

LETTERS



We had some great classes this spring! Above are two photos from a paste paper workshop with Peggy Skycraft. Below are two photos from a flower workshop with Victoria Pittman.



SUMMER 2012

More Workshop Photos



Above left, paste paper examples; above right, Jessie McCandlish and Sandi Cormier create paste paper.
Below left, Peggy Skycraft prepares paint; below right, Victoria Pittman demonstrates flower painting.



Below left, Victoria Pittman demonstrates flower painting; below right, flower and calligraphy by Laura Drager.





Presidents' Prologue

As I write this, it seems as though summer may have arrived - although it may be a cruel joke!

April saw the splendid weekend workshop given by Victoria Pittman with her wonderfully loose approach to flowers. It was a really inspiring couple of days, and I hope it may encourage some of us to create pieces for the State Fair.

Lori Festa has done a splendid job on our virtual banner for Calligraphy Northwest and we are still working on our items for the sales table at Calligraphy Northwest. I know we are all looking forward to the conference - it's lovely to have it within easy driving distance and we will await with eagerness programs from our members who participated.

It won't be long now before the Fairs - Salem, Silverton and the State. Staffing our tables takes a lot of volunteer help, and please do say yes when you are asked to help out. So many people enjoy having their names written in calligraphy - I know when I first started I was very apprehensive as to whether I could do a good job, but people were so appreciative that it gave me confidence in my ability and remember - whatever you do is probably better than the recipient can manage! So don't be shy - think of it as an ego boosting session.

Many thanks to our wonderful board members who have willingly and dependably coordinated activities, administered our business affairs, and provided vision for our group. We're blessed with caring and creative folks who make the Capital Calligraphers a wonderful group to be a part of. A new board will be elected at our June meeting and we ask for your continued support and participation in the activities of this fine organization.

Penny and Laura

Programs & Hospitality

June

Monoprinting with Carol Baumann

Refreshments: Sylvia Giberti and Lyn Graybeal

Raffle Item: Kathleen Kelly

Summer Art Fairs

Please consider signing up to write names at the Salem and Silverton Art Fairs this summer!

Salem:

Setup on Thursday, July 19

Fair starts Friday, July 20 and runs through Sunday, July 22

To sign up, please contact Stephanie Page.

Silverton:

Saturday, August 18 and Sunday, August 19

To sign up, please contact Penny White.

News and Events

Birthdays

June

11 Lori Festa
20 Glenva Watkins
28 Laura Drager
29 Stan Kerzel

July

20 Barbara Mitchell
23 Kathy Van Kleeck
26 Don Mortensen

August

11 Laurie Naemura
12 Sylvia Giberti
14 Nancy Pickett
14 Penny White
17 Patty Sackinger
22 Sylvia Sproed

Fun Links

Here's a collection of fun links shared by Carol Baumann.

Type Connection is a game that helps you learn how to pair typefaces.

<http://www.metafilter.com/115638/type-connection>

A collection of complaints monks scribbled in the pages of illuminated manuscripts.

<http://www.metafilter.com/114269/Complaints-Department-medieval-monk-style>

<http://www.brainpickings.org/index.php/2012/03/21/monk-complaints-manuscripts/>

How a Book is Made: AD 400 vs. 1947 vs. 1961 vs. 2011

<http://www.brainpickings.org/index.php/2011/08/16/how-a-book-is-made/>

Library news

1. A new library item was shown at the May meeting. Sylvia brought "Newsletter Bundles", from 2011. These are volumes consist of a variety of Newsletters from other Calligraphy Guilds who share who send their Newsletters to our Guild in return we send them ours.

They are brought to our meetings by Stephanie who passes them around, but they aren't seen by many members so I came up with an idea to help our membership get a chance to check them out. I gathered up ones from previous meetings and organized them into semi-yearly bundles and sewed them together. Each sewn volume can be checked out for 1 month.

2. For all members who have library items checked out, PLEASE RETURN THEM AT THE JUNE MEETING.

3. Also, please peruse the list of library holdings at our Website (capitalcalligraphers.org) and request the ones you want to borrow over the summer. Do this via an email to Bill S. and he will bring them to the June meeting.

Classes and Workshops

Calligraphy Northwest International Calligraphy Conference will take place at Reed College in Portland from June 24-July 1, 2012. For more information, visit the conference web site at <http://www.2012calligraphyconference.com/>

Flowers with Victoria Pittman

By Chris Anderson

What a great weekend we had: Weather was great and so was the class and camaraderie.

I think one of the better ideas for the class was to have Sandi Cormier order paper. Every piece was not wrinkled (which often happens while traveling) and it meant that we didn't have to hunt through stashes to find the correct paper.

Vicky started us with some basic shape using black ink and a blue dot Chinese paint brush. We worked on making bamboo strokes as well as leaves.

We moved on to a number 5 automatic pen and watercolors next. We worked on basic shapes, mainly a "bone" letter "l," small triangles and "golf tee" shapes. We also used the corner of the pen to make very thin lines.

In our information package, Vicky included a short autobiography of herself, several color prints of her work and numerous instructions for making flowers with the automatic pen.

On Sunday, we focused on making flowers using acrylic paints and clay shapers on damp Stonehenge paper. Stonehenge is a good quality and relatively inexpensive paper. You can do a lot to it before it will fall apart. Vicky suggested if you hose it off, use a fixative on it before you try to write on it.

To make the flowers with acrylics and clay shapers, a person really needs to know the shapes of the flowers and leaves before he/she begins to do this method, as it is done very quickly. It is very beautiful.

Lastly, Vicky demonstrated using bleach on black paper and gray paper. Several people had a go at that.

One of the best hints for design was this: "Do not use bold lettering with bold flowers. They will fight each other."



Ruling Guidelines for Calligraphy

By Diane Hutt

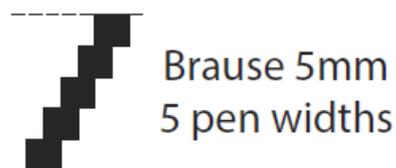
First of all, thanks to Carol DuBosch, Linda Schneider and Yuki Tanaka for their contributions to this article on how to rule guidelines on paper for calligraphy.

Light table: Lined paper can be put on the light table and the writing paper taped on top. This makes it unnecessary to draw lines or to use an eraser.

Ames or Linex Lettering Guides is another option for lining paper. Instructions come with the instrument.

You can also make your own pen scale. This procedure was mentioned by all of the above calligraphers so here it is:

Make your own pen scale with the pen you will be using. First, draw a base line on a small sticky note. Next carefully make a ladder of square strokes with the pen at the proper angle. As an example, for italic, five strokes are required for the proper pen height with the pen at 90°. Now draw another line where your pen scale ended. You will use this scale to make your lines on the paper. *Only one set of strokes on each sticky note.* This keeps your pen scale accurate. Label your pen scale sticky note and save it since you can use it again. If the ascenders or descenders are higher or lower (Carolingian for example) you can also measure these out on your sticky note pen scale.



Use a mechanical pencil to draw your lines. Why? If you use a pencil that needs to be sharpened, the lines will get thicker as you use the pencil thus making your lines less accurate. If you must use a pencil, one with a hard lead is best. Use a light stroke to avoid indenting the paper.

Now draw a line across the top of the paper you are going to write on. Next take your pen scale and place it on the line. Use your pen scale to mark off the distances down the side of the paper with a light tick mark – small dot. Do this only on one side of the paper.

To draw lines horizontally across the paper use a T-square. Put your pencil on the first tick mark and *move the T-square to the pencil.* Then draw your line. Continue with this method until you have sufficient lines on the paper. Voilà!

Remembering Jean Wollenweber

By Jan Slick

Jean Wollenweber passed away peacefully at home on January 18, 2012. She was 73 years old.

Jean was born in Aurora, Illinois in 1938; daughter of Leonard and Florence. She was raised in Illinois, graduated from West Aurora High School, then attended the University of Illinois receiving a BA in Psychology.

Jean's professional career was spent in Colorado and Oregon working in child welfare. Jean was an avid reader and turned her enjoyment of books into owning her own book store in Tillamook for many years. In 2000, she retired from Children's Services Division in Tillamook. With more time, Jean pursued her passions for calligraphy and writing both poetry and short stories. She also volunteered for the Pioneer Museum and Hospice.

In 200 Jean moved to Salem to live with her son and his family. Here she continued to work on calligraphy, joined Capital Calligraphers, wrote poetry and volunteered at Myers Elementary School.

Jean is survived by her son Jim, daughter-in-law Nicole and 2 grandchildren, Jimmy and Abey who were the delight of her heart. Any conversation with Jean always included stories of her grandkids. Jean is remembered by friends and family for her caring and encouragement and her humor. She loved her family, her reading, poetry and calligraphy. Life had good things in it for her.

Thank-you's from our May meeting

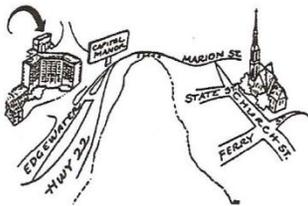
Thank you to everyone who participated in the May meeting, from Carol Baumann (who demonstrated veggie printing and various other printmaking techniques with Sandi Cormier's assistance) to all those who brought items and plants for our Silent Auction, helped set up the sales, and all those who brought cash to spend and helped enrich our treasury by \$116. And thank you to Karen Runkle who brought items from her calligraphy studio to sell and paid us \$12 in commission from her sales.

We have asked Carol to come back to the June meeting with the various printmaking ideas for those who didn't have time to try everything. And we will also have a chance to refresh our skills at writing names for the summer art fairs at the June meeting.

Jessie McCandlish

CAPITAL Calligraphers

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The Capital Calligraphers' Guild welcomes anyone interested in calligraphy.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday after Labor Day in September, and the first Thursday of the month, October through June, at 7:00 p.m. in the Capital Manor Community Center in West Salem.

About Capital Calligraphers

Capital Calligraphers' mission is to promote the study, teaching, and practice of calligraphy and related arts. We welcome anyone interested in calligraphy to attend our meetings and join the guild.

Officers

Laura Drager and Penny White, co-presidents
Jessie McCandlish, Treasurer
Sylvia Giberti, Library Services
Maryellen Barker, Hospitality
Nancy Orr and Sandi Cormier, Programs & Workshops

Barbara Taylor, Vice President
Katy Bayless, Recording Secretary
Carol Baumann, Membership
Doug Hutt, Webmaster
Stephanie Page, Newsletter/Corresponding Secretary

Contact us

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