

KWALLIGRAPHOS

CALLIGRAPHY GUILD



Painting on Bottles and Glass

Cover art by
Janell Wimberly

January 2024
VOLUME 44 NO. 4



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

President's Letter

Dear Kaligrafos members,

January 2024

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with restful and enjoyable times among friends and family.

Can you believe it is 2024!

We are hitting the ground running.

The January program is Painting on Bottles and Glass demonstrated by June Leschek. If you have been to one of June's programs before you know you do not want to miss this one. Learn how to jazz up some of those bottles you have sitting around or make them into special gifts for special occasions. If you remember June's bottle engraving program, you can create great gifts but there were some limitations and special equipment. You can not engrave bottles that contain pressure, like Champagne bottles and you need an engraver. But that is no problem for bottle painting. You just need to know how and June will show you that.

Then in the afternoon Angie Vangalis will present a Playful Parallel Pens mini workshop. You do need to sign up which is easy to do at Kaligrafos.com. This will be a great way to kick off 2024.

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, it is high time to get busy! If you have not thought of anything before meeting time in January (not recommended) you should have some good ideas by the end of the day.

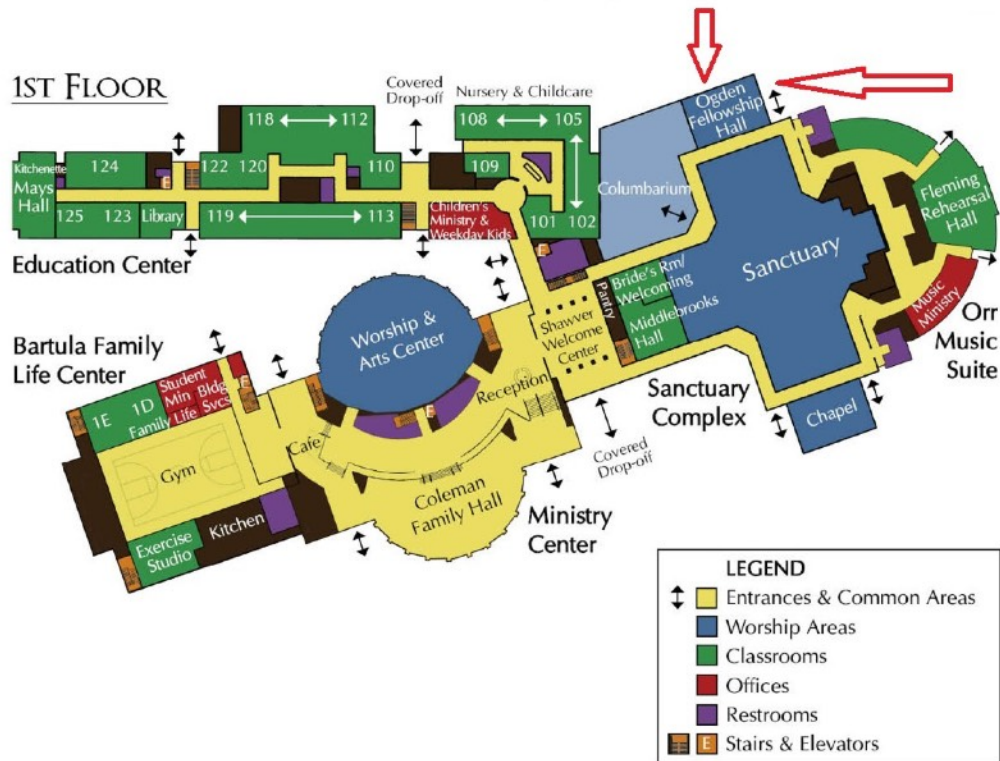
If you have extra calligraphy items you can donate to the Valentine's Raffle please let Rick Garlington know as soon as you can. The raffle is an important part of that day and we need enough items to see who goes down next as the person to win the most raffle items and wrest the title from James from last year.

See you in January!

Randy Stewart

President

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
 June Baty, Vice President
 Sherry Barber, Treasurer
 Betty Barna, Secretary

Chairpersons

Sherry Barber, Web/Communications
 Jeri Wright, Workshops
 Virginia Littlepage, Membership
 Jean Taylor, Newsletter

PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS, & MINI WORKSHOPS

2023 – 2024 Monthly Programs

September 9, 2023	Cutout Neuland Letters a la Carl Rohrs	Betty Barna
October 14, 2023	Flag Books	Jeri Wright
November 11, 2023	Bister Techniques - Bazaar	Monica Winters
January 13, 2024	Painting on Bottles and Glass	June Leschek
February 10, 2024	Valentie's Party	Monica Winters - Chairperson
March 9, 2024	Art of Daily Creative Practice	Roxanne Glaser
April 13, 2024	Tunnel Books	Lisette Landauro
May 11, 2024	Playful Letters	Carrie Imai

Mini-Workshops

January 13, 2024 - Angie Vangalis will present “Playful Parallel Pens” mini workshop after the regular meeting.

April 13, 2024 - Janell Wimberly will present “Writing in Circles and on a Curve” mini-workshop after the regular meeting.

2023-2024 Membership

Join Kaligrafos

The Dallas Calligraphy Society

\$25 for individual membership

\$35 for family membership <https://kaligrafos.com/join-us/>

Please send membership changes of your information via email to:
membership@kaligrafos.com

MONTHLY WORD CHALLENGE

Calligraph any or all of these words in your favorite hand or try them in a new one. They can be as ornate or simple as you'd like. Please bring them to the next meeting for the Show and Share table. Each future newsletter will have that month's word challenge. Size is 11 x 14 or smaller.

FOR JANUARY MEETING: ***Snowman - Celebrations - Determination***

FOR MARCH MEETING: ***Fanciful - Springtime - Easter***

NOTE: February meeting is the Valentine's Social so we will not have a Show and Share table set up.

Valentine's Social

The Valentine Social . . . *Our big social is only a month away. Are you ready? Have you finished your Valentine's card yet? Monica Winters will be heading up the planning for the social and Rick Garlington will be in charge of the raffle, and Jean Taylor. Please consider what you could donate to the Valentine Raffle and let Rick know. And if you'd like to help with the social in some way, please email Monica.*

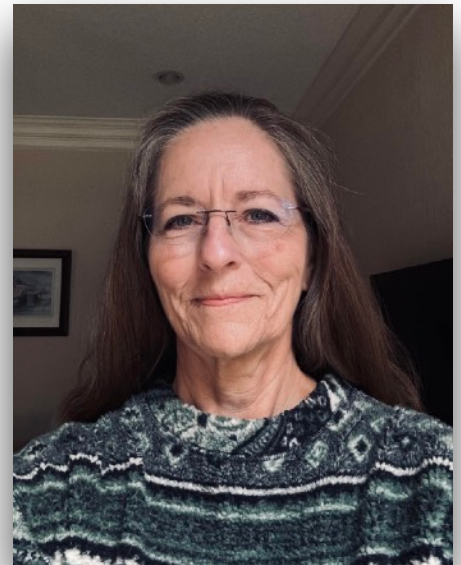
The food signup sheet will be available at the January meeting so be thinking about what you will want to bring to share.

Donations are still needed *for the Valentine's Raffle. If you have something you would like to be included in the raffle, please contact Rick Garlington to let him know what you'll be bringing and for any questions.*

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Virginia Littlepage

Hi! I have been a member of Kaligrafos since 2018 and am now Membership Chair. A little bit about me.... I am married and have lots of nieces and nephews, including "greats"! We also have a feisty 12 year old Maltese named Aris. I worked in the medical field as a speech language pathologist for many years and then moved to the software side of the industry, where I still work full-time today. I enjoy anything outside, with hiking and kayaking probably my favorites.



My path to calligraphy started while drinking a Starbucks coffee at Barnes and Noble (remember those days?). I saw an article about Bullet Journaling, which had nothing to do with calligraphy, but as we have all experienced, you start one place and end up somewhere else that you didn't expect! That is what happened to me, I found calligraphy! I don't recall specifically how I found out about Kaligrafos, but when I did, I was thrilled to know that it existed and so I joined, with practically zero experience! I had read a lot and knew a few things, but not much!

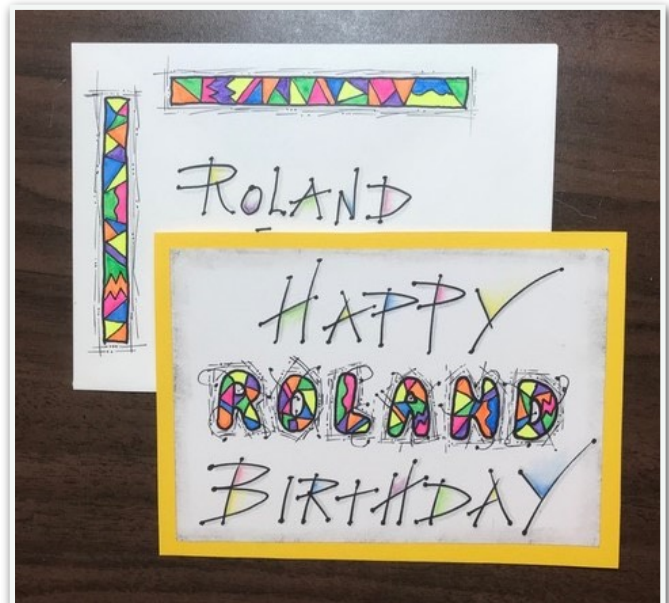
Everyone in the guild was so welcoming, they could care less about my skill level, although, with the seemingly boundless level of talent in the guild I was a bit intimidated and wondered what I was thinking!

Now, confession time.... After all these years, I still do not consider myself a "calligrapher", more of a dabbler! I absolutely LOVE learning and trying different styles, tools, mediums, and that is what keeps me coming back to guild meetings! The variety of information shared, the workshops, I am in my happy place! I remember one of the first workshops I attended was use of the triangle brush and watercolor, and I thought this was a calligraphy guild! Just goes to show you that there is so much more to the guild than just calligraphy. So much more!

Because of the love of learning and experiencing new things, I attend as many workshops as I can. So my favorite tool/hand/medium is typically whatever I used in the most recent workshop I attended. That means, I have LOTS of supplies! However, I do tend to lean toward more whimsical lettering style. I am sure that one day, I will be more proficient at one of the more formal hands, but for today, I am happy with what I can do and share that by making cards for my family members. So, for those new calligraphers, my advice is don't stress over getting perfect. Find something you like and just enjoy the process. Even if that means you do something different every couple of months. (Like me!)



Virginia



KALIGRAFOS WORKSHOP VIDEOS FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Did you know that Kaligrafos has a YouTube channel of some previous workshops and programs? If you would like to watch these videos, please email Sherry Barber and she will send you a private link to watch them. These are for members only, not for wide distribution.

“Pretty Paisley Letters” by Cecilia Boschi, Day One ~ 1 hr 32 minutes

“Pretty Paisley Letters” by Cecilia Boschi, Day Two ~ 1 hr 35 minutes

“Dirds” by Suzie Berringer Video One ~ 5 hr 23 minutes

“Dirds” by Suzie Berringer Video Two ~ 10 minutes

“Pigments” by Margaret Mall ~ 35 minutes

“Watercolor Fun for Holiday Envelopes ~ 1 hr 9 minutes

“Sewn Boards Binding” ~ 20 minutes

SHOW & SHARE



BISTER INK November Program Review

Presented by Monica Winters ~ Reviewed by Jean Taylor

The November program on Bister Ink was presented by Monica Winters. As always with Monica's programs, it was full of information.

She had provided everyone with 4 pre-mixed inks of Bister powders in yellow, red, blue, and green in small containers ready to be used. The ratio she used in mixing them was 1:6 (1 part ink powder to 6 parts distilled water). The colors tend to get more intense as they sit. When mixing them up, use warm distilled water, mix well, and then let sit for at least 30 minutes before using. Prior to the program, we were provided via email a handout of the full range of colors that included the addition of brown, natural, mahogany, and black. There's no need to add any gum arabic as the ink flows beautifully without it.

She recommended that when mixing up our own inks to transfer some to smaller containers and use them as your working inks as it leaves the main colors not contaminated with different colors when dipping a pen or brush especially since sometimes you don't even clean the nib/brush between colors depending on the look you want.

Different people prefer different tools to use for lettering. Monica's favorite pen to use with Bister ink is a 2.4 parallel pen (empty cartridge of course since it's used as a dip pen) to address envelopes with. The Speedball 3A is also great as you can blend sheer inks with it easier. Rick's favorite pen to use with Bister ink is a Speedball C5. I've used the 3.0 parallel pen and found I like that one too so whatever works best for the project you're doing is the tool to use.

Some special effects you can do is to put some of the Bister ink powder into a small nylon bag to sprinkle on dry paper and mist it with water. You can also sprinkle it onto wet paper.

To blot up ink, ball up some toilet paper and it works great, plus economical too.

Two colors to mix together that Monica loves are mahogany and yellow as they make a beautiful orange.

All the different programs which members do each month are such a blessing for us all. I've learned a ton in the 2 years I've been a member of Kaligrafos. Thank you to Monica and everyone else who does this. It is truly appreciated.

I found this website and thought it informative, though not in English. It's in Polish but some computers/mobile phones have translation features to automatically convert to English.

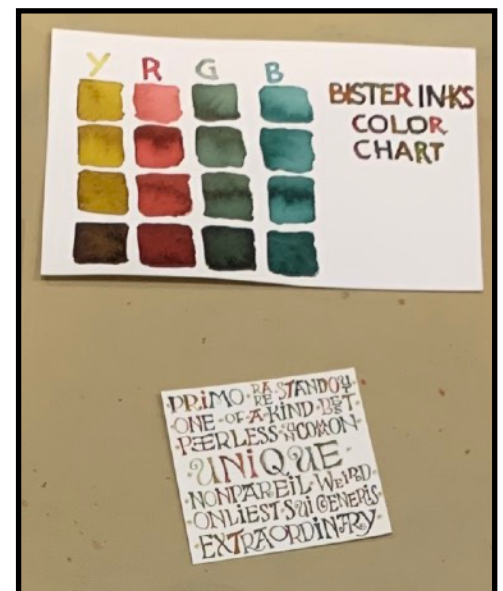
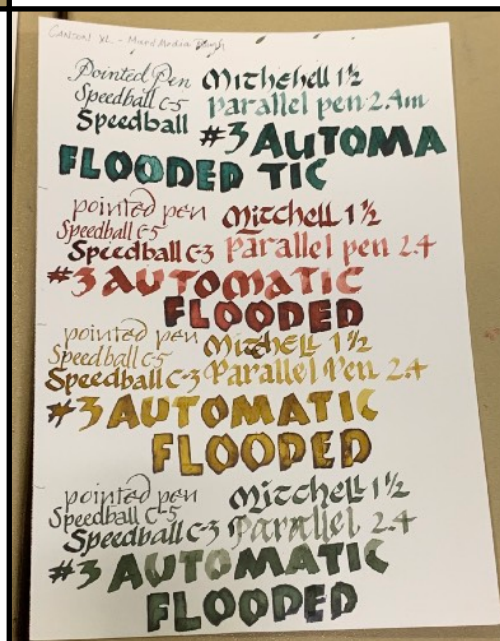
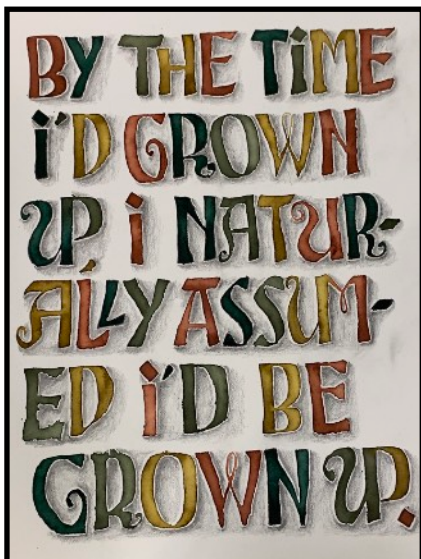
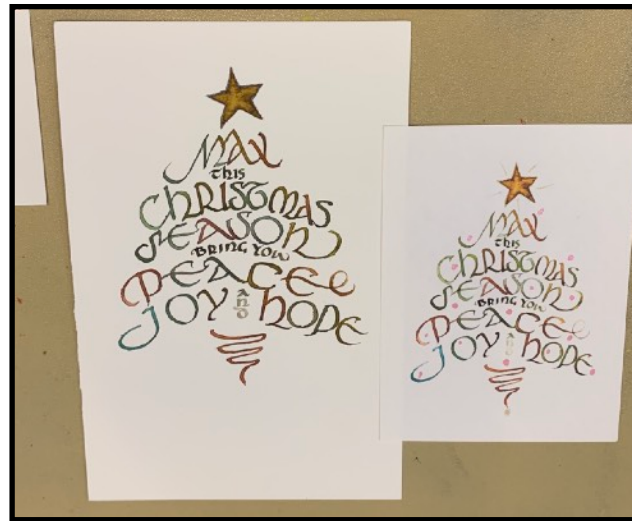
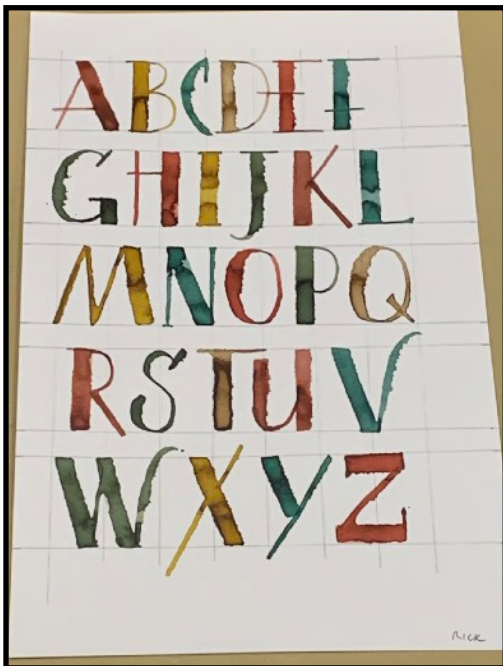
<https://oktopi.pl/bister-inks/>

Bister Ink Activities - By Monica Winters

These are to go along with November's program as time didn't allow us to go over this. These processes take a bit of time and patience, but the results can be quite satisfying.

1. The inks have been mixed to be a bit dark; putting few drops into the lid of your dinky dip and adding a drop or two of water with your brush will help to lighten them. Or you can use a plastic palette.
2. With your brush, paint an area about 1 ½ or 2" square with one of your colors. We will let this dry and come back to it. (See item #10 on this list)
3. Write a letter of the alphabet to get the feel for your pen with the Bister Ink. Different pens respond differently to the ink.
4. Flooding: With a broad edged nib (Automatic Pen, Parallel Pen, etc.) begin to write a letter of the alphabet using a broad script such as Neuland, Blackletter, Gothicized Italic. If using an automatic pen or Speedball, use the edge of the nib to add more ink to each stroke. If using a Parallel pen, with each stroke of your pen, dip your pen in ink again and add more ink to the stroke.
5. Flooding with Ink and water: Write a letter of the alphabet using the flooding technique in previous, but additionally – with your pointed brush, add a drop of water to each stroke so that you create a bubble effect. You can add the drops of water after you have written the whole letter. When it dries (and this will take a while), it will give the letter an effect of being outlined.
6. Try writing a letter or word with the ink, but for each stroke wipe your nib clean with a paper towel and then dip into another color. I use this technique (which I stole from June Baty) in addressing birthday envelopes.
7. Write a word, using a different color ink for each letter. If you can't think of a word, try "whimsical, paisley, or Christmas."
8. Rewrite the word, but squeeze the letters together so that they will touch and the ink will bleed into each other.
9. Write a short word with your yellow bister ink. While the ink is still wet on the paper, drop in another color or colors and watch the bleed.
10. Go back to the square that you painted at the beginning (item #2), which should be dry by now; with PLAIN water write a letter or a few strokes. With your paper towel, blot the square to pull up the ink. This technique works best with Canson watercolor paper.

So many beautiful examples were brought to show what can be done with Bister Ink.



PRIMO RE STANDO
 ONE OF A KIND BEST
 PEERLESS IN COMMON
 UNIQUE
 NON PAREIL WEIRD
 ONLIEST SUI GENERIS
 EXTRAORDINARY

PEACE

may peace follow you
 This holiday season
 into the new year.

PEACE

MULTIPLE WAYS TO USE BISTER INKS BY RICK GALLINGTON

PERSEVERANCE
AUTOMATIC PEN DIPPED IN BISTER INK + OTHER INKS; OUTLINED WITH MICRON FINE PEN

DILIGENCE
RULING PEN DIPPED IN BISTER + OTHER INKS; SHADOW EFFECT WITH GRAPHITE PENCIL

confidence
RULING PEN DIPPED IN BISTER + OTHER INKS; SHADOW EFFECT WITH LETRASET TIA FINEST GUY PEN

BREAD bread Bread
 BREAD bread
 BREAD bread
 BREAD bread
 BREAD bread

may the sparkle of
 the christmas season
 find and hold you in
 the coming year

BEN SHAIN
 LETTERS

BREAD

neither man nor nation
 can exist without a
 sublime idea. Pasolini

KALIGRAFOS JANUARY IN-PERSON MINI-WORKSHOP
MEMBERS ONLY



Angie Vangalis, Instructor

January 13, 2024
1:00pm - 4:00pm CST

First United Methodist Church, Richardson
503 N Central Expy
Richardson, TX 75080
Immediately following the January Meeting

By the time you get this newsletter, you should have paid for your supplies if you ordered them , but here is a refresher of what to bring in case you don't have the supply list handy.

SUPPLY LIST

- Pilot Parallel Pen size 6.0 mm (blue cap)
MUST BE clean and empty!
- Transparent watercolor set (like Prang) OR
tube colors: green, red, yellow and blue
- Gouache or Nicker Poster Color: green and red
- 2 water containers
- Scissors OR snap-off blade utility knife, metal
straight edge & cutting mat
- Cellophane/Scotch® tape - regular
- Notebook/Pen for note taking
- Fun Foam pad* 9x12 or larger
- Loading brush*
- Opaque Fine-White Pen* (like a Glaze or Posca)
- Gum Arabic*
- 6-well palette*

***Included in Optional Supply Packet**

Supply Kit Fee - \$15

Includes teacher supplied materials, Worksheets, Ecoline Liquid Watercolors white and gray for exercises, project paper pack, special tools, bead packet, 2 empty Parallel Pen ink cartridges, 2 Mini Pipettes, cotton glove and Viva® paper towels.

OPTIONAL SUPPLY PACKET - \$35

Includes: Teacher supplied materials, Worksheets, Ecoline Liquid Watercolors white and gray for exercises, project paper pack, special tools, bead packet, 2 empty Parallel Pen ink cartridges, 2 Mini Pipettes, cotton glove, Viva® paper towels, Foam pad, Monoject syringe, loading brush, Opaque fine-white pen, Gum Arabic and 6-well palette.

NOTE: Either the Supply Kit OR Supply Packet is required, not both.