, to be held at the Double Tree Hotel on September 23rd and 24th, 2016. Tom Burns and Rick Garlington will be giving a one hour talk about Kaligrafos on Saturday. Volunteers wishing to sign up to help man the table should contact Eric Doerr.
- St. John's Bible on display in Oklahoma City mid October through early January. Tom announced he can carpool on November 19th. Contact him if you are interested in going.
- Website being updated by Sherry Barber.
- Kathy Milici workshops Saturday and Sunday, September 17th and 18th.
- Mini workshops sign up sheets passed around to membership
- Currently 91 paid members.
- Two firm exhibits scheduled (Artists' Showplace/March 2017 and Lovers Lane UMC/July 2017)

# Harvey's Helpful Hints

## By Harvey Anton

**So many things** are no longer around that we thought necessary and useful (think about it). The same goes with the Vintage Nib. There was a time when we didn't use anything else (there wasn't anything else to use), but now we have a choice of locating a vintage nib or struggling with a newly manufactured nib.

**This month's spotlight** is on the PALMER #9 NIB and THE ESTERBROOK #130 EASY WRITER NIB. The Palmer #9 nib started the Palmer method of writing. Yes, it is that good! Come by my table to try one out-along with the Easy Writer. You will find both extremely flexible, long lasting and very easy to use. I'm sure you will agree with me.

**Vintage nibs** had a lot more manufacturing control and hands-on quality control, making sure each nib came off the line as good as it could be. It took 2 full days to make a nib!...not so today (in most cases)!

**Several times in the past** I have mentioned using the Dremel Rotary tool. If you don't care to pay for the name, but get a very usable compromise, try the Chicago Brand of Rotary tool from Harbor Freight Tools (in the shopping center on Josey and Frankford). I have tried several, including Dremel, and like this one as well, plus it comes with all kinds of accessories and a case too, for a fraction of the cost you'd pay for the Dremel.

**How 'bout this:** Bond tissue paper to the shiny side of freezer paper. Yes, you can by using a hot iron. This same usage is reliable on aluminum foil also. This will give your art a very distinctive look and the person looking at your work will definitely give it a second look.

**Another eye-catching effect** is to cover an envelope with faint or small writing before

using larger lettering. This will give the letter-carrier something to look at and think about before delivering plus the recipient will love it.

### **One of my favorite ink blotters:**

purchase a 2-piece sanding block at a home improvement store, keep the sandpaper for later use, cement a drawer pull knob on the flat (top) side. On the other half mount your blotter using about 1/2 inch more blotter on each end. These two ends will tuck into the slot where the sandpaper would have gone. Snap the two parts together and you have a very workable "rocking" blotter...a new version of the old rocking blotter of days gone by.

Til next month, for beautiful calligraphy and mental peace, and a peaceful Halloween from the goblins,

Harvey Anton –  
Penstaff@verizon.net  
Home: 972-301-0172; Cell: 817-470-2735

Remember to contact me for vintage nibs, etc at reasonable prices and Kaligrafos receives 10% of every sale. Everyone wins!



*Kaligrafos' members wish to express out deepest sympathies to Grace Ann Vanderpool on the recent passing of her mother.*

# Announcements

## Library Books

*Reminder* library books are due at the next meeting. Browse The Library Thing

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog/Kaligrafos>

After you pick your titles, email your selection(s) to [library@kaligrafos.com](mailto:library@kaligrafos.com). Please add Library Book or Kaligrafos in the subject line. Your selection will be delivered at the next scheduled meeting.

## Card Donations

Membership appreciates your contributions of handmade cards for birthdays and other occasions. Please give donations to Eric Doerr.

*Like Kaligrafos on...*



## 2016-2017 Membership

Join Kaligrafos Calligraphy Society

- \$25 for individual membership
- \$35 for family membership

[http://kaligrafos.com/join\\_us/join\\_us.html](http://kaligrafos.com/join_us/join_us.html)

Please send membership changes of your information via email to Eric Doerr

[alligraphy@letterboxes.org](mailto:alligraphy@letterboxes.org)

## Book Reviews

Are looking for an opportunity that will help others, fill a need and be more rewarding than you could imagine? The Library Committee wants YOU!

We have an extensive library. Your reviews assist members, especially new calligraphers, in making selections to assist them in expanding their knowledge and perfecting their skills.

The reviews will be published in both a future newsletter as well as posted on the Library Thing. For more information, please contact [Brenda](#).

**Practice Time**  
Compiled by  
Randy Stewart

Never argue with a woman you might win and then you'll really be

I always write "Wake Up" on my to do list so I can accomplish at least one thing each day.

*People will buy anything that is one to a customer. Sinclair Lewis*

Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers. Alfred Lord Tennyson

Sometimes I think conspiracy theories are meant to distract us from what is going on right under our noses. Frank & Earnest

Don't make old people mad! We don't like being old in the first place so it doesn't take much to set us off.  
Unknown

Anyone who can handle a needle convincingly can make us see a thread which is not there.  
E. S. Gombich

Good judgment comes from experience and experience comes from bad judgment.

*My road to success seems like it's always under construction.*

*When the people fear their government, there is tyranny; when the government fears the people, there is liberty. Thomas Jefferson*