

Urban Sketchers

With

Herb Reed

May 2018 VOLUME 38 NO. 9

President's Letter



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

A Big Texas Howdy Y'all -

Another year comes to close.....

That means it's election time. The office of President and Secretary will be up for grabs! Be sure to come to the meeting and cast your vote.

There's a Play Day coming up in June; on the 9° to be exact. It's a fun filled half day of making paper rounds for our Treewhispers exhibit. Please see Betty for additional information. The space is limited to only 10 folks, but don't fret as we'll be doing more paper making events as we'll need lots....I mean LOTS of rounds!

Reflections of Spring, our next exhibit, is slated for June 2 through the 29th. If you are exhibiting, all your info needs to be to Margaret no later than May 26th. The exhibit will be hung on June 1st. You must be present to hang or make arrangements with Margaret no later than May 29th to get your pieces to her.

The gears and cogs are moving and coming to life for the Treewhispers event. Yes, I think it will be an event and a little birdie has told me there's something in the works to bring Pamela to Dallas. She is the "Royal Oak" of Treewhispers, the one who started it all. It's still in the planning stage, just imagine if the stars align to have her here and see our exhibit! It's a long road however the reward will be more than we can imagine. It's going to take all of us "trees" to create our "forest". I've had one person contact me to be on a core team and could use a couple more then we'll need everyone to create/decorate rounds and finally string and hang. Please reach out if you want to be in the center of the forest!

And now the time has come for my final sunset.....

If not for the rising and setting of the sun how would we count our days and years? The many things we've done and oh so many things yet to be discovered. The time has come for me to step aside and pass along the pen. Twas just yesterday I joined Kaligrafos after taking a Copperplate class with Donna Sabolovic in the back of a stamp store that no longer exists. That yesterday was about 10 years ago when I signed up at the "Reggie" exhibit in Richardson after completing the yearlong study. I remember that vividly as I handed my check over to the membership chair at the reception, which was none other than Jeri Wright. Jumping in head first, having no idea how deep the water, I took over the library my first year, eager to be involved in a re-kindling of art for myself and I never looked back. From that moment forward it has been a whirl wind affair of workshops/programs/exhibits/play days and on and on, but the best part of it is connecting with so many extraordinary people, mostly local and others from around the globe. It's about the connections we make both with ourselves and with others that continually molds us along our journey. As we travel along our journey and get to where we think we want to go, we find out that the journey continues....so too will the Kaligrafos journey continue. I'm forever grateful to have been entrusted to lead such a great group of people.

This is not a goodbye but rather a new day for Kaligrafos to shine even brighter!

Humbly, Appreciatively, and Gratefully yours,

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

May 12th • Urban Sketchers

Board Meetings

June 2nd • Rick's Place

Note to self: Renew your Kaligrafos Membership

BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board

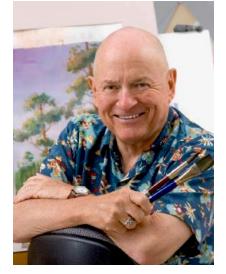
Thomas Burns, President June Baty, Vice President Rick Garlington, Treasurer Jeri Wright, Secretary *Committee Chairpersons* Sherry Barber, Communications Margaret Mall, Exhibits Nettie Richardson, Fundraising Randy Stewart, Historian Brenda Burns, Library Eric Doerr, Membership Trish Manche, Newsletter Cynthia Stiles, Programs Betty Barna, Workshops



Raised in Memphis, Herb was exposed to art school at a young age by his mother, a graduate of Parsons School of Design. More interested in math and science, he had other ideas and majored in electrical engineering.

Years later, after becoming an engineer, Herb got the itch and completed the Famous Artists Correspondence Course. While still working in engineering and management, he did free-lance graphic design work to build up a college fund for their two sons. This led to a career shift into PR and advertising; he retired from Celanese Chemical Company as director of global communications in 1998.

After he retired the itch again returned. Herb gave their 12 year-old granddaughter a joint watercolor lesson with Naomi Brotherton. While his granddaughter has gone on to other things, Herb worked weekly with Naomi, who just turned 97. Soon after meeting Naomi, he joined SWS



and has been active ever since. Herb has served as workshop chair, then as president. Last year he earned his signature status.

Herb has recently gotten into another art phase: Urban Sketching. This is a ten-year-old international phenomenon, based on fun and simplicity: no dues, no minutes, minimum structure. The North Texas group gathers locally one Saturday a month, and there they sketch, have a sketchbook "throw-down," then go have a beer. All sketches must be done on-site and are posted on the USk Facebook page. For this, Herb usually works in ink and watercolor, although there is no limit on the range of media sketchers may use.



Old McKinney Jail @ Herb Reed



Corner Street Pub © Herb Reed

Review of Colored Pencils with Sheliah Lonian by Monica Winters

Colored pencils have come a long way since the elementary school days of map pencils. Sheliah began her talk with a discussion of colorfastness of colors, a matter of concern for all artists. School grade pencils have low colorfast rating. When purchasing pencils, check the label.

Types of Colored Pencils: Colored pencils are of two types: waxed based, such as the ubiquitous Prismacolors, and oil based such as Farber-Castell (be aware that Asel offers a 20% discount to members of Kaligrafos). The best pencils are made in Germany and Switzerland; Prismacolors are now made in

Mexico, and, in the opinion of the speaker, have thus suffered in quality. Any media can serve as a base for colored pencil: wood, gesso, panel, books, and journals as well as paper.

On Watercolor Pencils: The speaker is especially fond of Derwent Inktense Pencils, which additionally come in blocks and sticks. Watercolor is an excellent foundation for pencils, providing a background for layering of colors. While colored pencils tend to be somewhat transparent, the Inktense pencils are deep, vivid colors and not transparent, which is why they serve as a good foundation for pencil layering/sandwiching.

Sandwiches Are Not Just for Lunch: The key to using colored pencils is to layer colors, as they are not intended to be applied like crayons. The speaker referred



to this as "sandwiching" to build and enrich colors. Building up layers of colors adds richness to the composition, very much like painting. Indeed, colored pencil artists consider themselves to be painters! For example, in the flesh tones of one of her displayed paintings, Sheliah said she used 28 different colors. She usually begins her paintings with graphite, and then pulls off the graphite (which tends to be greasy and resists the layering/sandwiching of pencils) with a rubber kneaded eraser.



Sharpening Pencils: Discussion turned to the best way to sharpen colored pencils. While hand sharpening is best, the speaker said she uses a Panasonic 310 electric pencil sharpener which she has had for years. X-Acto school grade electric sharpener is also a good option. Because the most expensive is not always the best, don't consider that higher cost means a better sharpener.

Metallic Pencils?: A question was posed about metallic pencils, to which the speaker replied that most are not very effective for a glittering effect; at best users can expect a slight shimmer. Her favorite was Copper by Farber Castell, and she recommends laying down a color (such as red) before applying the metallic.

Tips on Purchasing: Colored pencils come in sets, but consider that you need the capability of buying individual pencils. The speaker recommended Farber Castell, as its product has high, consistent quality. Pastel paper (with a slightly sandy surface) and Aquarelle are excellent foundations for colored pencil.

Other necessary supplies include a Workable Spray fix (Krylon or Lascaux) and a final fixative; she recommended using the same brand for both applications for compatibility purposes. Some artists finish with a water-based varnish, although this is not necessary.

Learning to Use Colored Pencils: Besides the variety of youTube and Facebook opportunities for lessons and techniques, the book *Colored Pencil Bible* by Alyona Nickelsen provides a handy

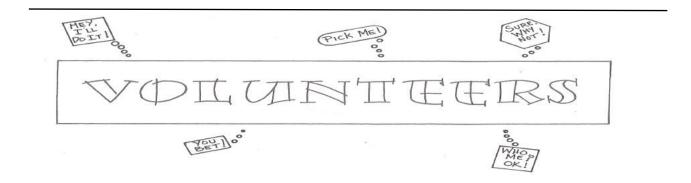


reference, and additionally Linda Lucas Hardy teaches a class at Hobby Lobby on 15th Street for \$20-25/session for all levels of learners.



Using Photos: Photography can be a stepping-stone to good art, but a good photograph does not necessarily make a good painting. Using a photograph is comparable to the Old Masters, such as Jan Vemeer and Leonardo da Vinci, who used the camera obscura/lucida. The speaker says she takes her own photographs or draws from life. To improve her drawing ability she is currently taking a graphite drawing class.

Colored pencil paintings should be framed under glass or plexiglass, and Sheliah recommended "The Artist's Place" in McKinney as her favorite framer – not cheap, but good. Making art is a solitary occupation; an artist needs feedback to grow, which is why various art media band together to form guilds or societies. The local chapter of the Colored Pencil Society has about 50 members now, starting from a base of two; the local chapter is part of CPSA (Colored Pencil Society of America).



Thanks to Monica Winters for writing our program review for the Color Pencil presentation in May.



"Pushing the Envelopes" Exchange



Summer Paper Making Event

Remember when we decorated paper rounds for the Tree Whisperer's exhibit in Austin?



 Well - we are making the paper rounds again and we need a few good people to help out! So if you are interested in learning this technique and have some time on Saturday the 9th of June 2018
 Come and join us for some papermaking. It's free! Just contact Betty Barna (blbarna@mac.com) Workshop Chair for Kaligrafos Calligraphy Guild

BASIC DRAWING CLASSES

Instructor: Kathy Setina

Saturdays, 10:00 am -12:30 pm at my home

5 Classes meeting June 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

\$125

Learning to draw requires learning to see. In these classes we will learn to see the world with new eyes and learn to trust what we see. Using pencil and charcoal, we'll explore the elements of art: line, shape, form, space, value and texture, as well as perspective and composition.

Please contact Kathy Setina for further information and registration: <u>kathysetina@hotmail.com</u> 972-931-7076

Material list will be available upon registration.

Meeting Highlights:

- Nominating Committee will presented the slate of candidates for President (Jeri Wright) and Secretary (Netti Richardson, Carol Alexander, Cristi Campo, and Belinda Anderson). Vote will be held at the May meeting.
- Tree Whispers exhibit is being planned for the fall of 2019 in Frisco.
- Guild exhibit will be held at the Artist's Showplace June 2nd through June 29th, 2018. Theme
 is 'Reflections of Spring'.
- Dues are being accepted for the 2018-19 guild year which begins in June. If you'd like your
 name to appear in the next directory, please pay your dues before July 1st.
- Mini workshop will be held after the May meeting and lead by Rick Garlington on a book structure.
- Next major workshop is October 20-21,2018 and registration is open at \$120 per person to reserve your place. 'Triangle Brush Flower and Foliates' will be the subject.
- Playday will be held in early June for making more paper rounds. Interested people should contact Betty Barna.

The Rise of the Gothic Scripts from Carolingian to the End it's Written Period A Lecture with Paul Antonio

When: May 10, 2018 7:00pm - 9:00pm Where: Nazareth Retreat Center <u>1814 Egyptian Way</u> <u>Grand Prairie, TX 75050</u>

Cost: \$25 partial proceeds benefit The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Join us next Thursday evening with Paul Antonio, kicking off his year-long course on Mediaeval Hands. This is the first of 4 lectures in this series. This lecture will cover Display Capitals, both as illuminated initials and rubrics, as well as focus on Textualis Quadrata and Textualis Semi Quadrata.

The lecture will also present variations and how they relate to the script as well as touch on bastard hands, in addition to spotting the differences between degrees of bastardisation in the scripts. This is a lecture with a question and answer session.

Space is limited. Advance registration required: <u>http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=6klbffdab&oeidk=a07efcuu3fed4ce1ad8</u>

Guild members receive \$10 off admission. Just use the discount code GUILD for admission.

HARVEY'S HELPFUL HINTS By Harvey Anton

Have you never tried a vintage nib? If you haven't you are denying yourself a wonderful writing experience. Sure some of the current new models are o.k., but they mostly offer scratchy, sputtering results. One of the very few exceptions on the market today is the Leonardt EF Principal nib made by Manuscript Pen Company from England. They have really perfected this nib to an extremely fine pointed nib then added a beautiful shiny gold color – when you see it, it makes you want to sit and use it... and the results are amazing! It is patterned after the "dream nibs" of years gone by: D.L. Musselman Perfection, Gillott Principality, Gillott #604EF, Zanerian Fine Writer, Spencerian #1 and the Esterbrook A1 Professional. Come by my table at the meetings and try one out – you will be completely blown away!

TOOLS: These are the functionally essentials in your arsenal of writing equipment. They must be kept handy, clean, dry and ready to use at a moment's notice (this goes for your work area also) – who knows when the next idea might strike? When the idea strikes you must be ready at a moment's notice...having an idea hit and have to wait until the tools are ready is definitely not a good thing to happen. JUST DO IT!

When getting a new nib ready, you don't just dip it into the bottle of ink. There is some preparation to get the nib ready to receive the ink and to touch it to paper: First take the factory oil off the nib by inserting the nib in your mouth and let your saliva dissolve the oil (no taste), then wipe clean and dry, OR burn the tip with a match for a second or two. Too long in the flame will change the characteristics of the nib and make it unusable, OR dip the nib in rubbing alcohol and gum arabic, then wipe clean. *NEVER* use a butane lighter for burning the oil away – the flame is much hotter than a match flame and will destroy the nib in a blink. Now write away! There are times when none of these tricks work: humidity, paper, ink, and pressure on the nib, but persevere and things will fall into place – just by changing one aspect might do wonders.

Do you enjoy using guide lines? Did you know you can print an $8-1/2 \ge 11$ sheet of them on your printer? Draw the size guide lines on a sheet of paper, insert clear plastic sheets into the print paper tray, then you can copy the guidelines onto the clear plastic sheets. These are much easier to use and see through than the paper lines. There is a set of clear plastic guidelines available called "Underliners": a set from fine to extra broad. Do it yourself and save a few extra bucks. To help prevent smudging the lines you might want to spray the clear plastic sheets with Krylon Fixative and let dry before use. Now you can tape them on the backside of your art while writing.

While writing concentrate on looking at the writing end of the brush or nib. This helps give a spontaneous look to your work.

And Mark Van Stone said it best: "Letters are a gift from God...one does not mess with gifts from God". Follow the best exemplars you can find for best results.

Til next time, for beautiful writing, Calligraphy at its best,

Harvey Anton <u>penstaff@verizon.net</u>, H)469-320-9754, C) 817-470-2735 for vintage nibs and supplies and the new Leonardt EF Principal nib.

Card Making Classes with Beverly Stewart

Location: THEO at <u>1301 Custer Road</u>, <u>Suite 616</u>; <u>Plano</u>, <u>TX 75075</u> (back of the shopping center facing Dolphin Street)</u>

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:

May 21-25 (daily) June 6, 13, 16, 20, 27

Contact Beverly Stewart at <u>beverlystewart@gmail.com</u> to RSVP.

Practice Time

Compiled by Randy Stewart

10Me. new. Albert Einstein
things first, but necessarily in that If you think you can you're right, if you think you can't
r. you're right. Henry Ford

removed. De La Lastra's Law

I find that a great part of the information I have was acquired by looking up something and

finding something else on the way. Franklin P. Adams

It is only an auctioneer who can equally and impartially admire all schools of art. Oscar Wilde

You are not wealthy until you have something that money cannot buy



Presents at the Artist's Showplace 15615 Coit Road, #230, Richardson, TX 75248



Hang Date: Saturday, June 1 10:00 to 12:00 AM SHOW DATES: June 2 to June 29, 2018 Strike Date: Saturday, June 30,

10:00 to 11:30 AM

NOTE: Each artist may enter up to three (3) pieces each. Work may be new, and/or exhibited in past Spring exhibits.

If you cannot deliver your own work to Artist's Showplace on June 1, have another person deliver your artwork OR drop it off at Margaret Darphin Mall's home, 9709 Smokefeather Lane, Dallas, TX 75243 NOT LATER than Thursday, May 29 by 5 PM. Submit the following to margaret@calligraphyartstudio.com: O High resolution .jpg or .png of your art for title card The following MUST be in .PDF format:

5	
• SIZE of artwork	O Media
0 Title	• Sale Price

Reflections of Spring

Attach this form to back of each entry. ONE form per entry.	Attach this form to the item (box, bag, your entry is delivered in
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Title:	Title:
Value: Phone:	Value: Phone:

ENTRY FORM One Per Entry

 (Send this entry for as a .pdf to Margaret at margaret@calligraphyartstudio.com by 5/26/2018)

 Artist:
 Title of work:

 Media:
 For Sale: Y N

Contact Info: Phone

RELEASE

E-Mail:

I agree to comply with the show rules of Kaligrafos and will not hold Kaligrafos, The Dallas Calligraphy Society, or Artists Showplace liable for damage/loss of artwork. **SIGNED: DATE:**

NOTE: No group insurance is applied to this exhibit. If you wish to insure your artwork, you must purchase insurance privately.

FRAMING AND HANGING INSTRUCTIONS: Framing with GLASS heightens breakage. **Plexiglas** or **acrylic** is best if work is framed. **ALL ARTWORK MUST HAVE HINGES AND WIRE ATTACHED TO THE BACK FOR PROPER HANGING.**

Kaligrafos

Time to renew for 2018 - 2019

Calligraphy Guild

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/YY	ſY://
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.

□ Communications	□ Exhibits	Fund Raising
□ Historical	🗆 Library	□ Membership
	Programs	
□ Refreshments	□ Lettering	□

