



KALLIGRAPHOS

CALLIGRAPHY GUILD

*Pastel
Techniques
with
Barbara
Mason*

President's Letter



"We Ink 'em Up!"

Presidential Seal By Janell Wimberly

Welcome folklore enthusiasts –

'Tis March already, and among the hustle and bustle of Mother Nature preparing for Spring, there's this wee little event on the 17th. Maybe you've heard of it before, St. Patrick's Day? Which brings along with it all the lore of the Leprechaun. They are usually depicted as little bearded men, wearing a coat and hat, who partake in mischief. They are solitary creatures who spend their time making and mending shoes and have a hidden pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Sounds pretty familiar to me,

being solitary in nature that is, but instead of mending shoes, us letter artist's are creating beautiful visual prose and of course we have no pots of gold but many pots of ink!

The Austin exhibit was a huge success and well received by the Library and patrons. If you have not checked out Capital City Scribes on Facebook, then take a few moments to look them up and peruse through the pictures.

Things are changing and developing on the Tree Whispers far from my initial vision for Kaligrafos. I will keep you posted as things unfold for us hosting an exhibit. Have you ever been mesmerized by pastels and wonder what you could do with them or how to incorporate them into your calligraphic pieces? Well, March is your meeting, as the program is dedicated to pastels and will be led by Barbara Mason from the Pastel Society. But that's not all, the mini workshop following the program is on pastels and will be taught by our own Sherry Barber. She'll show us some of her tricks and give us tips on how to put pastels in our arsenal of techniques!

Your Nominating Committee was announced at the last meeting and is comprised of Kathy Setina – Chairman, Stephanie Bell and Suzanne Levy - Committee members, and Brenda Burns – Alternate. If you are interested in either the position of President or Secretary please seek out one of these folks.

In case you didn't get enough of the Fountain Pen craze from the January meeting, I thought would give you a little nudge. These are some great website sites:

<https://www.gouletpens.com>

<https://vanness1938.com>

<https://www.papierplume.com>

Check out the wax seals from Papier Plume - they can be addicting too.

Cheers,
Thomas



General Meetings 2nd Saturdays at 10:00am – noon
Come early to socialize 9:30am to 10:00am

Meeting Location

First United Methodist Church

503 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080
Second Floor, Room 217A

Workshops

Stay Tuned for future announcements

General Meetings Schedule

March 10th • Pastel Techniques

April 14th • Colored Pencils & Techniques

May 12th • Urban Sketchers

Board Meetings

June 2nd • Rick's Place

BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board

Thomas Burns, President

June Baty, Vice President

Rick Garlington, Treasurer

Jeri Wright, Secretary

Committee Chairpersons

Sherry Barber, Communications

Margaret Mall, Exhibits

Nettie Richardson, Fundraising

Randy Stewart, Historian

Brenda Burns, Library

Eric Doerr, Membership

Trish Manche, Newsletter

Cynthia Stiles, Programs

Betty Barna, Workshops

*A special Thank You to
Jeri Wright and Sherry
Barber who always pick
me up on the picture end of
the newsletter. Your
contribution is truly
appreciated and I couldn't
do it without you!*

Note to self:

Renew your
Kaligrafos
Membership in
April!

March Program

Pastel Techniques by Barbara Mason

This month we are blessed to have Barbara Mason share with us her love of pastels and how she uses this medium to create her stunning and at times very lifelike masterpieces. I hope her sharing about pastels themselves, the working surface, and techniques used will inspire us as calligraphers to use this medium for some of our artwork/calligraphy pieces.

Barbara is a very interesting and beautiful person to get to know, much like her artwork and I look forward to hearing her speak about her passion for art and life as I think you will too.



Check out her website:

<https://www.dragonflystudiocreations.com/>

My sincere appreciation to those who sent cards, emails, or phone calls in response to the death of my son, Matthew. It is comforting to have friends reach out and express their concern.

Linda Harrison

Kaligrafos Mini Workshops for 2017-2018

These will all be held on the Saturday afternoon of the meeting, 1-4 pm. Take a lunch break or bring your lunch. We will then hold the mini workshop at the FUMC allowing more participants. AND- you are already there! The cost will be \$10.00 per mini-workshop for members.

March 10, 2018

Pastel Sketching with Sherry Barber



May 12, 2018

Book Object with Rick



The Annual Valentine Social

The Valentine Social did not disappoint. The theme we worked with was Love Letters, appropriate for Valentine's Day and Kaligrafos with our love of letters. The event was filled with beautiful handmade valentines, lovely brush lettered nametags, delicious snacks and punch labeled by beautiful hand lettered table card descriptions, lovely items for the raffle as well as the silent auction, not to mention a number of members attired in lovely reds in honor of the occasion.

Many thanks to Jeri Wright who hand lettered the invite, stained the paper, and painted the beautiful flowers by hand on each invite. June Baty and Sherry Barber joined her to write those lovely address tags. They were so beautiful!

Once again we were at the beautiful Serenity House at Lover's Lane United Methodist Church in Dallas. Carol Alexander used brush lettering for the nametags, made an emergency stop on the way to pick up the pins needed to attach them to each guest, and was there to begin passing them out. Sandra Douglas graciously managed the card table, making sure each card had a number and was on the sign in sheet. Margaret Mall was busy in the kitchen as the food chairperson helping to organize as food items arrived. Kathy Setina lettered those beautiful food labels.

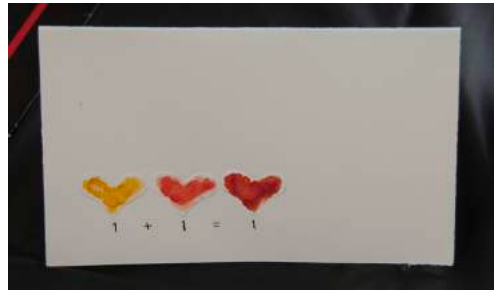
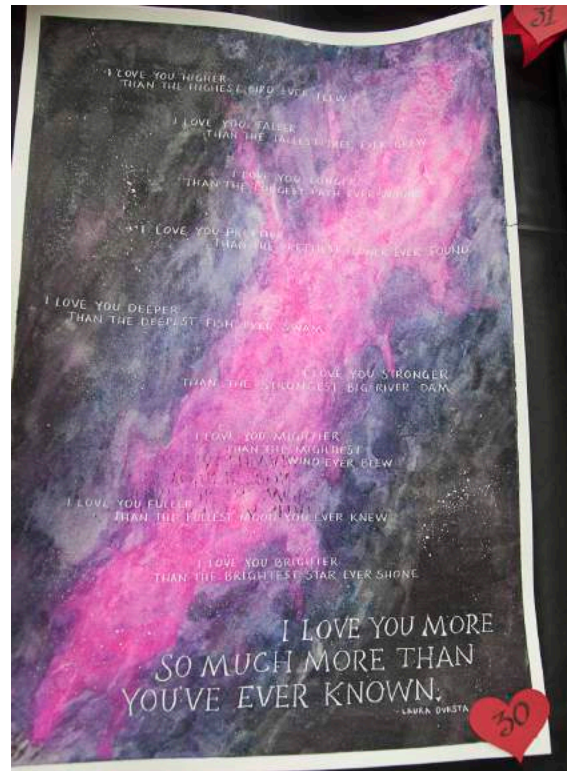
While all these activities were in progress, Nettie Richardson and Brenda Burns were in the "Raffle Room" setting it up with all the great items. Thanks to Stephanie Bell for helping to assemble those tiny mailboxes used for the tickets. Once again this was a very successful fundraiser!

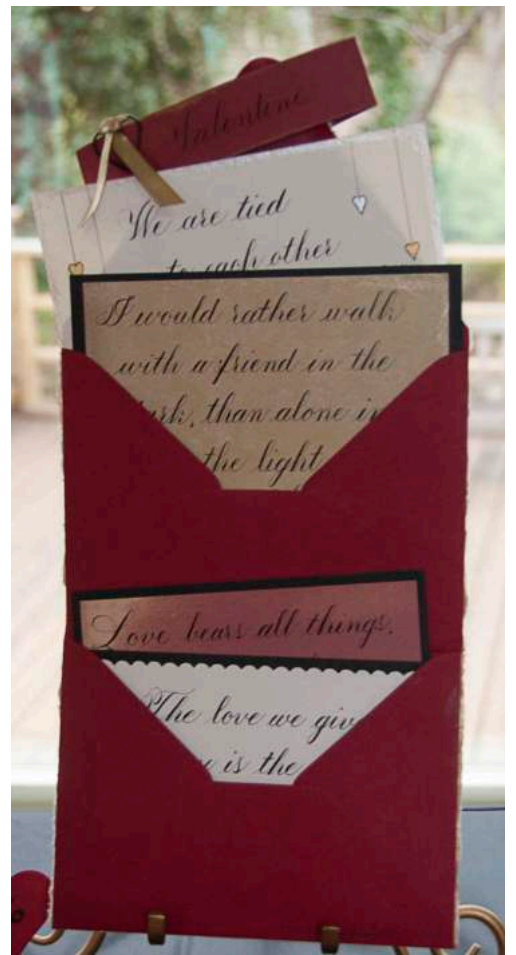
Thanks to our president, Tom Burns, for being our Master of Ceremonies.

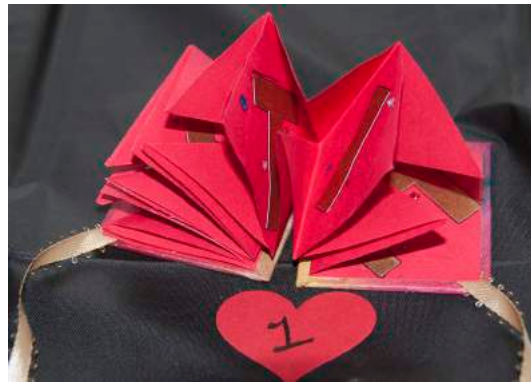
See the Volunteer Page for all those who helped, it was a team effort!













Round Robin Reviews by June Baty and Carol Alexander

Round Robin weekend was a huge learning and sharing experience for the 16 participants, led by Jeri Wright, Betty Barna, Sherry Barber, Anita Hofmeister and Debi Semintelli. The weekend pace was fluid and transitioned smoothly.

Day One, we began our morning making beautiful colorful paste paper under the guidance of Jeri and Betty. We were provided many texturizing tools to work with and lots of ideas on how to use them effectively. Some participants brought additional paper to color paste for future projects.

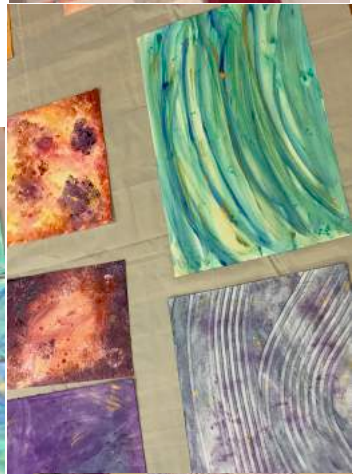
While our papers dried, we stopped for lunch and went straight into the afternoon session with Anita teaching Blackletter techniques. Her teaching method and detailed handouts made the alphabet much easier to comprehend and learn. After some practice, we wrote a few short quotes as Anita travelled from one student to the next, helping with our individual problems. It was a successful art day, although the rains poured outside.

Day Two, brought sunshine as everyone arrived, eager for the next session led by Debi teaching brush lettering. Debi's handouts were detailed, and right away she began sharing shortcuts and ideas to help learn this hand. Yes, there is a way to master this even if you think you are too heavy-handed to get that thin upstroke. Debi also went about the room giving everyone one-on-one assistance and suggestions.

After a lunch break, Sherry was ready for us to assemble our books and begin the sewing process. We chose threads from a large color selection. Most found the sewing easy, but a few of us got tangled in the threads. Oh OK, it was just me.

There is an amazing number of skilled artists and talent within our membership. These five people went to a lot of work to provide us with professional handouts and teaching during this very creative weekend. This Round Robin weekend was money well spent.

-June Baty





Round Robin Reviews by June Baty and Carol Alexander continued

The February Round Robin weekend was a great creative time spent with fellow Kaligrafos members both teaching and learning. Our own Jeri Wright and Betty Barna kicked off the morning with a Paste Paper project. We were encouraged to get in touch with “our inner child artist” as we laid down several colors of acrylic paint and glue with sponges onto text paper in an abstract format. It was a free form exercise that was fun and the beautiful results led to each of us having a booklet cover that we later bound with text pages of lettering styles we created from the weekend.

Anita Hofmeister led us in the creation and teaching of Blackletter . Using parallel pens, we began with exercises drawing lines and diamond shapes used to create the Blackletter alphabet. Anita demonstrated how this lettering style can be enhanced by dropping some colored ink into the wet walnut ink lettering. This is a style that can be impactful on envelopes and cards, well beyond traditional use on certificates. We were given handouts for practice later.

Debi Sementelli enthusiastically taught Modern brush lettering to our group. She gave us tips and techniques using a Pentel brush pen. Encouraging us to practice drawing shapes until manipulating the pen became so natural you don’t even think about it, “similar to golfing “.

We worked on shapes and putting pressure onto the brush to draw thick and thin lines. Later, we wrote words and quotes. She reminded us to breathe and have fun with this relaxed style of lettering. She passed out brush lettering style sheets with information on flourishing. This is a fun and popular style to practice and use in creating lettering onto cards, envelopes or canvas.

The final class was member Sherry Barber guiding us through a Japanese style of “Stab” binding. We each chose a binding thread to complement our paste paper book and sewed or “jabbed” a needle and thread through the pages inside the cover to create bound booklets (shown below). This was a great way to spend a winter weekend with Kaligrafos friends that love lettering, painting and creating!

-Carol Alexander





A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO TRISH MANCHE for chairing this year's Valentine Social. It was a huge success and the member participants produced gorgeous valentines to share with their Kaligrafos friends.

MORE THANKS TO THE MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME AND TALENTS TO MAKE THIS EVENT SUCH A SUCCESS:

June Baty
Margaret Mall
Jeri Wright
Lucy Hight
Eric Doerr
Carol Engelhardt
Suzanne Holmes
Kathy Setina
Brenda Burns
Cristie Campo

Alex Tolleson
Javier Mardones Hermosilla
Sherry Barber
Jean Kooda
Randy Stewart
Suzanne Levy
Sandra Douglas
Stephanie Bell
Thomas Burns

AND TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE RAFFLE & WHITE ELEPHANT:

Rick Garlington
Sherry Barber
Jeri Wright
Nettie Richardson
Debbie Worden
Alex Tolleson

Thomas Burns
Betty Barna
Sandra Douglas
Javier Mardones Hermosilla
Dick Mussett

**Thank you to all who volunteer,
you keep Kaligrafos going!**

HARVEY'S HELPFUL HINTS

By Harvey Anton

This month's vintage nib spotlight is on the ESTERBROOK #126 DOUBLE SPRING nib with built-in reservoir. Yes, this nib can do it all – not quite as springy as some of the others, but will surpass them in a heartbeat! They are long lasting surpassing many of the others, especially on textured paper. Don't be afraid to try this fine nib – it will do anything you want it to do!

Try this one: Clean dried ink from your nibs by rubbing a #2 graphite pencil lead on the dried ink. The graphite polishes the metal and helps prevent rusting. This Hint might even save your nib from further damage...

Always practice on the best paper you can afford. And when purchasing paper if possible, purchase at least two or more sheets (in case of errors). A note on purchasing good practice paper: do as I say, not as I do. Reminds me of a time I was doodling with stippling of 15th century capital letters on a poor sheet of paper. Started out okay and liked what was happening, but then didn't quit on the poor sheet of paper. Still have the project, still looks okay, but if it had been done on a decent sheet of paper I would have matted and framed the piece to look even better.

If you line your papers in pencil, line more than one sheet – in case you err, you have a second sheet available, already lined, and you don't lose your rhythm.

A note on achieving rhythm, listen to soothing music while writing. After a short time, you won't even hear the music, but you will keep your rhythm. Your lettering will look much more relaxed and flowing. Make your transparent colored ink look better by adding Pro-White. This will reduce the transparency and will look great on dark papers. Of course use a few drops at a time to the ink to get the desired effect...

If you do not have a good paper cutter yet, and can afford one, by all means get one. They are not expensive, but you will find yourself using it more than you might think. I prefer the Fiskars rotary cutter as opposed to the Guillotine type cutter (for obvious reasons). The guillotine cutter will cut more sheets at a time, but there is too much chance of losing a finger even though they furnish a hand (finger) guard. And the more sheets you cut at a time will be too ragged and uneven to use.

Which leads me to opening stuck caps on Tubes and bottles. NEVER use a pair of pliers for this job – use a “nutcracker” instead. The jaws of the nutcracker are more parallel than the pliers and won't crack the plastic caps as easily. This doesn't sound like a big deal until you crack the lid on your ink bottle.

When using your own (or purchased paper), be sure to get the matching color and size of envelope if you want to use a matching envelope for the paper. This is most critical. It's a good idea to purchase the envelope first (if necessary) because there are more colors of paper than envelopes. If necessary you can cut parent sheets to fit the envelope. Be sure to buy the correct color and size of envelope and start from that point.

For beautiful writing, and til next month, HarveyAnton, penstaff@verizon.net, 469-320- 9754, C) 817-470- 2735 for your vintage nibs and supplies – and Kaligrafos receives 10% of the sale – WIN! WIN! WIN!

Card Making Classes with Beverly Stewart

Location: THEO at [1301 Custer Road, Suite 616; Plano, TX 75075](#) (back of the shopping center facing Dolphin Street)

Time for each class: 9:30 to 11:30.

Bring: Scissors and your own Scotch brand double-sided tape (recommended)--or your own favorite adhesive for paper crafts.

Cost: \$5 per person

(Class is free if you choose to make a Stampin' Up! purchase, but there is no pressure to buy.)

Age: 12 and up are welcome, including adults.

Children are welcomed when accompanied by a supervising adult. One child per supervising adult.

Card-making dates for spring & early summer:

March 3

April 21

May 21-25 (daily)

June 6, 13, 16, 20, 27

Contact Beverly Stewart at beverlystewart@gmail.com to RSVP.

Practice Time

Compiled by Randy Stewart

Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.

Napoleon Bonaparte

Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do doesn't mean it's useless. Thomas A. Edison

Two Questions:

1) *Where have you been all my life?*

2) *Can you please go back there?*

I try to go the extra mile at work but the boss always finds me and drags me back.

My doctor told me to stop having intimate dinners for four. Unless there are three other people.
Orson Welles

An executive is a person who always decides; sometimes he decides correctly, but he always decides.

John H. Patterson

I chose the road less traveled. Now I don't know where the heck I am!

True friendship isn't always about who you've know the longest. It's about who came and never left your side.

You must learn from the mistakes of others. You can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself. Sam Levenson

A gentleman is a man who can play the accordion but doesn't. Unknown

ENVELOPE CHALLENGE

Opportunities to challenge yourself Quickly and artistically

Graceful Envelope Contest

Submission deadline – March 26, 2018

Lettering enthusiasts everywhere are encouraged to enter the Graceful Envelope Contest. This year's theme is "Whatever the Weather" because everyone talks about the weather--and you can do something about it! From severe storms to sowing crops to using the sun and wind for renewable energy, the weather affects us all. Summon a brainstorm to capture what's outside your window—or outside the box—and design a winning envelope about the weather! Address it artistically to: The Graceful Envelope Contest 100 Indiana Ave. NW Washington, DC 20001 Deadline is March 26, 2018 and, as always, there is no entry fee. The 24th annual Graceful Envelope Contest is conducted by the Washington Calligraphers Guild and the National Association of Letter Carriers.

<http://www.calligraphersguild.org/envelope.html>

To view the Call for Entries and enjoy past winning Graceful Envelopes: Good luck! Lorraine Swerdloff <swerdloff@gmail.com>, Erin Cassidy and Martin Parker Contest administrators

John Neal Books Calligraphy & Hand Lettering Envelope Contest

Submission deadline April 1, 2018

John Neal Bookseller is sponsoring an envelope contest. The details are on the JNB website: http://www.johnnealbooks.com/prod_detail_list/envelope-contest There is no entry fee. \$450 in gift certificates as prizes (including a category prize for pointed pen), and a large selection of envelopes will be published in Bound & Lettered and displayed at Seattletters and the IAMPETH Convention this coming summer. Everyone whose envelope is published will receive a free copy of the issue. The deadline for entries is April 1, 2018

Entry envelopes must be addressed to one of the following:

Envelope Challenge Seattletters , 9302 NE 135th St., Kirkland, WA 98034 (Adding "in Bellingham" to "Seattletters" is optional.)

John Neal Books, 1833 Spring Garden St., Floor 1, Greensboro, NC 27403

Letter Arts Review, 1833 Spring Garden St., Floor 1, Greensboro, NC 27403

Bound & Lettered, 1833 Spring Garden St., Floor 1, Greensboro, NC 27403


Envelope Challenge


Kaligrafos

Calligraphy Guild


Time to renew for 2018 - 2019

Membership fees:

 \$25.00 Single

 \$35.00 Family

Make checks payable to "Kaligrafos"

 Mail completed form and check to membership chairman at:

Kaligrafos Membership
P.O. Box 831118
Richardson, TX 75083

Date of Application MM/DD/YYYY: _____/_____/_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Birth date MM/DD: _____/_____

Kaligrafos is a non-profit organization created for the benefit and ongoing enrichment of its members. The more you get involved, the more you benefit. Volunteer – you'll meet some really neat people! Please check items below that you would be interested in helping with to support the guild that gives you a place to grow and learn.

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments | <input type="checkbox"/> Lettering | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |