

September 2022 VOLUME 43 NO. 1

### President's Letter



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

#### Dear members,

Welcome back to a new year of Kaligrafos and a new president. I have been a member of Kaligrafos since 2007, volunteering in many support roles. Now I am challenged to live up to the honor of presiding over this wonderful organization. But really, I am not "over" anything. It is all about you, the members, and what we can do together as Kaligrafos. I am looking forward to a great year and certainly you are, too.

Most of you know some of my calligraphic background but for those who don't, I learned calligraphy by drawing Blackletter when I was in the third grade. My grandfather, a sign painter, saw my potential and gave me a copy of the 16th Edition of

the Speedball textbook along with a Speedball starter calligraphy set which I kept in a fruitcake tin (after eating the fruitcake, of course). For many years my concept of calligraphy was writing "Old English" using Speedball nibs. I also learned Italic but things like Roundhand and flourishing were not in my wheelhouse as I had no one to show me the wonders of a pointed nib. But I loved looking at the flourishes and ornate cadels. My ultimate goal was to be able to draw the ornate cadels designed in 1682 by Thomas Weston and published in that 16th Edition Speedball textbook. Just a few years ago I finally accomplished that feat and even presented a program on them in March 2013. Our own Angie Vangalis was the editor of the 24th Edition Speedball textbook published around that time and she included the Weston cadels exemplar from the 16th edition for the first time in 50 years (page 83). Thanks, Angie! If you want to know more details on my calligraphic history look at the member spotlight in the October 2014 newsletter at <u>https://kaligrafos.com/</u>. The member spotlight would be a great item to bring back to the newsletter this year. Any volunteers?

The program for our September 10th meeting is an engraving demonstration by June Leschek. June will bring us a brief presentation followed by a live demo. She will engrave a couple of small items then select some items brought by members to engrave. Bring a small glass object like a perfume bottle or even a bottle of wine, just no champagne. She will randomly draw member names then engrave their items until the meeting ends.

One of our signature events (see what I did there?) is The Dallas Pen Show held once again at the Doubletree Hotel on Friday, September 23rd and Saturday, September 24th, from 10:00am to 8:00pm on Friday and 9:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday. This is a great opportunity to use your skills writing names on bookmarks while promoting Kaligrafos and getting better acquainted with other Kaligrafos members. We also sell fundraising items like the handmade pencil/pen holders made by a group of us in Sherry Barber's studio a couple weeks ago. It is probably the best place to find almost any ink imaginable and expand your knowledge on the art of fine writing beyond dip pens. See Rick Garlington or Tom Burns and sign up for a time slot to help at our table.

We continue with the ATC challenge this year with a trip around the world. Join us at any time but if you sign up to participate monthly you will get a sleeve to hold your cards over the year. More about this year's challenge is in this newsletter.

Please send announcements, articles and ideas to Rick Garlington to put into the newsletter. I edited the newsletter for several years and can attest that what makes it interesting are the things contributed by members. If something interests you, write about it, take pictures of it and submit it. The rest of us will enjoy it with you.

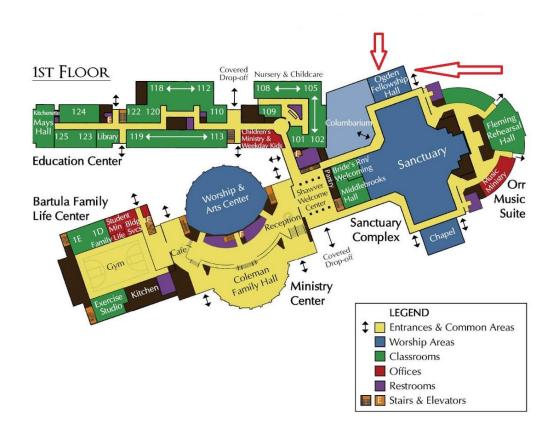
It is a great time to become a new member of Kaligrafos. The new member packets Jeri has put together are enough to make me want to quit and join again as a new member, LOL! But seasoned members are not left out in the cold. You will enjoy getting a copy of the 25th Edition of the Speedball textbook courtesy of Kaligrafos. May it inspire you to create something to show at a future meeting so we all can admire it.

Finally, it is never too early to think about how you would love to serve on the Valentine social committee.

Randy Stewart, President

General Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)



### Board Members

### Executive Board

Randy Stewart, President Monica Winters, Vice President June Baty, Treasurer Betty Barna, Secretary

### Chairpersons

Sherry Barber, Web/Communications Margaret Mall, Exhibits Jeri Wright/June Baty, Workshops Eric Doerr, Membership Rick Garlington, Newsletter



Presented by Monica Winters Reviewed by Kathy Setina

Who could imagine the full potential of the humble graphite pencil, one of the first tools that we as children used to make marks. Monica Winters has explored many of the possibilities and shared her journey with graphite techniques at the May meeting.

Monica said that growing up she always loved drawing with pencils and the feeling of lead on paper. She enjoyed shading from light to dark and from dark to light with variation of pressure. With the influence of Janell Wimberly's online workshop, *Roman Caps with Pencil*, she began to investigate doing calligraphy with pencil. She continued to be inspired by calligraphers who preferred drawn letters such as Amity Parks, Jurgen Vercaemst and Yves Leterme. Calligraphers on Pinterest and various envelope exchanges also provided inspiration.

The primary skill necessary for working with most forms of graphite is controlled shading from light to dark and vice versa, varying pressure and density. Monica recommended practice drawing letters, familiarity with various alphabets, and exploring forms of each letter of the alphabet to develop your eye for balance. These are the building blocks for creative graphite lettering.

Monica's tool box included a variety of mechanical pencils, both pointed lead (i.e. Graph Gear 500 .05) and flat lead (for chisel-edged lettering). The carpenter pencil (available at Home Depot) is a wood pencil with flat wide lead. Blackwing pencils are high quality lead pencils with replaceable erasers that come in several lead hardnesses. Monica personally favors Blackwing Pearl. Lyra water soluble graphite sticks are available in a wide variety of hardness. Also Koh-i-noor and Pentel offer woodless graphite pencils.

If you're looking for color, Derwent Graphitint pencils and paint pan pocket sets offer lovely subtle water soluble graphite palettes, as demonstrated in Monica's beautiful Valentines card.

In addition to actual graphite tools and materials, Monica listed workable fixatives, rulers (clear), and a variety of erasers including kneaded, black and Tombow. Tortillions are useful tools for blending. Automatic Pens can be used for water-soluble graphite work with ArtGraf Tailor Shape that come in colored blocks. Make a background with ArtGraf and then letter on top with water filled Automatic Pens.

Monica showed examples of controlled pressure and release exercises and also beautiful finished pieces that demonstrate a variety of graphite materials, tools and techniques. Calligraphy is often thought of as pen and ink endeavor, but this program of graphite techniques opened another realm of lettering possibilities.

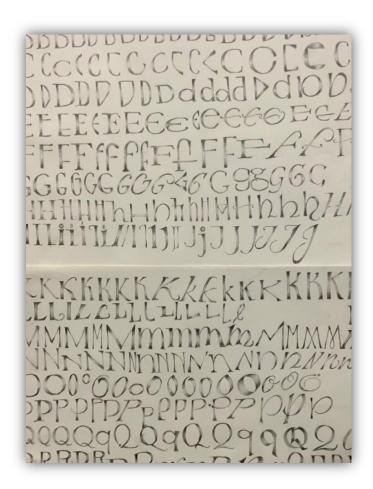
Some photos from the workshop courtesy of Kathy Setina:

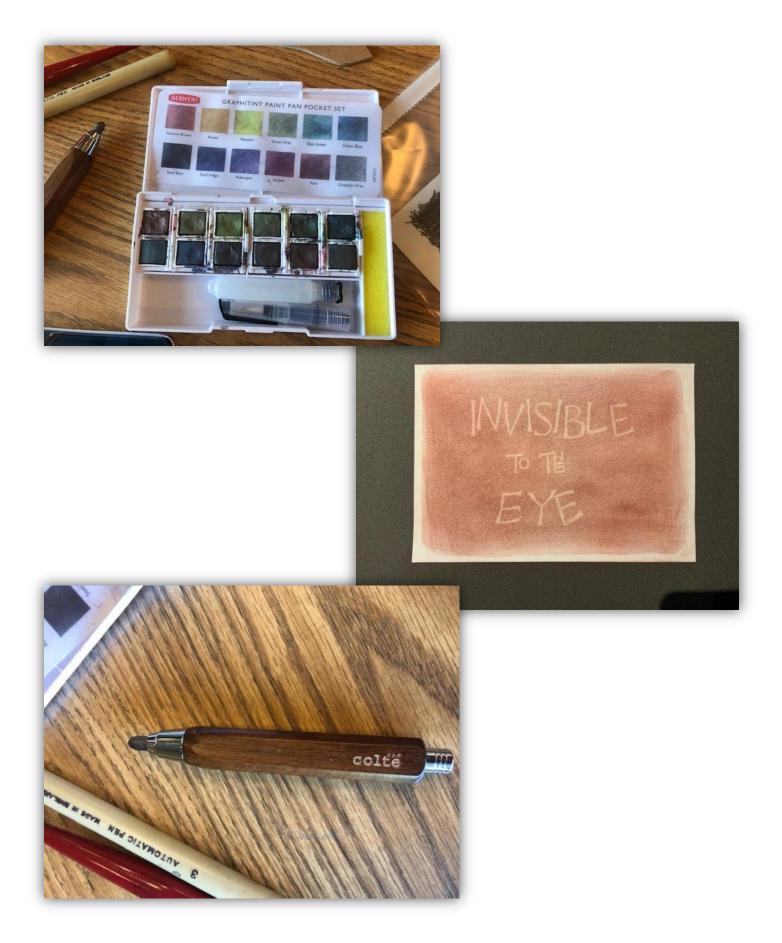




## EVERYBODY SHOULD BELIEVE IN SOMETHING ... I BELIEVE I'LL HAVE ANOTHER COFFEE









# **KALIGRAFOS SUMMER WORKSHOP**

Several Kaligrafos members gathered for a Saturday workshop on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Janell Wimberly was kind enough to share her secrets to making the adorable little Inspire Cards that she creates. We started the class with Janell showing the process of coloring her blank watercolor paper with various mediums.....Rit dyes, walnut ink, alcohol inks, instant coffee and bister inks to name just a few. We prepared both sides of our paper, working on a different one while the other was drying. Note: this Texas heat was excellent for drying our papers outside!

After we had opportunity to get a couple sheets colored on both sides, we cut the large pages down to 2" x 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" 'cards'. We had view finders to help show us how we could search out some 'sweet' spots we might want to cut out. However, some just cut down the whole sheet in rows and found that they all looked so great. It's amazing how a large sheet of 'ok' looking paper can be transformed into awesome little originals when cut down to this smaller size. Janell then showed us various ways in which to add embellishment to our cards using gold or silver metallic watercolor, colored pencils, white pens, gold spatters, etc. We also added a finishing touch by running a large black sharpie or marker around the edges to frame them in black. Also to be added are words of inspiration, encouragement, thanks, or whatever you wish to share on your little cards. We used very small nibs with Dr. Martin's Bleed Proof white or black sumi to write on both sides of each card. These cards can be used in so many different ways and when a couple watercolor sheets are prepared and cut down, you can have them ready and waiting to be added to greeting cards at a moments' notice.

We probably could have used another day to play with all these techniques, while one day just didn't give us enough time. But I believe everyone went away with an added excitement to continue our embellishing efforts at home.

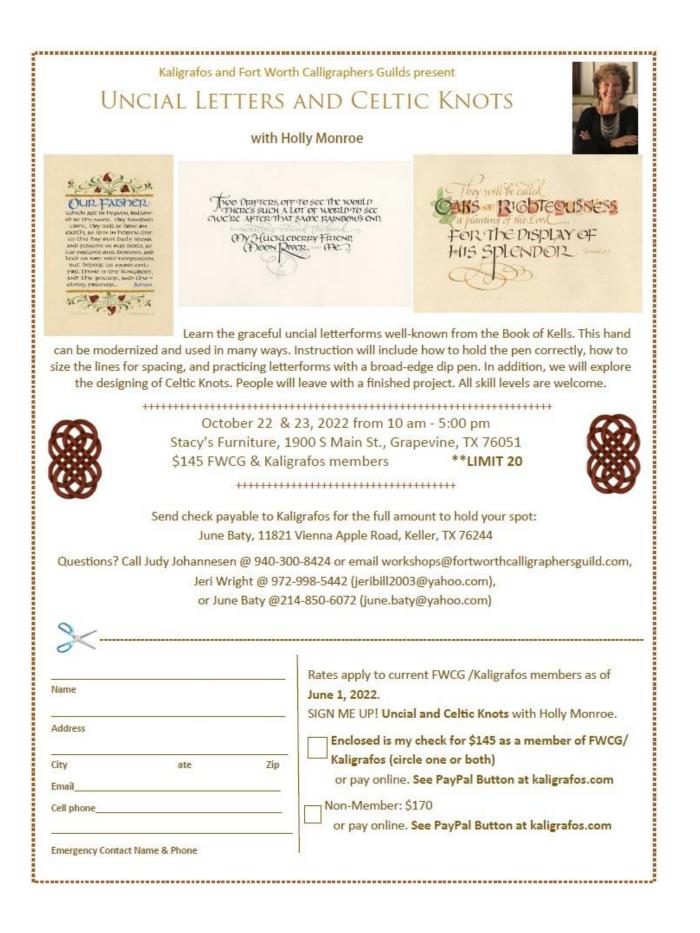
Thanks, Janell, for such a fun and inspiring workshop.

Respectfully submitted by Jeri Wright

Photos on next page courtesy of Jeri Wright









Review by Thomas Burns

After a hiatus of two years following the world apocalypse known as COVID-19 the letter writing event of Address Me Dallas came back in full swing, and what better time to have this glorious event than in April which is National Letter Writing Month.

Amy Walton, the creator of Address Me Dallas, reached out to Kaligrafos to find out if we would like to be part of this shindig. Well, of course we would! From seasoned members of Jeri, Betty, Brenda, Rick, and Monica to brand new members Jean and Marilyn we headed out to the Wild Detectives bookstore/coffee shop early on Saturday April 30th. Wanting to get a jump on things it was agreed we all would be there no later than 9:30am; we had to be there early to get our table to unpack and set up like we are a permanent fixture (we always bring too much and then inevitably forget something basic and critical). Guess what?? The Wild Detectives didn't open until 10am! Guess someone forgot to look into that, Thomas! So, the Kaligrafos motley Crue took over the porch and chit chatted till the baristas arrived to let us in!

The whirl wind began promptly at 10am. Amy had been in back the whole time and had the entire outside area set up and ready to write. All the stationary you could desire was there in all sorts of colors, along with postcards, stamps (postage and rubber), pens, pencils, typewriters, oh my! The Dallas Pen club was there to talk all about fountain pens, and this year even more typewriters were there as a founder of Austin Typewriter Ink, David "Gimme It" Torres, made the journey from Austin, and members from Dallas, Ft. Worth, and McKinney were there as well. We were set up inside as dip pen lettering outside is well....for the birds! As always, Jeri, Betty, and others' lettering drew a crowd that was mesmerized watching their envelopes come to life with beautiful calligraphy. Addressing envelopes within Dallas and across the pond or our Canadian friends to the north, the lettering just never stopped!

Everyone there came for a reason, be it their Saturday morning coffee or specifically to write a letter and all of them left with a little piece of themselves sealed in an envelope they were sending to a special someone: partner, friend, teacher, lover, mother, father, grandparent or child. They all took the time this day to make someone else's day in the future be special, but what they didn't know is the fun they would have doing it or what they would learn that day or who they would befriend. The analog world of pen, ink, type and paper is forever and powerful. Never take for granted what you can do for others!

### Some photos from the Address Me Dallas event courtesy of Jean Taylor and Brenda Burns:



















Attention members!! Kaligrafos has purchased the latest edition of the Speedball Textbook for each of its members (one per membership). We will be distributing them at the meetings beginning in September. Join us to receive your copy and review all of the wonderful exemplars and gallery of photos showcasing so many lettering styles. Those members who reside out of town will have their copy mailed to them.



Beverly Stewart is in charge of the Artist Trading Card swap for the coming year and has provided the following table for guidance.

aligrafos ATC wap Schedule		Country for Inspiration	Word is "hello" in different languages	Images and colors representing the Japanese culture	Pinterest Board
September		Japan	こんにちは or "Konnichiwa" (Hello or Good day), look up Kanji symbols for hello.	Ideas: cherry blossoms, Mt. Fuji, kanji, kimonos, Geisha, samuri, paper umbrellas, bonsai, Green Tea ceremony, origami, Ukiyo- e, Ikebana, The Great Wave painting and more. Flag is red and white, other colors would be red and black lacquer. Famous artists: Sesshu Toyo, Katsushika Hokusai, Ogata Korin. Paper expressions: origami and rice paper, washi, Chiyogami, Katazome-shi	Asian Inspired Cards Beverly Stewart @beverly0080 or PInterest <u>https://www.pinterest.com// verly0080/asian- inspired-cards/</u>
October		New Zealand (Maori)	lf you want to say hello in Te Reo (the Māori language) informally, you say "Kia ora".	Ideas: kiwi bird, sea turtles, ferns, swirls, geometric designs, Zentangle-ish tattoos and art. Flag is red, white, and blue, but is up for a change right now. Look up Maori art. Paper expressions: Maori flax paper	ТВА
November		Kenya	The most common greeting among those who speak Swahili is 'Hujambo' ('Hello') or the more colloquial greeting of 'Jambo'.	Ideas: safari, savanna, Serengeti, monkeys, elephants, lions, zebra, wildebeest, hippos, rhinos, impala, gazelle and more. Mt. Kilimanjaro, acacia trees. Flag is black, white, red, and green. Tribal art representing several (42) different tribes. Paper expressions: paper beads, tribal patterns	TBA
December	No ATC Swap—enjoy the holidays with your family				
January		Brazil	Olá-The emphasis is on the second syllable o-lá, indicated by the accent on top of the a. The accent also tells you that the a is pronounced like an 'open' ah sound, as in casa. It's important here not to be confused with the Spanish hola (emphasis on the first syllable).	Ideas: soocer, carnival, parrots, toucans, Amazon, monkeys, jungle, rainforest, guitar, maracas, bongos, coffee, chocolate. Flag is grass green, royal blue, and yellow. Famous Brazilian artists: Tarsila, Athos Bulcão, Di Cavalcanti, Anita Malfatti, and Cândido Portinari. Paper expressions: Brazilian Marble Paper is hand-made in Brazil by artist Renato Crepaldi	ТВА
February	No ATC Swap—make a Valentine to swap instead.				
March		Netherlands	Hallo (Hello)	Ideas: chocolate, tulips, windmills, wooden clogs, Delft tiles, dikes and bikes. Flag is red, white, and blue but orange is a deeply symbolic color in the culture. Dutch artists: Rembrandt, Vermeer, Van Eyck, Van Gogh Paper expressions: The Hollander Beater	TBA
April		Egypt	سلام عليكم عليكم Arabic greeting for hello—means "peace be upon you")	Ideas: Egyptian hieroglyphs, pyramids, Pharaohs, camels, Sahara, Nile, crocodiles, mummies, lotus. Flag is black, white, red, and gold. Most famous Egyptian art is the ancient kind we see in the pyramids and hieroglyphs. Paper expressions: papyrus	TBA
May		Mexico	"Hola" (Hello)	Ideas: Mexican Talavera or Saltillo tiles, Aztec designs, papel picado tissue banners, folk art and more. Flag is red, white, and green, other colors would be bright colors of all kinds. Famous artists: Frieda Kahlo, José Guadalupe Posada, and "los tres grandes (the three great ones)": Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozoo and David Siqueiros. Paper expressions: Bark papers—Huun or Yucatan, Amate	TBA

Beverly also provided these Japanese characters to go with the September theme. She is also making an extra ATC like the one below. She plans to have a drawing for the extra – the drawing is for anyone who has never participated in the ATC swap before this month – good incentive to get creative!!





### Carol Scott Calligraphy Classes

Beginning Calligraphy Class, In Person Heights Rec Center 711 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson, TX Tuesdays, 2 - 4 p.m. 9/6/22 - 10/18/22 Ages 16 through adult

### https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/richardsontx/activity/search?onlineSiteId =0&activity\_select\_param=2&activity\_keyword=calligraphy&viewMode=list



2022 Officers: Betty Barna, Randy Stewart, June Baty, Monica Winters.

