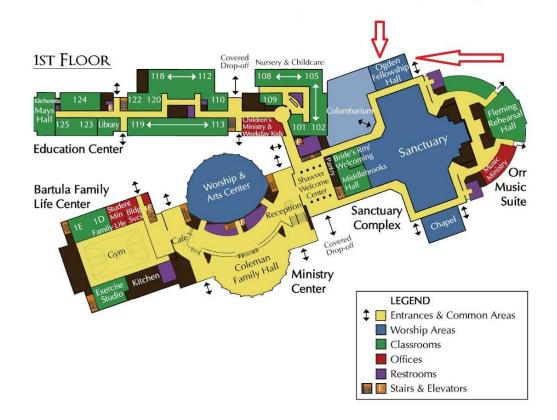


May 2023 VOLUME 43 NO. 8

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)*



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



I Can Get How Many Colors Just Two Bottles of From Ink?

Presenter: Monica Winters

Carol DuBosch unwittingly stumbled upon a method for mixing two bottles of ink to make six beautiful colors. We will be making these six puddles of color from Winsor & Newton's Dark Blue and Yellow Ochre Calligraphy Inks. Two vials of ink, water and a palette for mixing will be provided, one for each table, along with a handout. Bring your favorite dip pen (Pilot Parallel, Speedball, Automatic Pen, Pointed Nib, but no fountain pens!), along with your favorite practice paper (calligraphy practice paper, HP Premium 32) and a couple of paper towels.



Spring/Monarch Butterflies Presented by June Baty Reviewed by Betty Barna

June supplied us with the butterfly images printed on a vellum paper, which is made by Neenah and sold through OK paper or Office Depot. She also supplied the 28-gauge wire for the antenna and the Scribbles black fabric paint used to attach the antenna to the body, and 3/16" glue dots to attach your finished butterfly to whatever you are decorating. If applied to paper it becomes rather permanent but can be applied to many different surfaces and moved as desired. When twisted slightly the butterfly will turn back to its normal position.

The supply list was to bring different markers, pencils, paints or whatever you want to color the butterflies with. You can find many license-free line drawings of butterflies on the net to use. Then you just print them off onto the vellum paper ready to color, cut out and mount. You can also cut out butterflies from different decorative papers and stack them for a 3-D effect. June had a jumbo punch from the Martha Stewart collection of artsy things to use for this layering of images. You can also cut out butterflies from thin sheet magnet to mount on the bottom of a layered butterfly to put on your fridge! The options are endless.

This was a very fun technique and we all went home with about 3 butterflies to use on our own projects.

Pictures from the program provided by Betty Barna:

















GRAPHITE TECHNIQUES FOR CALLIGRAPHERS, Part 2 Presented by Monica Winters

Monica presented part 2 of her wonderful workshop, Graphite Techniques, picking up where we left off last month, then adding on new techniques. We learned how to use various erasers (especially the kneaded type) to gently lift the graphite off the page. She emphasized the importance of counterspaces in your layout, varying the placing and size of the space. We practiced using a blending stump to blend from dark to light (in combination with the eraser). Then we got to the really fun part – adding color to the design, using watercolor pencils or tinted water soluble graphite (my personal favorites are the Derwent Graphitint Pencils). We then used graphite again to create drop shadows around the letter. Thank you Monica for a most wonderful workshop!

Rick Garlington

Monica took us through many techniques using pencils of various sizes, shapes and hardnesses. The technique that she used with these colored graphite shavings was to sprinkle some on your paper and work it in with a cotton ball. I used both blue and green for the effect it would give together on the paper, and then using a Tombo Mono Eraser, took off some of the color to make the letters "G" and "B". It took a while to get the letters to be clear enough but then I decided to shadow them using a blue Graphitint pencil and blending that in a bit. I also used a white Graphitint pencil inside the letters to make them pop a little more. Graphitint pencils are colored pencils by Derwent with some graphite in them to soften the colors a bit and are readily available online.

Betty Barna

Picture 1 – Betty Barna Pictures 2 & 3 – Rick Garlington



if i only had a BRAIN



Bookmarks Galore!!

It was a **Madness Games and Comics** event on May 6, 2023, and some of the usual suspects could be found there, writing at warp speed! Between Jeri, Monica, Rick and Betty, not to mention Randy, Javier and Sarah Schulz, in six hours we penned over 275 names on bookmarks cleverly stamped with characters from another world. Rick provided most of the bookmarks that we used and the customers were standing in line at our table waiting for their turn to get their name done. Tom and Brenda Burns where there too, as Tom works there as his regular day job. Before doors opened at 9am, there was a line around the building waiting to get in to get their free comic books or purchase games and get their name calligraphed. This was even busier than the Pen Show in September and completely different clientele! But very fun. If you have never done something like this, you don't know what you are missing!

Betty Barna



Photos courtesy of Brenda Burns & Jeri Wright.















INFO SHARED BY SARAH SCHULZ

Fun calligraphy tools from AliExpress

The first question here would probably be "what on earth is AliExpress" if you've never shopped there. Similar(ish) to eBay and Amazon, AliExpress is an online marketplace made up of independent sellers, but with an international focus. Many packages come from China, though certainly not all. Do expect a couple of weeks for delivery as your packages will be traveling around the world. It's the sort of place that I wouldn't trust for clothes, but has been great for writing tools, and more recently, useful additions to my collection of calligraphy tools. I'll be sharing three.

Majohn A1 empty sealable cartridges - fully compatible with Pilot Parallel pens!

Originally developed for the Majohn A1 fountain pen (a dead ringer for the Pilot Vanishing Point fountain pen), this little accessory box comes with empty cartridges, rubber stoppers, and a small eyedropper. Other listings are available with fewer cartridges and a converter, which I haven't tried. These make it easy to transport pre-filled ink cartridges for a Parallel pen anywhere with the ink of your choice. <u>Here's a link</u> to where I got mine, though a search for "Majohn A1 cartridges" will find these from various sellers.



I pre-filled mine with shimmer inks for the February meeting and they worked beautifully. I got mine from the seller "StPenpps Chinese Pen Store", though there are others that stock the same item.

Parallel Fountain Pen (generic / no brand)

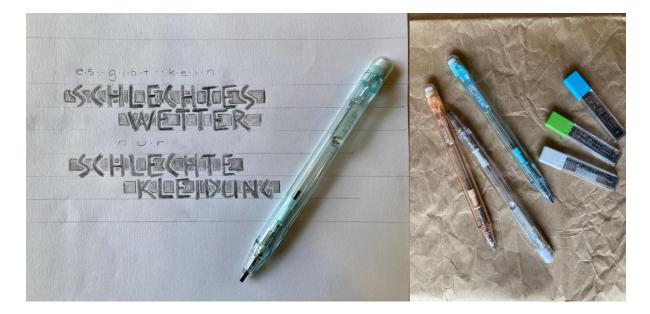
Have you ever used a parallel pen and thought, "these are great, but I wish they were clear so I could see how much ink is left. I also wish they had a converter that could hold a lot of ink since these go through ink quickly. And nibs wider than 6.0mm would be fun too", well you're in luck.



These fountain pens use the same idea of two parallel plates like the Pilot Parallel, but are completely clear and have a built-in converter which can hold a LOT of ink (a little over 1.5mL by my measurements). The nib widths start at 2 mm but go all the way up to 11mm! I first got a 5mm pen, then went back for the rest of the sizes after I got to play with it for a bit. I got these from the same seller as the Pilot-compatible cartridges. <u>Here's a link.</u> So far, I think only one seller carries these, though I could be wrong.

Some notes: these are really fun and I'd buy them again. However, after a month of frequent use I have some more nitpicky notes to share. The nibs benefit from some smoothing before use (I use a nail buffer block) and the first time or two using the converter, it can feel a bit stuck. If the ink flow ever feels low, I slightly pull the plates away from the nib feed and that helps a lot. You can remove the nib like a parallel pen, should you wish to fill the section with an eyedropper instead. I have noticed slight cracking around the nib section on some of them, though it hasn't caused any issues yet.

Rectangular lead mechanical pencil ("exam mechanical pencil")



Marketed as a student pencil perfect for filling out scantron sheets, these come with a thin rectangular-shaped lead in 2B grade. When I stumbled across these, I immediately thought these would make for some fun effects in broad-edge styles, but with the benefits of graphite. It only comes in one width - 1.8mm, but the 2B lead is incredibly soft and smooth. One extra perk of these pencils is their crazy affordability - I got a 3 pack of the pencils for \$3.14, and 3 refill lead containers for \$2.02 - all with free shipping. I got these from a seller with a seemingly unintelligible name - "CYOGOHO store" (here's a link), but there are dozens of sellers that offer these. Just search for "exam mechanical pencil" and you'll find various listings for pencils in black, navy, and gray. I've since done some further digging, and if you're looking for this type of pencil without the international wait, and you don't mind a basic black body, the morning glory sketch pencil and lead look to be pretty much the same. You can find those on Amazon, Paper and Ink Arts, JetPens, and other online retailers.

INFO SHARED BY KAREN CARGILE

I talked with you at the calligraphy meeting on Saturday about these two shows on PBS. Maybe they would help with the newsletter. I think you have to be a passport member to be able to see them, but I thought they were really interesting. Especially the one how writing changed the world.

Here's the link.

www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/series/a-to-z/

Let me know if you have trouble with the link.

Karen Cargile

INFO SHARED BY BETTY BARNA

Confessions of a Box Hoarder

Little boxes Big boxes Special boxes Generic boxes Boxes with packing stuff in them Boxes, boxes, boxes, boxes! Even my boxes have boxes! I am overrun with boxes! HELP!

But when I move, I will have boxes for that!

ATC the World

Here are the details for the May ATC the World. This month we are saying Hola to Mexico-such a rich source of colorful culture for inspiring our creativity. Here is the link to the Pinterest board:

https://www.pinterest.com/beverly0060/mexico-ole/

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 Orozco and David Siqueiros. Paper expressions: Bark papers—Huun or Yucatan, Amate.

My part of our ATCs are done, Randy still has to add the Hola...



From the Board...

The Nominating Committee consisted of Betty Barna, Jeri Wright, and June Baty with Rick Garlington as the alternate. At the April General Meeting, they presented the slate of officers to be elected in May as the following: For Vice President: June Baty For Treasurer: Sherry Barber

A motion was presented to the board between the March and April General meetings that we should consider not charging dues for this coming calendar year due to our healthy bank account balance. The motion was discussed by email, and a vote taken. The motion failed and it was suggested that we consider other means of giving back to the membership, possibly by offering free workshops on the Zoom platform. The Workshop committee is working on that idea and has a couple of presenters under consideration.

Other volunteers that have come forward are Virginia Littlepage to take over Membership from Eric Doerr who has served for many years in that position; and for the Newsletter, Jean Taylor has stepped forward to take over from Rick Garlington. Rick's final newsletter will be the upcoming issue for May.

Dues are now due! Payment can be made in person at the May General Meeting, or online on the Kaligrafos website through PayPal, or by mail.

Kaligrafos Calligraphy Guild P.O. Box 831118 Richardson, TX 75083 Rubber Stamp cabinet from a stamp store - \$120 Contact Betty Barna if you are interested. Email is best <u>blbarna@mac.com</u>



Carol Scott Calligraphy Classes

Beginning Calligraphy Class, In Person Heights Rec Center 711 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson, TX Tuesdays, 2 – 4 p.m. February 28, 2023 to April 11, 2023 Ages 16 through adult https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/richardsontx/activity/search?onlineSiteId=0&activity_select_para m=2&activity_keyword=calligraphy&viewMode=list



Private Calligraphy Lessons

• In-person or on Zoom

• Covering a wide range of calligraphy and related topics including - pointed pen styles, broad-edge styles, using gouache, Italic handwriting, using/understanding color, how-to on projects, flourishing, etc.

- You choose lesson length (1, 1.5, 2 hours) and frequency (2/week, 1/week, biweekly, etc.)
- Ages 10 adult

https://www.carolscalligraphyart.com/