

# CAPITAL SALEM OREGON CALLIGRAPHERS

April/May/June 2021

[www.capitalcalligraphers.org](http://www.capitalcalligraphers.org)

## Mark your calendar

Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. via Zoom due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 concerns. A notice is emailed to members with instructions and supplies. Information can also be found on our website.

Our **April 1** meeting was held prior to the publication of this newsletter. Read further for details and a report.

### April 30 - May 1

Letters of Joy online annual festival of calligraphy and lettering arts. See **Classes**.

### May 6 Zoom meeting

Mickey Staller will teach "Embellishing Drawn Letters With Patterns."

### June 3 Zoom meeting

Yuki Tanaka will present a "sculpture" book.

### July 3-10

Legacies III Virtual International Calligraphy Conference. More info in **Classes** section.

### July/August

No meetings.

### Date TBD

Serendipity Summer Playday held in Lori Festa's backyard. We'll create art that requires an apron and making a mess. Bring your own lunch. and get ready for fun!



## Spring Has Sprung!!

Spring has sprung and the evidence is not only sprouting outside but inside. Several Capital Calligraphers attended the March Zoom meeting of the Valley Calligraphy Guild to learn how to paint tulips from the ever wonderful, Betty Locke. Using a 1/2" brush and water color, she first walked us through the



Laura Drager

strokes needed for each piece of the tulip and leaves. We then put it all together to make our masterpieces (?)



Sandi Cormier

How does Betty make it look so easy? Oh, yes, lots of practice and 100+ tulips later...



Laura Drager

## Spring Greeting Cards

Susan Wickes has created a bevy of amazing cards during the pandemic and this is one of the first she sent last spring. Who could imagine the greeting would still be appropriate a year later? Following are the instructions she sent. *The large, joined Neuland letters are hand-drawn with light pencil on watercolor paper and then surrounded with "circle flowers."* (These were



*May the flowers inspire us  
to steer clear of the virus!*

taught at an AOCC workshop a few years ago and require a multi-size circle

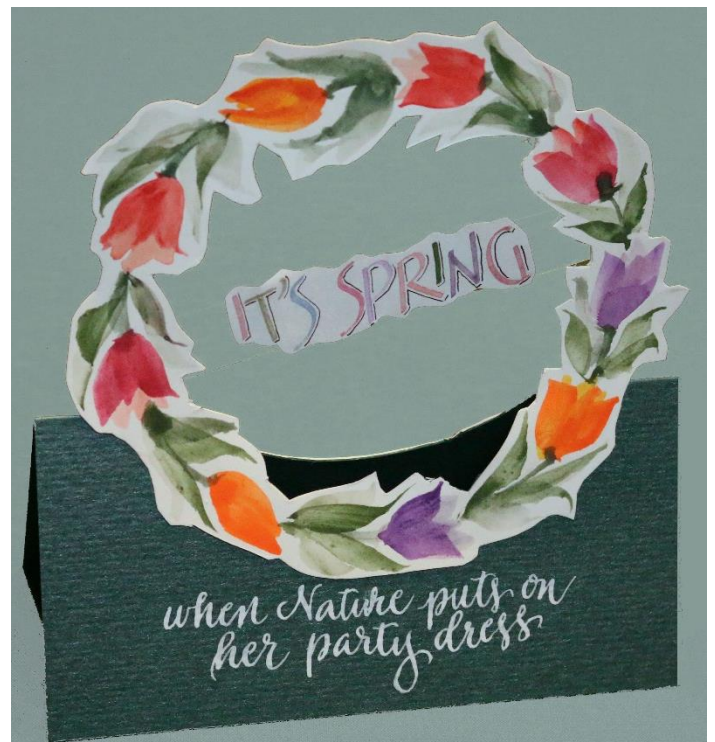


template, a pencil and a fine Pigma pen, or other waterproof fineliner.) I drew pencil circles of varying sizes all around and overlapping the letters and each other to fill in the background as completely as I could. Inside each circle is a smaller circle, usually drawn with pen that forms the flower center. Placing the flower "center" off-center shows the flowers from different angles as they would be in nature. The flowers I used are from the workshop except for the "rose," which I designed, that uses the same technique. When enough flowers had been packed in, I filled in the different petals, added leaves with the Pigma pen, and erased the pencil marks. Then came the slow, but fun, process of painting everything with watercolors. There were still white spaces left, so I added a light green background so the white letters would have smooth edges. The

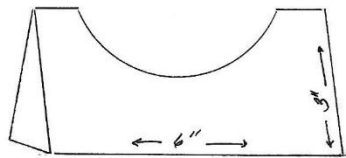
cards were then reduced, photocopied, and made into 4 ¼" x 5 ½" tent-style cards.

This card is an adaptation of one demonstrated on YouTube by Sam Calcott of Mixed Up Craft. The base is a 6"x 6" piece of heavy cardstock, scored (at 3") and folded in half. On a watercolor paper scrap, I drew a light pencil circle 4 ½" in diameter and, using the pencil guide, painted a wreath of Betty Locke-style tulips. I then cut out the wreath using scissors and an X-acto knife to follow the flower outlines, leaving a white border. Next came the tricky part of cutting a ring from white cardstock, about 4 ½" on the inside and 4 ¾" on the outer edge. (I used a circle cutter, grateful that the ring doesn't show much and therefore doesn't have to be too precise. A die-cutter would do a better job).

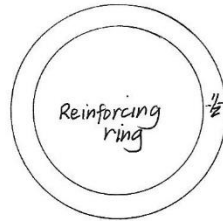
From the green base, I cut part of the 4 ½" circle, centered, into the fold of the card, as shown, and then



glued the lower arc of the wreath to cover the cut curve and extend above the fold for the card front. The words "It's Spring" were written with watercolor on light paper, cut out, and double-backed taped to a ½" x 4 ½" strip of Dura-lar acetate. (You can also use a strip of thin clear packaging material if you save that stuff like I do.) Then I double-back taped that strip to the back of the wreath, so that the words "float" in the wreath center. To reinforce the wreath and cover the cut curve and the tape on the back, I glued on the white ring, matching the edges. The irregular shape of my wreath meant that some of the backing ring showed and had to be trimmed off.

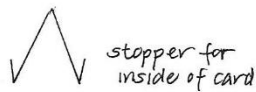


No. 2 cardbase



If the card won't stand up well, you can add a W-shaped support, as shown, on the inside, made from a strip of cardstock, 3 ½" x 1", scored at ½" from each end and in the center. Glue the ½" tabs to the bottom inside of the card. With that in place, you need to add your greeting and/or signature on the back, as the card won't open.

This finished card is 6" x 6 5/8", but is easily done with different measurements – and, of course, many different themes.



stopper for inside of card

## This and That



Our friend Christine Anderson, who passed away in January, is smiling down at us. Super thanks to Trish Hibler, Katy Bayless, Laura Drager, Prindi and Ron Flug, Penny White, and Susan Wickes for hauling, sorting, and arranging the artwork, books, cards, paper, ink, pens, pencils, aprons, bags, rubber stamps, and a multitude of wonderful items from Chris's studio to Trish's



garage for a give-away/sale. Trish's grandson is pictured in Chris's studio prior to dismantling. The Friday/Saturday, by-appointment event was a huge success. Many calligraphers and teachers were the recipients of her treasures. Items were given to teachers from Queen of Peace School, North Salem High School, Portland schools, and "The Gate" - an after-school activities center for middle and high school students in Monmouth/Independence. The generous monetary donations were given in Chris's name to two Backpack Buddies programs – Backpacks for Kids in Neotsu (where Chris is from) and Backpack Buddies at Four Corners Elementary School in Salem, administered by Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. If you'd like to donate in Chris's memory, please send a check with a notation about Chris to:

Business for Excellence in Youth  
PO Box 843  
Neotsu, OR 97364

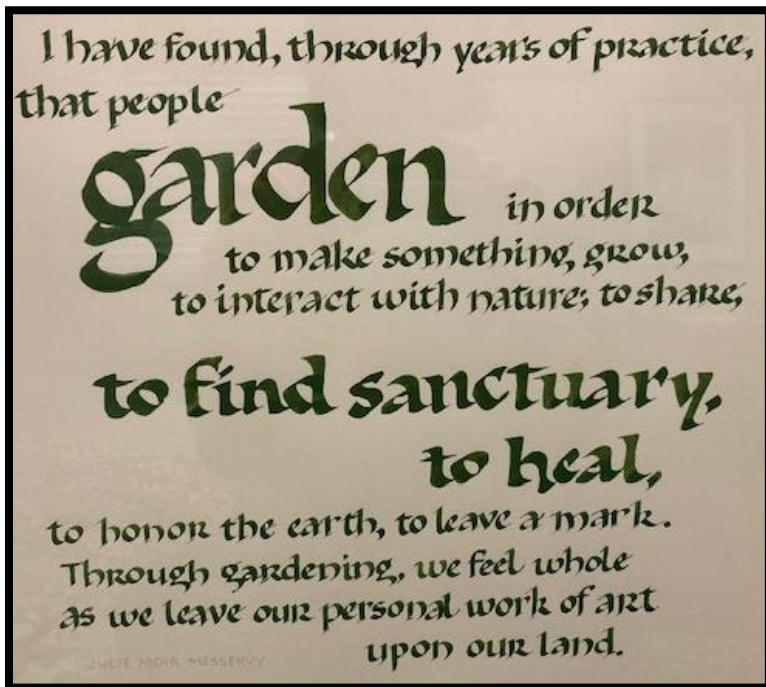
This non-profit operates the Backpacks for Kids food program in north Lincoln County as well as a school supply and book program. Chris supported them as well.

A new member-to-be, Aries, read about the sale, came, met us, and expressed interest in our group. She joined our April meeting and through her donation to the sale, has become a member. She is a beginning calligrapher with great potential. She showed us some of her amazing work and we're excited for her to become an active member.

# Spring Art



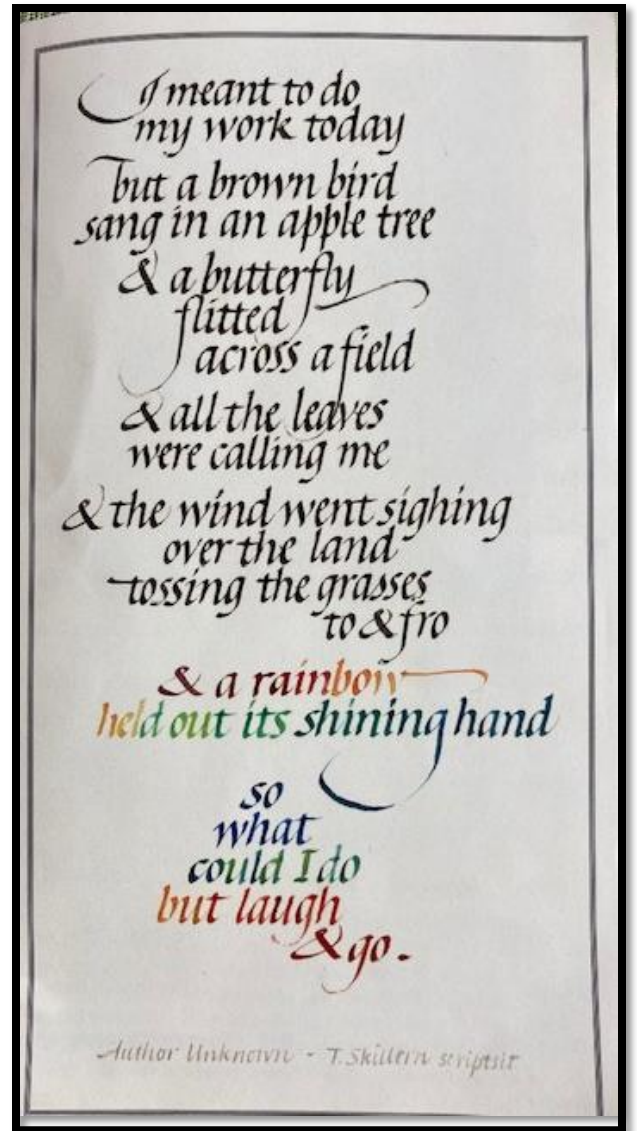
Trish Hibler



Christine Anderson



Fran Strom Sloan



Teddy Skillern



Jessie McCandlish

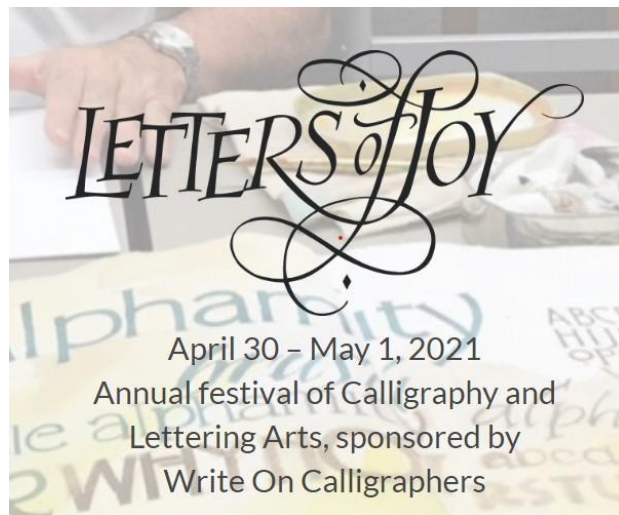
## Classes

Online classes have become the best way to continue learning during the pandemic. John Neal Bookseller has the most comprehensive list to refer to. Go to [www.johnnealbooksellers.com](http://www.johnnealbooksellers.com) and browse. You're sure to find just the one(s) for you.



Discover, learn, and create at the 39<sup>th</sup> International Lettering Arts Conference **July 3-10, 2021** sponsored by the Texas Lettering Arts Council. It will be a virtual calligraphy experience for all ability levels. Early Bird registration opened **April 6**. Save \$100 on the General Registration tuition. Be one of the first 300 Early Birds to receive a deluxe, sponsor-supported SWAG (Stuff-We-All-Get) Box • Ships in June to all confirmed attendees! Early Bird registration closes May 3 and on

May 4 registration will be open to the rest of the world. Find many more details at the website: [www.calligraphyconference.org](http://www.calligraphyconference.org).



The 2021 Letters of Joy online conference includes an evening lecture on **Friday, April 30th**, followed by a full day of classes on **Saturday, May 1st**. You choose three sessions from six different classes for live instruction. After Saturday, you then have access to recorded sessions for classes until mid-June. The Letters of Joy annual mini-conference started in 1981 in Washington State.

For more information and to register:

[www.lettersofjoyconference.com](http://www.lettersofjoyconference.com)

Supply lists are on the John Neal Books website:

[www.johnnealbooks.com/prod\\_detail\\_list/loj21-online](http://www.johnnealbooks.com/prod_detail_list/loj21-online)

# Decorating the Empty Space

Yuki Tanaka, at our April Zoom meeting, shared ideas from a class she

took from Marina Soria called "Empty Spaces." The empty spaces are not the counters or background. They can be the letters themselves that have been carefully painted around on good paper using tracing paper and a light table. See Yuki's example of happy birthday to the left. Or, the letters can be written in caps on the page, then using the same happy birthday design on tracing paper, choose and paint some of the inside areas. See Yuki's example to the right. Many versions of the same design are possible.

The round outer edges could be a different shape: rectangle, diamond, etc. She showed her class work using an alphabet design. Using sumi ink, she filled in the spaces between lines, spaces on the sides, and spaces in the middle. The results are quite different and make beautiful patterns.

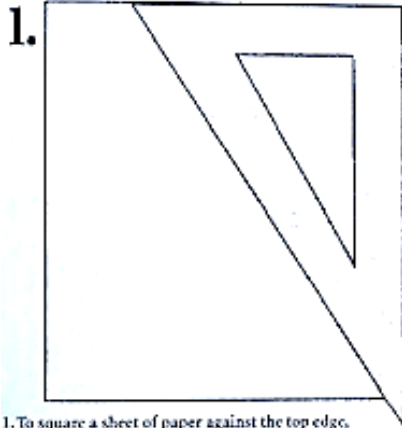
Yuki provided samples, sent prior to the meeting, to print and work from. Laurie Naemura painted the sample to the left and Aries put her own spin on the same design using a light table. See her piece above. The samples on the bottom row were created by Marina.



# Squaring a Sheet of Paper Using a Triangle

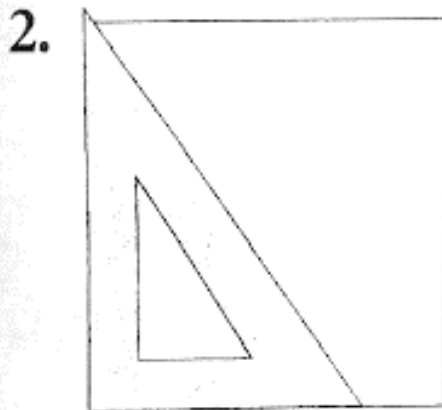
(Article found in an old newsletter)

Sorry about the poor quality of the drawings. The paper is actually not on an angle. !\*&##\$@!!

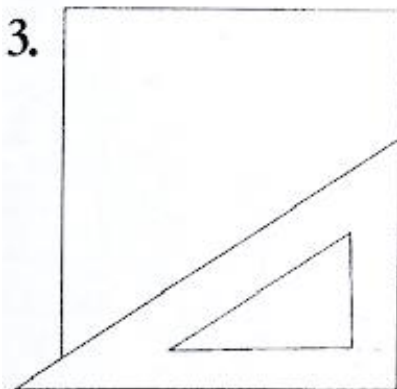


1. To square a sheet of paper against the top edge,

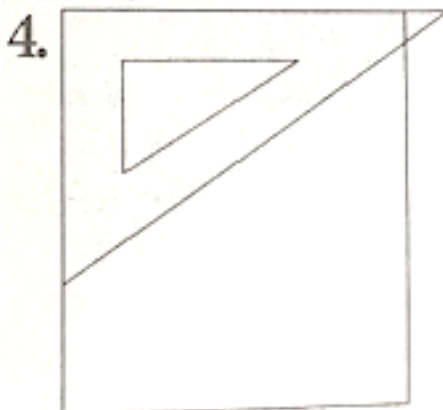
1. This is an especially helpful technique when trying to salvage a torn or ripped piece of paper. To square a sheet of paper against the top edge, position the triangle as illustrated & cut along the right side of the triangle to straighten the paper if it is not even. Now the top corner should be 90 degrees.



2. The triangle has been rotated to square the bottom left corner. Cut along the left side of the paper if needed to square. When doing this process, rotate your paper so you're always cutting on the right side of the triangle.



3. Move the triangle as shown & square the bottom right corner. Cut again along the right side of the triangle to create a 90 degree angle & square the paper.



4. Repeat process to square remaining side. Voila! A square sheet of paper.

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