

KWALLIGRAPHOS

CALLIGRAPHY

GUILD

Happy
New
Year
2022!!

President's Letter



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

Dear members,

Happy New Year! I was just commenting to someone this past week that I remember all the preparation for the year Y2K and how we were stepping into the unknown with all the computers moving to a new millennium, and then 'blink' we are in 2022! The past couple of years have indeed held many new obstacles that we've had to maneuver. I hope this new year settles down and that the Covid virus will be controlled or at least tamed enough that people can go about their lives traveling and being with loved ones without fear. I miss those of you who are uncomfortable meeting in person as we once did. And grateful to those who are able to attend our meetings in person.

The January program, The Button Alphabet, will be presented by Betty Barna. I encourage you all to bring your large Pilot Parallel Pen (blue cap) and paper and follow along while Betty teaches us the strokes of this lettering style. It is fun, whimsical and can be used in many different ways. We will also be handing out the Valentine Social invitations to those present, and mailing the rest. If you haven't thought about your Valentine exchange yet, time to get busy!

We will also be holding our second session of this year's mini workshops after the meeting from 1:00 to 4:00pm. So those of you who are taking these workshops, don't forget to bring your sheet of minis and your supplies. We will be learning a fun monoline script (Clothesline Caps) to use with your mini masterpieces. Handouts will be available at the class, along with some new ideas on how you can showcase your artwork.

December's ATC color/suggestion was Holly (green/red berries) and January's is Winter (white/ice blue snowflakes). Both months will be spotlighted and exchanged with others. Don't forget all the ideas Beverly has shared with everyone and choose one for your card.

Hope to see you at the January meeting!
Jeri Wright

Board Members

Executive Board

Jeri Wright, President
Monica Winters, Vice President
June Baty, Treasurer
Betty Barna, Secretary

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Sherry Barber, Web/Communications
Margaret Mall, Exhibits
Brenda Burns, Fund Raising
Eric Doerr, Membership
Rick Garlington/Trish Manche, Newsletter
Jeri Wright/June Baty, Workshops

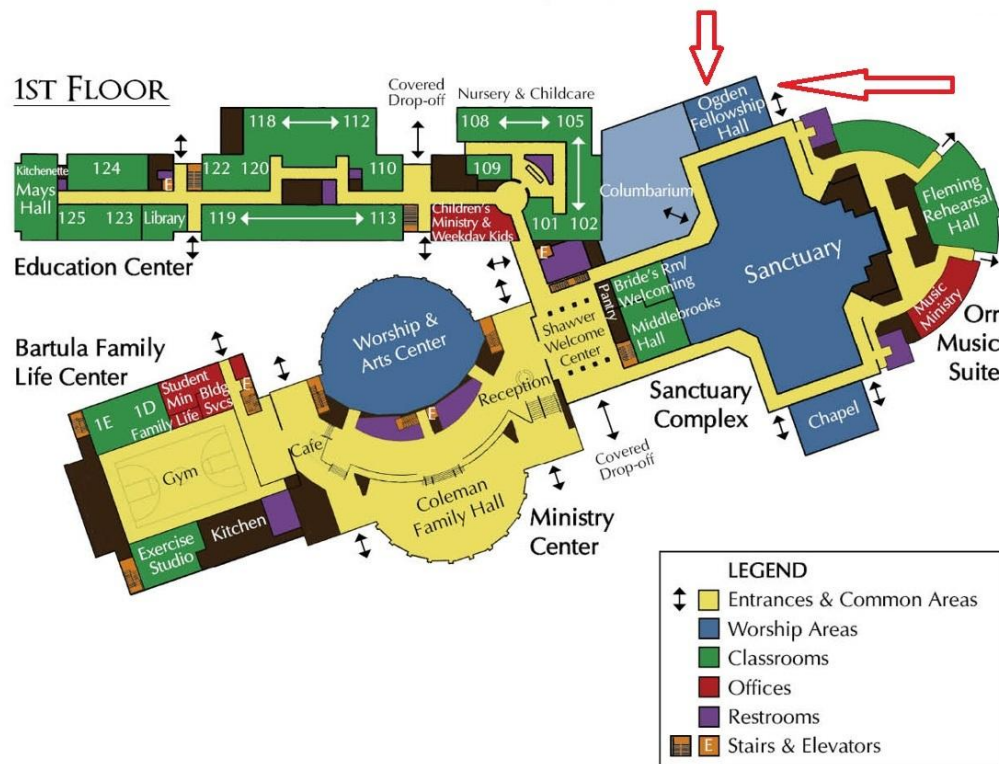
General Meetings 2nd Saturdays at 10:00am – noon
Come early to socialize 9:30am to 10:00am

Meeting Location

First United Methodist Church

503 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080

First Floor, Ogden Fellowship Hall (see red arrows on map)



January Program: Button Alphabet

Presented by Betty Barna

The Button Alphabet was originally designed by Peter Thornton to use on name buttons (hence the name), but was really made popular by Louis Lemoine, who has taught this around the country including here in Dallas in 2014 for the Legacies II conference. It is fun and funky and you will learn to manipulate the broad edge pen. If you want to follow along, bring a 6mm (blue capped) Pilot parallel pen loaded with ink. Guidelines and exemplar will be provided. See you there!

November Program Review:
THOMAS BURNS'
ENVELOPE EXCHANGE COLLECTION

By Monica Winters

When I first approached Thomas Burns about doing a program on his envelope exchange collection, I'm not sure he was convinced that it would be a topic of interest to the Guild. But with a little prodding and a bit of flattery, he proved up to the challenge. The brief time he had (sharing the program hour of our regular meeting with the Annual Bazaar) proved a lively and engaging – albeit not long enough – interactive program. Thomas's commanding stage presence and wildly creative menagerie of envelopes grabbed rapt attention and invited suggestions and shared experiences from his audience.

The cool thing about exchanging envelopes, he said, is that each one is a mini-masterpiece: you can do whatever you want, as long as you have enough postage. And, I might add, the address must be clearly legible to get where it is supposed to go. Many artists base their design on the stamp they use, incorporating it into the overall theme, and of this type he had more than a few creative examples. Incorporating stamps into the overall design can be challenging, and the post office has in recent years been issuing varieties of stamps, but these are not always available at your local post office. Better sources are the USPS website (USPS.com) as well as eBay for vintage stamps.

Tom's PowerPoint presentation exhibited many of his favorite envelopes, and he brought scrapbooks full of envelopes that had been mailed to him. How is it that he receives all these creative and imaginative envelopes? He locates random Guild exchanges online and through workshops he attends. Tom cautioned against annual Envelope Exchanges, because you see only the ones that are mailed to you; in a bona fide exchange you get to see what everyone else involved in the exchange does. For beginners (like me), the year-long EE has proved beneficial; I have been part of an annual envelope exchange for a couple of years and while not every envelope I receive is wildly creative, I get ideas and build confidence seeing others struggle to make something worthy of putting out there as I do.

Tom emphasized that the envelopes are not always perfect, but it is usually evident that the sender is trying something new. In any case, whatever the artist does on an envelope, the recipient will be excited to get it, because the receiver know that the sender spent time making it specifically creative and engaging, even if experimental. Proverbially speaking, sometimes the only way to get better is to get out there and try.

Keep in mind that decorating envelopes is time-consuming; it takes just as long to figure out *what* to do as it does to *make* it.

Some suggestions from the audience:

- ✓ Use bleach on black paper; also on a black envelope, write in white and drop in some black for emphasis
- ✓ On a black envelope, colored pencil around letters make for a striking envelope
- ✓ Use Vis a Vis markers on an envelope and then dampen the surface of the envelope; these markers have lot of colors in them for a cool effect
- ✓ Use blue painters tape; mark or paint over the surface and then tear off a strip raggedly
- ✓ Outline sharpie-drawn letters and fill in with watercolor

- ✓ Tom likes to clean out his fountain pens on envelopes to create a colorful foundation for lettering
- ✓ Write the name in different directions (other than horizontally)
- ✓ Don't be afraid to use stamps
- ✓ Stamping on top of FineTec gold allows the gold to show through
- ✓ Tom explained stamp masking: cover parts of the stamp (using painters tape) and stamp on top of other stamps to add depth
- ✓ Use a multi-hued stamp by laying a stamp down on its back with the stamping area facing up; start with the lightest color first and work to darkest
- ✓ Wax seals are fun to put on the front or back of envelope, but be sure to put it in the middle because the machine will snag it

There's no end of possibilities when becoming engaged with the process.

A note about sending your envelope: Make friends at your local post office when you mail your envelopes, especially if it will require hand-stamping. The post office does not always cancel or postmark stamps like they used to; the bar code across the bottom is the cancellation. The stamp can be in the upper left-hand corner or the lower right-hand corner. Sometimes they just scribble over the stamp to "cancel" it. Black envelopes cannot be machine cancelled since the ink is black.

Just a few helpful sources:

- www.USPS.com United States Post Service, for stamps and mailing information
- www.iuoma-network.ning.com International Union of Mail Artists; not an organized list; not necessarily calligraphy based, but has sub groups to join
- <https://www.calligraphersguild.org/envelope.html> Graceful envelope contest sponsored by the Washington Calligraphy Guild every year, once you send it in you will not get it back and it must be delivered by the Post Office with postage.

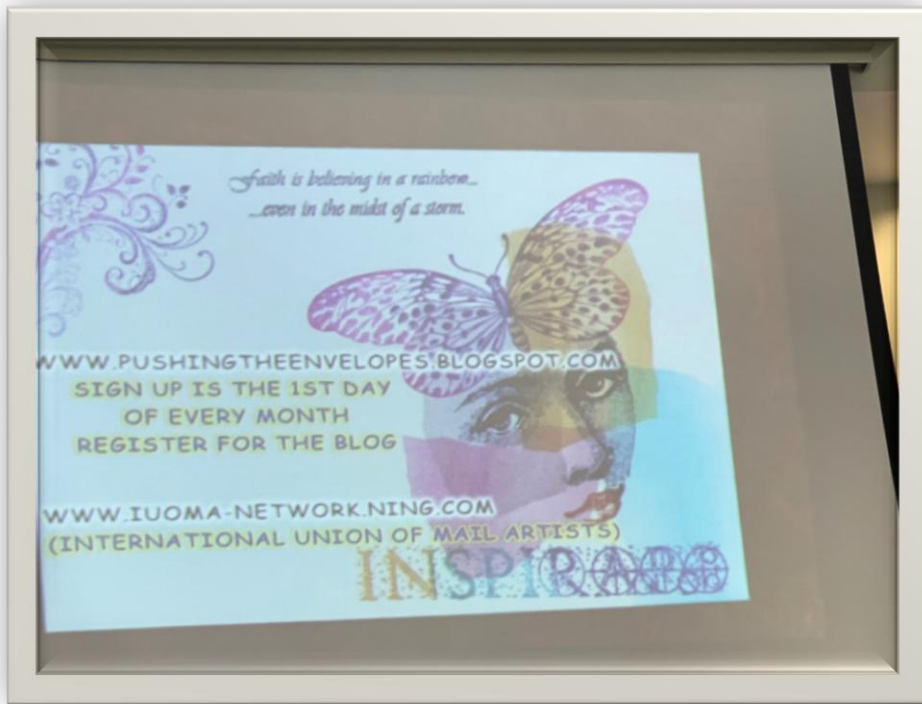
Tom's presentation proved to be a lively and inspiring exchange for everyone present at the meeting, in person and on ZOOM. Perhaps he can follow up with a mini-workshop in the near future for exchanging envelopes? I can only hope.....

See some photos on next page!

Kaligrafos Virtual Exhibit:
Tree Whispers

Now available for FREE viewing online at:

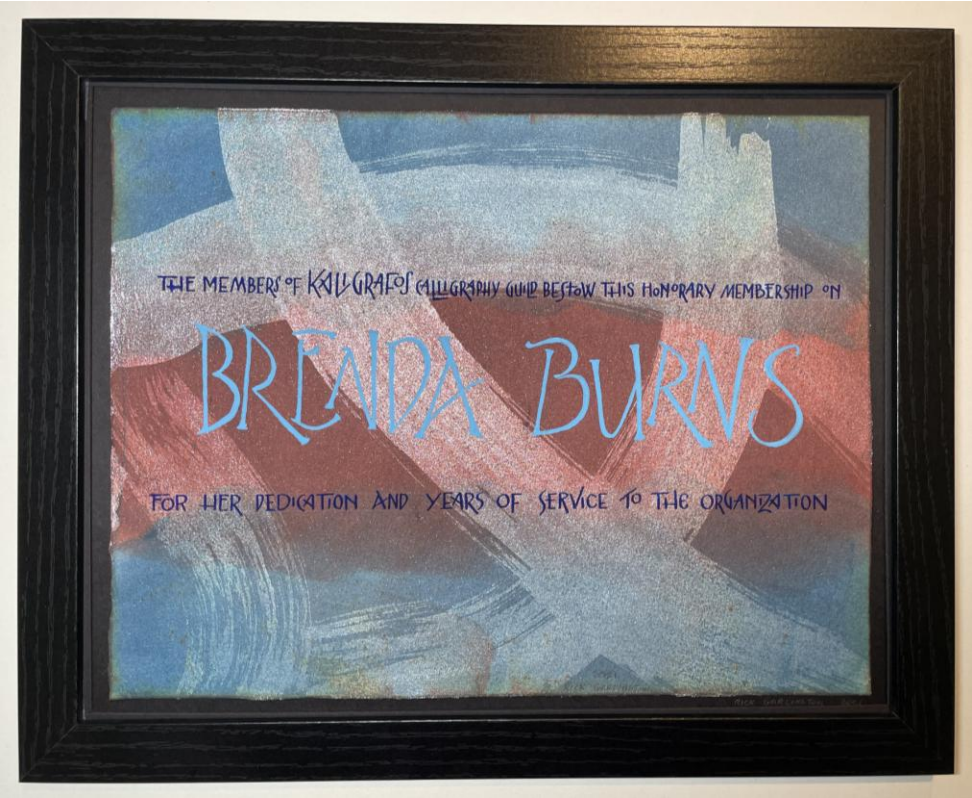
[Tree Whispers on Vimeo](#)



January Program Preview: Some samples of the button alphabet by Betty Barna.



Thomas and Brenda Burns were presented with honorary memberships at the November meeting for their years of service to the organization. These certificates were created by Rick Garlington.



Kaligrafos Mini Workshops 2021-22

Miniature Masterpiece Series

This year's mini workshops are designed as a three-part series. Each class builds upon the next as your creative instincts bloom. This Miniature Masterpiece series will be held after the October, January and March meetings. When members sign up for all 3 classes, they receive the final class at no charge. So, make sure you sign up BEFORE the October meeting day to be included at this special price and on the list for your workshop packet. Sign up early (one-time payment of \$50.00) for all 3 classes to make the best of this member opportunity. Using the Paypal option on the website is quick and easy and will ensure you are signed up early. Don't rely on the USPS to get your check in on time, either pay via the website or contact our treasurer June Baty to get signed up. Easiest: just click here: [Workshops » Kaligrafos](#)

The first class will begin with preparing our paper for a step-by-step process of creating layered pieces of personal artwork in miniature form. You will be layering watercolor washes, bits of collage elements (postage stamps, torn pages from books, ticket stubs, etc.) as well as gestural lines, transferred images, gold foil, etc. A fun and lively monoline lettering style will be introduced to enhance your miniature art. Your creations will be miniature pieces of work that will convey personal meanings, emotions, abstract images, whatever you can imagine.

These tiny masterpieces can be used in various ways: added to journals, stand-alone artwork, can be used in a book, added to personalize cards for friends and family, and so many other ways. The class is a non-threatening building process to trust your instincts of color, design and layering techniques which will result in some lovely Miniature Masterpieces that will give you so many hours of creative options.



Kaligrafos ATCs

(Artist Trading Cards) 2021-2022

Month	Word	Color or Suggestion
September	Stamp	Multi color – rubber or mail type
October	Autumn	Red/orange/yellow/brown - leaves
November	Thankful	Autumn colors – horn of plenty
December	Holly	Green/Red - berries
January	Winter	White/Ice blue - snowflakes
February	Friends	Violet/Green -
March	March	Blue/New Green – budding trees etc
April	Diamond	Black – the shape of a diamond
May	Flower(s)	Bright colors – all spring flowers

Images do not have to be part of your layout of the wording and of course you can choose whatever color you want – these are just suggestions!